FRIDAY MORNING, MAY 5, 1865.

THE WEEKLY BRITISH WHIG.

VOL. XXXIV. KINGSTON, CANADA, THURSDAY MORNING, MAY 11, 1865. NOS. 108 & 19.

SECRET SOCIETIES.

The Roman Catholics profess to abhor and repudiate all Secret Societies, whereby they deprive their votaries of the great benefits derived from the Order of Freemasonry, an Order more Catholic in all its bearings than Roman Catholicity itself. In spite of this prohibition, there are thousands of professed Roman Catholics who are Free Masons, and very excellent Free Masons they make. But that Secret Societies are not wholly repudiated by the Roman Catholic Church is evident by the continued existence of the Order of Jesuits, after its suppression in the middle of the last century by Pope Ganganelli. This subject has recently been violently agitated in the Council of the Corporation of Dublin. We quote from the Times of March 25th :—

Dublin, March 24.

The Jesuits are now on trial before the Dublin Corporation, which is constantly extending the sphere of its jurisdiction, and may at its next meeting sit in judgment on the merits of the last saint the Pope has canonized. This extraordinary fact has been brought about in this way :—When the Council took up the question of obnoxious oaths the Conservatives declined to discuss it, and retired in a body, adopting out of doors a protest, which was signed and sent to the Lord Mayor by Alderman Bonsall—the Eldon of the Dublin Tories—one of the school of politicians who stick to the old ways and hate all innovation. The document was read by the Lord Mayor, but not heard, owing to the clamour. It referred to another document called the "Oath of the Jesuits," a copy of which was sent by the Alderman to Saunders' News Letter for publication. There was a special meeting of the Corporation yesterday, and when the minutes came to be read and signed, Sir John Gray moved that the reference to the protest should be expunged, unless Alderman Bonsall could prove to the satisfaction of the Council that the Jesuits' oath therein mentioned was authentic. If it was authentic, he said, he would be the first to move a resolution expressing their opinion of this terrible document. Alderman M'Swiney emphatically said that it was the Jesuits' oath, but if there was any truth in it he would join Sir John Gray "in annihilating and extirpating the body who would teach such an oath, as being unworthy of those who lived in a free State;" and Alderman John Reynolds declared, that if he believed the Jesuits took such an oath he would not adhere 24 hours to the creed of his ancestors. Sir John Gray had received a letter from the Very Rev. Dr. O'Reilly denying the oath. But Mr. Bonsall declared his firm belief that it was authentic. It was repeatedly published in authentic histories, from the time of Elizabeth to our own day, and he offered, if time were given, to collect the proofs and lay them before the Council.

The following is a Copy of the Oath, as read in the Council :—

'I, A.B., now in the presence of Almighty God, the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Blessed Michael the Archangel, the Blessed St. John the Baptist, the Holy Apostles St. Peter and St. Paul, and the Sacred Host of Heaven, and to you, my Ghostly Father, do declare from my heart, without mental reservation, that Pope Gregory is Christ's Vicar-General, is the true and only head of the Universal Church throughout the earth, and that by virtue of the keys of binding and loosing, given to His Holiness by Jesus Christ, he hath power to depose heretical Kings, Princes, States, Commonwealths and Governments, all being illegal without his sacred confirmation, and that they may safely be destroyed; therefore, to the utmost of my power, I will defend this doctrine and His Holiness' right and customs against all usurpers of the heretical or Protestant authority whatsoever, especially against the now pretended authority of the Church in England, and all adherents, in regard that they be usurped and heretical, opposing the Sacred Mother Church of Rome. I do renounce and disown any allegiance as due to any heretical King, Prince, or State named Protestant, or obedience to any of their inferior magistrates or officers. I do further declare the doctrine of the Church of England, of the Calvinists, Hugenots and other Protestants to be damnable, and those to be damned who will not forsake the same. I do further declare that I will help, assist and advise all or any of His Holiness' agents in any place wherever I shall be, and do my utmost to extirpate the heretical Protestant doctrine, and to destory all their pretended power, legal or otherwise. I do further promise and declare that, notwithstanding I am dispensed with to assume any religion heretical for the propagation of the Mother Church's interest, to keep secret and private all her agents' counsels, as they entrust me, and not to divulge directly or indirectly, by word, writing or circumstances whatsoever, but to execute all which shall be proposed, given in charge, or discovered unto me, by you, my Ghostly Father, or by any one of your convent. All which I, A. B., do swear by the Blessed Trinity and Blessed Sacrament, which I am now to receive, to perform, and on my part to keep inviolably; and do call all the heavenly and glorious Host of Heaven to witness to my real intentions to keep this oath. In testimony thereof I take this most Holy and Blessed Sacrament of the Eucharist, and witness the same further with my hand and seal in the face of this holy convent.'

