

sub-deacon; the Rev. Mr Dunphy, and Rev. Mr Doyle.

His Lordship addressed the congregation at great length and with much earnestness, on the nature of their position in this country, and the duties that devolve upon them peculiarly. Rapidly reviewing the history of the Irish people from the day when first St. Patrick began his mission, down to the present time, he spoke of all that had been done by Irishmen, especially in the cause of civilization and religion, for the preservation and diffusion of which Europe was indebted to Ireland, after the great northern invasion, and many nations of the world are indebted to-day. In every part of this mighty continent, in its cities and forests, in its hills and valleys: in the distant Oceanic, and all the isles of the ocean, are Irishmen to be found. Everywhere they celebrate this day; everywhere, although often poor and illiterate, and although some are a scandal to their country and their faith, they as a whole afford the most convincing proofs, by their virtues and their whole lives, of the divine origin of their faith.

Passing from this he spoke at length of the position of the Irish in this Province, and although his Lordship stated that he intends to have his address printed, we venture so far to anticipate its publication, as to give a few of the most striking passages:—

In New Brunswick, as elsewhere, the Irish Catholic is often condemned and despised because he is judged by the false standard of prejudice and a diseased public opinion. False principles are laid down and false witnesses are brought forward and the most serious accusations are flippantly made, which, if true, would of themselves destroy us; and the most ridiculous stories are put in circulation, which have been a thousand and one times refuted, and at often re-asserted (and believed) through the agency of what is called a *Free Press* and an *Enlightened Pulpit*.

And how are we to meet these accusations, and to dispel this prejudice? Is it by angry recrimination, or by violence, or by controversy, or by uncharitable personalities, or by rushing into print at every moment that such an end is to be achieved? No! we look upon all these, but as so many impediments in the way. I speak advisedly, for upon me, more than any one else in the diocese, whether priest or layman, devolves the duty of defending religion when necessary, and of pointing out the best policy for its success. Were I to refute all the falsehoods and all the laughable inanities that are so solemnly told of us, in what is called the *Religious Press* and other penny papers of New Brunswick, I should publish a letter or rather a theological dissertation in reply every morning of the year. And would any reasonable man suppose that such a course would serve the cause we have at heart, that it would remove prejudice and put an end to misrepresentation, and change the tactics of our enemies, and win their golden opinions and their kindly feelings, and throw a halo of light and beauty and blessing around what is dearest to us on earth. The experience of the world is against it. There have been great occasions, as there may yet be, when the Church needed her valiant man to go forth like David to do battle and sustain her cause in single combat. But these were the exception, not the rule, and whenever they presented themselves, God always sent the man equal to the crisis. It was the Church that selected him in the first instance. She acknowledged him as the champion of her own choice; she sent him forth with a blessing; she did homage to his genius, and threw over him the panoply of her merited approbation. But as a general rule, oral and newspaper controversy on religious matters, is rather discouraged by the Church. Except in rare cases of attempted Proselytism, it has been invariably discountenanced by the Ecclesiastical Superiors, the Archbishops and Bishops of Ireland that country where our Faith has been unrelentingly persecuted, and more triumphantly sustained than in any other country in the world.

For strong reasons, in my humble conviction, the same rule would apply to New Brunswick, and if there had been a deviation from it since my arrival, it was certainly without my connivance or consent.

We want no controversy here until it will become unavoidable, and if that day should ever come, we live in the assurance that God will send the man who will be competent to do honor to the cause, and who will speak out fearlessly on a subject which is the whole truth of God, and which, therefore, has nothing to fear from the united opposition of all the presses and pulpits in the country.

In this new country where the population is so sparse, and where the co-operation of every man is required for the well-being of the community, neither Catholic nor Protestant can afford to have the Province distracted by religious strife. It could neither convert nor improve any man nor subserve any laudable purpose that I know of. As Providence has brought us together, and that we are destined to make a home for ourselves and those who are to come after us, it becomes imperative that we should live in peace and harmony with the whole world, believing and practising our own religion and not trenching upon the religious rights or feelings of others. Here every denomination is more or less pitted on its own merits, and if we are true to ourselves, if we are sober, and honest, and industrious, and attentive to our religious duties, without any aid whatever from polemical squabbles, we have no fear for the result. Catholicity has already gone through many a trying ordeal. She has been placed side by side in a hand to hand struggle, almost in a life and death competition

with all the sects and all the forms of faith now in the world, and with thousands that are no more, but she is as still progressive as she is unchanged. It is with the deep conviction of her innate soundness and of her tenacity in this particular that I have been silent for the last four years in the face of all the slanders that have been heaped upon us by what is called the religious press, and for which we gave no provocation that I am aware of. Though I could have easily carried a war of retaliation into their own camp, though I could retort with terrible justice and with facts in hand, have enlarged on the ignorance, and the superstition and the grotesque antics, and the wild fanatical ravings, and the dying out of all religious principle of those who assail us. Though I could remind them of their terrible ingratitude to that good man, the Pope, without whom both Scribes and Pharisees would be at once reduced to a state of literary beggary, having nothing besides to charm their friends or to enliven the dullness of their canting and rigmorole sermons and their drowsy dissertations, yet we forbore, for it would have embroiled us into a religious war, the greatest calamity that can befall any community. We forbore, for it would be playing the game of desperate men whose only means of livelihood is to foment and keep up discord and religious hate among brothers, and leech-like to fatten on the miseries of mankind.

