

The True Witness.

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MONTREAL, FRIDAY, MAY 30, 1862

Mr. E. L. Snow, Collector, is authorised
to receive subscriptions and give receipts for the
TRUE WITNESS in the County of Ottawa, &c.
We hope that any of our subscribers indebted to
this office whom he may call upon will be pre-
pared for him.

NEWS OF THE WEEK

THE *Hibernian* from Londonderry, 16th instant,
brings us our latest European dates, but these are
almost destitute of interest. No change has taken
place in the Italian question, nor does it seem to
be advancing towards a solution, in spite of the
rumors again rife, that Louis Napoleon is about to
withdraw his troops from Rome. Victor Emmanu-
el had bestowed his presence upon Messina,
where, thanks to the activity of the Sardinian
police agents, demonstrations were got up which
the revolutionary press describe as "enthusiastic."
The health of the King of Belgium is said to be
improving.

The news of the capture of New Orleans had
arrived in England, and had created a great sen-
sation; it was looked upon as highly favorable to
the Northern cause. The markets are reported
"dull." Flour 6d to 1s lower; corn 6d lower,
and "provisions flat."

There has been smart fighting, and on the part
of the Yankees, still smarter running away, in
Virginia during the last week. That very trou-
blesome rebel, General Jackson, has attacked and
thoroughly routed the division of General Banks,
driving the latter back upon the Potomac river,
and menacing Washington, from which his ad-
vanced posts were distant only some forty-five
miles. The Northerners made excellent running
time of it; for by their own showing they got
over betwixt twenty and thirty miles of ground
in one forenoon. The particulars of the fight
are of course uncertain, for the accounts reach
us only through Yankee channels, and are there-
fore carefully cooked to suit the Northern palate;
but enough has transpired to show that on this, as
on every previous occasion where the Southern-
ers have met their enemies on a fair field, and
where the latter had not an overwhelming supe-
riority of numbers and the assistance of their
gun boats—the former have established incontest-
ably their better soldiery, and that the North-
erners cannot stand before a charge of the South-
ern chivalry.

Great excitement prevailed in Washington
when the tidings of General Bank's defeat first
reached that city, but by the latest accounts the
agitation was said to be going down, and the fears
for the safety of the Federal capital were sub-
siding. A strong anti-Yankee feeling has however
been aroused, which manifested itself all along the
line of retreat of General Bank's army, and espe-
cially at Winchester, where the women even are
said to have fired with their own hands upon the
discomfited invaders of their native land.

From Mexico we learn that Juarez had had a
smart encounter with the French army, inflicting
upon them a loss of 6,000 men. This is how-
ever doubtful, for it is certain that the French are
still advancing upon the capital.

LEECHES, LEECHES, FINE LEECHES.

A FRESH LOT, AND VERY LIVELY.

The "sick man," whose Constitution has ex-
cited so much anxiety of late amongst our politi-
cal quacks, will we fear have but little reason to
congratulate himself upon the severe antipathologic
treatment to which he seems eternally doomed.
His disease is not plethora: his system stands in
need, of stimulants, rather than of depletion; and
blood-letting, whether by the ordinary process of
venesection, or by the reiterated application of
fresh leeches—the "sanguisuga officinalis" or
official blood-sucker—is not an operation which
is at all likely to meet the exigencies of his case,
or to promote his recovery.

The condition of Canada is very analogous to
that of the traveller in the desert, who, falling
into the hands of thieves, was by them robbed,
stripped, beaten, and left bleeding on the ground.
A good Samaritan passing by, and seeing his sad
condition, thought to perform a charitable office
by driving away with a palm branch the myriads
of flies which had settled upon the unhappy man's
wounds. "For God's sake," exclaimed the
sufferer—"do not drive those flies away; they

are by this time well nigh satiated, and are as
full of blood as they can hold. Now if you
drive them away, their place will be occupied by
another set of hungry flies, who have been hover-
ing about me all day, ravenous for blood, and
who, if they but get a chance, will not leave a
drop in my veins." So argued the poor man;
and in much the same light do we view a change
of Canadian Ministry. The old flies were bad
enough; but the hungry, empty-bellied, and long
expectant swarms by which they will be succeed-
ed, will, we fear, prove ten-fold worse.

