

IRISH CHARITABLE SOIREE.—We have been informed, that the Young Men's St. Patrick's Association, are unsparing in their efforts, to make the Soirée, on Tuesday evening next, superior to anything they have as yet held. Judging from the splendid rooms in Corse's building, and from the fact of Compaïn being the caterer in the refreshment, and Maffre, in the music departments, there can be no doubt, but that this will be one of the most agreeable, and one of the most successful parties of the season. The cause is a good one, and deserving of success. That the blessing of God may descend upon all who assist in clothing and feeding the orphan, is our earnest prayer.

Up to the time of going to press, no tidings had arrived of the steamer *Atlantic*, for whose fate considerable anxiety is felt.

We have received from Thomas McGrath, Esquire, Chief of Police, a Report of the Statistics of Crime in this City, from which we gather the following particulars: There have been apprehended for Cutting and Maiming, 2. Highway Robbery, 6. Arson, 1. Passing Counterfeit Money, 14. Obtaining Goods under false pretences, 4. Receiving Stolen Goods, 6. Abandoning their Children, 1. Insane, 10. Cow Stealing, 6. Larceny, 232. Suspicion of Larceny, 92. Drunk in the Street, 1047. Drunk, and Disorderly Conduct, 523. Breach of the Peace, 233. Vagrants, 692. Indecent Exposure, 12. Impeding and Incommencing, 61. Desertion, 5. Total number of offences, 2,946. Of the offences above enumerated, 1,570 have arisen from intemperance. There has been a decrease of 397, upon the whole number of offences during the year, although this is accompanied by an increase of 74 offences committed by females, and of 28 by boys.

We call attention to an admirable extract from the last number of Dr. Brownson's *Quarterly Review*, upon the "Higher Law." Want of space, alone, compels us to refrain from giving it entire.

We thankfully acknowledge the receipt of the following amounts:—Rev. Mr. Timlin, Cobourg, £1; Mr. A. Stuart MacDonald, Cornwall, 12s. 6d.; Mr. Edward Mahon, St. Thomas, C. W., £1 5s.; Mr. Bartholomew White, Prescott, £1 5s.; Mr. E. Burke, Bytown, £1 10s.

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of the True Witness and Catholic Chronicle.

MY DEAR SIR,—In my last letter I endeavored to give you some idea of the expedients which are commonly resorted to among evangelical Protestants, for the conversion of souls, as they presume to call it. The strange extorsion which I described as being looked upon as the special work of the Holy Spirit is, by a succession of similar scenes, kept up for night after night, and new ones are daily added to the number of the converts. Soon these extravagances arrive at their height, and then appear those extraordinary trances and fits of ecstatic catalepsy, which find no parallel but in the annals of heathenism and devil worship. Strange prayers are succeeded by still stranger psalms, expressive of the feelings of these intoxicated souls, of which the following refrain may be taken as an illustration:—

"For I don't feel a bit like getting tired;
Oh Glory, Glory, Hallelujah!
And I hope to go to heaven when the world's on fire,
Oh Glory, Glory, Hallelujah!"

At length, after two or three hours spent in this way, a brother or sister is seen suddenly to fall back, perhaps with a fearful shriek; the eyes are rolled back, the jaws clenched, and the limbs rigid or in strong convulsions; this is often the signal for two or three other nervous and delicate sisters to go off in the same way, or "lose their strength," as it is commonly called. I have seen three or four at a time stretched upon the benches, and surrounded by their shouting companions, who hailed it as the power of the Most High; and as the spasm relaxed, and the foaming and discolored lips uttered articulate sounds, the incoherent ravings were hailed as of old the whisperings of a pagan oracle. Such things of these are so common in revivals as to excite no curiosity; I have known those, generally females, who would to a their strength regularly two or three times a week, and often be carried to their homes insensible; such were considered as living almost in odor of sanctity, and especially favored of Heaven. The morning's bulletin each day during a revival, announces so many "anxious souls," so many "converts," and such and such brethren and sisters, as having "lost their strength."

