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The True Editness.

MONTREAL, FRIDAY, APRIL 16, 1858.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The appointment of Marshal Pellisier as successor to M. Persigny, is generally, accepted as a symptom of a desire on the part of the Emperor to cultivate friendly relations with the British Government, and is looked upon as likely to restore the entente cordicle that prevailed before the melancholy affair of the 14th of January. to pay a visit to Queen Victoria, during the course of the year. The domestic news is unimportant. The late Orange riots in Dublin have been the subject of a debate in the House of Commons, and of a protracted enquiry, which has of course resulted in nothing. The Agamemnon, was about to be commissioned in order to assist in laying the Atlantic cable.

There was much commercial depression in France, exciting the serious attention of the government. The position of the Emperor seems precarious; and though owing to the restrictions on the press, it is no easy matter to arrive at the tuth, enough leaks out to throw very considerable doubts upon the stability of the present re-

From India we may expect decisive intelligence in a few days. Our latest dates from Bombay are to the 9th ult. Sir Colin Campbell at the head of a force of near 50,000 men of all arms, and with a magnificent park of arrtillery had, on the 6th ult., arrived within a mile of Lucknow, wherein the great body of the mutineers were assembled, apparently with the design of there making their final stand. Several skirmishes had already taken place, the advantage being as constantly on the side of the British .-Nena Sahib was wandering about the country, but does not seem to have a large force under his orders. The trial of the sham King of Delhi is not yet over, but the complicity of the old wretch in the Delhi massacres is now fully established. His life must of course be spared, but it is to be Upper Canada; and that we look upon them, as expected that he will be severely dealt with .--At Canton there has been no more fighting, and it is said that the Celestial Emperor is willing to treat with the barbarians. Yeh is still a prisoner on board a British man of war.

PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT.

The time of the Legislative Assembly has been chiefly occupied in enquiring into the stupendous frauds which characterised the late elections; and the Session will be over before it will be possible to decide who are, and who are not, legally entitled to take their seats in the House. Very disgraceful to the country are the facts hitherto must be-conducted as they are at presentelicited; and if they may be accepted as a symp- dangerous in the highest degree to the faith and tom of the moral condition of Canada, the patient must be pronounced to be in the last stage of hopeless corruption. Our electoral system is rotten to the core; and the abominations of a Canadian General Election are almost sufficient to bring the Representative system itself into universal contempt. The Russel election, is now undergoing a scrutiny before the House; and though a Deputy Returning Officer, and a Poll Clerk, have found it convenient to make a trip to the United States, enough has been elicited to show that, for rascality of every description, that election may challenge comparison with those of Quebec, Lotbinere, and other places in Lower

On Friday the investigation into the Lothiniere election frauds was proceeded with; when Mr. R. S. Noel, Returning, Officer testified to a conversation that he had with Mr. O'Farrellthe sitting member. Before the election writ was issued, the latter asked Mr. Noel-how much more he-Mr. Noel-would receive if the election were contested, than if it were | ried;" and that the said male teachers claim and not? Mr. Noel replied "twenty or twenty-five pounds." Mr. O'Farrell then promised to give Mr. Noel one hundred pounds, if he would" get him elected without contestation." Mr. Noel asked "what he would do if there were a contest?" "Oh"-said Mr. O'Farrell, "you can get to the poll before the time, having a watch set for the occasion." Mr. Noel exclaimed" do you mean to corrupt me?" "Oh" again rejoined Mr. O'Farrell "I only said so for fun." The Journal des Debats complains strongly of the attacks made by Mr. O'Farrell on the Catholic Clergy, whom he accuses of having intrigued against him, because of his supporting an administration composed in part of Orangemen! We leave Mr. O'Farrell to settle this affair-if he can-with the Journal des Debats. He has certainly assigned a very sufficient reason—bis

On the same day, the 9th inst., Mr. Ferguson's Bill for repealing the Separate School clauses in the Upper Canada School Law, was read a first time. After all, these clauses are in consequence whether they be repealed or no ;have the effect of rousing the whole Catholic strictures thereupon. But we have more, far

body of the country into united and vigorous opposition towards the system of "State-Schoolism," we should look upon Mr. Ferguson's Bill as a real blessing. As it is, it has its value; as it must surely stir our people to action, and arouse them from the disgraceful lethargy in which they have of late been plunged. The paltry instalment of justice given by the Separate School clauses is now about to be resumed by their enemies; and this resumption will, we trust, be followed, by an indignant shout from the entire Catholic community, for the overthrow of all "State-Schoolism," and by an unqualified asser-It is also rumoured that Louis Napoleon proposes | tion of the right of "Freedom of Education" for Papists, as well as for Protestants. Hitherto these clauses have served as a kind of safety valve to the iniquitous Yankee system with which the Upper Province is accursed; that safety valve | States, or of Upper Canada. If the facts, as being removed, it is to be expected that such an given by the Protestant press of Boston and explosion will speedily follow as shall shatter the entire system. It is for this reason that Mr. Ferguson's Bill inspires us with lively sentiments, not of terror, but of hope for the sacred cause of "Freedom of Education."

