

CATHOLICS OF SCOTLAND.

BY THE REV. ENNAS M'DONELL DAWSON, LL. D., F. R. S.

PART II.

Bishop Challoner, not unmindful of the application that had been made to him, kindly interested himself in the cause of the Uist Catholics. He desired to see the memorial that had been drawn up, fully stating their case, highly approved of it, had it printed at his own expense, and presented to the English Catholics, as well as to his own more particular friends. All sympathised with the persecuted people of the North. Collections were made at the chapels of the Catholic ambassadors in London, and a considerable sum of money thus raised, which facilitated the scheme of emigration. Hearing of this generosity, Bishop Grant wrote in reply to Bishop Hay, December 16th, 1771: "I am charmed with Bishop Challoner's amiable behaviour. I pray God to reward him for all his charity. You'll readily write to him about the beginning of the new year. I beg compliments to him in the most respectful and affectionate manner." Bishop Hay also requested the Abate Grant of Rome to have a letter of thanks addressed to Bishop Challoner for his great zeal in the Uist affair. Glensisdale had purchased a large estate in St. John's (Prince Edward's) Island, to which he proposed to remove a numerous colony of Highland Catholics. In furtherance of his plan he visited the Island of Uist along with Bishop John MacDonald. Matters were not so satisfactory there as he expected. Some of the families were so poor as not to be able to contribute as much as was hoped for toward the expenses of emigration. Glensisdale was not to be baffled. He repaired to Edinburgh, and there, representing the state of things, he obtained £500 of the memorial money, the whole sum required being £1500. He was now enabled to proceed; and 210 emigrants sailed in the ship he had got ready for St. John's Island, 100 from Uist, the rest from the mainland. They were accompanied by the Reverend James Macdonald, a missionary priest, who held faculties from Rome until he should have them renewed by the Bishop of Quebec. Clan Donald now intervened, and insisted that his cousin, Boisdale, should exercise religious toleration to the people who remained. The Abate Grant showed translation of the memorial to the Holy Father, who brought it under the notice of the young Duke of Gloucester, at the time resident in Rome, with a view to secure his interference in behalf of the persecuted Highlanders, and to obtain for them liberty of conscience. The Prince generously promised to use his most vigorous endeavors to put a stop to Boisdale's cruelty. The Pope also charged the Nuncio at Paris to call the attention of the British Ambassador to the same subject.

It was now manifest to all Highland landlords, and by proofs to which even Boisdale could not shut his eyes, that the Catholics had powerful friends at a distance, and that it would not be quite safe to drive them to extremities by harsh and persecuting measures. Rev. Alex. MacDonald, the Priest of Barra, bears witness, in a letter to Bishop Hay, which is well worth quoting, how completely religious persecution was put an end to in the Highlands, by means of the proceedings above related. To Bishop Hay, September 25th, 1774. "Since our late terror and persecution, Boisdale is quite reformed, and is himself, to all appearance, the person who repents the most for his former doings. He grants his people a most unlimited toleration in religious teachers, welcomes our clergy always to his family, uses them with the utmost civility and with the deference they are entitled to. His conduct is now so times so great, that we are allowed to perform some of our functions within the precincts of his palace; for, to be serious, he has built such a genteel house as I never expected to see in the Long Island (Uist). This grand truth that God oftentimes permits evil in order to draw good from it, is in a glorious manner verified with regard to Boisdale's former unaccountable conduct; for, his anti-Christian attempts proving unsuccessful, notwithstanding his avarice, interest and riches, has effectually terrified others, actuated by the like unscrupulous principles, from ever attempting the like undertaking. Protestants in general live now in good harmony with us, and upon better terms than heretofore. They no longer look upon us as a set of execrable wretches, destitute of friends and the abomination of King and Government; so that a consequence of Boisdale's foolish attempt, had in the end, proved salutary and beneficial to religion, and are likely to continue to do so."

The emigrants arrived safely at St. John's after a fine passage of seven weeks. It was not long until they began to prosper in their new home. Bishop Hay, writing to Mr. Geddes, says: "The Uist people are doing fast on and living already much better than at home." Such accounts were encouraging, and were followed, in 1773, by a numerous emigration from Glengarry. The emigrants were 300 in number, and almost all Catholics, including the greater part of the country gentlemen. The noble-minded Glensisdale sold his estate in Scotland and went to share the fortunes of his fellow countrymen whom he had so generously and successfully assisted in their emigration to St. John's Island. His departure from Scotland was much regretted by Bishop Hay and his other friends. "He is sacrificing," said the Bishop, "fortune and person for the good of those poor sufferers. But what a loss to us that he should leave us?"

