

CURRENT EVENTS.

NATURE itself appears to have caught the revolutionary spirit of the times ; and even the long-established character of our old Canadian winter has not been able to resist the changeful tendencies of the age. We have seen the boy scarcely in his teens aping the habits of manhood, and the man written all over with the characters of age absurdly affecting the peculiarities of youth ; and, for the nonce, we have seen January and February exhibiting all the peculiarities of March, and March showing all the qualities which usually belong to the sterner season of the year. The winter months have been exceptionally mild ; perhaps it is this fact which makes March appear exceptionally severe. Our winter this year is said to have resembled very closely the English winter ; but the observation can only be true of the former part of it, for though we were ploughing in January, we were not, like our English neighbours, sowing in February. Indeed, if our husbandmen find a fair opportunity for casting in the seed in April they will be abundantly satisfied. We used to have a theory, that just about so much heat and cold came every season, and that if it did not occur at one time it was pretty sure to come at another ; we are glad, however, that, like many other ill-founded prejudices, this theory has been upset by the registered observations of scientific men. If we had the prospect of enough cold weather during the spring months to bring down the mean temperature of the present season to that of last year, the prospect would be gloomy enough. It may be, however, that the equation of temperament which we ignorantly attributed to the single year, belongs in reality to a cycle of years ; if so, the exceptional mildness of the winter just closed may be put over against the exceptional severity of that of last year. We have no theory, however, to propound ; but we thankfully accept the fact that the suffering of the poor, such large numbers of whom have been without employment, has been so materially lessened by the mildness of the winter ; and we have confidence enough in the merciful God that rules the seasons—"who maketh the clouds His chariot, and walketh upon the wings of the wind"—that even the frosts and winds of March will prove to have been, in His hand, the instruments of blessing.

The past month has been specially barren of events of extraordinary interest, so far as the Churches are concerned. In the religious communities of this country there is peace, and so far as this may be taken as an indication of prosperity, they may be prosperous ; but there is no remarkable movement in any of them that can be taken as an indication of unusual vitality and energy. There is much everywhere to be thankful for—growing intelligence and liberality are specially prominent as characteristics of the Christianity which is prevalent among us ; but a grand revival of primitive spirituality, and zeal for the glory of God in the salvation of souls, is still the great *desideratum* of the Church here as well as elsewhere.

The work under the ministry of the Rev. Mr. Chiniquy appears to be still progressing. The reformatory influence seems to be spreading, and Romanists, in large and increasing numbers, are embracing the Protestant