

pale with futile wrath returns to the charge.) Here is a gross lie. I have caught it. Just listen to this: "The whole government policy, as now developed, is a huge conglomeration of falsehood and deception. *** It is amazing—it is indeed, the deception and treachery to which the government are resorting, in order to win one single seat in the province." If I had the author of this statement (glancing gloomily at the L. o. O.) in my presence, I would crush him sir. I would grind him up into small pieces and cast the fragments under the wheels of the Locomotive.

L. o. O. gaily. Tardy wheels they are Mr. P. S. We are now one hour behind time. Let us go on reading. The study is edifying in the extreme. Here is a tit-bit. Colonist, Oct. 18th. "Let the reader carefully peruse the following extracts from the Morning Chronicle of the past few weeks, and if he is not inspired with disgust at the tergiversations of that worthless rag, we shall be most mistaken. *** Such a journal is simply a disgrace to the country, and an insult to the intelligence of the people." Here is a fine gentleman to talk about rags. The creature whose slimy hand penned the scabrous words above quoted should be ducked in a horse pond. Were he here (frowning with sinister meaning on the P. S.) I myself would glory in becoming his executioner. This scoundrel I perceive has recently gone so far as to violate the secrecy of the chamber of delegates. The Viper has actually published the expression produced upon the members by the glorious orations of the opposition representatives. Hear what the creature says: "The Editor of the Chronicle is a man of wit, a man of pathos, and what is better, a master of the art of vituperation. Yet it must be confessed that out of his editorial chair all these advantages seem to be invariably wanting."

P. S. Well and what of that? He may be right.

L. o. O. Sir I say this: If the writer of these words is the man I imagine, he means to convey the impression that at the Congress the leader of the opposition made but a poor figure. I say Sir the writer is a reptile—a poisonous reptile. (Clenches his fist.)

P. S. These demonstrations are useless. I am not afraid. I shall call the guard (aside) he is in our pay. (Retires towards the door, and then aloud) Sir the editor of the Chronicle though no dangerous beast is a very offensive one; he reminds me of a flea—disagreeable but not dangerous—stand back Sir.

L. o. O. I won't be insulted on the Nova Scotia Railway.

P. S. My Railway—

Conversation suddenly interrupted by a crash. The train having gone off the line all is confusion, and passengers are thrown huddled one above the other. L. o. O. falls beneath P. S.

L. o. O. promptly and triumphantly. How about your new Pointsmere?

P. S. weakly. Oh!

Curtain.

AID TO SACRAMENTAL COMMUNION.

By Rev. George Macdonnell. Z. S. HALL, & R. T. MITCHELL.

The author of this work observes in his preface, that he has kept in view the "importance of comprehensiveness and conciseness." We cannot congratulate him upon having carried out his views on these important points; indeed, throughout the whole volume we note a want of arrangement which sadly mars its general effect. Mr. Macdonnell argues that, from St. Mathews account of the Divine celebration, Judas absented himself prior to the distribution of the sacred elements. This hardly tallies with St. Luke's statement, that the announcement of the betrayal was made after the eating of the bread, and drinking of the cup, or with the declaration of St. Mark that such announcement was made "as they did eat." If Mr. Macdonnell's ideas upon this point are correct, a great many sermons we have heard have been comparatively pointless. The work before us would not lose any of its interest, were many passages relative to the R. Catholic Church left out. In treating of those Divine Mysteries instituted for the spiritual sustenance of all

Christian men, it is, we think hardly consistent with charity, to continually allude to Anti-Christ, in connection with a faith cherished by the larger proportion of Christendom. There is another point whereon we must dissent from Mr. Macdonnell—viz:—the constant repetition of our Saviour's name without any preface whatever. As our Lord's disciples called him Lord and Master, we think Christians of later days might follow so good an example. This volume contains thirteen chapters, and twice that number of prayers. Of the latter we cannot speak very highly; indeed when we contrast them, and thousands of a like nature, with the vigorous fervour which glows in the writings of ancient divines, we are forced to admit that it is difficult to improve upon the labors of our forefathers in spiritual matters. As the Bishop of Oxford has well remarked—"Who can turn from the writings of St. Augustine, St. Bernard, or of Hooker and Leighton, to most of this day, without remembering the sacred words. 'No man having drunk old wine straightway desireth new; for he saith, the old is better.'" Our space will not permit us to analyse this book as carefully as the industry of its author deserves. That it will command a large sale among those who have a turn for full flavoured, and somewhat one sided controversy, we have not the smallest doubt.

Communications, &c.

It is distinctly to be borne in mind that we do not, by inserting letters, convey any opinion favorable to their contents. We open our columns to all, without limiting to any; and thus supply a channel for the publication of opinions of all shades, to be found in no other journal in Nova Scotia.

No notice whatever will be taken of anonymous communications.

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

W. C.—There is no real injustice in your case, if every man who thinks proper to sink a well on his premises is to be exempted from Water Rates, the city funds would suffer heavily. You say that your well cost you £3, but the rich man, about whom you write so indignantly, pays twice that sum for water rates, whether they have wells or not. Your last communication is simply outrageous, and you forget yourself sadly when you presume to dictate to us what shall, or shall not be published in our columns.

ASSESSMENT UNDER THE EDUCATION ACT.

Very little was generally known respecting the nature of this measure till the time arrived for enforcing its provisions. A meeting at Pictou recently voted upwards of \$5000 for assessment on the rate payers of the town; and this was quietly accomplished by the select few who having much to gain, and little to lose are always alive to their own interests. Persons of this description are to be found acting in concert at all our Town meetings. They spend most of the evenings and rainy days of the year in the discussion of political and ecclesiastical questions and in the supervision of our municipal affairs. The School Bill, however, afforded this knot of wretches the most direct opportunity they ever enjoyed of putting their hands deeply into the pockets of their wealthier fellow-citizens, and when they imagined that their purposes were effected their exultation could no longer be suppressed. They ruled their chairman and concluded by three lusty cheers for their victory. They appointed trustees and assessors and were at no loss to find a suitable person ready to grasp at the office of collecting the odious rate.

Several influential members of the community who accidentally heard of the intended meeting were desirous of securing a respectable attendance, but as there was not sufficient time for this purpose they remained absent rather than attend a meeting at which persons of their class and sentiments, if few in number, would likely be controlled and insulted.

Since that meeting the principal inhabitants representing the great bulk of taxable property assembled and having instituted a strict examination of the proceedings already taken, have determined by all lawful means to resist payment of the rate. There is every prospect of avoiding the assessment as several necessary preliminaries required by law have not been complied with, and a vigorous effort will be made to get rid of the obnoxious law altogether.

This hostility is free from any political aspect, and is directed solely against the provisions of the Act itself. It is admitted that former Administrations would have passed a law similar in principle had they dared; and the difference is just that a Liberal Government had not the courage to force such an enactment on the public, whilst the present Government have had the courage to do what they thought was right, and even they could not have foreseen the unpopularity of the measure to its