

The True Witness AND CATHOLIC CHRONICLE, PRINTED AND PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY BY THE PROPRIETOR, JOHN GILLIES, AT NO. 195 FORTIFICATION LANE. TERMS YEARLY IN ADVANCE: To all country subscribers, Two Dollars. To all subscribers whose papers are delivered by carriers, Two Dollars and a half.

MONTREAL, FRIDAY, Jan. 7, 1876. ECCLESIASTICAL CALENDAR. JANUARY, 1876. Friday, 7—Of the Octave. Saturday, 8—Of the Octave. Sunday, 9—SUNDAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF THE EPIPHANY.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

It has seemed good to the Holy Father to extend the period for gaining the Great Jubilee to the Sunday after Easter, Low Sunday 1876. That is to say any bishop in the world can have this privilege accorded to his diocese by applying for it to the Penitentiary.

The London Post's special telegram from Berlin says that Archbishop Ledochowski's imprisonment terminates on the 3rd of February next, Catholics of all Germany propose to celebrate the day in an appropriate manner; deputations from the Reichstag and Landtag will wait upon the Archbishop, and tender their congratulations.

The London Post's special telegram from Berlin says that Archbishop Ledochowski's imprisonment terminates on the 3rd of February next, Catholics of all Germany propose to celebrate the day in an appropriate manner; deputations from the Reichstag and Landtag will wait upon the Archbishop, and tender their congratulations.

A royal decree has been promulgated convening the Spanish Cortes for February the 16th. Deputies and Senators are to be elected by universal suffrage on this occasion only. The elections will commence on the 20th of January.

The Manchester Guardian's London correspondent writes as follows on the subject of Spain, Cuba and the United States:—"I have been furnished with what purports to be the substance of America's Cuban note. I believe it is correct, though I do not pretend to give the exact language. It recites that the general interest of humanity and commerce demands the cessation of the struggle which has been waged in Cuba for seven years.

The Monitor publishes a letter from M. Buffet to the Prefect of the Department of Lot. The Minister says the Government deem it their duty to take up Marshal Canrobert as a candidate for the Senate, because of his patriotic conduct in declining any nomination which might appear hostile to President MacMahon.

him on no account to depart from the policy of neutrality. The Prince has given assurances that he will follow this advice. The report that Montenegro had raised a loan is contradicted. A Vienna despatch says that the Archduke Rudolph, Prince Imperial of Austria, will be crowned King of Hungary in July.

A VISION OF THE FUTURE.

Another atom of time, short and rapid like the earthquake, has rolled into the gulf of the past, leaving the traces of its transit in blighted homes, in fallen oaks of wealth and literature and fissured hearts of suffering humanity.

Whilst endeavoring to lift ourselves from the dreary practice of gloomy rehearsal of the woes of the defunct year, for

our muse led us to contemplate a series of events full of consolation, but yet dimly wrapt in the probable contingencies of the unknown future.

Whilst dozing in our editorial chair, with thought as free as light roving through space, we suddenly found ourselves standing on a lone rock in the boundless deep.

He pointed with his wiry finger towards the West where amidst the golden clouds of the sunset there passed before our enraptured gaze a series of tableaux, grand and impressive, imparting encouragement and consolation in the possible realization of a future sighed for from the heart of nations now in the crucible of trouble.

Lo! as the brilliant orb of day is emerging from a fitting cloud, we see underneath a field of battle; the distorted dead, the broken helmet, the torn uniform, the wounded horse, and the dismantled cannon lie on crimson grass; the heroes of the faded blue and the tricolor flag are lifting the venerable form of an aged Pontiff; they quickly adjust a broken tiara, and placing in his feeble hands the reins of panting steeds, they start him once more for the goal of union and liberty in the mud-covered chariot of Italy.

"When! how! by whom?" involuntarily started to our lips, but the shadow pointed again to the moving clouds where another startling tableau had begun to evolve from the fleecy vapours.

A pyramid—towering to higher clouds like a peak of the Andes. In the full blaze of the sun it seemed a rock of crystal—but a cloud came, the light waned and the pyramid stood out in its frail existence, it was made of snow; on the immense blocks on which the superstructure was raised, we could read distinctly the national emblems of Bavaria, Wurtemberg, Saxony, Alsace and Lorraine, and other forced adjuncts to the pyramid of German Unity.

