4

FEBRUARY 15, 1861. THE TRUE WITNESS AND CATHOLIC CHRONICLE.

The True Witness. CATHOLIC CHRONICLE.

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MONTREAL, FRIDAY, FEB. 15, 1861.

REGULATIONS FOR LENT IN THE DIOCESS OF MONTREAL.

All days in Lont, with the exception of Sundays, are Fast Days of obligation.

By a special indult the use of flesh meat is allowed on every Sunday in Lent, with the excention of Palm Sunday; as well as once a day on the Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays, of the five first weeks in Lent; but its use is forbidden on Palm Sunday, and the six other days of Holy Week, as well as on Ash Wednesday and the three following days. On those w ek days when flesh meat is allowed, no fish is allowed at the same time.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

THE last tidings from Europe do not possess much of interest. The King of Naples still, but apparently hopelessly, holds out at Gacta, refusing all terms of surrender proposed to him by the General commanding the Sardinian troops. The efforts of the Neapolitan patriots to throw off the ignoble Piedmontese yoke had, in several instances, been crushed by the immensely superior fo ces of the invader, who is endeavoring to strike terror into the hearts of the people by the frequency and brutality of his military executions. Naples is a conquered Province, and as such is treated by the Piedmontese; yet even this tyranny must pass away, and the atrocities of Victor Emmanuel towards the Neapolitans will no doubt, and ere long, be signally avenged.

France is still increasing her armaments, mustering her battalions, gathering together her fleets, and loudly professing her most pacific intentions. Where the impending storm will burst no one can say; but it is not improbable that the angry feelings subsisting betwixt the Courts of Copenhagen and Berlin may afford Louis Napoleon the excuse he longs for, and furnish hum with another " idea" in the vicinity of the Rhine.

The Southern States are proceeding with their organisation of a new Federation. A Mr. Jefferson Davis has been chosen as President of the Southern Confederacy.

tional origin is, as a test of fitness for office. as irrelevant, as ludicrous, as utterly out of place. because of their national origin, have either particular privileges, or peculiar obligations. If a qualified for the office to which he pretends, no one should inquire into the accidents of his birth. or the particulars of his parentage; and if he be not thus qualified the fact of his being of any particular origin-whether French or Irish, whether Scotch or English-gives him no shadow of claim to the support of any portion of the electoral body. In a word, to introduce the test either of religion or of nationality into every httle parish business, is a sure index of a corrupt beart, or of a weak head-and tends but to bring | mercial society in the XIX century. the great questions of religion and nationality into

allow himself to be duped. A candidate's na-

contempt amongst all intelligent men. We insist upon these things, because we know that the common enemies of all Catholics are intent upon creating strife betwixt French and Irish, with the view of destroying the political influence of both, and are already congratulating themselves upon the fact that the row in front of the City Hall on Tuesday last assumed the aspect of a fight of "nationalities." Shall we then continue to furnish matter for the triumph of our enemies by our intestine and utterly causeless squabbles ?- must we continue to make ourselves the loughing-stock of all intelligent persons by our bombastic and utterly irrelevant anpeals to French Canadian "nationality" on the one hand, and to Irish "nationality" on the other? God forbid! Let us remember only that we are Catholics; and that as Catholics we have a common enemy, ever on the alert to profit by our divisions, and against whom our vigorous and united efforts are imperatively required .--There may be miserable creatures, calling themselves Catholics, to whom the interests of religion are but of secondary importance in comparison with their party and personal interests, and who, to promote those interests, would avail themselves of the little national susceptibilities which unfortunately obtain in our ranks. But if such there be, they should be marked, scouted and execrated as traitors, as the most dangerous of enemies to all Catholics-and to sum up all in one

word, as the vilest of sneaks.

The following are the nominations for City Councillors for the ensuing year :---

EAST WARD .- Alderman Gorrie presided. Ferdinand Perrin, Esq, proposed, seconded by Edward Hanley, Esq., the name of Jean Baptiste Rolland, Esq., for member. There being no other proposition ie was declared duly elected. CENTRE WARD .- Councillor Penn presided. Thomas Mussen, Esq, proposed, seconded by Louis Beaudry, Esq., the name of George B. Muir, Esq., as member. There being no other proposition he was declared duly elected.

