

The True Witness

CATHOLIC CHRONICLE, PRINTED AND PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY

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MONTREAL, FRIDAY, MARCH 28, 1862.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

ALTHOUGH Lord Derby's notice in the House of Lords, and the action consequent thereupon of the Ministry, have compelled the Sardinian Government to recall its atrocious order, and even to disavow it, its injunctions were but too faithfully carried into execution. We learn from the Gazette du Midi that, before the recall of the order made its appearance, from 700 to 800 houses had been burnt by the Sardinians in the district of Mount Gargano—not because any offence had been committed by their owners against the intrusive government of Victor Emmanuel, but merely as a precaution and lest Neapolitan loyalists should find shelter therein; and that four women were shot by General Fattori, for having too much bread in their possession.

The recent changes in the composition of that body are looked upon as important. Ricasoli has broken down in attempting to carry out the programme bequeathed to him by Cavour; and amongst the reasons assigned by the Times' correspondent for the resignation of the late Sardinian Ministry, is the disgust of Ricasoli at the recent protest of the British Government against Sardinian atrocities in the Kingdom of Naples.

A compromise has been effected between Louis Napoleon and the Corps Legislatif in the Montauban dotation affair. The former announces his withdrawal of the obnoxious proposition, whilst signifying his intention to introduce a general measure for enabling him to reward distinguished military services. With this concession both parties are satisfied. There have been many arrests of late at Paris from amongst the students; and though particulars are not given, it is pretty clear that the old revolutionary spirit threatens to break out again against the present government.

At Rome all was quiet, though efforts had been made by the National Committee, zealously seconded by their constant allies, the prostitutes, to get up a demonstration in the Corso. An infamous woman, but a good patriot, long known to the police for her lewdness, and much beloved for her liberal opinions by the regenerators of Italy, named Barbosi, was hired to parade the streets of Rome as a kind of demonstration in favor of the re galantuomo—for it is a remarkable fact that, in Italy, as in France in '89, the abandoned women are all staunch patriots.

up, and it is rumored that, in the Spring, they will be headed by the King of Naples in person. The war in the United States still lingers on. The telegraph and the press being entirely under the control of the Washington authorities, publish reports of the most "glorious victories," which may be true, but which are as likely to be false. Of the prospects, plans, and real position of the Confederates, we know absolutely nothing.

PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT.

This body met on Thursday, the 20th inst., and the proceedings of the day were limited to the elections of Speakers for the two Houses. In the Council Sir Allan McNab was chosen, and in the Assembly, M. Turcotte the Ministerial candidate was elected by a majority of 66 to 53, over his opponent, M. Sicotte.

On Friday, at 3 p.m. his Excellency delivered the following speech from the Throne:—Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council, and Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly.

Since this Legislature last met, Her Majesty and her subjects have suffered an irreparable loss in the death of the Prince Consort.—It is not necessary for me to remind you that this illustrious Prince, though born, and in a great degree educated in a foreign country, was truly British in thought, feeling, and action; while the spirit of universal benevolence by which he was animated caused him to devote the great intellectual abilities with which nature had endowed him, and the stores of acquired information with which, by his own industry, he had filled his mind, to the promotion of every well-advised plan for the moral and material improvement of his fellow-creatures of all nations and races.

Circumstances have occurred during the past autumn and winter which gave an opportunity for exhibiting, in a most striking and satisfactory manner, the sentiments of reciprocal attachment which exist between the inhabitants of every creed and race, and their fellow-subjects in the Mother Country. The feeling of loyalty shewn by her North American subjects has been made matter of special notice by Her Most Gracious Majesty in her speech from the Throne on the opening of the Imperial Parliament; and such a recognition cannot fail to be most grateful to you as the representatives of the people of Canada.

I have to congratulate you on the blessing of an abundant harvest in the past year, and on the continuance of a satisfactory condition of our trade, notwithstanding the partial derangement to which it has been subjected by the effects of the civil war, now unhappily raging in the United States.