It is not for us to say whether the above is the correct oath or not, for in all probability, as there are several Degrees in the Order of Jesuits, there are probably several oaths as in Masonry. But it is sufficient for our purpose to show, that while such an oath can be swallowed, the innocuous oaths of Free Masonry should not be objected to by the Roman Catholic Church, for it is mainly owing to that Church that Free Masonry was protected during the dark ages, and handed down to us in its present exalted form.

THE MARKET BUILDING.

The City having settled with the Insurance Companies for $25,000 cash, the question remains, what is to be done with the money? To pay to the Commercial Bank a large portion of this money, will be unquestionably the universal wish of every taxpayer, be he little or be he big. Another question is, what shall be done with the burnt building and the space it occupies? Our voice is—pull the whole of it down, and devote the whole space to Market purposes. The Butchers' Shambles can be provided for in a very easy, cheap and good way. Build a stone wall in the interior of the remaining Building, where the passage is to the Treasurer's and Clerk's Offices, separating that part of the City Hall from the Market. The Butchers' Shambles can be made from the square, the opening of each window affording good space for two Shambles. No smell could then penetrate the City Hall, and both the Public and the Butchers would be equally well satisfied. The present Council Chamber can be removed upstairs to the Wesley Hall, or some other convenient part of the building. None of the other plans or schemes will prove half so satisfactory in the long run as this.

THE SHOOTING AFFRAY.

Kingston, May 5th.

Yesterday morning, in the Police Court Mr. Robert I. Jordan was charged with shooting with intent and James Jordan with assault, before Dr. Robison.

The County Attorney and Mr. Macarow appeared for the Crown; Mr. T. L. Snook for the defendants.

The first witness called was Mr. James Campbell who deposed that he had been given a lease of the wharf at the foot of Queen Street, occupied last year by Mr. R. I. Jordan, by Mrs. S. Smith; R. I. Jordan would not give up possession of the wharf; on Monday afternoon, Patrick Glynn, a carter, came to the wharf for wood; witness accompanied him; R. I. Jordan said he would allow no wood to leave the wharf; witness told the carter to load up and never mind; R. I. Jordan then lifted a piece of plank to prevent the horse from backing, when witness caught hold of it and said: "you mind your business and I will mind mine;" Jordan then dropped the plank and caught witness by the throat and shoved him back over two or three steps against Jordan's office door; the door not being locked, it gave way, and witness fell in. R. I. Jordan still kept striking witness when he was in the office; witness did not strike back till he was struck several times. James Jordan also took hold; witness got James Jordan in his power, and the next thing he heard was the report of a pistol; there were two pistol shots; saw the smoke; did not know at this time that he was struck; saw R. I. Jordan with a pistol (cocked the third time) in his hand presented towards him; witness then found out that a ball had touched the coat. (Witness here showed where the bullet had passed through his coat, leaving a piece of the lining on his vest.) His son, Patrick Campbell, was shot in the thigh; he is in bed, unable to appear. Witness was given possession of the wharf at 12 o'clock, noon, on Monday.

Charles Rae, Sergeant R.C.Rifles, corroborated the evidence of the last witness as to the occurrence on the wharf; he saw Jordan come out of the office, after the two shots were fired inside, with a pistol in his hand; he said that he was forced to fire as he was crowded; saw the son of last witness come out of the office bleeding.

Owen McQuade deposed that he heard the two shots fired when a short distance from the office; he came towards the office and saw Campbell and Jordan; the latter was advancing towards Campbell; witness stepped between the two; then saw a pistol in Jordan's hand presented towards Campbell; Jordan threatened him not to interfere or it would be worse for him.

Policeman Bennett deposed that he arrested R. I. Jordan on Tuesday evening; found a revolver in his possession, it was a five shooter; two barrels were discharged and the others were loaded.

The Chief of Police deposed that he proceeded to Mr. Campbell's after the occurrence, and saw the wound in the boy's leg; the shot passed through the fleshy part of the thigh.

The parties were then committed for trial on the respective charges, the Police Magistrate taking bail for James Jordan.

THE BELFAST RIOTS.

Dublin, April 3.

