

THE CHURCH VICTORIOUS.

THE attempt to give University powers to any College however small, and however in capable of training students up to a standard worthy of a degree, which was made part of the Toronto University Bill in the Ontario Legislature, has been defeated. The measure by which this insidious attack upon the rights and privilege of the Church of England was made, was introduced without the slightest intimation that so subtle a clause would be introduced. The Act was brought in in the closing days of the Session. It was expected, indeed, that it would be rushed through the third or fourth day after being first read, so that it might, it was hoped, escape a careful perusal by those whose authority was sought to be undermined and set at naught. Should, however, the danger be discovered, it was confidently anticipated that before any effective opposition could be organised the measure would have received its final reading. These hopes had been broken by the prompt energy of the Bishop of Toronto, and by the co-operation with him of those Bishops whose dioceses are in the Province of Ontario. Up to the last night of the session the government stood firm in setting the Church of England as represented by the Bishops at defiance. But with an energy and determination worthy their office, the Bishops went down to the assembly to demand a hearing at the Bar of the House. This step, so far alarmed the government that they held a sudden consultation, and gave their Lordships a private hearing while the members waited for the result. The result was, "the great Church victorious."

The clause giving every and any private divinity school affiliated with Toronto University the power to confer "Divinity Degrees," was struck out. We do not withdraw an article below on this subject, because it is desirable that the matter should be thoroughly understood. We have no desire to raise any sectional cry over this victory, because there is not the shadow of a shade of sectionalism in it. Where the Bishops of Huron and Algoma carry the flag of victory, there surely the evangelical cause must have triumphed. We cannot, however, forbear expressing our condolence with the leader over whom Dr. Baldwin and Dr. Sullivan have triumphed, because for some months past he and his standard bearers have been preparing for what he thought a certain victory. To help in securing this end the Protestant flag was hauled down, to this end the Ross Bible was elevated above the Word of God, to this end, a malefactor was defended, to this end the votes and influence of the Roman Catholics were courted. The bitterness of this defeat is a very restricted personal one.

We trust now that the Bishops have learnt the power of united action, that they will continue to stand in the strength of unity. The great Church "victorious" would be here the Church "at rest," if a few agitators could be taught continuously the lesson which they have learnt in the defeat of their attack upon Church authority and the cause of higher education. Divinity degrees of all others should be beyond the range of charlatanism and charlatans, of any party or sect.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

A quantity of Correspondence and Diocesan News unavoidably left over for want of space.

THE HOME RULER OF ONTARIO.

JUDGING by the old saying, that the gods first make lunatics of those they intend to destroy, the Archbishop of Toronto is approaching his "manifest destiny." Since the victory he achieved at the polls in the Ontario elections, which made Dr. Lynch the home ruler of Ontario, his arrogance, his insolent disloyalty to the Empire, his rebellious contempt for the free institutions of Canada, his violence of hatred towards English rule, have flared out in language, which, if used in European lands, would have brought this truculent Archbishop under some form of legal coercion. A few weeks ago Dr. Lynch published a letter addressed to Lord Randolph Churchill in the Fenian organ of the United States. The medium was the last in the world likely to meet Lord Randolph's eye, but the letter was clearly an appeal to the base passions of the Fenians of America. We have heard words of intense indignation expressed by prominent Canadians, not politicians, at this letter, and a New York financier writes to us that it is regarded by thoughtful men in the States as calculated to incite private outrages upon British subjects there, and organized raids upon Canadian soil. A contemporary says of this incendiary epistle:

"What the ordinary Englishman who reads his Grace's letter will especially take note of is the very evident insinuation, we had almost said threat, that if England refuses to grant Home Rule to Ireland, there are in England's colonies a sufficient number of Irish to revenge themselves for such refusal. In other words, Archbishop Lynch reminds the ex-Chancellor, that in dealing with the question of granting the right of self-government to the Irish, the British Empire must take into serious consideration the probability of Canada being attacked by the American-Irish of the United States; and what is more, that in Archbishop Lynch's opinion it would be far safer for the British Empire to give in to these American-Irish and allow the severance of the Union, than to run the risk of such attack. What meaning other than this can be attached to the following sentences:—*'Better are good neighbours near than blood relations at a distance. Should any misunderstanding happen between England and the United States, Canada would in a few days, be overrun by American troops. It would cost that Republic very little, as the Irish-American military organisations would supply very largely both men and money.'* Furthermore, there is a clearly implied, though unexpressed idea, that in 'overrunning Canada' these 'Irish-American military organisations' would be doing God's service. If these are not his Grace's sentiments, what does he mean when he says, *'We must not forget how the great Roman Empire fell. England is not beyond the reach of eternal justice.'* Is not deserved retribution by human instruments ('Irish-American military organisations,' namely) implied by these words?

"If so, if this is really what Archbishop Lynch intends to convey, then we can only ask, Does his Grace fully comprehend the character of the course to which he has committed himself? That course is plain; It is simply the significance of his approval of the open exhibition of American-Irish hatred of Great Britain. The public expression of such approval by a man of his Grace's position and influence is a most

serious matter. It is nothing more nor less than the incitement by the head of the Roman Catholic Church in Ontario of the American-Irish against England. And England, be it remembered, is the land to which the colony in which Archbishop Lynch holds so exalted a post is united by most sacred ties, the ties of kinship, dependence, and loyalty."

Should the blood of Canadian citizens again be shed in defending our homes from the Fenian assassins, we shall know from whom came the instigation and encouragement that led to the criminal attack on our peace. Perhaps after such a catastrophe as the language of Archbishop Lynch naturally leads to, we Canadians of Ontario would then have our manliness roused sufficiently to take the home rule of this Province into our own hands.

Another outburst of violence from this victim of the gods occurred at the meeting held in Toronto on the 18th April. The meeting was called to protest against any interference with murderers, women persecutors, and those other enemies of civilisation, who are convincing the world that Home Rule in Ireland must be by the strong arm of a government and not by a gang of criminal conspirators. At that meeting a letter from Dr. Lynch was read, in which the writer says:

"I beg to plead a merciful consideration at your meeting for the representative in this country of Her Majesty the Queen of England, solely on account of the sovereign authority which he represents."

The appointment of this statesman was very unfortunate, for free and virtuous Canada had a right to expect a representative whose character and whose ancestry would not bring disgrace on her. The book of Sir Charles Russell, ex-Attorney-General, who examined the relations between landlord and tenant on the Lansdowne estates has been published to the world, and reveals an appalling state of injustice and tyranny for generations. You are, of course, at liberty to expose the abomination of agents, and your charity will, I fear, be strained to its utmost limits in an effort to disassociate their claims from those of their employers."

Some years ago an attack upon Bismarck's life was made by a would-be assassin, who admitted that he was incited to the crime by reading language of the character used by Dr. Lynch of Lord Lansdowne. As one reads the canting words, "I plead for a merciful consideration for the representative of Her Majesty the Queen," the advice is recalled, "Now pray, do not duck him in the horse pond." If the citizens of Toronto have any respect for themselves, their country and Queen, they will show the Governor-General that in their estimation his assailant and the suggester of an assault upon him, is a moral outlaw.

DIVINITY DEGREES.

A VERY astonishing proposal has been introduced into the Bill for reinstituting the University of Toronto. It is proposed to give to Theological Colleges the power to confer degrees in divinity, and this without consulting the religious bodies who are concerned in this granting of degrees.