

A DAY OF THANKSGIVING.

His Excellency the Governor General has issued a proclamation as follows :

“Whereas it has pleased Almighty God, in His Great Goodness to vouchsafe unto Our Province of Canada, the blessings of an abundant Harvest; We, therefore, adoring the Divine Goodness, and duly considering that the blessings of Peace and Plenty now enjoyed by Our people in the said Province, do call for public and solemn acknowledgments, have thought fit by and with the advice of Our Executive Council of Our Province of Canada, to issue this Proclamation hereby appointing that a General Holiday and Day of Thanksgiving to Almighty God for these His Mercies be observed throughout Our said Province of Canada, on Thursday, the third day of November next, and We do earnestly exhort all Our loving subjects therein, that they do observe the said Public Day of Thanksgiving.”

This will secure an opportunity, fervently desired by many, of recording their sense of obligation to the Giver of every good and perfect gift. The kindness of the Almighty has been strikingly shown during the past year, in disappointing the fears, and exceeding the expectations of men. Rain from heaven and fruitful seasons are at all times witnesses for God; how much more ought we to feel the force of the testimony, when God crowns the year with his goodness, after times of depression. The reviving hopes and brightening future of the country, may well induce a thankful spirit. “Oh that men would praise the Lord for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men.” Peace and plenty are two short words, but they are full of meaning, and express a state of privilege and enjoyment in a community, requiring, when really enjoyed, homage to the Eternal, whose arm is a shield of defence, and whose hand, when opened, is the source of universal good.

THE IRISH REVIVAL.

(Extracted from the “British Standard” of September 2nd, 1859.)

The Secular Press, both in Ireland and in Great Britain, has upon the whole manifested respect towards this great spiritual movement. If it has displayed much ignorance, there has been no great outbreak of impiety. It was, nevertheless, among the Daily Press, reserved for the *Morning Advertiser* to present an article worthy of the subject, and reflecting credit on the Metropolis,—an article dignified and profound, truthful and judicious. When we read it on the day of its appearance, we gave the credit of it to an eminent Doctor in Divinity who has just been to Ireland; but we see from the *Record* that it is from the powerful pen of the Editor himself, who, it seems, has paid a visit to the Emerald Isle. The following is all we can find room for, which will show the estimate formed of the work by one of the shrewdest men amongst us, and one of the ablest writers of the day:—

“Great misconception prevails in this country as to the nature of those physical manifestations which in so many cases precede the conversions. It is the general belief among us that these manifestations assume the form of violent hysterical convulsions, in which the parties are wholly unconscious of what they are experiencing. There could not be a greater mistake. There is nothing frantic, nothing fanatical, nothing resembling unconsciousness or insensibility in any of those who are what is called ‘affected.’ They are struck and fall to the ground, sometimes all at once, but at other times gradually, and then, instead of uttering wild and incoherent cries, they simply confess their sins, mostly in tones expressive of the deep distress of mind which they feel on account of the vivid perception they have of their guilt in the sight of their Maker. And the confession of sin is always accompanied with supplications for pardoning mercy, uttered with a profoundly impressive earnestness. The conversions do not always take place under sermons, but often by some particular text suggesting