

considered in themselves to which was annexed the greatest consequence; on account of their figurative meaning, and the allusion they made to some mystery to be revealed, or some grace or spiritual favour to be imparted, under the dispensation of the Redeemer.

What immense consequences is not still attached to the short and simple ceremony of Baptism: and how much is made to depend upon a drop of water sprinkled on us, and a few words repeated over us at the time! The great graces communicated to us by means of this and the other sacraments, the validity of which depends on their administration by the right minister, and the scrupulous observance of their proper matter and form; shew us from what nothings, as it were, Almighty God is wont to bring forth the greatest and most stupendous goods: and convince us that every thing, however insignificant of itself, becomes of the highest importance, when enjoined by him.

THE CONSTITUTION OF ENGLAND

In its purity is, we fully believe, the best and wisest of any form of Government that ever was established.—In the original, nothing was left unprovided for; and as far as human institutions can reach perfection, the British Monarchy may be said to have arrived at the nearest point of the wished for good. Unfortunately the intentions and objects of founders have been too often frustrated and defeated, and, in fact, the Constitution itself has been suspended. But although, these things, accompanied, too, by circumstances of great aggravation, have occurred, we are not among those who are for pulling down the monarchy, and doing away with the aristocracy; we are, as we have ever been, and ever shall be, wholly, thoroughly, and positively attached to the three estates. The wisdom of the founders of the Constitution, under which it is our good fortune to live, has never been surpassed, perhaps never equalled—and although no mortal work ever suffered greater changes—although no human design of such grandeur and magnitude ever suffered wickeder perversion than the one we speak of—although, as Burdette (who was once styled the *guardian angel of English liberty*, but now a *withered drivelling*, anile apostate, living for the noble [?] purpose of giving the lie to all those bursts of fearless eloquence in favor of popular rights) said, “it has been crucified between two thieves; the Whigs on the one side, and the Tories on the other;” still it retains sufficient of its original worth to secure the respect and advocacy of every true British loyalist. The noble conduct of our beloved Queen argues with irresistible force in favor of monarchy. However, we maintain that a radical reform (we do not use the term radical in its offensive sense) of the representative system is very much needed. It would appear that the second charter of British liberty, the Reform Bill, has not achieved the professed object of its enactment, because, speaking by comparison, there is as much intriguing, corruption, political fraud, and bare-faced bribery as in the

palmy [days of old *Gatum* and *Sarum*, when *ditches!* and *stumps of trees!!!* were represented in the Imperial Parliament, while those flourishing manufacturing marts, Birmingham and Manchester, had no voice in the representation of the country. This was an evil of the deepest dye, but it was one which the Constitution did not sanction, although it was not only perpetuated but justified by corrupt & dishonest Statesmen, a frightful number of whom Britain has been cursed with, and by whose headlong political profligacy a national debt of *Eight Hundred Millions of Pounds Sterling* has been created, to pay the interest of which, generations yet unborn will be taxed. If the people had been fairly represented (for let it be remembered that from a corrupt representation every misfortune springs) that debt would not have been contracted. But, as there was no check, the most criminal waste of the public money was indulged in; and the people at home, and in the Colonies, are, at this very day, smarting under the effects. In the revolutionary wars of France the money and blood of the people were expended, and what was got in return? Most assuredly nothing like an equivalent. But, then, there was national debt, the price of that honor; and all that can be done now is to plead the former as a set-off against the latter.

How absurd to talk of the franchise of the bulwark of popular rights, when the gold of the *Carleton Club* is circulated among the electors in order to seduce them from their political virtue. It is somewhat difficult to decide which of the two is the more to be condemned—the bribers or the recipients of the bribe; but this we assert with the utmost confidence, & in defiance of contradiction, that by bribery and intimidation the freedom of election and the rights of the people have been unblushingly violated, and that men have found their way into the House of Commons who have no right whatever to be there, inasmuch that they do not represent the people, but the amount of the money it took to purchase their majority.

We perceive that Mr. Roebuck, the member of Bath, has brought the subject of bribery under the consideration of the House, and that a Committee has been appointed to inquire into the bribery practices of the venial and rotten boroughs of Sudbury, Southampton, Harwich, &c. These sink-holes of corruption should be disfranchised. They are past all cure, not having a single particle of soundness in them. It is a wise political maxim that wherever there is a corrupt representation of the people, there will be oppression and enormous and unjust taxation. Purify the representative branch of the constitution, and then health and vigor will be diffused throughout the whole system. The advice should not be considered beneath the notice of the people of New Brunswick.—*St. John Mirror.*

The *Catholico* of the 5th inst. states that 152 Spanish monks embarked on the 18th April, at Santander, in the Spanish frigate *Arispe*, for the Phillipine isles.—Thirty of those monks were Augustinians, and the remainder Dominicans. A multitude of persons assembled to witness their departure.