Whatever therefore may be said of the advantages of controversy elsewhere, in New Brunswick I emphatically condemn it both on principle and policy. I never wrote a line myself either on polemics or politics since my arrival in the Province, nor has any one else done it for me with my knowledge or approbation.

The eloquence and the earnestness of this Address and the importance of the subject, will, we assure, commend it to the earnest attention of thinking men of all classes and creeds.

In the evening, about one hundred gentlemen of all creeds, ranks and professions, sat to dinner, under the Banners of St. Patrick's Society, at Stubbs' Hotel. We need scarcely say that the dinner was excellent on that as on all similar occasions. The evening was passed in the most agreeable manner.

Editor's Department.

MIRAMICHI:

CHATHAM, SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 1857.

TERMS.—New Subscribers Twelve Shillings and Six Pence, per annum, in all cases in advance. Old Subscribers 12s. 6d. in advance, or 15s. at the end of the year. We prefer the advance price, and as it effects a large saving, we hope soon to see all our subscribers avail themselves of it. To Clubs of five and upwards, to one address, Ten Shillings a year in advance.

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This paper is filed, and may be seen free of charge, at Holloway's Pills and Ointment Establishment, 244 Strand, London, where Advertisements and Subscriptions will be received for this Periodical.

SAVINGS' BANK.

Deposited at Savings' Bank 2nd March, £282 17 0
Withdrawn, including Interest, 3rd March 68 5 2

WEEKLY CAENDAR.

Moon First Qr. 1st, 9A 11m A. M. HIGH WATER.		
29 S.	5th Sunday in Lent	8 17 8 39
30 M.		9 5 9 30
31 T.	Bethoven died 1827	9 59 10 27
1 W.	APRIL	11 16 11 45
2 Th.		0 28
3 F.		1 11 1 54
4 S.	Goldsmith died 1774	2 37 3 1

The above Tides having been calculated with regard to the moon's horizontal parallax and angular distance from the sun, will be found to be correct, due allowance being made at times for high winds and freshets. For Richibucto, subtract, 2A30m—Bathurst, 2A45m—Dalhousie, 2A50m from the above.

LEGISLATIVE PROCEEDINGS.

LAST week we devoted considerable space to a review of the disgraceful manner—for we can apply no more appropriate term—in which the members of the Assembly have conducted themselves for the last six weeks, the time they have been in session.

They no sooner met than a faction fight ensued. The opposition, sure of victory, and trusting in their strength, without waiting for any action of the Government, involving either an injudicious act or infringing a constitutional principle, but certain of success, made an onslaught on the Government. They were out,

their opponents were IN, enjoying comfortable livings, and all the other good things which power and patronage bestowed on them. Their position was an enviable one, and coveted by their antagonists.

This was precisely the case in 1856, when the Liberals were in Office. The opposition, now the Government Party, opposed and thwarted them in every way they possibly could; and such has been the system pursued for years; but it has at length assumed such a dangerous and ruinous position, that it imperatively calls upon the people to arouse from their apathy, and devise some prompt and efficacious remedy.

We have pointed out the evils, we will now endeavour to suggest the remedy. We would advise the people to call out Candidates in each County, according to the number of Members to be returned, on both sides, that is to say—in this County—four candidates on the Liberal ticket, and a like number on the Conservative ticket, and let the constituency act consistently, not dividing or splitting their votes, but vote on principle, either for one side or the other. If this course were pursued we should then ascertain correctly the sentiments of the people whether the majority were conservatives or liberals; and if this plan were adopted in all the Counties of the Province, the position of parties would be correctly ascertained, and the Province governed by the party representing the majority of the people.

Another course we would recommend—to sink all party distinctions, and call out men of intelligence, integrity, and honorable principles; men who the people know, and in whom they have confidence; men who they feel assured will not be bribed, or sacrifice the interests of the people for Office. Who would support all measures beneficial to the people, introduced into the Legislature by whomsoever they may be, either by the Government, the opposition, or a private member.

Looking at the matter calmly and dispassionately, we think the latter course would be the best. We have not been idle spectators, but have closely watched the actions of men in power for some years, and contrasted their acts with their professions. The result has been, that we have come to the conclusion that neither political party has any fixed, or rather we should say, broad and comprehensive principles; that the terms conservative and liberal are used more for self-interest, to rally round their standard certain friends and partizans, than to define or mark out a plain, consistent course of action.

