

The True Witness.

CATHOLIC CHRONICLE,

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TERMS:

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NEWS OF THE WEEK.

We have European dates by the *Anglo Saxon*,
but they add but little to our previously acquired
stock of European news. The bombardment of
Gacta was recommenced on the 26th ult., but
the place still held out. There is nothing new
to report on Italian affairs.The plunder of Peking is put down at near a
million of dollars. The Tartar troops still keep
the field, but the Emperor has fled to Tartary.
A peace is again talked of. Breadstuffs are
quoted higher; provisions dull.The Governor of the State of South Carolina
has, in accordance with the ordinance of seces-
sion, issued a proclamation, proclaiming to the
world that South Carolina is, and has a right to
be, a separate, sovereign, free and independent
State, and as such has a right to levy war, con-
clude peace, negotiate treaties, leagues or cove-
nants, and do all acts whatever that rightly ap-
pertain to a free and independent State.WHAT DOES IT MEAN?—The tone of a sec-
tion of the Ministerial Press, both in Upper and
Lower Canada, is becoming very mysterious,
and seems to shadow forth some important politi-
cal changes in the form of new party combina-
tions, and a new Ministerial political platform.The *Quebec Chronicle* of Monday has, under
the head "Compromises," an article in which
this Ministerial Organ evidently designs to prepare
the public mind for some important changes in
the personnel and the policy of the present Cab-
inet. It alludes to the many changes which,
during the course of Sir Robert Peel's public
career, occurred in the views and measures of
that eminent statesman; it repudiates, and justly,
an absolute adherence to mere party tactics, but
evening offers this as a plea for tergiversation
and dereliction of principle when party exigencies
may call for them. The article in the *Quebec
Chronicle* is non-committal; it does not specify
the changes which it prognosticates, and leaves
us at a loss to guess what are the compromises of
principle which we shortly may expect to witness
amongst our public men.The *Brantford Courier*, a Ministerial journal
of Upper Canada, is more explicit. This jour-
nal, in its issue of Saturday last, plainly tells us
that the Ministry, in whose name it writes and
whose claims to public approval it advocates, are
in favour of Representation by Population; that
they admit the justice of the principle therein
involved as applicable to Upper and Lower
Canada respectively, and that, though they can-
not expect to carry out immediately this mea-
sure, they look forward to it as inevitable, as
desirable, and as a measure for the passing of
which it is their duty to take necessary prelimi-
nary steps. Indeed, if we may believe the
Brantford Courier, Representation by Popula-
tion is a measure which the Upper Canadian sec-
tion, at all events, of the Ministry are resolutely
bent upon carrying into execution at the earliest
convenient opportunity. Thus the *Brantford
Courier* says:—"Then again it is false that the Ministry are op-
posed to Representation by Population. They are
decidedly in favour of it, as a principle and measure
which must be adopted at the earliest possible moment.
