

NOTICE!

The holders of Notes due the former Proprietors of the *Christian Messenger* are respectfully requested to collect the same before the 20th day of April, ensuing, and transmit the amount, less the expenses of collecting, to this office. If any Notes remain unpaid at that date, the parties holding them are hereby requested to return said Notes, or renewals of them, so that further steps may be taken forthwith.

Christian Messenger.

HALIFAX, APRIL 6, 1859.

Scripture and Tradition; a Reply to Mr. Maturin's Letter on the Claims of the Catholic Church. By J. M. CRAMP, D.D.

We intimated in our notice of Mr. Maturin's Letter a few weeks since, that we had no intention of anticipating Dr. Cramp's Reply. Since that Reply has appeared, we have thought it unnecessary to give any lengthened review of it; feeling somewhat reluctant to do so, as it might be supposed that our opinion would not be an impartial one. Still, perhaps we should not do our duty to our readers or justice to Dr. C., if we were to entirely omit any reference to its having made its appearance.

Dr. Cramp wrote his "TEXT-BOOK OF POPERY" nearly thirty years ago, which work has passed through three editions in England, and has secured for itself a place, as a book of reference on Romanism, in almost all respectable libraries. When this is remembered, it will be conceded that Dr. C. is well entitled to discuss the questions raised here by Mr. Maturin's Letter.

Dr. Cramp has not taken up the whole letter, and given a detailed reply to all its statements, but has rather aimed at the root of the system for which Mr. Maturin attempts to set up "claims." The various dogmas of Rome are the fruits and results of the great Scripture-and-Tradition error, and derive all their strength from this as their root. Whilst, therefore, Dr. C. has not confined himself to this particular, he has given it greater prominence than any other; and has most effectually destroyed the sophistry by which the letter of Mr. Maturin attempts to sustain the claims which Rome makes to being the only true Church.

Dr. C. does not indulge in invective and denunciation, yet he gives no quarter to the system of error on which the Roman Catholic Church bases its claims. Even a Catholic, open to conviction, might read this reply, and we believe many will do so, without feeling that Mr. M. or the church he has now chosen, has been unfairly dealt with, or that any other feeling has animated the writer than a desire to destroy error by an exhibition of the truth. We wish this were the course pursued by all opponents of Romanism.

If we may form an opinion of the merits of the Reply, by the rapid sale of the first edition—it being exhausted in about two weeks, and still in demand,—we must conclude that it has commended itself to the enlightened judgment of the reading public.

The favourable notices of the press have relieved us from the necessity of further commendation. If it were not that a large number of our readers have read the pamphlet for themselves, or, we are persuaded, will do so, we might be tempted to follow the example of some of our contemporaries, and transfer some passages from it to our columns. We shall, however, instead of this, take the liberty of copying some of the notices which it has elicited.

The *Sun* says:—
"We have received a copy of Dr. Cramp's reply to Mr. Maturin's Letter. It is a clever production, and the writer is well versed in Biblical history, and the works of the ancient Fathers. It is the best reply put forth, and we suppose it will find its way into the hands of all who have read 'The Claims of the Catholic Church.' The pamphlet extends over 64 pages, and is very neatly printed. The publisher, Mr. S. Selden, will accept our thanks."

The *Presbyterian Witness* remarks:—
"SCRIPTURE and TRADITION is the title of Dr. Cramp's Reply to Mr. Maturin's 'Claims of the Catholic Church.' The Letter has done admirably. From the cursory perusal we have been able to give it, we can cordially commend this little publication to all who feel an interest in the controversy."

The *Provincial Wesleyan* notices it in the following terms:—
"We must be content for the present in merely announcing the publication of this

pamphlet. The reputation of Dr. Cramp as a writer on cognate subjects, should be a sufficient guarantee that the work which he proposed to himself in this instance has been thoroughly done. Dr. Cramp is author of 'A Text Book of Popery' and a volume upon the 'Reformation in Europe,' both of which have been much esteemed."

The Editor of the *Church Record* tells his readers:—
"We are indebted to the publisher for a copy of Dr. Cramp's reply to Rev. E. Maturin's Pamphlet. It will amply repay perusal."

We make an extract from a favourable notice in the *Bridgetown Western News*:—
"As might be expected from any work by the Rev. Dr. Cramp, this pamphlet displays great acuteness, extensive learning, zeal tempered by charity, close reasoning and much elegance of style. It ought to be, and we think that it will be, very extensively read."

The *Morning Chronicle* commences an editorial upon it as follows:—
"DR. CRAMP'S REPLY TO MR. MATURIN.—This is a neatly printed pamphlet, issued from the *Christian Messenger* office, extending through 64 pages. We have read this spirited production with a good deal of interest, and think the caustic well applied. The Dr. has not replied to all Mr. Maturin's arguments and assertions, but has attacked and exposed the fallacy of his 'Scripture and Tradition' theories, and has shewn to what a state of moral and intellectual degradation a man would sink by submitting to the rule of faith and obedience insisted upon by Mr. Maturin."

