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CATHOLIC CALENDAR... THURSDAY, 4.—St. Peter Chrysologus, Bishop Confessor, and Doctor of the Church.

TO SUBSCRIBERS IN ARREARS... All those indebted for subscriptions, and who have already received accounts, are specially requested to send their remittances without delay.

THREE stages in the industrial interests of the United States are shown in the following figures.—In 1831 the value of the cotton mills in the United States was \$40,000,000; in 1870 it was \$141,000,000, and in 1880 \$408,225,000.

The woman Boutet who was sentenced to be hanged for murder, has had her death sentence commuted to imprisonment for life in the penitentiary by His Excellency the Governor General.

SECULAR education is progressing very rapidly in France. At a school entertainment given at Grand, in the Vosges, one of the pupils recited a blasphemous production in which the name of God was scoffed at and the sacred mysteries of the Christian Religion, such as the Incarnation and the Holy Trinity, were made the object of ridicule.

DUBLIN and Cork have elected two Nationalist Mayors. John O'Connor is the Lord Mayor elect of the Capital and Mr. Madden will occupy the civic chair in the Rebel City.

PAUPER immigration to Canada has not ceased, for we find the combined city charities of Toronto holding meetings to protest against the introduction of foreign paupers into the Queen City and sending deputations to the Provincial and Federal Governments to urge its stoppage.

This commercial situation continues very unsatisfactory across the border. It was expected that business would show some improvement over the extreme dullness which has existed for the past few months, once the Presidential election was settled, but the lament over bad times only seems to become more general.

The Irish National party have decided to contest two constituencies in Dublin. Mr. Parnell himself will be one of the standard-bearers. Up to the present the Irish capital has, owing to the manner in which the registration of the voters has been manipulated by the gentlemen of the Castle following, been a stronghold of Toryism and West Britonism.

It was announced the other day that Prince Albert Victor, the eldest son of the Prince of Wales, after the celebration of his twenty-first birthday on the 8th January next, would make a tour of the United States. It now appears that the arrangement may be interfered with if the House of Commons refuses to grant the allowance of \$30,000 a year, which has been asked for the prince, and against the granting of which a large section of the English members are organizing a strong opposition.

The ladies of Quebec forwarded a petition to Lady Lansdowne, praying her ladyship to exercise her influence over the Governor General in favor of the condemned woman, Mrs. Boutet, and to advise His Excellency to commute the sentence of death. This proceeding on the part of the Quebec ladies is regarded in official circles at Ottawa as an unwarrantable interference with the duties of the Governor and his executive in the administration of justice.

There appears to be a regular exodus of Italians from the United States back to their sunny homes. The steamship Britannia sailed from New York in the early part of the week with no less than eleven hundred of these exiles, who were returning to Italy. They were nearly all laborers, who had been employed in the cheapest kind of work in and around New York city. They had saved a snug sum of money, and were going home, where living is cheaper. A good many Italians go back to Italy every fall—some to stay, others to come back in the spring. Their passage costs only about \$23, and they can live as well in Naples or Palermo for 25 cents a day as they can in New York for \$2. With \$2,000 they can buy a farm of ten acres and a house in southern Italy, and raise enough to support themselves and families—and be in a much milder climate.

The Radical and Atheistic members of the Municipal Council of Paris adopted a resolution censuring the Prefect of the Seine for failing to continue the secularization of the hospitals by removing the nuns engaged as nurses and calling upon him to carry out the law. The government official has returned an answer to the censure of the Council, which for callousness and meanness stands unrivalled. The Prefect said he regarded "with the Council upon the principle involved, but considered it would be imprudent to remove the nuns from the hospitals during the cholera epidemic." This means that if the law was carried out the cholera patients would be left without nurses, but that after the epidemic has subsided and the good sisters have run all the risks of falling victims to the dread scourge, it will be time enough to eject them from the hospitals. The iniquity of such a proceeding can scarcely be imagined, but fact is often stranger than fiction.

