THE TRUE WITNESS AND CATHOLIC CHRONICLE.

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Montreal, May 12, 1852.

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IN PRESS, AND WILL BE ISSUED WITHOUT DELAY, UNDER THE APPROBATION OF THE

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MONTREAL, FRIDAY, MAY 28, 1852.

We most earnestly request of our Subscribers to remit to us, without delay, the amounts due to this Office.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Mr. D'Israeli's speech, upon the introduction of the budget, is looked upon as a declaration of adhesion, on the part of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, to the principles of Free Trade, and of his abandonment of Protection. It is confidently asserted that, in consequence, grave differences, amounting to positive dissensions, have arisen in the Conservative cabinet ; " Sir John Pakington, Major Beresford, and one or two others," says the Morning Advertiser, " have expressed themselves in very strong terms respecting what they regard as the betrayal, by Mr. D'Israeli, of the Protectionist cause. Nor does Lord Derby himself altogether relish the length to which Mr. D'Israeli went in his anti-Protectionist views. In short, it would not surprise us to see a regular explosion any fine morning in the Derby Cabinet."

On the 5th inst., the debate on the second reading of the Irish Tenant Right Bill was resumed. Mr. Conolly, Lord Naas, Sir W. Somerville, spoke against the measure, which was supported by Mesrs. Monsell and Reynolds. On the division, the motion for the second reading was negatived by a majority of 110; the numbers being-for the second reading 57; against it 167.

" The Scotsman says: "The dissolution is now expected to take place in the first week of June, that date being convenient for her Majesty, who intends, as soon as the close of the session sets her free, to make a marine excursion along the coast of Wales, and perhaps also to Ireland.

Poor Mr. Bennett seems destined to be always in hot water. Mr. Horsman pitches into him in the House of Commons, and the Rev. Gilbert Elliott, Dean of Bristol, hurls the 39 articles, and the Canons of 1604, at his devoted head; in fact, the Low Church party seems determined to drive the unhappy the modern El Dorado :--man over to Rome, by sheer dint of bully " Least ways"---as Mrs. Gamp would say---they are bent upon driving him out of Frome. In a long letter to the Times, the Dean of Bristol shows, from the above mentioned Canons, how impossible it is for a man, holding the opinions which Mr. Bennet professes, to remain a member of the Church by Law established. These Canons require "that no person shall be admitted into the ministry, or instituted to any living, unless he shall, for the avoiding of all ambiguities, subscribe, in this order and form of words, to certain three articles-' I do willingly, and ex animo, subscribe to these three articles, and to all things contained in them." One of these articles is-" that the subscriber acknowledgeth all and every one of the 39 articles to be agreeble to the Word of God"-and the 37th of the articles runs thus-"The King's Majesty hath the chief power in this realm of England, and other, his dominions, unto whom the chief government of all estates of this realm, whether they be ecclesiastical or civil, in all causes doth appertain." Another of the three articles specially to be subscribed, "willingly and ex animo," is this-" The Queen's Majesty, under God, is the only supreme governor of this realm, as well in all spiritual or ecclesiastical things or causes, as temporal." Besides all this, the second of the Canons of 1604 ordains that-" Whosoever shall impeach, in any part, the Queen's Majesty's Regal supremacy, in causes ecclesiastical, restored to the Crown, and by the laws of this realm therein established, shall be excommunicated ipso facto, and not restored, but only after his repentance, and public revocation of these, his wicked errors;" and the 27th enacts-" That no minister shall, under pain of suspension, administer the communion to any that have spoken against, and depraved her Majesty's sovereign authority in causes ecclesiastical." Contrasting the Rev. Mr. Bennett's protest against this petticoat Papacy-in which the Rev. gentleman

or merits of spiritual questions, touching doctrine or discipline, the custody of which is committed to the Church alone, by the law of Christ"-the Dean of Bristol concludes that Mr. Bennett has incurred the penaltics denounced in the Canons against those wicked and depraved persons who speak lightly of her Mojesty's authority, in things spiritual-that he is, ipso facto, excommunicated, and that none of the ministers of her Majesty's Church ought to presume to admit him to a participation of the sacramentswhich the law of the land has appointed as necessary for man's salvation—until he repents him of, and publicly recant, his errors. We think that it will not be long ere Mr. Bennett revisits the continent.

It is exceedingly refreshing to notice the desponding tone of the English journals, with respect to the coming elections in Ireland, and to contrast it with the triumphant and insulting tone of the same journals at about the same time last year, during the de-bates on the Ecclesiastical Titles Bill. It was capital fun, a twelvemonth ago, to legislate against Catholics-a fine joke to sentence Bishops and Priests to fine and imprisonment, for the exercise of their spiritual functions-and very noble and patriotic to call convents, brothels, and to brand their inmates as prostitutes. Oh ! the very best sport in the world, so long as the gentry of Exeter Hall had it all their own way, and Papists were not allowed to put in a word edge-wise ; but surely for all these things a day of reckoning shall come at last.

