

IN MASS MEETING ASSEMBLED.

THE handful of Fenians who recently met in Toronto to condemn any interference with Land League criminals, cabled their resolutions to Messrs. Gladstone and Parnell, as having been "passed by the citizens of Toronto in mass meeting assembled." The room in which this mass meeting was held, holds 700, or, at the most, 800 persons, the citizens of Toronto all told, number 130,000. At that meeting, as our columns have already shown, a letter was read from the leader of the Fenian party, and by reason of political intriguers, the chief practical ruler of Ontario, Archbishop Lynch, denouncing the Governor-General, Lord Lansdowne, in terms of brutal and insolent violence. The American press has, with few exceptions, sent forth the report that Lord Lansdowne dare not appear in public without a military guard. Even the *St. James' Gazette*, one of the foremost English journals, was so misled, as to insert the preposterously silly story that at the opening of Parliament, the galleries were not occupied as usual by the public because of fears felt for the safety of the Governor-General! So much for the intelligence of a great English paper, dealing with Canada. Now mark the facts, we speak to a large audience on both sides of the Atlantic, and to many in sight of the Southern Cross. The opening of Parliament was conducted as it always has been, *not one extra guard was placed to insult the people of Canada by throwing doubts on their loyalty and freedom from desire to commit crime.* On the 3rd May, the Governor-General came to Toronto. Let us be as precise as possible in stating the features of his welcome. The daily papers say, that "scores of thousands of citizens cheered him." That is reportorial language. We shall use terms giving plain facts with severe soberness. Between the railway station, where Lord Lansdowne alighted, and Government House, where he then went, is a busy thoroughfare. Between these points are about 40,000 square feet of sidewalk. This pavement was covered more or less densely all the way. Citizens on foot and in carriages, formed, a procession that stretched one mile at least. In all the windows, with very rare exceptions, were groups of persons waving handkerchiefs and small flags. From all these citizens there went up cheering as the Governor-General came in sight. Now we submit that in such facts is a scientific basis for the assertion that not less than 20,000 to 30,000 persons of all ranks publicly demonstrated their loyalty to the Queen and Empire. But that is only part of the story. *The welcome given to Lord Lansdowne was the answer of the city of Toronto to the Fenian meeting of 700 or 800 malcontents.* It was the answer, also, of a great, law abiding city to Archbishop Lynch's attack upon the Governor-General, an attack calculated and by most persons thought, intended to instigate a breach of the peace in the interests of the Parnell conspiracy. As we write Lord Lansdowne is receiving citizens in crowds in a large concert hall packed to its limit, which is close upon 2000. Let our British, American,

Australian, and New Zealand friends note the above facts. We have the authority of one of the best known and most generally respected Nonconformist ministers in Canada, for stating that these facts startled those Protestants who for some time past have for political reasons, prostrated themselves before the juggernaut machine of Romish aggression. These cowards fancied that the Goths were at the gate, and it was well to make friends of them in time! Every honorable, every reflecting Romanist feels relieved and delighted at this demonstration against Irish disloyalty. We speak in this of what we *know*. The magnificent welcome given by "the citizens of Toronto in mass meeting assembled," dissipates into thin air, the vain idea that Irish crime and Romish attacks upon Imperial unity have any sympathisers amongst the intelligent and free citizens of Canada. Even men whose political actions of late, have been guided by the opposite belief, have been soundly converted to the truth in this matter.

THE STAMP AND THE METAL.

ONE important point seems to have been overlooked by those who are so anxious to secure, by hook or by crook, the power of conferring degrees in divinity. We desire their serious attention to this oversight in the interests of religion, as well as of higher education. Were men generally able to draw logical and sound inferences, it would be enough for our argument simply to quote the hacknied couplet,

"The rank is but the guinea stamp
The goud's the goud for a' that."