It has just been remarked that evil is often permitted in order that good may result. This indeed appears to be the way of Providence; "From partial evil oft educing good, and better on to better still, in infinite progression." The scheme of emigration, promoted by a few benevolent individuals, not only put an end to a cruel persecution,

and provided for the comfort of the persecuted, but in addition to this, its first and noblest object, it contributed by introducing into British North America an industrious and loyal population, to lay the foundations of that important colony, now known as the Dominion of Canada, and which, with its seven Provinces, extends from ocean to ocean. The emigration, moreover, which, at first, was considered as a hardship, and adopted only as a remedy for a greater evil, became the auspicious commencement of that Catholic Christendom, which, of late years, has been blessed with such great developments in British North America.

A glance at Bishop Hay's literary and controversial labours will not prove uninteresting. The origin of his admirable Treatise on Miracles is best shown in a letter which he wrote to the Rev. William Reid, who had lately retired to Aberdeen, and who, with regard to the controversial affair, you know I am engaged at present in writing upon Miracles and Transubstantiation, in consequence of Mr. Druid's dispute with Mr. Abernethy. I am only on the former part, as yet, viz: on Miracles, and I have it much at heart, as the little study I have got made upon it has been a great pleasure and of much use to myself. I could never have thought so many good and useful things in earnest to get it finished. In consequence you will imagine I am well advanced. I'll tell you how far. It is done in the form of letters, and since my return from the North, last August, I have finished one letter, which was begun before we went North, and have got another near fit for recopying. Judge you from this whether I have time for composing. Conversations, at this time, were becoming more frequent, and there were some in the higher and better educated classes. Lady Margaret Mackenzie, the eldest daughter of the Earl of Seaforth, was received into the Church at Easter of this year, 1771, and was confirmed by Bishop Hay on April 27th. The same year the Countess of Treguir was also reconciled to the Church. Such conversions were cheering, and gave promise of a better time had come. Nevertheless, circumstances were not, as yet, all that could be desired. There was a great dearth of clergy, as mentioned at a meeting of the Bishops held this year at Seilan. As regarded publishing books for defence, or instruction, nothing could be done but with the greatest secrecy. Bishop Hay undertook to produce a new edition of that able piece of controversy, "The Protestant's trial by the Written Word," but was obliged to proceed with the greatest caution. In addition to the printer's interest, which, so far, held him to secrecy, the precaution was taken of concealing from him the name of the editor, a third party, who was understood to have nothing to do with the editing, being employed to deal with the printer. Bishop Hay's opinion of the work is well worth recording. "The piece itself," he says, in a letter to Bishop Grant, "in my humble opinion, is one of the most useful controversial works that can be put into the hands of your people and quite fitted for this country."

About this time the more active persecution of the State having ceased, that of the press began. An accomplished writer, who had not hitherto been noted for bitter and low spoken attacks on the Church—Dr. George Campbell, Principal of Mariscal College, Aberdeen, published a sermon which he had preached before the Synod of that city, in which he departed into an imputation of the most vulgar and weak attacks on the Catholic Church. His reputation as an author caused this unworthy publication to be widely circulated. Bishop Hay, on returning from a visit to Treguir, found it was the subject of general conversation, and it was pronounced by Protestants to be unanswerable and the death blow to Popery. The consummate art with which it was written and its insinuating tone were its only merits. As Bishop Hay declared, it was "a poor and trifling affair." As such, the Bishop at first had no thought of replying to it. Somehow, notwithstanding, probably as a literary recreation, he began to note down, occasionally, answers to its remarks. These he showed to some of his friends, who strongly advised that he should give his reply to the public. Accordingly, he resolved on doing so, towards the end of August, informed Bishop Grant of his purpose, and that he had signed his name to the reply. Dr. Campbell in the hands of a learned Jesuit, the Provincial of the Scotch Jesuits, and the Rev. Mr. Cuthbert, in order to have the benefit of their criticism. If he had their approval and the sanction of the senior Bishop, he represented to the Bishop that there would be no risk in publishing, as the work was so framed as to appear to be the production of a Protestant. Besides, was written in the style of "The free examination into the causes of the growth of Popery." All parties concerned approving, the reply was committed to the press, Bishop Hay answering for all expense and risk, relying on a favorable sale. By the end of September the printing was completed, and the little work appeared under the title of "Detection of the dangerous tendency, both for Christianity and Protestantism, of a sermon said to be preached before an assembly of Divines by Geo. Campbell, D. D., on the spirit of the Gospel.—Ps. 1, 20, 21. By a member of the Aethelina Club, London; printed for the Aethelina Club and sold by J. P. Coghlan, etc."

