

The *Montreal Witness* is offended, because of our giving insertion to a letter from a Unitarian Protestant. We stated our reasons for so doing; because it seemed that we had been unintentionally guilty of misrepresenting the Rev. Mr. Corder. We will be ever ready to render a similar act of justice to Protestants of any other denomination, who may have just cause to complain of any of our remarks. It is not to be expected, that we should make any invidious distinction as to what particular shade of Protestantism they may happen to belong; whether to the class called orthodox, who retain some slight smattering of Catholic dogmas, in spite of their rejection of Catholic authority—or to the class of the more consistent and more logical Protestants, who reject the Catholic dogma of the Trinity, because they have rejected the authority upon which the dogma depends. Catholics recognize in the domain of religion, but two descriptions of persons—those who are *in* the Church, and those who are *out* of it. To the latter, so long as they obstinately remain outside, it does not seem to us to be of any consequence, how far off they may happen to be.

THE MONTREAL HIBERNIAN BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of this Society was held at their Rooms, 1141 Market Square, on Monday evening, the 24th instant. The Report submitted was highly satisfactory, and exhibits a marked improvement in the Society's affairs over last year. Several new members have been admitted. Notwithstanding the heavy calls that have been made upon the funds of the Society during the past year, it was not found necessary to draw upon the principal fund.

The Officers elected to serve for the ensuing year are as follows, viz:—

President.....Mr. John. Mullin.
1st Vice ditto.....Mr. P. Larkin.
2nd Vice ditto.....Mr. John Cassidy, jr.
Treasurer.....Mr. Thos. O'Neill.
Assistant ditto.....Mr. Danl. Lanigan.
Secretary.....Mr. F. Campion.
Assistant ditto.....J. A. B. McGill.
Stewards.....Messrs. B. Devlin, L. Moore, Jas. Claffy, M. Kelly, D. Ryan, P. Maher, James Herbert, J. Brennan.

The position of the Society's funds at this date is as follows:—

Deposited with the Fabrique of Montreal,	£146 0 0
Interest on ditto to date	11 13 7
Balance in the hands of the Treasurer,	5 12 10
	£163 6 5

By Order,
L. MOORE, Secretary.

The Almoner of the Irish poor, begs gratefully to acknowledge the handsome sum of £29, from the Young Men's St. Patrick's Society, being the proceeds of a Charitable Source held by that Society.

Mr. D. O'Hara is fully authorized to collect for this establishment, and will call on our city subscribers in the course of next week.

We thankfully acknowledge the receipt of the following amounts:—Rev. Mr. Proulx, Oshawa, £2; Mr. J. Doyle, Aylmer, 12s. 6d.; Mr. Alex. Daly, Rawdon, 10s.

To the Editor of the True Witness and Catholic Chronicle.

DEAR SIR,—Though we generally allow a good deal of license to the tongues or pens of evangelical people, when treating of our religion, (called Popery or Romanism in their technical cant,) yet there are times when they carry their audacity so far, that Catholics must speak. Thus we can afford to laugh when they prate in their nasal slang about "the man of sin," and about "the debasing influence of Popery," and "the darkness which overshadoweth the land, and gross darkness the people," in those luckless countries where Popery prevails: we can enjoy the fun of seeing letters addressed to the blundering little premier of England by the editor of the *Montreal Witness*!—purporting the enlightenment of that long-headed statesman, on that vexing question, "the Jesuit Estates." Bless his dear heart! Lord John is in too great a hurry just now, concocting penal laws, to pay any attention to colonial letters, even though they be from the editor of the *Montreal Witness*! We can laugh when we hear one evangelical calling out a moral force brigade of ladies and gentlemen to rescue the nuns,—poor ladies! who are in prison without knowing it,—and another projecting the adjournment of their humbug meeting to the French Church, and another—one of their great guns—from whose pen "something good" was expected,—pretending to lecture on what never was, and never shall be, to wit, "the decline of Popery"—himself, poor man! one of the noxious weeds of whom the Church has had a good riddance. All these comical vagaries are very good in their way, but when any one carries his evangelical effrontery so far as to call the particular attention of Catholics to the religious ceremonies and observances of Rome, as caricatured and distorted by his "credible and trustworthy witness," then we must be allowed to say that he presumes too far on Catholic patience and forbearance.

