The True Witness.

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MONTREAL, FRIDAY, AUG. 21, 1863.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The tone of our latest European journals, and the improved condition of the money market would seem to indicate that the war panic on account of the Polish embroglio is on the decrease. Diplomacy has not yet exhausted all its resourcts, and the Western Powers are again about to try the efficacy of another series of Notes upon obdurate Russia. These Notes are to be sent by the several Cabinets separately, every one "on its own hook" as the Yankees say, but in substance their contents will be identical. Aus tria we are informed has already most prudently declared her intention of not going beyond diplomatic action.

The news from the seat of war is barren of interest. The army of the Potomac is busy watching that of General Lee, and the Confederates return the compliment; neither seems anxious to come to blows again this hot weather. The siege of Charleston progresses, but whether favorably or unfavorably for the assailants we are unable to determine-seeing that the accounts furnished by the Northern press are meagre and uereliable. In several quarters there have been indecisive skirmishes; but, apparently by mutual consent, the belligerents on both sides have made up their minds to avoid general actions until the weather gets cooler. We read of continual depredations upon Northern commerce by the Contederate men of war, Alabama and Florida.

It is again confidently reported that the Fede-Government will attempt to enforce the draft in New York and a large military force has been concentrated in the City, to crush out resistance, should any be attempted, and to put a stop to all demonstration in favor of State Rights, and personal liberty. On the other hand we learn that the Governor is determined to assert the rights of the State of New York, and if so a collision betwirt the Federal and the State authorities is imminent. That such a collision may occur we sincerely desire; for as friends of liberty, we naturally sympathise with the several States, in their opposition to the usurpations of the Federal Government. This it is which challenges our sympathies for the Scutherners. In that they are slaveholders, and in that, accidentally and secondarily, the war assumes the aspect of a contest for the maintenance of the peculiar domestic institution of the South, they cannot expect the sympathies of any British subject. But in that the Southerners are State Rights men; in that the war is substantially and primarily a war for the maintenance of local self governsent-we, with all our hearts and souls, desire success to the Southerners. We wish them to conquer,-not because they are slaveholders; but because, according to the strange political noinenclature of this Continent, they are Democrais-the word democrat in the U. States meaning precisely the opposite of that which it means in the Old World.

SERVILE WAR .- The fruits of the policy adopted by the Northern Government in arming the blacks, and thereby inciting them to cut the throats of the white men, and to outrage the white women of the South, are rapidly manifesting themselves. The following is a case in point :--

Beckham Landing is twelve miles below Island No. Ten, in Obion county, Tennessee, immediately south of the Kentucky state line. About 10 o'clock, n.m., Aug 4, 1863, eighteen black United States soldiers, direct from Island No. Ten, their station, acrived at the home on the Landing, fully armed with muskets, side-arms, and pistols, and murdered the whole of old Mr. Beckham's family then present on the place. The family consisted of Benjamin Beckham, aged seventy-nine years; bis son Frank, aged forty years ; Laura, aged fourteen ; Kate, ten : Caroline, seven; and little Richard, aged two years. The mother and one of the children were luckily absent on a visit, and escaped the fate of their kindred. The negroes killed old father Beckham and his son Frank by horribly mutilating their bodies-by clubbing, cutting, bayoneting, and shooting, and then wound up their fieudish work by throwing the dead into the river. They then drove the three girls and boy into the river at the point of the bayonet, clubbing them with the butt ends of their muskets whilst running. The body of father Beckham and the youngest boy have been recovered, and were seen by the majority of the passengers who went ashore to see the evidence of this diabolical work. The black wretches fired several times at one of the neighbors who related us the different incidents, but he escaped unbarmed.