The Attorney-General in announcing the abandonment of the prosecutions for riot at Belfast, was obliged to admit that the result arrived at has been far from satisfactory. "For many of the most serious offences no person has ever been made amenable, and there is great reason to apprehend that the very worst offenders have escaped with impunity." But one good, at all events, has resulted from the prosecution. They have proved to a demonstration the absolute necessity of abolishing the present police system and establishing in its place something more efficient. One fact mentioned by the Attorney-General is as good as all the arguments in the report just issued by Messrs. Barry and Dowse. The fact is this. Though the local police must have been well acquainted with many of the leaders in the riots, in only a single instance out of all those tried or untried at these assizes have they been instrumental in bringing any offender to justice, either, by arresting, indentifiing, or giving evidence against the rioters. The consequence was that in nearly all the cases the witness were themselves more or less identified with the combatants, and thus the evidence—as the Attorney-General remarked—was subject to the observation that it was given in the spirit of partisanship rather than with a sincere desire to bring the offenders to justice, and he was bound to say that in several of the cases that charge was well founded. There was never a plainer case for the prompt interference of the Legislature to repress a murderous spirit of faction in a great commercial community. As to the rest, every one concerned seemed as glad as the prisoners that the prosecutions were given up, and the business terminated with a pleasant interchange of compliments on all sides. The counsel for the prisoners expressed their admiration at the impartial conduct of the counsel for the Crown, the Judge warmly praised the counsel on both sides, and bore testimony to the conscientious and honest spirits in which all jurors had discharged their duties. He also expressed satisfaction at the good conduct of the people out of doors. There had not been the slightest ebullition or display of feeling in the proximity of the Court-House.—His Lordship concluded by expressing an earnest hope that the disorderly disposition which had led to so many evils had passed away. When he concluded a juror made an extraordinary remark, of which it is to be regretted that his Lordship did not obtain an explanation. He said that if he and the other jurors had heard the remarks which had just been made at first, they would have come to decisions in some of the cases very different from those at which they had arrived.' Nearly all the persons charged with carrying arms and ammunition pleaded, 'Guilty.' Two or three were tried and acquitted. A number have been allowed to stand out on their own recognizances, and with reference to others, affidavits have been lodged. Messrs Norwood and Weir appeared for a large number of the persons charged with carrying arms.

Bradley, who had been imprisoned two years, and tried three times for the murder of Adam Grierson, and who was let out of Lifford Gaol on Wednesday, is now the most popular man in Donegal. He arrived on Thursday at Letterkenny, the principal, though not the assize town of the county, accompanied by his priest and his solicitor. At the house of the latter young Bradley was welcomed and congratulated by his numerous friends and admirers. After the 'lives' tar barrels were lighted in front of the house around which a vast crowd assembled, triumphantly cheering and rioting till a late hour at night.

BLOOD MONEY OFFERED.

On the pretext that President Davis and a number of Southern gentlemen now residing in Canada, incited and procured the murder of Mr. Lincoln, his successor, the "incoherent" President Johnson, to-day sets a heavy price upon their heads, and by the incentive of blood-money hounds his creatures to the chase and capture of them. That President Davis or any of those mentioned in the proclamation published in our telegraphic columns to-day had any guilty knowledge of the murder, no sane man outside of the United States believes; and if there is evidence to support the charge, it is doubtless of no greater value than that upon which the grand jury of this city recently acted in another case—the statements of creatures who are ready to swear to anything for which they may be paid. At any rate, the Washington authorities have not published the evidence they say they possess and until it is made known no one will believe that it is the testimony of credible witnesses. Should the effect of "Andy" Johnson's proclamation be to intercept the passage of Mr. Davis from the country, and should he on a false pretence be treated with indignity by the Federal Government, a feeling would be raised against it which if it is wise it will not endeavour to excite. To persecute a defeated foe is too cowardly an act to win much approbation in this age of civilization, and would be more impolitic than any extravagance the rulers at Washington could rush into.—Leader.

☞ Funeral March.—It is only once a week we notice what gets on 'Our Table' during the week, but the rule is broken now to say, that Mr. S. Black, the Music Seller of Princess Street, has sent us A Funeral March for the Piano Forte, dedicated to the memory of President Lincoln, the music by that favorite composer, Mrs. E. A. Parkhurst. It is very solemn and very beautiful. Marked 3.

The New Commission of the Peace.—The other city papers in publishing the List of the New Magistrates for Frontenac, headed the list with the words, 'recommended for the Commission.' This is apt to mislead the public, for all the persons whose names are recorded are in the new Commission, and all they have to do is to come to the Clerk of the Peace, qualify, and be sworn in.

14th Battalion.—Lieut. G. S. Kirkpatrick has been reinstated as Adjutant of this Battalion. We hear that Ensign J. K. Macaulay leaves next week for one of the stations of the Frontier Volunteers, to act as Lieutenant in one of the Companies.

A Runic inscription found in the Highlands of Scotland, Sutherlandshire :—

FORCAT.
TLET. ORV.
BTHEI. RRV.
MP.' SAGA.
4NST

Can any of our readers, acquainted with Gælic, give the interpretation?

The Time Table of the Grand Trunk Railway for the season is out. No alteration takes place in trains between Toronto and Montreal. They leave the Toronto Station as follows :—

6:07 A.M., Toronto Time, Day Express for Montreal, Quebec, Portland, Boston.

12:02 P.M.—Mixed to Kingston.

5:07 P.M.—Night Express for Montreal, Quebec, Portland and Boston, Toronto Time.

Appointment.—Dr. Muir, C.B., Inspector General of Hospitals in Canada, has been deputed by Lord De Grey, Secretary of State for War, to report upon the Sanitary arrangements in the U. S. Army. He leaves for Washington immediately.

Address to Col. Durie.—Col. Durie was presented with an address on Monday by the Mayor of Niagara expressive of the high esteem and admiration felt by all classes of the community of Niagara for the gallant Second Administrative Battalion. The address was signed by a large number of the people of Niagara. Col. Durie made a suitable reply.

