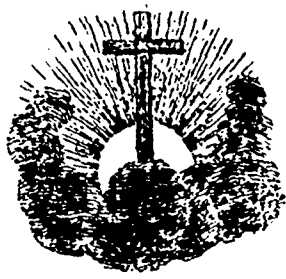


has always had for the scriptures, and the care she has taken to collect and preserve them through all the vicissitudes of time, what would have been the case, had the Protestant doctrine, of "scripture alone the rule of faith, with the right of private judgment," prevailed through all those centuries, and every copyist and transcriber of scripture, with his own self-selected faith, had striven to set it forth in the written word of God in still clearer terms, as has since been done in modern Protestant versions?



THE CATHOLIC.

Hamilton, G. D.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1813.

BIBLIOMANIA.—*The Bible Society*, that Protestant universally swindling firm, while it circulates all over the world its millions of the *English Bible*, (a book full of blunders ignorantly as well as purposely made; but sanctioned by the infallible authority of a British Parliament; and printed at the expense of the well-meaning simpleton subscribers, to the tune of £250,000 a year,) this *Bible Society* allows no specific interpretation of the Sacred Book; but leaves it to be understood and explained by every reader as he pleases. To publish it with notes or comments would at once break the spell of this cunningly contrived money-making concert. For who could offer to the numberless Protestant sects, all differing from each other as to its meaning, any thing like an acceptable interpretation? Therefore, to secure the subscriptions of all Protestant sectaries, whose common rule of faith is the bare written word, this speculating company, whose only object is the forthcoming cash, continue to publish their uncommented book, and send it forth as a taking bait, without venturing to offer, what exists not among them, any authoritative explanation of the mysteries contained. Could his sacred book have ever been intended for so vague and indefinite a purpose by the God of truth; of truth, which in its nature is unchangeable and one? And yet our Protestants see not the glaring absurdity of all this. They perceive not the downright idiotism of authorizing every one to interpret for himself the written word of God, and at the same time not sanctioning his interpretation of it made to others: the sacrilegious folly of turning the whole divine revelation into a paper Apostleship, the mere production of the Printer's press; and that production bringing no other certainty with it, than the whimsical conjectures of any one, or every one. True,

but they have explanatory Tracts and preachings. Yes, of every cast and creed. These, however, are not the Bible, their only admitted rule of faith; disagreeing also in every thing, save in misrepresenting, calumniating and vilifying the Catholic Church. All these are but human and fallible witnesses, which Protestants by their avowed principles, are bound to reject. Their rule of Faith, their only rule, is nothing but the written word, the printed but unexpounded Bible!!!

The Printer, then, in their reformed system, is the chief, nay, the only Evangelist: and Christ's Church thus ends at last, in the printer's ink and paper workshop. This is Luther's magic wand, wielded by him with such fearful effect upon the minds of his followers. With such did formerly the Egyptian Magicians work on the hardened mind of Pharaoh, to prevent his liberating God's people from his thralling bondage, and with such (in the realization of the figure,) do Luther's disciples work, and for a like purpose in the spiritual sense, on the minds of their hearers, at the present day. But, as the rods of the former, when cast down, and turned into serpents, were swallowed up by the one rod of Aaron, the high priest, and prototype of our high priest the Saviour; so have been and ever will be swallowed up, the wizard wands of the latter, or their several heresies, by the one priestly rod of Christ; the sacred sceptre of his authority duly delegated to the pastors of his Church: for to such he said: "All power is given to me in Heaven and on Earth: go ye therefore and teach all nations; for, as the Father has sent me, so I send you."

Still the delusion continues. The contrivers and promoters of this swindling plot have exactly hit the mark by grounding it on the only basis of universal Protestantism. Their fundless firm, which outstrips in absurdity, and, what is worse, in hypocritical villainy, the notorious *South Sea Bubble*, has proved to them, and still proves, an exhaustless mine of treasure. We have heard of a preacher, in their agency, who for circulating, (that is selling off,) their already ten times paid for Bibles, was allowed by a Bible Society branch in this Province the handsome annuity of £300. Another from the United States, a poor pedestrian Bible pedler, now rues in his carriage when and where he pleases, as a preaching gentleman, and an *Evangelist*.

Strange times these of religious enlightenment in Protestant countries at the present day!!!

REFUGEE IN HAMILTON.—It gives us unbounded pleasure to perceive the cause of Ireland's regeneration gather strength day by day in Hamilton and its neighbourhood. —Bantford, Dundas, and other places, have given their gallant adhesion to Hamilton, and all seem to vie with one another in their duty to their persecuted country. Under such auspices as Hamilton comes out, having a friend and advocate in that truly Venerable son of Caldonia the Very Rev. W. P. MacDONALD, V. G., and presided over by so able, so zealous and so

active a patriot as Mr. BRANIGAN, we would be much surprised indeed if the work did not go bravely on. From our knowledge of the place, the men, and the cause, we will be bold to pledge ourselves that the Hamilton Association will add a proud laurel to the fame which Canada is gaining for herself in the peaceful, but energetic struggle of the most unjustly and most unceasingly persecuted country on the Globe.—*Toronto Mirror*.