That the Federal Government, when it resort-

are above recounted there can be no doubt: and by all unprejudiced persons that Government will be held morally responsible for the direct, and indeed mevitable consequences of its barbarous policy. Abe Lincoln and his Ministers mily, as if they had themselves actually drawn their knifes across the throats of the unhappy father, and helpless little ones. Que facit per alium, facit per se is an axiom sound in morals as in law: and before God and man, Abe Lincoln and his Abolition friends are the murderers, upon whom justice, swift and stern, may we trust

The policy of the English Government during the War of Independence, in arming the redman against the insurgent colonists, was ably and justly denounced by the best and most eloquent of British statesmen, as a crime against the civilised world; but in comparison with the arming of the negroes against their masters, the policy of George III appears legitimate, and even praiseworthy. To let loose the Indians upon his rebellious subjects was, we admit, and no British subject of the present day will contradict us-a monstrous act of cruelty, and of itself sufficient to absolve those against whom it was aimed from their allegiance to the government guilty of it. But to arm the negroes, but deliberately to incite to servile war, as the Yankee Government is now doing, but to renew on this Continent the horrors of St. Domingo, is the act not of men but of fiends.

The Southerners we are told, do not treat the armed negroes who may fall into their hands as prisoners of war, but apply to them the law of their several States—a law which existed long before the present troubles commenced; a law which neither Congress nor President has the legal or moral right to modify or abrogate, because expressly, by the act of Union itself, placed beyond the reach of either the one or other. Well! and if the Southerners do hang. do sell into slavery all armed negroes whom they may capture; if in a similar mancer they treat the degraded white men, who encourage and hound on these infuriate black savages in their hellish work, the Southerners do not exceed either their legal or their moral rights. The law is so clear in their case that it is only upon the flimsy pretence that they are "rebels," and that as rebels they have forfeited all their legal rights, that the strict legality of their dealings with their negro prisoners can be impugned. No one will deny that, if thee or four years ago an armed negro had been captured in any of the Slave States, he might legally have been sold or even hung, in virtue of the positive laws of the said States. Now these laws have not been repealed by any competent authority.

If we are told that the Southerners are "rebels." and have therefore fortested all their legal rights, and that Congress has superseded or abrogated the particular State laws regulating States—we reply: First, that this plea, whether or their government, seeing that they have themselves already recognised the Confederates as with them, which is never done in the case of the sake of argument that the Southerners are "rebels," they have by their rebellion forfeited those legal rights only which they held from the authority or sovereign power against which they have rebelled-just as in the feudal times a vassal, traitor to his liege lord, fortested to the latter the lands and rights which from him be held. But the right of North Carolina, or of any other of the seceded States, to legislate for, and determine upon, the condition of the negro within its limits is not a right by it held from the Federal Government; so that even if the seceded States and their citizens be rebels, they cannot have forlested that right. This is strictly in analogy with the law of treason in Europe. A subject rebelling against his sovereign, forfeits ipso facto, all his property and all his honors, because he holds both from the power against which he has rebelled. And so also, even allowing that the Southerners are rebels against the Federal Government, and applying to them the law of treason in its extremest rigor, and according to the principles of feudality, they have torfeited those rights only which they held from the Federal Government; amongst which rights cannot be counted that of determining the condition of the negro within their several State Union was framed, and by the act of Federation was expressly and for ever placed beyond the reach of Federal encroachment. That even as rebels the Southerners can have forfeited only that which they held from the Federal Government, is a point which it seems to us that too many of those who attempt to discuss the moral aspect of the question as betwixt North and South, altogether forget.

ed to the expedient of arming the negroes, anti- negroes so armed and enrolled would have the complained of would be to restore to each its

oners of war, if captured by Southern invaders which Mr. George Brown aims at , this is not the press through which all the moral filth of the of any of the Northern States. But if the armed negroes invade the Southern States, the lat- tween the two sections of the Province" con- will comply with the suggestion of our Quebec ter cannot be blamed if they put in force against them the well known previously existing laws .are as much the murderers of the Beckbam fa- Thus if France and Great Britain were at war, the latter would have no just cause of complaint if its soldiers, taken prisoners by the French, were by the latter to be treated precisely as all British subjects, indiscriminately, were treated in France during times of peace, and with the tacit assent of the British Government. Now before the war broke out betwixt the Northern and Southern States, the latter in virtue of their several State laws, known to, and tacitly assented to by the former, treated as slaves all negroes, armed or unarmed found within their several limits. With what face then can the North complain, if to-day the Southerners apply to the negro the same laws which they applied to him before the war commenced-seeing that there is no power on this Continent, either in President or in Congress, which can legally or constitutionally repeal, modify, or suspend any one of the Slave States' laws determining within the limits of the said States, the condition of the slave and the status of the negro.