Whilst the Editor of the *N. B. Christian Visitor* generously devotes to it a leader of a column and a half, in the course of which he states:—

"We were expecting that the author of the 'Text Book of Popery' would thoroughly dissect Mr. Maturin's Book, and expose to public gaze the untruthfulness of its dogmatic assumptions and the consequent absurdity of its conclusions, but we must say that the demolition of the specious superstructure raised by the pervert is more complete than we had anticipated. Maturin's book, every body says, is well written, and is, doubtless, an able production. It certainly bears the mark of anxious enquiry and prolonged research; but the trouble is, that by some strange infatuation, he fails to perceive that the premises on which his arguments all rest, have no foundation in truth."

"The Doctor proceeds to show most conclusively that Mr. Maturin's theory of the union of the Bible and tradition in the guidance of the Church is opposed to Scripture; that it is to be rejected for its novelty; that it is altogether 'unsatisfactory in its operation,' that it 'involves a state of intellectual degradation to which no man should submit,' that 'it is impracticable,' and that 'it has been upon its trial for ages, and has signally failed!' These several propositions are sustained by explanations and arguments which cannot be confuted."

"We cordially commend this book to our readers, and sincerely hope that it will find amongst them an extended circulation. We have read it with unmix'd satisfaction. In style, it is concise and distinct, in argument crushing, and in spirit manly and christian."

The Second Edition is announced in our advertising columns. We are glad to find that Dr. C. has taken up the subjects named for the Appendix. They are alluded to by Mr. Maturin, and information on them from authentic sources will be very acceptable. Brief and popular articles on the subjects named are much needed, just at the present time, and the addition of them cannot fail to enhance the value of this edition, and render it highly useful to all Protestant readers and enquiring Catholics.

The Prohibitory Bill.

It is still doubtful if the battle for Prohibition of the Liquor Traffic is yet more than half fought, even in the Legislature. Notwithstanding the large majority who voted for the Bill in the Assembly, it appears to find but little favour in the Upper House. The members of that branch of the Legislature have no fear of the people before their eyes, and therefore are at liberty to carry out their own opinions, and say what they think is best for us, without any danger of being called to account at the hustings.

We regret to find that the Bill prepared by the Grand Division of the Sons of Temperance and approved by the Convention is not looked upon with favour by the press. Even those who have professed to be favourable to Temperance endeavour to treat the Bill with a measure of disrespect which we did not expect. The *Morning Journal* calls it "The Tiresome Prohibitory Law," and thinks that in the discussion of the subject in the Assembly "everybody felt that nobody was in earnest about it, and that it would never become an operative enactment."

In this sweeping charge, the Editor, however, excepts Mr. Moses, but endorses the resolution of the Hon. Mr. Bell, given below, to put the Bill off by having a Census of the Province taken, and by that means allowing the adult population—male and female, to

express their opinion on "this vexed question."

The appointment of the Committee of the Council indicates hostility to the Bill. The Report of that Committee reveals it more clearly. The second paragraph gives, as we conceive, a most unfair interpretation to the clauses for submitting the Bill to the people. We do not allow that "defeat at the hustings would be final and conclusive." If the opponents of Prohibition are so opposed to the question being submitted to the people, is it not clear, that they see their case a hopeless one, if that course is allowed?

The following is the Report of the Committee of the Legislative Council:—

"Your Committee differ in opinion as to the soundness of the prohibitory policy. The majority of them believe that such policy is unsound—that Bills of this nature are arbitrary, impolitic, and unjust—that they never can be enforced—that they create animosities, convulse society, cripple the public Revenue, and endanger the public credit. They are, therefore, not disposed to sanction any Bill which may come into force calculated to produce evils of such magnitude."

The Chairman of your Committee views the Bill from a different point. He believes that, if carefully guarded and strictly enforced, it would promote the good order of society, repress intemperance and crime, and diminish poverty and distress. He believes the Bill is demanded by a large portion of the sound-thinking part of the community. Believing this, he feels it would be unjust to the principle of prohibition to subject it to the vote of the people when distracted with the excitement, the turmoil, and the bad passions of a contested Election,—that if defeated then, as he is almost certain it will be, no public man in Nova Scotia will ever again attempt to introduce such a Law, and that, therefore, defeat at the Hustings is final and conclusive."

All of your Committee concur in considering the course proposed by the Bill, of submitting to the people a question that ought to be decided here, unconstitutional and improper.

With these views your Committee, although arriving at their conclusions in different ways, concur in the belief that they cannot recommend the Bill to the favourable consideration of this House.

T. D. ARCHIBALD, Chairman.
A. KEITH,
R. M. CUTLER."

The Hon. Hugh Bell introduced the following Resolution, which was made the order of the day for Monday:—

Resolved, That all the clauses that relate to vote by Ballot be expunged from the Bill, and that 100 copies of the remaining part of the Bill be printed and circulated through the Province. And further Resolved, That a census of the population of the Province be taken when the votes of the people in behalf of Temperance shall be also ascertained, and a Return thereof made at the next meeting of the Legislature.