Is the man "gane clean daft"—or does he really suppose that Catholics would take such authority on such a subject—does he not see that when he refers us to the so-called Roman correspondence of some ultra-evangelical journal—such as his own—and calls

upon us to receive whatever statements they may choose to fabricate concerning Rome and the Romans, he is precisely acting on the advice contained in the old saw, "Ask my brother am I a rogue?" Be it known once for all, to whom it may concern, that when Catholics want information concerning affairs in Rome, they look to other sources than evangelical newspapers, knowing full well that things in the Eternal City look woefully distorted when seen through evangelical spectacles, and are sure to come strangely caricatured from under evangelical pencils. As for the relics, and miraculous pictures and such like, we do not ask any of these people to believe in them—in fact, we would just as soon think of asking the blasphemous scolder of Ferney, or the infidel philosopher of Geneva, to believe in a miracle, or venerate a relic, had we lived in their day. Why then can they not leave us to believe, and to venerate, and to pray as we think proper? What a world of trouble it would save the editor of the *Montreal Witness*, (the man *rebat* labors to enlighten and instruct the collective wisdom of the nation—by sending them his paper—not gratis,) and all the rest of the small fry floating around the conventicle, if they could only make up their minds to mind their own affairs, and leave us to do the same. They admit, when caught in a lucid interval—that papists—pslaw! such an antiquated word!—I mean Romanists—well! they admit that Romanists *may* and *do* sometimes go to heaven—why, then, can they not leave them to go on in the old way in which their fathers have trod for countless generations? We Irish have an old song, wherein is found a very grave admonition:—

"Barney, let the girls alone—can't you let them be?"

Which I would beg to parody in this wise:—

"Now, Johnny, cease your fanning—do—and let the papists be!"

They are getting up a new dodge now, it seems, affecting to compliment us on the alleged impossibility of our believing in what they call "these nummies;" it would be a work of supererogation to explain to them that the Catholic takes pride in submitting his reason to "the obedience of faith," and that we alone are the children of faith. Catholics are thankful that they sit not in the chair of the scolder, but believe all things whatsoever they are commanded. As for their impudent assertion that "ignorance is the stronghold of Popery," its absurdity is so evident, that it were a mere waste of words to attempt disproving it. Yet the calumny, senseless as it is, has still power to make the blood boil, and the heart throb, when we think, even for a moment, of all that Catholic genius, and Catholic learning, and Catholic science, and Catholic zeal have done for the enlightenment of the nations, and the adornment of our beautiful world.

When we look at the colleges and schools, founded by Catholic piety, during "the ages of faith," and now usurped by the grasping injustice of mushroom sects—when we behold the world-admired structures by Catholics planned and by Catholics built in the same *dark ages*—structures which shall endure throughout all time—when we look at the immortal works of our Catholic painters and Catholic sculptors—of our Angelos, our Raphaels, our Guidos, our Rosas, our Titians and our Canovas—when memory glances over the long line of poets and historians, philosophers, statesmen and divines, who have in every age and in every country nestled in the bosom of our Church, and sat at her feet as humble children listening lovingly to her teachings, and then to hear some evangelical canter of these days—whose name is, in all probability, as though it were not—whose highest claim to distinction is his hatred of Christ's Church—to hear him talk so flippantly of papist ignorance, it would really be provoking, were it not so ridiculous.

Have you seen the Missionary Record yet? I hope you are going to pay your respects to the colporteurs? Your old friend, André Solandt—he whom you hunted into the *lie direct*—is working away as busy as ever in the Eastern Townships—happy locality, where such an *ingenious personage* doth sojourn. You will see the usual announcements that certain persons "have very serious impressions," and others are "exceedingly interesting," and others still are "in a hopeful frame of mind," (fudge!) with the additional *morceau* by D. Amaron, of an Irishman who belabored said D. Amaron with his fists—here I am sure many of your Irish readers will exclaim, "more power to his elbow, whoever he was!" But softly, brethren, softly, very probably this adventure with the Irishman may be a pure fiction, like that of the Rev. Mr. Faucher, who "gave the sacrament to all who would receive it," according to André Solandt.—I am, Mr. Editor,

Yours truly,

AN IRISH CATHOLIC.

