

THE
CHRISTIAN BANNER.

"If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God."
"This is love; that we walk after his commandments."

VOL. IX.

COBOURG & BRIGHTON, MARCH, 1855.

NO. 3.

NEW ARTICLE OF FAITH IN THE ROMISH CHURCH.

The year 1854 will be celebrated in all time to come by devout Catholics as marking the period when a new item of belief was added to their canonical theology. For years a discussion has been waxing among the Romish Doctors in reference to the question whether Mary the mother of Jesus, styled by them "the Mother of God," was conceived and born without sin. Many a learned Bishop and Cardinal had tried his powers on this question. The increasing and exciting debate among these eminent adherents of His Honness was likely to agitate too rudely the whole Catholic world, and to save disaster and to gain new applause, the chief dignitaries of the Romish hierarchy gave their voice, together with the reigning Pius for a special Council, in order to set at rest this solemn question. This Council was held in December last in Rome. The Cardinals, Bishops, and Pröxies then and there assembled, decided upon the IMMACULATE CONCEPTION of Mary, only three or four dissenting from the general voice of the Council.

The question being thus authoritatively settled, all Catholics from Rome to the circumference of Romanism are straightway commanded to receive and pay homage to the new dogma. The announcement and acknowledgement of this article of faith in Toronto created a measure of curiosity among Protestants, and the following letter written for the *Globe* is, we judge, worthy of a place on our pages, which sets the doings of the great day vividly before us:— D. O.

"A notice in the *CITIZEN* induced me to visit the Roman Catholic Cathedral last Sabbath morning to witness the announcement of the new dogma of the Papal faith, the immaculate conception of the Virgin Mary. Presuming that few of your readers have ever witnessed