On the second reading of the Bill on Monday, some remarks were made by Hon. J. McCully reiterating some of the objections made to the Bill, but entirely opposed to the resolution of Mr. Bell. He should vote for its going to Committee, but should there move for material amendments to the Bill, particularly repudiating those clauses which provide for its being submitted to the people at the general election. Mr. Bell intimated that he would not press his resolution as a whole.

The Bill was passed on its second reading without division.

We noticed in our last number that the French Emperor had published a denial of any intention to involve Europe in a war. Such indeed is the case, but in carefully looking over our last files of English papers, and from Telegraphic news from New York since received, we fear the hopes we expressed must be cherished with large modifications. The din of warlike preparations is still going on in all the Naval and Military arsenals of France and Sardinia, and it is highly probable that the expulsion of the Austrians from Italy, if not the entire subjugation of that Peninsula, by France and her Ally, is the great stake for which the die of war is to be cast. From all that can be gathered as to the effect of Lord Cowley's mission to Vienna, there is little or no encouragement to hope that he has done much to avert the impending contest. Should the threatened hostility become real, there is little doubt but that a war such as the world has not witnessed since the beginning of the present century, will ensue. It will be little in accordance with our boasted progress in the arts of peace and civilization, should such a calamity visit the nations. But we fear that a much larger portion of the heaven of the Gospel of peace must be infused into the corrupt mass of humanity, before we dare hope for the cessation of war and bloodshed.

Apropos to the rumours of impending war, is the invention of a new instrument

of destruction in England by a Mr. Armstrong. It is a rifled cannon of much less than the usual size and proportions, by which a ball can be thrown to the enormous distance of upwards of five miles, with destructive effect. At the distance of upwards of a mile and a half, it is said scarcely ever to miss the mark. Such an implement would soon effect an entire revolution in the art of war. Happily for human nature, it is a well established fact, that every improvement in the destructiveness of instruments or arts of war, renders the issue of battle more quick and decisive, and is a saving of life and limb. The more destructive and certain the conflicts of hostile armies, the less will men be inclined to stake their fortunes on them.

Lord Elgin had returned to Shanghai after a two months' voyage, with several steamers, up the Great Yellow River into the heart of China. He found the country immensely populous, but in the most reduced and miserable condition in consequence of the Rebellion, which is still prevailing to a large extent, with various success on either side. There does not at present seem much opening for trade with the interior.

By the last accounts from India it would appear that the kingdom of Oude, which has from the beginning been the great focus of the Indian insurrection, is finally quieted, and that all that now remains to be done is, to suppress several predatory bands which are still under arms, in a few places, least accessible to pursuit.

From the best information we can obtain, the Legislative Session will terminate about the middle of the month. Beyond the rather unprofitable debate which occupied so much of the first part of the Session, there has not been much that has called forth any very animated discussion. The construction of the Railway to Pictou will not, it appears, proceed for the present. After the expenditure of a million of money by the Province, there would seem good reason for some caution in our future outlays.

Temperance Intelligence.

The four Halifax Distillers, it appears, have thrown up their Licenses in consequence of the recent action in the Assembly respecting the conditions under which they were to be renewed. Their operation, so far as the manufacture of Rum is concerned, has therefore discontinued. It is probable they have a large stock on hand, so as to supply the groggeries for a good while to come, and we fear also for electioneering purposes. If the importation and use of this fruitful source of crime and wretchedness could be as speedily checked as the manufacture of it, we might hope soon to see these gentlemen investing their capital in a business which would benefit both the consumer and the Provincial Treasury, at the same time as it does the manufacturer and seller.

We should then soon see the £16,000 loss of revenue made up from other sources. Indeed, those who have been accustomed to pay their cash for this article would find it to their advantage to give the whole cost and duties without receiving any return, rather than get what they do for their money in the shape of intoxicating drinks.

LIQUOR REVENUE.—The amount received in this Province last year was:—

Brandy,	£2794 10 7
Cordials,	32 12 1
Rum,	2886 9 1
Whisky,	685 12 9
Wines,	2124 13 4
Geneva,	5313 1 4
Distilleries,	7815 12 0
	£21653 11 2 Sterling, or
	£27066 19 0 Currency.

This probably represents above 250,000 gallons of spirituous liquors, and 20,000 gallons of wine.

It is impossible to say what quantity will be required for mechanical, medical, and other lawful purposes. The probable loss of revenue cannot therefore be estimated. Let it be supposed, however, that there will be a loss of £15,000, should the Prohibitory Liquor Law pass, a poll-tax of one shilling would meet it. Would not the people of Nova Scotia willingly pay a shilling a year each to get rid of the liquor nuisance and its abominable effects? Surely we may answer that question in the affirmative!

Set down on the other side the gain that will accrue to all families now made miserable by the traffic and the exchange of useless and injurious for useful expenditure. It will be a very profitable law to the country—a splendid blessing.—*Abstainer.*

PROHIBITION.—The Committee of the House of Assembly appointed to take the subject of Temperance and the Petitions on that subject into consideration, brought in a report on the