WEST WARD .- Alderman Thompson presided .-Alexander Murphy, Esq., proposed, seconded by David Mair, Esq., the name of Norton B. Corse, Esq., as member. David Mann, Esq., proposed, seconded by Robert Irwin, Esq., the name of Alexander A.

belongeth not to man but to God. But we do say it, and every honest man will recognise the fact, that there is an immense moral difference as would be the color of his hair, or the trim of betwixt the shooting of a harsh landlord by the his whiskers. 'All Her Majesty's subjects in desperate evicted tenant whom, with wife and Canada, no matter what the land of their birth, family, the former has turned out naked upon have equal rights and the same duties ; but none, the world, and the child-murders, the husbandpoisonings, the wife-poisonings, and other nameless atrocities of which the bulk of English candidate is morally, intellectually, and socially criminality is made up. Indeed we may be permitted to doubt if the blood-stained Irish Celt is such a hideous object as is the demure sanctified fraudulent bankrupt - the Chairman of Bible Meetings, and the devourer of the substance of the widows and fatherless children, and who cuts such a prominent figure in the ranks of evangehealdom, and of rascaldom, in the Sanctuary and in the Law Courts, at Exeter Hall and in the Queen's Bench, as to have become the type of a large and daily increasing class of British com-

Again, as another instance of the peculiar morality generated by Protestantism, and fostered by the holy horror for the Confessional and asceticism with which Protestantism inspires its votaries, we would refer the Globe to the latest published Returns of the Registrar General for Scotland. From these official returns, as published by the London Times, we gather that, in Aberdeen during the month of December "one child in every five born was illegitimate"-in other words, that twenty per cent of the children were bastards, the offspring of vice and impurity. Compare this testimony of the Registrar General for Scotlandwould we say to the Globe-with the testimony borne by Protestants writers to the purity and, to them, almost incredible clustity of the Cathohe women of Ireland ; and bear in mind that it is in those towns and districts of Protestant Scotland which are the most thoroughly Protestant, which are the least infected with Popery, and the least impregnated with the virus of Irish immigration, that immorality and bastardy most prevail.

And this leads us to another very suggestive fact, as to the comparative moral influences of Catholicity and Protestantism upon their respective professors. In an article upon crune in England, lately copied by us from the European Times, it was mentioned as a strange and startling moral phenomenon and "painful fact, that, in proportion to the population, more criminals are to be found in the agricultural districts than in the most densely populated cities"-whilst " the illegitimate children born in the rural parishes form a large per centage of the births." How is this fact, so at variance with all our preconceived notions of the superior morality of the rural and pastoral life, to be accounted for ?-How comes it to pass that the agricultural nonulation of England are, in proportion to their numbers, more depraved, more criminal, more completely steeped or sodden in vice and bestiality, than are the denizens of the back-slums of their right to raise that cry? London and Manchester? It may be accounted for by the fact that the agricultural population" of England, is almost exclusively Protestant, with little or no permanent admixture of the Irish Catholic element : whilst the poorer portion of the urban population consists, in a considerable degree, of those whom the London Times and the Toronto Globe would, in their fancied Protestant superiority, and in all the dignity of superfine broad-cloth, qualify as the "low Irish." These "low Irish," being Papists, and constituting a numerically important portion of the populations of the large cities of England, raise the moral standard of the Protestant community amongst which their lot is cast, and thus contribute to keep down the criminality of their fellow citizens below that of the Protestant " agricultural population" of England and Scotland. This is the explanation of the phenomenon. It is to the admixture of the "Dogans." of these "low Irish Papists" with the Protestant urban population, that the moral superiority of the latter over the exclusively Protestant "agricultural population" of England is to be attributed. The Popery of the "low Irish" purifies to a very considerable extent the Protestant atmosphere with which they are surrounded, and modifies, even when it cannot entirely subdue, its poisome exhalations. This is our hypothesis, which the Globe is at perfect liberty either to accept or to reject : but the facts themselves-the facts, that serious crime is three-fold more rile in Protestant England than in Popish Ireland-that, in the most exclusively Protestant districts of Scotland, one child in five is a bastard, and that but for the Britain, based upon the principle of Representaextent to which child-murder in utero obtains, the proportions of illegitimacy would be still more formidable-and that crime is far greater, and impurity more prevalent, amongst the exclusively Protestant "agricultural population" of England, than amongst the mixed Catholic and Protestant populations " of the most densely populated cities"—are facts cited and attested to by Protestant authorities, by Protestant Ministers, by Official Statistics, and by the organs of the press. These facts we commend to the serious attention of the Globe; and would entreat "Agrarian Outrages," its value in favor of the of our "Protestant Reform" cotemporary to superior morality of the former can scarce be bear them in mind, when next he shall find himself tempted to accuse the TRUE WITNESS of dealing in abuse rather in facts, of substituting invective for argument, and of confining himself to assertions rather than to proofs of the is an artifice which no one but a knave would pairing of redress from the law, too often have demoralising and barbarising tendencies of Pro- for the True Wirness at Rawdon, and the ad. Province. Geographically, commercially, and