> And seeing what manner of men these negro soldiers are; knowing from the history of the past what has been, what ever must be, the result of arming slaves against their masters, and inciting to servile war-we see not how any one of the Southerners, fighting not for territory, but | their minds to submit, and that speedily. for independence, waging not aggressive but a purely defensive war, to refuse to armed negroes, to the hell bounds whose true proponsities have in the case of the Beckhams been so strikingly illustrated, those courtesies and amenities which are extended by the soldiers of one civilised nation to another. In India certainly Great Britain did not treat the ruffians whom it made prisoners after the Sepoy muting as ordinary prisoners of war. The murderers of little children, the ravishers of women in India were summarily dealt with, and were often blown from the cannon's mouth. We do not blame the British authorities for this exercise of wholesome severity; and neither should any bonest man blame the Southerners were they in a similar manner to deal with their revolted negroes, and the brutish murderers of the Beckham family whose exploits have been detailed above. In a servile war, such as that which the Yankees are now doing their best to force upon the South, the white men of the latter are morally justified in employing every means within their reach to protect their children from murder, and their wives and daughters from dishonor.

By men of all parties, the fact that the governmental machinery of Canada does not work smoothly, that m spite of oiling the friction is constantly increasing, and that yearly the difficulties the condition of negroes within the limits of their to be encountered are becoming greater and more serious, is frankly admitted. Mr. George good or had, cannot be urged by the Federals, Brown admits it, as may be seen by a reference to the proceedings of the Provincial Parliament. wherein is recorded his motion for a Select the doctrine itself as laid down in the third canon belligerents," in that they exchange prisoners Committee to enquire into, and report upon the best means of remedying the evil. The Montrebels." In the second place, admitting for real Witness also admits it, in the following passage which we clip from its Parliamentary Corr. spondence written under date 13th inst. :-

"I am afraid the machinery of the Government will never work smoothly in this country, under the present system, and that the longer the experiment is tried, the stronger and more general will become the impression that there ought to be, and must be, change in the constitutional relations between the two sections of the Province. - Wilness, 14th inst.

Upon the fact itself there can be no doubt : neither can there be much difference of opinion amongst intelligent men as to the cause of the evil complained ol. As all history shows, all forced unions of people so radically dissimilar to one another as are the Upper and Lower Canadians can produce nothing but discord and confusion in the body politic. " If two men ride upon one horse," Bays the proverb, " one must ride behind ;" and if neither will submit to the indignity and inconvenience of the hinder seat, there wil necessarily he what is cuphemistically termed an · unpicasantaess."

Upper and Lower Canada are precisely in this position. They have only one horse, or legislature, betwixt them; the Lower Province having some years ago, for the benefit, and with the consivence of Upper Canada, been most imquitously robbed of its own norse, and doomed to ride double. Since then a continual squablimits; seeing that that right existed before the bie has been going on betwing the two Provinces as to who "shall ride behind," and hence "unpleasantness;" hence the evil for which by Parhamentary Select Committee Mr. Geo. Brown seeks a remedy, and for which the writer in the Witness sees no remedy save in a change in the constitutional relations between the two sections

most equitable adjustment of the difficulty in the No doubt the Northerners have the right to case of two ordinary riders would be to allow each arm and enroll the negroes is the Northern to have his own animal; and in the case of the two States for purposes of delensive warfare; and Provinces the only possible remedy for the evil

cipated, nay, expressly meditated, such acts as right to demand the ordinary treatment of pris- own Legislature. But this is not the remedy pertoire of all scandal, the cloaca maxima of To compel Lower Canada, henceforward to accept the hinder and inferior seat without a murmur. How this is to be effected is the problem which Mr. George Brown proposes to his select ance by the Lower Province to the ambitious given in the English papers. pretensions of the Upper Canadians to ride in