Quebec Volunteers at Windsor.—The Detroit Free Press of yesterday says that a number of the members of the Quebec company at Windsor, celebrated their advent by a raid on a colored church on Saturday evening. They turned the preacher out of his place and conducted the ceremonies themselves after a fashion more original than ecclesiastical. The affair was hushed up the next morning by the officers.

UNITED STATES NEWS.

STARTLING PROCLAMATION.

THE ASSASSINATION PLOT.

DAVIS CHARGED WITH COMPLICITY

CANADIAN REFUGEES ALSO ACCUSED.

IMMENSE REWARDS OFFERED.

PROCLAMATION.

Whereas it appears from evidence in the Bureau of Military Justice, that the atrocious murder of the late President, Abraham Lincoln, and the attempted assassination of Hon. William H. Seward Secretary of State, was incited, concerted, and procured by and between Jefferson Davis, late of Richmond, Virginia; and Jacob Thompson, Clement C. Clay, Beverly Tucker, George N. Sanders, W. C. Cleary and other rebels and traitors against the Government of the United States harboured in Canada; now, therefore, to the end that justice may be done, I, Andrew Johnson, President of the United States, do offer and promit for the arrest of said persons, or either of them, within the limits of the United States, so that they can be brought to trial, the following rewards :—$100,000 for the arrest of Clement C. Clay; $25,000 for the arrest of Jacob Thompson, late of Missouri; $25,000 for the arrest of George N. Sanders; 25,000 for the arrest of Beverley Tucker; and $10,000 for the arrest of William C. Cleary, late clerk of Clement C. Clay. The Provost Marshal General of the United States is directed to cause a description of said persons, with notice of the above rewards to be published. In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed. Done at the city of Washington, the second day of May, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-five, and of the Independence of the United States of America the eighty ninth.

(Signed.) Andrew Johnson.

By the President,
W. Hunter,
Acting Secretary of State.

New York, May 3.

The Richmond Whig of the 2nd states that Mosby took leave of his men at Salem, Fauquier county, telling them to disband and return home, that he was bound for Texas, and did not want them to accompany him, as it might put their necks into the halter. He then rode off with a small number of his old companions.

Washington, May 3.

The Secretary of State has taken a drive to-day, and is free from pain and stronger.

Mr. F. Seward is somewhat better, and perfectly conscious, and only complaines of the irksomeness of the prescribed quiet.

Washington, May 3.

Information has been received at the Navy Department of the capture of the blockade-running steamer Cora, on the 25th ult., by the United States steamer Quaker City, 15 miles east of Brazos, Texas. The Cora is a stern-wheel steamer, and was bound from Corpus Christi, Texas, to Bagdad, Mexico, with a cargo of lumber.

Her armament consists of 3 guns.

The whole party will probably be captured by troops who will forthwith be despatched in pursuit of them.

As the ram passed the city she had a torpedo suspended from a spar from her bow.

New York, May 5.

The Times' Washington special says a letter received here from Mobile says the government officers have information of the existence in various portions of the State of over half a million bales of cotton which will soon be brought to Mobile by the owners.

The Herald's special says it is understood that a formal demand has been made upon the Canadian Government for the surrender of such of the assassination conspirators as may be within its protection.

By the steamer Costa Rica, we have Panama dates to 26th ult. The Panama Railroad Company have received a new contract with Columbia, which only needs the sanction of Congress to become a law. It secures perpetual ownership of road, and no other road is to build within 150,000 miles on either side. The company pays $500,000, and issues 18,000 shares of one hundred dollars each to the government. The company is to transport government mails, troops, armaments &c., gratis, and charge ten per cent less for the transportation of the products of the republic than those of other countries, in return for which they are to pay no taxes. The necessary lands, &c., are conceded. A French company have secured the exclusive privilege to construct a canal across the Isthmus. By the news from Chili it is learned there is a prospect of a rupture between that country and Spain, growing out of claims of the latter for treatment to her fleet on its way to Peru.

RUTHLESS DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY.

New, York, May 5.

The Herald's correspondent with Wilson's expedition furnishes additional details of the march through Alabama and Georgia. Of the Battle at Ebenezer Church, he says :—This engagement took place at a point called Ebenezer Church, about 25 miles from Selma. The rebels were entrenched in the woods, and had six pieces of artillery in position. They were about 5,000 strong, commanded by Forrest, Chalmers, Armstrong and Adams. After considerable firing on both sides two companies of the 17th Indiana, led by Capt. Taylor, charged them with the sabre, driving their gunners from the guns, capturing one battery of three guns, and scattering the enemy in all directions. While they were thus demoralizing the rebels, the 2nd brigade of the 4th division, which had been sent on a road to the left, arrived, charged, and completely routed the enemy. Our loss in this engagement was about 30 men killed and wounded. We captured over 300 rebels; and their loss in killed and wounded was heavier than ours. We also captured four pieces of artillery and many small arms. Capt. Taylor was killed after having wounded Gen. Forrest in the arm with his sabre.