REPRESENTATION BY POPULATION. - The tone of the French Canadian portion of the Ministerial press on this all-important question, is highly satisfactory, and such as to enlist the sympathies of all sound patriots and true Catholics in favour of its present patrons. We copy the following from the Ministerial Minerve of the 22nd ult.:

"The present Ministry is opposed to the principle of Representation based upon Population ; it is for this reason that it enjoys public confidence. It acquired also a fresh title to the gratitude of the country when it delivered us from the Brown-Dorion Administration, which desired to enforce that measure upon us.

Any Ministry which will firmly and uncompromisingly oppose the principle of Representation by Population, and which will insist upon maintaining " the Canadian Constitution as it is, since all the reforms and ameliorations required, can be obtained under it, from a responsible Executive. acted on by a liberal, tolerant, and powerful representation of the people"-(we copy from Mr. McGee's Address to the Electors of Montreal in 1857)-any Ministry, we say, phrases in which Protestants delight to shroud which will do these things, and thus carry out the great principles upon which the last election for Montreal was decided, will deserve may have two wives, or, in other words, that well of every Catholic in the Province.

Especially are the Irish Catholics of Canadaunless they would desire to render themselves ridiculous and odious in the eyes of the worldbound cordially to unite with their French Canadian co-religionists in opposition to the movement for altering the terms of the existing legislative union betwixt Protestant Upper and Catholic Lower Canada, in favour of the first named section of the Province, should the Census Returns establish the fact of the numerical majority of the Upper Canadian population.

There is no corner of the earth which has not re-echoed the complaints of the Catholic people of Ireland against British domination, and those complaints have found prompt sympathy in every generous bosom. Now what is the great political grievance of which the people of Ireland mostly complain, and which prompts their clamors for "Repcai?" It is this-"The legislative union of Catholic and Celtic Ireland, with Protestant and Anglo-Saxon Great Britain, based on "Representation by Population." No one will pretend that, in proportion to its population, Ireland is not adequately represented in the Imnerial Parliament; and it would not much improve the condition of the Catholics of Ireland even were they to obtain a slight increase in the number of their representatives. No ! the evil lies too deep for such a remedy ; and any legislative union based upon the principle of Representation by Population, and betwixt two peoples, aliens to one another in blood, in language, and in religion, as are the peoples of Ireland and England respectively-must inevitably prove politically obnoxious to the smaller or less numerous population. Hence the cry for Repeal amongst the people of Ireland-and who can deny have two birthdays but a twins;" it would be Now the relative conditions of Upper and Lower Canada are, in all respects, similar to those of Great Britain and Ireland; and to mnose upon Lower Canada a legislative union upon such terms as should give to the alien population of Upper Canada a preponderance in the common legislature, would be politically destructive to the former ; would be, in short, a certain method to renew, in British dominions in the New World, the strifes, and heart-burnings which have so long and disastrously disturbed their peace and impeded their progress in the Old. As lrishmen love justice for themselves and the land of their birth, so are they bound. by every sentiment of honor, by every rule of duty, to refrain from imposing upon Catholic Lower Canada a political system which has apnroved itself the curse of Catholic Ireland. As they would desire to enlist the sympathies of strangers in their own behalf, so should they show themselves just and consistent; but who could give them credit for justice or consistency, who should see them assisting to set up in Canada that very political order which they deprecate in Ireland as an outrage and injustice, and as the source of all Ireland's political misfortunes ? It is upon these grounds that we invoke the aid of all honest and patriotic Irishmen against the measure which the Protestant Reformers of Upper Canada have it in contemplation to inflict upon the Catholics of the Lower Province. A legislative union betwixt Ireland and Great tion by Population, has long been in force, and the Irish exiles scattered over the face of the earth are everywhere hving witnesses of its fatal results upon the happiness of Irishmen. Can it be doubted that a similar union, based upon a similar principle, betwixt Catholic Lower and Protestant Upper Canada would bear similar fruits ? Can it, for the honor of human nature, be credited that Irish Catholics, themselves the victims of that iniquitous political system, will lend their aid to impose the same curse upon their brethren and co-religionists of Lower Canada ?