would jog along the road much more pleasantly, with so little of religious vitality as amongst the much more amicably, and much more profitably, if each had his own nag, than if they were forced an assertion, more true than flattering, called to be content with only one animal for the pair forth the Rev. Mr. Hanna, who announced his of them. We of Lower Canada, though we intention of assisting at the next discourse given have no desire to compel the Upper Province to by Mr. Guiness, and of making the latter retract accept an inferior or subject position, have many his words. An immense crowd, in expectation and well founded scruples to accepting such a of fun, accordingly assembled at the time and position for ourselves: and yet if the two Pro- place designated for the preaching: but at the vinces must still ride one horse, one, it is very evident, must ride behind. It seems to us therefore that the only practical question which the Lower Canadians have to consider is this .-Will they insist upon having a horse of their own? Or are they prepared for the future to champions of the Holy Protestant Faith ride behind Upper Canada? To one or the Messrs. Hanna and Guiness. can contest the moral, as well as the legal, right other of these alternatives they must make up

> THE DOCTRINE OF TRANSUBSTANTIATION Sustained: An answer to the Reverend Dr. Burn's Strictures on Dr. Cabill's Lecture on Transubstantiation. By Archdeacon O'Keeffe, St. Michael's Cathedral, Toronto.-In dealing he persisted in his design of delivering his serwith Protestants, Catholics are not bound to prove the truth of the dogmatic teachings of their Church: it is sufficient for them to show that the objections urged against the truth of those dogmatic teachings, by Protestants, are irrelevant. This, in the case of Mr. Burn's objection against the Catholic doctrine of Transubstantiation, the Rev. Archdeacon O'Keeffe has fully accomplished; for he shows that the doctrine which his opponent combats, and aspires to demolish, is not the doctrine which the Church proposes to her children, but merely poor Mr. Burns' conception, or rather misconception of that doctrine. The latter may well be, indeed is, an absurdity, a tissue of errors; but the doctrine itself, as propounded and defined by the lowed to meet, and fight it out amongst them-Catholic Church, cannot be affected by Mr. selves. Burns' misapprehension thereof.

That we do no injustice to the Rev. Mr. Burns, Professor of Knox's College though he be, shall be evident to all who know what the real doctrine of the Catholic Church is, from the following extract from the Professor's pamphlet :-

" De the inspired relations of the last supper state that Jesus took his own body, then alive and in full health, and that he divided it into parts, and distrited these puris to the members sitting around the table?"-p. 9

Compare this false view of the doctrine, with of the 13th Session of the Council of Trent-" De Eucharistia":--

"Si quis negaverit * * * sub singularis cujusque speciei partibus, separatione facts, lotum Christum contineri—anathema sit."

Before again writing upon the subject of any Catholic doctrine, we would recommend the Professor of Knox College to make himself acquainted with that doctrine. " No sutor ultra crepi-

We have the best of authority for asserting that there is not a shadow of truth in a statement which under the caption of "A Good Catch," appeared some short time ago in the Toronto Globe, and was copied by the Montreal Witness. We know who is the person to whom the Globe in a most ungentlemanly manner alludes; and we can assure our excited contemporaries that there is at the present moment no more prospects of her entering a convent, than there is of Mr. George Brown becoming a Trappist. As the name of a young lady is concerned, and as a gentierann never drags, a young lady's name before the public, we can say no more on the subject at the present moment; though if either the Globe or the Witness will condescend to particulars, we engage ourselves to make them swallow their words.

For the rest, seeing how lively an interest the good Globe and the pious Witness take in the property of Papists, and how keen and how righteous is their indignation against the artifices of Romsh priests—we will renture to ask the Globe for a few explanations anent the Morrin Codege in Quebec, under the special care tended upon Dr. Morrin when the latter was on his death bed. We have had a few lines upon

"If some light were to be thrown on the transactions which there mok place, and in that particular instance, I have no doubt that the virtuous correspondent of the Globe would be thrown into convulsions."

Perhaps the Globe, which seems to be the re- a total failure owing to the worm or midge,

the " change in the constitutional relations be- Protestant community finds egress to the world, templated by the Montreal Witness. No! correspondent, and furnish the public with the What our amiable friends are aiming at is this: much-desired, and long-looked for explanation of a very strange transaction.