Now, while this work is going on at the Methodist chapel, the good Baptist elder in the neighborhood begins to get jealous, and accordingly gets up an opposition revival, on his own account, in which the same sad farce is rehearsed with little variation; and even the sedate Rev. Dr. —, of the Congregationalist church, unheeding from the aristocratic dignity of his high Calvinism, and condescends to enter the arena, in time to get a share of the spoils. With him, however, all things are to be done "decently and in order." He will sanction no such irregularities as are committed by his neighbors, but will hold prayer meetings at private houses, and with the aid of his friends, endeavor, by gentle persuasions, to induce the "young converts" from the Methodists or Baptists to come in and join their "exercises." No excitement with him—he is as that great revivalist, the Rev. Jedediah Burelhard, once said, "cold enough to freeze hell over in dog-days;" but he very gently insinuates in his exhortations some hints as to the erroneous views of his Christian brethren, makes some remarks upon the doctrine of "falling from

grace," &c., and by his quiet attentions and skill in winning souls, generally succeeds in reaping a good share of the harvest, which his brethren have sown, while the Methodists complain loudly against those who "reap where they have not sown, and gather where they have not strowed."

Now commences between the rival sects the strife of Calvinists against Armenians, and of Baptists against Pedo-baptists. The very school girls entertain you with learned dissertations upon the exact import of the word *baptizo*, and the old women are "powerful" upon election, predestination, foreknowledge, decrees, the "five points," and the Westminster Assembly's Catechism. The meeting house becomes the arena of loud and stormy controversy, and the people meet at the corners of the streets to renew the discussions of the Synod of Dort. To understand the bearing of one important subject of controversy, it should be here remarked that among the Methodists conversion is not a thing which occurs only once in a lifetime; on the contrary, I have known those who made it a point to be converted at every winter's revival, and periodically to "backslide;" so that the question arises whether these conversions are real or no. "Yes!" says the Methodist; "No!" those who think they experience conversion and fall away, are deceived," says the Congregationalist. "Tis the witness of the Spirit that cannot lie," says the Methodist. "Tis a delusion of the Devil," says the other; and thus the one contends that the convert always knows when he has the grace of God, but is never sure that he may not lose it to-morrow, while according to the other he can never be sure that he has it, but that having the grace he can never lose it; hence the controversy between election and infallible perseverance on the one side, and "falling from grace" on the other.

On the other hand, the subject of baptism awakens from their slumber the old questions about the propriety and significance of the almost exploded ordinance of infant baptism or "baby sprinkling," as it is termed, which is discussed in connection with the mode of administering the rite; which, according to the ideas of all the Baptists, should be only by immersion. Then are heard on the part of this sect, loud exhortations to follow their Saviour in "going down into Jordan," insisting thus upon a rite which is in no sense of the word Christian baptism. Meanwhile the poor Congregationalists come up as they best may to the contest, by bringing forward their "Scripture arguments" for the baptism of infants, and for the administration of baptism by aspersion or pouring; while the Methodists, very prudently avoiding the discussion, baptize any way to please their converts. Baptism by immersion is at best but an unpleasant operation in a New England winter, and the Baptists, fearing that on cool reflection many of their converts will shrink from the icy bath, have a summary way of doing things. The subjects from the anxious seat, who have just received the "witness of the spirit," are reminded that "there is water near by, and nothing to prevent them from being baptised." Accordingly they are led, often at midnight, down to the river's brink, followed by a crowd, who, with their unearthly songs, make night hideous, and are there baptised.

At length the rival sects have done their best, and have divided among them the spoil, the Methodists, in reward for their zeal, generally getting "the lion's share." Now appears in the *New York Observer* and the *Puritan*, a communication to the effect that there has been a "blessed outpouring of the spirit in the village of —, and such a number of souls have been added to the church." But look a year afterward for these same converts, and you will find that one-half of them are no more seen in the prayer or class meeting; they awake to the conviction that all this excitement under which they have labored was but a delusion, and having been taught that this is religion, they turn aside from it with disgust, and in atheism or what is significantly called "nothingarianism," seek to excuse themselves from any attention to the things of another world. Made the dupe of an infamous system, he judges all Christianity by it, and the "last state of that man is worse than the first." This is no ideal picture, as every one who has lived in New England can bear witness, and its fearful soul-hardening effects are but too painfully recalled to me in the cases of many friends who are dear to me. The religious insanity which peoples so many cells in their lunatic asylums, is another offspring of these unhalloved orgies, which Protestantism celebrates in the name of God, and too often follows as the alternative of conversion in times of great excitement. The number of those bereft of their reason at the revivals which took place during the Millerite movement, a few years since was fearful, there being scarcely a family circle in some districts which did not count its victim to a hopeless madness.