In so far as a change of Ministry implies
merely the transference of the public plunder
from one set of hands to another, we, as Catho-
lic journalists, cannot be supposed to take any the
slightest interest therein. To the clamorous
hordes of place-beggars and office-seekers, to the
obscene Harpies ever looking out for Govern-
ment jobs, and Government contracts, such a
change may, *per se*, be a very momentous and
exciting affair. We, of course, can look upon
it only with reference to its probable effects
upon Catholic interests; and looking upon it in
that light, we cannot say that it is an event upon
which we have as yet any good reason to con-
gratulate ourselves. On the contrary, it is one which
threatens to be very prejudicial to those interests
—to the speedy and satisfactory settlement of
the Upper Canada School Question especially;
and after a careful perusal of the published lists
of the new Ministry, we cannot therein find the
name of a single person in whom, judging him by
his antecedents, it would be prudent or honorable
for Catholics to place the slightest confidence,
or to whom they can with a good conscience en-
trust the interests of their Church. A homely
proverb—"out of the frying pan, into the fire,"
is very applicable to our actual circumstances;
and he must be very sanguine, very sanguine in-
deed, who can expect that the Catholics of Up-
per Canada will receive any measure of justice
from a Ministry of which a J. S. MacDonald
and a McDougall are members; or that the
honor and interests of Catholic Lower Canada
are safe in the hands of such men as Sciotte,
Dorion, & Co. We trust that we may be mis-
taken, and that the future of our new Ministers
may give the lie to their past. Should it turn
out to be so, no one will more heartily rejoice
over it, and more cheerfully render justice to the
Ministry, than will the TRUE WITNESS.

The test by which in the first instance they
must be tried is of course the "School Ques-
tion," and upon this question they should be
forced to declare themselves, unambiguously and
without delay. We do not expect that they, any
more than did the last Ministry, shall make a Se-
parate School Bill a Ministerial measure; but we
have the right to expect that from them it shall re-
ceive no opposition; and we assert that any person
calling himself a Catholic, who should consent to
acknowledge as his colleague an opponent of our
just and most moderate demands, would thereby
approve himself destitute of all sense of personal
honor, and a traitor to the Catholic cause.

Of the fallen Ministry we need say but little,
for it is impossible to say much in their praise,
and the proverb tells us, "*de mortuis nil nisi
bonum*." It is easy to reproach them with their
corruption, their extravagance, and the venality
which they fostered, and a verdict of "Guilty"
upon this charge must be rendered by every im-
partial jury. Yet it should be remembered that
or this, not so much the men, as the system
they were called upon to administer, must be held
responsible. Every form of Government has its
peculiar virtues, and its peculiar vices; and all
history shows that venality, or pecuniary cor-
ruption, is the inherent ineradicable vice, the Ori-
ginal Sin of democracy, and of every system in
which the process of moral decomposition is not
arrested by the salt of a genuine aristocracy, and
where the words "*noblesse oblige*" are unknown,
or held in slight esteem. We are not, thank
God, so corrupt, so far gone in moral rottenness,
as are our republican neighbors; but it is only
too true, that corruption and venality do prevail to
a fearful extent, as the natural consequences of
our democratic institutions. and, above all, of
what is called "Responsible Government"—

which of itself is but a euphuism for "Govern-
ment by Corruption." The custom—an integral
part unfortunately, of our political system—of
distributing the public patronage, rather with re-
gard to the dirty electioneering services which
the several applicants may have rendered, than to
their moral and intellectual fitness, and of pur-
chasing political support by jobs and contracts—
is one which will be religiously adhered to
by all parties; and corrupt and extravagant as may
have been the late Ministry, we have not the
least reason for expecting that their successors
will be one whit better. On the contrary, they
will have a far larger number of importunate, un-
principled "place-beggars" to provide for out of
the public plunder, and at the expense of the com-
munity; fresh swarms of electioneering pumps
will be clamoring for building contracts, and
the handling of all manner of fat jobs, as the
wages of their ignominious servitude; and unless
they can satisfy all these, and meet the demands
of all who fancy that they have what is called
"*claims upon them*," the doom of the Ministry

will soon be sealed, and quickly will they follow
their predecessors to the grave.

In justice to the French Canadian population,
we should say that, as a general rule, they are not
so deeply tainted with corruption as are their fel-
low-citizens of other origins. They are not
blameless of course; but their public men are,
for the most part, more honest and self-denying,
than are those of the "superior race." Mr.
Cartier, for instance, whilst in office did many
things which as Catholic journalists we could not
but strongly condemn; but in justice to a fallen or
defunct statesman, against whom every living don-
key may now lash out its heels, and who will now
probably be vilified and abused by those who did
most abjectly fawn upon him when he was the
dispenser of official patronage—we may be per-
mitted to say this—that, whilst in the latter part
of his Ministerial career he manifested a disposi-
tion to atone for many of his previous errors, we
look upon M. Cartier, in his private capacity, as
one of the most honest of our public men; that
we believe him to be clear from personal corrup-
tion, and that after many years tenure of office
he retires from it into private life without being
any the richer. This in justice to one whom we
have often when in place and power condemned
for his anti-Catholic policy, we may be permitted
to say: and this is no small thing to be able to say
of a Minister in a country like ours, where men
enter public life merely to enrich themselves;
where too often the political adventurer inaugu-
rates his career with fraud, and signals his first
appearance in Parliament by an act of perjury,
swearing to a property qualification which he
does not possess; and where the needy place-
beggar is, by a few month's tenure of
office, transformed into a capitalist, or a sort of
Canadian Rothschild.