The object of the said club was to search after religious truth without prejudice. In the introduction of the "Detection," the club is supposed to say: "A sermon, lately published in North Britain, and said to be the production of the celebrated author of the 'Dissertation on Miracles,' fell into the hands of this society. Finding, on perusal, that it contained many things dangerous to true religion, and that the author had used the utmost efforts to gild the pill, and the more securely communicate the poison to his readers, they thought it an object worthy

of their attention to detect the dangerous tendency of this sermon, and to undeceive the unwary readers, many of whom they had heard, in his native country, had received it with the highest esteem and approbation. The charge of doing this they committed to one of their members, Stasrophilus, who was then residing at some distance from the reception of the sermon had met with, and begging a speedy compliance with their request. His answer, in a letter to the club, is being presented to the public. The pressing desire of his friends for a speedy answer, hindered him from making a regular examination of the whole sermon. He has, therefore, confined himself to those parts which seemed most exceptionable in it and productive of the most dangerous consequences. Whatever opinion Dissenters may have of the sermon, it is not doubted but all true members of the Church of England, and all sincere and candid lovers of Truth, will be very well pleased to see the truths of Religion vindicated from the aspersions that are made upon it. It does not appear that the author of the sermon published any reply to the "Detection," although it was rumored that he was preparing one. It was, however, attacked in the news paper called the Edinburgh Courant. Dr. Abernethy Drummond, a leading minister of the non-juring party, whom it appears to have most offended, fought it in this as well as in other newspapers of the time. The author of the "Detection" failed not to meet the challenge, and it speaks well for the journalism of the time that it gave publicity to his remarks. It would seem that the authorship was not long kept a secret, for it is on record that Dr. Abernethy Drummond conceived such an antipathy to the author, as in a few years later to raise against him and the others were some time engaged in smashing a number of holes through the roof to admit of still further assistance being given to capture the neighbors of the Power entered his house, and he was flung the scabbard from him to the yard beneath. When the police had secured possession an emergency man made his way to the top of the roof, and from the chimney took down two small green flags which had been placed there. This feat was received by the soldiers, bailiffs, and police with cheers. The first person to be brought out was a lad about eighteen, who was pulled down the ladder by a constable. The boy showed no signs of disquietude, although a number of the police who had not been in the house at all rushed towards him in a menacing attitude with their batons, but the policeman who had made the arrest called out, "Don't hurt him, he did nothing inside," and with some difficulty protected his prisoner. Three men were next to appear, handcuffed together, and were sent down the ladder. All of them bore the marks of the bayonets, having received ugly-looking stabs, and one of them, a man named Sheehan, had a large gaping wound under the eye. The other prisoners were brought out, in all thirteen men having been arrested, and two girls. As the girls were coming down the ladder, they called out, "Three cheers for the Plan of Campaign."

TO BE CONTINUED.

THE CLANRICARDE EVICTIONS.

A STUBBORN RESISTANCE.

The fiercest resistance yet offered to the evictions during this campaign took place on Saturday last. At an early hour the bagpipes awakened the echoes as the forces set out for the house of "Dr. Tully." It stood upon the roadside, close to the road leading from the parish chapel to Woodford; indeed, a small slated building abutted from the thoroughfare directly to the house. The authorities were not content with keeping the people back from the roadway, but the fields for some considerable distance were held by the soldiers. The taking of Tully's house was to the constabulary a matter of supreme importance, and speculation ran high as to the difficulty that would be experienced. The police were drawn up in the yard, and for the first time since this campaign began the battering-ram was brought out. The instrument was a brand new one, and rumour had it that the bailiffs had been engaged for some time in practising the best method of using this mechanical aid to the evictor. In the grounds of Lord Clanricarde's estate the drill of the emergency men was carried out. All precautions had been taken, and sitting in the car with their tarpaullis and saw'wester hats, the bailiffs were evidently anxious about the heated reception to which they were likely to be subjected. The neighbors, the priests, one of the members of Parliament for the county, Mr. M. Harris, who was present, and a people likely to be friendly were kept out of hearing distance.

BEGINNING THE DEVIL'S WORK.

The desire of the authorities to prevent the people being witnesses of the eviction further exemplified by the fact that a guard of about twenty men, in a small chapel ground and placed round the little belfry of Loosacan Church, in spite of the remonstrance of Father Coen, the parish priest. At half past eight the arrangements for the siege had been completed. A shelter to enable the emergency men to work in some security from the boiling water was provided. This was a portable shed sheathed with wood, and with a curved wooden lattice roof. A number of wide wooden ladders were also provided, and the first attack upon the house was made by the emergency men, some advancing and carrying some of the ladders to the side walls in order to allow the scaling party a way of reaching the roof. This proceeding drew from the garrison their first attempt at resistance, and a shower of stones were sent down which drove the emergency men and the police back to the roadway. They were again unannounced and an attempt made to place against the front wall of the house a number of poles, but this time a number of poles with forked ends were thrust forward and the attempt to gain a foothold again defeated. From the rising ground in the neighboring fields the people watched the strange and exciting scene. At each success of their neighbors a wild cheer would break forth, and a ring with electric clearness across the place. The ladders were abandoned, and the shelter was brought forward and an attempt made to rear an embankment of earth that had been piled up against the gable-ends of the building.

