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# The Evening Telegram.

W. J. HERDER, Proprietor. . . . W. F. LLOYD, Editor.

St. John's, Newfoundland, May 26, 1910.

## The Coronation Oath.

The fundamental principle which governs the King's title to the throne, the oaths he may be called upon to take, his prerogatives, powers and their limitations is the Supremacy of English law. To that law the King is subordinate, the House of Lords is subordinate, the House of Commons, and every principality and power, ecclesiastical or lay, whether Anglican, Papal, or other is also subordinate within the realm.

This principle, though contested, has long been established, and its establishment was anterior by many centuries to the times of William of Orange or even those of Henry VIII. "Kemble in his 'Saxons in England,' sets forth among the powers exercised by the Witanageboth:

- The Witan had power of electing the King;
- The Witan had the power to depose the King, if his governing was not conducted for the benefit of his people;
- The King and the Witan had power to appoint to vacant sees;
- They had also power to regulate ecclesiastical matters, approved feasts and festivals, and decide upon the levy and expenditure of ecclesiastical revenue.

Before the Norman Conquest the English Church enjoyed much independence. The Conquest brought it into closer communion with Rome, but the ancient Supremacy of the State was maintained.

Pope Hildebrand called upon William I. in 1076 to do fealty for the Crown of England. William answered: I do not desire to do fealty, nor do I will it; because I neither promised to do it, nor do I find that my predecessors on the Throne ever did fealty to thy predecessors."

William laid down three famous Canons of Royal Supremacy, two of which were:

- That the Pope should be acknowledged, or royal letters received, in England, without the King's consent.

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2. That the King's barons and officers should not be excommunicated, or constrained by any penalty of ecclesiastical rigour, without his permission.

In 1164 it was laid down in the Constitution of Clarendon, that there should be no ecclesiastical appeals to Rome without the King's consent.

John defied the Pope, then submitted, and went so far as to do homage to the Pope for his Kingdom.

The Pope declared Magna Charta void, but the barons made war on John in support of the Charter and renounced their allegiance to him. The death of the King and the confirmation of the Charter six times, by the next King, put an end to the contest.

From the reign of Edward I. there is a regular series of Statutes passed to check Papal aggression. Foreign ecclesiastical taxation was forbidden, as were nominations by the Pope to English benefices. Citations to Rome were also made illegal. Pope Boniface IX. declared the Statutes passed by the English Parliament void, and granted a prebendal stall at Wells to an Italian Cardinal. The Bishops decided to stand by the Crown, so did the temporal lords and the Commons. This led to the Statutes of Praemunire which provided outlawry, seizure of land and movables and imprisonment for any persons pursuing process in the Papal Court against the Crown or the realm.

The King in Parliament was victorious and Boniface was defeated.

We have mentioned these struggles to show occasions on which the ancient supremacy of the law was maintained long before the time of the Reformation. Parliament of Henry VIII. or the Bill of Rights of William and Mary, and to illustrate the fundamental doctrine of the subordination of every ecclesiastical authority within the realm to the law.

We now pass on to the Bill of Rights to set forth the operating rule of English law as to the Protestant succession of the Crown. This is set forth in Section IX, and reads as follows:—

IX. And whereas it hath been found by experience, that it is inconsistent with the safety and welfare of this Protestant Kingdom, to be governed by a Popish Prince, or by any King or Queen marrying a Papist, the said Lords Spiritual and Temporall and Commons, do further pray that it may be enacted, that all and every person and persons that is, are, or shall marry a Papist, SHALL BE EXCLUDED, and be for ever UNCAPABLE TO INHERIT, POSSESS, OR ENJOY THE CROWN AND GOVERNMENT of this realm and Ireland and the dominions thereunto belonging, or any part of the same, or to have, use, or to exercise any regal power, authority, or jurisdiction within the same; and in all and every such case or cases the people of these realms shall be and are hereby ABSOLVED OF THEIR ALLEGIANCE, AND THE SAID CROWN AND GOVERNMENT SHALL from time to time DESCEND TO, and be enjoyed by, such person or persons, being PROTESTANTS, as should have inherited and enjoyed the

same, in case the said person or persons be reconciled, holding communion, or professing or marrying as aforesaid, were naturally dead."

This is the active operative principle for the maintenance of a Protestant King on the Throne.

