

The True Witness.

CATHOLIC CHRONICLE.

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MONTREAL, FRIDAY, MAY 13, 1859.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The Persia arrived at New York on Wednesday, confirming the tidings brought by the Adelaide. The flames of war are again kindled in Europe. Sardinia has at length succeeded in provoking Austria to active measures against the revolutionists and "Red Republicans" of the Italian Peninsula; and Austria, the most truly Catholic and Conservative Power of Europe, has in self-defence been compelled to draw the sword, and at the last dates, was marching against her foes, and the sworn foes of the Papacy. On the other hand, France likewise was hurrying up her troops to the aid of Sardinia, and in support of the infamous Cavour policy; and the next steamer will in all probability bring us tidings of a bloody conflict.

In the mean time it is confidently asserted, though the assertion is not fully confirmed—that a treaty of alliance, offensive and defensive, has been concluded betwixt France and Russia; wherein the latter engages to send a fleet to the Mediterranean, and to declare war against Austria, within fifteen days after the latter shall have invaded Piedmont. Under these circumstances it seems almost impossible that the neutrality of Great Britain can be long maintained. Against her will, she will find herself engaged in the conflict, and taking a place in the battle field by the side of the Germanic Powers. In the mean time the greatest activity prevails in the dockyards and naval arsenals. The elections for the new Parliament were proceeding quietly.

SMITH O'BRIEN IN CANADA.

TORONTO.

This distinguished gentleman arrived in Toronto from Niagara on Tuesday, 3rd inst., and was received with all honors by his fellow-countrymen of that City. The Hon. C. Alleya met him on the wharf; and by members of the Legislature of all parties, every mark of respect was tendered to the illustrious visitor. On Wednesday evening he was waited upon by a large body of citizens, and presented with the following addresses.

First in order came the Address of the St. Patrick's Society, which was presented by J. Moylan, Esq., the worthy President of that institution:—

"ILLUSTRIOUS SIR.—The members of the St. Patrick's Association of Toronto, made aware of your brief visit to this city, avail themselves of the occasion to extend to you a cordial welcome to the metropolis of Canada. Had they not learned that from your first landing in America you had steadily refused to take part in the demonstrations with which your countrymen from one end of the Continent to the other would gladly have hailed your presence, they would have been only too happy to have received you in a more public manner. But though less enthusiastic in form than they could desire, they beg you, Sir, to believe their welcome is not the less cordial, heartfelt and sincere.

"Your name has been for years a household word with your countrymen in this Province; and our only regret at this moment is that the arrangements for your journey do not allow of more time for the manifestation of those feelings of strong Irish attachment towards you, which we cannot but consider as honorable to those who entertain them, as we believe they must be gratifying to yourself.

"In many of your writings and speeches, both when a member of the Parliament of the Empire and since, you have shown your kindly feelings towards Canada, and your appreciation of the blessings of civil self-government which we now happily enjoy. And, Sir, when you return to the ancient home of your ancestors beside the Shannon, we trust among other souvenirs of your American tour, you will sometimes call to mind the honor in which your name is held, and the gratitude with which your patriotic services are remembered, by your original countrymen on the Canadian shore of Lake Ontario.

"Signed on behalf of the Society, JAMES G. MOYLAN, President."

Mr. P. A. O'Neil, of the Mirror, then stepped forward and read the following

ADDRESS OF THE PRISONERS

"For an address from Parliament to the Queen for the return of William Smith O'Brien from exile.

"ILLUSTRIOUS SIR.—In the name of seventy-five thousand Irishmen, of every creed and denomination, who, during the session of the Canadian Parliament held in the year 1856, by a fearless exercise of the right of petition, procured the passage of a resolution for an address to the Queen, praying that her Majesty would be pleased to decree your return from exile to your native land, on the occasion of this your first visit to the metropolis of Western Canada, we bid you 'Cae'd milliu faltha.'

"As we did not hesitate to give expression to our sympathy with your sufferings and the sufferings of your family when you were far away from your ancestral home, so now that you are restored to the full enjoyment of your liberty, we do not hesitate to express our joy—a joy which we do the more readily express, as it gives us the pleasure of welcoming to our shores the most noble son of the illustrious race of Inchiquin.