THERE were 1,215 families, embracing 6,139 persons of both sexes and all ages, evicted in Ireland during the months of July, August and September. Of these only 47 families, or about one twenty-sixth of the whole, were re-admitted as tenants; and while a much larger number were put in as care-takers—that is, as persons who can be turned out at a moment's notice, and whose numbers, when they are turned out, will not come into the eviction statistics—not fewer than 3,114 poor people were left to perish by the wayside or crawl to the poorhouse, which is so intensely abhorred by the peasant, and a sojourn in which is considered the worst of degradations. The cruelty of the landlord class has not been to any appreciable extent, softened or tamed down by the Land Act. These evictions are tantamount to "sentences of death," as Mr. Gladstone once designated them, and no words can be too strong to condemn them, and every measure which would prevent a landlord from unjustly evicting destitute tenants should be availed of.

A FEW weeks ago a cable despatch was sent from London to the effect that Mgr. O'Farrell, Bishop of Trenton, on his return from Rome, had said that the Pope had expressed the hope that the Irish people would soon sever all connection with the English Government. This statement was made by the English correspondents to injure Bishop O'Farrell and to destroy the effect of what Leo XIII. actually did say in favor of the agitation of the Irish people for the recovery of their rights. That the despatch has failed of its object can be seen from what the semi-official organs of the Vatican have to say regarding the incident. The

Monarch's Roman Catholic subjects are not equal to those of which his enemies dispose to spread them. It is the duty of Catholics of all countries to come to an understanding in order to treat as it deserves this permanent conspiracy against truth. The story is regarded in Rome as one of those vile concoctions fabricated against the character of a worthy Bishop.

Mr. Gladstone has brought in his Redistribution Bill according to agreement with the House of Lords. The measure, from all appearances, is harmless, and objectionable to a few extreme Tories and Radicals. To England's representation there will be added only six new members; Scotland secures twelve additional representatives, while Ireland and Wales will have to remain satisfied with what they have. All the rumors about a reduction in the Irish membership have gone for naught. Mr. Parnell is said to feel confident the result of the new grouping will strengthen his party, but before giving the bill his support he will hold a conference with the Irish members. Among the principal provisions of the bill are those which make all towns of less than 15,000 inhabitants and small boroughs merge into counties; and also all towns of 50,000 inhabitants entitled to one member. There can be no doubt that the Premier will find a fair majority to carry the bill through, notwithstanding the defection of some of his immediate followers.

THE pensions annually paid to Queen Victoria's children represent an enormous drain upon the public treasury. Besides the three or four millions paid to Her Majesty, the Princess Alice receives \$250,000; the Princess Royal, \$40,000; Prince Alfred, \$125,000; Prince Arthur, \$125,000; Princess Helena, \$30,000; Princess Louise, \$30,000. The following are paid to Her Majesty's near relatives: \$25,000 to Princess Mary; \$75,000 to Princess Augusta; \$75,000 to the Duke of Cambridge; to these must be added many salaries of offices held. The Duke of Connaught receives pay as an admiral and as a colonel. The Duke of Cambridge receives pay as a field marshal, as a colonel of the Grenadier guards, as a colonel of the Sixtieth rifles, and an allowance of \$300 "for other services." The Prince of Wales is salaried as a general, colonel of the Tenth Hussars, of the rifle brigade, etc. The army and navy additions are as follows: Prince of Wales, \$4,750; Prince Alfred, \$6,432.50; the Duke of Cambridge, \$33,708. There are many other "perquisites" outside of the army and navy which are not mentioned in the blue book, and are "lumped" with other sums.