There has been a funny row and almost a serious fight at Belfast between two Protestant committee; and the only constitutional changes | Ministers -- one a Mr. Grattan Guiness, the desiderated by the Montreal Witness are such other a Mr. Hugh Hanna, known as "roaring changes as shall crush out all power of resist- Hanna." The origin of the dispute is thus

The Rev. Mr. Guiness, preaching at Belfast, took occasion to say that "he had never any-We believe nevertheless that the two riders where encountered so much religious profession Presbyterians of Scotland and Ulster." Such earnest request of the Mayor the two combatants agreed to keep away, lest there should be a free fight. This being approunced to the crowd they dispersed, but it seems probable that there will yet be a pitched battle betwixt the two

> We notice this affair, as it shows that, when their feelings are excited, Pretestants are quite as pugnacious, quite as ready to take the law into their own hands, and just as determined to put down an obnoxious preacher, as they represent Panists to be. Mr. Guiness, had he not yielded to the representations of the Mayor, had mon, would have fared no better at the hands of the irritated Presbyterians of Ulster, than would a Gavazzi at those of the Romanists of Cork, were that illustrious champion of Protestantism to deliver a public lecture denouncing in his usual style all Catholic clergymen as limbs of Satan, and all Catholic Sisters of Charity as prostitutes. Mr. Hanna's lambs would have proved by no means gentle towards the too free spoken Mr. Guiness; and but for the successful interference of the Mayor, freedom of speech, as understood and practised by Protestants would bave met with a very pretty illustration at Belfast. For our own parts, we think that it was a thousand pities that the two sects were not al-

> THE MANITOULIN ISLANDS. - The Canadian Freeman tells the following story concerning the dealings of the Commissioner of Crown Lands with the Manitonin Indians, and the "smartness" of the brother in law of that Government official :-

> 'The Hon, the Commissioner of Crown Lands was accompanied to the island by a brother-in law, and would apper that this last gentleman for land speculation rather than for the novelty of witnessing an Indian treaty, or seeing the arvages. While the Hon, the Commissioner of Crown Lands was endeavoring to cajole or intimimidate the Indians into a cession of their lands, the brother in-law was engaged in making examination of the clearings made by the Indians their medow and wild grass land, and making observations as to the most desirable localities upon which to speculate. After the Hon. Commissioner of Crown Lands had declared, amid a flourish of trumpets, that he obtained a surrender of the island from the Indiands, his brotherin-law answered that he was the proprietor of 50,000 acres of the best land upon the Island of Manitoulin. Perhaps the editor of the Globe may know something about this matter.'

ST. PATRICK'S TOTAL ABSTINENCE SOCIETY.

This flourishing Society will give their Sixth Annual Pic-Nic next Wednesday in the Victoria Gardens (late Guilbaults.)

Need we say that we hope the friends of this truly useful institution (for such it now is) will visit en masse the beautiful grounds selection by our Teetotal friends for the entertainment of all who take an interest in the success of the cause of Temperance, and who may desire to honor them with their presence.

The arrangements for the day's amusements are now completed, and we can assure our readers, young and old, that nothing has been omitted or forgotten which can contribute to the hearty enjoyment of the Patrons of the day.

In connection with which we may mention that prizes will be given to the best dancers of the Irish Jig and Horn Pipe. Get ready your dancing pumps.

ANALYSIS OF THE VOTE FOR SPEAKERSHIP. On the question of the Speakership for the Legislative Assembly the vote stands as follows: -For the Ministerial candidate-Upper Canadians 43: Lower Canadians 23; Against Mr. Wallbridge-Lower Canadians 40, Upper Caof a Rev. Dr. Cooke, who is said to have at | nadians 18. Mr. Wallbridge did not vote. The contested Essex election case is undecided; and Messra. Laframboise and Price, Lower Canadians, were absent. Messrs. Cockburn and Bu-The most obvious, the simplest as well as the this subject from a Quebec correspondent, who change, of Upper Canada, were absent; and the full House is thus accounted for .- Commercial Advertiser.

The Ottawa Gazette states that in Osgoods and vicinity the potato crop is already smitten by the rot or blight, and also that the wheat crop is nearly