"It gives us also much pleasure to reflect, that to whatever part of these Provinces you may direct

your steps, you will find yourself surrounded by friends and countrymen. Whether on the lower shores of the rugged St. Lawrence, or in the prosperous country of the lakes, you will be met everywhere by hundreds of Irishmen, of every shade of politics and religious belief, who took an active part in obtaining from the Legislature of Canada—the freest and finest colony of Great Britain,—an expression of sympathy with your trials and vicissitudes, that are unequalled in her history.

"May your progress, therefore, in this country, be a source of real pleasure to yourself as your presence undoubtedly is to the seventy-five thousand Irish Canadian sympathizers in whose name we now address you.

The following address was presented by the President of the Hibernian Society:—

TO WILLIAM SMITH O'BRIEN, ESQ.

"Sir,—The Hibernian Benevolent Society beg to tender you a hearty welcome, and feel proud of witnessing in our midst an honored son of Ireland. Though distant from our shores we have not been unmindful of her interests and prospects, and foremost in the minds of noble minds we have believed you with pride and reiteration the firm advocate of civil and religious liberty. In you, Sir, the Irish people have both a kind father, and a wise preceptor; and the same enthusiasm, the same exalted respect, that was tendered to the immortal Grattan is a tribute that crowns your brow from millions of your countrymen in every hemisphere.

"We wish you, Sir, health and happiness, and a safe return to your native land and honored family.

Mr. William Eager, of Hamilton, presented the following address, signed by the Mayor, G. McKinstry, Esq., and a large number of the citizens of that place:—

TO WILLIAM SMITH O'BRIEN, ESQ.

"Dear Sir.—In the absence of a St. Patrick's Society in Hamilton, and having ascertained only a few minutes ago that you are visiting Toronto, and propose leaving Western Canada to-morrow, we respectfully congratulate you on your arrival in this the adopted land of so many of your fellow-countrymen. We regret, on behalf of very many Irishmen, that a better opportunity has not been afforded to express those feelings of love and attachment which are entertained towards you as a worthy and distinguished son of our father-land, and a true impregnation of a nationality which has its representative in every quarter of the globe.

"We depute Mr. William Eager to present you this token of our esteem and regard."

Mr. S. O'Brien then came forward, and in an eloquent and appropriate speech returned thanks for the expressions of good will contained in the addresses; and feelingly alluded to his fellow-laborers in the cause of Ireland's independence, and who had been also his companions in suffering and exile. Wishing his hearers all happiness, he proposed three cheers for fatherland; and retired bearing with him the good wishes of all who had assisted at this imposing reception.

Some little confusion was occasioned by a drunken blackguard known as Tom Ferguson, an Orange Member of Parliament, but a kick and cuff dexterously administered, soon silenced the fellow. Fire works, and a band of music brought to the ground by the "Hibernians," contributed to the display; which in every respect seems to have been worthy of the Irish of Toronto, and of him in whose honor it was designed. When Mr. O'Brien had retired, Mr. McGeer appeared on a balcony in front of the hotel, and delivered a very elegant address to the crowd assembled below; in which he alluded to the courteous behaviour of M. Cartier to their illustrious countryman.

MONTREAL.

From Toronto, Mr. O'Brien continued his tour by way of Ottawa and Prescott to Montreal, where he arrived about 7.30 p.m. on Saturday; and was received on the wharf by the President of the St. Patrick's Society, together with the officers of that institution bearing their collars and insignia, and by a dense crowd of people. By these he was escorted in a carriage with four horses to the Donegani Hotel; where after having been introduced to the members of the deputation by their President, and to the members of the deputation from the St. Patrick's Literary Association, he was presented with addresses from those bodies.

B. Devlin, Esq., President of the St. Patrick's Society, read the following, as the address of that Society:—

"RESPECTED SIR.—In the name of the St. Patrick's Society, and your fellow-countrymen residents of Montreal, we bid you heartily welcome to this city; and rejoice that we have the opportunity of personally tendering to you the tribute of our respect and admiration for your disinterested patriotism, and untiring efforts to promote the honor and interests of our common country.

"Not in words only has that patriotism manifested itself; but in deeds also, and in self-sacrifice, and in heroic endurance.

"You, Sir, have played no inconsiderable part in the national history of Ireland. Your name is enrolled amongst those of her many heroes and martyrs; and ennobled in the memory of a grateful people, will be handed down to posterity in company with those of a Sarsfield and a Grattan, of a Curran and an O'Connell.