MR. JUDGE MATHIEU has decided against the Federal and Local Governments in their suit against the Exchange Bank for the recovery of loans amounting to over \$300,000. The Governments pleaded that their claims were of a preferential nature, and should be met by the bank, no matter how much the ordinary creditors and depositors suffered. The learned judge, however, held that there was no basis for such a plea according to the reading of the code, and pointed out that the transaction by which the Government had advanced the money was purely and simply one of trade, and that in ordinary business transactions the State could demand no privileges over other creditors. Besides, it was established that the loans were made when the bank could not pay its creditors, and considering that if the privilege sought for by the Government were admitted, palpable injustice would be done to the depositors and other creditors, the court could not consent to admit the validity of a preferential claim under the circumstances. This decision ought to teach the Government not to be so ready to bolster up shaky and rotten concerns by advancing loans in extremis.

SOME of our unreliable contemporaries are industriously engaged in fabricating and circulating the most ridiculous reports concerning religious matters in this Province. These journals talk about alleged divisions and insubordination among the clergy and religious orders, about the creation of new dioceses and a general reconstruction of the hierarchy, as if they were the intimate counsellors of the Propaganda or of our Bishops near home. These reports are repeated from week to week with malicious persistence, notwithstanding the many denials given them. They are simply calculated to mislead and confuse or create dissension where none exists. The public are warned against placing any faith in the religious rumors dished up by heedless and irresponsible reporters of our aforesaid unreliable contemporaries. A Quebec despatch of this morning says Le Canadian denies, on what is presumed to be the authority of the Archbishop, the correctness of the reports respecting the creation of a new archdiocese of Montreal and of a number of other bishoprics throughout the province, as also the rumor respecting the elevation of Mgr. Taschereau to the cardinalate. It says it has been given reason to believe "that the whole report is as absurd as it is false."

HON. MR. LAURIER, at the great political demonstration on Thursday night in the Queen's Hall, declared in straight and emphatic terms that nothing would satisfy the people of Canada but independence pure and simple, and his declaration raised the enthusiasm of the crowded house to the highest pitch. The sentiment was cheered, and applauded with a vigor that left no doubt as to the conviction

of the Queen's Hall audience in the feelings of the vast majority of the people throughout the Dominion. We are steadily and rapidly drifting towards the natural goal of national sovereignty. It is absurd to ask the country to remain satisfied with a position of semi-political independence, which is but another name for semi-political servility. As Hon. Mr. Laurier well put it, we are now a colony, but it does not suit the ideas of true patriots that we should always be so. The scheme of Imperial Federation, of which its promoters are talking so much, without knowing how to effect it, will not suffice. Sir Richard alluded to it in his speech and expressed his preference for it, but the silence with which his hearers received the mention of the scheme was significant, and fully demonstrated its unpopularity. The Ottawa Sun in commenting on the new craze, says: "So long as England thought she could do without the colonies, we were told in the words of The Times to keep house for ourselves. Now when England is shut out from foreign markets, and her own colonies tax her productions, she changes her tune and would woo us with reminders of love and duty. Very good. We are loyal. We are prepared to take our end of the log. But when we see Britain going to war for the sake of Egyptian bondholders, while she will not spend a penny to preserve the vast domains of British America, we may be permitted to pause in our enthusiasm. Be that as it may, we are of opinion that nothing will come of the conference at London. Canada will take no part in European wars. She would doubtless supply many men to help the Mother Land, but, as a nation, her mission is one with America—Peace!"

A VERDICT AND A RIDER.

OUR Irish Exchanges contain elaborate accounts of the great popular demonstrations which took place over the acquittal of P. N. Fitzgerald and the entire collapse of the famous Tubbercurry conspiracy case. In and around the court-house the scenes were unparalleled, the cheering was so wild and the waving of hats so frantic. The judge's call for silence was ignored and drowned in the reiterated acclamations. The enthusiasm spread like wildfire throughout the country, bonfires, parades, displays of national bunting becoming the order of the hour. Fitzgerald and eleven other citizens had been incarcerated for seven months on charges of treason, felony and conspiracy to murder. At the end of this time a Dublin jury was empanelled to convict the prisoners. The jury, composed of Conservatives and Protestants, was called upon to connive at and sustain the methods of Castle prosecutors, to endorse the base and foul expedients that had been used to consign the suspects to penal servitude or to death. The principal witnesses against the prisoners were a condemned murderer and highway robber named Delany, and another ruffian, one Moran, who had been branded as a deserter.