At the same time they are not such consummate
asses as to endeavour to accomplish that by coercion
which can be brought about in no other way than
by moral suasion and a sense of right on the
part of the inhabitants of Lower Canada. We must
have their votes to accomplish the thing. How are
we to get those votes? By bullying and insult?—
Certainly not; it must be done by appeals to their
patriotism and sense of justice."After arguing, however, that it is absurd for
Upper Canada to claim an increase of represen-
tation until such time as, by the Official Returns
of the Census Commissioners, it shall have been
shown that it has an excess of population over the
Lower section of the Province. Our Ministerial
cotemporary continues in the following
strain:—"Nothing whatever can be done in the matter by
any living man, however he might wish it, till at
least the census of both Provinces has been taken.—
Nor do we believe that the measure can be carried
out till it can be shown that we have a very decided
majority over the Lower Province. That Province
consented to come into the Union upon equal terms
when the majority was in their favour—when they
had many more people than we—and asked no su-
periority of numbers in regard to their members.—
They were willing that we should have the same
number of representatives as themselvesalthough we had not as many constituents; and if
there be found barely a majority in our favour, even
after the taking of the next census, we may reason-
ably expect them to say "your haste is indecent."—
The Moderates and John A. Macdonald as their
head, are just as much in favour of Representation by
Population as the Grits, and are just as anxious to
have it accomplished; but impossibilities cannot be
done; we must "bide our time." We have always
advocated Representation by Population as a prin-
ciple, and shall continue to do so, and watch our
chance for obtaining it, with a keen eye; but it is
all bumbag for Brown or any one else to say it could
be accomplished at once. We should like these wise
acres to tell us how it could be done. Moderate
men will settle this question just as they did that of
the Clergy Reserves, but it is just one of these things
which will require time. The present Ministry are
doing all they can to prepare the way for it, and by
their cautious and firm conduct are hastening the
time of its consummation much more rapidly than
the Grits could possibly do, even if they were honest
in their professions regarding it."How far the above truly represents the Mi-
nisterial policy, it is not for us to say. But un-
til it shall have been repudiated by some influen-
tial portion of the Ministerial press of the Pro-
vince, we shall have but too good reasons to fear
that its allegations are substantially correct, that
in order to secure themselves in the possession
of place and power, the Ministry are prepared
to sacrifice the rights of Catholic Lower Cana-
da to the insolent demands of Protestant intoler-
ance in the West; and that the "Compromises"
for which the *Quebec Chronicle* bids us prepare,
will be found in a dereliction of duty on the part
of those whom we, of this section of the Pro-
vince, have intrusted with the guardianship of
our dearest interests.But whilst thus careful to pass no judgment
upon the accuracy of the *Brantford Courier's*
allegations as to Ministerial policy upon the ques-
tion of Representation by Population, we do
most distinctly and emphatically give the denial
to its alleged facts. It is not true, but the very
reverse of truth, that at the time of the Union,
the people of Lower Canada were assenting parties
to Equality of Representation. That mea-
sure, as indeed was the entire act of the Union,
was imposed by force upon the people of Lower
Canada with the design of trampling out their
laws, their language and their religion, and of
giving to the Anglo-Saxon Protestant people of
the West absolute and undisputed ascendancy
over an "inferior race." In those days the Pro-
testant and British population of Canada being
in the minority repudiated the principles of Re-
presentation by Population, and they cannot
therefore, either in logic or in justice, assert it to-
day, even if they be in the majority.Nor can it be believed that the people of
Lower Canada, its Catholic people at all events,
will ever consent to another change destined to
give greater political influence in the Legisla-
ture to their political adversaries. The consent
of the French Canadians to Representation by
Population, can never, as the *Brantford Cour-
ier* seems to expect, be attained by appeals to
French Canadian patriotism or love of justice,
but only by appeals to their basest passions, and
through the agency of bribery and corruption.
The answer of the French Canadian patriot—of
the Lower Canadian Catholic—to the proposition
for upsetting the existing legislative arrangement
in favor of Upper Canada is, and ever must be,
a firm refusal to entertain even, even to discuss
seriously, such a proposition so infamous, so in-
tolerably unjust towards Lower Canada, so
fraught with peril to all those interests which it
is the duty of the French Canadian patriot and
of the Lower Canadian Catholic to protect, even
at the peril of his life and at the risk, if neces-
sary, of civil war. *Comte qui coule*, no matter
what the penalties. Equality of Representation
betwixt the two sections of the Province must be
maintained so long as the Legislative Union be-
twixt them lasts. This should be the last word,
the sole response of every friend of Lower Can-
ada—of her laws, her language, and her Religion
—to the insidious proposals of the Ministerial
press and of its abettors—"Vade retro Satana!"