THE FIGHT ON THE ROOF.

Immediately the stones were sent flying down the sloping roof and the covered outhouse against which the energetic efforts of the crowd were directed, on top of the roof men were directed, the attempt of the bailiffs to force an entrance through the wall was evidently a hopeless one, and so they themselves thought it. All the forces were marshalled and another attempt made with the ladders. This time the bailiffs did not join in the onslaught. The police officers drew their swords, and the bayonets were screwed tightly on the guns, but all these signs of earnestness had no other effect than to bring from the men inside a ringing shout of defiance. The stones came in increased numbers, but the police succeeded in dodging most of them, and then slates were hurled at the invaders. The ladders were carried with great difficulty, and every effort was made by the people in the house to displace them by the aid of long poles and iron forks, but all to no avail, as the strength of numbers on the

side of the attacking force was too great to be withstood. Led by their officers the police clambered up the ladders and thrust with their bayonets at the men in the windows, who did not for a moment give way, but wrestled with great determination with the invaders. On the roof a large number of police forced their way, and for some minutes the struggle continued with very great fierceness. The officers lashed with their swords at the people inside, and the privates made wild stab with their bayonets through the openings which had been made. In order to enable them to meet their feet the men inside broke holes in the roof and sent from these place stones and other missiles on the heads of their enemies. At the end of the house furthest from the road a great cluster of policemen had secured a foothold, and were clambering along the roof towards the centre, where a new opening was made, and the defenders sent the constabulary down with a run to the ground, some falling headlong, and others clatching wildly at their neighbors as they fell. The entire attention of the defenders was evidently concentrated on the middle of the building, where the fire was raging fiercest. Taking advantage of this state of affairs, District Inspector Murphy scaled the low roof at the gable end already mentioned, and made his way through a window just above it. The police poured in and followed faster. The struggle to repel the attack on the centre of the house still continued, and the police were several times sent sprawling off the ladders. A long run was pushed forward to try and get a leverage on the ladder, but this was dashed at by a policeman, who, however, was pulled up by his hold as it had been baited in anticipation of such an attempt.

CHEERS FOR THE PLAN.

The forces that had taken the house in the flank had now captured the house, and the others were some time engaged in smashing a number of holes through the roof to admit of still further assistance being given to capture the neighbors of the Power entered his house, and he was flung the scabbard from him to the yard beneath. When the police had secured possession an emergency man made his way to the top of the roof, and from the chimney took down two small green flags which had been placed there. This feat was received by the soldiers, bailiffs, and police with cheers. The first person to be brought out was a lad about eighteen, who was pulled down the ladder by a constable. The boy showed no signs of disquietude, although a number of the police who had not been in the house at all rushed towards him in a menacing attitude with their batons, but the policeman who had made the arrest called out, "Don't hurt him, he did nothing inside," and with some difficulty protected his prisoner. Three men were next to appear, handcuffed together, and were sent down the ladder. All of them bore the marks of the bayonets, having received ugly-looking stabs, and one of them, a man named Sheehan, had a large gaping wound under the eye. The other prisoners were brought out, in all thirteen men having been arrested, and two girls. As the girls were coming down the ladder, they called out, "Three cheers for the Plan of Campaign."

THE TENANT.

Last of all to be taken out was the tenant, "Dr." Tully. He had evidently received severe injuries, and had to be carried by the police, but he was handed down, and he was borne by the men and placed at full length along the bank of a ditch. One of the men who had been in the house stated that "Dr." Tully had been beaten by the police very severely, and that he had received a blow of the butt-end of a musket in the ribs. Tully had no words on his face, but appeared to have a considerable difficulty in breathing. His body was placed in an ambulance wagon, and was conveyed to Loosacan Police Station, where he was placed in bed, and the police sent for Father Coen to attend him. The priest at once went to his aid, and Tully said that if it were not for the district inspector the police would have killed him.

A DARTABLY RUFFIAN.

Before the other prisoners were removed a woman named Bridget Bowles, a sister of Tully's, ran across the yard to secure a collar that the bailiff (a man named Whelan) was driving about. This man shoved her aside, and she ran towards him, when he at once struck the woman in the mouth, breaking her teeth and bleeding her face. The woman, who had really done nothing to bring her within the law, was at once arrested, and the bailiff proceeded to assist Mr. Teuer in clearing the land. When this had been completed the house of a man named Tuohy in the next field was attacked. This house was barricaded, but it had a thatched roof, and did not present any obstacle that the police were not equal in overcoming without difficulty. From a hole in the roof hot water was thrown on the bailiffs, but the police at once made their way to the openings and arrested five young men who were inside. Two small holdings were taken possession of, and the work for the day was completed.

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