

THE TRUE WITNESS

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THE POST PRINTING & PUBLISHING COMPANY, MONTREAL, CANADA.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1884.

CATHOLIC CALENDAR

FEBRUARY, 1884. THURSDAY, Feb. 7.—St. Romanus, Abbot. Spalding, Baltimore, died, 1872. FRIDAY, Feb. 8.—St. John of Maltha, Confessor.

THE name of the present editor of the Toronto Mail has been mentioned in connection with the position of Librarian of Parliament. A contemporary rises to remark that it would be hardly nice for one who has blackguarded every man on the Liberal side of the House, to be placed where he would be brought into intimate contact with those who have vilified and traduced so long and so much in the columns of the Mail.

THE name of Ross is quite a favorite just now in political circles. It looks as if a good deal of the Canadian future is to be placed in their hands. During the past month the Honorable A. M. Ross has become the Provincial Treasurer of Ontario; the Honorable G. W. Ross, Minister of Education for Ontario; the Honorable M. J. J. Ross, Prime Minister of the Province of Quebec, and the Honorable J. G. Ross of Quebec city has been made a Senator at Ottawa, January, 1884, was not a bad month for the Rosses.

FROM the examination of Canadian records it appears that about 1,000,000 acres of the public domain in the United States have been donated to various railroad corporations, an amount exceeding by 41,000,000 acres the area of Great Britain and Ireland. It is manifest that, in conferring such extravagant grants, the American Congress impaired its reputation for integrity and intelligence and was simply the instrument of monopolies and adventurers. The most of this land is held by fraud, and a strenuous effort is to be made to recover something like one hundred million acres to the country.

THE Liverpool Times presents a disheartening picture of the state of society in England. It says that in no civilized country is there so black a record of crimes of violence from assault to murder, as is to be found in England at the latter end of the nineteenth century. Almost every morning we read in the daily papers an account, in some part or other of the country, of murder or attempted murder, of house-breaking with violence, of assault in the streets of a lonely suburb, too often resulting in the death of the victim and in the impunity of the murderer. This is, indeed, a frightful picture to draw of human depravity. It knocks Ireland's alleged record of crime completely into the shade.

IT is stated that in the event of the Hon. E. J. Flynn being called upon to enter the new Provincial Cabinet, which is now almost certain, he will be offered opposition when he goes before his constituency for re-election. Mr. Charles Langlois is mentioned as the possible opponent of the Hon. Mr. Flynn. If a re-election is necessary we think that opposition will be futile and idle. The electors of Gaspé are not going to throw overboard one of the most conscientious and able representatives in the local Assembly; they have every reason to be satisfied with the services which Mr. Flynn has rendered his county and the Province, and they will no doubt continue to place in him that confidence which he so well deserves.

THE Ottawa and Free Press of Ottawa are pitching into each other like two well trained gladiators in a prize ring. Mr. Mackintosh, M.P., shouts through the Ottawa's columns that the editor of the Free Press is "a liar" and a "coward." The latter retorts that Mackintosh is a "rascal" and says that one who has seen twenty years of honorable service at home and abroad may well be allowed to treat with contempt the epithet of "coward" when applied by such a man as the writer of the Ottawa. As Mr. Mackintosh, M.P., insists that the editor of the Free Press is "a liar" and a "coward," there is some probability of the situation being embellished by the spectacle of a duel. So far as the Free Press is concerned, the challenge has been accepted, for the editor says he will be

charmed to oblige Mr. Mackintosh whenever, wherever and with whatever he pleases. We hope to soon hear of the appointment of seconds, the choice of weapons, and of the ring being mapped out in the Eldorado Park.