"You may feel assured that your life-long struggles for the amelioration of the lot of our fellow-countrymen at home, are acknowledged and appreciated by Irishmen all over the world; and speaking in the name of the Irishmen of this city, we may boast that by none have these efforts been more fully acknowledged and highly appreciated, than by those who now have the honor to address you.

"We have watched your career with interest, whether in the Senate House, or in the land of exile.—With pride have we hung upon your eloquent indications of our country's cause; and keenly have we sympathized with you in your hour of bitter agony. It remains for us, then, only to express our firm conviction, that those sufferings shall not have been in vain; and that that brow whereon has already been set the martyr's crown, shall yet be decorated with the victor's laurel wreath.

you, Sir, have done so much for Ireland's glory, and Ireland's prosperity.

B. DEVLIN, President of St. Patrick's Society. St. Patrick's Hall, Montreal, May 7th, 1859.

In the name of the St. Patrick's Literary Association, Mr. Walsh, the Secretary of that Society, presented Mr. O'Brien with the following address:—

TO WILLIAM SMITH O'BRIEN:

Illustrious Sir.—Your countrymen by birth inhabiting the chief city of British North America have received, with a common and general joy, the tidings of your coming amongst them.

Like other communities they cannot silently suppress their congratulations on finding you in their midst; and if your own will and wish were not so repeatedly expressed elsewhere, they would have sought the honor of extending to you a more public and festive reception.

In this general joy, the St. Patrick's Literary Association, dedicated to the dissemination of knowledge amongst its members, has thoroughly shared. As an Association we cannot but remember your long-continued efforts to diffuse popular information, both in connection with the "Society for the Diffusion of Knowledge," in your addresses to numerous Institutes, and your writing in the Press and otherwise.

As a non-political body, we ground our gratitude on these services which you have rendered to the cause of intelligence and sound principles; and on these we confidently class you as among the foremost promoters of societies similar to our own. One of the objects our Association has most at heart, is the cultivation of a taste for Irish history and the belles lettres of our beloved father-land. In pursuing that pathway the names of your famous ancestors, arrest our attention in every age; and it is an additional pleasure for us to rise from the perusal of those chronicles where their acts are recorded, and to hail the living representative of the patriotism and courage, to do, and to suffer, which have made their names immortal. Permit us, Sir, in conclusion, to extend to you our most cordial welcome, which, we are well assured, will be spontaneously echoed by the whole body of our respective citizens, irrespective of creed or nationality. (Signed, on behalf of the Association, by the Committee.)

Mr. O'Brien then came forward, and addressing the assembled thousands, delivered a most impressive discourse; in the course of which he earnestly impressed upon his Catholic fellow-countrymen in Canada the wisdom, and duty, of cultivating a friendly intercourse with their French brethren, to whom they were united by the bond of a common faith. This advice will, we hope, have a good effect coming from such a quarter; and it is in substance identical with that which we, in our humble sphere, have constantly endeavored to impress upon our readers; for an alliance of the closest nature, betwixt French and Irish Catholics is, we contend, essential to their common prosperity. We regret that the pressure upon our columns prevents us from giving Mr. O'Brien's speech in full; but we may add that it was rapturously applauded.

The meeting was then addressed by Mr. Devlin, President, and Mr. Doherty, ex-President of the St. Patrick's Society. After which—with three lusty cheers for Ireland, three more stunning cheers for Smith O'Brien, and a similar expression of good will towards Mr. Devlin—Mr. O'Brien made his bow, and retired. In the course of the evening he was serenaded by the "Young Irishmen" of this City, who also presented him with an address couched in the following terms:—

WILLIAM SMITH O'BRIEN, ESQ.,

Illustrious Sir.—The young Irishmen and sons of Irishmen of the City of Montreal have the honor to greet you. As citizens of Canada we bid you welcome to our shores; as Irishmen we hail in you the illustrious representative of our fatherland. Permit us to say that we cherish your example and your precepts; admire your honorable feeling and patriotic devotion to our native land; and shall labor to perpetuate amongst us, in this our adopted country, that intense love of Ireland and the indefatigable zeal for her welfare which distinguished you.

