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CATHOLIC CHRONICLE.

VOL. V.

MONTREAL, FRIDAY, AUGUST 18, 1854.

NO. 1.

A MASS DURING THE REIGN OF TERROR.

(Translated from the French for the True Witness.)

The Revolution of 1789 was so fertile in events; it especially called forth so many acts of heroism, so many sublime virtues, amid the hideous crimes to which it gave birth, that it seems to have become an inexhaustible mine, whence the moral historian may always draw precious materials, to serve as lessons for future generations.

For us, whose sole object is to provide the young with a series of examples calculated to inspire them with noble sentiments and salutary reflections, we also venture to explore that rich mine, in order to interest our young readers by the truthfulness of our narrative. We do not here present them with a work of fiction; it is merely a leaf from the history of that fatal period whose every page contains a grave lesson.

In 1793, when victims were daily multiplied all over France, two young fugitives, the one named Dussaulx, and the other Olivier, were making their way together through the hills of Brittany, without money, without provisions, knowing nothing of the country, and with the sad certainty of being shot, if they fell into the hands of the hostile party. Yet even this certainty could not entirely subdue the stout hearts of the travellers. They had formerly been musketeers, were strong in their own courage and united by the closest ties of friendship, so they resolved to sell their lives as dearly as they could, and, at all events, if they were forced to give way to numbers, they were sure of dying together. That thought sustained them through dangers, privations and fatigues; it alone gave them courage to knock now and then at the door of some lonely cabin, to ask for food and shelter.

Their request was often refused, for fear and distrust had then absorbed all other feelings in the minds of the country people. They had, besides, to guard against the numerous spies who, under various disguises, prowled about the country. This danger was not the least formidable which they had to encounter; it might bring them at any moment into some snare; but at twenty (and this was about the age of both our young friends) hope easily prevails over fear.

They had, besides, an object in view; the castle of Keroulaz had been appointed as a general rendezvous; there they hoped to find rest and shelter, all the necessaries they might require and a certain number of their comrades. Such, then, being their destination, they made their way towards it with tolerable cheerfulness, notwithstanding the numerous dangers they had to encounter.

But, after a little, the patrols were so thickly set that our friends were forced to avoid the public roads; they no longer dared either to seek information, or ask for food; and for twenty-four hours they suffered so much in various ways, that their courage was well nigh overcome.

Worn out with hunger and fatigue, a prey to intolerable sufferings, and gloomy forebodings, which they dared not communicate one to the other, they walked silently on, side by side, sometimes pressing each other's hand with inexpressible anguish, when all at once, in passing through a deep hollow where chance had led them, they fancied they heard steps behind them. Turning quickly round, they saw a peasant something about their own age, well clad, and with a countenance expressive of timidity and reserve. Making a shew of profound recollection, he was telling the beads of a rosary, and seemed wholly engrossed with that pious exercise. Less than this would have encouraged our fugitives. In the extremity to which they were reduced, the suspicion of a base hypocrisy, hidden under this sanctimonious exterior, never entered their minds. Moreover, they had no choice; it was absolutely necessary to make some inquiries, so that, without the least hesitation, they asked the young man which was the nearest way to Keroulaz. He replied, with a furtive glance, that he belonged to that neighborhood, and would willingly show them the way; but that it was too much for them to think of reaching it that day.

On hearing this, the friends exchanged a look of consternation; neither of them felt able to journey farther without some refreshment and a few hours' rest. Doubtless, perceiving their distress, the stranger re-assured them by mentioning a place where they could spend the night, and offering them, at the same time, part of a large loaf which he drew from his wallet.

This relief, coming at such a moment, was received as a real God-send; so, having thanked the Breton, they walked on by his side with renewed confidence. One of them even felt so elated that, as they journeyed on, he told the young man some of the rea-

sons which made them anxious to reach the castle of Keroulaz.

This confidence, imprudent as it was, appeared to make no particular impression on the stranger, who with all the coolness so characteristic of his countrymen, testified no sort of interest in what he heard.

After accompanying the fugitives for some time, he pointed out the house where they were to find lodging, and left them with the announcement that he was going to lodge hard by, so as to set out with them again in the morning.

It was dark night when the two friends reached the house pointed out to them. The state of the country and the unseasonableness of the hour made them fear that a shot might be their welcome; but, as we have said, their deplorable situation left them no alternative. They knocked boldly at the door which was immediately opened.

"Come in!" said the man who presented himself, when he had heard their humble supplication.

COME IN! the words made their hearts leap with joy; that hospitable cabin is to them a magnificent palace; already they see, in imagination, a good supper and a good bed, whereon their wearied limbs may enjoy the sweets of repose. In their extacy, they hardly remarked the singular appearance of the Breton, who, leisurely taking down a lamp, held it by turns to their faces. Uncivil as this examination was they bore it bravely; both were blessed with good, frank, honest features, so that they had little to fear on that head, and when it was over, one of them even ventured to repeat the statement of their pressing necessities.

The master of the house was an aged man, tall and lank in figure, with long grey hair and fierce-looking features, not wholly without a mixture of good-nature. He replied, in a harsh, abrupt tone, that his family being all gone to bed, he had little or nothing to offer them. At the same time, in order to make good his assertion, he produced a handful of beans, a jug of execrable water and a morsel of coarse black bread to which our famished travellers added what remained of that given them by the young stranger.

Whilst they devoured this dainty repast, served up with the usual cleanliness of Brittany, their host, seated in front of them, continued to examine them attentively, pressing them with questions, intermingled with complaints of the unhappy state of the times, doubtless for the purpose of excusing his parsimonious hospitality.

He then took up his lamp, (which he afterwards left with them), and conducted them to the door of a stable at the end of the house, where on one side were some animals of various kinds, and on the other the vestige of a miserable pallet.

Other travellers would have shrunk from availing themselves of such a bed, but our poor friends had passed several nights in the open air; so far from complaining, they thought themselves so fortunate in obtaining any sort of a shelter for the night, that their only care was to make themselves as comfortable as the circumstances would permit, thanking God for having so far favored them.

Anxious to stretch their weary limbs, they pulled out the holsters which they carried under their cloaks, placed them near the bed, then Dussaulx, first, knelt down and commenced the evening prayers. Brave even to rashness on the battle-field, this young man had a lively and well-grounded faith, and, when he prayed, his voice was so sweet, so penetrating, that his friend never heard him without emotion. The latter hastened, then, to kneel beside him, and their hearts, so closely united, arose together to the celestial throne.

Whilst they were engaged in this act of devotion, which they had long been accustomed to perform together, they were alarmed by a slight noise. By means of that vague perception whereby we feel rather than see, without turning the head, an object appearing on either side, it seemed to them that the face of a man was protruded through a sort of aperture in the wall near which they knelt. One of them turned quickly round, but there was nothing to be seen. This appearance, having struck both at the same moment, could not possibly be an illusion, and it was quite sufficient to put them on their guard, but as they neither saw nor heard any thing more, they at length disposed themselves for sleep, and it was broad day-light when they awoke.

It was not without a sort of hesitation that they appeared before their host; his chilling reception of the previous evening, together with the circumstance which had excited their uneasiness, naturally made them conclude that this man regarded them with suspicion; great, then, was their surprise, when they met him with his callous hand outstretched to grasp theirs, and his rough features lit up with a cheering smile of welcome.

"I'll engage you have had a good night of it!"

said he with a waggish glance at their haggard faces. Re-assured by the unmistakable cordiality of his manner, they laughingly told him of the fright they had had.

"And you had good reason to be afraid," he replied, in a serious tone; "you may say that no prayer was ever more graciously heard by the good God; my son and I were there, with our finger on the trigger." . . . and he glanced at two muskets suspended over the fire-place.

"Sure enough," continued he, "we would have shot you as we would two mad dogs; but when I saw you on your knees, praying as Christians, I said to my boy: 'These are good men—let us leave them alone.'"

"What! you would have killed us," exclaimed one of the young men, "you would have killed defenceless men?"

"And we?" cried the Breton quickly. "What mercy is there shown to us? Is not the country infested with these spies who seek only our destruction? Had you been of their kidney, it was all over with us. They would have smoked us out like foxes this morning, burning our house to the ground; either that, or they'd have hung us before our own door.— Besides, these vagabonds have a password, which you do not know, seeing that you did not give it to me. And then I had seen your pistols. . . ."

Here the young men exchanged glances, one of them saying—"It seems we were near having good use for them."

"So you were," replied the peasant, in a softened voice, "but let that pass. Thanks be to God, you shall fare better this morning than you did last night."

Placing, then, on the table some fresh bread, pork, fruit, and a pitcher of wine, he sat down with his two guests, and heard with the liveliest interest the recital of all the dangers they had incurred since they entered Bretagne.

"Just look," said he, not knowing how to express his regret—"Just look at the wretched times we live in. It makes me sweat all over only to think of it. Here I would have killed two of our gentlemen, two real, good Christians, without any warning, without giving them time to give themselves up to God."

"Alas!" sighed Dussaulx, "the death with which we have been menaced here may reach us elsewhere, at any moment, and find us no better prepared; yet if we fall, I hope Heaven will take into account the impossibility of our fulfilling our religious duties; it is six weeks since we heard mass."

"You shall hear it, then," cried the Breton, in a cheerful tone; "yes, I give you my word you shall hear it to-morrow. I owe you that, any how!"

"Is it possible?—shall we, indeed, have a mass, in spite of spies and blues?" said M. Dussaulx quickly. "And where is it to be, my dear host?"

"I say neither how nor where," replied the latter, "you shall see. The only thing I can tell you for certain is, that we have mass now every Sunday; not without running some danger, to be sure, but brave gentlemen like you are used to that."

As he finished these words, some one opened the door, and the friends recognised the young peasant who had shared his loaf with them the evening before and pointed out the asylum where they had since fared so well.

The host seemed surprised, and regarded the newcomer with a searching look.

"Fear nothing," said M. Dussaulx hastily, in the fervor of his gratitude for the stranger; this worthy youth is one of ourselves. It was he who relieved our hunger, and sent us to you."

"Father Pol ought to know me, I think," observed the young man in his turn. "I live only five leagues from here, and he has often seen me; but his memory fails him, it seems."

"It is very possible," replied the host, whom the stranger had named correctly; "since it is so, sit down, and eat your breakfast."

Still prompted by that feeling of gratitude which often carries a noble heart to the extreme of confidence, M. Dussaulx asked the host if he would not permit their unknown guide to hear mass with them.

"I know the piety of this good lad," he continued, "and if you think you owe us such a favor, father Pol, my friend and I surely owe it to him for the good service he has done us."

An involuntary gesture from the old man showed that these words were anything but pleasing to him, and that he would rather they were left unsaid, but it was too late. Then they expressed such a generous confidence, that he could not bring himself to refuse. Besides, the young peasant quickly interposed:

"I should be very glad to go with you, but I know the place where mass is said. I go there every Sunday."

This announcement, made with apparent simplicity, completely banished Pol's suspicions, so that his

mind was quite at ease as he kindly advised the two outlaws to lie concealed that day in his hay loft, whither he immediately conducted them for fear of any surprise.

Then returning to the guide, he drank and chatted with him for a little while, when both left the house, and all was still as death.

We need not say how tedious the time seemed to our two young friends in their hiding-place. Happily, they found in it a good supply of fresh hay which made an excellent bed, so that they enjoyed some hours of quiet and refreshing sleep.

Evening being come, all the family, consisting of several sons of old Pol, with their wives and children, assembled to sup together; but when, the door being closed, the father introduced his two guests, a cautious reserve succeeded the first burst of gaiety, and it required all the cordial kindness of the worthy old man to keep the friends from being wholly disconcerted by so chilling a reception.

The meal was a silent one, and when it was over, a flask of brandy was handed round to the company; then old Pol, having drunk his share, said to his guests:

"Well, gentlemen! are you still determined to be of our party?"

"Most assuredly, if you will permit us."

"Up and get ready, then, youngsters. Come, girls, put the little ones to bed; and you, boys, take up your tools!"

"Are we, then, to set out to-night?" inquired M. Olivier, in surprise.

"Yes, sure, this very minute, so as to get there in good time to-morrow," replied the Breton with a hearty laugh; "not that the church is small; there's room enough in it for all comers; but we have no small distance to go before we get to it, you see!"

Then taking down a double-barrelled carbine, he slung it over Olivier's arm, saying: "Here, this is your prayer-book. And you, sir," he added, handing a musket to M. Dussaulx, "this is your missal."

Meanwhile, the women had disappeared with the children, at their father's bidding; they quickly returned wrapped up in their cloaks. Each of the men threw a goat-skin around his shoulders and then took up his gun.

"This affair smells of powder," observed Olivier, laughingly, to his friend, when they found themselves alone together for a moment; "armed as we are to the very teeth, we look more like brigands preparing for an ambuscade than honest Christians going to Mass."

"These precautions are characteristic of the times in which we live," replied Dussaulx; "truly, there is something exciting in this fulfilling of a religious duty with arms in our hands; but what times these are!"

The family being once more assembled, a young girl, doubtless appointed to mind the house and the children, took her seat by the fire, and the little party at once set out. A young lad went before with a light; then came the host with his two guests; and after them, the women, their husbands bringing up the rear.

True to his habits of circumspection, Pol had given the strangers no information as to where he was taking them. He contented himself, as they went along, with accounting for the warlike guise in which they travelled by the great dangers they had to encounter, dangers which, he said, were considerably lessened because of the profound secrecy in which they had hitherto kept the whole business.

We will now relate what followed in the very words of M. Olivier, who himself told us the story:

"We walked on so," said he, "for about an hour, just as I had expected, but I had, of course, calculated on seeing, at the end of that time, some trace of a building, or of a human habitation. But on and on we marched over what seemed to us an endless strand, and I perceived on the horizon a whitish line having the appearance of a thick mist. At the same time, a damp, moist air blew across my face."

"It is the sea," said Dussaulx; and, sure enough, I quickly recognised the low rumbling of the waves, which I had not before noticed."

"I give up guessing where they are taking us to," said I to my comrade.

"There must be some cove amongst the rocks hereabouts." He replied: "It will remind us of the first Christians, praying in the Roman catacombs."

I was just going to run after Pol for the purpose of asking him if our suspicions were correct, when he himself suddenly laid hold of my arm.

"Rash young man!" he cried; "you were near having a fall of some hundreds of feet; there is a tremendous precipice within three paces of where you stand!" I stood motionless, holding fast by Dussaulx's

This is one from a series of tales by the same author, entitled, "Reminiscences of a Mother."

not daring to set one foot before the other in the thick darkness. Old Pol advanced into the middle of our troop; the men went before, directing us with voice and gesture; and in this way we descended a path which wound along that frightful precipice, now reminding me, as I look back upon it, of a certain pass in the Bernese Alps. They had to assist my friend and me like two children; the women themselves made their way better than we could.

It took us the best part of an hour to descend that ladder of rocks. On reaching the bottom, we heard some confused noises near, as if of voices calling here and there, which made us judge that our party was more numerous than when we set out.—Our host, who had left us sometime before, now came towards us.

"We have to wait some time," said he, "so you may sit down." This it was scarcely possible to do, as we were almost to our knees in wet sand.

Happily, I lighted on a fragment of rock where Dussaulx and myself sat down, and great need we had of a little rest. I thought we were to spend part of the night in this place, and we began to congratulate ourselves on the comfortable nap we had had, by way of precaution, during the day; but very soon we heard the people round us saying to each other:

"Stand up! it is midnight."

It was no time for troubling our good people with questions; all I could do was to observe attentively what was going forward.

"The sea is rough," said one of the sons of old Pol.

"So much the better," he replied.

This answer was wholly unaccountable to me, when I perceived that we were making straight for the water. Twenty paces farther our men reached out their hands to help us and the women on board a canoe; then they all got together to shove off our little craft, and lo! we are on the water.

At first, every one was busy except Dussaulx and myself, for it took all hands to keep the nutshell of a boat steady in such weather. For myself, I was obliged to hold by my bench with both hands, to avoid rolling like a ball at the bottom of the boat as it bounded fearfully over the boiling waves. A furious wind drifted the salt spray full in our faces, and it required the practiced eye of those sea-faring people to see ten paces around us. But the darkness soon cleared away, so as to enable us to distinguish objects; and, following the direction of Pol's quick eye, I soon perceived a boat, then another; and another, struggling like living things amid the waters. Just then, the attention of our chief was turned in another direction.