I have directed papers to be laid before you, shewing the extension by the French Government to Canadian built ships of the privileges in French ports already enjoyed by ships of British build. This cannot be advantageous to the shipbuilding interest, and affords a fresh proof of the friendly feeling which underlies the alliance between England and France. During the past recess a conference took place between delegates representing the Government of this Province and those of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, to consider the propriety of renewing the application to the Imperial Government for assistance in constructing the Railway which will unite the three Provinces. A joint delegation proceeded to England for the purpose of re-opening negotiations with Her Majesty's Government. No answer has yet been received. The final decision of the Imperial Government shall be communicated to you as soon as it shall reach me.

I have received from the Secretary of State for the Colonies an intimation that it is the intention of Her Majesty's Government to introduce into the Imperial Parliament, in the present session, a bill for the abolition, in this and other colonies similarly circumstanced, of the power of the Superior Courts in England to issue the writs of Habeas Corpus into such colonies, in conformity with the representations made by my predecessor to the Imperial Government.

I would ask your careful consideration for a measure which will be submitted to you, for the purpose of securing a proper administration of Bankrupt estates in Upper Canada; and also for one having for its object the establishment of well regulated Gaols and local Penitentiaries throughout the Province.

I have directed papers to be laid before you, which shew that the Imperial Government entertains no objection to the establishment of a free commercial intercourse between the different provinces of British North America, if the governments and legislatures of these provinces can agree as to the basis upon which such an arrangement shall be carried into effect.

I have seen fit, during the recess, to issue a commission to consider the present condition of the militia force of the Province, and the propriety of amending its organization and improving its efficiency. The report of that commission will be laid before you; and I would bespeak for the recommendations it contains, and the Bill which will be necessary in order to carry the recommendations into effect, your most careful and favorable consideration.

Other measures of public usefulness will also be submitted for your consideration. Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly: The accounts for the year which has just closed will be forthwith laid before you, and will, I trust, be found satisfactory.

I have to ask from you the supplies necessary for carrying on the service of Her Most Gracious Majesty for the current year; and I have directed that these Estimates shall be framed with all the economy consistent with a due regard to efficiency.

I take this opportunity of gratefully acknowledging the good-will and kindness which have been shewn to myself on the occasion of my assuming the government of the colony. The Constitution has committed to your hands the guardianship of the interests of this great Province. I commend to your earnest impartial and diligent care the several matters which may be brought before you; and I fervently pray Almighty God so to direct your counsels, that your acts may conduce to His glory, the honor of our Sovereign, and the prosperity and happiness of the people of Canada.

On Saturday the Houses of Parliament again met and adjourned to Monday; on Monday they met again and adjourned till Wednesday; on Wednesday they met, and adjourned till Thursday; but no business of any kind was transacted beyond the giving notice of certain intended motions.

We have been authorized to state that the "Tom Moore Club" are making arrangements to celebrate, on the 28th of May next, Moore's Anniversary, with a Musical and Dramatic entertainment.

All subscribers indebted to this paper are requested to pay up immediately.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY IN KINGSTON.

To the Editor of the True Witness. Kingston, March 22, 1862.

Sir—Our friends, I believe, would not be satisfied unless a description of the celebration of St. Patrick's Day in this city appeared in your columns. The celebration of the Day is no longer a novelty in Canada, for every town and city has its St. Patrick's procession, composed of Irishmen, who vie with each other in doing honor to the great National Festival. It is an agreeable feature in these demonstrations that the exiled Irishman on the 17th of March, no matter what his avocations may be, no matter how urgent the requirements for his presence elsewhere are, on that day at least is wholly intent on assembling with his fellow-countrymen beneath the folds of the Emerald Flag, and on marching to that music which attunes with melody and delight every pulsation of his heart, and causes the thoughts of happy days which may have long since rolled by ere he crossed the broad Atlantic to crowd on his memory charged with the sweet recollections of home. To the exile from home, sweet indeed is the national melody, and proudly does he feel that in this free country, surrounded with all the comforts that affluence can afford, he is free to give expression to those recollections, and display his fond attachment for his native land without awakening in the minds of his fellow-colonists aught that would cast suspicion upon loyalty to the land of his adoption. I do not assume too much for the Irish of Kingston, when I assert that in no place in Canada is the Day celebrated with more enthusiasm than in this city. The St. Patrick's Society celebrated their 27th Anniversary on Monday last, and never since its formation have its members turned out in greater numbers, or exhibited greater enthusiasm than on that occasion.