Then came the most touching, beautiful tableau. The Maid of Erin was weeping over the harp: she had tuned for the music of sorrow. She is roused by the call of a long-absent son, who comes from the far off West in the uniform of the Stars and Stripes; whilst trimming her harp with flowers she swept its chords with the soul-stirring Marsellais of a coming struggle; then through the crimson clouds of the sunset, we saw rising in the airy castles of a transformation scene, the round towers and Gothic Abbeys of other days; leaving permanent to the view the Old House of Parliament of Stephen's Green, with its own flag and its own King ruling a regenerated people.

The scene is changed. A storm broods over the ocean; the lightning flashes through lurid clouds, then on the stupendous vault of space, in letters of molten fire, we saw the figures 2,000. The next moment we seemed to hear the trumpet of the last day—the Universe was shaken with the agonies of dissolution; the earth trembled from pole to pole;

immense balls of fire larger than our sun rolled, their stupendous masses through darkened space; the concentrated shock of millions of thunders stunned us; our guide was gone, we felt alone in the universe surviving the crash of matter, and the wreck of worlds—a sea of fire raged around us; it blazed in blue light as if it had suddenly turned into an ocean of alcohol; the forked flames leaped towards us; they come nearer; the heat is unbearable—oh God!—a convulsive scream—and—

We awoke: the employees of the office gathered round to assist; they thought some fit had seized us, or some flagellated contemporary had intruded into our editorial sanctuary, but we brushed the burning drops from our feverish brow, and thankfully bade them retire.

In the moments of serious thought that followed our dreamy flight through airy castles, we sighed over the tableau of reality presented to us in the history of our persecuted country; of the persecuted church in Germany, and the plundered and manacled church of Italy.

Let the world go to wreck and ruin as shown us in the terrific tableau of "2,000." Would that the last terrible scene in the grand drama of creation would close in one hundred and twenty-five years more!

We remember several of the Fathers held this reckoning of the awful consummation of time to be probable. Lactantius, Justin Martyr, St. Jerome, and St. Augustine were of this opinion.

Be this as it may, certain it is that when that moment has arrived in which the Almighty has decreed time shall be no more, he shall send His angel to make the dread sentence resound through the universe, and ere the echoes of the shrill blast of the angel's trumpet shall cease to roll through the myriad worlds of the firmament, the mighty fiat of the Omnipotent shall hurl all material creation into the dread chaos of original nothingness;

PERSECUTION IN THE U. STATES.

The following strange paragraph has appeared in the columns of a Protestant contemporary:—"THE ANTI-CATHOLIC MOVEMENT IN THE U. S. A letter addressed to Hon. J. G. Blaine, a prominent republican politician of Maine, and recently speaker of the House of Representatives, written by Mr. John Foster, editor of the Newark Courier, has found its way into print.

Your learned body will doubtless admit that the part is not equal to the whole; that a receipt in full is not granted on payment of a part only of a debt; and that consequently if indulgences pay only a part of the penalty of sin and that the least important; and if the money paid in indulgences is only a part of the conditions by which they are obtainable, it must be false to call them pardons for sin, and must be equally false to assert that Leo's indulgences were attainable for the paying for.

Let us look at the Catholic doctrine, not indeed as laid down in your Class Book, but as taught by Catholic Theologians and held by the Catholic Church.

Mortal sins, that is to say, all such sins as are not included in that class of sins into which the Scripture asserts the just man falls seven times a day, are according to the doctrine of the Catholic Church punished with eternal death; in other words the sinner committing them is condemned by Almighty God to Hell for all eternity.

From this short statement of Catholic doctrine, which your learned body can at any time verify by a reference to our Catholic Theologians, it will be seen at a glance how extremely (if it be not maliciously) erroneous your Class Book is. For if indulgences are only the condoning the temporal punishment after (and not until after) the eternal punishment has been already pardoned in the Sacrament of Penance, and if that temporal punishment is only a thousandth part of the punishment of sin, how can they possibly be called "pardons for sin" and if they are not "pardons for sin" at all, how can they be pardons for "sins committed" or for "sins about to be committed" as your Class Book so erroneously states?

It is astonishing, most reverend, pious and learned Sirs, how inconsiderately you have acted in the matter of instructing your students in Catholic doctrine we take it for granted that not one of your learned body would presume to teach how to vamp a pair of boots or seat a pair of breeches without first having taken earnest and prayerful council with a cobbler or a tailor; and yet on the extremely important matter of Catholic doctrine you appear to have entered without even having once

consulted a Catholic catechism. Nay! you absolutely appear to have preferred that peculiar, and need I say, erroneous theology which the Catholic Church has in all ages had manufactured for her go copiously by her enemies. Should your teachings in all the other departments of a liberal education be drawn from similar sources the students of Toronto University can hardly be expected to shine for accuracy of attainments.