The subjoined is the composition of the new
Ministry as published by the *Official Gazette*:

CANADA WEST.

Attorney General—Mr J. M. McDonald
Solicitor General—Mr A. Wilson
Minister of Finance—Mr W. P. Howland
Receiver General—Mr J. Morris
Post Master General—Mr H. Foley
Commissioner of Crown Lands—Mr Wm. McDougall

CANADA EAST.

Attorney General—Mr L. V. Sciotte
Solicitor General—Mr J. Abbott
Provincial Secretary—Mr A. Dorion
Commissioner of Public Works—Mr U. J. Tessier
President of Executive Council—Mr T. D. McGee
Minister of Agriculture and Statistics—Mr F.
Evanturel

PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT.

MINISTERIAL EXPLANATION IN THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Quebec, May 26th.
The Speaker took the chair at three o'clock, and
announced that Hon. W. P. Howland having by his
acceptance of office vacated his seat and thereby
ceased to be a member of the general committee on
elections, he had appointed Mr. McKellar, M.P.P. for
Kent, to act in his stead.

Mr. Wallbridge then rose and read the following as
the policy of the new government.

First: Recognizing the Federal Character of act of
Union and danger at the present critical emer-
gency of attempting to change the basis of that union;
Government will seek to remedy the evils now en-
countered in the government of Canada by commit-
ting to members composing administration for each
section respectively, control of all matters of a local
or sectional character; administration as a whole
being charged with all such matters as are neces-
sarily common to both sections of the Province.

Second: It will be admitted as a rule that local
legislation should not be forced on either section of
the Province against wishes of a majority of its re-
presentatives, and that the administration for each
section of the Province should possess the confidence
of a majority of its representatives.

Third: The Government will submit a measure for
the more equitable adjustment of Parliamentary
representation in each section of the Province, re-
spectively.

Fourth: An amendment of the Militia law will be
proposed so as to secure a proper enrollment of the
available force of the Province under efficient offi-
cers; the distribution of arms furnished by the im-
perial authorities through the officers of battalions,
and the encouragement of the Volunteer movement.

Fifth: The tariff will be readjusted so as to meet
as far as possible the demands upon the Revenue,
but the readjustment will be made with a due regard
to the manufacturing interests of the country.

Sixth: A bill will be introduced to settle in a more
equitable manner the relation of debtor and creditor,
and to afford relief to insolvent debtors in an econo-
mical manner; such bill being made to apply to the
whole Province.

Seventh: A system of retrenchment, including
every branch of public service, will be adopted with
a view to reduce the annual expenditure of the coun-
try within its income.

Eighth: Her Majesty's decision with reference to
the Seat of Government will be maintained. A thor-
ough investigation into all the matters connected
with the public Buildings at Ottawa will immedi-
ately be made; so soon as this investigation can be
completed, and contracts ascertained to be such as
to permit the work to be proceeded with under them,
no time will be lost in endeavoring to place the mat-
ter in a condition to make satisfactory progress.

Hon. Mr. Foran then explained the policy in
French, and stated that it was the intention of the
Government to ask the House to pass certain public
bills, including a portion of the tariff bill of the late
Finance Minister—to go on with private bills and
then prorogue. Parliament to meet again in Janu-
ary next. He proposed asking the House to hold
two sessions each day until prorogation.

A debate ensued, in the course of which the lead-
ers of the late Government stated that they did not
intend to offer at this time any opposition.

The new Ministry propose, after passing the mea-
sures indicated above, and an amendment of the
Militia Bill, to prorogue Parliament until January
next.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

At the meeting of the House to-day the Hon. Mr.
Morris stated the ministerial policy, which was pre-
cisely similar to that given in the lower house. A
debate arose which was proceeding when our report
left.

The Quebec *Morning Chronicle* speaking of
the new Ministerial programme says:—

The separate school system of Upper Canada will
be recognized, so far as it applies to Catholics; such
amendments being introduced as the experience of

the present law may have suggested, and a position
being taken against the extension of the principle to
other denominations.