As young men, we approach you with that respectful deference due to your age and position. But patriotism knows no distinction of age. When the years of life sit lightly upon your brow, and bright prospects smiled upon you, you loved Ireland not the less. As you matured in age that love diminished not, and you fought for her; and years of cruel exile from family and friends and country were the sad consequences of your devotion. And now that mature manhood, and a life of patriotic self-sacrifice, have furrowed your brow with anxious watching, your love is as intense and devoted—your zeal as ardent—as when the first bright prospects of nationality for Ireland, and freedom and an honored home for her children, served your arm.

You are with us but for a moment, and we are eager to assure you that in your deepest affliction you have had our tenderest sympathies; and that our warmest affections and gratitude shall ever accompany you. And when you return to the Old Land—where, mayhap, the majority of us shall never again behold—may we not hope that this humble token of our affection shall not be forgotten—and that, from the love of a grateful people, your sons shall learn to perpetuate the glory which adorns your illustrious name.

That your years may be long and happy to cherish your honored family, and watch with paternal affection over our afflicted country, is our fervent prayer. (Signed by the Committee.)

Mr. O'Brien then came forward, and having replied in suitable terms, wished his friends good night, and retired.

On Monday afternoon, Mr. O'Brien left Montreal for Quebec. He was escorted to the steamboat by the President and Officers of the St. Patrick's Society, and a Company of Irish Volunteers, headed by Prince's Brass Band; and having once more addressed the crowd, and returned his thanks for the kind reception awarded to him in Montreal, at 3.45 p.m. he embarked on board the steamer, and amidst the hearty and prolonged cheering of his fellow-countrymen, took his final departure from Montreal. Mr. O'Brien will be the Hon. Mr. Kierzkowski's guest for a day or two; and after his visit to Quebec, he will proceed to Portland and New York, whence he will sail for Europe about the 27th inst.

WILLIAM SMITH O'BRIEN IN OTTAWA.

(Communicated.)

The hearts of the Irish citizens of Ottawa

were gladdened by a visit from their distinguished fellow-countryman, Wm. S. O'Brien, on Friday last. He arrived by the afternoon train, accompanied by the Hon. Mr. Kierzkowski, and put up at Campbell's Hotel. Mr. O'Brien was immediately waited upon by his old and valued friend Mr. Gartlan; by whom he was subsequently introduced to his Worship the Mayor, and to others of the citizens, in whose company he visited Barrack Hill, the Chaudiere, and the principal points of attraction in the vicinity. Late in the evening the St. Patrick's Association held a meeting, at which an address of congratulation to Mr. O'Brien was drawn up, and passed amid enthusiastic acclamation. This document, a copy of which I subjoin, was formally presented to him on the following morning at the Railroad Depot; to which he was conveyed in a splendid carriage, drawn by four grey horses, followed by a numerous escort of his admiring fellow-countrymen.

The following is a copy of the address alluded to in the above:—

"ILLUSTRIOUS SIR.—We, members of the St. Patrick's Literary Association of Ottawa, hasten to offer you our most cordial welcome on this your visit to the Metropolis of United Canada.

"Your oft expressed repugnance to public demonstrations, on your tour through America, prevents us from offering you a more suitable reception on this occasion, and one more befitting your noble name, and exalted rank in the list of Irish patriots.

"Your magnanimous and self-sacrificing defence of your country's rights, your long suffering for her cause, must ever endear you to Irishmen, whatever air they breathe, or whatever clime they inhabit.

"We have watched with anxiety your struggles for the amelioration of your country; we bitterly deplored your exile and suffering in her cause; and we heard with pleasure of your restoration to your afflicted family and country.

"In conclusion, Dear Sir, we beg to assure you, that this your first appearance amongst us, will not soon be forgotten; and hoping the satisfaction you may derive from a view of the Ottawa scenery may be equal to the pleasure your presence gives to us, we have the honor to subscribe ourselves your affectionate friends and fellow-countrymen.

"Signed on behalf of the St. Patrick's Association,

P. Devlin, 1st Vice-President; M. Ronayne, 2nd do; P. Brit, Corresponding Secretary; W. Finly, Recording do; Dr. Gartlan, and J. L. P. O'Hanly.

To Wm. Smith O'Brien, Esq., Ottawa, May 7th, 1859."

RECEPTION OF SMITH O'BRIEN AT PRESCOTT.