Well may we exclaim, in looking over this picture, "Oh religion, what crimes are committed in thy name!" Alas for my country! while heretical fanaticism thus usurps the sacramental influences of God's Church the corrupt heart of man is plunging deeper and deeper into sin. The moral condition of society is rotten to the core; crimes, not to be mentioned among Christians, prevail unrebuked, and one feels that it is but the influence of Catholic prayer which prevents it from sharing the fate of "the cities of the plain." But the once low and despised Catholics have now become them among a host, and their Hierarchy stands up an object to command the fear and reverence alike of friends and foes. The mission of the American Catholic is a noble one, with which we who live in Canada, surrounded by the religious institutions bequeathed us by our fathers, can but feebly sympathise. It is their task, amid shame, obloquy and persecution, to build upon the ruins of crumbling Protestantism, the glorious structure of a Catholic Republic.

Montreal, Jan 21, 1851.

To the Editor of the True Witness and Catholic Chronicle.

SIR,—The correspondence which has lately taken place between Mr. Bowyer and Dr. Cumming, and in which the latter has better succeeded in substantiating his claim to the title of an evangelical minister, than to that of a gentleman, or an honest man, has fully established the fact, that in the consecration oath as taken by Catholic prelates within the British dominions, the passage against which so great an outcry has been raised,—"*Hæreticos, scismaticos et rebelles, Domino nostro, vel successoribus predictis, pro posse, persequar, et impugnabo*,"—is omitted. But supposing that such were not the case—that the statement of Dr. Cumming, respecting the oath as taken by his Eminence the Archbishop of Westminster, were as true as it is manifestly false and malicious, why, Sir, I would ask, should this be supposed to denote a peculiarly persecuting or intolerant spirit, upon the part of the Catholic Church? The Bishop would only pledge himself, to the utmost of his power (*pro posse*),—a purely spiritual power, be it remembered,—to oppose heresy, schism, and spiritual rebellion, in the persons of their promoters. Is not this the duty of a Bishop? Do not the Protestant Bishops of the Anglican Church swear to do as much? although, as members of a fallible Church, they can never be infallibly certain that the doctrine which they oppose, is false, heretical, or schismatical. Here is part of the oath, as taken by an Anglican Bishop upon his consecration:

"(Archbishop.) Are you ready, with all faithful diligence, to banish and drive away all erroneous and strange doctrine contrary to God's Word; and both privately and openly to call upon and encourage others to do the same?"

"(Answer.) I am ready, the Lord being my helper."

"(Archbishop.) Will you maintain and set forward, as much as shall lie in you, quietness, love, and peace among all men; and such as be unquiet, disobedient, and criminous within your Diocese, correct and punish according to such authority as you have by God's Word, and as to you shall be committed by the Ordinance of this Realm?"

"(Answer.) I will so do, by the help of God." Not with spiritual weapons alone, that is, with such as are committed to him by the authority of God's Word, does the Protestant Anglican Bishop swear to correct and punish all unquiet, disobedient, and criminous persons within his diocese, but with the arm of the flesh as well; with the temporal weapons committed to him by the civil power—the Ordinance of the Realm. Perhaps, Sir, some of your readers may be able to inform me, wherein "persequar et impugnabo" differs from "correct and punish."

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Yours truly,

Montreal, Jan. 21, 1851.

FAIR PLAY.

CANADA NEWS.

FIRE.—On Sunday morning, about two o'clock, smoke was seen issuing from the Fur Store of H. Samuel, St. Paul Street. The cry of fire was raised, and a family, named Irvine, who occupied the upper part of the house, had barely time to escape, when the whole of the building was in flames. M. Larue's Shoe Store in the same premises was also destroyed, but through the prompt exertions of some neighbours the most of his stock was saved. All the parties were uninsured. Through the exertions of the Firemen, the neighbouring houses were uninjured.—*Herald*.

Mr. Russell of Ancaster recovered at the late Assizes at Toronto, from the Gore District Mutual Insurance Company, the sum of £2000, being the amount of insurance on a Mill belonging to him. The Insurance Company refusing to pay, as they accused him of setting it on fire.—*Pilot*.

