The Catgoin Lectord. Published Weekly at 484 and 498 Richi street, London, Ontario. Price of subscription—82.00 per annum.

P.EV. GEORGE R. NORTHGRAVES, Author of "Mistakes of Modern Infidels."

THOMAS COFFEY.

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Rates of Advertising—Ten cents per line each sperion, agate measurement.
Approved and recommended by the Archbishops of Toronto, Kingston, Ottawa, and St. Boniface, and the Bishops of London, Hamilton and Peterboro, and the clergy throughout the Dominion.

Correspondence intended for publication, as well as that having reference to business, should be directed to the proprietor, and must reach London not later than Tuesday morning.

Arrears must be paid in full before the paper can be stopped.

London, Saturday, December 2, 1893

We are extremely sorry to note that our contemporary the True Witness, of Montreal, is in financial difficulties. For some time past, under the editorial management of Mr. J. K. Foran, it has been a most useful as well as an exceedingly clever exponent of Catholic doctrine. We are glad that there is a good prospect of a satisfactory arrangement of its affairs, and that it will continue as usual.

Those who from year to year allow their subscriptions to run into arrear, some from an unwillingness to pay their honest debts, and many more from a habit of to-morrowism, have doubtless much to do with the troubles of our Montreal confere. If a large number of subscribers to Catholic papers would be a little more thoughtful and extend the same consideration to newspapers that they expect and demand in their own business affairs, it would be most creditable, and would to their homes.

PROTESTANT MISSIONS.

We had the pleasure of assisting lately at the deliberations of a society founded for the purpose of converting the heathen. Our name is not on the roll of membership: we were there merely en amateur. The modus operandi is as follows: The distribution of Bibles amongst the heathen, followed necessarily, if we may judge from the society's computation, by conversions. What influence a written word may have upon the untrained and untutored mind of a pagan passes our comprehension. But theory aside, have such societies succeeded in performing half of the work ascribed to them? They have indeed shipped cargoes of Bibles and expended thousands of dollars, and the result has been disappointing to even the least sanguine amongst them. Nay, even Protestants, eye-witnesses of what they relate, have declared that their methods have only made the heathen , worse and Christianity a laughing stock. Many of the ministers who send home flattering accounts of their work rely too much upon their talent for fanciful description. It would perchance wound their feelings if we expressed our idea in more forcible language. We know that amongst them there have been and there are eloquent and earnest men, who are content to labour, even though the soil be sterile, but there are also others whose lives are not exactly in accordance with the principles of abnegation laid down in tracts of Bible societies. Some years ago a distinguised

novelist resolved to view for himself the workings of Protestant missions. From early childhood he was accustomed to look upon them as wide open gates through which poured streams of souls hungry for the "good news," and visions of ministers emaciated and hard toiling peopled his young mind. When manhood came he set out for China, the Mecca of Evangelists. Arriving at a city, Pekin, we believe, he asked a guide to conduct him to the residence of the minister. On he went, through streets bearing evidence of luxury and refinement, and as he looked at them he could not help contrasting the palatial mansions with the poor, poverty-stricken hut of the minister. He had not forgotten the impressions of his childhood. The guide suddenly stops before a magnificent house, and, pointing to it, intimates to him that within he would find the person for whom he was seeking. He cannot believe it, but a glance at a silver door plate bearing the name of the minister convinces him that the guide is not mistaken. He enters and is ushered into a drawing-room. He waits a few moments, and the minister, a jovial looking old gentleman who had found the saving of souls a profitable and easy undertaking, comes in to the pictures of the minister con- longs only to him who received his com- pagate the most audacious falsehoods. To sustain these accusations, a forged Americans.

jured up by our imaginative and enthusiastic novelist. But no matter, he would see how the work was done. He expressed a desire for information about the mission, and the minister took him into a large outhouse filled with Bibles. "I employ a couple of servants to distribute a certain number of copies in a certain district, and presto the heathen is saved.