"Get thee behind me, Satan!"We would not be understood as attacking the
ministry or their policy until the latter be more
fully developed; but enough has transpired
through the columns of the Ministerial press to
put the Catholics of this section of the Province
on their guard, and to inspire them with some-
thing like distrust of the good intentions of the
Ministry towards Lower Canada. This distrust
should manifest itself at the next General Elec-
tion, by a general demand from all constituencies
for a clear and explicit definition of their policy
on the Representation question from all candi-
dates for legislative honors. This question should
be made the test question; since to Lower Cana-
da it is a question of life or death. To no
candidates, no matter what his past services, no mat-
ter what may be his promises in other respects
for the future, should a Canadian vote be given
until he shall have explicitly and irrevocably
pledged himself before God and man; never—
no matter what the consequences—directly or
indirectly, to give any countenance even to a
proposition for increasing the political influence
of Upper Canada in the legislature. Equality
of Representation or Repeal of the Union *pure
et simple*; to no other conceivable alternative
should a Lower Canadian Catholic vouchsafe a
moment's hearing.We give subjoined some extracts from the
foreign press, upon the designs and prospects of
the Italian revolutionists. These extracts will
throw much light upon the actual state of parties,
and will, we trust, prove interesting to our read-
ers."It seems that the notorious Gavazzi has no
more luck among his own people than he had in
Canada. The poor fellow is often to be found
in a bad scrape. It is not that we are desirous
of justifying the attempts that were made to use
violence towards him. No, very far from it;
we always condemned such conduct, and ever
advised our co-religionists, in such cases, to dis-
pense the insult offered to them, to leave it pass
unnoticed. Our object is merely to show what
is thought of him in his own country; much has
been said at the time that he came and fomented
disturbances amongst us, on the manner in which
he was treated; according to a certain class, he
was badly appreciated in Canada; we had no re-
gard for his exalted virtues, his noble feelings,
and his great learning. The following extract,
from the correspondent of *L'Ami de la Reli-
gion*, will tell us in what kind of business this
illustrious hero has lately been engaged; how
becoming it is to a gentleman and a man of
learning to destroy the most precious and valu-
able productions of art, to attempt to make in-
fideis of a religious people, to pollute the house
of God by sacrilegious discourses, and lastly, the
manner in which he was dealt with by his own
countrymen:—"Naples is opened to all the bad doctrines
which are preached and which spread under
every shape, discourses, pictures, books, dram-
atic shows, &c. The object aimed at is to de-
moralize the people, and despoil them of that
faith so deeply rooted in their hearts. For that
purpose every chance is given to Protestantism.
Garibaldi has conceded a tract of land, in order
that, in Naples may be erected a spacious tem-
ple where the people can be admitted to the
preaching and receive the teachings of Protest-
antism. This concession has been made, if I am
well informed, to the biblical society of England.""The too famous Gavazzi—a Dominican that
has forsaken his orders—joined the party and
engaged in a Protestant proselytism. A fort-
night ago, he requested of Garibaldi to give him
the splendid church of the Jesuits in Naples, in
order to make a Protestant conventicle. The
request was immediately acceded to. Gavazzi
set to work without losing time. He lays sac-
rilegious hands on all the master-pieces of
painting, and sculpture of the Church, leaving
it entirely stripped of all its ornaments. In the
evening after having announced with great os-
tension that he was to preach a new doctrine, he
ascended the pulpit and began declaiming against
the honor rendered to saints and images. His
words were received with great murmurs and a
dozen of lazzaroni left the Church greatly dis-
gusted.""They soon returned accompanied by a do-
zen of their comrades, many of them having
stones in their hands. The preacher thun-
dered against the honor rendered by the Roman
faithful to the Blessed Virgin. Very soon the
lazzaroni lost patience. They addressed very
harsh expressions to the apostate monk and there
was a real rivalry amongst them as to who
should best abuse him. They declared to him
that if they had consented that their government
should be changed, they would never allow that
their religion should be changed, and that their
Blessed Lady for the defence of whom they were