IN the matter of the reduction of wages the experience of the unfortunate miners in Pennsylvania goes from bad to worse. Their pay has been reduced from seventy-five to sixty-five cents per day, and the misery of the situation is aggravated by the fact that the storekeepers now refuse to give them the monthly credit to which they have been accustomed. Of course, those that have families to support find it impossible at such wages to provide the necessaries of life for their dependents. It is, therefore, not surprising to hear them protesting against this condition of affairs in warm terms, and that they can hardly be blamed for the accent of desperation which accompanies their protest. The laborer whose honest toil brings him less than four dollars a week, while his masters are rolling in millions produced by the sweat of his brow, cannot be refused the privilege of counting himself among the victims of an unjust and intolerable industrial system. It does certainly seem a most inequitable adjustment of the scales that hard-worked men should find in their toll no protection against the wolf at their throats.

AS the time for the assembling of the Imperial Parliament approaches, the Ministers of Gladstone's Cabinet and the leading lights of the Liberal party declare with increased emphasis that in future legislation Ireland must stand on an equal level with Great Britain. At a great Liberal meeting held last evening at Birmingham, the Hon. Mr. Chamberlain announced in unequivocal terms that the inclusion of Ireland in the Franchise Bill was decided on. The Irish, he said, must have the same rights and privileges as Englishmen and Scotchmen, and it was in that spirit that the Government would approach the franchise question. This language is quite an improvement on that which was used towards Ireland by Cabinet Ministers not later than a year or two ago. Then, nothing but coercion was talked of for the green little island; now, it must have all the advantages and benefits to be derived from progressive and just legislation. The change is remarkable.

WHEN the Orange bill will be presented in the Dominion Parliament this session, we would suggest that before casting their votes, Sir John Macdonald and Mr. J. J. Hawkins, "member in appeal" for Bothwell, read and digest the following opinion delivered the other day by a British minister of the Crown on the danger of encouraging the Orange body. The Right Hon. Joseph Chamberlain, President of the Board of Trade, said: "What shall I say of those self-styled Loyalists, who, with fulsome professions of their devotion to the Crown, insult and defy the representatives of the Crown in Ireland, and who break the law themselves while they pretend to defend it? I believe at this moment if there is any danger to the peace in Ireland it lies in the proceedings of a certain section of the population in Ulster, led by men of rank and by men of education, who know enough to know better, and who seem to have been stimulated into a burst of unreasoning ferocity by the mild eloquence of the leader of the Opposition. Well, between these opposing forces the Government will steer with an even keel."

THE last little pleasure trip which the Marquis de Lorne made, previous to his departure from our midst, cost the country nothing less nor more than \$10,871.39. There may be economy in these figures, but ordinary people can't see it; there may be extravagance, if not unnecessary expenditure altogether, and that is what everybody believes these eleven thousand dollars to represent. The Ottawa Free Press, commenting on this expenditure and more like it, says that "instead of having our public affairs conducted in a manner befitting a nation of simple, hardworking, economical people, we have a system of tawdry imitation royalty and aristocracy that would be the most laughable of jokes were it not the most expensive of shoddy humbugs. The office of Governor-General may have its use, but the expenses connected with it have grown so enormously since confederation that those who have to pay may justly declare the time has come to call a halt. Every five years we have a new Governor-General, who seems bound to outdo his predecessor in the extent of his progresses and the length of his bills. For these the country is to consider itself amply repaid by speeches which make sensible people wonder whether we are a nation of children or fools. And when we see sham royalty at Ottawa imitated at each of the provincial capitals, the whole system looks so glaringly absurd that it becomes a satire on government."

ALL kinds of versions appear in the cable despatches as to the policy which Mr. Parnell and the Irish party intend to pursue during the course of the coming session. These reports are all without the least foundation. No definite policy has yet been resolved upon; the part which the Irish members have played up to the present has been one of wise and comprehensive observation. They have allowed the Tories and the Whigs to fight it out among themselves on the question of the Franchise Bill, waiting for the decisive moment to send in their ultimatum. The Hon. Joseph Chamberlain has put forth skilled and able efforts to convince the public mind in England that nothing but just and equal legislation for Ireland will save the situation. Meeting the objections of Lord Salisbury, in a recent