> The Journal Des Debats of the 8th inst. accuses us of imprudence, and of having wantonly insulted our Protestant fellow-citizens, by expressing, in our issue of the 19th Feb., an opinion to the effect that-taking into consideration the abominations which, by Protestant showing, are practised in the common schools of the United States and of Canada West-"we would quite as willingly entrust the education of our children to an ordinary house of ill-fame," as to one of those schools, conducted as they are at present. The enunciation of this our opinion has shocked the courtly gentleman of the Journal Des Debats; and he seems to labor under the singular impression that we must already bitterly regret its utterance in our columns.

Now, at the risk of again shocking our delicate cotemporary, we inform him that, after careful deliberation, we see no reason whatever for altering, or modifying, our opinion of the " common" schools of the United States, or of do the Fathers of the Church in Canada, as altogether dangerous to faith and morals. We care not to bandy compliments with the Devil; and we have no civil things to say of one of the craftiest devices by which, in modern times, the arch-enemy of souls has sought to corrupt the faith and morals of the children of the Church. We call a spade, a spade—a knave, a knave and a fool, a fool; and upon the same principle, we assert again, and will make good our assertion against the whole tribe of place-hunting, timeserving Kaucholics, that the "common" schools of Upper Canada and the United States, are, and morals of the pupils.

1. We assert that schools in which boys a girls of the age of puberty herd promiscuously together—under the sole and absolute control of unmarried male teachers-who claim, and exercise the privilege of flogging their female pupils-must inevitably be ruinous to all sentiments of delicacy and purity amongst both teachers, and pupils; and that no honest man, no modest woman, should allow a son or daughter to attend such schools. Will the Journal Des Debats presume to controvert this?

2. We assert, and upon Protestant testimony -that of a medical gentleman of Toronto who signs himself in the Toronto Colonist. Cornelius James Philbrick, F.C.R.S .- that in the "common" schools of Upper Canada, boys and girls of the age of puberty—that is, of fourteen years of age-do herd promiscuously together, under the exclusive control of male teachers-of whom Dr. Philbrick says that "it is a notorious fact that many, if not all, have never been marexercise the privilege of flogging their female pupils, with such severity too, as in some cases to inflict serious and permanent injury upon them. In Mrs. Stowe's well known " Uncle Tom," the almost inevitable consequences of such a right of flogging, both upon the flogger, and upon the is because we feel strongly; because as men, as flogged, are pretty clearly indicated; and, if it he no libel upon the Slave system of the Southern States to assert that the consequences of such unbealthy relations betwixt white overseers, and black, or quadroon, slave girls of the age of puberty, are unbridled licentiousness, and the obliteration of all sentiments of purity and temale delicacy—it can be no libel upon the "common" schools of Upper Canada to assert that the custom which obtains therein of flogging grown up white girls, must inevitably lead to the same corsupport of an Orange Ministry-why Catholics flogged-of the white unmarried teacher who law with the power of inflicting cruel and de- Assembly, so let every one sign both." of all ranks, lay as well as cierical, should warmly | flogs her and of the male pupils who are the witnesses of the brutal operation.

If therefore we had no other information respecting the working of the "common" schools, than that contained in the late disgusting revelations, made through the columns of the Protestpractice, so utterly worthless that it is of little ant Toronto Colonist by the Protestant Dr. Philbrick, we should have ample grounds for our and if it were certain that their repeal would objections to them, and a full justification of our

more, than this. We have the evidence of Protestants of the highest respectability, and of undoubted veracity, to the fact that the "common" schools of the United States-of which schools, the "common" schools of Upper Canada are a servile copy, and from which they are morally indistinguishable—are, not metaphorically, but literally, brothels of the worst description; and that the pupils therein, of both sexes, are the victims of most unnatural, and most precocious derate our assertion, that we would as willingly entrust a child to an ordinary house of ill-fame, as to one of the "common" schools of the United New York may be relied upon, we see not how any honest man, or modest woman, can find fault with us, or accuse us of offering any insult to Protestants. Our first extract is from the Boston Times, and a very nice picture it gives too, of the moral results of "State-Schoolism."