"Raro antecedentem scelestum Descruit pede peina claudo."

John Bull, fine Protestant as he is, will soon learn

that he cannot be allowed to indulge his Protestantism at the expense of his Catholic fellow-citizens, with impunity; and that even the privilege of persecuting Catholics may be bought at too dear a rate, especially when the cost is the loss of the affections of a whole people. The result of the Irish elections will, we think, convince John Bull that he has paid too dear for his whistle; so seems to think the Globe, who after endeavoring, throughout a long article, to find some crumbs of comfort in the present aspect of parties in that island, but failing most dismally in the attempt, concludes as follows :---

"But make what allowance we will, a serious danger still stares us in the face. Forty or fifty members acting in union may sway the destinies of the empire ; and that number we are likely to have of members who will no more represent British interest than the seven or eight members whom the Nabob of Arcot once returned to a rotten-borough Parliament, and who will act under the orders of a foreign power, infinitely more dangerous, than all the princes of the Carnatic. England has not had such a day to contend with since the days when the pensioners of Louis XIV thronged the benches of St. Stephens."

The Dublin Freeman's Journal seems inclined to discredit the story of the escape of T. F. Meagher from Van Dieman's Land. He says that letters have been received from Smith O'Brien by some of his family, dated subsequently to the rumored escape, in which no mention is made of the subject. The news is perhaps too good news to be true.

The reports from Australia continue to give the most wonderful accounts of the prolificness of the Victoria gold mines. It is stated that the average

earnings of a miner are not less than twelve hundred a-year, and that there appears to be an almost boundless quantity of the precious metal to be had for the Whatever may be the ultimate results of taking. this extraordinary discovery upon the prosperity of the colony, the immediate effect has been a complete social disorganisation; agricultural and pastoral occupations are suspended for lack of hands; and the whole produce of the labor of half a century, seems about to be destroyed. The Times gives the following melancholy picture of the state of society in

"The earth gives forth her fruits in the increase, but there are none to gather them. The harvest perishes for want of hands to get it in-flocks perish for want of shepherds—ships rot in the harbor for want of sailors. All the calamities which a hostile inroad can inflict, this single discovery has gathered together and accumulated on the heads of the unfortunate colonists. Society is fairly turned upside down ; the riches of today are the poverty of to-morrow, possessions acquired by a life of toil melt away, and dissolve before; the eyes of their owner, while the ignorant, the brutal, and the criminal, are raised by the mere possession of bodily strength to the possession of that opulence which is hourly escaping from the grasp of their less fortunate superiors."

cised, to hear, and judge in appeal, the internal state by law, compelled to contribute; and this, not as a permitted to allude to the principal difficulties which favor, not as a concession, but as a right. This is a Catholic controversialist, like Dr. Brownson, has to the true, the only true principle .--- If we are compelled to pay, we demand full value for our money-Separate Schools, or down with State Schoolism altogether :---

was convened at the request of the Catholic Institute, by a public notice, and was held in the School Room

last Monday evening. The Venerable P. Mulony, the Archdeacon of Toronto, was called to the chair, and opened the meeting with prayer; James Hallinan, Esq., was requested to act as Secretary; and the following resolutions were put and carried unanimously:-

Moved by J. Hayes, Esq., M. D., and seconded by Mr. F. O'Connell.

Resolved—That, as Catholics, we cannot sanction any sys-tem of education for the youth of our community, but one which will at all times secure the full meed of Religious Instruction under a legitimate ecclesiastical authority

Moved by Charles Robertson, Esq., seconded by W. J. M'Donnell, Esq. Resolved-Whereas on close examination of the various

clauses of the present Common School Act, it is the opinion of the Catholic body that they have the right to elect their own Trustees, and that such Trustees can appoint their own Teach-ers, and also, that Catholics are entitled to participate in the Common School Fund, in proportion to the number of their children attending school, as compared with the total number of children attending schools in the city, and they are School children attending school, as compared with the total number of children attending schools in the city; and that said School Fund consist of all the money raised by taxation, as well as that granted by the Government, for the payment of Teachers; therefore, this meeting is desirous of conferring with the Board of Common School Trustees, for the purpose of explaining the views of Catholics on these points, and for obtaining a more equitable portion of the School Fund. Be it therefore resolved, that a Committee of three be appointed to co-operate with the genulement present representing Catholic interest. gentlemen at present representing Catholic interest, in regard to Common Schools, with power to use all necessary means which they may deem expedient for the purposes above stated Moved by Mr. P. Cavanagh, seconded by Mr. J.