speech, Mr. Chamberlain effectively disposed of the absurd theories of the Tory leader. "If it be a fact," said Mr. Chamberlain, "which I do not believe it is, that the Irish people are so hostile to English rule that in 19 out of 20 constituencies the majority of the votes would be for the man who is in favor of separation, I say let us know it, and the knowledge will be the first condition for dealing with the serious state of facts which that will disclose. But there is our answer, as I have said to Sir Richard Cross. Surely it is the business of a wise Government to lead the Irish people to ventilate their grievances and to seek redress for their wrongs by constitutional means. We want to wean them from conspiracy, and from crime, and from disorder. How can we expect them to employ constitutional means when the constitution itself is a sham and a fraud? We must give them confidence in representation; we must give them a fair representation; we expect to have their grievances tried out in the British Parliament. To my mind there is nothing more childish than this proposal that we should postpone the redress of grievances until discontent has disappeared. It is like a physician who should be foolish enough to say that he would not prescribe for his patient until he had got rid of his disease. I think the patient would be quite justified in getting rid of the physician."

THE LATE REV. FATHER CASSEAU, S.J. It is our painful duty to have to announce the death of the Rev. Father Cassau, S. J., which took place yesterday afternoon, at St. Mary's College, in this city. This announcement will be received with general regret, for of the many clergymen who minister to the spiritual and temporal wants of our community, none displayed more sacerdotal zeal in seeking the conversion of sinners. The name of the Rev. Father Cassau was identified with all that is good and holy in his sacred calling, and as a consequence enjoyed the respect and affection of all that came in contact with him during his comparatively short sojourn in our midst. He was born at St. Pierre de la Riviere du Sud, near St. Thomas de Montmagny, on the 29th of July, 1843, and at the age of 13 entered the College of Sainte Anne de la Pocatiere, where he went through a classic course, afterwards completing his study of rhetoric, philosophy and theology in the Quebec Seminary. In 1866, at the age of 23 he was ordained priest by Archbishop Blanchet, of Oregon city, and immediately departed for the Rocky Mountains where he labored as a missionary for two years. He entered the Order of the Jesuits in 1868 and ten months later he had to return to this Province upon family matters, and afterwards completed his novitiate at Sault aux Recllets. For three years he filled the responsible position of Prefect of Studies at St. Francis Xavier College in New York, and in 1874 he passed over to France to resume his theological studies. Shortly after his arrival in this city in 1877 he was appointed Rector of St. Mary's College, which he occupied until the 12th of November of last year, when he took charge of the erection of the Church of the Immaculate Conception in the East end of the city. Although cut off in the prime of his manhood, the Rev. Father Cassau succeeded in filling a career eminently useful and beneficial to the community and honorable to the Society of which he was not the least worthy member.

GOLDWIN SMITH'S VERACITY. Goldwin Smith has been caught in the act of uttering a deliberate lie. We have frequently been under the necessity of unmasking the bigotry and prejudices which mar the effectiveness and impartiality of his public writings, and to-day Mr. Smith is found to have trifled with his own convictions and to have deliberately penned what he knew to be false. Goldwin Smith was always unreliable, but now he is untrustworthy, for he is untruthful. A member of the British Parliament, Mr. W. J. Corbet, who has been keeping track of our Professor, has discovered that what Mr. Smith writes to-day can be at the greatest variance with what he wrote yesterday. In proof of this Mr. Corbet has published the following letter to the Pall Mall Gazette:—"The fallacy of Irish history" has just received a remarkable illustration in the current number of the Fortnightly Review, in which Mr. Goldwin Smith shows that Ireland, so far from having any just cause of complaint against England, is largely her debtor. The following quotations show what are his claims to infallibility: "as an historian of Ireland:—

In the Contemporary Review of December, 1878, he says:—"The conquest of Ireland was completed with circumstances of cruelty sufficient to plant undying hatred in the breasts of the people." "But the struggle for the land did not end there. Instead of the form of conquest it took that of confiscation, and was waged by the intruder with the arms of legal chicanery. In the form of eviction it has lasted to the present hour, and eviction in Ireland is not like eviction in England." "It is starvation or exile."