To the Editor of the True Witness.

SIR.—With much pleasure I send you a short account of the reception given to W. S. O'Brien, Esq., at Prescott. We had but a few hours' notice, that the noble-hearted patriot was to pass through Prescott, on his way to Ottawa; and for that notice we are much indebted to P. C. Murdoch, Esq., a genuine Irishman; who spared no pains in circulating the news, and in making the necessary preparations to receive in a worthy manner his heroic fellow-countryman. On his landing at the wharf, the St. Patrick's Brass Band, ever ready on such occasions, played that beautiful air, "The Exile of Erin." Thence he was accompanied to the Commercial Hotel, by numbers of Irishmen of every grade and denomination, who vied with each other in their expressions of respect and gratitude to the patriotic advocate of Irish liberty. Eminently distinguished amongst our citizens in welcoming Smith O'Brien, was the Rev. E. P. Roche, our Catholic Pastor; whose enthusiastic address and kind hospitality to his much admired countryman were readily accepted. The President of the St. Patrick's Society was then about to present him with a hurried address, when Mr. O'Brien intimated to him that he had not then time to receive it; but that he would be very happy to do so the next morning on his return from Ottawa. Accordingly, the next morning at 9 o'clock, Mr. O'Brien on his arrival from Ottawa was again received by the Rev. E. P. Roche, P. C. Murdoch, Esq., B. White, Esq., Mayor of Prescott; D. Conway, Esq., President of St. Patrick's Society; and other gentlemen of distinction. The band played "Garryowen," and several other National airs. He was then escorted to the hospitable residence of the Rev. E. P. Roche, where he partook of a welcome *dejeuner a la fourchette*. He then came forward on the terrace in front of said residence, where many gentlemen from town and country were assembled, amongst whom I noticed, in addition to the forementioned, the Hon. Mr. Kierzkowski, M. Papineau, Wm. Patrick, Esq., M.P.P., J. S. Gillman, Esq., Michael Tracy, Esq., James Sweeney, Esq. The following address was then read and presented to him by D. Conway, Esq., on behalf of the St. Patrick's Society:—

TO W. SMITH O'BRIEN, ESQ.

Most Worthy Sir.—We, the members of the St. Patrick's Society, of Prescott, feel extremely proud of the present happy opportunity afforded us, to testify to you, in as brief a manner as possible, our sincere, unfeigned respect, and our approval of the true patriotism manifested by you on several past occasions; when you, Sir, with the true spirit of the patriot, endeavored to raise our unfortunate country to the position which she ought to occupy amongst the other nations of the earth. We, therefore, in union with all the other true Irishmen of Prescott, and its vicinity, present to you, this day, the warmest affections which it is possible for the hearts of Irishmen to bestow upon the self-sacrificing lovers of their common country. And, illustrious Sir, we further wish, that you, on your return home, would give our fellow-countrymen to understand, that although we are separated from them by the waves of the broad Atlantic, still our sympathies are with them; that still our feelings are in perfect union with theirs; that our hearts still glow with the same burning desire for the legislative rights, for the civil and religious liberties of our native land; and that we fondly hope that the day is not far distant when Ireland shall again raise her drooping head, and again become one of the Great Nations of Western Europe. (Signed, on behalf of the St. Patrick's Society of Prescott.)

D. CONWAY, President.

Mr. O'Brien, having received the address then tendered to him, extemporaneously replied, with all the courtesy of the true gentleman, in a style of language, and dignity of manner that, by the brilliancy of the sentiments he expounded, and the cogency of the political truths he impressed on the minds of his hearers, would have embellished an oratorical essay of the deepest study. The eminently renowned Patriot is not merely an accomplished orator, but also a consummate dialectician.

I must fail to give you even a fair synopsis of his eloquent reply on this occasion, as it was not committed immediately to paper by any one present. His most earnest wish, he said, when he first entered on his American tour, which he designed to be not only for him a tour of pleasure but one of information, was to pass as privately and unnoticed as he conveniently could, keeping in view the special objects of his travels.—He most anxiously desired to eschew all popular excitement in his regard. This his first formed course, he found, as he travelled through the different States of the Union—and since his arrival on Canadian soil, was not adapted to the different circumstances that environed his path. He felt himself constrained to acknowledge and reciprocate in public the cordial greetings, and the generous sympathies tendered him by his warm-hearted fellow-countrymen on various occasions. He felt elated at the prosperity that shone around his compatriots; whose industry, intelligence and temperate habits, united with self-government—the essence of true liberty—elevated many of them to the highest eminence of social worth and political trust.