McCurry. Resolved-That Messrs. P. O'Neill, Shea, and Feehan com-

By the arrival of the Cambria we are put in pos-

session of intelligence from Europe up to the 14th instant.

On Thursday night, the 13th inst., the long threatened motion for an enquiry into the system of education pursued at Maynooth College, was brought cannot be said to be worse than it was before, for, in forward in the House of Commons: to this an amend- the eyes of God, heresy is no less a damnable sin, ment was proposed-" that the House should resolve | than infidelity, or Atheism, and in the eyes of men of itself into committee, to consider a Bill to repeal the common sense, it is far more irrational. If our Maynooth endowment, and all other grants in aid of evangelical friends desire to refute Dr. Brownson, religious institutions." After a long debate in a full they must have resource to weapons more efficacions House, the further consideration of the motion, and the amendment, was postponed until Tuesday 18th.

It is said that government intends sending an increase of military force to Australia, the said force to be supported by the Colony. The manufacturers in England are much alarmed by the prospect of a considerable deficiency in the supply of wool from that, if there be a God, infinitely Holy, Wise, and Australia, consequent on the inability of the woolgrowers to obtain hands to sheer the sheep, every body who can handle a spade, pick, or shovel, being off to the mines. A deputation has been appointed to draw the attention of government to the state of the Colony.

The court martial on the surviving officers and crew of the Birkenhead, has resulted in the following finding of the court :---

"That no blame is attributable to Mr. John Archihold, or the other surviving officers and crew of the Birkenhead, tried for the wreck of the said ship, or for their conduct subsequently thereto; but, on the contrary, the court sees reason to admire and applaud, the steadiness shown by all in the most trying circumstances, and the conduct of those, who were first in the boats, and who, to the best of their judgment, made every exertion for the rescue of the portion of the crew and passengers who remained upon the wreck."

The long expected Fêlc at Paris has come off quietly. The following is the account given of this affair :---

"PARIS FETE .- The French fele passed off brilliantly, without any attempt at empire. Sixty thousand soldiers were reviewed on the Champ de Mars. Half | can be shown that A is not unequal to B, it is proved a million of spectators were present. The President appeared with a brilliant staff. After the review the presentation of standards surmounted by the Imperial Eagles, was made to the Colonels of the various regiments. The President made a speech, in which he says the Roman Eagle adopted by the Emperor Napoleon was the most striking emblem of the regeneration and grandeur of France. It disappeared with our misfortunes, and it ought to return when France recovered from her defeats .- Resume then soldiers, these Eagles, not as a menace against foreigners, but as the symbols of independence. This address was immediately placarded throughout the city. The Clergy, headed by the Archbishop of Paris, mustered to the number of 800, around a gorgeous altar crected in a field, and bestowed their blessings on the standards, and about one thousand crosses and medals were distributed. The President was, on the whole, well received.—The infantry in general cried "Vive Napoleon"-the civilians " Vive l'Empereur." On the other hand, the operatives of Faubourg St. Antoine, notified their employers to refrain from work during the day, instead of being present at the fete. - The festivities were continued within doors on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. On Tuesday night a grand ball was given in the Tuilleries to fifteen thousand persons; on Wednesday, a banquet was given to eight hundred generals, and superior officers; and on Thursday, a dinner to one thousand non-commissioned officers of the line. General Changarnier refuses to take the oath of allegiance."

contend with when arguing with, and against Protestants. These difficulties consist, first in the perpetual struggle, which such a man has to make, in order to speak down to the level of his adversary's intellect; "GENERAL MEETING OF CATHOLICS .- This meeting secondly, in the fact that in arguing against Protestantism, the controversialist is arguing against a negation, or nothing, and, as a learned senator of the United States philosophically remarked, "It is almighty wrenching to kick against nothing."

We are told that Dr. Brownson's lectures were failures." Failures in what ? would we ask : failures only in this, that they have failed to elicit anything like a reply to them, from those who presume to criticise them. "It won't do," we heard a gentleman complain the other day, "it won't do for our evangelical ministers to fold their arms, and hold their peace: they must sharpen their swords, look well to the joints of their armor, and gird their loins for the strife, for they are sore beset. Popery on the one hand, and Rationalism or Ultra-Protestantism on the other, are making sad havoc with orthodoxy; and unless evangelical ministers are prepared to meet their difficulties boldly and frankly,"

Something awful was no doubt meant; some fearful catastrophe was supposed to be nigh at hand, though of what nature we did not learn ; we suspect however, that it had reference to Pew-rents. Our evangelical friends may call Dr. Brownson's lectures "failures" if they like, but we will tell them what they have done: they have roused a spirit of "free enquiry" amongst many who hitherto had never given a thought to the controversy at issue betwixt Catholics and Protestants; and this we consider no small thing, for "fiee enquiry " must always terminate, either, in Popery, or "Free-thinking," i. e. the rejection of all revelation. Thus, on the one hand there is a probability of gain to the Church, from the accession of those who are not prepared to adopt Atheism, or Ultra-Protestantism; whilst on the other, the fate of those who embrace the latter system, if system it can be called, they must have resource to weapons more efficacions than vapid declamation, or the namby-pamby trash which passes current with the old women of the conventicle.