Respectable Protestants have long since regarded Bible societies as useess and very expensive. They have exercised no appreciable religious influence upon any country. recent report gives but eight hundred and fifty converts for all the Protestant missions in Asia, Africa and Australia. This is a poor showing, considering the money spent and Bibles scattered broadcast, and we cannot help thinking of the branch that withers when cut off from Christ.

THE ORIENTAL SCHISM.

General Lew Wallace, the author of the well known work "Ben Hur" which so graphically describes Palestine in the days of our Lord, has issued a new work entitled "The Prince of India, or Why Constantinople Fell," the chief purpose of which is to throw light upon one of the most interesting periods of the history of Christianitya period which brought about the final eparation of the East from the unity of Catholic faith and resulted in establishing Islamism over a large section of territory in which there were at one time flourishing Christian Churches.

The general, though a Protestant, appreciates as few non-Catholics do the great work done by the Catholic enable publishers of Catholic papers to Church in civilizing mankind during send a much more useful weekly visitor the nearly nineteen centuries of her existence, and he looks forward with great hope to the day when the schism will be healed which divided the East

> Separated from the centre of Christian unity, the Churches of the East have lost their influence for good, and now the Oriental schismatical priesthood have but little influence over their flocks. This was a result to be expected from the rejection of the divine authority which alone could restrain the passions of men, and at the present day the Eastern schismatical priesthood are in a most deplorable condition, being almost entirely with out either the learning which is expected to be found in the clergy, or the virtues which also ought to adorn those who exercise the priestly office

As a matter of course, where the priesthood have fallen so low in public esteem, it is not in the nature of things hat the laity should observe a high standard of morals, and through out Russia, Greece and the other countries in schism the standard is accordingly low. This fact has not escaped the notice of those high in authority, and it has made an impression upon them which has given rise from time to time to negotiations

Greek schism prevails the Church is a mere State institution, and the rulers are slow to let out of their hands the power with which this fact endows them, nevertheless it has been several times announced that the Czar has had it seriously in contemplation to effect such a reunion as took place at the Council of Florence. The doctrines and sacraments of the Oriental Churches are similar to those of the Catholic Church, and if we except the authority which is recognized as be longing to the Pope by divine right as head of the whole Church, they may be said to be identical; but even this point of divergence should not be a serious obstacle to reunion. It was acknowledged by the Orientals before and it is admitted in theory in their liturgies to this day, and we may reasonably hope that it will yet be again admitted in practice.

General Wallace entertains the hope that this may happen under the Pontificate of Pope Leo XIII. He says:

"One thing which makes my book especially timely is the fact that Pope Leo XIII. has already begun negotiations looking towards a reunion of the Churches. He has made advances both to the Patriarch at Constantinople and the Czar at St. Petersburg. It will be a fitting crown to the achievements of the present Pope - a great and wise man-if at the end of the nineteenth century he succeeds in healing a breach that appeared to have become final in

the middle of the fifteenth. The only serious obstacle to this occurring appears to be the desire of earthly princes to retain the powers and welcomes him to China. Sleek and influence they exercise by their and well fed, he bears no resemblance usurpation of an authority which be-

mission from our blessed Lord Himself to feed His lambs and His sheep.

From the fact that in the Russian Empire the Catholic Church is constantly suffering a persecution which varies in intensity according to the times, it might be supposed that the Czar is too hostile to Catholicity to entertain the thought of a reunion, but it is said on good grounds that these persecutions come not from hostility or the part of the Czar himself, but rather from the Patriarch who presides over the Holy Synod of the Russian Church. The Patriarch does not favor reunion because he fears that there would be some curtailment of his authority if the supremacy of the Pope were admitted. In some of the minor nation the Governments also do not regard the prospect of a union with favor. nevertheless there is a decided general movement towards the Catholic Church in several of them, and especially in Bulgaria, Roumania, Turkey and Persia. Many incidents also indicate that the two last named Mahometar Governments would encourage the union in their dominions. The Turkish Sultan would undoubtedly prefer it to the protectorate which the Czar claims over the schismatics who are under Turkish rule, and the Sultan has shown many marks of his special favor toward Catholics, a recent one being the appointment of Mgr. Mataedoff, Bishop of Salonica, to be a member of the Provincial Council which has jurisdiction in civil and religious affairs.