"Well, Jacques?" said he, addressing the man at the helm.

"It is nothing—yet stay—see there—just below!" and he pointed in a particular direction. I sat up like the others, and saw a sort of flickering light, as it were coming and going; it was a boat rising and falling with the billows. It advanced slowly; all on board was profound silence, and from the preparations which I saw made, I took it for a funeral celebration. But whilst I was attentively observing this strange boat, another manœuvre was rapidly executed around us. The assembled canoes darted hither and thither from one side to the other, and stationed themselves at such a distance from each other that there was no fear of their coming together, the whole forming a circle round the beacon-bark.

By means of the light which it carried, I could see that some preparations were going forward in the fore-part of this boat, to which we were now very near. When the men employed in the work had disappeared, we saw, just under the head-light, an altar covered with a snow-white cloth and surmounted by a crucifix. At the same time an old, gray-haired priest appeared, clothed in the sacerdotal vestments, whose glittering ornaments shone through the darkness; he was assisted by two of these poor fishermen. The priest made the sign of the cross, and at that sight, I fell on my knees, my eyes full of tears, my heart full of gratitude and admiration.—Dussaulx pressed my hand. All around us were prostrate in their boats.

Never shall I forget that scene. An hundred human beings kneeling between sky and water; the roaring ocean, yielding once more to the majesty of man's Redeemer; that unsteady altar, which could find no resting-place on French ground; the overhanging lamp which barely served to shew the pale face of the aged priest, and his silvery hair dishevelled by the wind; those pious voices mingling with the noise of the waters; above, the immense dome of heaven, and below the deep sea-wave. Even now, the whole scene is before me, and I think no mortal ever looked on a grander or more magnificent sight. I cannot attempt to describe the time when the sacred Host was elevated in the trembling hands of the old priest, himself supported by his humble assistants. It seemed to me at the moment that the voice of the tempest was no more than a fitting hymn, a strain of music worthy the occasion.

Two or three men from each craft had a little before quitted their oars to hold the boats from striking against each other. One of these, who chanced to be close to my side, leaned over and whispered to old Pol in a tone of alarm:

"A long-boat!"

"Impossible!" said the old man, rising. "I see nothing." And he dropped on his knees again, for the ceremony was drawing to a close; but the same man laid his hand heavily on his shoulder: "I tell you—"

A sheet of flame dazzled my eyes, and, being suddenly hurled to the bottom of the boat, I saw or heard nothing for some minutes; save the discharge of fire-arms, fearful cries, and bodies rolling over me. I raised my head as soon as I could, and saw,

by the glare of the flashing powder, the boats broken and dispersed, men swimming around, and women with their hair dishevelled.

"Surrender!" cried a voice from the enemy's craft, "we will fire no more."

I cast my eyes at this moment towards the altar. The priest turned calmly round, and, extending his arms, said in a deep, sonorous voice:

"*Ita missu est!*"

"*Deo gratias!*" responded the assistants.

It struck me at the same time that the bark was slowly sinking, and too sure it was, for several voices cried out, "she is going down. . . . Save him—save the priest!"

The bark, riddled with bullets, was, in fact, sinking; a huge wave quickly swallowed her up. The priest, holding by the altar, raised himself up, gave us his final benediction, then vanished from our eyes, and another volley of musketry passed over his moving tomb.

On seeing this, old Pol cried out, "Turn the boats, boys!—let us board them!"

The order was scarcely given when it was executed by the hardy fishermen. Braving the deadly fire from the enemy's boat, they leaped on board, followed by our two friends. A desperate struggle ensued; the crew was not numerous, they were defeated and cast into the sea.

A single foe remained; it was the young man who had directed the friends to Pol's cottage. Olivier recognised him, and would fain have kept him from falling into the hands of Pol, who was the first to discover him; but the old man, exasperated by the death of his two sons, who lay lifeless at his feet, was so enraged against him, that he scarcely had him in his grasp when he was a dead man.

"It was he—the wretch!—it was he that sold us!—he was neither more nor less than a villainous spy!" and with that he hurled the body into the sea.

They then proceeded to collect their dead and wounded, and when all were placed on board the canoes, they set fire to the long-boat. It was by the light of the flames that they went about gathering up the women from the bottom of the barks, and the men who were still in the water.

Although the losses were perhaps not so numerous as had been at first thought, yet, while this mournful search continued, there was nothing heard but cries and lamentations.

At length we re-embarked, and the rising sun began to light up that scene of desolation. Immediately on landing, all those worthy people rushed forward to look at each other, to see who was missing, and to embrace the survivors with sorrowing gratitude. With pale face and tearful eyes, each one sought a parent, a friend, a neighbor—now was heard a burst of joy, and again a heart-rending cry of sorrow. It was a scene of mourning, at which no one could assist without anguish.

Stoical even in his misery, old Pol, after superintending the landing, approached the two friends, and said abruptly:

"After what has happened, gentlemen, we can no longer entertain you as we would wish; but if you wish to assist at the burial of my sons, it will be an honor—"

He could go no farther; the tears would make their way do what he would not keep them in.

The young men could not think of accepting his invitation; they feared to be a burden at that time of mourning, and, therefore, declined his offer, not without every manifestation of friendly sympathy.

"Well, then," said the unhappy father, holding out his hand, "here is my last son; he will conduct you to Keroulaz. You need have no fears as to trusting him—he, at least, will not betray you.—Farewell! beware of spies for the future, and never forget to say your prayers!"

IRISH INTELLIGENCE.

THE APPROACHING SYNOD IN TUAM.—The Synod of the Prelates of this province will be opened on the 15th of August, the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin, in the Metropolitan Church of this town, with all the imposing ceremonies prescribed by the Roman ritual. His Grace the Archbishop will, we understand, preach the opening sermon on the above day, and the other Bishops of the province will preach during the octave of the continuance of the Synod. The importance of the auspicious occasion and the soul-stirring solemnities with which it will be accompanied, as well as the instruction to be derived from those eminently gifted Prelates whom the Holy Ghost has chosen to rule and to teach this faithful portion of God's fold in Connaught, will, no doubt, insure the largest congregations ever yet assembled within the walls of our magnificent cathedral.—*Tuam Herald.*

CARRIGAHOLT.—CONVERSION OF A BIBLE-READER.—On Sunday last the Rev. Mr. O'Dwyer preached a most affecting sermon in Carrigaholt, on "Final Perseverance." On that day the mission was closed. The Right Rev. Doctor Vaughan arrived from Miltown. There was no room in the chapel for half the congregation. A Bible-reader of Henry Kean's, a very intelligent young man, was publicly received by the Rev. Bishop. The young man had more pay than the rest; he was, in fact, head man over them. It made a great impression on the people. There was a line of boys and girls in white in a procession from the altar to the front door, the most of whom were singing with the Priests. The Rev. Messrs. Bermingham, Kennedy, Mahony, and Magee, accompanied the Bishop.—*Correspondent of the Munster News.*

ILLNESS OF THE IRISH LORD CHANCELLOR.—The *Dublin Evening Mail* of Monday night contains the following:—"We regret to state that the Lord Chancellor was attacked yesterday evening with a sudden fit of illness, which, however, owing to prompt medical attendance, was speedily got under; but his lordship was unable to take his seat in his court to-day. On inquiry this afternoon, we are glad to learn there is every reason to believe that his lordship will, in a day or two, be enabled to resume his judicial duties."

The Registrar General of Marriages for Ireland has issued his report for the years 1852 and '53. The report does not include all the marriages that have taken place in Ireland during these years, but only so many as were registered under the act. The statistics are interesting. We were struck by the results presented by the column headed "signed with marks," with respect to the four provinces. In Ulster the number of those who could not sign their names is full 80 per cent.; in Connaught 60; in Munster 40; and in Leinster 36; showing that the Protestant province is the most ignorant of the four. Out of the 6,713 persons married in Ulster, in 1852, 5,634 could not write their names; and out of 7,423 registered in the same province in 1853, 6,252 could not write their names. And in the three most Protestant counties of Antrim, Down, and Armagh, the proportion of ignorance is greater.

Lord John Russell states that the Maynooth Commissioners will not be able to make any report this session, in consequence of having to obtain evidence from abroad. The report therefore, cannot be printed and circulated until parliament shall meet again.—The noble Lord has also announced that in consequence of the state of public business, Mr. Headlam will not proceed further this session with the Mortmain Bill.

The law of landlord and tenant must remain unchanged in Ireland at least for another year. The discussions in both houses of parliament, which took place towards the close of last week, do not indeed augur much for a satisfactory settlement of the vexed question. Mr. Lucas's happy reply to the sneers of those who taunt his party with having a selfish interest in the continuance of agitation will be read with pleasure. Lord John Russell indeed exempts the members of the Tenant League from any unworthy imputation, but he—good easy man—is depending in his views for the future. It is rather trite to say, but the truth cannot be too frequently insisted on, that until an honest Irish party, sufficiently strong and energetic, can be placed in the House of Commons, no valuable legislation need be expected by the people. Next to tenant right comes religious equality; and on Wednesday evening the bill of Mr. Serjeant Shee—which went only a little way towards abating the nuisance of the Church Establishment in Ireland—was scouted by an overwhelming majority—117 to 31. All this takes place under the rule of that Liberal ministry whose advent to power was the precursor of so many beneficent reforms.—*Wexford People.*

Maclise, of Cork, the famous Irish painter, has this year again, carried off the annual prize of the Royal Academy, by his noble historical picture of the "marriage of Strongbow and Eva," daughter of Mac-Murrough, King of Leinster.

The Belfast, Ulster, and National Banks are now above the circulation authorised by certificate.

FALL IN THE MARKET PRICE OF CORN.—We are informed that several persons who brought quantities of wheat into Galway, for sale at the market to-day, were so dissatisfied at the reduction in the current prices that they brought it back unsold, in the expectation that the war will soon cause prices to advance considerably again. In the expectation we think they are likely to be disappointed, for with the prospect of the forthcoming abundant harvest, it may be fairly expected that prices for the ensuing season will open moderately, and that speculators will act with caution.—*Galway Packet.*

THE HARVEST—THE POTATO CROP.—The potato blight has appeared slightly at Clogher, Coalisland, and Dunganon. In the neighborhood of Clonmel the rain was so heavy as to have lodged several fields of oats.—*Newry Examiner.*

With regard to the potato crop, we regret to say that unmistakable evidence of the appearance of its insidious enemy, the blight, is already too manifest. It is an aggravation of the case that the disease has manifested itself much earlier than usual, and, it is probable, in consequence may prove more injurious. The season is most favorable for the turnip and mangold crops, which are making a rapid and satisfactory progress. Grass also is progressing most favorably.—*Drogheda Argus.*

A correspondent of the *Cork Reporter* writes as follows:—"When the traveller reaches Ballincollig, about five miles from Cork, he will see traces of the potato blight in that locality, so plainly visible as to render inquiry unnecessary. From Ballincollig to Inniscarra, Dripsey, Coachford, Carrigrohoid, and into Macroom, the potato crop looks vigorous, healthy, and luxuriant. There does not appear to be any evidence of blight, and the potato fields, now in full blossom, reminding one of the olden time, when the esculent ripened untainted by disease, give promise of a plentiful return. On arriving in Macroom you find the market there supplied with good sized, dry potatoes, of the quarry and pink species, at 10d. the weight of 22lbs. There is not a particle of disease in those brought into the above named town for sale. Extending your rambles a few miles beyond Macroom, you both hear and see that the blight has fallen in some places on the leaves and stalks of the potato, the tubers being meanwhile as yet unaffected. In some places, even where there has been no blight, the appearance of the potato crop over ground affords no evidence of the return beneath. One would suppose from the vigorous look of the stalks that the potatoes were abundant, but such is not by any means the case."

The *Tipperary Free Press* says:—"In accordance with the directions of the Bishop of this diocese, prayers are now offered up in all the Catholic churches for the weather."

The accounts of the weather from Ireland are various. In some districts heavy rains had fallen, whilst in others the harvest was proceeding without interruption. On the whole, no injury has been sustained by the growing crops.—*Times.*

CURIOUS INCIDENT.—During the late floods a curious incident occurred in the parish of Dunboe. A house situated in Ballyhackett, at the foot of the mountain, was threatened to be inundated. The occupier went to endeavor to avert the stream, but in spite of all his exertions, it flowed on, and in a short time he was horrified at seeing the cradle with his infant child floating out at the door, and sailing fast towards the swollen stream. He made one desperate leap, and fortunately laid hold of it ere it was too late. During the course of the day, the flood subsided, and strange to say, underneath the bed were found three large eels and a fine trout.—*Coleatine Chronicle.*

THE ATTEMPTED ABDUCTION OF MISS ARBUTHNOT.—A correspondent of the *Freeman*, writing from Clonmel on Wednesday, makes the following allusion to this remarkable case:—"Chief Justice Monaghan and Mr. Justice Ball arrived here this evening from Waterford, and will open the assizes for the North Riding of Tipperary to-morrow morning at ten o'clock. The expected trial of Mr. John Carden, of Barnane, for the attempted abduction of Miss Arbuthnot, is exciting the greatest possible interest, and numerous wagers are staked on the result. The town is crowded with the gentry of the county, the members of the circuit bar, &c., and almost the sole topic of conversation is the trial, and speculation is busy as to Mr. Carden's chance. His friends speak in a most confident manner of the probability of his acquittal, and the certainty of a disagreement. The prosecution will be conducted by the Attorney-General, assisted by Mr. George, Q. C., and Mr. John Pennefather, the crown prosecutors for the circuit. The latter gentlemen have arrived, but the Attorney-General is not expected till to-morrow, Mr. Carden will be defended by Messrs. Martley, Q. C.; Rolleston, Q. C.; Lynch, Q. C.; and Shaw, all of which are in town. The bills of indictment to be sent up to the grand jury, it is stated, will charge every offence for which it is possible to expect a conviction, viz., abduction, attempted abduction, conspiracy to commit abduction, and aggravated and common assaults. The case is literally bursting with law points, and that it is that causes Mr. Carden's friends to be so hopeful, calculating that with the legal difficulties in the way good management will save him. The trial was fixed for Friday [yesterday] morning, but the bills will be sent up to the grand jury to-morrow morning, when Mr. Justice Ball, who will preside in the Crown Court, will explain to the jury for their guidance the law applicable to the case."

THE ALLEGED CASE OF ABDUCTION IN CORK.—The young man, John Walsh, who is still in custody for the abduction of Miss Spillane, was removed back to Bridewell, on Monday evening, and, by order of Captain Pollock, transmitted to the city gaol. The prison discipline appears to have had some effect in cooling the ardor of his affection, for an intimation was sent to the magistrates that if the prisoner was discharged from custody, Miss Spillane would be returned to her friends. Since the above was written, Miss Spillane has been discovered and restored to her friends. It is understood that she was residing during her absence at a place called Ballynoekin, near Mallow, and that on Friday night she returned to Cork.

CURIOUS MARRIAGE CASE.—In the Dublin Court of Chancery on Thursday, the case of Beamish v. Beamish was proceeded with. The question involved in the proceedings was the legitimacy of the petitioner and other children, whose father, the late Rev. Samuel Beamish, of Cork, was reputed to be. It appeared, from the statements of counsel, that the questions at issue are the following:—"An intimacy arose between a lady named Isabella Frazer and the Rev. Samuel Beamish. That gentleman was for several years (18 we believe) a beneficed clergyman in the diocese of Cork. The result of that intimacy was a family, as to whose legitimacy or illegitimacy the court was now to be informed. In support of the allegation, that the parties had been married, there was the positive statement of the lady herself, and the testimony of a servant named Catherine Coffey, who deposed that she looked through a window, and saw the marriage ceremony performed by the Rev. Samuel Beamish, he being bridegroom and officiating clergyman likewise, and Miss Frazer being the bride. In answer to this, it was stated by the opposing counsel that the case sought to be established by the respondent was that his brother, the Rev. Samuel Beamish was never married to Isabella Frazer, that he carried on an illicit intercourse with her, and had children by her, but that they never lived together as reputed man and wife; on the contrary, that he had repeatedly expressed to some highly respectable persons his great regret that the calamity of the connection between him and Isabella Frazer had ever occurred. Mr. Gayer submitted that a clergyman might administer to himself the sacrament of the Lord's Supper; why not, then, perform the ceremony of matrimony for himself? Lord Chancellor.—The administration of the sacrament of the Lord's Supper might be a matter of necessity, while it surely was not necessary that a clergyman should marry himself. The court declared its opinion that the validity of the marriage should be tried in an Assize trial."

