## "ROUND DANCES."

AN ECCLESIASTICAL BLAST AGAINST THEM.

The Baltimore Episcopal Methodist has an article on the subject of the condemnation, by the Plenary Council of the Catholic Church, of certain fashionable dances. The Methodist takes sides with the Council in the discussion that has ensued. We quote:

"Nor are we ignorant of round dances as practiced now. We have observed them at Saratoga night after night, until we know all we wished to know about them. An old doctor, accustomed for many years to see the unvarnished side of society, is not likely to be prudish and fastidious about corporal exhibitions; but if Esculapius had lived until now, he would not have thought it proper to look at the phenomena of the polka as we saw them at Saratoga, except as a permitted study in animal physiology. The young ladies who were thus handled and swung about there night after night might have been perfectly innocent of all evil—we trust they were—but, if we were young and marriageable again, we would no more think of seeking one of them for a wife than we would select the show cake of a confectioner's window for home consumption. It might be a very good cake—but the association of ideas of purity with public exposure and irreverent handling has a natural difficulty in it, so great that, from what we have heard fall from gay gentlemen, even the practice of the polka does not overcome it. We know the defense against it. We were entirely familiar with '*Honi soit qui mal y pense*'—'Evil be to him who evil thinks,' but this motto of the garter is said to have originated with a profligate king that contracted its philosophy, and its use is commonly true to its origin.

"It is well to have a pure imagination; but to have one purged of common sense is not laudable. The mind that can persuade itself and endeavor to persuade others that the 7th of the commandments is not only pure but stupid. The Cordeliers have a legend that when St. Francis saw a young man fearlessly kissing a maiden, he raised his hands to Heaven and returned thanks to God that there was so much Christian charity in the world. The Saint was so pure that he could imagine no impulse in blessing but Christian sympathy; and discern no spirit in it but elevated religious devotion. Now, we confess we are not pure enough to be stone blind. We are not to be bewildered out of our senses and knowledge of human nature.

"We do not think that nothing has a power to steady the reason, and that waltzing gives a partly to version to animal nature, or that of the German shuffle the intellect into a region of pure elevation inaccessible to the passions. We do not think that gross impropriaties become harmless because they are 'fashionable.' We think of a nobleman as Byron calls him, who was a woman. The opinion of a Catholic council derived great weight from the fact that it is based upon the information claimed in its confession from one end of the country to the other. The effect of these dances upon the mind and morals, with us, is an inference; with them it is disclosure; and we do not know how much weight is to be denied to the voice of the fashion."

WASHINGTON AND LEXINGTON COLLEGE.—A meeting of the Board of Trustees of Washington and Lee University, held on the 10th ult., the Rev. J. L. Kirkpatrick D. D., Vice President, was transferred, by a unanimous vote, from the Chair of Ancient Languages, to the Chair of English Literature and History in the Department at Washington, made vacant by the resignation of Professor Ferrier. *Pres. Banner.*

The Atlanta "Intelligencer" says: "Not a day passes but a [illegible] of treatment takes place [illegible] westward, over the Gulf [illegible] have a pleasant [illegible] [illegible] and [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]