To seek the condemnation of twelve men on the testimony of such criminals was a scandalous outrage. The Castle was determined to attain its object by any means. But the jury became disgusted and declined to fix to their names the abominable stain of aiding the Crown in the utilisation of the outcasts of society. They, accordingly, brought in a verdict of "not guilty," and added a rider to it, which is, perhaps, the most scorching condemnation of Crown procedure ever pronounced by a judicial body. The jury solemnly declared on their oath that not only was Fitzgerald and his companions wrongfully charged, but that "the evidence of the two principal witnesses for the Crown was unworthy of credence," and that the corroborative evidence was of "a complicated and doubtful nature." By this bold and manly verdict twelve honest jurymen dealt a death-blow at the vile informer system which has sent so many innocent Irishmen to their doom. The fall of the Bastille was not more significant than this long delayed overthrow of a system that is a disgrace to modern civilization.

THE STAMP ACT DECLARED UNCONSTITUTIONAL.

Another source of provincial revenues has been cut off by the decisive judgment of the Privy Council against the Stamp Law, which exacted that a tax cent stamp be affixed to certain documents in all legal cases. The Hon. Mr. LaCrosse, Q.C., has received a cablegram stating that the Privy Council confirmed the judgment of the Supreme Court of Canada which declared the Stamp Law passed by the Quebec Legislature in 1880 to be unconstitutional. An action was instituted two years ago contesting the right of the Provincial Government to collect the tax. The claim against the Government was maintained in the Superior Court by the Hon. Justice Mackay, who found no difficulty in coming to the conclusion that according to the constitution the tax was ultra vires, and consequently could not be enforced. The Attorney General, of course, did not abide by this decision, and brought the case to the Court of Appeal, where Judge Mackay's decision was reversed and the Government's right to the tax was asserted. Chief Justice Doria, however, dissented. The plaintiff then appeared before the Supreme Court at Ottawa, when he was a second time fortunate, four judges upholding his claim against the Government, and two deciding against him. Finally, the Attorney General appeared before the Privy Council where he has just met with ultimate defeat, there being no further appeal. The French Canadian organ of the Government, La Minerve, looks upon the result of the case as a terrible blow dealt our local Legislature. It considers that their very right of existence, their raison d'être, has been undermined thereby, since they are refused the power to create a revenue necessary and

indispensable to their working. The situation of the Province is, therefore, extremely critical, and it is concluded that although desirous to meddle with the constitution as little as possible, still things continue at the same rate a revision of the federal and local powers will be necessary before long. Provincial autonomy must not be an illusion. To be worth anything our autonomy must be effective, clearly defined, and recognized without any hickering.

HUSSEY, one of the most notorious land agents in Ireland, intends to profit by the attempt made to blow up his residence in County Kerry. He has lodged a claim for \$7,500 for malicious damage to his property. We have not the slightest doubt that it was Hussey himself who was at the bottom of the alleged outrage. He has taken this method of getting paid for a house, which he was about to abandon, just as a dishonest dealer sets fire to his stock to get the insurance money. At the time of the explosion the house was under police protection and was surrounded by members of the Royal Constabulary. Although all the members of the family were in the house at the time, nobody was injured. The only damage done was the shattering of a few windows, and for this Mr. Hussey claims the price of the whole house; and the worst of it is that with the kindly influence of Earl Spencer, he will probably get the full amount. Land agents are knowing rogues, and the thermometer has got to indicate a very low degree of temperature when they get left.

SOME STARTLING STATISTICS.

