

An essential condition required in who-  
ever wishes to obtain an Indulgence is,  
that he be in a state of grace; for no one  
not already justified, can obtain a release  
from temporal punishment, which supposes  
the guilt and eternal punishment remit-  
ted. Contrition and confession are ex-  
pressed in all grants of indulgences  
as necessary conditions, whereunto is often  
joined the reception of the Holy Eucha-  
rist, the offering up of prayer in some  
particular church, for the grants of the  
universal Church, the exercise of special  
acts of piety or charity. During some  
centuries, Indulgences were granted to  
those who contributed to the Crusades to  
rescue their Christian brethren from  
Turkish oppression, or who aided in the  
erection of churches, and in other public  
necessities of the Church. Such offerings  
made from motives of charity and religion,  
were, doubtless, just matter for granting  
Indulgences, though—in common with  
most other things—liable to many abuses,  
which eventually led to their abandonment.

Although the controversy about Indul-  
gences was the main spring of the revolu-  
tion produced by Luther, the doctrine of  
the Church on this subject was one of the  
last treated of in the Council of Trent, and  
the decree was couched in terms of great  
reserve and moderation. "Since the pow-  
er of granting Indulgences has been given  
by Christ to the Church, and from the ear-  
liest period she has used this power, di-  
vinely given her, the Holy Synod teaches  
& orders that the use of Indulgences, which  
is very salutary to the Christian people,  
and is approved of by the authority of  
holy councils, should be retained; and she  
condemns with anathema those who either  
assert that they are useless, or who deny  
that the power of granting them resides  
in the Church." [14] At the same time,  
measures were adopted to remedy abuses,  
and all just objection was hereby taken  
away. Mr. Newman, in his effort to re-  
concile the English Articles with Catho-  
lic faith, contends that the XXII. Article  
rejecting pardons, regards the abuse of the  
power, rather than the power itself.—  
"The pardons" he says, "spoken of in the  
Article, are large and reckless indulgen-  
ces from the penalties of sin obtained on  
money payments." [15]

The power of granting indulgences is  
manifestly deduced from the promise of  
Christ to Peter to give him the keys of  
his kingdom to bind and loose.

I will give to thee the keys of the king-  
dom of heaven. And whatsoever thou  
shalt bind upon earth, it shall be bound  
also in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt  
loose upon earth, it shall be loosed also  
in heaven." [16] The keys of a kingdom are  
the known scriptural emblem of the high-  
est authority under the Sovereign, [17]

men, and that at the discretion of the C. ren-  
The application of this treasure is called an in-  
dulgence, which stands instead of a certain time  
of penance in this life, or for that period, what-  
ever it be, to which that time is commuted in  
Purgatory."

[14] Sess. xiv. decret. de indulgentiis.

[15] Tract No. 9, 1st edition.

[16] Matt. xvi. 19.

[17] See Bloomfield in *locum citato* my text  
on "the efficacy of the Apostolic See," p. 22.

and, the power of loosing and binding must  
consequently be commensurate therewith,  
and imply general authority. The bonds  
of sin are loosed in the Sacrament of pen-  
ance; but as a temporal punishment often  
remains after the remission of the guilt,  
there can be no doubt that the sinner may  
be released from the punishment for just  
cause, by the judgment and act of him  
whose acts Christ has promised to ratify.  
The same is to be said proportionably of  
the acts of all the Apostles, and of their  
successors; but as order is essential to  
the Church, the exercise of the episcopal  
power must be subject to those restric-  
tions which General Councils or the Vice-  
gerent of Christ has established. The  
salutary influence of indulgences is mani-  
fest, since the faithful are moved thereby  
to the frequent and devout reception of  
the Sacraments, to prayer, to works of  
charity and zeal, and the exercise of every  
Christian virtue. The complaint of Jere-  
my Taylor and others, that a relaxation  
of ecclesiastical discipline must ensue  
from the grant of indulgences, comes with  
a bad grace from those who have utterly  
set aside all the penitential canons, and  
who deny altogether the necessity of  
works of penance.