At ten o'clock precisely the procession was formed by the Grand Marshal, Mr. Thomas Howland, assisted by Mr. Halligan. The Volunteer Rifles, No. 2 (Major O'Reilly's corps) formed in front, headed by the Rifle Band; the Volunteers, besides their dark green uniforms, wore their handsome shakoes with green plumes, and appeared, as they always do, to great advantage; the beautiful silk flag presented to them some two years adding much to the appearance of the Company. Next came the children of the Christian Brothers' Schools, with their handsome banners, each youngster bearing a miniature flag or streamer, on which was some patriotic emblem or device. After the children marched the members of the St. Patrick's Society of Wolfe Island, 300 strong, marshalled by Mr. Dawson, and accompanied by the splendid Band of the Society, very tastefully dressed. The turn out of the islanders was very imposing, their position in the procession being easily indicated by their fine banner, on which was inscribed the name of the Society and the date of its organization, in large gold letters. Then came the members of the City Society in large numbers, each wearing a green silk or velvet collar, trimmed with gold. The rich and elegant banners of the Society—seven in number—have been frequently described in your journal. To give you an idea of the extent to which our countrymen have gone in this city to keep alive the National feeling, I may only mention that two of their banners cost the extravagant sum of Fourteen hundred dollars; everything connected with their procession on St. Patrick's Day is got up in the same style, the members being perfectly regardless of expense, so long as it contributes to give eclat to the proceedings of the day.

The weather was very fine (a very unusual circumstance) and the sun which shone out with great brilliancy, owing to the clearness of the atmosphere, displayed to great advantage the gorgeous banners—the green and gold forming a beautiful coloring in the sun's rays.

The procession reached the Cathedral at eleven o'clock (being one hour, owing to its length, in going from the City Hall to the Cathedral) where a Grand Pontifical Mass was celebrated by His Lordship the Bishop of Kingston, assisted by the Rev. Dr. O'Brien, President of Regiopolis College, as Deacon, and the Rev. Mr. Sauve, as Sub-Deacon. There were also present the Very Rev. Angus Macdonell, V.G., who is never absent on St. Patrick's Day, and who, although a Scotchman, loves the Irish, and has proved a warm hearted and true friend of theirs; the Very Rev. Patrick Doherty, V.G., and Chaplain to the Society; the Rev. Mr. Stafford, Pastor of Wolfe Island; the Rev. Mr. Matte, the Rev. Mr. Quinlan, and last, though not least, the Preacher of the Day, the Rev. Mr. Quinlan, of Nova Scotia, who is now on a visit to Dr. Horan to recruit his health, which has been impaired for some time.

The Bishop of Kingston who is the son of an Irishman, and "more Irish than the Irish themselves," in his desire to honor the Festival of St. Patrick was robed in the costly vestments brought by him from Rome last summer, and only used by him on great Festivals of the Church. The decorations around the altar, and everything that could lend splendor and effect to the grand ceremony, evinced the desire of our beloved Bishop, to shew to the great mass of people who filled the Cathedral from the chancel to the door, the importance of doing honor to the great Apostle.