The Coronation Oath is the test whether a King is a Protestant or not. Under the Act Settlement which is Supplementary to the Bill of Rights the Oath must be taken at the Coronation.

Not only is this the rule, but a Statute of Anne, the Sovereign who succeeded William of Orange, enacts that the following be a treasonable offence:

"Maliciously, advisedly, and directly, by writing or printing, maintaining that any other person has any right or title to the Crown otherwise than according to the Act of Settlement, or that the Sovereign with the authority of Parliament may not make laws and statutes to bind the Crown and descent thereof."

With the King in Parliament the supreme law maker. With the King Protestant, the House of Lords Protestant, with the House of Commons dominantly Protestant, with the electorate overwhelmingly Protestant, is there not a reasonable and practical assurance that this operative principle of Protestantism will be maintained?

If that is so, and we maintain it is, why is it not sufficient to insist on an oath of adherence to Protestantism without subjecting the King to terms which are as derogatory to his honor as if he were a Tammany perjurer whom no ordinary oath could bind, and without using terms which in themselves outrage the feelings of Roman Catholics. The situation is delicate and difficult at the best. Why not make it as inoffensive as possible, while maintaining firmly and unflinchingly the Protestant succession?

It is said that Queen Victoria of Spain was called upon to take an oath highly offensive to Protestants. Even if it is a fact, should England go to Spain for constitutional guidance? England has long led the world in liberty and freedom of constitutional rule. Why then look to backward Spain for an offensive rule of conduct?

Rev. W. T. D. Dunn in this morning's Daily News quotes what is said to be an oath taken by the Roman Catholic Bishops in the Province of Quebec, which, it is alleged, accepts the doctrine that the Pope "hath power to depose heretical kings, princes, states, commonwealths and governments, all being illegal, without his sacred affirmation, and that they may be safely destroyed."

We confess we are absolutely sceptical about the allegation. Such an oath in writing is treasonable. We cannot therefore accept the allegation without the strongest proof and corroboration. Further, we find in the Bill of Rights the following oath of Supremacy:—

"I, A. B. doe, swear, That I do from my heart abhor, detest, and abjure as impious and heretical, this damnable doctrine and position, that Princes excommunicated or deprived by the Pope, or any authority of the See of Rome, may be deposed or murdered by their subjects, or any other whatsoever. And I do declare, That no foreign prince, person, prelate, state, or potentate hath, or ought to have, any jurisdiction, power, superiority, pre-eminence, or authority, ecclesiastical or spiritual, within this realm."

See helpe me God."

In conclusion, we reaffirm our at-

titude. The British people are overwhelmingly Protestant. The political masters are dominantly Protestant. The King in Parliament, the supreme law maker is Protestant. The law upholds a Protestant succession. The law is supreme in England. While maintaining these potencies in their full strength, why not use the gigantic strength of Protestantism with as little offence to Roman Catholics as possible. Let the King take an oath of Protestantism without singling out doctrines of Roman Catholicism for opprobrium. This is the twentieth century. The realm is enlightened in England. It is not benighted Spain. If the supremacy of the law is maintained, and also the subordination of princes, principalities and powers to it within the realm, the rest is of minor importance.

We repeat that Protestantism in the British Isles has a giant's strength. Let Protestants, while maintaining what they have won, remember Shakespeare's admonition:—

"Oh, it is excellent  
To have a giant's strength;  
But it is tyrannous  
To use it like a giant."

## Two Newfoundlanders Involved.

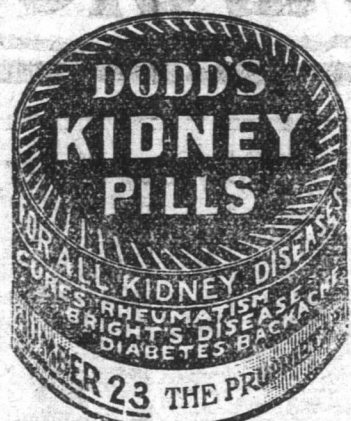
With reference to the report which the Telegram exclusively gave yesterday about the Newfoundland fisherman Batt English, drowned from the N. S. schr. Maggie & May, we find that another man, Walter Flander, of Codroy, is also mentioned. Consul Benedict is helping out the U. S. Consul-General of Halifax to get the names of the men's relatives and to establish their identity. Strange to say English is referred to as a "Canadian" of Conception Bay, Nfld., and he is called Patrick English, whereas his christian name was Bartholomew, abbreviated generally as Batt. The German cruiser Freya ran the ship down 60 miles off Halifax, in 1908.