The fourth error of your Class Book is the assertion that Leo's indulgences were to be had for the paying for. This is as inaccurate as it would be to assert that the fifth part is equal to the whole; a proposition which your mathematical Professor would hardly tolerate as far as numbers are concerned, however willingly you accept it in a statement meant to be disparaging of Catholic doctrine.

The following strange paragraph has appeared in the columns of a Protestant contemporary:—"THE ANTI-CATHOLIC MOVEMENT IN THE U. S. A letter addressed to Hon. J. G. Blaine, a prominent republican politician of Maine, and recently speaker of the House of Representatives, written by Mr. John Foster, editor of the Newark Courier, has found its way into print.

THE ANTI-CATHOLIC MOVEMENT IN THE U. S.

A letter addressed to Hon. J. G. Blaine, a prominent republican politician of Maine, and recently speaker of the House of Representatives, written by Mr. John Foster, editor of the Newark Courier, has found its way into print. This letter, of course, was not intended for the public, but by some means was secured by the Maine Standard. Its publication is exciting much comment on the other side. It contains the following significant passage, among other similar remarks: "A potent faction in our next convention will be the secret Anti-Catholic order."

It has been a source of surprise to us that such secret associations for the persecution of the Catholic church have not long before now shown their teeth and growled aloud in their diabolical purposes. The prosperity and progress of the Church in the States is but a prolonged calm in a region of storms: an arrangement of Providence to allow the young tree strike its roots deeply into the soil; but sooner or later the American church must prove her divinity in the crucible of trial.

The glories of Thabor, was but a moment of consolation to carry the disciples through the long dark night of sorrow that commenced on Calvary. The Church has had to wade her way along the gory path of her martyred children's blood; for the first three centuries only two of her Pontiffs died in their beds; the catacombs of the eternal city hold the crimson tombs of over two millions of martyrs. Their blood was the seed of triumph. The Christians increased in a marvelous manner during the persecution; we read in an ancient MS. that Pope Marcellus in the time of Diocletian, in the darkest hour of the persecution, had to erect twenty-five new parishes in Rome to meet the exigencies of the neophytes who were multiplying under the very sword that was reeking with Christian blood.

and bloody edicts, at another attacking under the cover of secrecy, as in the midnight machinations of the masonic fraternity, in the petty bigotry of a school board or in the contemptible organization just ventilated, which threatens to influence the politics of the Union, to warp the administration of justice and inflict an injury on millions of American citizens. "A potent faction in our next convention will be the secret anti-Catholic order."

When this diabolical plot shall have come to maturity to the sorrow of deserving members of society and to the dishonor of the Protestant manhood of America, it will find in the Catholic church the endurance and the defiance of the old spirit of martyrdom which will abundantly prove her union with the persecuted church of the past.

AN OUTRAGEOUS SPEECH.

The readers of the TRUE WITNESS are well aware that it has been the fixed rule of this journal to abstain from all discussions of a purely party political nature. To us the Canadian Conservatives or Liberals have always been alike, and so long as the interests of our Holy Religion have not been attacked, so long as no question arose in which the most sacred of all rights were involved, we have carefully abstained from interfering in mere party squabbles between the Ins and the Outs.

He said that Mr. White, having every right to exercise his religious views, like all electors, was allied in Lower Canada to a party which did not recognize this principle. The time had come when the English Protestants were allying themselves with the French Liberals of Lower Canada. This was the only reasonable alliance in the interest of free thought and free speech (Hear, hear). Twenty years of British Protestant Toryism in Lower Canada had given birth to Ultramontanism, through which might be worked serious trouble in the future.

Every line of the above speech contains a slanderous attack on our Ecclesiastical authorities, and anything better calculated, to arouse a spirit of religious warfare: in our heretofore happy and peaceful community, can hardly be imagined. We vainly ask ourselves, removed as we are from the political arena, what could have induced the Hon. Post Master General of this Dominion to give utterance to sentiments so wide of the truth.

The Province of Quebec is the only one in the Dominion where the Catholics are in a majority, yet, on what occasion have they attempted in any way to interfere with the rights of their fellow subjects who differ from them in religious views. Are not all these rights secured and held sacred by their Catholic brethren? Have they not their separate schools, and are not all their privileges hedged in not only by statutory enactments but guaranteed by the generous sentiments of toleration which animate the majority of the people of this Province as well?