ready to spill their blood should be taken away
from them. Gavazzi attempted to answer, the
lazzaroni replied, but seeing that the monk had a
tongue better hung than they had, they had re-
course to an argument more in accordance with
their ability. They pelted with stones the preacher
who, in presence of such a refutation, hastened to
leave the pulpit.""The lazzaroni pursued him, saying they
wanted to have revenge on his person for the
outrage offered to the Madonna, to the Blessed
Mother of God. The monk sought refuge in a
friend's house. The place was immediately be-
sieged by the lazzaroni, to whom the mob joined
themselves. Word was sent to Garibaldi to in-
form him of the danger to which the preacher
was exposed; Garibaldi sent a strong detachment
of soldiers to place the monk Gavazzi amongst
his own people and protect him against the vio-
lence of the multitude. In order to appease the
people, Garibaldi promised to them that Gavazzi
should no longer preach his doctrines in Naples
and should leave the city. And indeed, since a
fortnight, we hear no more of this renowned fel-
low."The next extracts are from *L'Ami de la Reli-
gion*, and indicate the growth of a very hostile
feeling between the Piedmontese and the Neapo-
litans,—betwixt the Victors and the Vanquished."The hatred of Sardinian domination in the
Two Sicilies, manifests itself with a character
and proportions which seem to us fitted to
awake Europe at last from its apathy, and which
call for the interference of the different Cabinets.
Indeed, it is not an annexation which is accom-
plished at the present moment and which is the
result of a ballot more or less contestable; it is
the violent incorporation of a country which is
condemned in blood and in spite of the armed
protestations of its people. Out of fifteen pro-
vinces, five, that is to say, one third of the king-
dom, are in a state of siege, and the wholesale
shootings of Cialdini do not succeed in consoli-
dating this people who strike in every quarter for
national independence."A correspondent of the *Messenger du Midi*
adds, on this question, significant details to those
already published. The people of the Abruzzi
have risen; the peasants have recourse to arms
in order to defend their homes, and the Sardinian
troops, sent to crush down this rebellion, are re-
ceived everywhere with the cry of *Vive Francis II!*
In a little city near Naples, called Fusio-
Grotta, the very women have joined the national
insurrection, and the brave Cialdini has ordered
thirty-five of them to be thrown into prison."During that time, Victor Emmanuel, takes
part in festive demonstrations in the theatreof San-Carlos, 'where ladies sing hymns in his
honor.'"Sicily does not show more sympathy for
Piedmont than do the Continental Provinces of
the Kingdom. A despatch announces that Victor
Emmanuel is decidedly to leave on Monday for
Palermo, and a correspondent of the *Constitu-
tionnel* says that the postponement of the King's
voyage, has been caused by the necessity of
sending beforehand into Sicily, a Piedmontese
army of ten or twelve thousand men to occupy
the country. It is only with such an escort that
the King, hailed by so enthusiastic an unanimity
and by the vote of the Sicilians, will dare to
venture in the midst of them."(From the Correspondence of Mr. Guillardet to the
Courrier des Etats Unis.)"On this side of the Atlantic, the affairs of
Victor Emmanuel take a very bad turn, and I
believe that the King *gautant homme* has tried
to swallow too much at once. His excess of
unitarian appetite might give him an indigestion.
The Kingdom of the Two Sicilies is a piece
which he will find a very tough morsel. The
tidings from Naples of the 17th Nov. all agree
in one point—viz., that through all the Provinces
there is a reaction in favor of the old Govern-
ment, and that even the Capital itself is not free
from this reaction. The people of the Abruzzi
have, in a great proportion, risen against the
new Government. In Avezzano, the proprietors,
having joined the unitarian party, have been at-
tacked by the peasants, who were crying out
"Vive Francis II." General Pinelli, who
had 2,000 men at Aquila, had marched to stop
those excesses; during his absence Aquila itself
rebelled; lastly, five Provinces were put in a
state of siege.""This state of things is less important in a
material than in a moral point of view. The
Sardinian army is strong enough to subdue all
insurrections; but these neutralities, in the eyes
of Europe, the result of the vote in favor of an-
nexation, which is the only title that Victor Em-
manuel can claim. It gives, at the same time,
a great appearance of truth to the protestations
of Francis II. against a manifestation which is
due only, according to him, to force and vio-
lence."According to the correspondence of M.