After the Gospel, the Rev. Mr. Quinlan ascended the pulpit, and delivered a sermon remarkable for its power and eloquence. The Rev. gentleman was already celebrated as a preacher, and numbers who did not otherwise unite with us in the Day's celebration, crowded every nook and corner of the Cathedral to hear him pronounce the panegyric on St. Patrick. I am glad that they did not go away disappointed. To judge of the effect of the sermon you should have been that vast immovable crowd of persons with faces turned toward the preacher, and watched the play of their features as the Rev. gentleman portrayed in a polished and graceful language the virtues of the great Apostle—the principles he inculcated in the Irish heart; the devotion to God's Holy Church, which they ever displayed—their zeal, their charity, their patriotism, their love of country, their sufferings. All low thrilling were the tones of his voice as he dwelt on the decadence of Ireland's ancient glory, and

what the children of St. Patrick had suffered for their attachment to the "Old Faith." The effect cannot be described. It was delightful to hear him pay a graceful tribute to our beloved Bishop and to this faithful people for their noble beneficence in behalf of the poor of Ireland; it was a tribute well deserved, for in no portion of the Queen's dominions was a more generous liberality displayed than by the people of His Lordship's Diocese. We envy the people of Nova Scotia for having so gifted a Pastor; and it is the prayer and hearty wish of the thousands of Irish Catholics who heard him that day, that he soon may be restored to health, and that his visit may be prolonged, to delight and instruct us with his learning and teaching.

After Divine service, the procession passed through the principal streets of the city to the Town Hall, where the people were addressed by the President of the Society, J. O'Reilly, Esq., D. Macarow, Esq., and several other gentlemen of the Society. The remarks of Mr. O'Reilly, who is a great favorite with his countrymen, were received with much favor, and during the delivery of his speech were frequently applauded. Mr. Macarow also made a capital speech, which was received also with much favor.

The proceedings, after several pieces of National music had been performed by the Wolfe Island Society's Band, cheers given for Her Majesty the Queen, for our Irish Governor Lord Monck, the President of St. Patrick's Society of Kingston, the President of the Society of Wolfe Island, for Mr. Hugh Crowley, and the Marshals of the Day, were then brought to a close, and the vast multitude dispersed to their homes.

In the evening there were the usual dinners and gatherings round the festive board. I am happy to say that nothing of an unpleasant nature occurred to mar the pleasure of one of the pleasantest St. Patrick's Days I ever spent.

J. S. L.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY IN WOLFE ISLAND.

On the morning of the 17th instant the members of the St. Patrick's Society of this place, assembled in good numbers at the Township Hall, to celebrate the Anniversary of their Patron Saint. Being formed into Procession by their Grand Marshal, Mr. P. Dawson, they, under his guidance, and headed by their own Band, proceeded to Kingston to take part in the Procession there, to which their numbers formed a very creditable addition. Indeed too much praise cannot be given to the members of this Society for the efforts they have made through the past year to organise a Band; nor to Mr. Crowley, their President, who has left nothing undone for its advancement.

HIBERNICUS.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY IN CAMDEN.

(From the British Whig.)

The Irish national festival was duly celebrated in Camden. The St. Patrick's Society of Camden is in a very flourishing condition, and turned out in great strength on St. Patrick's Day. Over four hundred members assembled at Centreville at nine o'clock in the morning, headed by an excellent band of music, and marshalled by Messrs. Peter McLaughlin and Michael O'Dea, marshals, marched in procession to the Catholic Church, where High Mass was celebrated by the Rev. Mr. McIntyre in honor of the day. After the first gospel, Mr. McIntyre addressed the assembled multitude, in earnest and eloquent terms, on the duties of Irishmen in their adopted country, commending their patriotism and love of country, and also the liberality displayed in the recent relief extended their fellow-countrymen at Home, and stated that it was only another evidence of the deep interest the Irish emigrant takes in those he left behind him in his own beautiful Isle. Canada owes much to the Irish settlers, for it was owing to their stalwart arms and incomparable industry, that the backwoods of Canada had been cleared and cultivated. Camden thirty years ago was almost an impenetrable wilderness, where the first Irish settler built his log shanty and made his first clearance; now there are cultivated farms and comfortable houses, which would vie in productiveness and comfort with those in the most favored counties of England. He begged of his people to duly honor the day by cultivating kindly feelings with their fellow-colonists and neighbours, and hoped that none would desecrate the honored festival of St. Patrick, by acts of violence or intemperance.