The assertion that it foment sin, be-  
trays ignorance of its nature and its in-  
fluence. The prospect of pardon to the  
penitent sinner at whatsoever time he  
may return to duty may be abused; and  
yet God has not judged it to withhold it.  
Shall the Church be thought to encourage  
sin, when she offers certain spiritual sup-  
plies on the express condition, that none  
but the contrite of heart can enjoy them?

An indulgence remits no sin: much less  
is it—as often has been alleged—a pardon  
for sins past, present, and to come.—  
When an indulgence is granted, which  
may be received at the hour of death, or  
involving the saving name of Jesus, or  
submitting to death as a punishment from  
God, no anticipated pardon is given of the  
sins which may in the mean time be com-  
mitted; but in the hope of the pious dis-  
position of the soul at that awful crisis,  
a succour is offered to his weakness, on  
condition of an act suited to his situation,  
and of his sincere repentance for all past  
transgressions. Hence Urban II., in the  
Council of Clermont, in the year 1095,  
qualified the indulgences offered to the  
Crusaders to be obtained in death, by lim-  
iting them to such as should depart truly  
penitent. [18] The abandonment of sin,  
with true sorrow of heart for having com-  
mitted it, is, in all cases, an indispensable  
condition for obtaining an indulgence,  
which consequently strikes at the very  
root of sin, whilst it otherwise encourages  
the exercise of good works of every  
kind.

The Protestant theory of plenary justi-  
fication by faith gives the assurance of en-  
tire forgiveness, the moment the individual  
is fully persuaded that the justice of Christ  
is imputed to him: Catholic faith admits  
such plenary remission in Baptism, when  
received with faith and compunction: but  
it teaches that the same abundant pardon  
is not ordinarily granted to the baptized

[18] "Qui vivit in peccato in do. o. s. i. n. t."

penitent. The guilt and eternal punish-  
ment are taken away in the Sacrament  
of Penance; the temporal punishment, if  
not satisfied for, or endured, may be re-  
leased by indulgences, granted to true  
penitents on condition of the performance  
of special good works. It requires little  
discrimination to judge which system pre-  
sents greater facilities of pardon, and in-  
centives to sin: that which says: Believe,  
and you are at once entirely freed from  
sin; or, this, which tells us: Repent, do pen-  
ance, and labor to atone for your trans-  
gressions; while at the same time it offers  
the merits of Jesus Christ and those of  
His devoted servants, to supply our defi-  
ciency.

THE "TIMES" NEWSPAPER.

LONDON, Nov. 3d, 1841.

The London Times (newspaper) is a  
nuisance. It is mere a stock-jobbing con-  
cern. The Duke of Wellington in one of  
his despatches, says:—"This rascally  
newspaper would have sold the Battle of  
Waterloo." No doubt of it. There is no  
crime but it aids and abets provided you  
come up to its price.—The father of the  
present proprietor was put in the pillory  
for perjury—the present proprietor was  
horse-whipped by O'Meara the steadfast  
friend of Napoleon. The Times news-  
paper set on the murders of the Protestants  
at Nismes, and then advocated Catholic  
Emancipation. It encouraged Nicholas  
Biddle until, like the two court-zans of  
Fielding, they were compelled to part,  
the Times not having character enough for  
both. On the 9th of September, 1831, the  
Times said the U. States Bank shares  
would be worth 127 pr. ct. (27 pr. ct. pre-  
mium) for 20 years to come. The Times  
now says that Nicholas Biddle is no better  
than one of the wicked. In short, the  
Times newspaper will say any thing for a  
consideration—no wonder it attacks Dan-  
iel O'Connell. For twelve years this com-  
mon prostitute of the press—this cess-pool  
for *matiere fecale*—this *Cabinet d'aisance*  
has been the bribed libeller of Daniel O'  
Connell. Often has the Times boasted it  
could destroy a man. Before the King's  
Guards went to Waterloo, the Times threat-  
ened to smother them with one day's edi-  
tion of "wet paper." Often has the Times  
urged its *imp* hounds to cause the murder of  
Daniel O'Connell. The Times for the  
last twelve years has been biting a file.  
The Times must have been well paid or it  
would have given over the job. To my  
knowledge, the Times has often struck for  
wags, while it robbed its honest contribu-  
tors.—Correspondence of the Truth Teller