WHAT DO PROTESTANTS THINK OF MAR-RIAGE ?--- This question is well answered by the following extract from the London Times, the highest of Protestant authorities. Treating of the several sexual unions entered into by Jerome Bonaparte-one, a valid Christian marriage contracted with Miss Patterson, of Baltimore,-and the other an adulterous connection contracted during the lifetime of his wife, with Catherine, daughter of the King of Wurtemburg-the Traces remarks :—

"We think that, though the first private marriage was valid, the second Royal marriage was valid We think that M. Jerome Bonaparte is the also. lawful son of Lieutenant Bonaparte, and we think Prince Napoleon 's the lawful son of the King of Westphalia. In ordinary life this would be an im-possibility, but in Royal life it has many times occurred, though rarely without graver troubles than are threatened now.

In other words, the Protestant doctrine of marriage, as laid down by the leading organ of the Protestant community in the XIX century, is identical with that laid down by St. Luther in the XVI ; and divested of the ambiguous their thoughts amounts to this-That, under certain political circumstances, a Christian man polygamy is lawful to Christian Princes, and their children. This was the teaching of Saint Luther upon the Marriage question, as it is that of the Protestant Times.

The French lady of the old school, de la vielle cour, who on her death bed consoled herself by the reflection that "God would think twice before damning a person of her rank," was a type of our modern Protestant moralist. Upon poor persons, mere artizans, and tradesmen, the law of monogamy is binding ; but from the restraints of this Christian law, from the precepts of morality, royal personages are exempt, and the latter may, without fear of God's judgment, do those things which would cousign sinners, not of Royal or Imperial extraction, to the flames of hell. Thus, by Protestant ethics, God is one who is a respecter of persons : one whose wrath the moribund French Marchioness had, because of her quality, little cause to dread; one who is ready to make great allowances for the political embarassments of Royal families, and to repeal His own decrees in favor of the dynastic exigencies of a French Emperor. This doctrine must no doubt be very consoling to the rich and powerful; but we should be well content if its advocates would clearly define its limits ; would let us know down to what rank it is lawful to have two valid wives; and whether the privilege is peculiar to members of the actually reigning dynasties, or participated in by subjects, and the descendants of deposed sovereigns. As there is to be one moral law for the great, and another for the humble, we should like to be informed how far down in the social scale the privilege of polygamy extends. " No one," says the Irish song, with laudable explicitness, " no one can well if Protestant inoralists were equally explicit;

By the steamer New York, we have European dates to the 29th ult.; their contents may be thus summed up. The bombardment of Gaeta continued, but without any decisive results .----Louis Napoleon had ordered the immediate construction of ten iron-cased frigates like La Gloire. It is deried that France has given any encouragement to Denmark to resist the demands of Germany. From India we have tidings of fresh troubles, and of armed insurrection in the North-east Provinces. Prices in the London Corn Market are quoted as on the decline.

THE MAYORALTY. - The nomination of candidates for the office of Mayor for the ensuing year took place on Tuesday last in front of the City Hall. In spite of the weather which was abominable, the attendance was numerous.

The candidates named for Mayor were Messrs Rodier and Dogherty; and, we regret to be obliged to say, that the proceedings were marked liged to say, that the proceedings were marked Esq., as member. Augustin Martin, Esq., proposed, by disorder and violence, disgraceful alike to all seconded by Moses Mayball, Esq., the name of Eraste parties concerned, and in the course of which Mr. Rodier's head was cut open by a lump of ice thrown at him. It is indeed a shame to the City of Montreal that such a trivial a fair as our annual civic elections cannot be conducted without fighting, and breach of the peace. All honest men, no matter what their national origin. or their religion, are interested in putting down these scandals, are bound to use their influence to put them down, and to hold up to scorn and public reprobation the actors therein. But above all-are Catholics bound by their duty to their God and to their Church, to spurn the insidious counsels of those who for their own dirty ends, strive to sow dissensions in the ranks of Catholics, and by bombastic appeals to the respective nationalities of which our Catholic population is composed, seek to array Irish Catholic against his brother of French origin, and French Canadian Catholic against his Irish coreligionist. To make national origin in any degree the test of a man's eligibility to municipal or legislative' honors is so monstrous an absurdity that it throws ridicule on the very name of "nationality," and

Stevenson, Esq., as member. Stevenson, Esq., as member. Sr. ANNS WARD.—Councillor M'Grendy, presided. George Weaver, Esq., proposed, seconded by Thos. Patton, Esq., the name of J. W. M'Gauvran, Esq., as member. John Conroy, Esq., proposed, seconded by John Moore, Esq., the name of Thomas M'Grath, Esq., as member.