DARING OUTRAGE.—We regret to learn, from Sherbrooke, that, on Thursday the 19th December last, the School House in the Bangall settlement in that neighborhood, was attacked, broken open, and the stove, stovepipes, desks, forms and other property contained in it, torn down and removed. We are happy to learn that several of the parties implicated in this outrage have been identified and that warrants have been issued for their arrest. We trust they will be brought to justice.—*Herald*.

SOIREE.—The members of the Roman Catholic Teetotal Abstinence Society in Bytown held a Soirée on New Year's Night in the School Room attached to the old Nursery, which was beautifully fitted up and decorated for the occasion. There was a very large attendance and all present appeared to enjoy the greatest pleasure during the evening. The Society presented an appropriate address to His Lordship the Bishop of Bytown, which was replied to by His Lordship in a most eloquent and affectionate manner, congratulating the Company on the happy effects of Temperance, and exhorting them to continue true to its principles. He also alluded in a most touching manner to the labours of their Countryman, Father Mathew, the great apostle of Temperance. The Rev. Mr. Ryan returned thanks in behalf of his Countrymen. At a late hour the Company separated, having enjoyed a delightful evening.—*Bytown Packet*.

LOSS OF LIFE.—Three French Canadians—all brothers—were burned to death last week in Charlottenburgh whilst engaged in boiling potash. It is presumed that they were intoxicated, and that the shanty took fire whilst they slept. They became suffocated by the smoke, and subsequently consumed by fire.—*Toronto Guardian*.

SUICIDE.—The body of a man was discovered hanging in the woods, near John Machin's, in Wolfe Island, on Saturday evening last, when a Coroner's inquest was held on the body by Mr. Coroner Benson. The deceased proved to be a German of the name of Volekman Therlman, who appears, from a passenger ticket found in his pocket, to have arrived at Quebec by the ship *Amelia*, which left Hamburg 7th May, 1850. The deceased was seen near the spot on the Sunday evening previous; and from the circumstances in which the body was found, it appears that he had formed the most determined purpose of coolly taking his own life, as his feet must have touched the ground, had he not drawn them up till he produced strangulation. The jury returned a verdict of Suicide.—*British Whig*.

ANOTHER FIRE.—"It never rains but it pours;" so it seems with fires; and the more reason therefore that our citizens should keep a bright look out, now the ball has begun. On Saturday night, about 12 o'clock, our citizens were roused from their beds by the hoarse cry of "fire," which proved to be the Coach Factory of Mr. M'Crea, in Princess Street, which was completely destroyed with the greater part of the contents. A few sleighs were got out, amongst which we observed a valuable one just built for Mr. Weller; but the fire had gained such headway before it was discovered, that the most strenuous exertions of the firemen and citizens were inadequate to save the factory, and were therefore solely confined to arresting the further progress of the flames, which we rejoice to say they succeeded in doing. We regret that Mr. M'Crea's loss must be very severe as he had no insurance.—*Jb*.

UNITED STATES.

ARCHBISHOP HUGHES IN PARIS.—By private letters from Paris under date December 12th, we are advised of the safe arrival of the Most Rev. Archbishop Hughes, in Paris, in company with the Rev. Gentleman who sailed with him. The Most Rev. Archbishop has enjoyed excellent health, and has been received both in London and Paris, with every mark of respect. The Rev. Dr. Villanis had left Paris for Turin, and the Most Rev. Archbishop was to leave in a few days for Marseilles, en route for Rome, accompanied by Lord Fielding and other recent converts.—*Truth Teller*.

IMMIGRATION TO NEW YORK DURING THE PAST YEAR.—The total number of immigrants to the port of New York during the last year was 212,796, a decrease of 8,567 from the previous year. 116,532 were from Ireland, an increase of 3,941 over the year 1849. The immigration from Germany decreased 10,303. From France, Spain, Switzerland, Sweden, Belgium, South America, Poland, the tide of immigration has been considerably increased. England has contributed 28,125, a decrease of but 190 from the past year.—*N. Y. Freeman's Journal*.

OUR TERRITORY AND POPULATION.—In 1800 the area of the United States was only about 1,000,000 square miles. It is now over 3,250,000 square miles. In 1800 the population was 3,505,925. It is now over 28,000,000.