At the conclusion of Divine Service the procession reformed, and returned to Centreville, where they were addressed by their President, Patrick O'Dea, Esq., who delivered a speech remarkable for its good taste and patriotism. He congratulated the Society on the creditable turn out made by them, and although the storm of the day prevented many from attending, who would otherwise be present, nevertheless it must be admitted that the celebration of the day shewed, that his countrymen were rapidly increasing in wealth, intelligence and respectability.

The President then proposed three hearty cheers for our Gracious Sovereign, the Queen, which was received with much enthusiasm, and repeated again and again, evincing the loyalty and deep attachment the Irishmen of Camden entertain for Her Majesty. Cheers were also given for "Old Ireland," His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, the President, and several prominent members of the Society.

In the evening over one hundred and fifty persons sat down to a very substantial dinner, prepared at Mr. John Whelan's Inn, Centreville. The President, Patrick O'Dea, Esq., in the chair. Mr. Whelan spared no expense in his endeavors to please his guests, and richly deserved the praises bestowed on him for his exertions. The dinner was all that the most fastidious could wish for, and gave the utmost satisfaction.

The following toasts were given, and duly professed by the chairman:

- "The Queen" God bless her.
"Three times three and one cheer more."
"The Day, and all who honor it."
Responded to by William Whelan, Esq. in a patriotic speech.
"The memory of the Prince Consort"—drunk in silence; "The Prince of Wales, and the rest of the royal family"; "The Governor General our distinguished countryman"—received with much cheering; "The Army and Navy"—responded to by one of the militia officers present; "The memory of Daniel O'Connell"—drunk in solemn silence; "The land we love, and the land we live in"—responded to by Mr. Curran, in a very able and eloquent manner; "The Militia of Canada, ever ready to turn out in defence of our homes and our altars"—Captain Whelan responded in a very energetic and loyal speech, his remarks being received with hearty applause; "The Agricultural and Manufacturing Interests of Canada"—responded to, in suitable terms, by Mr. Braas.
A number of volunteer toasts were also given, and speeches and songs followed in rapid succession until a late hour, when the large assembly retired to their homes, delighted and pleased with the happy manner in which the whole proceedings of the day were conducted.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY AT PERTH.

To the Editor of the True Witness.

Sir,—It is with much pleasure I send you a brief account of the celebration of St. Patrick's Day at Perth, because, it was one of which Irishmen should feel proud, and one which reflected much credit on the Office-bearers and members of the Society, especially, and, in fact, was an honor to all who took any part in it. Without any exaggeration, the number in the Procession amounted to about from 500 to 550, which was small, no doubt, compared with those of other years; but we must bear in mind that the day previous was very stormy, and the roads completely blocked up in several places in the country, so that those living at some distance had no possibility of coming in, though ever so anxious, to assist in celebrating the Day. But the lack in numbers was more than fully compensated, by the good order and regularity of the Procession, as it is generally acknowledged that there never before was a Procession in Perth that had such an imposing effect on the minds of the spectators. The members of the St. Patrick's Society having assembled at the Catholic School-house, a little before Mass time, formed into rank, and walked two deep to the Church, preceded by their Band, playing the soul-stirring air of St. Patrick's Day. Having entered the Church, their already elated sensations were soothingly borne aloft on the scale of sublimity by the sweet and harmonious notes that flowed from the Church organ, at the hands of one of the favored sons of the Muses, the accomplished and excellent musician, M. Du Mouchell. High Mass was celebrated by the Rev. Father O'Connell of Richmond, whose fine, manly Irish voice had more charms in it for the hearts of his hearers, than all the music which the art of man can invent, and which it is possible only to conceive. The sermon of the Day was preached by the Very Rev. Vicar-General himself, who, though feeling unwell at the time, delivered a very powerful and eloquent discourse—to give even a faint synopsis of which, I acknowledge my own inadequacy; suffice it to say, however, that it was one such as an Irish Priest, who is second to none in his love for religion and country, is capable of on such a national occasion.