Montreal, Feb. 25, 1851.

P. S. One of the evangelical correspondents in his remarks about Lady Morgan's controversy with his Eminence of Westminster, sets down her ladyship as a Catholic, though I am sorry to say she is no more a Catholic than himself. Yet it is better she should be an avowed Protestant than what is called "a liberal Catholic," an animal for whom we are accustomed to entertain the most profound contempt. Ireland is proud of Lady Morgan, but it would be prouder still were she a Catholic, which, unfortunately for herself, she is not.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

COMMENCEMENT OF THE SESSION.

On Tuesday, Feb. 4th, the Queen opened the fourth session of Parliament. The weather being fine, many thousands assembled along the line of route to give her Majesty a right loyal reception. At certain places, the cry of "No popery" became almost a roar. The House of Lords presented the usual picturesque appearance, nearly a thousand feminine legislators, the peeresses of England, assembled, and the solemnity of the scene was only broken by the

"faithful Commons," who rushed into the house in the manner of disorderly schoolboys. The Royal speech was as follows:—

"MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

"It is with great satisfaction that I again meet my Parliament, and resort to your advice and assistance in the consideration of measures which affect the welfare of our country.

"I continue to maintain the relations of peace and amity with Foreign Powers. It has been my endeavor to induce the States of Germany to carry into full effect the provisions of the treaty with Denmark, which was concluded at Berlin in the month of July of last year. I am much gratified in being able to inform you that the German Confederation and the Government of Denmark are now engaged in fulfilling the stipulations of that treaty, and thereby putting an end to hostilities which at one time appeared full of danger to the peace of Europe.

"I trust that the affairs of Germany may be arranged by mutual agreement in such a manner as to preserve the strength of the Confederation, and to maintain the freedom of its separate States.

"I have concluded with the King of Sardinia articles additional to the treaty of September 1841, and I have directed that those articles shall be laid before you.

"The Government of Brazil has taken new, and, I hope, efficient, measures for the suppression of the atrocious traffic in slaves.

"GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS,

"I have directed the estimates of the year to be prepared and laid before you without delay. They have been framed with a due regard to economy and to the necessities of the public service.

"MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

"Notwithstanding the large reductions of taxation which have been effected in late years, the receipts of the revenue have been satisfactory.

"The state of the commerce and manufactures of the United Kingdom has been such as to afford general employment to the laboring classes.

"I have to lament, however, the difficulties which are still felt by that important body among my people who are owners and occupiers of land.

"But it is my confident hope that the prosperous condition of other classes of my subjects will have a favorable effect in diminishing those difficulties, and promoting the interest of agriculture.

The recent assumption of certain ecclesiastical titles conferred by a Foreign Power has excited strong feelings in this country, and large bodies of my subjects have presented addresses to me, expressing attachment to the Throne, and praying that such assumptions should be resisted. I have assured them of my resolution to maintain the rights of my Crown, and the independence of the Nation, against all encroachment, from whatever quarter it may proceed. I have at the same time expressed my earnest desire and firm determination, under God's blessing, to maintain unimpaired the religious liberty which is so justly prized by the people of this country.

"It will be for you to consider the measure which will be laid before you on this subject.

"The administration of justice in the several departments of Law and Equity will, no doubt, receive the serious attention of Parliament; and I feel confident that the measures which may be submitted to you with a view of improving that administration, will be discussed with that mature deliberation which important changes in the highest Courts of Judicature in the Kingdom imperatively demand.

"A measure will be laid before you providing for the establishment of a system of registration of deeds and instruments relating to the transfer of property. This measure is the result of inquiries which I have caused to be made into the practicability of adopting a system of registration calculated to give security to titles, to diminish the causes of litigation to which they have hitherto been liable, and to reduce the cost of transfers.