CHOLERA.—Within our own shores the calamity has made its appearance with unusual terrors, the ill-ventilated and filthy alleys of Belfast and other provincial towns, securing it a congenial home. And surely Dublin has no reason to consider herself exempt from the plague with her putrid water supply, and her famishing artisans. It has been well said by a correspondent, commenting upon the conduct of the Master painters of Dublin in refusing to treat reasonable with the operatives on strike—"I now tell the persons who seek to spread poverty in Dublin, by starving the working people, that they are inviting cholera, typhus fever, and other diseases to our city, at a time when all should be anxious to avert those evils which are at our very doors while I write."—*Nation.*

IRELAND REQUIRES NO MONOPOLY.—If there ever was a nation, which in matters of intellect did not want "protection," to use the political word, it is the Irish. A stupid people would have a right to claim it when they would set up a university; but, if I were you, I would think twice before I paid so bad a compliment to one of the most gifted nations of Europe, as to suppose that it could not keep its ground, that it would not take the lead in the intellectual arena, though competition was perfectly open. If their "grec philosophorum" spread in the mediæval time over Europe in spite of the perils of sea and land; will they not fill the majority of chairs in their own university in an age like this, though those chairs were open to the world? No; a monopoly would make the cleverest people idle; it would sink the character of their undertaking, and Ireland herself would be the first to exclaim against the place of a great school of learning becoming mere pieces of patronage like so many Protestant sees.—*Catholic University Gazette.*

The *Triumph* left Limerick on Monday, for Quebec, with 85 female pauper emigrants; and more will follow in the course of a fortnight—all sent out by the Guardians. Some proselytising tracts were distributed on board the *Triumph*, but were thrown aside when their purport was discovered.

THE LATE RIOTS AT BELFAST—CHARGE OF MURDER.—At a Coroner's inquest held on Monday at Belfast, a verdict of murder was returned against Michael Stanford, now in custody, on the charge of causing the death of James Russell, by wounding him with a knife, in the late Orange riot, on Sunday last. We hope, however, that this melancholy event will be a warning to all who are inclined to join in these demonstrations of party hostility, which are so apt to end in serious mischief and the highest crimes.—*Belfast paper.*

The town of Clones exhibits at present the fruits of Orangeism, filled with drafts of the constabulary; a detachment of the 54th regiment on march on 13th inst., through the town, was insulted, and had to defend themselves against their Orange aggressor, for no other reason but because they had green facings, on their dress; the Orange got the worst in the row, and witnessed the hauling down of their colors, and their being trampled in the streets.—*Dundalk Democrat.*

In the last year 300 Protestants and 500 Catholic members of the Irish Constabulary force sent in their resignation. Sir Duncan M'Gregor has one-third of the patronage in the appointments, and the Lord Lieutenant two-thirds.

Kinsale, for many years an important military station, is now without a single soldier.

RESULTS OF THE BRIGADE TREASON.—The *Liverpool Journal* directs attention to the careless contempt exhibited towards Irish interests by the Coalition, since the Pledge-breakers succeeded in breaking up the Irish party:—"We can see how insolent this strong coalition government would be, if it were only enabled now and then to pass a measure! or to get rid of one without disgrace. If Lord John contrive to carry this bribery bill, we shall hear of Sydney and Hampden at least three times a week for the rest of the session. There is the same sort of tendency among the other members of the administration who are only kept in decent order by perpetual disasters. Sir John Young is so happy, hardened as he is with a mediocrity of felicity to political abuse, that, having quashed the Tenant Right Bill last week, this week there has been no keeping him in decorous subordination. He would not even condescend to appear at all on Wednesday, on the Irish Church debate. The day before, he treated Mr. Maguire's very proper application for hospital accommodation at Cork—the necessity of which the story of the ship *Divigo* illustrates—with an *insouciance*—Mr. Maguire being a mere independent member who stands aloof from government pay, and the classes interested, being mere poor emigrants—which disgusted the whole house—so much so, indeed, the indignation being expressed, that Sir George Grey had to apologise, and Lord John had to make a sort of semi-promise of attention to the matter; which is a good deal of concession from great Lords to poor emigrants. The whole discussion was very significant, of how little the House of Commons interests itself in affairs directly concerning the poor; and the incident also shows how completely the Irish Party is broken up, when a man with Mr. Maguire's ability and reputation can be thus summarily put down—20 or 30 Irish 'popular' members sitting opposite Mr. Maguire; but so shrinking from the Irish Secretary's whip, that not one of them dared mumble a word in Mr. Maguire's support."—[What else can Irishmen expect, if they will persist, in spite of such oft repeated, and bitter experience, in trusting in a parcel of "ministerial hacks," of miserable, mercenary place-holders and place-seekers. These are the "Yarmin't" who, worse than Orangemen, if it be possible to be viler than an Orangeman, bring misery upon their country, and disgrace upon the name of Irishmen; who, at all times, and in all places, have betrayed their country's cause; and whose only boast is, that they have a "country to sell." Fine fellows are they on the hustings; none so loud as they in defence of Liberal and Reform principles; alas that Irishmen should be so "soft-headed" as to put trust in them.—Ed. T. W.]

THE IRISH POPULATION IN GREAT BRITAIN—OFFICIAL RETURN.—No. 2 of the Population Tables issued by the compilers of the census is out. We now get at a class of figures about which there has been great disputes in the houses of parliament, before select committees and among the poor law union authorities of the United Kingdom, the proportion of Irish in the population of Great Britain, and in the various towns. It seems that out of the 20,959,477 inhabitants of Great Britain and the islands of the British Seas, whose birthplaces are determined, 733,866 were born in Ireland, and that of the 17,927,609 inhabitants of England and Wales, 519,959 were born in Ireland, and 130,087 in Scotland. About seven-tenths per cent. of the population of England and Wales were born in Scotland, three per cent. in Ireland. Of the 2,588,742 inhabitants of Scotland, 49,791 or one-sixth per cent. were born in England and Wales, 207,367 or seven per cent. in Ireland. The proportion of Englishmen in the population of Scotland is twice as great as the proportion of Scotchmen in the population of Scotland, but the tendency of the people born in Scotland to enter England has hitherto been seventeen times as great as the tendency of the English to enter Scotland. The stream of the Irish migration has flowed during the last ten years in a strong current towards Scotland, with a tendency proportional rather to what the native population of that great country should be than what it is, for of every 100 persons in Great Britain who were born in Ireland, 28 were living in Scotland, 71 in England. It is observable of the Irish in England and of the English in Scotland that the proportion of young persons under twenty to those of twenty and upwards, is as thirty-four and forty-five to 100 respectively. Of the Scotch in England the proportion of the young is much less, or only as twenty-four to 100. The number of persons in Great Britain who were born in Ireland was 419,256 in 1841, and 733,866 in 1851; the increase in the ten years has therefore been 314,610; and to supply the place of those who have died, and to constitute the increase, probably about 400,000 of the Irish population entered Great Britain in the ten years—1841-51. Of the Irish population in Great Britain, 219,397 were males, and 199,859 were females. Of persons born in Ireland, Liverpool contains 83,813; Manchester and Salford, 52,504; Birmingham, 9,241; Leeds, 8,466; Bradford, 9,279; Stockport, 5,701; Bristol, 4,761. In other large towns the Irish have settled in considerable numbers. Out of the 967,000 inhabitants of London of twenty years of age and upwards (the whole population is 2,362,000)—89,000 were born in Ireland. Of all ages there are 108,548 persons in London who were born in Ireland, 30,401 who were born in Scotland.—*Daily Express.*

At the Wexford Assizes, last week, the orphan children of Mr. and Mrs. Macsweeney, got £5,000 damages against the Great Southern and Western Railway Company, on account of the loss of their father and mother, who were killed by the railway accident at Straffan last autumn.

Mr. Justice Jackson addressed the Grand Jury upon opening the assizes at Athy on Wednesday. He said it was a subject of congratulation to himself, as well as to his learned colleague, to find, as they passed through the several counties on this circuit, the almost total absence of anything indicating the existence of crime and disorder. Not only were the several calendars light in reference to the number of prisoners, but the offences charged were unimportant.

The magistrates of Armagh county have agreed to apply for the removal of the extra police force, except 26. The number was 97.

IRISH BEAUTIES IN THE EAST.—An officer writing home from the camp at Devana, says:—"Two devilish pretty girls, who, if appropriately robed, would not disgrace the Sultan's harem, have found their way out here after their lovers, in spite of regimental orders, and in male attire. They are both Irish, and one embarked with a regiment from Liverpool, and the other from Dublin. Their beauty has already had such effect upon Turkish phlegmatism, that I saw the other day, an officer high in rank, who had come in from Omer Pasha's camp, actually lay down his pipe, a great effort by-the-by, to gaze upon one of those gems of the emerald Isle! A few more importations of this kind of freight would soon render Ireland a second Circassia in Eastern eyes; with this difference, that the enslaver would become the enslaved."

That able and interesting publication, *Notes and Queries*, has given an additional proof as to the knowledge (so stoutly denied by English writers) of letters amongst the Irish before their conversion to Christianity. The fact that they possessed such knowledge is stated in a work on cosmography, written by Hicæus, a Greek Pythagorean philosopher of the third century, and of which a Latin edition has lately been produced at Leipsic. Hicæus states that he visited Ireland, in person, and that he found the people in possession of an alphabet and literature, at that early period, two centuries before the era of St. Patrick.

GREAT BRITAIN.

THE ENGLISH CORN MARKET.—The accounts from the corn markets held on Saturday in Nottingham, Lincoln, Leicester, Doncaster, Worcester, Colchester, and Leeds, agree in stating, that in consequence of the favorable change in the weather, the crops are progressing rapidly to maturity, and the price of grain is falling. All over Ireland and in the greater part of Scotland, the weather last week was also most seasonable, and cannot fail to influence the markets.

THE NEW DRESS FOR THE ARMY.—After many suggestions and proposals this matter is decided. The patterns were sealed on Thursday, and the people will soon, after the lapse of more than a century, witness a revolution in the attire of their army. To commence at the head, the present unsightly and unpopular cap will be replaced by a shako, very light in regard to weight, soldier-like, and graceful in appearance, not unlike the cap of years back. The small ball, the substitute for the feather, will be retained, and the number conspicuously displayed. Speaking as we are, of course, of the officers' uniform, the coat will be in the shape of a tunic, or frock, scarlet in color, and double breasted, the facings indicating the number of the regiment. The collar will be low and open, with embroidered gold lace in heraldic crowns and stars, showing the rank of the officer. The shoulder-belt and breast-plate will be discontinued. In lieu thereof, there will be a white patent leather waist-belt, with gilt ornaments in front. Epulettes and sash will be abolished. The black trousers will be continued for the winter, and the Oxford, or 'bluish texture,' as Sir Charles Napier the soldier termed it, for the summer. The Guards, so long free from innovation, will, we believe, soon undergo a change in uniform. The cavalry uniform patterns have not yet been sealed. It is supposed the change in the latter will be on a limited scale.—*Morning Herald.*

NEW CANNON FOR THE BALTIC.—A new cannon and carriage of peculiar formation as regards the bore, has been sent from the ordnance department for shipment on board the *Vulture*, for passage to the Edinburgh, Rear-Admiral D. Chads. It is intended for the use of the long range projectile; it weighs 94 cwt. 3 qrs., and it is calculated to throw a projectile 9 inches by 8. The carriage is of new construction, and adequate to carry a long 95 cwt. gun for shot or shell. It is intended that all ships in the Baltic capable of carrying these guns are to have them put on board immediately.

ANGLO-SAXON FESTIVAL.—The *Times*, in a recent article on the proposed international festival, said—"How is it possible to hint, without offence to them (the French) that in reality they are not the guests of the English nation, but of a bath of fussy traders, at whose tables they would be sure to meet with every luxury save the letter H?" In a second edition the words in italics were omitted, being probably, on second thoughts, considered too offensive. The project, it appears, has been virtually given up. It is too late to have the proposed celebration this season; next year our allies will be occupied with their "Great Exhibition," and it will be somewhat late in 1856 to celebrate the union of 1854, even if, happily, it should last so long.

COMMERCIAL PATRIOTISM.—A curious scene has occurred twice in the House of Commons lately—nothing less than a set-to between the Home Secretary and the Financial Secretary of the Treasury. The Emperor of Russia desires to raise a loan in order to carry on the war. To prevent British capitalists from lending money to the enemy of their own Sovereign and country, Lord Dudley Stuart proposed a legislative enactment. Lord Palmerston warmly supported the Bill, which Mr. Wilson as energetically denounced. The Home Secretary took the statesmanlike and popular view of the question; the Secretary of the Treasury, on the contrary, viewed it as a political economist. Lord Palmerston stood upon high political principles; Mr. Wilson upon pounds, shillings and pence. Both he and Mr. Baring contended that the measure was unnecessary, for that no British capitalist would touch the unclean thing. Then why resist the Bill so fiercely! If Mammon be so pure and patriotic, why all this warmth in resisting a Bill, the object of which is to enforce decency and loyalty up-

on Mammon? The energy displayed in opposing this measure satisfies us, and we believe most people, and the pretence of Messrs. Baring and Wilson is false, and that the Bill is necessary to prevent our greedy money-seekers from infamously supplying the enemies of the country, with means to purchase powder and shot to slay our soldiers and sailors. The stupendous iniquity of such an intention is no proof of its improbability. We know that British Merchants were so steeped in selfishness and scoundrelism as to supply the Kaffirs with ammunition during the late Kaffir war. Considering the inferior position occupied by Mr. Wilson in the Government, we cannot help thinking his conduct—and especially his contemptuous tone in debate, after a leading cabinet Minister had spoken warmly in support of the Bill, and after the announcement that the President of the Council concurred with the Home Secretary—was very audacious; but to become a teller for the Opposition in the division which followed was really a monstrous piece of subordinate insubordination. The conduct of Sir William Molesworth and Mr. Lowe in declining to vote was perfectly legitimate. They entertained doubts as to the effect of the measure, and reserved their votes. But no Government can long last that tolerates such an unseemly exhibition as that made by the Joint Secretary of the Treasury on the Russian Securities Bill. The House of Commons supported the measure by overwhelming majorities, and we trust it may speedily receive the Royal assent. Our only fault with it, is that it imposes too mild a penalty for so gross a crime against the State as that which it is intended to prevent.—*Catholic Standard.*

THE ATTEMPTED REVIVAL OF CONVOCATION.—That the Protestant Convocation can ever be really restored we suppose no sensible person, not even those agitators who are most eagerly proclaiming this impossible idea, can imagine. Institutions which were dead and buried above a hundred years ago can no more be re-suscitated than individuals. The Anglicans could as easily bring back the historical assembly called Convocation, as King Olho's Ministry could recall the Amphilyonic Council. The name only remains; and a mere fragment embedded in the accretions of later times. Vainly may the politico-ecclesiastical antiquary seek to impart life to what has only been retained from that antiquarianism which is the national characteristic of the English people. They are the creatures of custom, and the acute Whig Ministers who strangled Convocation in days long gone by knew this well, and did their work all the more effectually for leaving a trace here and there of what they destroyed. Dr. Wilberforce and the other revivers of the Convocation of Canterbury (for the Puseyites, who make the reconstruction of this assembly a watchword for that it is only a representation of a part of the Establishment) show a good deal of ingenuity in withdrawing those claims which the Parliament would never, under any circumstances, allow, and insist on those only which, if granted, would make Convocation a useful servant to the State, without any pretensions to supremacy. Practically, it is conceded that in questions of faith the ultimate authority is the Queen in Council. The Convocation does not profess to interfere with that. How indeed could it, when there is no fixed principle for it to proceed upon, when each of the four or five parties which divide the establishment is alike represented in it, and according to Doctor Wilberforce, most fortunately so? But although as completely subject to its lord, the British Government, as the ocean is to the glimpses of the moon, an humble office still remains for Convocation, which the subtle Superintendent of Oxford perceives she may fill without offence, and yet, by retaining its name and organisation, in some degree meet the ideas of those "Romanising" members who demand what the Greeks would have called the autonomy of their Church. Convocation may discharge the office of a committee of the Parliament. It may debate on matters afterwards to be referred to that superior authority; may collect facts, form the materials of opinion, report on what it ascertains, and make demands to be granted or dismissed with as little ceremony as Homer's Jupiter partly grants the prayers of his supplicants, partly whiffs them away into the vacant air. Very possibly no part of the proposed reconstruction may actually take effect. So far, all has been merely on sufferance, and in itself as distinct from real business as the chirpings of the grasshoppers to which the same poet likens the reminiscences of his worn-out warriors. But it is quite conceivable that a liberty of action, with the important limitations to which we have adverted, may be allowed to this relic of the past.—*Tablet.*