It was that those blessed results might accrue to his beloved country from wise legislation, and the impartial administration of just laws and equitable rights, that he strove in junction with the other brave and fearless compatriots, when they and he were remorselessly sent into exile. He did not now, after all his experience, and the long endurance of the penalties adjudged to the course he then adopted and pursued, change one iota of the principles that prevailed with him. With respect to the separation of Ireland from England it is, and ever was, with him an abstract question of policy which he desired not to discuss, but rather waive. When he joined the Repeal Association in 1841, he contended only that Ireland should be conceded a government similar to that which Canada has—a Responsible Government—a Government that can, if mal-administration dare to disgrace its beauty, be made subject to the wisdom and electoral influence of the people; and thus might the political gangrene be exfoliated. This princely Patriot then thanked in the most affectionate language, the truth and liberty-loving members of the Provincial Parliament, who had the kindness to vote an address to Royalty for his release from bondage, and the release of of his brave co-exiles, his colleagues in council and in condemnation.

I felt truly happy as an Irishman to see one of those worthy members present on this occasion—I mean the Hon. Member for South Grenville—who certainly must have felt flattered by the charming encomium pronounced on him and his confederates in that deed of generosity.

The highly gifted Irish Patriot concluded his eloquent reply by urging upon his fellow-countrymen the absolute duty of observing, with rigid caution, temperance; a virtue that inevitably proves to be the stepping ladder for many who are otherwise endued with talents and abilities by Providence, to the loftiest position that State or Nation has in trust for the honorably ambitious of her aspiring sons; as the contrary vice daily proves itself the barrier to every honor that society holds dear. With many thanks again expressed to his very numerous audience, the noble scion of a royal race, closed his observations.

J. M.

LECTURES OF THE ST. PATRICK'S LITERARY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday evening 5th inst. the Rev. Mr. O'Farrell gave another lecture upon the Church in Ireland, before a crowded audience in the City Concert Hall. Of the splendid discourse by him delivered, we present our readers with the following brief outline:—

He proposed, he said, to treat of the fortunes of the Church in Ireland, subsequent to the English invasion. To that period he had assigned the name of "The Martyrdom of the Irish Church;" as indeed it was in truth, a period of martyrdom; of cruel unremitting persecution on the one hand, and of patient Christian endurance on the other—unparalleled save in the annals of Paganism. The period included within this evening's discourse extended down to the days of Oliver Cromwell, and Archbishop Plunkett.

Into the reasons for, and manner of the death of the latter he would not now enter. Suffice it that he died a martyr. He was the head of the Church in Ireland, and became thus a mark to her enemies. Before the invasion of the English, the Irish Church needed not the color red in her ceremonies, for she had as yet produced no martyrs. She had given to the world, saints, holy virgins, devout monks; but no martyrs in the strict sense of the word. No red spot marked her calendar; no trace existed in her annals of a bloody conflict, or of a sanguinary triumph.—This, which was the peculiar glory of the Irish Church did not please her enemies. We have, upon this matter, the testimony of Giraldus Cambrensis, an English writer who came over to Ireland with Henry II.; who one day conversing with a Prelate, remarked, that no Bishop in Ireland had died for the faith. The answer was a sharp one. "True," it was replied; "none of our Prelates have as yet suffered by the hands of the people, for our people have not yet learnt to be so wicked as to stain their hands with the blood of their pastors. But henceforward there will be martyrs amongst the Bishops; for a people has come amongst us who despise authority, who will destroy the people, usurp their lands, and leave them nothing.

Time proved the truth of the prediction, for the records of history show how severe was English rule in Ireland. The latter was now to have her martyrs, and indeed to surpass all other nations in that respect.

From the invasion, to the so-called Reformation, a period of 300 years had elapsed; during which time one faith was professed by the invaders of the soil, and by those to whom of right that soil belonged. This in some degree tended to mitigate the bitterness of feeling betwixt the two oft-contending races. But after the Reformation their mutual hostility was inflamed; to hatred of race was superadded the hatred of religion. Persecution for the faith increased; and