"To combine the progress of improvement with the stability of our institutions will, I am confident, be your constant care. We may esteem ourselves fortunate that we can pursue without disturbance the course of calm and peaceable amelioration; and we have every cause to be thankful to Almighty God for the measure of tranquillity and happiness which has been vouchsafed to us.

One account tells us that there was "a slight sensation of disappointment" at the paragraph relative to the Papal aggression, and "there were some who, drinking in every tone of his Majesty's voice at this instant, thought she was conscious of this disappointment, and sympathized with it."

HOUSE OF LORDS.—FEB. 4.

THE DEBATE ON THE ADDRESS.

The House resumed at five o'clock; the bench of Bishops was "quite crowded."

The address was moved in the House of Lords by Lord Effingham, and seconded by Lord Cremorne. The address, which, as usual, was but an echo of the speech, was agreed to unanimously.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—FEB. 4.

Between two and three hundred members of the House of Commons were present on Tuesday.

In the Commons the address to the Speech from the throne was moved by the Marquis of Kildare, and seconded by Mr. Peto.

We can only notice some remarks of Mr. Roebuck. The hon. member said he rose to address the house with more pain than he ever experienced. The hon. member plunged at once into the Papal question. Canning had said that the dissenters, when free, would be the bitterest opponents of freedom to Catholics, and Mr. Peto was an apt illustration of the remark. He could not help thinking, that the noble lord at the head of the Government "hoped to attain political capital" by his enthusiasm for this "Aggression," began years ago, and had been sanctioned by the noble-lord himself. There had long been a Bishop of Siga, who was, in reality Bishop of Bath, and it was rather a retrogression on the part of the Pope, for he had divested himself of power.

"Oh, but he would be told, there were men who were to be called Archbishops of Westminster, and Bishop Bains would for example, no longer be called Bishop of Siga, or a bishop *in partibus infidelium*, but be called by an English title. So that all this question of aggression turned upon the fact that Dr. Wiseman was to be termed Archbishop of Westminster instead of Melipotamus—(hear, hear). Now, what was the real meaning of this word 'aggression'? He had read much on the subject, and he had glanced his eye over columns and columns of rubbish talking—(hear, hear). But it was one of the glorious privileges of

that House that as a member of it he could say what he felt, and what he was saying now without being exposed to—(the close of the sentence was lost in the cheers and laughter with which it was received). However humble an individual, let him but speak, having an anxiety to do so, with reason, and that House would hear him; and so confident was he in the simple statement of the truth made there, that he was satisfied his countrymen would yet be ashamed both of the combustion and the persons who had stirred it up—(hear). What, then, was the meaning of this word 'aggression'? He asked the noble lord where was the aggression on the Royal prerogative, merely because Dr. Wiseman called himself a cardinal—dressed himself in a large hat—put on a pair of redstockings, and, in addition, styled himself 'Archbishop of Westminster'? Why, one could not state the case without making it ludicrous. Then, as to loyalty to the Sovereign, was he less loyal than others because he laughed at this matter—(hear, hear)? Did any one believe that the Catholics of England, among the most peaceful, the most submissive—he would say, too, humble—of all the classes of her Majesty's subjects, were to be accused of making inroads on her Majesty's prerogative, because Dr. Wiseman had been made a cardinal and an Archbishop of Westminster?" (hear).

After quoting Lord John Russell's formerly expressed sentiments, to the effect that we could not and ought not to try to fetter the spiritual authority of the Pope, Mr. Roebuck demanded to know, how and when his lordship had found out the rottenness of all his old opinions? The Catholics had been led to understand that what had recently been done might be done by them without offence—instancing the universal official recognition of the territorial titles of the Irish Catholic hierarchy. After comparing the Wesleyan with the Catholic "parcelling out" of England, the hon. gentleman concluded by declaring that the recent agitation was a disgraceful revival of the ancient Puritanic bigotry of the country. "The noble lord was forgetting his past history, and was thinking only of a fleeting popularity. He was lending the sanction of a great name to cover a great vice"—(hear).