EXAMINATION OF THE RIOTERS.—The twenty-two Irishmen who have been in Allegany Co., Md., Jail for more than two weeks, charged with the attack on the Germans on Section 45 of the R. & O. Railroad, had a hearing before Judge R. N. Martin, on Saturday week. The Cumberland Civilian says that the result was the discharge of fourteen for want of sufficient identification, and the sending of the other ten to be tried at the April term of Allegany County Court.

SMUGGLING ON BOARD THE NIAGARA.—It will be seen by a paragraph elsewhere, that the steamer *Niagara* was seized by the collector of this Port. The vessel has been appraised by Messrs. Robt. G. Shaw, S. Pearce, and J. P. Robinson, at the sum of \$270,000, and the requisite bonds having been duly given by the Agent of the owners, to abide the action of the United States Court upon the libel filed against the vessel, she was released, and sailed on Wednesday.

RAILROADS IN THE UNITED STATES.—The total number of miles of railroad in operation in the United States, at the beginning of the present year, was 8797, which cost to build them \$286,455,078. In New York, the number of miles of railroad in operation is 1402, at a cost of \$56,202,060. Pennsylvania, 917 miles, at a cost of \$35,401,033. New Jersey, 259 miles, costing \$8,225,000. In all the New England States there were 2644 miles, costing \$96,946,450.

Married.

In this city, on Monday, the 20th instant, by the Rev. Mr. Connolly, Mr. John Mullin, merchant, to Mary Ann, eldest daughter of Mr. Hugh Derragh, merchant, all of this city.

Died.

At Hawkesbury Mills, (C. W.), on Monday, the 20th instant, Norah, infant daughter of Mr. Peter Doyle, aged 1 year and 9 months.

MONTREAL MARKET PRICES.

CORRECTED BY THE CLERK OF THE BONSACQUES MARKET.

Thursday, Jan. 23, 1851.

		s.	d.	s.	d.
Wheat,	- - - per minot	4	6	4	9
Oats,	- - - - -	1	4	1	8
Barley,	- - - - -	2	6	3	0
Peas,	- - - - -	2	6	3	0
Buckwheat,	- - - - -	1	10	2	1
Rye,	- - - - -	2	9	3	0
Potatoes,	- - - per bush.	1	3	1	8
Beans, American	- - - - -	4	0	4	6
Beans, Canadian	- - - - -	6	0	4	6
Honey,	- - - - -	0	4	0	5
Beef,	- - - - -	0	2	0	5
Mutton,	- - - per qr.	2	0	5	0
Lamb,	- - - - -	2	0	5	0
Veal,	- - - - -	2	0	4	0
Pork,	- - - per lb.	0	2	1	0
Butter, Fresh	- - - - -	0	10	1	0
Butter, Salt	- - - - -	0	6	0	7
Cheese,	- - - - -	0	4	0	6
Lard,	- - - - -	0	5	0	6
Maple Sugar,	- - - - -	0	4	0	5
Eggs,	- - - per dozen	0	7	1	0
Turkeys,	- - - per couple	4	0	6	8
Geese,	- - - - -	3	9	5	0
Apples,	- - - per barrel	5	0	12	6
Onions,	- - - - -	6	0	4	0
Flour,	- - - per quintal	11	0	11	3
Oatmeal,	- - - - -	7	6	9	0
Beef,	- - - per 100 lbs.	22	6	25	0
Pork, Fresh	- - - per 100 lbs.	20	0	27	6

NEW YORK MARKETS.

New York, Jan. 22.

Ashes.—Pots firm at \$5.75; Pearls saleable at \$5.62.

Flour.—Low grades of Western and State unchanged; demand restricted by the inclemency of the weather. Canadian inactive, but firm. Sales Domestic 2600 barrels, at \$4.75 to \$4.78 for Common to Straight State, and \$5.06 to \$5.12 for Pure Genesee.

Wheat.—Better demand and prices lower: quotations would be nominal.

Pork.—Something doing on private terms, but the trade generally buys sparingly. Sales 1000 barrels, at \$12 to \$12½ for Mess. Some 250 barrels at \$12 to \$12½ for large lots.—*Pilot*.