Let us see then how the Doctor's arguments have been attempted to be met, and what are the objections brought forward against them. His main thesis was-Just, and if Christianity be historically true, then can it be true only under that form which is called, indifferently, Catholicity or Popery; and if true only under that form, then must all other forms, which protest against that only true form, be false: from this, he concluded, that, as it is only by the true religion that salvation can be attained, it is necessary for man not to be a Protestant, and therefore, to be a Catholic; for every man must be either the one, or the other.

What Dr. Brownson therefore had to do, was to prove, that, if Christianity be historically true, it can be true only under that form of Christianity which we call Catholicity-or, if our separated brethren like it better, which we call Popery, for we rather like the name of Papists, as expressive of our attachment to the Holy See.

Two modes of argument were open to the lecturer ; he adopted them both alternately. Firstly-to prove that Protestantism, or Non-Catholicity (for the terms are synonymous) was false, and thence-upon the principle, that, of contradictories, if one he proved ialse, the truth of the other is established-as, if it hat A is equal to B-to conclude the truth of Catholicity. Secondly-by directly proving the truth of Catholicity, and thence concluding to the falsity of Protestantism, or Non-Catholicity. We have only time to-day, to reply to the objections brought against the first of these two modes of argument. The lecturer's first line of argument was as follows :---That which is merely a negation, or based upon a bare negation, is necessarily false, for truth is essentially in the order of Being-falsehood of Non-Being. But Protestantism, or Non-Catholicity, in so far as it is Protestantism, is a bare negation. Therefore, Protestantism or Non-Catholicity must be false ; and, as of contradictories, if one be proved false, the truth of the other is established, the lecturer concluded the truth of Catholicity, from the demonstrated falsity of its contradictory-Protestantism or Non-Catholicity. To the major premise, in the above demonstration, our opponents have taken no exception; their objections have been urged against the minor premise-"That Protestantism or Non-Catholicity, in so far as it is Protestantism, is a bare negation." The objec-tion is couched in these terms—"That Dr. Brownson did not fairly state the positive aspect of Protestantism." Now this objection is absurd. because Dr. Brownson never professed to state the positive aspect of Protestantism; on the contrary, he distinctly declared that Protestantism, or Non-Catholicity, in so far as it was Protestantism, had no positive aspect; that though he had been for a great part of his life a Protestant, or Non-Catholic, himself, lie had never been able to discover what Protestantism, or Non-Catholicity, in its positive aspect, was; that the utmost that Protestantism did, was to deny, or protest against, some article of Catholic faith, but that of caused no small stir in the enemy's camp. In this itself, in'so far as it was Protestant, it affirmed nothing. It would have been funny after this statement on the than discretion, and if they have not refuted the part of the lecturer, if he had immediately professed

The steamer Harbinger brings intellicence from the Cape of Good Hope up to the 1st of April.

Lord Cathcart had arrived, and intended to-proceed immediately to the seat of war. The papers are filled with harrowing accounts of the crueltics inflicted by the Caffirs, upon the unhappy prisoners who fall into their hands. To give or accept quarter is unknown in their system of tactics; the soldiers who fall alive into the power of the enemy are put to death by means of the most horrible tortures. Sergeant Laing of the 91st was roasted alive; and the band master of the 74th was for three days subjected to every conceivable method of torture, before death put an end to his sufferings. The removal of Sir Harry Smith is said to be very unpopular with the colonists. Forty-nine bodies, the victims of the shipwreck of the Birkenhead, have been washed on shore; one of them was recognised as that of Dr. Long, Staff Surgeon.

We are happy to see by our zealous cotemporary, the Toronto Mirror, that the Catholics of Upper Canada are stirring themselves in the cause of free-dom of education. We give a report of the resolutions, adopted at a meeting of the Catholic Institute, below; it will be seen that the Catholic body have expressed their determination to have their separate

OBJECTIONS TO DR. BROWNSON'S LECTURES.

The Montreal Witness, the Christian Guardian, the organ of the "shouting Methodists" of Upper Canada, and some others of our evangelical cotemporaries, have undertaken the task of replying to the learned gentleman, whose lectures upon the comparative merits of Catholicity and Protestantism, have attempt our separated brethren have shown more zeal declares that he does not-" and in conscience cannot, schools, managed by their own Trustees, and sup-acknowledge in the Crown the power recently exer- ported by a fair share of the funds to which they are, inability to understand them. And here we may be it is equally absurd to tax a man with unfairness, for