Mr. Hayter announced upon the part of Government, that on Friday Lord John Russell would introduce a Bill "to prevent the assumption of certain ecclesiastical titles in respect to places in the United Kingdom;" and that on Friday, the 14th, the Chancellor of the Exchequer would bring on the Budget.

THE VICEROYALTY OF IRELAND.—In answer to a question from Mr. Reynolds, Lord J. Russell announced that he purposed the introduction of a Bill this session for the abolition of the Lord-Lieutenancy of Ireland; Mr. Reynolds on the day in question will move for a call of the House.

CANADA NEWS.

FIRE.—At about eleven o'clock last night, a fire broke out in a large two story stone house, in St. Roch's, and immediately in rear of St. Peter Chapel. The building which was unoccupied, being only just completed, was entirely destroyed. The engines, with the exception of one, were of very little service, owing to the usual security of water. The gale carried the burning flakes to a considerable distance over that part of the suburb, but the snow prevented their doing any damage.—*Quebec Mercury*.

The *Colonist* of Tuesday last mentioned as a piece of "intelligence communicated by the *Mirror*, that Mr. Matthew Ryan is to get the other vacancy in the Montreal Custom-House." Our cotemporary is for once entirely astray; we have made no such statement; neither have we mentioned Mr. Ryan's name in connection with the recent changes. We may state now, however, that he is not a candidate for the office in question, nor is there the least likelihood of its being offered to him.—*Toronto Mirror*.

Rumor has it, and we believe truly, that the Hon. Mr. Killaly joins the Department of Public Works as Assistant Commissioner and Engineer,—duties for which he is eminently fitted; that Mr. Duncombe goes to Quebec as Collector, salary £600—another proper appointment; and that R. S. M. Bouchette, Esq., succeeds Mr. Duncombe as Surveyor of Customs, salary £500.—*Ibid*.

MONTREAL MARKET PRICES.

CORRECTED BY THE CLERK OF THE BONSECOURS MARKET.
Thursday, Feb. 27, 1851.

		s.	d.	s.	d.
Wheat,	- - - per minot	4	6	a	4 9
Oats,	- - - - -	1	8	a	1 9
Barley,	- - - - -	2	6	a	3 0
Peas,	- - - - -	3	0	a	3 4
Buckwheat,	- - - - -	1	10½	a	2 1
Rye,	- - - - -	2	9	a	3 0
Potatoes,	- - - per bush.	1	8	a	2 0
Beans, American	- - - - -	4	0	a	4 6
Beans, Canadian	- - - - -	6	0	a	6 6
Honey,	- - - - -	0	4	a	0 5
Beef,	- - - - -	0	2	a	0 5
Mutton,	- - - per qr.	2	0	a	5 0
Lamb,	- - - - -	2	0	a	5 0
Veal,	- - - - -	2	0	a	10 0
Pork,	- - - per lb.	0	2½	a	0 4½
Butter, Fresh	- - - - -	0	10	a	1 0
Butter, Salt-	- - - - -	0	6	a	0 6½
Cheese,	- - - - -	0	4	a	0 6
Lard,	- - - - -	0	5	a	0 6
Maple Sugar,	- - - - -	0	4	a	0 5½
Eggs,	- - - per dozen	0	8	a	0 9
Apples,	- - - per barrel	5	0	a	12 6
Onions,	- - - - -	6	0	a	7 0
Flour,	- - - per quintal	11	0	a	11 3
Oatmeal,	- - - - -	7	6	a	9 0
Beef,	- - - per 100 lbs.	17	6	a	27 6
Pork, Fresh	- - - per 100 lbs.	22	6	a	27 6

YOUNG MEN'S ST. PATRICK'S ASSOCIATION.



A QUARTERLY MEETING of the above Association, will be held, on TUESDAY EVENING next, MARCH 4th, at Eight o'clock, precisely. Members are particularly requested to attend, as matters of importance, relative to the celebration of St. Patrick's Day, will be submitted for their consideration.

By Order,
DANL. CAREY, Secy.
Montreal, Feb. 27, 1851.