Belgravia still continues in a great state of excitement. The High and Low Church fight still rages high, and the presence of the police is required to keep them from breaking each other's heads. Meantime, I am glad to say, several of the more sensible have taken refuge in the bosom of the Holy Catholic Church, and are under the instruction of the good Fathers of the Oratory at Brompton. Some excitement was created at Kensington last Sunday, by two of the Brothers of the Little Oratory visiting a cluster of buildings occupied almost exclusively by Irish Catholics, for the purpose of forming a reading-room which is to be the nucleus of a school to oppose the Soupers who have located there, and who, by the influence of rags soup, have trapped about fifty of our poor children. Both the Brothers addressed the people in the open space, and denounced the soul-traffic of the Soupers. We understand it is their intention to visit this place repeatedly during the week on the opening of the room, and on every Sunday night. The Brothers of St. Vincent de Paul would do well to take this hint.—*Correspondent of Glasgow Free Press.*

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS ON SUNDAYS.—The select committee of the House of Commons, appointed to examine into the system under which public-houses, coffee-houses, and other places of public entertainment are now regulated, have agreed to their report, and laid it before the House. The committee, referring to the evidence which they have taken, notice the great advantage which has been derived by the public of Dublin from the opening, on Sundays, of the grounds of the Zoological Society, in the Phoenix Park, Dublin, at a charge of one penny. Further on, the committee say—"A working man, living in the neighborhood of the Crystal Palace, states that there is great drunkenness on Sunday night in the public-houses at Norwood. A great number of people come down to see the building during the Sunday, and stop at the public-houses, where they get intoxicated, and make a great disturbance during the evening." This is precisely what in the neighborhood of Chatsworth used to happen during the period the grounds remained closed; and from his experience on that occasion,

Sir Joseph Paxton apprehends persons going to see the Crystal Palace would, in the first place, be too tired by their exertions in going round it to have any inducement to go to the public-houses to drink. Their wish would be to take recreation, and see the beautiful objects which the place contains; and when they had been there several hours, he does not think there would be a tendency to stop and drink. The prevention to the admission of the public to the Crystal Palace on Sunday arises from the Act of George II., which prohibits money from being taken for admission to any place on Sunday. The act is evaded at several music saloons, tea gardens, &c., by the sale of refreshment tickets being made to cover a nominally free admission.

This determination of the committee has aroused the holy indignation of the conventicle. But a large section of the public press approves of it highly.—*We copy from the Northern Whig*—

"While commenting, on a former occasion, on the advantages to the public, which might be expected to arise from the opening of the Sydenham Palace, we noticed the drawback, from its benefits, which existed in its being entirely shut up on Sundays. As they do with many other institutions in this country, the wealthy have been able to exclude from the moral benefit of the Crystal Palace, those very classes whom it would be most desirable to invite within its walls. Rich hypocrites in these lands, who have no temptation to step abroad on Sundays, shut up public gardens, public museums, and public picture-galleries on Sundays, because it is on Sundays that such places would be most accessible to the poor, and because this shutting up is no deprivation to themselves, as Sundays are no more leisure days to them than Saturdays or Mondays, and because, besides, they have their own gardens and pictures at home. That, if the Palace at Sydenham were opened on Sundays, after the hours of Divine service, it would be the great day of attendance by the working and poorer classes, we may calculate upon as a certainty. The opening of Kew Gardens, on Sundays, has increased the annual attendance from 9,174 (in 1841) to 331,210. In other words, the opening of Kew Gardens on Sundays has made a great many thousands of poor people healthier, happier, more moral, and more Christian. Injury may have been done to some few parties, to be sure, as there never can be any measure of unmixed good in the world. The opening of palaces, such as Kew and Hampton Palace, on Sundays, and the establishment of Sunday railway trains, have, no doubt, done serious injury to the selling of intoxicating liquors, and have, also, deeply grieved the souls of a class of aspirants to the false reputation of being religious, who, living in the habitual neglect of all religious restraints, as far as their own personal conduct is concerned, signalise their ostentatious piety by the sacrifice, as far as is in their power, of the Christian liberties of their fellow-subjects. We understand that there is now a movement amongst the shareholders of the Crystal Palace Company, to aid in the work of educating the people, and removing them from the debasing and vicious enjoyments by which they are at present beset, by throwing open the gates of the Palace on Sundays, after or between the hours of church service. In order to effect the truly philanthropic and Christian object which they have in view, the proprietors are to make a beginning, by opening the Palace to the shareholders. A meeting is to be held, on the 20th inst., for the purpose of taking into consideration, and deciding, on a proposition to this effect. We can hardly doubt that, amongst a body of gentlemen, many of whom have, on various occasions, and in a variety of ways, shown that their professed zeal for the moral regeneration of the humbler classes, is no pretext, but a living principle of action, there will be found a large majority ready to take this first step, in opposition to a system of cruel fanaticism, which is one of the most active agents in maintaining the vice and misery which prevail amongst the increasing masses in the land.—Fearing of a coming emancipation from the chains of their tyranny, we observe an agitation arising amongst the enemies of the poor and the Christian observance of the Lord's day. Mr. Oliveira, whose public life has been honorably marked by a course of laborious efforts to promote the comfort, the elevation, the happiness, and the rational enjoyment of the people, and whose name appears in almost every philanthropic scheme devised for their moral education, and particularly for delivering them from the enthrallment of debasing excitements, has, on account of his persevering and laudable exertions to open the Sydenham Palace on Sundays, been bitterly assailed, by a Mr. Edward Baines, in a series of sophistical letters, in which the writer denounces, as a positive sin, the opening of the Sydenham Palace, and the contemplation of the beauties of nature and art on the Lord's day; or as Mr. Baines, in the depth of his ignorance of the history, as well as the spirit, of Christianity calls it 'the Sabbath,' as if it were Saturday, and not Sunday. Disguise it as Mr. Baines may attempt to do, the whole tenor of his argument amounts to this—that while to read God's written Word on Sunday is a duty, to read His unwritten Word is a sin; and that a man cannot be as devout in the green fields, in the Crystal Palace, and in the British Museum, as within the walls of a Church—even if it were here a question which it is not, of setting up Sunday trains and Crystal Palaces against Churches—whereas the opposition of the Sunday trains and the Crystal Palace are wholly operative against Sunday taverns and all the immoralities which follow from drunkenness, in the promotion of which gentlemen like Mr. Baines are the most active agents, whom the spirit who rejoices in man's moral guilt and degradation, could desire to employ. The triumph of the work of these men, and of the master whom they serve, is to be seen in the moral, or rather statistics of Glasgow. Glasgow has no Sunday Gardens, no Sunday Museums, no Sunday Crystal Palaces, and no Sunday trains. It is a city made holy after the fashion of Mr. Baine's holiness. It is crammed with false professors of piety, and with would-be subverters of Christianity, who, like Mr. Baines, call the Sunday the 'Sabbath,' and hence, both from its wants and its possessions, it is the most drunken and the most depraved city in the empire."

In London, with a population of two and a half millions, the total number of deaths for the week ending July 1st, was 1,299.

The *Mining Journal* promises a speedy relief from the present scarcity of material for making paper, stating that patents are secured for the process and machinery necessary to convert the fibres of various plants grown in our own colonial possessions, within the tropics, into material calculated to supply the place of flax, hemp, and rags.

REMITTANCES TO ENGLAND, IRELAND, AND SCOTLAND.
 SHORT SIGHT BILLS from One Pound upwards, negotiable in any part of the United Kingdom, are drawn on the Union Bank of London, London.
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 National Bank of Scotland, Edinburgh.
 By HENRY CHAPMAN & Co., St. Sacrament Street.
 Montreal, February 9, 1854.

THE TRUE WITNESS AND CATHOLIC CHRONICLE,
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THE TRUE WITNESS
 AND
 CATHOLIC CHRONICLE.
 MONTREAL, FRIDAY, AUGUST 18, 1854.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

We have dates from Europe up to the 2nd inst. by the steamer *Union*; the news is of little interest. The Russians are abandoning Bucharest, and are taking up a position on the Sereth. A council of war, at which all the Generals of the Allied Armies assisted has been held at Varna; an immediate expedition against the Crimea has, it is said, been determined upon. From the Baltic, we have nothing new; but it now seems certain that Sir C. Napier will not dash his head against the granite bastions of Cronstadt. The operations in that quarter will, for the present, most likely, be confined to a strict blockade of the Northern ports.

A slight republican *emêute* at Paris had led to the arrest of some of the ringleaders. At Madrid tranquillity has been restored. The Queen has accepted the terms proposed by Espartero, whose star is again in the ascendant, and the triumph of the insurgents is complete, until the next Revolution.

By the *America*, we learn that the Russians were evacuating Wallachia, and that Omar Pacha was expected at Bucharest on the 21st ult. Cholera had made its appearance amongst the British troops.—The *Times* announces that an attack is about to be made on Sebastopol by a body of 80,000 to 100,000 men—French, British, and Turks.

The "Canadian Legislative Bill" passed its second reading in the House of Commons on the 4th inst.

TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS.

The commencement of the fifth volume of the *TRUE WITNESS* furnishes us with an appropriate occasion, of which we gladly avail ourselves, to say a few words to our friends upon a subject upon which, as a general rule, we care not to dilate. We will then take this opportunity to "say a few words boldly" to our friends, about ourselves, and the policy which we have hitherto pursued.

And first, to our subscribers would we return thanks for the substantial support, and cordial encouragement which we have received from many amongst them. In common with our brethren of the press, we have to complain of the dilatoriness of some, in paying up their subscriptions, and of the consequent inconvenience to which we are often exposed. But as our City collector is about to call personally on all who are in arrears—and as an interval of, in some cases three years, has elapsed since we last heard from some of them—we trust that he will be favorably received, and that the amounts due to this office may be at once paid up, without further trouble, either to ourselves, or to the defaulters. To our different agents throughout the country, our thanks are also justly due, and sincerely tendered. To their kind exertions we are indebted for many new names on our subscription list, and confidently hope that we shall be indebted for many more.

It is a less pleasant task to speak of ourselves, and the policy which the *TRUE WITNESS* has pursued; but a few words in explanation of the one, and in reply to certain personal attacks upon the editor of the *TRUE WITNESS*, will, we trust, be allowed to us.

It has been objected that the *TRUE WITNESS* is too *political*; and in consequence has deviated from the pledges given in its original prospectus. How far this objection is well founded will be seen from a passage in the prospectus alluded to:—

"The *TRUE WITNESS* will not be a political paper, in the ordinary acceptation of the word. Confining ourselves to the discussion of those measures, the effects of which may be advantageous or prejudicial to the moral and religious well-being of the community—the acts, and not the persons of the members of the Ministry, will alone form the subjects of our censures or of our praise."—*True Witness*, Aug. 16th, 1850.

Thus it is clear, that, though the *TRUE WITNESS* pledged itself to abstain from all purely *political* questions, it by no means bound itself to keep silence on *politico-religious* questions, or questions into which the religious, as well as the secular, element enters. In these questions we not only feel at liberty, as Catholic journalists, to take part; but we feel that it is our duty to do so; as on their solution depend the moral and religious interests of this great country.

Accordingly, the *TRUE WITNESS* has devoted much of its columns to the discussion of two questions, which, at present, occupy a prominent place in public attention—viz., the "School Question" and the "Clergy Reserves" Question. Now, if these questions are *politico-religious*, that is, if they present a religious, as well as a secular side, the *TRUE WITNESS*, in discussing them, does not deviate from, but strictly adheres to, the course laid down in its prospectus for its guidance.

That the "School Question" is as much a question of religion, as of secular politics—that the spiritual, as well as the material, interests of the Catholic community are involved therein—needs, we think, no lengthy argument to establish. The simple fact, that the Catholic Church, speaking by the voice of her Prelates in Synod assembled—and whose decrees have been stamped with the recognition of Christ's Vicar on earth—has repeatedly, and in diverse countries—in Europe and America, in Ireland as in Canada—solemnly pronounced condemnation on the "Common" or "Mixed" school system, is sufficient to place the "School Question," or the question of Education in all its ramifications, amongst those *politico-religious* questions which it is the duty of the Catholic journalist to discuss, as the *great Catholic question* of the day. Every other question, therefore, which directly, or indirectly, can affect the solution of this great question properly belongs to the domain of *politico-religious* questions; has its religious, as well as its secular side; and forms the proper subject of discussion in a professedly Catholic journal.

Is it possible to over-estimate the importance of the "School Question" on the future of Catholicity? But the other day, the Catholic world was startled by the announcement that, within a few years, and in one country—the United States of America—Two MILLIONS OF SOULS had been lost to God and His Church, and gained to Hell and the Devil. It was publicly stated by a Catholic clergyman that, of the descendants of Catholic Irishmen, this fearful number had become—not converts to Anglicanism, Methodism, Presbyterianism, Jumperism, or any other form of dogmatic Protestantism—but apostates to the Catholic Faith; simply that they had left the Church, not that they had gone to swell the numbers of any other religious denomination. At this announcement, over which the Powers of Hell must have gloated, whilst Angels wept, Protestantism confidently foretold the downfall of the Catholic Church on this Continent; whilst Catholics, though of course recognising some exaggeration in the statement, could not but admit that it contained also much truth. But upon one point, Catholics and Protestants were agreed; both attributed the loss to the Catholic Church, and the consequent damnation of so many myriads of souls; to the pernicious and demoralising influences of the "Common" or "Mixed" school system. The grog-shop, the gambling-house, and the brothel, count their victims by thousands and tens of thousands; the Common Schools of America count theirs by MILLIONS.

In Canada is rapidly growing up the same accursed system as that which has borne such deadly fruit in the neighboring Republic. It flourishes here, and threatens to extend itself beneath the fostering care of the Government. And here too, if unchecked, if not at once, and effectually crushed by the vigorous and united efforts of the Catholic body, will the results be the same. We are indeed, in some respects, more happily situated than are our neighbors. We have a more numerous—we do not say a more zealous or devoted—body of Clergy; we have the schools of the Christian Brothers, and of the Nuns; we have Catholic Colleges and Seminaries, and numerous well conducted educational Institutions. But it does not thence follow that we can afford to despise the schemes of the enemy of souls; or that because, in Lower Canada, we may, at present, laugh his puny efforts to scorn, that in Upper Canada—where our brethren are poor, and enjoy few of the advantages which we, in this section of the Province, still can boast of—the work of perversion may not yet be crowned with results almost, if not quite, as fearful as those which have been brought about by the "Common" or "Mixed" schools of the United States.

We contend then that the question of Education, or the School Question, and every other question which can directly, or indirectly affect its solution, are religious, as well as political questions; affecting "the moral and religious" well being of the Catholic community; and are therefore questions which, by the terms of its prospectus, the *TRUE WITNESS* is bound to discuss.

We may say the same of the Clergy Reserves question; which is not only directly connected with the School Question, but is so inseparably bound up with it, that one cannot be fairly discussed without discussing the other. Besides, the discussion of the "Reserves" question immediately opens up the whole question of the relations of Church and State; involving the questions, of State assistance in aid of religion, and of the inviolability of religious endowments. It would therefore have been impossible for the *TRUE WITNESS*, consistently with the pledges contained in its prospectus, to have refrained from discussing the Clergy Reserves question; or to have kept silent upon the inevitable effects of secularisation, and the Ministerial plan for placing the funds so secularised, at the disposal of "Common" or "Mixed" schools, *exclusively*; a measure which, —if, through the apathy or venality, of Catholics it be allowed to pass—must inevitably, and within a short period, bring destruction upon the Catholic, or separate schools of Upper Canada, and which exposes all our ecclesiastical institutions in the Lower Province to the openly threatened attacks of our enemies.

Having thus shown that, according to the terms of its prospectus, the *TRUE WITNESS* was bound to discuss all questions of a *politico-religious* nature—and that both the School Question, and the Clergy Reserves Question are *politico-religious* questions, and therefore questions which fall within the legitimate province of a professedly religious journal—we will say a few words as to the manner and spirit in which the *TRUE WITNESS* has discussed them.