## Hard to Get Men.

It is no trouble now to get work at Bell Island. The companies are most anxious to get more men. One of the companies needed men so badly that they had to take the miners out of the dumps and put them on the stock pile. The S. S. Progress is gone to Harbor Grace to look for men.

**SUNDAY EXCURSION.**—The excursions by rail to Kelligrews begin next Sunday at 2:30 p.m. Trains will leave Kelligrews at 3:07 returning.

**WEATHER UP COUNTRY.**—Along the line to-day the wind is S. W., light and fine; temperature 50 to 60.



## CAPE REPORT.

Special to Evening Telegram.  
CAPE RACE, To-Day.  
Wind west, light, weather foggy. Nothing sighted since last report. Bar. 29.65; ther. 46.

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## Here and There.

**AT ST. PATRICK'S.**—The C. C. C. attended the procession at St. Patrick's this morning.

**FISH AT QUIDI VIDI.**—Codfish were fairly plentiful at Quidi Vidi again this morning, and several good catches were made.

**NEW SCHOONER.**—John Croke built a new schooner 35 tons burthen, at St. Brendan's last winter. He is now getting her ready to come to St. John's to take supplies.

**DANGER TO HORSES.**—The nails around the city streets cause serious damage to horses. Two horses belonging to Dr. Macpherson are now laid off unable to walk on account of nails in their hoofs.

## Marine Notes.

The brig. Lady Napier, Capt. C. Marshall, is loading at Job Bros. today for Brazil.

The barq. Dunure, Capt. Hartley, is loading fish at Bowring Bros. for Oporto.

The brig. Ocean Ranger will load seal oil at Bowring's for Glasgow.

The s.s. Cambria left Bell Island yesterday for Philadelphia with 3,900 tons ore, shipped by the N. S. S. Co.

The schr. Isabella, Capt. Barker, sailed for Oporto laden with fish today.

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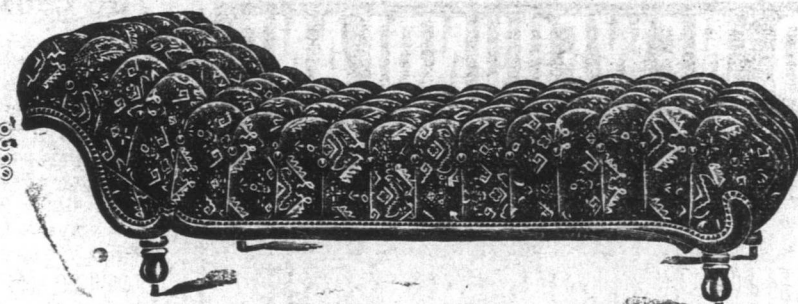
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The s.s. Diana sailed to-day for Spaniard's Bay, Carbonear, Hant's Hr. and Trinity to take Job's fishery crews to Blanc Sablon.

The s.s. Regulus will be docked shortly for a clearing up and will then sail for Sydney to load coal.



## NEW SPRING DESIGNS IN

# Parlor Furniture.

WE have this week opened up our New Spring Parlor Goods, and have now displayed at the Popular Furniture Store, a very choice selection of 3 and 5 piece Suites, Morris Chairs, Rockers, Occasional Chairs and

## Lounges of Superior Value.

- No. 1 LOUNGE—Solid Frame, upholstered in rich check Green Velour.....\$7.95
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- No. 3 LOUNGE—Large roomly Lounge, strong frame, upholstered in rich dark green pattern Velour, tufted seat and head, spring edged around.....\$14.00
- No. 1038 LOUNGE—In Rich Crimson Velour, spotted black pattern (style as above cut) deep tufted seat and head, spring edged.....\$17.50
- No. 21 LOUNGE—Carved dark oak frame, upholstered in high grade Velour, close deep tufted throughout.....\$20.00
- No. 60 Superior Leather LOUNGE—Very roomly and substantial make, tempered springs and spring edged throughout.....\$21.00

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