If the prosperity of a new country depends upon the increase of its population and the lightness of its taxation, then Canada is far from prosperous. While the population of the Dominion has been at a comparative standstill during the past two decades, the taxation of the people has increased almost three hundred per cent. This is a rather startling statement, but unhappily the truth of it is only too plain and undeniable. Sir Richard Cartwright, in his remarkable speech delivered at the great mass meeting of citizens on Thursday night, threw a fierce and searching light upon this weak point in Canada's condition. From 1840 to 1860 our progress was more than remarkable, the growth of population and wealth being greater than those of our American neighbors. Thus, in 1840 the population of Canada, then composed of Quebec and Ontario, was 907,000; ten years later it was 1,842,000, and in 1860 it had risen to 2,507,000. Since Confederation that increase has slackened off very materially. In 1861 the four old provinces had a population of 3,200,000, which only increased to 3,602,000 in 1871, and in 1881 was but 4,251,233. Allowing for the natural increase and the increase of immigration, its population in 1884 ought to have been 6,703,605, but its actual population, according to the most trustworthy estimates, made from statistics obtained from Canadian sources, was 4,400,000. This made a loss during those twenty-four years of 2,303,605. The loss of native-born population in those years must have been 1,200,000 who left Canada for foreign parts, while over 1,000,000 foreigners who came to settle crossed over the border. A comparison of our growth with that attained by the United States in a similar epoch of its national life will show how far Canada is behind. In 1790 the United States had a population of 3,329,000; in 1800 it was 5,305,000, and in 1810, 7,239,000. This wonderful increase was made while there was little or no immigration to the United States, so that it arose entirely from natural causes. Had Canada's population increased in a like ratio, as it should have done, we would have had some 7,500,000 souls in the country, but the census only showed four millions and a quarter. This represented an enormous leakage of over 2,000,000 during the past two decades. The conclusion that these figures lead to is that one out of every four native-born Canadians have quitted the country, and that only one in every four immigrants who have arrived in the Dominion have settled therein. Sir Richard asserted that there was even an absolute decrease in some parts of the Dominion since 1861.

The municipal statistics show that during that period the school population of Ontario has been diminished by 11,000. It has been ascertained that out of 118 villages in Ontario 79 had been either retrograde or stationary, and out of 64 towns 41 had either lost or gained nothing in population. Out of 342,000 immigrants only 91,000 had remained in the country. There were in the older provinces of Canada in 1861 a foreign-born population of 661,000, and in 1881, although immigration had increased, the foreign-born population had decreased to 566,000. This will be admitted to be a startling state of affairs, and one that proves the prosperity of the country, and the contentment of the people either to be greatly mistaken or grossly exaggerated. This drain upon our population must be stopped. The emigration of Canadians to foreign parts means, not only loss of population, but also loss of capital and productive labor.

DISTRESS OF THE WORKING CLASSES IN ENGLAND.

