THE TRUE WITNESS AND CATHOLIC CHRONICLE.

A BAVING MANJAC FROM SPIRITUALISM.—The Mo-hawk Courier says that Nathan Wathanson, a German peddler of jewelry, had been made a raving maniac from witnessing the table moving and rapping hum-buggery of so called spiritualists. He at first derided the whole thing; but at length became agitated, and went on, step by step, until he became possessed with the idea that he was a medium—that his hands and arms, were moved by supernatural influence—and in three weeks was a raving maniac.

TERRIBLE SICKNESS BUT SLIGHT MORTALITY.-- We have urged the passage of a Prohibitory Law, and be-lieve in it heartily. We must, however, confess that a deal of sickness is sometimes created by its enactment. The Town Agent reports that in the healthful Title town of Bridgeport where the Great Autobiogra-mhic Barnum lives and drinks cold water, during the last three months there were 4,718 sales made of lionor. Mechanics bought it for their purposes once; Descons for Sacramental purposes three times; Manufacturers for their works eight times; and the ailing people for their stomachs³ and other feeble organs³ take 4,621 times! The Bridgeport population is, ac-cording to the New-Haven Register, 7,560,3,696 of it females. The receipts for "brandy, rum and gin were \$1,45977 for the three months.³³ The medicine must have done great service. Notwithstanding the great prevalence of sickness, there were very few deaths-the medicine must have done good. It is possible that words like language were made to con-ceal thoughts. - N. Y. Times.

MORMON DOCTRINE .- The Deseret News of October 19th and 26th, contains full reports of lectures lately delivered by Elder Orson Hyde and Governor Brigham Young, advancing the doctrine that the Saviour was not only the husband of a plurality of wives, but the father of children. Elder Hyde predicted that the Mormons of Utah would speedily obtain possession of all the women of Illinois; and Gov. Young explained that the scripture in relation to a bishop being the husband of one wife, meant that he should have at least one to begin with. The performance concluded with a solemn curse pronounced by Elder Hyde against those saints who boast publicly of their unseemly conduct.

PROTESTANT LIBERTY.-The festivals of Christmas and New Year were never observed in the New England states until the close of the American revo-lation; they seem to have been peculiarly offensive to the good people of that section of the colonies from their first settlement; and some of their regulations on these subjects appear to us in the present day, so strange and unnecessarily severe, that we can scarcely realize that they ever had an existance among the or-dinance of governmet of any people.—In order to prevent, if possible, any observance of those days by those who might feel disposed to honor and reverance the customs of their English forefathers, in Massachusetts during the year 1640, a law was exacted, declaring that Christmas, Easter, and Whitsunlide, should not be observed either by merry-making, forbearing labor, or the like, under the penalty of five shillings for every offence. And the first code of laws promulgated in connecticut after its settlement, provides that "no one s'all read the Common Prayer, keep Christmas, or Saint's days, make mince pies, dance, play cards or play on any instrument of music, except the drum, trumpel, and Jew's-harp." In New England they were not only opposed to the celebration of these festivals, but also to every kind of merry-making, and almost every species of sport among the people; and were held in utter abomination by the Puritanic Court of New Haven. In this year they banished "Good-man Hunt and his wife" from the colony, "for keeping the councells of William Harding, baking him a pastry and plum cakes, and keeping company with him on the Lord's day, and she suffering Harding to kiss her." Kissing in those days was considered "filthy dalliance," and was esteemed a henious offence, and punished as such ; then a man could not kiss his wife or child on the Sabbath without violating the law, and so sensitive were they, that one was imprisoned for sitting down by the road side to comb out some tangled hairs in his wig upon that day. So much did the governments of New England in the early ages of their settlement dread everything that savored of conviviality, that the people were not allowed to drink healths, under a severe penalty. This regulation was so rigid in Massachusetts that healths were

WHAT, OR WHICH IS THE BEST **VERMIFUGE OR WORM DESTROYER?**

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Mrs. Hardie, No. 3 Manhattan place. P. S. Dr. M'Lane's Celebrated Vermifuge, also his Liver Pills, can now be had at all respectable Drug Stores in this city.

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N.B.-An Assistant wanted in this School. January 2, 1855.



THE MONTHLY MEETING of the ST. PATRICK'S SOCIETY, will be held at St. PATRICK'S HALL, on MONDAY EVENING, Sth January, at EIGHT o'clock.

By Order, W. F. SMYTH, Reg. Sec. December 27, 1854.

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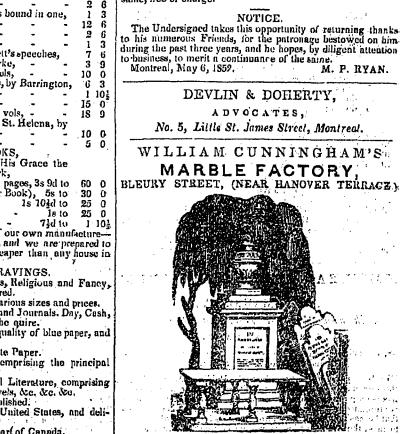
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