

that as she took leave of me, received me  
handing me gratitude she held out, and heard  
her faintly murmur, amid the grief which  
she had her utterance. "A thousand thanks,  
I thank you for your ceaseless attention to  
my poor, do it by."

Nine weeks afterward they carried to  
his long home the brood. The father—  
Catholic, the Major the Anglican;  
young, but, what had occurred his own,  
the struggle was found so strangely.  
My contention is, the struggle must have been  
short. A few seconds must have closed it.  
But, buried alive I and others firmly believe  
him to have been! And now, sir, you under-  
stand the fears which possess me? I  
dread that what I saw meted out to another  
may be measured to me again.

"I will see that it is not."  
"You promise me?"  
"I do."  
"You will take care that, until the cer-  
tainty of death is visible, interment shall be  
delayed?"

"I assented."  
"I am satisfied," was her reply.  
"But I am not; nor shall I, till you en-  
courage yourself to prayer and penitence."  
"To-night," said she carelessly.  
"No; to-day."

"You hurry me; and besides, religion  
was never much in my way," was her  
strange remark.

"But you have much to answer for."  
"Yes; but more has been laid to my  
charge than, rightly, I deserved."

"Must be paid with you;" and I sub-  
mitted to her, briefly, the penalties of  
meeting death in her then state of mind.

"Ha! ha! ha! So you are taking me  
on that tack, are you? Ho! ho! trying to  
alarms me, are? Others have attempted it  
before. But, why speak so disrespectfully  
of the Gentleman in Black? He's the  
best friend you clergymen have! ho! ho!  
"I remained with her about an hour  
longer. She died at midnight."

### The Confessional and the Romish Clergy.

BY FATHER ALEXANDER GAVAZZI.

LONDON, July 11th 1854.

In my lecture upon the Catholic auricular  
confession, I denigrated and stigmatized it, as  
directly immoral, and indirectly conducive to  
many sorts of abuses. Nothing in fact could be  
more dangerous than the practice according to  
which the Romish priests receive secretly and  
confidentially the confession of young women,  
in these small rooms which are usually close by  
the vestry room. But however just and mod-  
erate were my observations respecting this some-  
pernicious may have thought they were exagger-  
ated and calumnious, and that with or without  
reason, I was desirous to amuse and excite the  
Protestants against the Catholics. That is not  
true. For the purpose of this Holy Book, whose  
honorable peace-maker I am. I must here repeat,  
that I did not say or write anything in my lecture,  
that was not known by every one in Europe—  
even of children. But unfortunately to these  
facts there is almost no remedy, for now they  
have entered too deeply to the habits of the peo-  
ple. Yet I could never have thought that the  
General Fathers and popish directors of Amer-  
ica would have gone so far in their own con-  
fession to corroborate my views on this and  
other points. You recollect still the awful scandal  
of a young woman in a church in Canal street,  
and my joyful words. The curate committed  
to a poor girl who went and  
confessed to a priest but auricular confession  
is now of a child became pregnant, and since  
the curate was named by the infamy  
of the crime, to enforce my views on the  
matter, you have seen recently the crime com-

mitted by a Catholic clergyman of Gioiannoli,  
called Kröger. Not only a confessor, but the  
curate of the place, this miserable man attempt-  
ed the last outrage upon a young girl fourteen  
years of age, who was coming to him in order  
to be listened to in confession.

What do these facts mean? That confession  
is to-day what it has always been, and shall for-  
ever be, viz., an inexhaustible source of corrup-  
tion and immorality. Let the Protestants be-  
lieve as they will, the vices and offences against  
the morals are very rare among the evangelical  
clergy, while on the contrary, they are ex-  
tremely frequent among the popish priests.—  
And that cannot be otherwise, the former en-  
joy all the privileges of marriage, family and  
citizenship, while the latter are doomed to an  
eternal celibacy, and all the dangers that are  
inseparable from the confession; the consequence  
of which is almost without exception, immorality.  
And don't say that corruption is not more  
frequent with the Catholics than with the other  
denominations of Christianity, and that when a  
case of this kind happens to be known, it is her-  
alded all over the Union. No! That is not  
true, the crimes that fall under the punishment  
of the law, are not very frequent I grant it.—  
But the cases of private and intimate corruptions,  
are to be met everywhere in Catholic commu-  
nities. It seems that their doctrine does not ex-  
clude the general looseness of morals which pre-  
vails among them all.

Now, it would be easy to explain why the  
priests' immoral conduct is not more often the  
object of the punishment of the law. We would  
find this explanation in the extreme skillfulness  
with which they conceal all the consequences of  
their bad conduct—in the care they have of each  
other's reputation, and finally in the profound  
hypocrisy which distinguishes the Romish cler-  
gy. Those who are acquainted with the process  
that is adapted in Europe for the investigation  
of such offences, know very well that the docu-  
ments and testimonies which might compromise  
the priest, are skillfully destroyed or silenced;  
besides that, there are everywhere found Hag-  
hospitals, in which the fruits of shame and dis-  
honor may always disappear. Nothing is  
spared to conceal their criminal facts, not only  
from the eyes of authority, but also from those  
of the public. Threats, promises, money, po-  
sition, all means are used to prevent the victims  
of the priestly sin, and their parents from mak-  
ing any scandal. And where there is no other  
way of obtaining their silence, they go even so  
far as to menace the injured party, with refusing  
them the sacraments in this life, and salvation  
in the other. It is thus that nine times out of  
ten, everything is settled in secret; and thanks  
to their gold, influence, and power, every crime,  
every abuse stands within the reach of the cler-  
gy.