Our troops arrived in front of the fortifications of Selma at about 4 p.m., April 22. They were immediately formed in line of battle—the 2nd division occupying the right of the centre of the works, and the 4th division the extreme left. The fortifications consisted of a double line of earth works in a semicircle from bank to bank of the Alabama river. There were also 31 bastions and two formidable forts. In front of the first line of works was a row of palisades six feet high, which, together with the marshy nature of the ground over which the charge was made, rendered the earthwork very difficult of access. The works were defended by some 7000 men, with some 30 pieces of artillery. As previously stated, the 2nd division was formed in line, dismounted and a skirmish line thrown forward. A brisk fire was kept up between our skirmishers and the rebels until about five o'clock, when, at a signal from the Chicago Board of Trade Battery, our forces charged down on the breast works yelling like demons.

The rebels poured a murderous fire of musketry and artillery into the ranks. But nothing daunted, our troops bore steadily forward, and within 15 minutes had scaled the works and were driving the enemy towards the river in a terribly demoralized condition. Many of them were drowned in attempting to cross the river, although a few succeeded crossing and escaping. We captured 2,400 prisoners and 32 pieces of artillery in line, besides over 70 pieces in the arsenals. Our loss was 225 killed, wounded and missing; and that of the enemy equally heavy. Montgomery was surrendered without a fight. At Columbus the enemy made a subborn resistance, but our men scaled their works and captured 2,000 prisoners and over 70 pieces of artillery. Here all government property, arsenals, factories and railroad stock were destroyed. 15 miles out of Macon the rebel Gen. Robertson sent a message from Gen. Howell Cobb, saying there had been a suspension of hostilities, granted by Sherman. Gen. Minty replied he knew nothing of it and, suspecting a ruse, sent word to Robertson that he must retire to Macon, while he sent the message to Gen. Wilson, who was up in the rear.

Gen. Minty ordered his advance to move forward in five minutes after delivering this answer to the rebel Gen. Robertson. The advance was made, and as Robertson and his command did not get out of the way, they were all captured. Macon was taken possession of, and here Gen. Wilson received official information of the armistice. The result of the campaign may be summed up as follows :—The capture and occupation of four of the most important cities of the Confederacy, 6,000 prisoners, over 200 guns, and a large supply of small arms, devastation of the country, and destruction of at least five hundred millions worth of property, directly or indirectly, belonging to the rebel government. The casualties of the campaign I have not as yet been able to secure, but do not think they will exceed 450 killed, wounded and missing.

SATURDAY MORNING, MAY 6, 1865.

RETURN OF BISHOP HORAN.

Yesterday afternoon, the Right Revd. Dr. Horan, R. C. Bishop of Kingston, returned home to his Diocess, after a brief visit to His Holiness the Pope at Rome, on business connected with his Diocess. He was met at the R.R. Depot by a large assemblage of Catholic gentlemen of the city, who welcomed his lordship with great cordiality, showing how much this estimable prelate is beloved by those who know him. He was also presented with an Address, to which Dr. Horan made a suitable Reply. Both of these documents will be published in due time. His Lordship came to town in Procession, headed by the Band of the Christian Brothers' School, and followed by a very long concourse of carriages filled with the leading Roman Catholic gentlemen of the city. We are happy to add, that the worthy Bishop looks uncommonly well, and appeared highly delighted at the cordiality of his reception.

IRISH MISSIONS.

It occasionally happens in Canada, that Sermons are preached and Collections made in behalf of Irish Missions; that is for the purpose of converting the Irish Roman Catholics to the Protestant Faith. In a long recent Debate on the Irish Church in the House of Commons, Mr. Dillwyn, Member for Truro, and a Member of the Established Church, made the following remarks with respect to these same Irish Missions :—

'The missionary system had been introduced into Ireland by the Society for Irish Church Missions. It had been viewed with great jealousy and distrust by the members of the Established Church, and its efforts had been anything but honest. In 1830 an able and honest man published the result of his inquiries into the progress made in converting the Irish. He came to the conclusion that the success of which the Evangelical party boasted was greatly exaggerated; and that the converts were generally either the dependants of proselytizing landlords or persons of abandoned character. (A laugh.) In December, 1843, the Rev. Mr. Webster, a gentleman who held high office in the Established Church, brought a charge against the Irish Missions, which he afterwards proved. Among other things, he stated that agents of the Mission had paid persons for pretending to have been of a religion to which they had not belonged. He also said a quantity of bread was given away on Sundays to poor Roman Catholics on the condition that they should learn a verse of the Bible. They took the bread and went away cursing those who had thus tempted them. Again, a number of poor Roman Catholic children were collected together under various pretences, they were placed in a school house for a few days, and they were then dignified with the name of "converts." These allegations were not made by him (Mr. Dillwyn) but by a clergyman of the Church of England high in office. Whether the Irish Establishment was looked upon as a national institution or as a mere missionary society, it must be confessed on all hands that it had signally failed. It had been urged in its favor that the Establishment assisted Government by enabling them to obtain an influence over the Irish people; but he believed, on the contrary, that it had been a great degree the cause of the bitter feeling with which the lower classes in Ireland regarded this country. Was it possible for the Irish labouring classes to look kindly upon a system which gave £500 or £600 per annum to a clergyman of the Established Church with 30 parishioners, while the minister of their own persuasion, with 1,000 parishioners, was barely supported out of their hard earnings?'