But to the many even that is an unintelligible saying. The point then we allude to is this, that *a degree in divinity is only a stamp after all.* This stamp may be of value, great value, as indicative of the true value of the metal it marks. But it may be not valueless merely but *fraudulent*, by giving to base coin the impress of the true gold. Now, the giving to inferior metal the image and superscription which tells of a genuine coin, is a serious crime; it involves a penitentiary sentence. If society were as sensitive in regard to the moral aspect of those deeds which affect *reputation*, as they are to those that affect *property*, the coiners of divinity, or arts, or any educational degrees would be so severely condemned that the offence would become too disgraceful to be engaged in by any public body. If coining base metal went on unchecked, it would end in the utter debasement and discrediting of national coinage. Every coin would be received with suspicion and not be accepted without passing a test. The difficulty of applying a test to divinity degrees, has caused degree coiners to put in circulation a very large quantity of spurious "coin" of this character. The effect is notorious in Canada and the States, where a divinity degree has come to have absolutely no value whatever except amongst the most illiterate, who are unable to discriminate between a "bogus" honor of this class and a true one. We have dozens of

Bachelors and Doctors of Divinity in Canada who *hardly know what is meant by theology or sound learning.* One man got his D.D. for preaching a sermon in the States which he borrowed from an English divine, another paid \$15 to an American College for the honor, another secured it from the States as a compliment to his congregation, another as a mark of sympathy with an agitation he is carrying on, which his helpful to the sect from whom he got his degree, another as a solace for his old age, another "sports" it as one may wear a flower in his button hole, without leave or license. We are glad to say that only one of these instances is that of a Church clergyman, but he is the one most anxious to have power to confer degrees upon others! These are cases known to us, and in not one of them is the wearer of this high divinity degree worthy of the distinction, *if scholarship constitutes worth, that is, if the metal is intrinsically what the stamp declares it to be.* In all these cases the stamp has been put upon inferior metal. Now, the multiplication of divinity degrees is certain to still further lower their value. Soon, indeed, the higher distinction will be to remain without these imposing titles. Indeed, now, several divines in Canada, who stand head and shoulders in theological learning above others, are content to wear their Arts degree only. A contemporary during the discussion of the Baptist University Bill alluded to the proposed institution as a "Tin Pot University." The title does not err in excess of elegance or politeness, but it very pithily voices the judgment of the educated classes. Those who are pining for the power of conferring degrees they themselves could not earn by any honest examination, will find that they are conferring titles that will only incur ridicule. We shall have the singular combinations of T.P.D.D., T.P.B.D., coming into general use when these degrees are signified. We know one divine who dropped his title after a terrible cross examination in regard to it in a court of law, where counsel used his divinity degree to bring upon him the contempt of the jury. We knew another who, in Toronto, was covered with confusion by a layman producing a Greek Testament, and requesting his interpretation of a passage—the poor man, a B.D., had never seen the work before! Those, then, who are so anxious of conferring divinity degrees would be wise if they reflected long until they realized all the depth of meaning in "the guinea stamp" couplet of Burns.

A writer in the *Mail* of 7th May, who signs "CYPRIAN," says: "The institutions seeking this power are not remarkable for having among their guiding spirits any men remarkable for scholarship, even fourth rate, while it is notorious that in the sphere of Divinity, there is an absolute blank." This charge of incompetence can only be answered by irrelevant remarks as to the services of these institutions to the cause of party. Instead of D.D. we suggest P.C., "Party Champion," as a degree. That stamp would at least be true.

IN our first on the Q Montgomery, him in foresha "a reign of been. The e declared that between past commencement gressive in i onward to t human race." picture of the mundane glo hold her stati and happiness happiness an and partake c will give a ch breathe the pride of ser insight of t pleased to f toria's life t four immedi expected from civilisation, defence of al plying, and e It is notewo tion feast for a present of asked the do the author o we possess, ever lived, concert wit Queen Vict or we could of moral, co in England ward under like the q sterility to after her ac "Hear the The sound his bold w have ever hear the Ch to listen Britain bey of the Chu a bishopric to princip Church an well env, dated from Bull, the many a pic cal display the Church Reformati her brave impertine age, we h