ST. ANTOIN WARD .- Councillor Rodden presided. Edwin Atwater, E.q., proposed, seconded by Andrew Watson, Esq., the name of Daniel M'Nevin, Esq., as member. Oliver Frechette, Esq., proposed, seconded by Oliver Faucher, Esq., the name of Andre Lapierre, Esq., as member. ST. LAWRENCE WARD.-Alderman Bulmer presided.

Wm. Burnet, Esq., proposed, seconded by Wm. Kenuedy, Esq., the name of George Bowie, Sen., Esq., as member. Win. Ounningham, Esq., proposed, seconded by Wm. P. Maguire, Esq., the name of Chas. W. Sharpley, Esq., as member. Joseph Comte, Esq., proposed, seconded by Moses Warren, Esq., the name of Wm. Waugh, Esq., as member. ST. LOUIS WAND.—Councillor Rolland presided.

Thomas Maher, Esq., proposed, seconded by John Dalton, Esq., the name of Wm. L. Doutney, Esq., as member. Richard Holland, Esq., proposed seconded by Augustin Laberge, Esq., the name of Ferdinand David, Esc., as member.

ST. JAMES WARD .- Councillor Duhamel presided. Peter Devins, Esq., proposed, seconded by Abraham Lariviere, Esq., the name of Jean Louis Beaudry, d'Odet d'Orsonnous Esq., as member. Sr. MAUY'S WARD.-Alderman Homier presided.

Thomas Johnson Esq., proposed, seconded by Robert Wright, Esq., the name of John Greaves, Esq., as member. Jean Bie. Archambault, Esq., proposed, seconded by Joseph Lacas, Esq., the name of Jeau Bte. Goyette, Esq., as member.

AN ANSWER TO THE "GLOBE."-The Colonial Presbuterian quotes a Minister of some Protestant sect or other-a Rev. Dr. Edgarto the effect that, " for each million there are three times as many hanged in England as in Ireland, and twice as many transported."

This certainly is valuable, because impartial, testimony as to the comparative morality of Catholic and Protestant communities; and if we take into account the peculiarly unfortunate political and social conditions of Catholic Ireland, conditions so productive of that particular class of crime known under the name of over estimated. We do not intend to palliate the deeds of savage violence against their Protestant oppressors to which Irish Catholics, deshave resource to, by which none but a fool could 'resource-for murder is murder, and vengeance 'testantism.

Mr. James Carroli, of St. Patrick's, Rawdon, has kindly consented to act as Agent proclivity for Annexation in that section of the ;acent districts.

and would in like manner define the limits to which God has been pleased to restrict His divine law of "One with One," and to whom He has been pleased to accord the privilege of having two wives.

SECESSION .- This long anticipated event has come to pass, and the United States of North America exist no more. South Carolina took the initiative in this desperate career, and by an almost unanimous vote proclaimed her secession from the great Confederation of the other Southern and slave holding States; several have followed her example; and from the general tone of their press, from the Resolutions of their several Legislatures, and from the general feeling of their peoples, it may be anticipated that these will. draw after them the remainder of the Southern host.

What effect this important step may have upon the destinies of the Great Republic, it would be in vain, at present, to speculate. That the pressure of a common danger once removed, a Union of States, so dissimilar in their respective origins, in their political and social institutions, as are the States of New England, and the slave holding States of the South would be maintained, could not be believed by any student of history or of human nature. The catastrophe might be delayed, but to every attentive observer it has long appeared inevitable ; and its cause is to be found, not in the nature of republican institutions, nor in the incapacity of the people for self-government, but in their essentially antagonistic social conditions, and in the impossibility of permanently reconciling irreconcilables.

Yet it is impossible not to anticipate very important results to British North America, and to Upper Canada especially, from this first step towards the complete separation of the Southern and slave holding, from the Northern non-slaveholding States. The growth of a tree-soil Republic, wherein no slave-catcher dare set his foot, on the shores of the great lakes, and in the immediate vicinity of Upper Canada, must inevitably accelerate the already rapidly spreading socially, Upper Canada belongs rather to the