We know that in making these assertions we lay ourselves open to attack from party. This troubles us but little. We do not write for the elevation of a party; we state our convictions for the benefit of the people, and for them, and them alone, we sketch these imperfect thoughts. If they will cause them to think and act, our object will be gained; if they pass them heedlessly by, they will be the party who must suffer.

Look at the proceedings of the Assembly, as reported by the telegraph despatches, the journals and the debates. What do they record—debate after debate; a war of words on every subject, trivial or important. The foundation of all of them to embarrass the Government, and the Government to hold on and not give in. How much more dignified it would have been for both parties, seeing they were so nicely balanced that neither could proceed satisfactorily with the business of the country, had they adopted the same course which the British Government and the opposition have resolved on. The former were defeated on an important question, and entered into arrangements with their opponents to pass all measures necessary for carrying on the business of the country; and when this was concluded, Parliament should be prorogued and the Commons dissolved for the purpose of appealing to the people. How different has been the course pursued in this Province. Scarce a measure of general importance has been passed. No appropriations have been made. Several important laws, we believe, are about to expire and no provision made for their renewal. In fact we are no better off than if the members had remained at home, but rather the worse, for our Treasury has been relieved of several thou-

sands Pounds without the Province receiving the smallest equivalent.

We are apprehensive, the action on the prorogation was so rapid, that the Council had not time to give its assent to the Disqualification Bill passed by the House. We trust, however, we may be mistaken.

The people have now an important duty to perform. There is no time to lose, for the election must come off speedily, as the business of the Province must meet with prompt attention. We would therefore, urge on the attention of the constituency the suggestions we have thrown out for their consideration. They are the only two ways—in our opinion—open to them. If they pursue the old course, we predict a repetition of the same scenes, and a continuation of the same evils which they have witnessed and felt for years; if they adopt either of our suggestions there is a chance that some beneficial change will follow. We repeat—be up and doing, for no time is to be lost.

The Legislative Council have agreed to the Election Bill as passed by the Assembly. The construction we placed on the Law was correct. The County of Restigouche will, in addition to those we named in our last issue, have the benefit of the new Law. We congratulate our neighbours on the advantage they will possess over us at the approaching Election, and trust they will use their advantage wisely.

We publish copies of the Railway Bills introduced by the Government. The only alteration of consequence we notice is—that the Commissioners are to be reduced from five to three. We also give the estimate of the Revenue and Expenditure of the Province for 1857, introduced by the Provincial Secretary.

The following remarks copied from a late number of the Leader, is well worthy the consideration of the people at the present time.

“If the House of Assembly have any feeling of honor, if it desire to retain a character for the common decencies of public life, the words of the Speaker will not be suffered to pass without a strict and rigid enquiry into their correctness. It is owing to the fallibility of human nature, that all political assemblies have been cursed with venal members. But there never was an Assembly, whose unanimously elected head, has truthfully declared that in that Assembly there was not a spark of patriotism.—No important member of a Legislative Assembly would dare, even under the protection of age and honors, to describe the whole body as a corrupt, venal scoundrel for office, unless he were demented or had a firm conviction of his veracity. No declarations of individual members of the House, however solemnly delivered and however stamped with truthfulness, can remove the stigma which the Speaker has cast upon the whole House of Assembly of this Province. His Honor has stated that which is either true or false. He has reflected on his statements, and reiterated them. If they be true of the majority of the House, the minority should retire from the political contamination. If they be true of a minority, the majority should expel them. If they be true, a vote of censure should mark the displeasure of the House, at the conduct of its defamer. If none of these propositions be acted on, if the House is stolidly indifferent to the character it holds in public estimation, it is for the people to urge, and if necessary, to compel the Government to advise His Excellency to dissolve the House, after means shall have been taken to form constituencies. No Government, however unscrupulous were some of its members, could neglect a firm public reprobation free from party spirit. From a new House fairly chosen by electors protected by the Ballot, a government might be formed independent of any existing combination, a government of honorable men of known and tried liberal principles, honest, upright, energetic, and of respectable talent. Poor they may be, but not needy; rich, but thrifty and economical; without genius, but not the less capable of administering the common affairs of the country; conversant with business, and with the world, not dissipated idlers or obstinate hermits; in a word, an assembly of men of common sense, and not a den of ignorant haglers for pocket money, petty office holders, and only a sprinkling of honorable men.

“The time seems to have arrived when the vile and disgraceful factions that have impeded the legislation of this province are nearly all on a level of imbecility. Let us have a new organization, with acknowledged principles, and honest men of confirmed faith and consistent public lives. The people will eagerly support such men in spite of the veneration for party names.”

ESTIMATED REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE OF THE PROVINCE OF NEW BRUNSWICK FOR THE YEAR 1857.

ESTIMATED EXPENDITURE.			
Heads of Expenditure.	Provided by Law.	To be appropriated.	Total.
Civil List,	£14,500	- -	£14,500