Mr. Dillwyn probably speaks a good deal of truth about these Irish Missions, and that is the reason we have re-published this portion of his speech; but we don't mean to prejudge the matter, and therefore we cut from the Times of the 30th March the annexed report :—

Irish Church Missions.—A public meeting was held in the Egyptian-hall of the Mansion-house yesterday in aid of Church Missionary exertions in Ireland. The Lord Mayor occupied the chair until he was obliged to leave, and then Mr. Robert Bevan, the banker, took his place. The Bishop of Kilmore, in moving the first resolution, referred to the antagonism of race and the diversity of language, as the chief obstacles to the propagation of the Gospel in Ireland in times immediately following the Reformation, and those were aggravated, he said, by civil disabilities, which led the Irish people to feel that they were debarred from privileges which were extended to the rest of the community on this side of the Channel. In that way he accounted for the slowness with which the principles of the Reformation had progressed in Ireland in comparison with England. Those obstacles were in full force from generation to generation, but were now being gradually relaxed or removed. The Irish tongue was dying out, and in those districts where it still flourished, means had been taken to disseminate the Scriptures in the native language. He cited in passing the example of his predecessor in the see of Kilmore, an Englishman who, at 60 years of age, made himself so much a master of the Irish tongue as to be able to translate the New Testament for popular circulation in the country. The people now were being approached through the medium of their own language. There were greater facilities for communication; there were evidences of kindly feeling between the upper and lower classes, and there was an under current of truth working its way in all directions through the country, so that he was far from despairing of the Reformation still spreading itself in Ireland as it had done in this country. He moved a resolution in effect that the meeting, acknowledging with gratitude the blessings of the great scriptural truths set forth again at the Reformation, recognized the duty of extending the Gospel to the Roman Catholics of Ireland, and cordially supported the Society for Irish Church Missions as a valuable agency for that purpose. The motion was seconded by the Earl of Harrowby, who related some encouraging circumstances as to the spread of Protestantism in Ireland, founded on recent visits he had made to that part of the kingdom. Mr. John Campbell Colquhoun, in supporting the resolution, stated that in 1834, for every 100 persons in Ireland, there were 81 Roman Catholics and 19 Protestants; but in 1861 there were, for every 100, 78 Roman Catholics and 22 Protestants; so that there had been a positive gain to Protestantism of 3 per cent. The progress, however, was very variable in different parts of the country. It was great on the Protestant side wherever there had been controversy, carried on with Christian faithfulness and love. In Connemara the Protestant congregations had risen from 13, 25 years ago, to 27; while from seven the Protestant Established Churches had risen to 27, and there was an actual increase on the side of the Church of England in that district of 3,000 souls and that in face of an emigration which had carried off not only Roman Catholics, but Protestants. The resolution was put and carried unanimously, and on the motion of Mr. R. N. Fowler, the banker, seconded by the Rev. Alexander Dallas, it was resolved to form an auxiliary branch in London of the parent society, with the Lord Mayor at its head. The thanks of the meeting were, on the motion of Mr. George Hanbury, voted with acclamation to the Lord Mayor, for affording the society the use of the hall on the occasion. Among the gentlemen present, and countenancing the proceedings, were the Hon. Arthur Linnaird, M.P., Alderman Sir Robert Carden, Mr. Letroy, M.P. the Hon. Captain Maude, Mr. R. P. Long, M.P., Mr. Dudley Ryder, Mr. George Hanbury, Mr. William Tollemache, Mr. Arbuthnot, and Mr. A. Washington. A subscription in aid of the funds of the society was made at the close of the meeting, the sum collected being £417, of which the Lord Mayor subscribed 20 guineas.

It is right that Canadians should know the merits of these Missions ere they are asked to contribute to their support. The Roman Catholics of Ireland won't be converted, neither will the Roman Catholics of Lower Canada, no matter what sums of money are expended in the attempt. It follows—what is the use of these Missions?

MARITIME UNION.

About the 10th ultimo, Dr. Tupper, in the Nova Scotia Parliament, moved the following resolution :—

'Whereas under existing circumstances an immediate Union of the British American Colonies has become impracticable, and whereas a Legislative Union of the Maritime Provinces is desirable, whether the larger Union be accomplished or not:

'Therefore, resolved:—That in the opinion of this House the negotiations for the Union of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Prince Edward Island should be renewed in accordance with the resolution passed at the last session of the Legislative.'