The Turkish Nestorians have already in a body given their adhesion to the Catholic Church, and this is only one of the manifestations of how the tide is tending throughout that Em-

General Wallace's two books which we have named will repay careful reading. They are the work of a man imbued with a firm belief in the Christian religion.

THE P. P. A. AND THE A. P. A.

The doings of the secret association known in Canada as the Protestant Protective Association, and of its twin sister, the American Protestant Association, in the United States, have of late caused considerable attention to be devoted to this nefarious organization

It has not been our desire to advertise the P. P. A.; but outside of our columns it has had so much advertis ing that it is now quite a force in Canadian, or rather Ontarian, politics, and in a few towns, including our own city of London, it has made itself felt by electing its nominees to the mayoralty, and to a controlling voice in the municipal councils. We have many times stated our con

viction that the majority of the Protestant population of Ontario have too much liberality ingrained in them to allow them to be dominated by a no-Popery element, sworn to persecute of the Dominion demanding that a reand ostracise Catholics, and we are towards remedying such a state of yet of this opinion. We shall coninue still to be disposed to hold this good opinion of our Protestant neighacts that bigotry and fanaticism are too strongly implanted in their nature to be restrained by any considerations of that there is a powerful faction who P. P. A. Assemblies all over Ontario. are willing to persecute us if they dare. Who are the aggressors in this in-It is upon this element that the no-Popery lecturers like Mrs. Shepherd. Leyden, Widdows, Fulton etc., earn a living; and these are aided by a host of preachers, like Drs. Wilde, Douglas, Austin, Hunter, Rigsby, etc., and by politicians like Messrs. Mc-Carthy and O'Brien, who hope to gain political eminence through working upon the worst passions of the motley multitude upon who they can make an impression.

We must give due credit to the Toronto Globe, because it has in the present critical juncture, nobly sounded the alarm, and warned its readers against the mischievous P. P. A. movement. There is no tear that the Protestants of Quebec, as a body, will take part in this movement ; and we believe that there is not bigotry enough in the maritime provinces to make it dangerous there. But it is useless to conceal the fact that in Ontario and the North-West, which has derived its population mainly from Ontario, the P. P. A. spirit is powerful, and may succeed in becoming predominant unless it be met with firm-

ness and determination. The principal means made use of by the P. P. A. to gain recruits is by the circulation of most palpable falsehoods against Catholics and the Catholic Church. They do not hesitate to pro- and to monopolize the spoils of office."

with this purpose in view; and, strange to say, are eagerly swallowed by their dupes, who must, indeed, be wofully ignorant to believe them. There is, of course, a more intelligent class who do not readily believe such things; but these people take advantage of the credulity of their co-religionists so that they may have a strong support to enable them to gain their object, which is political advancement: and it does sometimes happen that even some intelligent Protestants, hearing these absurdities so often repeated, come to believe in them in part at least. We met recently with more than one of these gentlemen who were illustrations of this. One asked us, "Why have Catholics become so aggressive of late?"