We have discussed them as a Catholic, and not as the political partisan; with reference to their effects

upon the interests of the Church, and with perfect indifference as to their influence upon the fortunes of parties, the interests of the Ministry, or the distribution of Government patronage; much, no doubt, to the disgust of Mr. Tomkins of the Red Sealing Wax Office, and of his dear brother, Mr. Styles, of the "Tape and Fool's-cap Department," who naturally dread the thought of being pushed from those high stools which they occupy with so much advantage to themselves, if not to society at large. From this quarter—that is, from place-holders, and from expectant place-holders, from those who have sold themselves, and from those who are still in the market waiting for some man to buy them—and from this quarter only, have we met any opposition; whilst from the independent Catholic body, we have received the most encouraging expressions of approval for the course which we have pursued, and for the policy which we have adopted; and which, once for all, we will define, as the policy to which we intend to adhere.

As Catholics, much that is dear to us is seriously menaced; we have therefore much to "Conserve."—As citizens, rights to which we are entitled are unjustly withheld from us; we have therefore much to "Reform." Now we may take it as a general rule, that all secular Governments, all administrations, are jealous of, and hostile to the Catholic Church: that they all, despite their liberal professions, rejoice to see her power and influence diminished—that none, not even the best of them, will ever sincerely labor to enlarge her sway: and that therefore, we need never expect anything from them but what we can compel them to yield, but what we can wrest from them by force.

Now if these premises be true—and the history of the world for high two thousand years, proves them to be so—it follows that Catholic rights will never be "Conserved," nor Catholic wrongs "Reformed," unless Catholics themselves adopt a bold and independent policy: unless they give up all fawning and cringing upon the secular powers; unless they give up toadying and truckling to the dispensers of Ministerial patronage; unless their policy has some nobler aim than a paitry government situation for themselves and friends; unless, in fact, they are determined to be neither bought nor sold. "Independent Opposition," the policy of Catholic Ireland, is the policy of the Catholics of Canada.—Opposition, steady, constant, uncompromising opposition to every Ministry which does not make "Justice to Catholics," part of its Ministerial programme. By "Justice to Catholics" we mean the concession of all claims which the Church—the sole competent judge in the premises—has declared to be just.

It is thus only that "Freedom of Education" for Catholics will ever be obtained. For many years, we have been coquetting with a *nominal* Liberal Ministry; trusting, in its fine promises, and not, as we should have done, relying on our own exertions. And what has been the result? What has been gained to the cause of "Free Education?" Nothing; we have not advanced one step; we have not made good one inch of ground. Nay! if in anything changed, our position has changed for the worse, under the auspices of Mr. Hincks' Liberal administration; and justice to Catholic Schools is further off than ever. We have had five promises, which have never been, and never were meant to be, fulfilled; and after four years, trusting and relying on the good faith of statesmen, we are roused from the dreams of a fool's paradise, in which too many amongst us have been indulging, by the announcement of the Prime Minister, "THAT HE IS OPPOSED TO SEPARATE SCHOOLS." No wonder that the "Act Supplementary of 1853 has turned out a "snare and a mockery;" the only wonder is, that Catholics should ever have allowed themselves to be duped by Mr. Francis Hincks. Surely we have tried the "confiding policy" long enough; let us now try what Independent Opposition can do for us. If it does us no good, it certainly can do us no harm.

This is the policy of the *TRUE WITNESS*; for advocating which it has been branded with Toryism by men who, if they were asked for a definition of Toryism, would not know what to answer. However, if it be Toryism, it is the only policy—as all experience shows—by which anything has ever been obtained for the Church from the State; it is the policy by means of which the patriots of Ireland wrung justice from the hands of their enemies; it is the policy which must commend itself to every honest mind, though of course it will be distasteful to the sordid, the mercenary, and venal. Finally, it is the policy which the *TRUE WITNESS* has always adopted, and to which, without regard to consequences, it intends with God's help to adhere for the future. We may add too, that it is the policy recommended to the Catholics of Canada by the Catholic Institute of Toronto. It is a pity that it was not more faithfully adhered to during the late elections.

The *Quebec Colonist* of the 11th inst., professes to reply to certain queries propounded to him by the *TRUE WITNESS* of the 4th. Of these the first was:

"Does not Mr. Hincks' 'Reserves' Bill give to the different County Municipalities of Upper Canada power to appropriate the funds accruing from the secularised Reserves to common or Non-Catholic School purposes?"—*True Witness*, 4th August.

The second question was:—

"Is not the same Bill so drawn up as to prohibit the said Municipalities from appropriating one farthing of the above mentioned funds to Catholic school purposes?"—*Id.*

The *Quebec Colonist* answers:—

"We cannot see how the Editor of the *True Witness* can see anything in the way the Bill is drawn up to justify him in saying that it prohibits the appropriation of Municipal funds to Catholic school purposes."

There is in this reply, a skilful, though not very

honest, transposition of terms; for—"funds accruing from the secularised Reserves"—our cotemporary substitutes "Municipal funds," in general. But let that pass: by the law as it stands at present, Catholic separate schools cannot share in any distribution of the "Municipal funds." Our cotemporary says that "he cannot see" how "we can see," anything in Mr. Hincks' Bill, prohibiting the appropriation of these funds to Catholic school purposes.—This must be owing to one of two causes. Either our cotemporary has taken no pains to compare the clauses of Mr. Hincks' Bill, with those of the existing School Acts for Upper Canada: or else the glitter of Ministerial gold has blinded his otherwise acute eyes, and rendered him not only unable, but unwilling, to see the truth. As the proverb says—"None are so blind as those who won't see."

Besides, the *Toronto Leader*, the Ministerial organ of Upper Canada, in an article, which we copied into our columns on the 28th ult.—and which we commend to the attention of the *Quebec Colonist*—clearly pointed out, how, the manner in which Mr. Hincks' Bill was worded, whilst it made the funds accruing from the secularised Reserves, disposable for Non-Catholic school purposes, put it completely out of the power of the County Municipalities to devote one penny thereof to Catholic or separate school purposes. This, in the eyes of the said Ministerial organ, constituted one of the principal excellencies of Mr. Hincks' Bill; and in his speech at the public dinner in London, to which we alluded in our last, Mr. Hincks not only put on record his "opposition to separate schools," but claimed the support of all Non-Catholics for his Bill, because, in his own words:—

"WHEN THE FUND WAS GIVEN TO THE MUNICIPALITIES, IT COULD NOT BE APPLIED TO SECTARIAN PURPOSES."

Now, according to the peculiar terminology in vogue amongst the enemies of our religion, by "sectarian purposes" is meant, the support of Catholic separate schools. Again we say, the blindness of our cotemporary is marvellous: and can be attributed to no less an agency than that of the "Almighty Dollar."

And to come to the words of the Bill itself—Mr. Hincks' measure provides that the County Municipal Councils shall have power to appropriate the funds accruing from the secularised Clergy Reserves to those purposes only for which they can at present legally raise money. Now, the at present existing School Laws give no power to Municipal Councils to raise money for Catholic separate school purposes: but provide, that, Catholic separate schools shall not share "in any school money raised by local Municipal assessment."—*Act Supplementary, Sec. IV.*

Thus, as by the at present existing School Laws for Upper Canada, the County Municipal Councils are prohibited from raising money for Catholic separate school purposes—and, as by Mr. Hincks' Bill the said Councils are not authorised to devote any portion of the funds accruing from the secularised Clergy Reserves to purposes for which they cannot at present legally raise money—it follows that the County Municipal Councils aforesaid, are, by Mr. Hincks' Bill, effectually prohibited from devoting one farthing of the fund accruing from the secularised Clergy Reserves, to Catholic separate school purposes. The *Quebec Colonist* must indeed be blind if he cannot perceive this. Again we recommend him to study the article from the *Toronto Leader*, which he will find in the *TRUE WITNESS* of the 28th ult.

Our cotemporary, still afflicted with the same dimness of mental vision:—

"So thick a drop serene hath quenched his orbs"
 "Or dim suffusion veiled;"

protests that he "cannot see:"—

"how the measure is unjust towards Catholics, or injurious towards that system of Catholic separate schools which the Bishops of Canada have called upon their flocks to establish."

Here again one sees the misfortune of being sold to a Ministry. A journal, *professedly* Catholic, "cannot see" the injustice of a measure, which lavishes funds accruing from the *public* property of the country—(for when the Clergy Reserves are secularised, they immediately become *public* property)—upon Non-Catholic schools—upon schools pronounced by the voice of the Church, altogether dangerous to faith and morals; but which refuses to allow Catholic schools—schools recommended by the Church—to receive one penny of the same *public* funds! It is unjust to Catholics, because Catholics are, by right, entitled to receive as much support from the *public* funds for Catholic schools, as Non-Catholics are, for their Non-Catholic schools; it is unjust, because it is unjust on the part of the Government to favor one particular denomination more than another; it is unjust, for the same reason that the Irish Protestant church establishment is unjust towards the Catholics of Ireland; finally, it is unjust towards the Catholics of Upper Canada for the same reason that the present distribution of the Reserves, is unjust towards those Protestant sects which have no share therein.

And the measure will be injurious to Catholic separate schools, because it will increase the already numerous advantages which the Non-Catholic schools possess over the Catholic schools. If it takes nothing from the latter, it adds enormously to the power, wealth and influence of the former. But it does take from Catholic separate schools; not indeed what they have; but what if the Reserves are secularised in justice they are entitled, to have; viz., a fair share of the funds devoted to school purposes, accruing from the said secularised Reserves, according to the number of children attending such Catholic separate schools.

But, argues our cotemporary, as Catholics cannot pretend that the Reserves ever belonged to them:—
 "We cannot see how their division to general pur-

poses, is injurious to separate schools, or unjust towards Catholics.—The italics are our own.

Blind as a mole again poor Colonist: You do not see—because you purposely ignore the fact, that, amongst these "general" purposes is one, and the most important of all, in which Catholics cannot share. They cannot share in any division made by the County Municipal Councils for "school purposes," because no honest Catholic will ever allow his child to attend any of the only schools for whose use and behoof the Municipal Councils can legally make such division. Therefore it is unjust towards Catholics; as the division, though nominally "general," will be in reality sectarian, and of such a nature that the supporters of Catholic separate schools, will be effectually deprived of their share thereof.

Besides our cotemporary says again:—"What they?"—Catholics—"never owned, they could never lose."

Therefore, by parity of reasoning, the present distribution of the Clergy Reserves amongst one or two sects only, is not unjust towards those sects which are not allowed to participate therein; for, "as the latter never owned the Clergy Reserves, they have lost nothing by being deprived of them." But we say—that the moment the Reserves are secularised they become public property; and that therefore Catholics do own them, as much as do Protestants; and that therefore a distribution of these common funds, in which Catholics can not participate, does rob them of "what they own," or possess. If, for instance, from the General Revenue of the Province, a sum were to be annually and exclusively appropriated to the Catholic schools of Lower Canada, would not the Protestant supporters of separate schools in this section of the Province immediately exclaim against the injustice done them? and would they not treat with contempt the argument of the Quebec Colonist—"You never owned the General Revenue; therefore you lose nothing by the appropriation of which you complain." False—they would answer; we lose that share of the General Revenue to which we are, of right, entitled.

The last argument of the Colonist contains such an ingenious quibble that we must lay it before our readers:—

"We cannot but imagine that if the Municipalities receive aid from the Clergy Reserves fund in their appropriations for general purposes, for roads," &c., &c.—(our cotemporary carefully avoids saying schools)—"for which Catholics as well as Protestants are liable and obliged to pay, it is so far a help to separate schools, as it will enable the Catholics, who would be taxed to make up what the Reserves fund will meet, to contribute so much more towards the support of Catholic separate schools."

Yes—"it will be so far a help" to Catholic schools; but will it be so far a help to them and their supporters, as it will be to the supporters of the Non-Catholic schools—who will not only be equally exempted from the taxation which would have been levied on them to "make up what the Reserves fund will meet"—but who will also receive, from the County Municipalities, direct assistance in the shape of appropriations of money, for the support of their Non-Catholic schools—assistance, be it remembered, which will be refused to the supporters of Catholic schools? And if Mr. Hincks' Bill be not "so far a help" to the latter, as it is to the former—if it does not confer equal advantages both on Catholic and on Protestant schools—is it a just measure?—and if it be not just towards Catholics, is it one which honest Catholics should support?

The plain statement of the case is this. Every man who votes for Mr. Hincks' Bill, votes in substance as follows:—

That the Catholic schools of Upper Canada shall not be entitled to share in the sums accruing from the secularisation of the Clergy Reserves; which sums shall be devoted exclusively to the fostering and encouraging of a godless and anti-Catholic system of education, which twice, in Provincial Council assembled, the Fathers of the Catholic Church have condemned as dangerous to faith and morals.

No amount of sophistry, no amount of quibbling can disguise this fact, or invalidate the force of our argument. It is only upon the plea that the Clergy Reserves are general property, hitherto unjustly or injudiciously diverted to a particular purpose, that the justice of secularisation can be defended. But the moment you admit them to be general property, you deny to them all particular character; and admit them to be just as much Catholic as Protestant property. Now, any appropriation of these general funds for a particular purpose—as for instance, the support of Non-Catholic schools, exclusively—is unjust, and ought to be opposed by every honest Catholic; no matter what the consequences of that opposition may be.

But of what avail wasting words? The Quebec Colonist knows, as well as we do, as well as the Toronto Leader knows, that in the distribution of the secularised Clergy Reserves funds, as provided for by Mr. Hincks' Bill, Non-Catholic schools alone will be admitted to share: and that consequently that Bill proposes to inflict monstrous injustice upon Catholic schools, and their supporters. And yet the Quebec Colonist deliberately, seeks to blind its readers, as to the tendencies of that measure; claiming at the same time the confidence and support of the Irish Catholics of Quebec; and rebuking the Editor of the TRUE WITNESS for not being "Irish himself" and therefore "going a little too far" when he presumes to put himself in opposition to the Quebec Colonist. We are not going to insist upon our own merits; we will simply appeal to the good sense of our readers; leaving it to them to judge betwixt the TRUE WITNESS and the Quebec Colonist. One or the other must be deceiving them most grossly.

The question at issue is a simple matter of fact. "Is," or "is not," Mr. Hincks' Bill so worded as to prohibit the County Municipal Councils from appro-

propriating one farthing of the funds accruing from the secularised Clergy Reserves to Catholic school purposes? The TRUE WITNESS says it is; the Quebec Colonist says—or at least tries to leave the impression upon the minds of its readers—that it is not. If it is not so worded, then is the TRUE WITNESS a deceiver, and unworthy of the confidence of Irishmen and Catholics. But if it is, then is the Quebec Colonist a hireling scribbler, who seeks to delude his fellow-countrymen and co-religionists. There is no other question at issue, at present betwixt us; and by this are we content to abide.

In order to enable our readers to decide betwixt the TRUE WITNESS and the Quebec Colonist, we give, side by side, extracts from our Quebec cotemporary of the 11th inst., and from the Toronto Leader—the Ministerial organ of Upper Canada—It will thus be seen that, where Protestants are in the majority, the Ministerial papers commend Mr. Hincks' Bill to the support of Protestants, because it is so drawn up, as to prohibit the County Municipal Councils from appropriating one penny of the secularised Clergy Reserves fund to Catholic school purposes; whilst, where Catholics are in the majority, as in Lower Canada, another set of Ministerial "hacks" recommend the same Bill to the support of Catholics, because it is not so drawn up.

Toronto Leader (Ministerial) U. C. Quebec Colonist (Ministerial) L. C. "When the Clergy Reserves Bill, now before the electors, was first mentioned to some of the Liberal members, they enquired what safeguard it would contain to prevent the Municipal Councils from appropriating the funds to sectarian purposes, if they would so determine. The simple reply was, that the prohibition to make such a use of the monies was contained in that provision which restricted their use to the purposes for which municipalities might legally raise money; that these purposes were none of them sectarian, and that consequently there could be no sectarian application of the funds.—The answer was satisfactory."

How anxious the "Liberal Members" seem to be to prevent Catholic separate schools sharing in the funds.—[Ed. T. W.]