The English papers contain from day to day reports of the distress which has taken hold of the Kingdom and from which the laboring classes are sorely suffering. The depression in the trade of England and in many of its industries has not, for many years, been so marked and far-reaching. In every quarter of the country employers complain of the exceeding dullness which prevails in commercial and industrial circles, while the workmen, weary and misery staring him in the face. There is nothing imaginary in this condition of affairs. The other week the Earl of Dunraven in moving for the appointment of a select committee from the House of Lords to inquire into the condition of the trade and commerce of the country, disclosed some circumstances which show that in several departments of industrial life, England's prosperity is surely on the wane.—According to His Lordship the iron trade, which has for some time past been in a bad condition, is now in a worse; the woolen trade is suffering very considerably; the great industry of coal is far from flourishing owing to the smallness of the demand from factories; and in the shipping trade the prospect is also discouraging. At the London docks where 60,000 men are usually engaged, only a third of that number can find permanent employment, whilst another third can only get odd jobs, and then the wages of all have been lowered. At Sunderland there are 11,000 men out of work; at Glasgow over 4,000 are in idleness, and on the Tyne and the Wear some 25,000 are without any hope of earning their daily bread. Depression exists to a great extent in Manchester, Liverpool, South Wales, and in other large commercial and industrial centres, thousands of workmen are unable to find employment, whilst starvation is said to be threatening hundreds of families in Jarrow. There was surely sufficient in this relation of startling facts to justify the appointment of the proposed committee, but the Government apparently dreaded an official and authoritative exposure, and Earl Dunraven's demand was not acquiesced in. Earl Granville, who represented the ministry, opposed the motion on the ground that the general wealth of the country was on the increase, and that the official statistics did not show that there was any increase in pauperism. These will strike many as peculiarly flimsy and unsound reasons for disbelief of facts and figures which are as plain as noonday. Because manufacturers and capitalists pile up an immense number of millions, that is no proof that there is or should be prosperity among the humbler classes. Because Jay Gould or Vanderbilt help to swell the aggregate value of the nation's wealth by hundreds of millions, that does not bring either abundance or sufficiency to the homes of the workmen. On the contrary, it represents so much subtracted from the general source of supplies for the benefit of the few to the detriment of the thousands. It is not very diplomatic or consoling to a hungry and destitute population to prove to them that they are prosperous and in need of nothing by pointing to their neighbors' increasing wealth. This first reason of Earl Granville's against an enquiry was consequently very unsatisfactory not to say impolitic. His second reason was not much better. As a Liverpool exchange remarks, if there is no perceptible increase in the statistics of pauperism it must be remembered, as the Earl of Dunraven observed, "that the workmen and the artisans would suffer, and suffer very severely in absolute silence before going on the parish." Furthermore, they have accumulated funds in their societies which are employed in helping those amongst them who are in distress. The Earl of Kimberley expressed his painful consciousness of the depression under which the country labors, but his opinion is that instead of relying on Parliament for remedial measures the people should trust to their own vigor and energy. So they do when they can find means to earn a livelihood, but the noble Lord will have to admit that vigor and energy on the part of people in want and without work, will not amount to much without the practical sympathy and assistance of those who are in the possession of wealth.

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THE LAND WAR IN THE SCOTCH HIGHLANDS.

The indications of a fierce land war being waged in Great Britain are rapidly multiplying. The centre of discontent is in the Isle of Skye and in the Scotch Highlands, where the lords of the land are crowding the tenants out in order that there may be deer parks and sheep ranges instead of human habitations. The crofters bitterly complain of the tyranny exercised over them by the representatives of landlordism. Their condition, which was never very good, is one of increasing misery and slavery, owing to the worst exactions of feudalism. When they are not evicted and cast on the hillsides, their rents are steadily raised, and parts of their holdings are confiscated. In the past these crofters had the right to free pasturage for cattle on the hills, but that is taken away. The right of cutting turf and peat has also been withdrawn, while the fishermen, in many cases, are not allowed to sell their fish except to landlords or their agents, who fix the price. The crofters are now in open rebellion against this crushing system, and it is about time that they showed some spirit of manhood and resistance. These hardy, industrious husbandmen of the Highlands will command general sympathy in their struggle against the slavery of which they are the unwilling victims. As the Irish priests were with their flocks in the fight against landlordism, so do the Scotch clergymen seem to encourage the efforts of the crofters. The Rev. John MacMillan of the Free Church, Allgpool, has issued an address to the crofters, in which the following appears:—"Let the people be allowed to agitate in a lawful manner (and we endorse no other), and there is no fear they will do much injury to life or property. If they refuse to pay rent because they think it exorbitant, that is a matter between themselves and their landlords and law courts, and does not call upon authorities to send a warship with revolvers to them." If the people are not allowed sufficient scope to carry on constitutional agitations to redress grievances that have existed, without the interference of revolvers, it is the duty of every minister and elder, and every other loyal subject in the land, to make common cause with the oppressed people. We shall not give coun-