But from the few cases which are brought be-  
fore the courts, are we not grounded in logic, to  
admit that there are many more similar offences  
which remain unknown to the public eye? Is  
it not from the number of the dead on a battle-  
field, that we infer that of the wounded? Do  
we not know that there are usually seven or  
eight of the latter, for one of the former. Is it  
not just as consistent to admit that, behind the  
few crimes committed in the confessional, which  
are brought before the courts, there are still  
many more that remain for ever buried with the  
secrets of dishonored families? We must more-  
over admit that in many cases, the wrong which  
is inflicted at first, degenerates soon into a liaison  
between the confessor and his penitent. In  
many other cases, too, the criminal intercourse  
begins by mutual and free sympathy, and of  
course, in all these instances, the secret is kept  
by the interested parties.

Who can deny that such corruption is  
too often fed upon the numerous facilities that  
the infamous confessional gives. Who can  
doubt that the number of such offences is in-  
finitely greater than it can even be dreamed of  
by any honest Protestant? The day is not far  
off, when, even in America it will be acknowl-  
edged that confessions are not precisely the im-  
maculate abodes they are represented to be,—  
but rather brothels where mystical confessors  
often carry the corruptions of their secret de-  
baucheries.

### AWFUL CHOLERA RAVAGES AT SEA.

Asiatic cholera had broken out on board the  
Australian emigrant ship *Dirigo*, and the ship  
had put back to Liverpool, with some 50 deaths.  
A letter from Liverpool says:—

A child aged 9 months, died on board before  
the vessel left the Mersey; and some hours after-  
wards a girl from Southampton was taken sud-  
denly ill and died. This death was quickly  
followed by that of an infant, and on the third  
day the father of the girl from Southampton,  
died as suddenly as his slaughter. It now be-  
came evident to the medical officers by these  
dreadful visitations and by the general appear-  
ance of emigrants, that cholera had broken out  
all over the ship, and by their recommendation  
the master put into the port of Cork. At this  
time three young women lay dead on board, and  
18 passengers were in a state of confirmed cho-  
lera, while a great many were suffering from  
premonitory diarrhoea. There being no bulk at  
Cork to which the passengers could be removed,  
it was found necessary to engage a Liverpool  
steamer to tow the vessel back to Liverpool.  
For this purpose, the "*Minerva*" was employed,  
and she arrived in the Mersey on Monday. The  
"*Dirigo*" was anchored in the Slovee, and about  
300 passengers were removed to the emigration  
depot at Bishoptown. Of these several have  
since died.

Before the vessel reached Liverpool 41 deaths  
had occurred; while many of the passengers were  
suffering severely from premonitory symptoms.  
On Sunday evening 19 bodies were thrown over-  
board, and after the arrival of the vessel on Mon-  
day night, seven bodies were carried ashore in  
coffins.

Among other steps adopted in this emergen-  
cy was the erection of an iron hospital on the  
Cheshire side of the river, near the emigrant de-  
pot, in which to place the removable sick.  
For this purpose sheets of corrugated iron had  
been used.

When the *Dirigo* took her departure, she had  
620 emigrants, including children, on board.  
Forty-one of these had died before she had re-  
entered the Mersey, five others died on Monday,  
and five on Tuesday, making in all 51 deaths.  
The cholera is described as now being of the severest  
description; the victims being attacked  
with collapse, without the premonitory symp-  
toms, and dying almost immediately.

The ship was in excellent condition when she  
left the Mersey, and all the passengers seemed  
full of health and spirits.

At the time we write (Wednesday), there are  
14 sick cases "reported dangerous on board."

A FAIR FUGITIVE SLAVE.—The editor of the  
"Vermont Tribune" gives a thrilling account of  
a fugitive slave who has just been passed through  
Vermont to Canada. He says; She is 20 years  
of age, tall well-formed and of far more than or-  
dinary intelligence, able to read fluently, a mem-  
ber of the Methodist Church and the daughter  
of her master! yes she was running away from  
her own father, Rufus Gilchrist, of Boston, Md.,  
because he had sold her to a South Carolinian  
for \$1,100. This ruffian had sold his own flesh  
and blood for so much cash, and but for his  
daughter's shrewdness and heroism would have  
now been fingering the price of blood. Quar-  
lote, the fugitive, ran away, lay secreted in the  
woods eighteen days, found a friend in Hall-  
more, who sent her to Quaker in Philadelphia  
by railroad for a mode we dare not tell. It  
should involve him in trouble. Her long ex-  
posure and dreadful journey to Philadelphia  
brought on a fever, from the effects of which she  
had not recovered when here at St. Albans.  
From Philadelphia to Boston by Sea, thence to  
Halifax, and then to avoid some bloodhounds  
Southerners who were on her track, she turned  
her steps this way, avoiding her pursuers with  
consummate address, and finding excellent  
friends all the way, good accommodations on  
the U. R. R.; with the money given her here she  
went on her hurried way to the only land where  
she could breathe free. God protect and guide  
her.

The *Globe* publishes a list of fourteen Govern-  
ment candidates who have been routed at the  
polls in Upper Canada.