ENGLISHMEN IN BRUSSELS.—Some ex-  
traordinary outrages of the "Waterford"  
class, were lately committed in this town  
by some of the young English "sprigs,"  
of the aristocracy. Considerable improve-  
ments have lately taken place in the public  
gardens and other parts of the town. Or-  
dering on the place, and a number of beau-  
tiful and costly statues have been erected  
in those situations where they would prove  
most ornamental. During one night last  
week, the rails of the gardens were scaled  
by a party of half drunken young men (for  
the gates are closed at eight,) bearing  
each a pot of red or black paint, and with  
considerable trouble and ingenuity, they

contrived to bedaub all these new work-  
giving Venus a black eye, painting the  
beautiful statue of Diana a deep red, and  
many of the others black, and marking  
them most indecently. Not contented with  
their labors in the gardens, they proceeded  
through the principal streets in the town,  
defacing all the sign-boards, and covering  
some of the newly-constructed buildings  
with the rough outline of figures in most  
indecent positions. One young man, in  
whose lodgings some of the paint pots were  
discovered, is in custody, and he refuses  
to betray his companions.—Freeman's  
Journal.

REMARKS ON THE NUMBER 7.—It has  
often struck us as something very curious  
why the number 7 should be used more  
than any other number, and how it be-  
came sacred to nearly all the nations of the  
earth, it matters not how far apart they are  
placed. Caucasians, Mongoles, and E-  
thiopians, all hold the number 7 in more  
reverence than any other, and we consider it  
as one of the strongest evidences we have  
that all the different varieties now existing  
in the human family originally came from  
one stock, and lived together for many cen-  
turies, for how else could the same tra-  
ditions be common to nations, so different  
and far apart. Among the most remote  
and ignorant tribes of the New World we  
find the same curious coincidence, and this,  
too, before it was possible for them to have  
borrowed it from European nations.

ADVERTISEMENT.

BEASLEY, versus CAHILL.  
MRS. SPRINGER

HAS at last been examined under  
the Commission issued in this  
cause, contrary to the wishes of the Beas-  
ley's who have put off the examination as  
much as possible, and who have otherwise  
attempted to suppress her evidence.—The  
counsel for the plaintiff had in attendance  
two gentlemen of the medical profession,  
to pass their fiat on her; but she stood the  
ordeal—her evidence is clear and positive  
she contradicts in the most positive terms  
the many falsehoods propagated by the  
plaintiff and his friends—she most posi-  
tively declares upon oath, that she never  
executed any deed or Conveyance of any  
lands in this Province to Mr. Beasley, sen-  
nor had any business transaction whatever  
with him,—that she for the first time, about  
five years ago, became aware that she had  
a title to lands by patent from the Crown,  
and on prosecuting the enquiry, she found  
that she was entitled to one fifth of 200  
acres in the Gore, 200 in the Home, and  
2500 in the London Districts, the deeds  
for which were taken from the Land Of-  
fice, 25 or 30 years ago, without her  
consent and knowledge, and that she  
was fraudulently kept in ignorance of her  
title to them up to this time. The sur-  
viving witness to a certain pretended deed  
will corroborate this, and tell how the  
matter was done. The pretended deed  
was not recorded, because neither of the  
witnesses would swear to Mrs. Springer's  
execution of the same.

During the examination, it was painful  
to see the little and contemptible attempts  
of the learned counsel to insult and pro-  
voke his good old aunt, a woman whose  
word, or simple assertion would outweigh  
among her neighbours, that of all the  
Beasley's together.

One of those loving nephews has com-  
menced a *qui tam* action against his aunt  
also. The half of the penalty or verdict  
goes to the Queen, and the other half to  
the informer (the nephew), that is if he  
gets a verdict.