Dr. Tupper made a long speech, devoted chiefly to a defence of the Confederation scheme. His motion was seconded by Mr. Archibald, the leader of the Opposition, who took a similar course, passing by a smaller union, aimed at in the motion he was supporting, and arguing at great length for the larger union. Mr. Annand followed in a lengthy speech, denunciatory of the Quebec scheme. One of his arguments was to the effect that Canada wanted the Intercolonial Railway much more than the Maritime Provinces did. His inference, of course, was that by refusing Confederation, the people of the Lower Provinces could force us to build the railroad without getting the union. On the 24th April the resolution was disposed of. Mr. Archibald suggested the withdrawal of the preamble to the resolution, on the ground that it was desirable to close up the business before the House as rapidly as possible. That meant, we take it, that the statement of the preamble was was not acceptable to all the members of the House. Dr. Tupper agreed to Mr. Archibald's suggestion, and the body of the resolution, authorizing the renewal of negotiations for a union of the Maritime Provinces, was adopted without a division.—The next thing that is wanted by the promoters of the Maritime Union is a favourable reponse from New Brunswick. As for Prince Edward Island, nobody seems to expect that colony, in its present temper, to consent to either union.—Globe.

MONDAY MORNING, MAY 8, 1865.

LETTERS AND TELEGRAMS.

A. M., et W. T. L., Montreal, with rem.

TO THE PEOPLE OF CANADA.

Montreal, May 4, 1865.

I have this moment seen the Proclamation of Andrew Johnson, acting President of the United States, stating that "it appears from evidence in the Bureau of Military Justice that the atrocious murder of the late President, Abraham Lincoln, and the attempted assassination of the Hon. W. H. Seward, Secretary of State, was incited, concerted and procured by and between Jefferson Davis, late of Richmond, Va., and Jacob Thompson, Clement C. Clay, Beverley Tucker, George N. Saunders, W. C. Cleary, and others, rebels and traitors against the Government of the United States, harbored in Canada," and offering rewards for the apprehension of the accused, $25,000 being the sum offered for my arrest. It is scarcely possible that such proclamation would have been issued unless some such "evidence" has been adduced. What such "evidence" is I am totally at loss to conjecture. I am compelled, therefore, to content myself with the declaration that whosoever hath sworn to anything authorising in the slightest degree suspicion of my having "incited, concerted or procured," or of any knowledge whatever by me of the attacks made on the President and Mr. Seward, or any acts or projects of a kindred character, or of any plan to kidnap or capture either of them, or any of the Federal authorities, hath blackened his soul with diabolical perjury. Until information reached here of the attack on President Lincoln by J. Wilkes Booth, and that on Mr. Seward by some other person, I did not know that any such person as J. Wilkes Booth existed. I had never heard of him before. I do not know any of the persons in arrest at Washington, and never heard of them till I read the notices in the U. S. newspapers of their apprehension. I have within a day of two past made enquiry and ascertained, that Mr. Booth left St. Lawrence Hall, Montreal, on the 27th October last. The officers of the Ontario Bank state that on that day he purchased of the Bank a Bill on England for £61 12s 1d, for which he paid in American gold, and at the same time made a deposit of $355 Canada money; which yet remains to his credit, and that he stated he intended to run the blockade. Whether he made such attempt, or went into the U. States by railroad, I have not ascertained.

The clerks in the St. Lawrence Hall inform me that he arrived at the house on the 18th of October being here nine days. I was not in Montreal during that time. My association with the other gentlemen named in this atrocious proclamation has been intimate for years, and I admit it would be strange, if they had any knowledge of Mr. Booth's purposes, that I should be in utter ignorance of it.

The whole business is in my deliberate judgment an attempt to get up a pretext for a difficulty with the British Provinces, and the consideration that since I have received nothing but hospitality and kindness from you, impels me to make this brief address to aid the dissipation of such pretext. I have to-day appealed to President Johnson and Secretary Stanton to allow me copies of the alleged "evidence," with respect to myself, to give me a chance to disprove it.

I will add, that I will go before any magistrate here and vertify the above by my solemn oath, and that I will agree that the U. S. Consul, or any respectable Counsel he may designate, shall cross-examine me in relation to the alleged "evidence," or any other and all acts of my life.

Beverley Tucker.

STATEMENT OF MR. W.W. CLEARY.

(To the Editor of the Leader.)

Sir—The reward of $10,000 offered for my capture, by President Johnson, imperatively demands that I should take the first opportunity and the most public means of referring to the proclamation which brands me as a participator in the murder of the late President of the United States. The other gentlemen whose names are associated with mine, I leave to speak for themselves.

In this proclamation I am referred to as the clerk of Mr. C. C. Clay. I deny most emphatically that I ever occupied such a position.

As to the assassination of Mr. Lincoln, I declare before high Heaven and the whole world, that I knew nothing of it until it had been committed and announced in the newspapers. There is not a particle of truth in the statement that I "concocted and incited" the assassination. The announcement of the great crime came upon me, as it no doubt did upon thousands of others who read it in the papers on the day succeeding Good Friday, like a clap of thunder; and I shared, with all my heart, in the general regret that so foul a deed had been committed, and that too, at a time when the war, as I considered, had virtually been brought to a close.

