

THE TORONTO WORLD

A One-Cent Morning Newspaper.

OFFICE: 11 KING STREET EAST, TORONTO.

W. H. KENNEDY, Proprietor.

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SATURDAY MORNING, SEPT. 18, 1886.

Amusements This Day.

Grand Opera House—Matinee at 2, evening at 8.

Toronto Opera House—Matinee at 2, evening at 8.

The Wages of Sin.

The Mikado.

Tongue-tied Opera House—Matinee at 2, evening at 8.

The Original Minstrel.

Temperance Hall—Prof. Reynolds in Memorable Mysteries.

Toronto Jubilee Grounds, 10 p.m.—International League Game—Rochester v. Toronto.

Rosedale Athletic Grounds, 8 p.m.—Championship Game—Shamrock v. Toronto.

Political Issues in Ontario.

There is one point upon which men of both

political parties are agreed. Speak to any of

them (where there is no election pending) and

he will admit that the great obstacle to good

government in the Dominion is the influence

of French Canadians on the Federal Parlia-

ment. The great mass of the French people

of Quebec consume but few imported goods,

as a consequence pay but little taxes and care

nothing whether public expenditure is small

or great, provided their wants are supplied.

For a brief period after the union of Upper

and Lower Canada constitutional issues di-

vided parties, but when these were set at rest

by the election of 1848, the French Canadians

began to show their present form. They de-

manded a hundred thousand pounds to pay

for rebellion losses alone entirely in Lower

Canada, and forced the money from an un-

willing Parliament. They compelled Upper

Canada to adopt a separate school system.

When the Grand Trunk Railway was built,

they insisted on the construction of branches

in Quebec which have since been torn up.

They demanded money to buy out the seignior

rights in Lower Canada, and it was given

them from the pockets of the people of

Upper Canada. When the Intercolonial was

constructed it was taken by the longest route

in order to benefit two French counties.

Whenever a sum was wanted for any work in

Ontario an equal amount was demanded for

Quebec although the contribution to the

revenue of the two provinces was utterly dis-

proportionate. The French Revolution of

1848 caused a series of political agitations

among young Canadians, and a party was formed,

led by the Doria, Papin, Laberge

and others. They had principles, pro-

tested against clerical domination, were

enthusiastic in the advocacy of liberal

government and generally economic.

Most of them are dead or on the bench;

others have become Jews and those who still

call themselves republicans are too likely to be dis-

tinguished from their rivals. They are generally

poor and want office, have reconciled them-

selves to the clergy, who formerly denounced

them, and are now acting with the Catholics,

the most devoted churchmen among French Cana-

dian politicians.

The Liberal in Ontario are, opposing the

Federal administration entirely on economical

grounds. They are nothing if not economic.

In Quebec they are allied with those who

asserting most strongly French Canadian rights

and influence. The first rebellion in Manitoba

was got up mainly by French Canadians in the

interest of the Roman Catholic church. It

was hoped that the province might be set apart

for the French in which their church might

SOCIALIST ELEMENTS IN THE KNIGHTS OF LABOR

which were embodied in their constitution of

1885, as exhibited by the Holy Office, the

implication being that there are other features

and aims of the organization of which the

Vatican might heartily approve if asked to

pass upon them. The conservative Knights

of Labor, represented by Mr. Powderly, repudiate

the condemned features and claim that these have been eliminated

from the constitution. "We may well ask,"

says Mr. McElrhone, "why this fact was not

brought to the attention of the Holy Office?"

It is pointed out that Mr. Powderly was well

aware that the process had been entered upon

at Rome, after the usual slow and laborious

fashion characteristic of such proceedings, but

during the year devoted to the Holy Office's con-

sideration of the subject the conservative

Knights look no steps to fill their place.

"Why wait then?" it is asked. "Why not

not care?" At any rate the point submitted

was decided adversely to the Knights, and

armed with this decision Cardinal Vaughan

and several Quebec bishops fulminated their

mandements against the organization. Mr.

McElrhone makes the mistake of treating the

Quebec episcopate as the bishops of all

Canada, but of his references to Canada he

says nothing.

The dark point that Mr. McElrhone fails to

illuminate—which he actually brings out in still

darker relief—is the fact that the organization

has been condemned in Quebec alone. Neither

Cardinal Gibbons of Baltimore, nor any of the

many bishops in the Union, English, French

or German, has acted upon the decision of

the Holy Office. One Baltimore authority

makes a feeble attempt to explain away this

fact by a generalization of the dangers of

anarchical teaching, to which he alleges Cana-

dians to be exceptionally liable. Have there

been any anarchical bombthrowers in Montreal

or Toronto, or elsewhere in the Dominion?

Common sense would say that if there be a

need that a Canadian cardinal should sup-

press anarchical tendencies where there is no

need of their existence, a United States car-

dinal ought not to be behind in a land where

Anarchy has planted her red flag before the

public eye, and has shed her hands in the

blood of the public guardians, some of whom

were spiritual children of Rome. Mr. Mc-

Elrhone is simply absurd when he says: "The

Canadians are easier led astray than the stu-

dent Americans. They are akin to the French

in the first degree, and to the other Latin

races through them." This presumption that

all Canadian Catholics are of French extrac-

tion would be worthy of the London Times.

But leaving the Irish, Scotch, German and

other blooded Catholics of Canada, let us say

that there is not a little of evidence to show

that the French Canadians are specially vul-

nerable to anarchical influences. The influ-

ences are all the other way. The noisiest

French Canadian body that ever peeped a

political opponent would shrink from facing a

squad of armed police, and would hide him-

self if he thought the parish priest was after

him with a horsewhip. "If it becomes man-

ifest that the powers of darkness are at the

helm of the Knights of Labor ship, all

Catholics in the United States

will be called upon to come out of the domes-

tic shell, just as it has happened in Canada." It

has not so happened in the greater portion of

Canada. In only one province out of

seven, to say nothing of one out of three

have Mr. Powderly and his followers been

branded as "powers of darkness." If the

bishops of the rest of Canada have not sub-

mitted the question involved to the Holy Of-

fice, why not? Have they been deaf to the

voice of Cardinal Vaughan, more over-zealous

than any other?

Mr. McElrhone's illuminating apparatus is a

dark lantern, and he persists in flaring his

light in the wrong places. He may be an

authority in Maryland, but his conception of

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