Is it not marvellous—is it not monstrous—a disgrace to our people, and a triumph to our enemies—that a journal cannot be started in this country, upon a nominally Irish and Catholic basis, but what, within a few weeks after its first appearance, it is bought up by the Government, and subsides into a miserable Ministerial "hack," ready to do any dirty work, at the bidding of its masters?

The Quebec papers announce that cholera has almost entirely disappeared from their city. The same may be said of Montreal; and we trust that we may now thank God for having removed from us the calamity which has of late so severely afflicted us. To visit the widows in their affliction, and give bread to the little ones ready to perish, would be the most appropriate act of gratitude which the living could offer to Him Who has spared them and theirs. The ensuing winter threatens, from many causes, to be a season of unusual trial to the poor;—and it behoves our charitable societies to be on the alert, in order that they may be ready to meet the numerous demands which will be made upon them.

We would direct the attention of our readers to the advertisement of the St. Patrick's Societies; announcing a pleasure trip and Pic-Nic to Lavaltrie for Wednesday next. When we call to mind the general satisfaction that was given by the St. Patrick's excursion of last year, we feel assured that our citizens will gladly avail themselves of this opportunity to take a day's pleasuring. It will be seen that the proceeds are intended to be employed in charitable purposes.

NOTICES OF BOOKS.

THE WAY TO HEAVEN. A select manual of prayers for daily use, 18 mo., of 700 pages. D.&J. Sadler & Co., New York and Montreal.

We have received from the publishers a copy of this new prayer-book, and we have no hesitation in pronouncing it the most elegant book of prayer published. The paper, printing, binding, and engravings, are all of the finest quality, and the contents are versed and adapted for persons in every state of life. It is approved of by his Grace, the Archbishop of New York. We advise all who wish to have a complete and compact manual to procure a copy of this work.

THE LIFE OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN. Translated from the French of Abbé Orsini, by Mrs. J. Sadler & Co. New York and Montreal; D.&J. Sadler & Co.

We have to thank the publishers for No. 9 of this valuable and interesting work, which we again recommend to our readers.

CALL TO THE BAR.—At Quebec, on Monday week last, Mr. James Adamson was admitted to the Bar of Lower Canada. He is a son of the Rev. Dr. Adamson, and is a gentleman of great promise who possesses much of the eloquence of his father. We wish him success.—Commercial Advertiser.

MEMBERS RETURNED TO THE PRESENT PARLIAMENT.

Table listing members returned to the present parliament, categorized by Upper Canada and Lower Canada, with names and constituencies.

AN EXPLANATION.—The Quebec Colonist most unjustly accuses us of having called Mr. G. Brown "an honest politician." We never said any thing of the kind; nor do we believe Mr. Brown to be "honest" in any sense of the word. We said indeed that—"Mr. Brown was as honest a man as Mr. Hincks." But this is very different from saying that the former was "an honest" man. Blind as he is, surely the Quebec Colonist must see the difference.

REMITTANCES RECEIVED.

Coburg, Rev. Mr. Trimlin, 12s 6s; J. Hutton, 12s 6d; Sorel, J. Morgan, 15s, P. Tobin, 12s 6d, D. McCarthy, 12s 6d, W. Baker, 12s 6d; Pierreville, J. Gill, 10s; Nicolet, Rev. C. O. Caron, 15s; Vank-leekhill, P. Hickey, 5s, D. McDonnell, 10s; Perth, A. Leslie, Esq., 15s, J. McEachen, 6s 3d; Napanee, M. Meagher, 6s 3d; Richmond, J. Berry, 7s 6d, P. Flynn, 10s, O. McKenny, 6s 3d; Lanark, T. Maguire, 6s 3d; Picton, Mrs. P. Low, £1 5s; Boncherville, Rev. Mr. Pepin, £1 5s; Sandwich, Rev. P. Point, 12s 6d; Ingersoll, P. J. Dunne, Esq., £1 2s 6d; Toronto, J. M. Namara, Esq., 12s 6d, H. Goldsmith, 5s; Cornwall, Mrs. Y. McDonnell, 12s 6d; Preston, H. McMahon, 12s 6d; Plantagenet, D. McGregor, 12s 6d; Brock, J. Doyle, 10s; Calumet Island, P. McNally, 12s 6d; Laprairie, Rev. Mr. Mainguy, 12s 6d; Henryville, J. McCarthy, £1 5s. Per T. McCabe, Peterboro, £4. Per J. Meagher, Kingston—D. Lynch, 12s 6d; Rev. J. S. O'Connor, 6s 3d; J. Hickey, 6s 3d; J. Norris, 12s 6d; D. T. Mahony, 12s 6d; G. Fitzgerald, 5s; J. Quinn, 12s 6d. Per M. Neahy, Kemptville—J. Gaffney, 10s; B. McCahill, 5s. Per Rev. Mr. Campeau, St. George—Self, 12s 6d; T. Rochford, 12s 6d; T. McIntyre, 6s 3d; M. Moorman, 6s 3d, J. O'Connor, 6s 3d; P. Connolly, 6s 3d. Per Hon. J. Davidson, Miramichi—Self, 12s 6d; P. Morrison, 12s 6d; M. Carroll, 12s 6d; L. Robichaux, 12s 6d; J. Read, Esq., 12s 6d. Per M. O'Leary, Quebec—M. O'Connell, 7s 6d; M. Carroll, 7s 6d; R. Barry, 3s 9d; J. Cunningham, 7s 6d; Wm. Johnson, 7s 6d; M. Lynch, 15s; R. G. Belleau, 7s 6d; Rev. Mr. Sax, £2 10s; Mr. Lugon, 7s 6d; T. J. Murphy, 15s; J. Veldon, 7s 6d; A. Haughey, 7s 6d; R. Kenefice, 7s 6d; G. Workman, 7s 6d; Rev. Mr. Paymens, 15s; Mr. Robitaille, 7s 6d; O. Bargeron, 7s 6d; T. Roche, £1 2s 6d; T. Corrigan, 17s 6d; Mr. O'Sullivan, 7s 6d; J. Connors, 7s 6d; P. Boylan, 7s 6d; J. Lynch, 7s 6d; P. Ryan, 6s 3d; Rev. Mr. Pouliot, 12s 6d; Rev. Mr. LeMoine, 6s 3d; Rev. Mr. Gingras, 12s 6d; M. Barret, 6s 3d; M. Fahey, 12s 6d.



GRAND PIC-NIC EXCURSION!

UNDER THE MANAGEMENT OF THE ST. PATRICK'S SOCIETIES OF MONTREAL.

ON WEDNESDAY NEXT, 23rd instant, the two splendid and commodious Steamers,

IRON DUKE AND JACQUES CARTIER,

Will leave the ISLAND WHARF for LAVALTRIE, at EIGHT A.M.; landing there at half-past ten, and leaving at four, will arrive at Montreal at seven in the evening.

Every possible effort will be made by the Officers of both Societies to contribute to the comfort and amusement of those who will avail themselves of this opportunity to enjoy a pleasant day on the picturesque grounds selected for the occasion.

No liquors will be sold on board the boats. TWO SPLENDID BANDS have been engaged. TICKETS for the trip—3s 6d each; Children under 12 years of age, 2s 6d.

The proceeds will be devoted to Charitable purposes. FREDERICK DALTON, Secretary Y. M. S. P. A. W. F. SMYTH, Secretary St. Patrick's Society. August 17, 1854.

EDUCATION.

Mr. ANDERSON'S CLASSICAL and COMMERCIAL SCHOOL, No. 5, ST. DOMINIQUE STREET, will be RE-OPENED on MONDAY, the 21st instant. Montreal, August 17, 1854.

MONTREAL MODEL SCHOOL,

45, ST. JOSEPH STREET. THE duties of this School will be RESUMED on MONDAY, 25th instant, at Nine o'clock A.M. W. DORAN, Principal, And Member of the Catholic Board of Examiners. August 17th, 1854.

A NEW AND BEAUTIFUL PRAYER BOOK. THE WAY TO HEAVEN; or, Manual of Prayers for daily use. 18mo. of 700 pages, printed from new and large type on the finest quality of paper. It may be had in the following styles of binding:—

Table showing prices for different styles of prayer book bindings: Roan with 5 plates, 5 0; Roan gilt, 6 3; Eng. Mor. gilt, 7 6; Morocco extra, 10 0; Morocco "clasp", 12 6; Morocco "bevelled", 12 6; Do. "clasp", 13 9.

We will also have them in fine velvet bindings. This new Prayer Book is a companion to the "Golden Manual," and contains many things not to be found in that, nor any other Prayer Book. It is a size between the Golden Manual and the smaller Prayer Books. D. & J. SADLER & Co. Montreal, August 17, 1854.

CONVENT OF LONGUEUIL.

THE Sisters of this Institution beg leave to inform the public that they are obliged to increase their terms of Boarding, and that the conditions for the future shall be as follows:—

Table showing conditions for boarding: Boarding and Tuition, 15 0; To those not residing in Lower Canada, 20 0; Music, 4 2; Drawing and Painting, 1 7 6; Washing, 2 6; Stationery, 0 10 0.

The Re-Opening shall take place on the 31st AUGUST.—It is earnestly requested, of Parents and Guardians to be punctual in sending their children at the appointed time. Longueuil, August 8, 1854.

THE CROPS.—Wheat in this neighborhood looks well, and is abundant. The fly however is injuring in some places, but we hope not very extensively. Harvest has commenced. Laborers are very scarce. We would suggest the propriety of men suspending operations on the railroad for a few weeks in order to help the farmers to get in the crops.—Port Hope Guide.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

ANGLO-FRENCH NON-INTERFERENCE IN THE SPANISH INSURRECTION.—I believe it is the intention of the French and English Governments not to interfere in the civil dissensions of Spain. Nevertheless, it is likely that a camp, consisting of 5,000 or 6,000 men, will be formed near the frontier of the Basses Pyrénées, with the view to be prepared for any emergencies that may arise, but not with the object of intervention. This resolution may be probably traced to the appearance of some Carlist bands. —*Times' Correspondent.*

All apprehension relative to the crops in France has now completely ceased. The weather has at last assumed a settled appearance, and the intense heat of the last few days has greatly tended to advance the maturity of the growing crops. In the south the harvest is terminated, and the accounts from the centre, east, west, and north, all agree in describing the wheat as usually fine and abundant. Farmers generally reckon on a produce exceeding by one-fourth that of an ordinary year. There is, however, as yet, no important variation in the price of flour, owing to the scantiness of the stock, which has fallen under 10,000 quintals, and is not likely to increase until the new flour makes its appearance.

The *Univers* gives the following extract from a letter dated Auch, 22nd July:—The Archbishop this day clothed with the Ursuline religious habit, in the convent of the priory, a young American lady, Miss Mary Thompson, who found in her own country, at the age of twenty years, the Catholic faith, and who has come to seek in Europe for the antique spirit of the religious and monastic institutions. Miss Thompson belongs to a very honorable family of New Hampshire; all her relations, her mother and her brothers, are still Protestants. Her conversion raised difficulties in her path which would have shaken a courage less than hers. Possessing unusual energy, she has surmounted every obstacle, the opposition of her coreligionists, the censures of the press of New Hampshire, and other more terrible trials which one only finds in the bosom of one's family. The Right Rev. Doctor Purcell, Bishop of Cincinnati, baptised her in 1847; Mgr. de la Croix, Archbishop of Auch, has given her the white veil of religion with the name of Sister Mary of St. Edmund.

GEORGE SAND.—Strange rumors have gone abroad of late concerning the determination which, after mature reflection, has seized upon George Sand, of retiring for ever from the world and leading a religious life. For this purpose she is said to be now busy interbuilding and arranging her house in Berri for the reception of six ladies, whose conduct and government are to be subjected to the theory laid down by St. Theresa. —*Paris Correspondent of the Atlas.*

BELGIUM.

For several years past the ruling parties in the Belgian Government have been engaged in a series of movements all more or less antagonistic to Catholic interest. Recently their hostility has been especially directed against the institutions of Catholic charity, a remarkable evidence of which has been just furnished by the case of the *Sœurs de Sainte Marie de Rudderwoorde*. Many years ago a community of pious ladies was formed at Rudderwoorde, who devoted themselves to the instruction and relief of the poor of the neighborhood. The institution was an unalloyed blessing. By degrees donations were bestowed and legacies bequeathed, and the sphere of the labours of the saintly sisterhood more and more extended. Buildings were erected and lands purchased to perpetuate the advantage of the institution; but the Government had had a watchful eye on the whole proceeding, and having carefully provided for certain contingencies which were sure to arise, managed, by a little legislative dexterity, to possess itself of the property of the sisterhood and the heritage of the poor. Mgr. Malou, Bishop of Bruges, has ably exposed this glaring iniquity; and as the Wholes have now obtained a parliamentary majority, it is expected that this and many other cognate cases of Belgian-governmental injustice will be redressed.

SPAIN.

The latest accounts from Spain state that Espartero's arrival at Madrid is anxiously waited. It was, however, doubted whether he would have sufficient power to prevent the Queen's removal from the throne, as the people are greatly exasperated. Cries in favor of the King of Portugal's accession had been uttered, and a large party is reported as favorable to the project of offering him the Crown; Espartero being meanwhile declared Regent.

England and France will probably support Espartero's endeavors to maintain the Queen, with the view of avoiding complications.

The partisans of Montpensier and Montemolin are intriguing to further their own interests.

Typhus fever, prevailed at Madrid, owing to the number of slain lying in the streets.

The King's brother died of fright at the French Embassy after the attack on the palace of his father, whose fate was not known.

THE GERMAN STATES AND THE WAR.

FRANKFORT, July 24.—The Diet of the Germanic Confederation have resolved upon adhering to the Austro-Prussian treaty by 16 votes to 1. Mecklenburg is the only dissenting vote.

An army of 50,000 men is to be concentrated between Szegedin and Arad.

The reserves called in will amount to about 130,000 men.

ITALY.

Throughout Italy the state of public feeling is very bad. It is said that an insurrection is contemplated

at Modena. The French garrison at Rome is to be reinforced. Insurrectionary movements have been suppressed at Genoa.

ROME.—His Holiness has officially and publicly protested against the repeated breaches of faith on the part of the Sardinian government towards the Holy See, since 1850; and the Count de Pralormo, Minister of this government, has, it is said, demanded his recal, or, at least, leave of absence; and it would appear that in the existing state of the relations between Turin and Rome, a Minister from the former Court is neither deemed necessary nor desirable.

It is also stated that Count de Leiningen, Envoy of Baden, is about to quit Rome, or has even already taken his departure—intelligence which the rumors for some time in circulation respecting this diplomatist render highly probable.

"DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS.—I hear from Florence that it is expected Lord Normanby, who has been long residing in a beautiful villa near that capital, will shortly be appointed to succeed Sir Henry Bulwer, as English Minister for Tuscany; and that the sequel to that nomination will be the accrediting of our representative at Rome. How and after what preliminaries such arrangement is to be effected between the English Cabinet and the Vatican, I have no authority for reporting. Lord Normanby, it is asserted, may be in Rome, thus officially recognised, as early as the ensuing winter. His society, I understand, has been greatly sought in Florence, and his hospitality amiably exercised, as far as his convalescent state, after slight paralytic affection, has allowed." —*Cor. of Telegraph.*

RUSSIA.

STATE OF THE RUSSIAN ARMY.—The Vienna papers are informed from the Principalities that from 9,000 to 10,000 sick and wounded are now on the road from Bucharest to the Sereth. The Warsaw correspondent of the *Presse* affirms that the demoralisation of the Russian army is complete. The soldiers before Silistria loudly complained that they had been led to the shambles. The front ranks of the storming parties before Silistria refused to advance towards the Turkish works. Prince Paskievitch ordered two Greek priests, bearing the sacred picture, to place themselves at the head of the men, and when even this powerful stimulus failed, the veteran left his saddle, and seizing a flag, led on the men himself. The loss of officers has been tremendous. Russian officers who have recently joined the army relate that the Emperor is indisposed, and suffers from depression of spirits.

CHOLERA AT ST. PETERSBURG.—On the 9th of July there were 670 persons suffering with cholera. 103 fresh cases occurred on that day; 27 were cured and 29 died. On the following day there were 89 fresh cases—32 cures and 39 deaths. —*Journal de St. Petersburg, July 10.*

The *Times* says:—"We now hear from the mouths of ministers themselves, if, indeed, there ever existed much doubt upon the matter, that the Emperor of Russia refuses in reality to abate one jot of his original demand, and that the reverses he has suffered on the Danube have not induced him to swerve from the pretences which he so ardently advanced a year and a half ago. Such resolutions can be a token, we fear, of nothing less than a protracted war."