Positive proof of my innocence it is, of course, impossible for me to produce. But if circumstancial evidence is of any avail, I may state that only a week ago I went to Detroit under "safe conduct of the "military authorities," to arrange my affairs and return to my native State. If I had been guilty of the crime laid to my charge, does any one suppose that I would have ventured to go upon American soil, when important revelations were daily being made and numerous persons arrested?

I can do no more now than openly and unequivically assert my innocence. In doing this, I appeal to the justice of a community which, I trust, will not sentence me unheard; and to the right feeling of the government at Washington, who have been most egregiously deceived, if any evidence has been put in their possession which would make me the accomplice of assassins.

Asking your favor for the insertion of this card as soon as possible, I am, sir,

Yours respectfully,
W. W. Cleary.

THE FUTURE OF THE SOUTH.

The great War, or, as it has been unsuccessful, it may now be called the great Rebellion of the South, is over. The State of Texas still remains unconquered, together with a part of Arkansas; but as no resistance can now be made to the Federal Armies, it may safely be pronounced, that the Great Rebellion, as history will term the struggle, is over. After four years of hard fighting, after the loss of many thousands of lives, and the destruction of millions worth of property, the North has succeeded in forcing upon the South her odious tyranny. She has succeeded in denying to the South the privilege of Self Government, a privilege and right for which the United States contended successfully with Great Britain in 1776.

Now that the Southern States have been conquered, re-subjected to Federal power what can be done with them? Their slaves have been liberated, their cities burnt, their their railroads destroyed, and their roads and bridges rendered unserviceable; and what is worse, a very large portion of the white inhabitants are either killed or maimed for life. How can these evils be remedied, how can these losses be made good? It was the labor of the blacks that made the country, built the cities, the railroads and the bridges, and without their labor, how is the great loss to be replaced? White men can't work in a tropical climate, and negroes will not unless forced. The men of Massachusetts, the Abolitionists of the North, have achieved their object—the slave is a slave no more—but what becomes of the white man, what of the country? Five Millions Bales of Cotton, the product of slave labor, were imported annually into Liverpool from the South previous to the rebellion—will one million of bales now be raised? Can Rice, Tobacco and Sugar be produced with the Blacks in a state of freedom? Contrast the fine islands of Cuba and St. Domingo, both fertile, both under one clime. In the one, slave labor has made it the Garden of the West Indies—in the other, freedom to the Blacks has caused misery, destitution, anarchy, and wretchedness. Look at Jamaica—what it was before 1830, and what since. Jamaica, the finest island of its size in the whole world, now a howling wilderness! With such sights before us, what hope is there for the Future of the South? None.—Because, what is done, cannot be undone. However much in their secret hearts, the workers of all these ills may wish to see Slavery re-established in the South, yet that can't be done. The cant of the age will prevent it. How gladly would the sober-second-thought people of Great Britain wish their Twenty-five Millions within their Purse, and the Blacks once more cultivating the rich sugar lands of the West Indies;—but how futile is the wish, how worse than silly, the thought! The British Empire has paid the penalty of its rash folly, and the now United States have to follow suit—to learn bitter wisdom by experience.

It is easy to foresee what will become of the freed Negroes of the South. They will possess the country, work as little as possible, grow sufficient to keep soul and body together, encrease and multiply, and be what the natives of Hayti are now. But the Whites, what is to become of them? They can't labor in the swamps and cotton fields to produce, and without produce, there can be no commerce, and without commerce no cities. The once rich planters, the nabobs of America, with their wealth and luxury, their journeys to Europe, and their abodes in Paris, what of them? They will degenerate into the smallest of farmers while the largest of land owners. Gradually, all who are able to emigrate, will fly to a happier land, and gradually, the fair plain, of the Southern States will be left to the Negroes and a state of Nature. As for the ruined cities, what is there to restore them? Nothing but commerce can re-build Charleston, Richmond, Savannah, Mobile, &c., &c., and what is there to re-build them, when commerce is gone? The only city of the South that can contrive to exist is New Orleans, and that it will owe to the imports from the free Western States, where white labor can be used to advantage. Were it not at the mouth of a great river, flowing from a rich land, New Orleans would succumb to its fate like the rest. And all this misery is owing to the refusal of the Northerners to allow the Southerners the same liberty as they themselves enjoy.

However much we may deplore the ruin of the Southern States, yet it must be acknowledged, that the Whites have in a great measure brought this ruin upon themselves. Not so much by their rebellion, for they had an inherent right to seek for Self Government and obtain it if they could; but by their mismanagement and ill-treatment of their slaves. Had they given to the Negroes the rights of men, taught them Christianity, allowed them the privilege of oaths, observed the laws of marriage, and not have separated the mother from the child, they might have still preserved their services and secured their labor. Instead of which, the better to hold them in servitude, they systematically degraded the Negroes, to the level of the brute creation, a mistaken policy