"About a week since,"-says the Timesone of the monitors of the first class in a public school for girls at the North End"-this does not seem to have been a school in which, as in the U. Canada schools, boys and girls are herded promiscuously together-" happened by chance to find a written note on the floor of the school. which she read, and was so astonished at the contents that she handed it to her female teacher." In the Upper Canada schools be it remembered the big girls are under the sole control of, and are flogged by male teachers. "The note was written by one of the pupils to another in the same class, and revealed (in language too indecent for publication) the astonishing intelligence that the writer of the note, and five of her schoolmates, girls between the ages of 12 and 15 years"—the age at which girls are that city, which it attributes to the old leaven flogged by unmarried men in the "common" schools of Upper Canada—"had been seduced and were in the habit of visiting certain places, and indulging in the lewdest conduct."

The next Protestant authority to whom we will take the liberty of introducing our delicate cotemporary is the Protestant New York Dispatch. The Journal des Debats, will again be shocked; for this New York journal, heads his article "Prostitution in the Public Schools."

In this article, which is too long for insertion, and whose filthy details we do not desire to obtrude again upon our Catholic readers, but which the Journal des Debats will find on the 6th page of our issue of the 12th ult., the Protestant writer openly asserts that the said common schools are but common brothels, and instances facts in support of this assertion. The following is the concluding portion of the New York editor's article:-

"We could, perhaps, forgive the aggregate ineffi-ciencies of many of the Commissioners, and submit in silence to the inutilities which are apparent from incompetencies and rapacitles; but we cannot submit for one moment to even a bare suspicion that the children for whose education the inhabitants of Manhattan Island are taxed over one million of dollars per annum, are contaminated by the touch of lewd and lascivious preceptors, supposed to be virtuous. or glared at with libidinous eyes by lechers in educational offices. The thought that the innocent young girls instructed at these schools may be subjected to these vile influences, is too terrifying and monstrous to be entertained a moment longer than it can be obliterated by prompt and decided inquisitorial action. What evil could not be affected by the depraved mistress of a Commissioner—a mistress in charge, as principal, of a school of females? How speciously and skilfully she could distill the leprous poison into the cars of the eldest for the advantage of herself and her officical paramour! We shudder as thoughts find utterance.

This is the language of a Protestant-language which we are sure will find a ready echo in the heart of every honest man, of every modest woman, whether Catholic or Protestant; even though through affected delicacy, and fear of proscription nor coercion of any class or sect; what shocking our "separated brethren," the courtly Journal Des Dobats may affect to repudiate it. Where we ask, is the modest woman who would allow her daughter, of 14 years of age, to be flogged by a lecherous beast of a "common" school teacher? and shall we be told that it is an insult to Protestants to assert of schools in which such things are done, that in their effects upon the morals of their pupils, they can be no better than places of prostitution? If we speak strongly, it fathers, as Christians, we loath the foul dens in which our daughters can be publicly scourged by sanction of the law, and in which the first principles of humanity, of decency, and of chastity, are habitually, and with impunity violated. zens-we offer them no insult, when we denounce boys and girls of the age of puberty promiscuously together, under the sole and absolute congrading corporal punishment upon his pupils of

her heart to become the inmate of a brothely as ture www can only again record our dissent from to be exposed to the remotest possibility of such our Toronto cotemporary ; believing that an an indignity; and if any Protestant in Upper armed anti-Orange organisation would inevitably Canada, as the Journal Des Debats insinuates, feels aggrieved at our remarks, it is a proof, not that the TRUE WITNESS has said aught of which he should be ashamed, or which he should retract, but that he who complains of our language has neither the feelings of a gentleman, nor of a Christian; and that female honor, and the chasdauchery. It is upon the strength of these facts, tity of his daughters, is of far less value in his which we again lay before our cotemporary's eyes, than a cask of superfine flour, or a barrel of eyes-but which, with his usual honesty, he will potash. Amongst the friends of the Journal Des of course refrain from noticing-that we reite- Debats there may be fellows of this stamp; but in all the intercourse, and we may say intimate intercourse, that we have had with Protestantsto be sure they were ladies and gentlemen-we never met with one who could have taken offence at our strictures on the "common" schools of Upper Canada; or who, if acquainted with the beastly details, revealed through the Toronto Colonist by Dr. Philbrick, would not have heartily endorsed our condemnation of those infamous establishments, whose existence is a disgrace, not only to Canada, but to the civilisation of the XIX. century. If then we have offended any Protestants by our language, it is because we have been simple enough to attribute to them sentiments of honor and modesty, and the feelings which are peculiar to those Protestants with whom we have been in the custom of holding familiar intercourse. This may have been-though we hope it was not-an error on our part; if it was however, it is one into which we are not likely to fall again, in so far as Upper Canada Protestants are concerned.

