

these words:—"We do not know whether to admire most the charming paradoxes or the logical fallacies with which Bishop MORAN's lecture on 'The Bankruptcy of Liberalism' abounded." Well, see how doctors differ. The 'Evening Star' is of a different opinion altogether, and says:—"But we are prepared to go even further than this, and admit that the discourse was thoroughly logical—that, in short, it is impossible to avoid coming to the same conclusion as his Lordship did, if only we can be induced to give our assent to his premises." The writer in the 'Guardian' cannot have either heard or read the lecture, for, had he, it is inconceivable he could have written the following words:—"He waxed eloquent over the growth of Secularism and the ignoring of the Catholic Church as a ruler of the State. If Catholicism had not lost its power wars would have ceased, and the peace and happiness for which Liberals longed been accomplished facts." There is not one word of truth in this sentence. From the beginning to the end of the lecture the Bishop did not say this or anything like it; it is a pure invention. After this untrue statement the 'Guardian' indulges in a most extraordinary species of argumentation, and begins it thus—"Now, there is one fallacy that runs all through his speech, and one which we are surprised at his not seeing. *Post hoc, ergo propter hoc*. This was the burden of his lecture: Liberal ideas sprang up in France; France has suffered; ergo, Liberalism has caused the suffering. Surely this is very foolish." Certainly it is, and it is supremely idiotic in a writer in a public newspaper, in the face of a public who have the lecture before them, to state that this is its argument. The rest of the article in the 'Guardian' is of a piece with this, and needs no further comment.

Before concluding, we wish to correct some mistakes into which the 'Star' has fallen. Our contemporary seems to think that there are no liberals in Spain. Our contemporary says: "It has never been infected with heresy for the last three centuries, or with liberalism,"—and then he asks, is not Spain the most backward country in Europe, are there not at this moment two Catholic Sovereigns engaged in carrying on a destructive war within it? Where is its literature? Can Bishop MORAN point to one eminent scientific scholar? It is evident that the gentleman who wrote this has never been in Spain, and that whatever knowledge he possesses of it, must have been derived from books written a long, long time ago, and the modern publications of Liberals. The fact is, that ever since NAPOLEON the 1st., placed his brother JOSEPH on the throne of Spain, in the beginning of this century, there have been liberals of the genuine stamp in Spain, and that unhappily for the last forty years, this country has been governed almost exclusively by liberals. ESPARTERO, who banished Bishops, Priests and Nuns, destroyed convents, confiscated the property of the Church, and cast out religion, was a liberal; and he ruled the country for years with a rod of iron.

Queen ISABELLA was a puppet in the hands of the liberals, as her son is now. They used her and then cast her aside, as they are now using her son, whom they will certainly cast aside should they succeed in conquering DON CARLOS. It is Liberalism that has brought all its calamities on Spain. And not only are there Liberals in that country, but there are Red Republicans, who only lately endeavoured to enact scenes similar to those of the Commune in Paris. These are notorious facts, and our surprise is great at seeing a writer in the 'Star' stating that Spain has never been infected with heresy for the last three centuries, or with Liberalism. Our contemporary asks where is its literature? Why, Spain has the noblest literature perhaps in Europe. She has produced the greatest theologians, philosophers, dramatists, and historians; and even in recent times, in the midst of conflicts engendered by Liberalism, she has produced writers of the greatest eminence. The name of BALMEZ alone would redeem the character of a nation or age. It is asked, can Bishop MORAN point out one eminent scientific Spaniard? It is very likely he can, and we beg our contemporary not to imagine that there are no names eminent in science but those that he happens to know of.

As to the 'Bruce Herald,' nothing need be said further than that its remarks upon the lecture are of such a character that a decent man ought to feel ashamed of them.

Subscriptions have poured in for the Paris municipal loan until the amount has reached to forty times the sum required.

THE PROVINCIAL COUNCIL.

On the 3rd instant the Provincial Council of Otago was opened by the Superintendent, Mr. Macandrew, who delivered a speech, which will be found fully reported in another part of this paper, and to which we ask the particular attention of our readers. In this very able speech there are two points of especial importance. The first is in reference to the contemplated Constitutional changes, and in his views on this subject we cordially agree. It is clear that all the Provinces must stand or fall together; and it is also evident, should the Provinces be extinguished, Otago as a whole and each part of it must necessarily suffer enormous loss. We also agree with Mr. MACANDREW where he says—"You may depend upon it the real question with which the Colony ought to grapple is not abolition of Provinces, but the question of finance—a more equitable appropriation of the public revenue among those by whom it is contributed," and again the wisest thing that could be done would be to fall back upon the Constitution, and allow the respective Provinces to rely upon themselves; limit the Central Government to purely federal action; let each Province have the uncontrolled disposal of its own revenue, from whatever source derived, contributing its share *pro rata* towards the maintenance of the central power, and towards the payment of the debt for which the colony as a whole is now liable.

We regret we cannot approve of the Bill brought in by the Government and recommended by the Superintendent in reference to a school rate. So long as the present system of education continues, a school rate levied by the School Committees will be a foul injustice to the minority, and cannot fail to engender heart-burnings and most determined opposition on the part of Denominationalists. A similar rate has led to the most serious and deplorable consequences in New Brunswick only lately. The Provincial Council of Otago ought to take warning from this fact. Let those whose children are educated at the public schools erect the buildings and keep them in repair, &c. It is monstrous tyranny and injustice to compel Catholics, for example, who are making very great sacrifices indeed to establish schools for themselves at their own sole expense, to contribute also to erect schools, &c., for the education of the children of people who refuse to contribute a penny for those purposes. It is not to be expected that men will tamely submit to such high-handed, unjust, and tyrannous legislation.

THE COMING CRISIS.

It seems to be the prevailing opinion both in the Press and amongst the public that a terrible war, perhaps the greatest the world has ever seen, is fast approaching. The fact, however, so apparent, of the very extensive preparations made on all sides, may make all the European powers averse to taking the initiatory step, and assuredly a terrible responsibility will rest upon the nation which will strike the first blow, or give provocation to strike it. France, we are told, is eager for the fray, and is burning to wipe out the terrible reverses of Metz and Sedan, and the insulting swagger of the victorious enemy upon the Boulevards of Paris: while the far-seeing Chancellor of the Empire admits, with chagrin, his under-estimate of the recuperative powers and energies of the French nation. Despite his perspicacity, BISMARCK was terribly in error as to the weight of the chains he had placed around the neck of his prostrate foe, and he had vainly imagined that the conditions of the indemnity were as forged fetters, which would weigh his rival to the earth for at least a score of years. To his dismay, however, he finds France only hurt, and with amazing vitality rising like the phoenix from its ashes and ruins, until within but a few years of its apparent utter prostration, she stands at the present day a more formidable rival than ever. To Frenchmen, the humiliation received at Waterloo pales into insignificance before the terrible degradation of seeing their beloved Paris defiled by the tread of their oft vanquished and much despised German foe, and they are now but retiring the farther back to make the greater spring at the throat of the oppressor. Already the unprincipled despot, the persecutor of peaceful men and helpless women, fears the NEMESIS that is on his track, and the swaggering tone which, but a short time since, characterised his utterances, is sadly changed. It may be remembered that this modern Dictator, not long ago, had the temerity to beard the British lion, in the per-