Guillardet to the *Courrier des Etats Unis*, M.
de Cavour, in a conversation with M. Fazy,
expressed himself in the following terms:—"Garibaldi has not made the conquest of the
Two Sicilies single handed, I had prepared the
way for him. Not only have we given him five
millions of francs in order to organize his expedi-
tion, but moreover we had bribed many of the
Neapolitan Generals and Admirals."M. Guillardet insists upon this confession be-
ing authentic.The above corroborates the idea we have al-
ways entertained on the pretended enthusiasm of
the Sicilians for annexation to Piedmont. It is
evident that the whole comedy was got up by
the Sardinian Government—a comedy which is
a real disgrace not only to its authors but to all
European Powers who allow such an outrage
upon public morality. It tends at the same time
greatly to diminish the gigantic proportions of
Garibaldi before the public eye. Hitherto he
has been saluted as the conqueror of two King-
doms, as a hero who, alone and unaided, has
wrested the sceptre from the hands of the Nea-
politan Bourbons. We now, and from the con-
fession of Cavour, know the man for what he is
worth, and are enabled to put a proper value
upon his exploits. It now appears that all along
he was backed by the Piedmontese Government;
that he relied not only upon its moral counten-
ance to his expedition, but upon its material sup-
port as well. Garibaldi, in short, has been but
the cat's paw with which the cunning Cavour
and his still more astute accomplice Victor Em-
manuel, have drawn the long coveted Neapo-
litan chestnuts from the fire; and, having made
this good use of the red-shirted filibuster, they
have cast him aside as a tool of whose services
they have no further need.On the other hand these revelations are high-
ly creditable to Francis II., the young King of
Naples—creditable alike to his head and to his
heart.—His reasons for not at once committing
the fortunes of his kingdom to the result of a
battle with the invader of his dominions, are now
obvious. He had but too good reasons, as we
now learn, for doubting the fidelity of many
amongst the superior officers of his army, though
as event have proved, he could well rely upon
the courage and fidelity of the simple soldiers.
He was therefore, naturally loth to entrust so
many brave men to the mercy of a general who
might well be one of Cavour's tools, the recep-
ient of infamous bribes from the king's *homage*.
His determination therefore to concentrate his
forces at Gacta, a strong military position, and
where he himself might be in command, seems to
have been dictated by high political considerations,
whilst his aversion to expose the defence-
less city of Naples and its larger non-military po-
pulation to the horrors of a conflict reflects the
highest credit upon his humanity. It is custom-
ary indeed with scribblers for the press to stig-
matize Francis II. as a tyrant though every
event of this Prince's short reign would tend to
confirm the impression amongst impartial persons
that he is a young man of very respectable tal-
ents, great moral and physical courage, and sin-
cerely desirous of promoting the happiness of his
subjects, by whom in return, or at all events by
the majority of whom he is ardently beloved.
Victor Emmanuel, with his foreign mercenaries,
with his fusillade, with his wholesale militaryexecutions of a loyal peasantry of Calabria, may
for the time, succeed in trampling out all resist-
ance and in imposing his hated alien yoke upon
the Neapolitans; but we believe that Francis II
is yet destined to occupy the throne of his ances-
tors, and to repair the wrongs which long years
of misgovernment have inflicted upon the people
—wrong, however, be it recollected, for which
Francis II is not responsible and of which it
would be hard if he were called upon to bear the
penalty.Your liar and dishonest man is always, from
the very nature of things, short sighted, for dis-
honesty, and indeed all sin is short-sightedness.