> ORANGE RIOTS .- The Kingston Commercial Advertiser notices some recent disturbances in of religious animosity between Catholics and Orangemen. With an Orange Attorney-General, and Orange principles rampant in the Council Hall, our Orange enemies rely with but too good reason, upon impunity for their acts of violence againt their Romish fellow-citizens. At Toronto the enquiry into the Orange attack upon the Irish Catholics at the National Hotel has ended in smoke. The police who were examined, most discreetly took care to be unable to identify any one of the assailants, thus eliciting from the Toronto Police Magistrate the following significant remarks:-

"An hotel was smashed by a crowd, numbering, as was admitted by every person, from one to two hundred, and perhaps more. A strong body of police was present, but not one of them as yet has identified any of the assailants. They were all able to see Mr. Sherwood, Mr. Hutson, Alderman Moodie, Mr. Andrews. Mr. McLellan, &c., but from some unexplained and unsatisfactory cause, it seems the mob are strangers to them. Can such a thing be possible?—men who have been brought up in the city, or at least have spent a great part of their lives in it, are present at a riot in a public street, and not be able to identify a single participant in this disgraceful affair? To him, Mr. Gurnett, it appeared most mysterious, and certainly it did not reflect a great deal of credit on the perspicuity of our police."

We believe that the solution of the problem, which to the Police Magistrate of Toronto is so "mysterious" is to be found in the fact, that the Police force is composed mainly of Protestants; and that their inability to identify a single one of the Orange rioters of the 17th March, proceeds from a moral, not from any physical de-

The Ottawa Tribune, writing upon the present efforts of Orangeism to obtain a formal recognition from the State, and the duty of Catholics to oppose these efforts, has the following sensible remarks:-

"In this movement, God forbid that we should desire to diminish the social or political status of we desire is equal toleration and protection to all. partiality towards none, and therefore expect the cooperation of all friends of Civil and Religious Liberty in Canada, without distinction of race, creed, or

nationality." A Petition similar to that of Montreal, which will he found below, has been adopted by the St. Patrick's Society of this City. Committees have also been appointed, whose duty it will be to obtain signatures, that all may have an opportunity to sign it. There shail, likewise, be draughts of the Petition sent for a like purpose next week, to the Presidents of the St. Patrick's Societies, and other leading men in the various Parishes and Townships throughout this Diocese, and we need not ask all our friends to make themselves energetic in obtaining signatures, both Catholic and Protestant. Let none be left unsolicited and let every man work as if the issue depended solely on his individual exertions. If any amongst you refuse to sign, let him be branded as a traitor. shun him as you would a plague, for he is far more dangerous. There is no time to be lost, as this in-famous Bill is likely to come up for discussion immediately, and let there be an undoubted expression We do no wrong to our Protestant fellow-citi- of public opinion on the monster indignity. Make of your indignation, and where is the Ministry who as fatal to chastity, and destructive of female in- durst refuse your just demand. After the names nocence, the Upper Canada practise of herding are obtained, let the Petitions be forwarded carefully to this Office, and we shall take care that they be forthwith transmitted to Parliament.-If any locality should not receive a printed draught, let them

We are delighted to find that our Ottawa either sex. We have known intimately many friends are determined upon taking action, but Protestants, but we thank God that we have strictly constitutional action, against the aggresmisfortune to meet a Protestant mother who and the Queen herself if necessary — as a would have allowed her daughter to be publicly "sham;" and seems to favor the formation of flogged by an unmarried male stranger, or who an armed anti-Orange organisation as the best the shape of Government advertisements? We would not have as readily permitted the child of policy for Catholics to adopt at the present junc- pause for a reply.