According to the last advices from Lemberg the preparations of Russia were of such a nature that her resolution to wage war against Austria is no longer to be doubted. The fortifications of Odessa have recently been strengthened, and several 36-pounders and large mortars have been brought from the interior of Russia. The garrison is said to consist of 20,000 men.

SEAT OF WAR IN THE EAST.

THE FRENCH GENERAL IN THE ENGLISH CAMP.—It is cheering to refer to the friendly relations which continue to exist between the allied armies.—A gratifying illustration of this occurred a day or two ago. Marshal St. Arnaud, accompanied by General Canrobert and their staffs, rode along the front of the British encampment after the troops had returned from a field exercise. As he passed, the men of each successive regiment crowded around him, cheering lustily, and the cheers were taken up all along the lines. The Marshal rode with head uncovered, and repeatedly exclaimed, "Old England for ever." This, of course, was the signal for reiterated plaudits. So uproarious was the enthusiasm, that a dry old quartermaster describing the scene, protested that the honest fellows would have carried the Marshal off, "horse and all," if they had been allowed their own way. Manifestations of a kindred character have been made towards Lord Raglan by the French troops, and it is wise not to repress them. They create a feeling which must tell whenever the armies come to act together in the field. —*Morning Post Correspondent.*

The present situation of things on the Danube may be told in a very few words. Prince Gortschakoff commands the 70,000 men stationed at Frateschiti, while a corps of 30,000 men (supposed to be under General Osten-Sacken) is posted at Budeschti, on the left bank of the Argich, to protect the capital against any attack from the Turkish corps at Oltenitza. Military men in this service are not inclined to believe that, under present circumstances, Omer Pasha will venture to attack the Russians.—He will probably be content with entrenching himself at Giurgevo and Oltenitza, and waiting "till a diversion has been made in his favor by another Power."

Sixty thousand Ottomans are strongly fortifying Giurgevo. All the Ottoman successes have been gained without the assistance of heavy artillery. The gallant Osmanlis rushed upon the Russians, and, by the impetuosity of their charge, struck terror amongst their bewildered ranks.

On the 12th of July a courier from St. Petersburg arrived at Bucharest, where he was met by Prince Gortschakoff, who had left his headquarters for that purpose. The Czar has approved the new plan of campaign submitted to him by Gortschakoff. The courier brought, it is pretended, a very flattering letter from the Czar to the Prince. The Russians are to resume offensive operations, and the Prince has received orders to drive back the Turks at any price across the Danube. Letters from Constantinople state that the Austrian Intermuncio has expressed himself very strongly respecting the "presumption" of Omer Pasha in crossing the Danube, after it had been agreed that the occupation should be effected by Austria; and it appears by no means improbable that the purposes of the Ottoman marshal will be once more thwarted by Austrian diplomacy at Constantinople, where it is either unresisted, or resisted in vain, by the active allies of Turkey.

THE BALTIC FLEET.

The British squadron of seven sail, containing the French troops, was in Kioge Bay on the 24th July. On the 25th the combined fleets steered for the Aland Isles.

It is understood (says a letter from the fleet) that so soon as the French troops arrive, the Bomarsund forts will be attacked both by land and sea, as a preparatory step to the occupation of the Aland Islands. It is stated on high military authority that those forts can be easily shelled from a little island known as Foglaro (the isle of birds), and that the batteries of Bomarsund, which are pointed seawards, cannot be brought to bear on the southern channel, in which, moreover, there is water enough for the steam-frigates. A Swedish officer of much experience also declares that with 1,000 landing troops, the Bomarsund forts, which the Russians affect to consider impregnable, could be taken without much difficulty.

A letter from the fleet says:—"Sir Charles has much fallen away, with sheer vexation, to think the Russians will not come out and fight. We long for the arrival of the French soldiers, and when we actually see them we shall believe something is meant. It is the only comfort we have—living in hope."

A printed circular, drawn up by the inhabitants of Uleborg, is distributed in thousands of copies all over Finland. It describes the losses and burnings to which that town was exposed. The language is, of course, very violent, and the hatred and revenge of every Finlander is invoked on the heads of England and the English.

The following extracts are from a private letter, dated July 5th, from off Cronstadt:—

"It is now some time since you had a letter from me; but our time is filled up in ship duties this war time more than a little. The rest we get is not sufficient to brace up again our much-wearied bones. Yes, it is war time, and still no cannon-balls flying about us. We are in sight of the enemy. There they are, huddled together like sheep in a pen. They dare not come out, and we cannot get in, and I, as well as many others, are of opinion our admiral does not know how to act for the best.

"We every now and then up anchor, and go a few miles off, first from one island to another, and so on.

"We hear one day we are going into action to-morrow when to-morrow comes we hear we are going home again in a few days, so that you see we know nothing correctly. We got our anchor up this morning at four o'clock, and are steaming away as fast as possible; but where we are going to no one seems to know—or in fact, to care. It has been, so far, a tedious summer's cruise.

"Since I have been writing this little epistle I have heard we are on our way to Helsingfors, and that we are going to take that place and another one some distance from it. I cannot vouch for the truth of this report. I merely name these just to give you some idea of what reports, what yarns, what lies, and what men will imagine, and then report as truth. Now, my firm opinion is this—that there will be no war."

From a letter addressed by one of our seamen now serving in the Baltic fleet to his wife and published in the *Boston Advertiser*, and dated "Hango Roads, May 22nd, 1854," we quote the following striking illustration of the horrors of war. The introductory matter we have omitted, as being of no particular interest:—

"In going down the river a small battery opened fire and wounded one of our men, whereupon the captain ordered out a boat's crew to go ashore and take the guns. Every man on board volunteered, so the captain picked a crew, and I was sent ashore with the marines. There were regular troops on the bank, who fired on us as we pulled to land; but the broadsides of the—, what with the shell and what with the smoke, covered our landing. We dispersed at a few hundred yards' distance from the beach to keep the coast clear whilst the boat's crew made prizes of the guns. The enemy had the advantage of the wood, and also knowing the country well, and a troop of them showed in advance. We were ordered to fire. I took steady aim and fired on my man at about sixty yards. He fell like a stone. At the same time a broadside from the—went in amongst the trees and the enemy disappeared, we could scarce tell how. I felt as though I must go up to him, to see whether he was dead or alive. He lay quite still, and I was more afraid of him lying so than when he stood facing me a few minutes before. It's a strange feeling to come over you all at once that you have killed a man. He had unbuttoned his jacket, and was pressing his hand over the front of his chest, where the wound was: He breathed hard, and the blood poured from the wound, and also from his mouth, every breath he took. His face was white as death, and his eyes looked so big and bright as he turned them and stared at me—I shall never forget it. He was a fine young fellow, not more than five-

and twenty. I went down on my knees beside him, and my breast was so full as though my own heart would burst. He had a real English face, and did not look like an enemy. What I felt I never can tell, but if my life would have saved his, I believe I should have given it. I laid his head on my knee, and he grasped hold of my hand and tried to speak, but his voice was gone. I could not tell a word he said, and every time he tried to speak the blood poured out so, I knew it would soon be over. I am not ashamed to say that I was worse than he, for he never shed a tear, and I couldn't help it. His eyes were closing, when a gun was fired from the— to order us aboard, and that roused him. He pointed to the beach, where the boat was just pushing off with the guns which we had taken, and where our marines were waiting to man the second boat, and then he pointed to the wood where the enemy was concealed. Poor fellow! he little thought how I had shot him down. I was wondering how I could leave him, when he had something like a convulsion for a moment, and then his face rolled over, and without a sigh he was gone. I trust the Almighty has received his soul. I laid his head gently on the grass and left him. It seemed so strange when I looked at him for the last time. I somehow thought of everything I had heard about the Turks and the Russians, and the rest of them; but all that seemed so far off, and the dead man so near! When we rejoined the ship, we saw eight or ten of the artillery troop come out of the wood and carry the body away with several others lying on the bank. Don't think that I am at all discouraged from this letter. I am as determined as ever, with God's help, to stand by my Queen and country, for this I know is my duty.—Your affectionate husband."

ASPECT OF THE WAR.

(From the *Times*.)

According to the most recent telegraphic communications, and the ministerial announcements in both houses, two points of infinite importance to the future course of the war are now assured. It is affirmed with confidence that the Emperor of Russia will maintain the occupation of the principalities by force of arms, and that the Emperor of Austria will, if necessary, by force of arms, expel him. Austria, in virtue of her double engagement, with Europe, and with the Porte, will enter the Danubian provinces in imposing strength, nor is it to be reasonably assumed that the forces of the Czar, distracted as they will be by the expeditions to the Baltic and the Crimea, can withstand the junction of these new allies with the already victorious troops of Omer Pasha. Though we entertain no doubt of the ultimate result, we are not disposed to conclude that the principalities will be cleared of their invaders without some hard fighting. As soon as Austria has fairly thrown away the scabbard, the legions of the Czar, now massed upon the Gallician border, will be poured in swarms, either upon the Austrian, or Wallachian territory; and, unless the military power of Russia is indeed a bubble, a shock of some severity must ensue. Hitherto the bulk of these belligerent forces, have been observing each other in suspicion and silence, while the fighting was left to 50,000 Turks, and twice as many Russians detached to engage them. Now, however, if these announcements are verified, the suspense will be terminated, and the armies of two mighty empires will be completely engaged.

From this time, therefore, we hope we may presume that the war will be prosecuted on three several theatres, and, with three distinct objects. In the principalities, and possibly in the contemned provinces of Austria, the forces of that power in conjunction with the Ottoman troops, will be engaged in the duty of driving the Russians into their own territory, and re-establishing the authority of the Sultan in his own dependencies. In the Baltic, the fleets and armies of France and England will blockade all the ports of the Czar, and menace even the capital with destruction; while in the Black Sea we trust that the immediate investment of Sebastopol may contribute at length, a decisive feature to this unwelcome war.

The question now is, whether Sebastopol can be successfully attacked, and we see no ground for a negative conclusion. That it cannot be taken by a fleet alone seems generally acknowledged; but Sebastopol is a land fortress as well as a sea fortress, and military engineers always assert that before a proper expenditure of time and means every land fortress must fall. If, then, there is nothing antecedently improbable in its capture, we can very safely argue that all the ordinary chances of a siege are largely in our favor.

It is hardly probable that 70,000 or 80,000 Anglo-French troops, supported by fleets of such extraordinary strength, could be materially impeded in effecting a landing, and, when this much has been accomplished, everything but the climate would be favorable to the besiegers. Whilst the Russians are separated by enormous steppes and an impassable isthmus from the central resources of their empire, the allies would enjoy uninterrupted communication with every part of the coast, and be secured in unlimited supplies of men, victuals, and ammunition. A siege, too, is exactly the enterprise in which the prowess of two highly civilized nations ought to be most conspicuous. It is an operation demanding skill, science, and ingenuity, and patience, in combination with extensive machinery of a more material kind. The French and English engineers profess to be inferior to none, and the arsenals of Woolwich are thought to be matchless in the resources of destruction which they contain. If these persuasions are correct, now is the time for proof. It is possible that the forces employed upon the siege may have to engage a relieving army, but we could scarcely doubt the issue of such a conflict; and, when this one battle was over, there would be no further hindrance to our attacks upon the fortress. For all practical purposes the Crimea would be nearer France and England than it is to Russia, and we could throw regiment after regiment on its shores before the Czar could get a single reinforcement to its destination. As to the ultimate result, if the Russian engineers have indeed constructed a citadel capable of withstanding a sufficient Anglo-French army backed by two such squadrons as those now in the Black Sea, we can only say that a new era in the science of fortification will have commenced from this moment. That the fall of Sebastopol would induce the Czar

to sue for peace is more than can be said, but it would indisputably insure the chief object of the war. After the destruction of this fortress the Black Sea would be open, Constantinople safe; the Circassian coasts free from danger, and the mouths of the Danube once more restored to Germany and Europe. The power of Russia for encroachment and aggression would then be effectually reduced, and the purposes for which Europe was most unwillingly returned to the costs and horrors of war would be solidly and permanently answered.

UNITED STATES.

The Reciprocity Treaty Bill having passed through the Legislature was approved of by the President of the United States on the 4th inst.

DIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA.—On Saturday, the 5th instant, the feast of "Our Lady ad Nives," Doctor Alexander V. McNeal, an eminent physician and highly respected citizen of Concord, renounced Episcopalianism at Christ Church, Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, and was admitted to the communion of the Church by the Rev. Father Doherty.—*N.Y. Freeman.*

THE CONFESSORIAL.—The Newburyport Herald has recently published a series of sound articles upon intolerance, from one of which we make the following extract:—"On the subject of licentiousness our northern community is not so pure as to be entitled to cast stones at the south. According to the testimony of those who have the best means of knowing, druggists, physicians and others, there is a fearful and increasing amount of it at the North. To say nothing of the higher class of society, where as one says the pollution is covered by a thin crust of decorum, which keeps it out of sight, there is among the lower classes, in both city and country, a fearful amount of the vice; and honor to whom honor is due, there is reason to believe that were it not for the Catholic confessional, which holds the great mass of foreign females, who compose so large a portion of the community, in check, it would spread like a horrible cancer in society, and eat out its very vitals. There is satisfactory evidence that the Catholic females in our country are, as a class, among the most chaste in the community, and when their physical organization and their lack of education is considered, this can only be attributed to the powerful influence of the confessional. Occasionally some break through this barrier, and then the testimony of police officers and other observers is that the degradation is of the most frightful kind."

STREET PREACHING—CHURCH BURNING.—No one can look through the newspapers of the country without being struck with the great increase of crime, chiefly in our large northern cities. Every form of crime seems to be on the increase. There is one, however, that has recently been repeated with an alarming and a most disgraceful frequency—church burning. Mobs of excited fanatics, incited and led on by impious vagabond street-preachers, have either burnt or otherwise destroyed many of the sacred buildings that have been dedicated by Catholics to the worship of God. Most of the churches, however, that have been destroyed, have been destroyed under cover of the darkness and by unknown persons. When street-preaching, which at best is but a nuisance, has become an instrument in the hands of hypocrites and rascals to instigate mobs of fools and fanatics to breaches of the peace, public disturbances, and the destruction of churches, it is time that these street-preachers should be arrested in their mad career and punished with the utmost severity of the law. The quarrels, broils, and fights between the Protestants and Catholics are on the increase. They are stimulated by these vagabond street-preachers, who, we are inclined to think, are generally merely the catspaws of certain political associations, whose interest it is to keep alive the feuds between the natives and the foreigners, the Protestants and the Catholics. The sermons of these howling blasphemers do not manifest any of the characteristics of true religion. They are coarse tirades and bitter invectives against all those who differ from them either in birth or religion.—*Washington Sentinel.*

PAIMYRA, Aug. 5.—The Angel Gabriel held forth here last evening, and during the night the Catholic Church was broken open, furniture destroyed, and an unsuccessful attempt made to burn the building.

It is becoming so common in the United States for the Protestants as friends of civil and religious liberty—to burn the churches of their Catholic fellow citizens—a writer in the *American Celt* calls attention to the subject, and strongly recommends the Clergy to have their churches insured; thus enlisting the sympathies of the insurance offices against the perpetration of Protestant outrages.

KNOW-NOTHINGISM.—An American paper throws some light on the policy of these miscreants:—"An effort has been made in more than one quarter to unite the adopted Protestant population of this country against the present American movement; but this we are confident, can never be done, for it is a movement entirely against Roman Catholics whether foreign or native born, who hold an allegiance under priests and bishops, to a foreign temporal and spiritual despotism, hostile to the genius and working of our governments, and people, heretical, and as much deserving of extermination as murderers and highwaymen. We have no more intelligent and firm defenders of our free institutions than Protestant adopted citizens; and let them understand that such is the sentiment of all true Americans, who are ever ready to extend to them the right hand of fellowship, and to assure them that they are one, with them, in upholding all the free and tolerant institutions of this country against intolerant Jesuitical Roman Catholics, who so long as they call themselves Irish and German, and not American citizens, have no right to enjoy the blessings and above all to occupy any of the offices of this American Protestant country."