The recent detection of the forgeries committed by the Secretary of the Ocean Insurance Company in New York, adds another to the dark list of crimes of this description for which the United States have become unhappily notorious. In nearly all the examples of swindling with which the experience of the last ten or twelve years has made us acquainted, the criminals were men occupying a most respectable place in Society, of fine education, and in many instances connected with religious societies. If the Catholic citizens of the country could indulge in vindictive feelings, how effectually could they return with interest the scorn which has been so lavishly heaped on them by some of those who have since sunk into guilty obscurity. How fairly could they retort on those who, swollen with crime and ill-gotten riches, took part in every meeting in which the “Papist” was to be assailed, and who indulged in hypocritical fears for the stability of our republican Institutions from the emigration of the hard working Irish and Germans, whilst at the same time their own consciences were putrid with iniquity. The honor of the country, nevertheless, is of far more consequence than the complaints of any portion of its population for injuries received, and the Catholic is as fervent as any one in his prayer, that a change may come over the land to the restoration of its character once so illustrious. Whilst such great efforts are made for *conversion!* Catholics at home and abroad, it would well become the Sectarian if he would look for subjects to be regenerated by his preaching amongst his own people, not into Lanes and Alleys but in the high pleaces of the land and in princely dwellings.

☞ **SISTER SALLY THOMPSON** has recently given us a call. She wished to say through the *Palladium*, to her kind friends, that in company with her husband she has started on a preaching tour as far east as Maine. They will call on many of their old friends, and she will preach the word of life where opportunity presents, and duty demands.—*Christian Palladium.*

If Sister Sally should chance to meet St. Paul in her peregrinations, she ought to call him to account for some expressions in his first Epistle to the Corinthians. In the fourteenth Chapter, verse 34, he uses the following pointed language which will require a very free exercise of the Protestant rule of Faith, before, like many other texts submitted to a similar operation it can be softened down to nothing.

“Let woman keep silence in the churches: for it is not permitted to them to speak, but to be subject, as also the Law saith. But if they would learn any thing let them ask their husbands at home. *For it is a shame for a woman to speak in the church.*” *Catholic Herald.*

We cut the following from the *Republican* of Wednesday morning—we know not when any announcement has given us more satisfaction—Would that the censorship extended to our book-stores and the hawkers of immoral works in our market space and on Steamboats.

A **GOOD PROVISOR**.—We observe it stated in some of the papers that the new revenue

bill contains among others, the following very salutary section:—

That the importation of all obscene prints, paintings, lithographs, engravings and transparencies, is hereby prohibited; and no invoice or package whatever, or any part thereof, shall be admitted to entry in which any such articles are contained, and all invoices and packages, whereof any such articles shall compose a part, are hereby declared to be liable to be proceeded against, seized and forfeited by due course of law, and the articles shall be forth with destroyed.

DEPRECIATION.—From an official statement made before the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of the United States, in session at Philadelphia, it seems that the fund of the association has sustained a loss of about \$89,000 from the depreciation of the stock in which it has been invested.

St. Lawrence, the Deacon of Pope Sixtus, could have taught them an investment worth two of it.

FRANCE. *Miraculous Escape.* M. de B —, who was in the second train at the time the late accident, cannot account for his wonderful escape. All he knows is, that, on recovering his senses, he found himself in a vineyard some distance from the road. On his arrival at his own house he immediately prostrated himself before a crucifix. After a minute or two his mother overpowered with joy on finding him safe, and sound, raised him up, when he exclaimed with fervor, “O mother! it is only through a miracle that I now behold you again!” Saying this, he raised to his lips the miraculous medal which had been placed near his heart.—*Univers.*

When the priests, after the accident had occurred, were making their way towards the scene of the disaster, some one remarked to them, “It is useless for you to go; you will find none but the dead.” The reply was, “if there are dead, there are also some dying; and the priests arrived in time to administer spiritual consolation to many.

The priests were received in all directions with respect and gratitude. At the royal castle of Mendon, to which sixteen wounded persons, including four women, had been removed, the priests had the happiness of administering the consolation of religion to all of that number.

A young man, aged 24, who was horribly mutilated, returned thanks to God for having allowed him time for repentance, although he had so frequently withstood the suggestions of conscience of grace. He said to those around him, “I am in great pain, but I offer up my suffering to God and the Holy Virgin, I accept all I endure as a feeble atonement for the evil I have committed.” By his side there was an old man, aged 70, who had his legs and arms broken: when he perceived the priests approaching him, he cried out, “Ah how happy I am to see you here! I have always served God, and I need his assistance more than ever.” He also expressed his confidence in the Holy Virgin who had protected him, and he repeated frequently those words, *monstra te esse matrem.*