After Mass, the Procession was again formed in front of the Church. The children of the Catholic School, with their little flags, and neatly dressed Marshall, occupied the van—their clean appearance and smiling countenances being faithful mirrors of the innocence and purity of their tender hearts; next in order came those of the congregation, who voluntarily joined the Procession, being non-members; and, let me here remark, that these were principally the sons of Irish farmers, whose warm, comfortable, homemade clothing, square, broad shoulders, and healthy sun-burned faces, indicated that they were the real material that would be required in case of an invasion for the defence of Canada, and not those puny-limbed, pale-faced, hob-gobbling newspaper scribbling editors of Perth, who have sneered at, and ridiculed them, for no other reason but because they were Irishmen and Catholics. Then followed the St. Patrick's Society, with their splendid, gorgeous banners floating in the breeze, and their highly colored band discoursing exquisite music, upon whom too much praise cannot be lavished for the manner in which they performed their own part of the day's proceedings. After parading the principal streets of Perth to their hearts' satisfaction, the Sons of Erin found themselves once more in semicircular arrangement in the presence of the Very Rev. J. H. McDonagh, V.G., who, in company with the Rev. Mr. O'Connell, was waiting in readiness to receive them, on the balcony, from which, on this, as on other occasions, he failed not to address them and give them his blessing. Having given three cheers for the Day we celebrate, three cheers for our most Holy Father Pope Pius IX., three cheers for our Sovereign Lady the Queen, three cheers for the Very Rev. Mr. McDonagh and the Rev. Mr. O'Connell, three cheers for the President and officers of the St. Patrick's Society, and the Society, and three cheers for our separated brethren, the assembly separated, not without reiterated charges from their Very Rev. Pastor to go home quietly and peaceably, as becoming Catholics and Christians. So the Day passed off in Perth, without anything to diversify the scene, but the pranks of one or two Orange rowdies, who tried to raise a quarrel in the evening, and I believe, fared worse themselves.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY AT BROCKVILLE.

To the Editor of the True Witness.

Sir,—Our glorious National Anniversary was duly celebrated, in true Irish style—religiously, reverently, and joyously—by the St. Patrick's Benevolent Society of this town on last Monday. The weather, for some days previous, was certainly anything but encouraging for any outside display; nothing but snow; look upward, you beheld snow falling in flakes, accompanied with chilling high winds; look for roads, and you saw piles of snow; in fact everything was overloaded with snow, and still down it came at a furious rate, making every one tremble at the gloomy prospect for St. Patrick's Day. Any men, but Irishmen, would have abandoned the idea of attempting an out-door celebration. But, Mr. Editor, the Seventeenth of March never yet found the Irish in a cold temper as it was coming, and the Sons of the Emerald Isle of Brockville were determined to honor the Irish Festival-Day of 1862 even at the risk of battling with the storm-king snow.

Fears were entertained that the Prescott St. Patrick's Brass Band, who had been engaged for the occasion, would be unable to get up—and indeed it was not unreasonable to think so, as the Grand Trunk Railway was completely blocked, and to undertake to drive twelve miles through so much snow, was a task beyond accomplishment. Such then was the aspect of affairs on Sunday night the 16th March, 1862. It was really saddening to think that the festivities of Monday should be thus clouded—the Day so fondly anticipated, now likely to be dulled by the fierce blasts of the storm. Poor humanity, how little you know of the future!

On Monday morning about seven o'clock.