No more public aid will be given to railways.
Stress will also be laid, we are told, upon some
extensive scheme of retrenchment.

We hope that our Quebec contemporary is
well informed, and that the Ministry are really
prepared to act justly towards the Catholics of
Upper Canada. If they will do this, and main-
tain the rights of Lower Canada against the
Upper Province, they will have no better or
more sincere friend and well wisher than the
TRUE WITNESS. We must however have
deeds as well as words.

DO PROTESTANT MISSIONS PAY?—This
question is being warmly discussed betwixt two
of our Upper Canada contemporaries, the To-
ronto *Christian Guardian*, and the *Examiner*.
The former is the advocate of Protestant Mis-
sions, warmly espouses the cause of the Protestant
Missionary, and pretends that the business pays
well. The *Examiner*, on the contrary, pre-
tends most irreverently, that Protestant "For-
eign Mission have not paid"—and cites the Lon-
don *Times* as his authority. Both are right,
and both are wrong. In one sense Protestant
Missions have paid abundantly; in another sense
they have been sterile, or rather a dead loss.—
They pay the Protestant Missionary, and pay
him, his wife and children well; but to the sub-
scribers, their annual reports present but a dreary
prospect of so much good money thrown away.

The *Examiner*, by stating this fact, has pro-
voked the indignation of the *Christian Guard-
ian*. "We"—writes the *Examiner*—"we
say, before you convert the Roman Catholics of
Lower Canada, see to it, that the 4,000 wild
Pariahs of Toronto are cared for; do not let
your own children starve to feed strangers; and
in these remarks we are justified by the state of
crime in the land; convert the heathen abroad,
we say, if you will, but do not neglect the greater
heaven at home."—*Examiner* 25th ult.

These remarks, whose good sense and truthful-
ness must commend themselves to every honest
and intelligent mind, no less than the taunt that
Protestant "Foreign Missions have not paid,"
have of course much stirred the wrath of our
Methodist contemporary; who in good set terms
proceeds to take his irreverent opponent, the
Examiner, to task for his very lax notions con-
cerning Protestant Missions, their objects and
results. The subject is one interesting to men
of all denominations; and we trust therefore that
the *Examiner* will pardon us if we take the
liberty of interfering in the very pretty quarrel
in which he is actually engaged with the *Chris-
tian Guardian*, with the view of citing some
facts, the result of the last researches into Pro-
testant Foreign Missions. These show conclu-
sively that the latter both do, and do not, pay;
or, in other words, that, whilst they furnish a most
lucrative business to the Missionaries, or agents
engaged therein, they yield no profits to the zeal-
ous and well intentioned subscribers to Protes-
tant Mission Funds, in the shape of souls convert-
ed to God, and of communities civilised and
Christianised.

A most interesting work upon this subject—
"*Christian Missions, Their Agents, Methods
and Results*" has been lately published by J.
W. Marshall, M. A. It comprises a complete
survey of the Christian world, and a statement of
the results of the latest researches into the work-
ing of both Catholic and Protestant Missions—
the latter compiled from Protestant and Official
sources. From this work we propose to make
a few extracts in support and illustration of our
thesis: That Protestant Missions do, and do not,
pay.

That enormous sums are raised for the sup-
port of, and expended upon these Missions, no
one will deny. Indeed it has been boasted—
and not without truth—by a Presbyterian writer,
"that the yearly expenditure of Protestant Mis-
sions in India alone was about one-fifth more
than is annually raised for Papal Missions in all
parts of the world." The total amount of
money raised and annually expended for Protes-
tant Missions we do not know; but we may form
some faint estimate of its magnitude from the
fact that the annual revenue of *only five* of the
almost innumerable Missionary Societies which
abound in England, is about Seven hundred thou-
sand pounds sterling, or nearly Three millions
and a half of dollars. In 1860 the London
Times estimated the working capital of the
several British Missionary Societies at the sum,
year by year, of Two Millions sterling, or up-
wards of Nine Millions and a half of dollars; and
it is estimated that since the commencement of
the present century, the expenditure of the Brit-
ish and American Protestant Missions alone, has
reached the enormous amount of Two Hundred
Millions of dollars—or above Forty millions of
pounds sterling.