THE HONORABLE E. J. FLYNN. The Hon. Dr. Ross does not seem to have yet fully decided to give the Hon. E. J. Flynn a seat in the new local Cabinet. There is still a vacancy, and public opinion points to the member from Gaspé as being the most suitable person to fill it. If the Premier understands his interests as well as those of the Province he will heed the popular demand and secure the services of Mr. Flynn. We would, moreover, remind Dr. Ross that in making this selection he would only be doing justice to a large and influential section of the population. Others have their ministerial representatives, and the English-speaking Catholics want equal privileges in the same direction. If one thing more than another should induce the Premier to take speedy cognizance of this rightful demand, it would be the windy attack and abuse which the Daily Witness directed against the Hon. Mr. Flynn in its columns of yesterday's issue. Abuse coming from such a quarter is equivalent to praise and is not to the least commendation of Mr. Flynn's claims to office. The Witness opposes the honorable member's appointment on the flimsiest grounds, keeping the real motive of its opposition in the dark. To charge that a man is unworthy of a Cabinet position because in a debate of some years ago a fellow member of the Assembly passed him a few notes to help on the discussion, is indeed a piece of rank puerility. And still, that is the sum and substance of the Witness' greatest objection to Mr. Flynn's appointment. It is a mean attempt to belittle the gentleman's ability. The member from Gaspé, although one of the youngest members in the Legislature, has no superior there as a thinker and a debater and is perhaps the best educated man in the assembly. Mr. Flynn possesses in a high degree every quality that is required in a Cabinet Minister, and when the Witness sneakingly asserts the contrary, it but indulges in its policy of detraction which can do no harm. We hope that the Hon. Dr. Ross will see his way to making a selection which will satisfy the Province and gratify the English-speaking Catholics.

NO TRUTH IN THE "WITNESS." Our esteemed contemporary the Daily Witness must take its readers to be either very credulous or very ignorant, or it would never venture to stuff down their throats the most palpable untruths, which are told for the not very honorable purpose of maligning and misrepresenting those from whom it differs on national and religious subjects. For instance, in a short editorial paragraph, the Witness makes three distinct misstatements, which read as follows:—"The Nationalists opposed the Land Act in Parliament because they knew that its effect would be to pacify the people, and they dare not attack it strongly in the country, because they know that the people have benefited by it and approved of it." The Nationalists know that their own land policy, that of the nationalization of land, is the most unpopular that could be proposed. If emigration is a 'brutal remedy,' the priests of Ireland are largely to blame, for most of them have approved of and taken advantage of the numerous emigration schemes which have been inaugurated during the last five years." It is not true (and the Witness knows it is not true, only it does not suit its purpose to admit the fact) that the Nationalists opposed the Land Act in Parliament because of any pacificatory effect it might have on the people. They opposed the tacking on of clauses in the one-sided interests of the landlord, and they opposed the striking off of clauses which happened to give the tenant some little protection from the grasping and greedy class; that was the extent of their opposition to the Land Act in the House of Commons, and to assert the contrary is to come in conflict with the truth and to ignore the facts, which the Witness evidently had no hesitation in doing. When the Land Act was finally passed through Parliament, the Nationalists attacked it in and out of the House as being an instrument both incomplete and inadequate. They did not declare against the Act, inasmuch as it was a beneficial measure, but they denounced the manner in which it was mangled to serve the landlords, and they protested against its consequent inefficiency to do justice to those whom it was intended to benefit. Secondly, it is not true the Nationalists know that their own land policy, that of the nationalization of land, is the most unpopular, for the very good reason that the nationalization of land is not the land policy of the Irish party. We don't see how the Witness summed up cheek enough to make such a false statement. Either our contemporary must be greatly influenced by the father of lies, or it must be stupidly ignorant. Henry George has received no countenance so far from Mr. Parnell or any of his parliamentary party. Michael Davitt, to act in accord with the Nationalists, had to sink his preferences for the nationalization scheme.