This pretended aggressiveness is a pure fiction. It is not reasonable to ing the proposed massacre. suppose that Catholics, who constitute only a little over 41 per cent. of the population of the Dominion, and a little over 16 per cent. of that of Ontario, should be aggressive against the great majority of the people, and no such aggressiveness can be pointed The Catholic position on the Mani-

toba school question, which is much harped upon by our enemies, is not aggressive. It is purely defensive. We make no attack upon the Public school system, as our enemies pretend we do : but we maintain, and we will continue to maintain, the inalienable right of parents to choose the kind of education their children shall receive The aggressiveness is on the part of those who would deprive us of this right. In this respect the Manitoba Government have been the aggressors, and so are they who raised an agita tion in Ontario to hamper the Separate schools by subtle legislation which would make it troublesome to conduct and maintain them. Catholics have no desire to impose their educational convictions upon others, but neither will we submit to have the views of those who are opposed to Catholic education forced upon us under any pretence, whether to close our schools to religion, or to accept a minimized religious teaching such as our adversaries desire to force upon us We contribute our share to the public taxation, and we have as much right to a decisive voice as to the character of the schools in which our children shall be educated as have our Protestant neighbors in regard to the kind of schools they think it proper to sustain. We maintain that the aggressiveness is altogether on the side of those who would restrain us in the exercise of this liberty, and we confidently appeal to all fair-minded Protestants to assist us in maintaining rights of which we can be deprived only by most gross injus-

Aggressions against Catholics have also arisen in other matters. When have we heard of Catholics in any part tion of members of the various Cabinets of the Dominion, though we are of course, entitled to fair representabors until they convince us by their tion in them? But the fact that a stance?

The worst aggression of all, however, is that of which the P. P. A. has been guilty. This society has now thousands of members throughout Ontario who have sworn to oppose all appointments of Catholics to public positions, and to keep Catholics out of employment as far as they are able. and especially not to give Catholics employment if they can find any one else - Jew, Turk or Atheist - to do their work.

The Globe says of this movement :

"There is no justification or excuse for an anti-Catholic agitation in On-Catholics do not dominate those who make or administer the laws, nor monopolize the offices, and the proposal to exclude them from such share in legislation and Government as they now enjoy is impolitic and outrage-ously unjust. It is the merest cant to talk of our politics being improved or elevated by saturating them with the spirit of sectarianism, hatred and

Drs. Douglas, Carman, Wilde, etc. might well ponder whether or not they have perpetrated any of this cant.

Elsewhere the Globe tells us that the reason for existence for the P. P. A. in Canada, and the A. P. A. in the United States, is the same-"an alleged conspiracy on the part of Roman Catholics to increase their political power

document was issued by the United ANOTHER "ESCAPED" NUN States association, to the effect that the Catholics of the United States should prepare, by arming themselves, to massacre the Protestants and seize upon the Government of the country. This document was published and circulated by the P. P. A. in Canada as well as by the A. P. A. The absurdity of the supposition that nine millions of Catholics should endeavor to massacre or rule fifty-six millions of Protestants, seems not to have occurred to the intelligent population among whom the story was current, and in many localities deputations of Protestants actually waited upon the parish priests asking leave to examine their churches and residences that it might be known whether they had arms therein stored for the purpose of effect-

It is scarcely necessary to say that in every instance the search was allowed. with the result that the deputation found themselves in the position of so many escaped inmates of idiot asy-

We have had even in Canada in

years gone by some scares of the same kind, caused by the circulation of sim ilar rumors; but the present P. P. A movement here has not yet reached precisely this stage of lunacy. It has circulated, however, documents equally false and with intention just as malevolent, to the effect that Catho lics have more than their share of positions under the Dominion and Ontario Governments. The statements are utterly false, and the Globe has published official reports from the various local departments which show their falsity in the clearest light. In fact. if there is any room for dissatisfaction, it is the Catholics who have reason to complain that they have not the recognition to which their numbers entitle them. We can give here only a general idea of the fact of the case. Last week we published some further details.

fraction of 169 in each 1,000 of population; yet only 125 of each thousand of Government employees are Catho. lics, the actual numbers being 1,553 Protestants and 222 Catholics. A full return of the respective emoluments is not given, but as far as given it shows that the salaries average very nearly the same per capita. In the Quebec Legislature there are