His Excellency the Governor General has formed a provisional Council, consisting of Messrs. Viger, Draper and Daly, with whom others will be shortly associated, to carry on the necessary business of the country. The late Attorneys General of Upper and Lower Canada have placed their papers, by order of His Excellency, in the hands of Mr. Draper, as Queen's Counsel.—*Kingston Whig*.

ORANGE OUTRAGE.—A shameful mutilation of the architectural ornaments, of the new Catholic Cathedral in this place, was committed on Tuesday evening last; the damage at the lowest estimate, cannot be less than £25. This is a very significant sequel to the announcement made by Mr. Gowan, at the Meeting in the Court House on the previous day: that the Orange Society was dissolved; and that the dissolution was a peace-offering propitiatory of unity and brotherly love among Irishmen.

Very well, Orangemen; we just expected such a dissolution. If they think to provoke Catholics to retaliate, in any way, they are much mistaken. The Catholics will claim the protection of the Municipal authorities, for their sacred edifices, to which they have a just right, and if those authorities cannot, or will not, protect the property of the public, protection must be sought elsewhere.—*Kingston Constitution*.

From the Kingston Constitution.

This day (Saturday December 9) at three o'clock, His Excellency the Governor General went in State to the Parliament House, and prorogued the Parliament to the 13th day of January next.

Note for the Speech.—It is our opinion that one part of it, is nothing less than an insult to the Province; but having no time at present for remarks on it, we shall leave our readers to form their own opinion which will not require our assistance.

Several Acts of the present Session have received the Royal assent. The Acts to secure the Independence of the Legislative Council and the House of Assembly, and the Secret Societies' Bill are among the Bills reserved. The Municipal Councils, University and Assessment Bills, are not passed.

Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:

In consequence of the interruption which our joint labours have undergone, entirely against my inclination, and from causes over which I have no control, I now meet you for the purpose of relieving you from the further attendance in Parliament. I am sensible of your untiring application to your arduous duties during the Ses-

ion, which has been so unexpectedly shortened, and I trust that the Measures which you have passed, and to which I have given the Royal Assent in Her Majesty's Name, will prove beneficial to the Country. Some Bills I have been under the necessity of reserving for the consideration of Her Majesty's Government, either from the impracticability of their being carried into execution, owing to their depending on other measures which have passed into Laws, or from their affecting the Prerogative of the Crown, or being of a character that, under the Royal Instructions, renders that proceeding imperative.

Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:

I thank you for the readiness with which you have voted the necessary Supplies. It will be my duty to take care that they be disbursed with the utmost economy consistent with the efficiency of the Public service.

Honorable Gentlemen and Gentlemen:

I trust that on your return to your Homes you will, by precept and example, endeavour to secure the blessings of harmony and brotherly love among all classes of the Community.—Peace and Happiness will render our country a desirable place of refuge for the superfluous population of the Parent State, whose settling here is fraught with benefit to themselves and the Colony; whilst discord and strife must have the opposite effect of deterring them from connecting their destinies with those of a country unceasingly troubled; I humbly hope that the Blessing of the Almighty will render this a prosperous and happy Land, reaping the fruits of its own Industry, and enjoying the powerful protection of our Gracious Sovereign as an integral portion of the British Empire. I will now, Gentlemen, say Farewell, and I trust that we shall meet again to renew our efforts for the public good with greater success.

The Honorable the Speaker of the Legislative Council then declared that it was the pleasure of His Excellency the Governor General that the Parliament should stand prorogued to Monday the 13th day of January.

The following article from the *Montreal Gazette* of the 25th ult., on Bishop Strachan's petition, seems well worthy of attention.

We on Tuesday directed the attention of our readers to the leading features of Bishop Strachan's petition against the Bill for remodeling the College and University of Toronto; and having disposed of his main legal and ethical principles we proceed to offer a few remarks on certain points more of a detached and isolated character.

The conduct of the school of divines to which the Bishop belongs, towards the members of the Roman Catholic Church, is always curious, and at times like their own position, anomalous. Sometimes they seem bent on verifying the apothegm that "religious sects hate each other with an intensity varying in the ratio of the proximity of their respective creeds,"—denouncing the Roman Catholic faith and priesthood with the extreme of violence, in the most offensive forms of language, and striving not merely to prove their religion to be "idolrous and damnable," but to compel the asseveration by oath as a qualification for civil office. At other times—and this has been more particularly the case since, by the removal of the Roman Catholic disabilities in England, the contest for admission to political equality has ceased—we find them approaching Rome with great tenderness and respect, converting all that rancour (with which