Thirdly, it is not true that most of the priests have approved of the emigration schemes; some of them have, but not the majority, as the Witness says. The Hierarchy have condemned "emigration" in the severest terms and have even denounced the government for proposing schemes to rid the country of its population. The Witness, therefore, errs again when it tries to make out that the extermination of the Irish people is encouraged by the Irish clergy and that they are in some shape to blame for the depopulation of the island. It is hard to say, but it does really seem as if there was no truth in the Witness.

QUEBEC VS. THE NORTHWEST AND THE C.P.R.

IT looks as if Sir John and his Government will have some heavy obstacles to surmount before they can come to the assistance of the Canadian Pacific Railway. The Conservatives are in power, and are maintained there by the solid deputation of French members from this Province. This branch of Sir John's following are well aware of their strength and importance, and it is ever the Premier's greatest care and anxiety to keep them together and in dole mood. But the time has come when a break seems imminent, and which will surely occur unless the demands of the Blues are acceded to by the Federal authorities. The occasion to press those demands has arrived, and advantage is being taken of it to do so. The French members of this Province and a large section of the Press have frequently complained in the past that Quebec was not fairly treated in the matter of the federal subsidy; they wanted a larger grant, but Sir John could not see his way to making the figures any greater. But since the question of further C.P.R. assistance has come up the Quebec members have been putting their heads together and have seemingly come to the conclusion that united and concerted action must be taken in the matter. In reviewing the situation La Minerve, the leading French organ of the Conservative party, expresses its pleasure at the existence of the movement in favor of the vindication of the rights of the old provinces of Canada. It says that it has on more than one occasion asserted these rights, and further that it is one of those who believe that the federal authorities have done enough for the Northwest up to the present, and that it is about time that federal favors should be more equally divided between the two great sections of the Confederation.

IT is all very well, continues our contemporary, to spend millions upon millions to ensure the development of Manitoba and of the territories which separate Manitoba from the Pacific coast, but at the same time the eastern provinces must not be neglected altogether. But what has the Dominion Government done for these latter during the past ten years? Nothing, or very nearly nothing, at least as far as the Province of Quebec is concerned. The Government has built railroads in Ontario, but it left the Quebec Government in the necessity of increasing the debt, to build the railroads in the "inferior" province.

That time has happily passed, however, and to-day what the people want and what will be exacted, in Quebec as in Ontario, and in the Maritime Provinces, is that the Federal Government, after having assured a golden future to the Northwest, will now occupy itself with the development of the old provinces, with the colonization of the unutilized districts in the north of Ontario and Quebec, as also in the interior of the Maritime Provinces. "It is time," concludes La Minerve, "that we come to that policy, and we have enough of confidence in the Conservative party to believe that it will understand and apply it. A little less millions for the North West and a little more millions for the East. Such should be the basis of our actual politics, or as an alternative, favor both sections of the country alike." This language is plain and unequivocal. It speaks the feelings and the views of a large portion of Sir John's following. The question now is, will he be able to gratify the C. P. E. without acceding to the demands of Quebec? Sir John will certainly require to make use of all his tact to keep the storm from bursting over his head. It will be a great feat if he can find the French Conservative members into further docility and submission.

THE RADICAL PROGRAMME.

THE Radical party in Great Britain are daily growing in strength, and within a few years will have completely superseded the Whigs. The demands of the Radicals are increasing in boldness, and they are at the same time receiving the countenance and support of vast numbers of the slow-going people of England. An English Radical is not much more advanced in his political views than an average Canadian Tory, although a contrary impression largely prevails among the ignorant. The English Radical demands the same political rights for the masses of the people and a greater equality before the law of the land, as exist here in Canada, the United States or in any other democratic country. Among the chief points of the Radical programme which is to guide their parliamentary action during the next session of the House, are the following proposals, which to English aristocratic ears may sound startling, but which will certainly be counted quite simple and elementary in the eyes of Canadians. First, in regard to Electoral Reform, the Radical party demand that the members of Parliament be remunerated for their services, that electoral districts be established, and that the suffrage be so extended as to give every competent citizen a right to vote. There is nothing very startling in those proposals. The payment of members would open the doors of Parliament to the intelligence and backbone of the nation, and would outlast the numbers of aristocratic and lordly noddies who now find their way into the English Legislature. The next article of the Radical faith is that the Crown and the Crown's family cost too much. Public opinion, the world over, will uphold them on that point. If Canadians find it a piece of extravagance to support a semi-Royal court at a cost of fifteen to twenty thousand pounds, what must not be the irritation of the awakening democracy of England in seeing untold millions, produced by their sweat and toil, lavished on the unearnsprigs of royalty. There is therefore