O Protestant members, out of a total of 73, or 1 Protestant for 19,000 of the Protestant population, most of them being for thoroughly Catholic constituencies : while in the Ontario Legisla ture there are 10 Catholics out of a total of 91, or 1 for each 35,000 of the Catholic population. It must be borne in mind that the Protestants of Quebec are not so numerous in proportion to population as are the Catholics of Ontario, there being in the former Prov ince 100 Protestants to 768 Catholics. while in Ontario there are 100 Catholigious test should be used in the selectics to 590 Protestants. There is certainly in all this no appearance of Catholic aggressiveness, but on the contrary there is an irrefragable evidence of Catholic liberality. Putting all Catholic every way qualified for the together, it is easy to see that those position has attained the position of who are constantly boasting that they the Premiership of the Dominion has are advocates of "Equal Rights for justice and fair-play. Neverthéless elicited violent denunciations in Meth- all " are in reality persecutors as we cannot shut our eyes to the fact odist Conferences, Orange Lodges and heartless as Nero or Diocletian, while Catholics, where they predominate, are the true upholders of Equal Rights.

The Toronto Mail is of course the apologist and defender of the A. P. A. fanatics, and it has had recently several articles covertly favorable to them. though it has not the courage to de fend their deeds openly. spite of this alliance the society will undoubtedly meet the fate of the Know - Nothing Association of the United States. A very few years after its establishment, those wh been Know-Nothings were ashamed of their connection with the order; and if Catholics in Canada will only stand firm and fearless under the present trying circumstances the designs of he bigots will be frustrated. They are sworn to boycott and ostracise Catholics, and even liberal Protestants. Let them be boycotted and ostracised in return by fair-minded Protestants tions of every description, and they will soon find that they have made a serious blunder in regard to their own interests.

MR. J. B. HARRISON, in the last issue of the Century, treating on the subject of bribery at elections, states that in New Hampshire it is not the foreignoorn population who are chiefly influenced by electoral corruption. The Irish very rarely sell their votes. Newly arrived French-Canadians fre quently do so, but this ceases when they have been settled in the country for some time. The vast majority of those who sell their votes are native I never saw the slightest suspicion of

EXPOSED.

An honest Protestant lady, Mrs. Meilhac, of Hull, England, has exploded the anti-convent lies told by her sister, Ellen Golding, an ex-nun, somewhat of the Mrs. Shepherd and Maria Monk stamp.

Madam Meilhac is much grieved that her sister should have yielded to the solicitations of the "Protestant Alliance" to deliver a series of lectures exposing pretended immoralities in the convents in which she spent some years, and from which she asserted that she made her "escape" in the usual blood-curdling fashion, after having been so long a badly-treated prisoner in the hands of the nuns.

Mrs. Meilhac did not volunteer her statement; but she was interviewed by a representative of the London Herald, and that paper publishes the interview, which is highly interesting reading.

The "rescued nun" in question differed from Mrs. Margaret Shepherd and Maria Monk in these respects, that she was a young lady of good character when she entered the convent. It is said she had been a Protestant, but had become a Catholic, and was desirous of entering a convent that she might lead a more perfect life in the service of God. She became a novice in a religious order in England, and in the course of time was sent to a house of the same order at Calais. France.

Like many restless beings who cannot long remain in one state of life, she determined after some years to leave the convent, and a telegram was sent by a lawyer, at her request, to Mrs. Meilhac, informing her that her sister would arrive in Hull on that day. The Meilhac, family were much surprised; but Mr. Meilhac went to the railway station to meet her and brought her to his home, where she remained for six months.

It was then reported by several papers that Miss Golding had made her escape from the convent in Calais. because she had become disgusted with the immortalities of the nuns, and a reporter of the Eastern Morning News came to Mr. Meilhac's house to make enquiries as to the truth of these strange reports.

Mrs. Meilhac states that she was present at the interview between her sister and the reporter, and her sister 'distinctly said that she saw nothing approaching to immorality in any of the convents she had been in. She told me that in her order punishments were unknown, except in a stricter application of the rules."