Mormonism is said to be making very great progress in Denmark; there are now Mormons in the smallest hamlets. In the Isle of Amack, which is situated quite close to Copenhagen, almost all the women have adopted the worship of the Mormons. Five hundred Jutlanders, recently converted to Mormonism, are about to emigrate to the Mormon colony in the United States.—*Philadelphia Inquirer, Aug. 1st.*

We understand that among the four hundred and forty Swedish passengers by the ship Levi Woodbury, recently arrived at this port from Gottenburg, were one hundred and fifty Mormons on their way to Salt Lake city. Their leader had four buxom looking wives, and will, we suppose, double or treble the number on settling down in the Mormon country. They all left a day or two ago for the West.—*Boston Atlas.*

A MERITED REBUKE.—The Norfolk Herald says:—"Calumniated as the South is every day by the ruthless fanaticism of the North, her skirts are unstained by any of the atrocities which have recently disgraced the country in the long list of church-burnings, church-robberies, and church-desecrations. These are purely of Northern origin, and the most outrageous of them were perpetrated in that peculiar region of the North where wholly headed fugitives from the South are idolized, and three thousand and fifty clergymen pronounced the curse of Heaven on the constitutional and rightful repeal of the Missouri Compromise. Would it not be well for the foul mouthed Abolitionists to suspend for a while the discharge of their vituperation on the South, and bestow a little virtuous indignation on the perpetrators of these foul crimes within their own borders?"

We have seen enough of the common school system to excite our alarm. We have seen the gaol and the penitentiary soliciting their inmates from among its pupils. We have known riot and incendiariism, and opposition to the law, proclaimed as glorious feats, and practised as innocent amusements, or conscientious promptings of stern duty by those who were trained in the public schools. While we trembled for the future of our country, as we learned no sentiment of remorse, not a pang of horror, thrilled through a single soul that witnessed the American soil purpled by the blood of a United States officer engaged in preserving the peace of the city of Boston. And these things occurring at our doors, and under the shade of our superb common schools; while far, far away, but still within the limits of the Republic, and on the great highway to the Pacific, the foulest heresy that ever disgraced humanity, has succeeded in planting too firmly, we fear, its abominable doctrines; and the Polygamists of Salt Lake city increase their ranks every year by candidates who have been trained in the pure morality of our common schools.—*Pittsburgh Catholic.*

The Senators of the neighboring Republic seem to be a most disorderly set of towlies, if the accounts in the newspapers may be relied upon. Drunkenness, blackguardism, fighting and gouging one another's eyes out seem to be amongst the every day amusements of the Conscript Fathers. In one paper we read of one drunken Senator, asking the President "to take a drink with him" and upon the latter's refusal, pelting the head of the republic with eggs, in the style of our Montreal ruffians. When arrested, the rowdy senator who was in a state of maudlin intoxication, wept bitterly, and attempted to commit suicide, by stabbing himself in the leg. The Hon. gentleman was ultimately discharged, the President being unwilling to prosecute. Here is another scene, as recorded by the Washington correspondent of an American paper:—

I deeply regret to notice a fight between the Hon. Mike Walsh of New York, and the Hon. Mr. Steward of Georgia. The Hon. Mr. Steward said that he wished to see all the Indians massacred, in order to stop the annuities. Mr. Walsh characterized this as a base and inhuman sentiment. Mr. S. replied that he did not care for the Hon. Mike and his opinion. Mike rejoined with severity, that Steward was the most troublesome and worthless member of the House. Steward retorted that Mike was the greatest vagabond in New York; and Mike, that Steward was a liar!

Steward seized a chair, with the intention of applying that article upon the head and shoulders of the Hon. Mike. Being prevented by the bystanders, Mr. Steward applied the tomb of his right hand to the left nostril of Mike which he gouged. Almost simultaneously he furrowed the right cheek of Mr. Walsh with his left hand.

And connected with this combined movement was a dexterous insertion of one of Mr. Steward's knuckles whereby the right eye was considerably damaged. At this stage in flagrant violation of the rights of the parties, the fight was stopped.

Had Dickens ventured to hint at the possibility of such disgraceful scenes in the Senate of the United States, what an outcry there would have been against the "British libeller!"

MR. HUME ON THE MAINE LAW.

TO MR. SAMUEL POPE, HON. SEC., MANCHESTER.

Bryanstone Square, London, July 12, 1854.
Sir—I have received your circular (dated in May) enclosing a printed address (agreed to by the United Kingdom Alliance, on the 5th November, 1853), to "the People of Great Britain and Ireland."

Few men in the House of Commons have been more anxious than I have been to see measures adopted to lessen the evils from drunkenness, which are indeed of the most serious nature, and so extensive as to threaten society with still greater mischief.

The records of the police and of the courts of law have, daily, for many years, put forth proofs of the prevalence of that vice amongst the mass of the people, and yet the Legislature have not taken efficient measures for abating these evils.

There are two modes of correcting evils and violations of social habits; one by punishment and restrictive measures, the other by going to the root of the evil and removing the cause as far as possible.

The Parliamentary Committee in 1835, as quoted by you, attributed the prevalence of Drunkenness, crime, and poverty, "to the existing facilities and means of intemperance" (i. e.,) to public-houses, whether licensed or under the exise and the commendation of that committee as a remedy for drunkenness was for restricting the number of public-houses for the sale of liquors. Now it is proposed to prevent altogether the sale of spirits, as the remedy for drunkenness. I observe, that the United Kingdom Alliance, on the 5th of November, 1853, by their 5th Article declare "that the legislative prohibition of the liquor traffic is perfectly compatible with rational liberty and with all the claims of justice and legitimate commerce." I demur to that declaration, and object to any law that shall prohibit me from the rational use of any article because there are other persons who will not use it in moderation. I may state that such a proposition is not new in this country. I heard it proposed in the House of Commons by a member of long standing, and of great influence, that the use of pewter pots in which beer is sent out from public-houses in London, should be prohibited, because many of them are stolen, and a bill was actually introduced to enforce that prohibition. I was then a young member, but nevertheless ventured to object to that legislation, as it would have established a principle productive of results far more extensively injurious to society than all the evils that arose from the stealing of pewter pots. I submitted to the House that as gold

and silver were often stolen, it would be equally wise and just to prohibit the use of gold and silver in spoons and other utensils in common use that are exposed hourly to depredation.

If you will follow out this reasoning, I think you must agree with me that the declaration of the Alliance, No. 5, is erroneous.

If the Select Committee of the House of Commons in 1835, had followed out their inquiry, it could have been clearly proved to them that, in Holland, Belgium and other countries where spirits can be purchased at one-fifth of the English price, there is less drunkenness than in the United Kingdom. Besides, there are fewer restrictions on the sale of spirits in these countries, that in obtaining licenses in Great Britain, where there is in many places a monopoly.

If the number of gallons consumed in England, Ireland, and Scotland, where every possible difficulty has been placed upon the sale of spirits, the quantity consumed is the greatest.

You admit that 'restrictive measures, prohibitory duties, and pecuniary fines, have all been tried in vain, as the criminal and police records daily prove. Why not, then, try a different course? Educate all; train them by proper discipline when young; and as they grow up, provide for their progressive improvement during the hours of relaxation and amusement. Recollect that the man who is shut up at his work from 6 o'clock on Monday morning to late on Saturday, requires some relaxation and exercise on the Sunday, or at such times in the week as can be best spared from his labor.

Let all public gardens, museums, and institutions of art be open freely to the mass of the people; and thus bring them up with a desire to obtain useful information, and healthy amusement, instead of being from the want of such resorts, drawn, as they now are, into public-houses, and other places where their health and purses suffer—let reading-rooms, where the news of passing events can be obtained, free from public-house temptations, be established in every parish—let working men be treated as reasoning animals; and I have great confidence that, with a change of system, reform would soon be effected.

In London, where access to the National Gallery, British Museum, and other places in and around the metropolis, has been wisely given to all classes of persons, for their amusement, and instruction, there has been a great decrease of drunkenness; and the masses of the people now conduct themselves orderly, and eagerly seek on their leisure days these places for that instruction and amusement.

Let that course be adopted everywhere as I have proposed, and there will be no necessity for Maine laws, as recommended by the Alliance.

I remain your obedient servant,
JOSEPH HUME.

NO NOTHING IN SCOTLAND ON SUNDAY.—In Scotland, it seems, from cases lately published, you cannot get a dinner on a Sunday. You may starve for what the hotel-keepers care, before they will give you anything to eat. Yes, there is one mouthful of a chance for you—if you will take a bed, they will throw a dinner in. The saying formerly was, 'No sorg, no supper'—it must be altered now to meet Scotch consciences at least, to 'No bed, no dinner.' But why not improve upon the absurdity, and make the hungry travellers go to bed at once and eat their dinners between the sheets? It would be just as tyrannical, and besides, would throw a solemnity, instead of a tablecloth, over the ceremony. Or again, why not insist upon their turning waiters, on the plea that you are only allowed to give the servants of your establishment any meals on that day? It would be fine puritanical fun to see gentlemen whisking about with napkins under their arms, handing toothpicks to the customers, before they were allowed to swallow a basin of Scotch broth themselves. As it is, it stands thus:—"Take a bed, and you may eat—don't sleep in the house, and you may starve, even in the sight of the larder." Surely benevolence like this is born (as they say) on the wrong side of the blanket.—*Punch.*

MR. MACAULAY.—The secretary of the Edinburgh Young Men's Protestant Society wrote to Mr. Macaulay recently, asking him to give the reason for his absence when the vote was taken on the subject of paying Roman Catholic prison chaplains, and stating that some explanation was necessary "to remove the strong feeling of dissatisfaction entertained by all the Protestant electors of Edinburgh." Mr. Macaulay replied as follows:—"I was absent from the division which you mention because my health did not suffer me to venture out late. I am most sensible of the indulgence which has been shown to me by my constituents, and I assure you that I would instantly vacate my seat if I thought that they generally wished me to do so. But it would be disingenuous in me not to add, that if I had been able to attend the house I should certainly have voted, and probably have spoken in, favor of the grant to the Roman Catholic chaplains of gaols, and against Mr. Spooner's motion concerning Maynooth. It is impossible for me to believe on your authority that all the Protestant electors of Edinburgh are surprised and indignant because I did not vote against the Government on these points. The Protestant electors of Edinburgh, when they did me the high honor to elect me to represent them, knew well what my conduct had been in times of great religious excitement, and yet they did not think it necessary to require from me any assurance that I should act in a manner different from that in which I had always acted. The young men in whose name you write are, I presume too young to remember the passing of the Maynooth bill for 1845. If they will take the trouble to inform themselves as to my votes and speeches on that occasion, they will not, I believe, think it necessary to ask me for any further explanation."

HELINGSFORS AND SWEABORG.—The town of Helingsfors is built upon a peninsula, or promontory, and more immediately defended by the two forts of Braberg and Ulricabourg, placed on the main land within the port, which is said to be capable of admitting sixty or seventy line-of-battle ships, all riding at anchor under the cover of these forts. The proper strength of the place, however, lies in the magnitude of its outer defensive works, which are of the most formidable description, and go under the term of the fortress of Sweaborg. They occupy no less than seven islands, several of which are united by bridges. Casemates appear to be formed in them for no less than 6,000 or 7,000 small arms, and the united fortresses are said to amount to 800 cannon, and to possess a garrison 12,000 men. Some of these formidable works are formed by

cutting and fashioning the solid rock, and there are magazines, arsenals, and barracks both upon one of these islands, and upon the main land. There are even docks upon the same tongue of land upon which the town stands; that have been partly cut out of the solid rock.—*Hill's Travels on the Shores of the Baltic.*

A PRISONER FOR DEBT FOR THIRTY-NINE YEARS.—In the last English mails we find a case of appalling legal tyranny. A man named William Miller was imprisoned in Winchester jail thirty-nine years ago, since which time he remained closely immured, spending the last three years and eight months in solitary confinement. At the age of 71 years, this man emerged from his prison at Winchester, to enter another in London. Some humane persons, hearing of his case obtained permission to have him transferred to the Queen's prison, London, where he enjoys what is to him comparative liberty. His sole crime was the debt of \$500.—*Montreal Herald.*

It is a common observation that the most wonderful and the most wished-for events often come at a time when they are no longer matters of interest, and scarcely of remark. Indeed, it is a lesson against over-craving and golden dreams of all kinds, that perhaps you may some day have that you so longed for when you have ceased to care for it. This is very much the case with our Australian colonies. Ten years—ay, five years ago, no statesman, no politician, rapt into the third heaven of colonial progress, could have ventured to imagine such a picture of development as that contained in the letter of our Sydney correspondent, which we published yesterday. A man would have been set down as stark mad who writing only five years ago, had suggested that in 1853 the value of the exports from a single Australian colony, New South Wales, might exceed four millions and a-half; that the imports might be much over six millions; that the Legislative Council might vote near seven hundred thousand pounds for the service of the year; and that among many other more agreeable symptoms of improvement, the Council might propose the acquisition of a new and formidable navy, in the shape of a screw line-of-battleship and two steam frigates. This last incident will perhaps tell more with some people than vast arithmetical totals, which, happily for the poetry of the human mind, are not always equally appreciated. The traveller rejoiced to find himself once more in a civilized country when he saw a gallows; and when New South Wales sets up its own engines of destruction we may safely congratulate it on having emerged from the rude state of a colonial innocence. Yes, New South Wales, with Sydney, the capital of it, which, in the memory of many living men, was an undiscovered shore, is now one of us, a populous and exceedingly rich community, with defensive and offensive preparations, and in many respects a good deal ahead of old English society. The pulse of life is much quicker, the knowledge of good and evil much more expanded, the children of this world are much wiser in their generation at Sydney or Melbourne than in any quite old country town in this island.

SYDNEY SMITH'S PUNS.—Moore says in one of his letters:—"The pun-Smith Sydney keeps us all in roars of laughter. In talking of the stories about dram-drinkers catching fire, he pursued the idea in every possible shape. The inconvenience of a man coming too near the candle when he is speaking; 'Sir, your observation has caught fire.' Then imagine a person breaking into a blaze in the pulpit, the engines called to put him out, no water to be had; the man at the water works being a Unitarian or an atheist. Smith called with Moore at Newton's the portrait painter, to see his picture, when Smith said in the gravest manner to Newton—"Couldn't you contrive to throw into his face somewhat of a stronger expression of hostility to the Church establishment?" This story reminds us of an order given rehearsed by a Dublin manager to Mike Kelly, the leader of the band—"Mr Kelly, you must throw in a little music here, just one or two bars, describing that the hero left his native country, and travelled in foreign parts, changed his religion and took to drinking beer."

GOOD ADVICE.—A young Irishman (placed by his friends as student at a Veterinary College), being in company with some of his colleagues, was asked, "if a broken winded horse were brought to him for cure, what he would advise?" After considering for a moment, "By the powers," said he, "I should advise the owner to sell it as soon as possible."

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Table of market prices for various goods like wheat, oats, barley, buckwheat, rye, peas, potatoes, beans, mutton, lamb, veal, beef, lard, cheese, pork, butter, honey, eggs, flour, and oatmeal, with prices per bushel, quart, or dozen.

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- List of agents for the True Witness newspaper across various regions including Alexandria, Aylmer, Beauharnois, Brantford, Bytown, Buckingham, Carleton Place, Chamblay, Cornwall, Counties of Kamouraska and L'Islet, Bourret, Deseronto, Dundas County, Eastern Townships, Grenville, Haldimand, Isle aux Noix, Kemptville, Kingston, L'Orignal, Lochiel, Mosa, Oshawa, Pembroke, Perth, Peterboro', Percé and vicinity, Picton, Prescott, Quebec, Renfrew, Sherbrooke, Sorrel, St. John's, St. Thomas, St. Remi, St. Raphaels and Williamstown, Sydenham, Templeton, Thorold, Three Rivers, Tiguish, Toronto, Tanguish & Danville, and Worcester.

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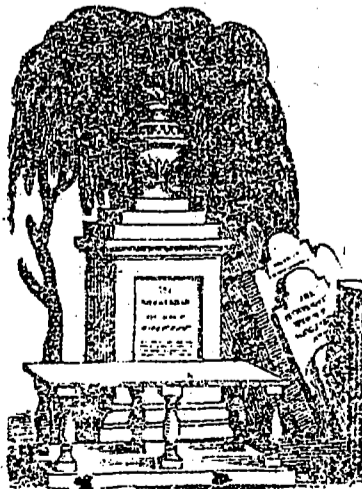
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