sooner or later, degenerate into an illegal and anti-Catholic secret society; and would infallibly lead to collision; blood shed, and civil war. We believe that all our legitimate objects may be attained by peaceful, and strictly legal means; and that the arrogant assumptions of Orangeism at the present moment are mainly attributable to our venality, hankering after office, and consequent servility to an Orange Administration. We feel assured that no "armed" organisation such as a writer in the Mirror of the 9th inst. recommends, would be of any use, unless its members had been accustomed to meet together for the purpose of learning the use of their weapons; we are of opinion that such assemblages, and for such a purpose, would very quickly be pronounced illegal by the Law Officers of the Crown; that consequently they would have either to be abandoned, or else to be conducted with closed doors, and in secret. But this latter plan, if adopted, would at once lead to the worst practices of "Ribbon," and other Secret Associations; and yet, without meeting of some kind-either public or private-for the purpose of drilling and learning the use of arms, au "armed" anti-Orange organisation would be utterly useless-i.e., "a sham." These considerations against an "armed" anti-Orange organisation, we would respectfully submit to the consideration of the Toronto Mirror and its correspondents.

We have now the advanta ge of occupying, as against Orangeism, strictly legal and constitutional ground. In this consists the strength of our position, which is indeed impregnable so long, but so long only, as we adhere to our present system of tactics. Why then should we give the enemy an advantage, by descending to meet them on their own grounds? At the best, all "armed" organisations—such as Orangeism, or that which the writer in the Mirror recommends-are of doubtful legality: and a hostile Orange Attorney-General would very quickly convert the doubts as to the legality of an "armed" Catholic anti-Orange organisation, into certainty, by a prosecution against its several members.

No; let us adhere strictly to the letter and spirit of the constitution, as well as to the princinles that the Catholic Church lays down for our guidance in all doubtful circumstances. Our enemies would of course be delighted to see us adopt the course advocated by the Mirror; they would rejoice to see the constitutional opposition with which we menace them, dissipated; and would laugh in their sleeves at our folly in descending from our present position of vantage, to the low and dangerous ground of "counter organization." Such a mode of opposition, an Orange Attorney-General would very easily dis-

But, argues the Mirror, petitioning is "a sham," for "there is no danger of the Bill passing," and "in such an event, instructions wo come from England which would soon put down the movement." This reasoning strikes us as strange when coming from the Mirror, who, if we remember right, deprecated the action of the Catholics of Montreal-in calling the attention of the Imperial authorities to the unstatesmanlike and ungentlemanly conduct of Sir Edmund Head in July, 1856, in giving to the Orangemen of Canada an official reception at Government House—as " impolitic, unjust and unnecessary :" because, not the Governor but the Ministry were "responsible for the misdeed;" and because, to invoke the interference of the Imperial authorities with the acts of our Provincial Ministry or our Provincial Legislature, would be to sacrifice the great principle of Canadian self-government. Now, however, our cotemporary seems to have forgotten his old objections, and his old arguments against appealing to Imperial authority for protection against the misdeeds of Provincial Ministers, and a Provincial Legislature. He seems to have a horror of exercising the constitutional right of petitioning, whenever its exercise would tend to embarass his Ministerial oatrons. If it is proposed to petition the Imperial authorities, against the gross misconduct of the Governor General, who is an Imperial servant, our cotemporary straight-way finds out that it would be "impolitic, unnecessary, and unjust" to invoke Imperial interference; when however our Provincial authorities, our Provincial Legislature, and our Provincial Ministers are the ostensible offenders against us, the Mirror still condemns petitioning as "a sham"-because, the Imperial government would immediately come to our aid, and put its veto upon the acts of our Provincial government. Well! even to obtain that interference it is first necessary for us to take some steps, in order to make our wishes known on the other side of the Atlantic. Is the Mirror then prepared to recommend a petition to the Imperial Government against the incorporation of the Orangemen of Canada by Act of the Provincial Legislature? If it is, how can it account for its opposition in 1856 to ruption of the morals—of the white girl who is trol of an unmarried male teacher, armed by for the Legislative Council and the other for the against their hired and responsible servant? If it is not, what assurance has it that the Imperial government will interfere unasked, in our domestic affairs?-and how will it be able to remove the very natural suspicion that its eagerness to dissuade from petitioning the Provincial Legisnever met one whose sentiments upon such a sions of Orangeism. The Toronto Mirror on lature proceeds, not from a regard to the honour question were different from those expressed by the other hand, treats the action of petitioning and interest s of those whom it professes to rethe TRUE WITNESS. Never have we had the -our Provincial Legislature in the first instance, present, but, from its anxiety to stille in its origin a movement which, if allowed to gather force, threatens to embarrass seriously those friends who

furnish it abundantly with the bread of life, in