Had the London Times been more accustomed
to the study of morality, it would doubtless have
known this, and would have foreseen how suici-
dal its policy towards the Irish Papal Brigade
would prove. Its object was through hatred for
Catholicity and Ireland, to destroy the character
of that noble Brigade, and to make it appear
before the world as a company of poltroons and
cowards; and in carrying out that intention, it
adopted the very means that were most certain
to fail. Had the Times been content with ac-
cusations that had in them at least some color of
truth, bigotry, that is never over nice, might have
swallowed the dose; but the accusations of a
blind fury were so perfectly outrageous, and so
palpably false, that they were too much even for
the maw of the least scrupulous bigot, and the
stomach rejected them as too loathsome and
nauseous. It was a grave mistake; in fact it look-
like the madness which the god of the Latin
poet allowed to seize those whom he wished to
encompass with ruin, to accuse those brave men
of the very thing of which the whole civilized
world knew they could not be guilty. There is
a curious conscience about grievous crime, that
it is its own avenger. Physical "murder will
out," and that generally by the very means most
relied upon for its concealment; and so with cal-
lumnies, which is ought else but moral murder,
it will out, and that through its own instrumen-
tality. Is this blind chance, or is it a merciful
compensation and dispensation of Providence?
The Times, when it called the Irish Brigade
"poltroons and cowards," merely stamped itself
a liar, and that of the paltriest stamp, and, in its
endeavors to prove it, like a drowning pig only
cut its own throat by its most strenuous exer-
tions. Nor is this to be wondered at, from the
nature of the tools it is accustomed to use. The
best workman cannot do good work without good
tools. Now we have good opportunities of judg-
ing of the nature of its staff of correspondents
on which it relies for the materials whereof its
editorials are composed. To Italy it sends a
hired assassin, and to Canada, during the Prince's
visit, a "nincanpoop." Every one at all ac-
quainted with the Orange embroglio must see the
flimsy nature of the materials on which the Eng-
lish nation had to rely for forming a true judg-
ment of that disgraceful affair, if the letters of
my Times' correspondent were to be their only
sources of information. We do not by any
means pretend to defend the conduct of the
Orangemen. It was bad—abominably, *brav-
lally bad*; but the fault was not *their's*, but that
of the system. When a couple of brutal bul-
dogs, or a brace of fighting cocks, are seen hold-
ing each other by the lug, or pecking at each
other's eyes with an occasional application of the
spur, the bulldogs, or the fighting cocks, are not
to blame, but the ruffians who reared and train-
ed them. So the poor ignorant Orangemen were
not to blame; they were only following their
brutal instincts, and thought they were doing as
grand a thing in insulting a Prince, as the bul-
dog in seizing his brethren's lug, or the game
cock in gouging out an eye, or applying the spur.
The Orangemen were not to blame, but the sys-
tem that reared and trained them. Now had
the Times' correspondent been a man of ordi-
nary intelligence, and written for the sake of truth,
and not to serve a purpose, he would have ex-
plained all this, and the blame would have rested
on the proper shoulders. As it was the poor
bulldogs were kicked, and not their masters, one
thing has always appeared inexplicable in this
affair. Flanagan and Robinson were left to
gallop vaporing about Kingston without even a
gallon from royalty, whilst the Postmaster-General
was allowed to dance attendance upon the Prince
and to regulate the Rock movements at the
Cobourg ball. Why should Sidney Smith be
acknowledged white? Flanagan was snubbed.—
The reared and trained of the bulldogs is surely
more to blame than the dogs themselves. The
Provincial Government, which had officially ac-
knowledgeed them (and for the matter of that the
Home Government was as bad) are the political
tricksters who trafficked in these brutal wannabes
are the real parties to blame for the growth of
Orangemen; and had the Times' correspondent
been aught else but a nincanpoop he would not
have been afraid to avow it. And then for its
Roman news; it depends upon an acknowledged
assassin. By such a wretched what wonder if the
honest profession of arms were despised (he
would have preferred the stick to the dark
passage), and the brave Irish called "cowards."
In fact, to have been called brave men by such