Another very important fact in connection
with modern Protestant Missions, and one alto-
gether in their favor, is this: That they have been
undertaken by the subjects of the two greatest
maritime Powers of the civilized world, and
directed for the most part to countries where the
political and commercial influences of those two
maritime and Protestant Powers were great, and

steadily exercised in favor of the Protestant Mis-
sionary. Amongst the South Sea Islands in
Australia, New Zealand, Southern Africa, and
India especially, the Protestant Missionary has
plied his trade beneath his native flag, and pro-
tected by the guns of his country's men-of-war;
and even in China the interior has been thrown
open to him, and his path has been made smooth,
by the exertions of British Generals, British
Admirals, and British Diplomats. Every thing
then has been in favor of the Protestant mis-
sionary; and if he has not succeeded in making
converts, if he has not a goodly array of souls
saved, to show as a set off to the millions and
hundreds of millions of dollars expended, it must
be attributed to the inherent defects of the reli-
gious system of which he is the exponent, and to
his unfitness for the arduous duties of a Mission-
ary.

It would be too great a tax upon our readers,
to impose on them the statistics of Protestant
Missions in all quarters of the globe; we shall
therefore confine ourselves to one or two Missions,
and those the most important, and on which Pro-
testants chiefly pique themselves, as the most
signal triumphs of their holy religion.

If we begin our investigations with the Islands
of the Pacific, which according to the boast of
the Protestant Missionaries themselves, have
been the scene of the "noblest triumphs of
Christianity in modern times"—what a sad spec-
tacle awaits us. We find vice and licentious-
ness ruling with undisputed sway; and the only
tangible evidences of Missionary triumphs that
are to be met with, are to be found in the foul
diseases under the influences of which the native
populations are fast disappearing from the face of
the earth. In the words of the Rev. Mr.
Cheever, himself a Protestant Minister, "the
natives are dying off fast, rotten with disease.—
Like sheep they are laid in the grave." The
Island World of the Pacific. But whilst under
the combined influences of syphilis and Protes-
tantism the aborigines are thus rotting away, and
decreasing at a rate of about 8 per cent per
annum—it is gratifying to find that the Protes-
tant Missionaries themselves, their wives and their
little ones, are thriving and multiplying fast—in-
creasing at the rate of "within one generation,
one hundred and seventy-five per cent."—*Id.*
Thus in one sense Protestant Missions do not
pay, and in another sense they pay well. They
are most pernicious to those to whom they are
sent; but most profitable, most lucrative to the
Missionaries and their families. Let us now
take a look at the Indian Missions—another
most "interesting field," as the orthodox Evan-
gelical Tract-phrase goes.

It must be recollected that, according to Pro-
testant boasts, the yearly expenditure of Protes-
tant Missions in India alone "is about one-fifth
more than is annually raised for Papal Missions
in all parts of the world;" what then have been
the results of this lavish expenditure?

We read of "one old woman" of whom
Henry Martyn entertained hopes as of one
"seriously impressed;" and here and there we
meet with accounts in the very unreliable re-
ports of the Missionaries, of their success in con-
verting the natives to Christianity—but what say
disinterested Protestants on this point? what
testimony do they give as to the extent and
quality of Protestant conversions? Let us lis-
ten to their testimony.

Sir James Brooke, addressing a meeting of the
Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in
1858, thus delivered himself:—

"You have made no progress at all, either with
the Hindoo or the Mahometan; you are just where
you were the very first day that you went to India."

The Rev. Mr. Clarkson, himself a Missionary,
cries out in a moment of despair, and abnormal
truthfulness:—

"Every gate seems to have been shut, every chan-
nel dammed up by which the Gospel streams might
find its way."

Dr. Bryce, a Presbyterian Minister, in a ser-
mon preached some time ago at Calcutta groaned
in spirit as he confessed that:—
"Alas! it may be doubted if at this day the
Christian Missionary—(for Christian read Protestant)—
boasts a single proselyte to his creed over whom
he is warranted to rejoice."

And Mr. Irving, another Protestant witness
speaking of the nominal converts assures us
that:—

"Their lax morality shocks the feelings of even
their heathen countrymen."

Dr. Ruschenberger writes:—
"We are not aware of more than three or four dis-
tinguished instances of conversion to Christianity—
(again read Protestantism)—effected by Mission-
aries."

Count de Warren asserts that:—
"The influence of English Missions is an absolute
nullity; they reckon no other proselytes than
orphans whom the missionaries purchase, and who,
when they grow up, all return to the religion of their
countrymen. It must be confessed too, that the fol-
lowers of Christ—(read Calvin)—scarcely manifest
more charity or humility than those of Brahma or
Mahomet."

Mr. Minturn writes:—
"The converts are few, and mostly of the most de-
graded classes."

Mr. Malcolm Ludlow treating of the prospects
of Christianity in India says:—
"The native converts to Christianity I have not