It was afterwards, when she came under the influence of the "Protestant Alliance," that Miss Golding began to tell stories of horrible outrages and punishments which she had witnessed and suffered in the convents. Of all these things Madam Meilhac says :

"The dark room she now speaks of steel belt she says she was forced to tant Alliance. The natural inference from this

would be that the Protestant Alliance keeps on hand a stock of such articles for the purpose of extorting money from feeble-minded old women - of both sexes - and there is surely more ground for supposing this to be the case than for the supposition that the nuns, who have no such articles in their wardrobes, have used them for inflicting punishment on the members of their community. We shall shall not, however, imitate the Alliance by inventing tales of horror such as they are so willing to make up against a community of respectable and virtuous ladies. We presume that the only use to which they apply these instruments of torture is to coax the money from the pockets of the old women aforesaid by representing to them that there are hundreds of suffering young ladies whom it is desirable to rescue from the torturing hands of nuns in all the religious houses of England, and perhaps of the continent also. The morality of their conduct we shall leave to be adjudicated on by a discerning public. The methods adopted are very similar to those which have been employed by the twin societies on this side of the Atlantic, the A. P. A. of the United States and the

In regard to the cruel imprisonment of Miss Golding under the wicked nun jailors, Mrs. Meilhac has this to say:

P. P. A. of Canada.

"While she was there (at Calais) I used to go once or twice a year to see her. The nuns were always most kind to me, and I usually stayed in the convent. On one occasion I was there for a week and had full opportunity to see how the convent was conducted. of anything objectionable. My sister

and I had plenty of opp private conversation, an aid she was quite happy vent. It is nonsense for had any difficulty in ge with me, and once when came with me to the boat ally on board till the ve starting. I said to her : want to leave, you to do but to come along She was sent to vents to teach English a we never had any difficu ing where she was. Ind to us from nearly every c At a later period Mr. M the convent in company

and he then invited his to come with him to Eng refused, saying: "No, Referring to some of t poisoning and other ev which the no-Popery

adorns her platform Madam Meilhac said the six months her sister was "She told me of her li vent, but never said on poisoning or immorality now. I am positive that been any foundation fo ments, I would have her the six months she li

-the first six months she

It is evident that Mrs. not desire to do more tha grossest calumnies utter ter, otherwise we doubt have spoken with adm self-sacrificing zeal and good ladies who gave he and whose mode of life opportunities of witnessi unnecessary that she sho this, as it has already hundreds whose opport even greater than thos Meilhac. She evidently testimony to go no furth truth and justice to the ladies absolutely requi and she thus cloaks her s

When asked why Miss sists in making such cha convents, she answered, "She is my sister, a

think of her going abou she knows to be untru opinion is that her bra unhinged. She may there is some ground she has been wrought people of the Protestan e is willing to utter a put into her mouth. I u this to defend the vents, nor to aid the dation for the statements gard for the truth make to undo as far as poss evil or injustice my sist

It is the case of Man again. This unfortuna the calumnies she uttered mouth by Baptist preach latest "escaped nun" of the Protestant Allian tion similar in purpose to the Protestant Prote tion of Canada. The Mrs. Meilhac is timely though Protestants of i not believe the lying, Popery lecturers, there i of bigots and ignorant are willing to accept th ous lies it is possible t the religious orders of

"MISSIONS" TO The Protestant Episco

the United States held

week in Chickering ha

Church are spoken of.

The question of "the Churches of the Anglica towards Roman Catho was one of the princip discussion; and though cision was arrived e enough said during th show the wideness of div exists between differe that Church. The Rev. of Maryland said that the Protestant Episcopa ward Catholic countries the attitude of those cou them. He claimed th Church of Rome shows h in America, she is sc also said that intrusion heretefore exclusively wrong and unwarrante cannot but be amused of an Anglican divine Catholic Church of bein we readily acknowled spirit of the speaker, he does that it is an in just and indefensible overturn the Catholic gain proselytes from countries. This is cert consistent course for a claims to derive its or