nothing ungenius in the declaration of the Radicals that they are not prepared to expend more than \$250,000 per annum, as a maximum, upon royalty.

Their third proposal deals with the House of Lords. It is not surprising that a demand for its abolition should be made. The Radicals make it in peremptory terms. The House of Lords is a burden which the English people have carried too long, and they can have but little objection to throwing it aside. By getting rid of it, they will get rid of the greatest obstacle to the free expansion of the political life of the country. Ireland enters into the composition of the Radical programme. The party hold that, though not prepared to assent to a separation, they are ready to admit the right of Ireland to be her own mistress in everything which locally regards her. This is clear and to the point. It completely coincides with the position of Mr. Parnell and the Irish National party on the question of home rule. Another reform that the Radicals seek to effect is the organization of county government. They demand that in every county there must be an assembly elected by all persons residing within its limits, and who have a vote for the election of members to the Imperial Parliament. The unpaid magistracy must be relieved of their functions; their object, in fact, is to transfer all local government from the land-owning to the people. Nobody will be likely to find fault with such a proposal but the landlords.

The last question of reform which the programme deals with is that of the land. According to their plan they will legislate to reduce the landlords to the position of ground landlords. The occupiers of agricultural land will have sixty of tenure at a fair ground rent. Either they or the State will benefit by the unearned increment. The occupier, on the other hand, will be required to provide cottages with an acre or two attached to them for those whom he employs. No entail nor settlement of estates will be allowed. A landowner who does not cultivate or cannot be cultivated any portion of his estate will lose his right to that portion.

In cities every person who pleases will be allowed to buy the freehold of his house of the landlord at its actual and not at its prospective value, and the burden of local taxation will be thrown mainly on those persons who own property which they do not occupy or cultivate. The Radical aim, on the whole, will be to break up and destroy all great territorial domains. That would be the broadest philanthropic movement ever inaugurated in England. It will thus be seen that the Radical programme is not such a ferocious looking thing as some are inclined to imagine. The demands made therein are in accordance with the best interests of England and her people. The Radicals seek simply to extend to the masses of the people the political rights, the social advantages, and the material prosperity which are now enjoyed only by the few.

THE C.P.R. SYNDICATE.

THE fresh demands of the Canadian Pacific Syndicate for further aid from the Government to build the railway, are fully in consonance with the old saying that "the more you get the more you want." When the Syndicate was formed and the C.P.R. Company launched, it received a stock of favors from Sir John Macdonald and his over-powering following, that no other Government would have dared to lavish on a few speculators. Immense grants were given with an uncheeked hand, in money, lands, monopoly and exemptions. The Syndicate had everything to win and nothing to lose in the bargain. What were the terms of that bargain? The Syndicate was to receive the following considerations in order to induce them, as it were, to build the road:

- First. The work on the railroad already done and all that had been contracted for by the Federal Government, and in addition a very large piece of work in British Columbia, which was to be contracted for. The total cost of all this was about \$30,000,000.
- Second. A subsidy of \$25,000,000 in cash to be paid as fast as the road was completed.
- Third. A further subvention of 25,000,000 acres of the best land in the North-West, valued at about \$2 per acre, equal to \$50,000,000.
- Fourth. Exemption from taxation of their lands and works for twenty years.
- Fifth. Exemption from duty on the plant and material to be imported in the construction of their work.
- Sixth. A monopoly of the railway system of the North-West for twenty years.