

# The *Evening* Witness

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## EDITORIAL NOTES.

LAST WEEK we made mention of the fact that Montreal has just sent \$500 to the Hon. Edward Blake for the Home Rule cause. We also expressed the conviction that, when the other remaining parishes of Montreal would be visited by the committee, the city would render a good account of itself in this instance, as it has ever done in the past. To-day we publish the appeal just sent out by the members of the Nationalist party asking for aid from the United States, Canada and Australia. It is pleasant to know that the appeal flashed across the Atlantic was met by the funds that had already left our city for London. We don't see that it is at all necessary to add anything to the document, which will be found in another column; it speaks for itself, and gives all the reasons why, at this juncture, stupendous efforts should be made to keep the ball rolling while the Grand Old Man is in the field and into the game with all his vigor.

THE CELEBRATION, on Sunday, commemorative of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the departure of the Canadian Papal Zouaves for Rome, was one of great interest and fraught with memories the most cherished. In the days of Italian confusion, when the fate of the Holy See apparently hung in the balance, and the legions of infidelity were advancing upon Rome, the spirit of Catholic chivalry was awakened on the banks of the St. Lawrence and the sons of Canada took up arms in the cause of their Faith. Like the crusaders of old they went forth with courage and assurance to face the dangers of events that looked most threatening, and they won for themselves imperishable fame. It was therefore with sentiments that can be more easily understood than expressed that these brave children of the church—real soldiers of the Church Militant—took part in the grand ceremonies of Sunday last.

WE WOULD draw attention to a short, but evidently timely, letter which we received yesterday from one of our subscribers. It is signed "A Catholic," and is headed "The Pope's Jubilee." We need only say that we agree with him that it was, to say the least, strange to have had no general illumination on such an occasion. We might, however, add that there may be many good reasons why such was not requested. Moreover, we have not heard, as yet, of any city—except Rome—in which such a demonstration was made.

"LOYALTY," is a grand, a noble, a patriotic term. We believe in it, we strive to be loyal in every proper acceptance of the term. We don't shout it from the house tops, but we feel it and are prepared to prove it. We strive to be loyal to our Church, to our country, and to the land of our forefathers. We are Home Rulers, in the fullest sense of the term, and we are thereby

loyal to the cause of Ireland and to the interests of Great Britain. From our point of view the granting of Home Rule to Ireland will be the grandest and most effective stroke in the process of cementing, in mutual bonds of friendship and interest, the different elements of the British Empire. Heretofore it was Ulster and its Orangemen that monopolized all the "loyalty." Now they proclaim openly that if Home Rule is granted "they will desert England, they will become her bitterest foes, they will thwart, humiliate, circumvent and undermine the tyrannical government that would hand them over to their enemies." In the days of the Disestablishment of the Irish Church these Orange boosters would have "kicked the Queen's Crown into the Boyne," now they "threaten to frustrate Irish recruiting for the English Army and Navy." The *Spectator* further asserts that "they will yet rid of all money tributes to any external power, and keep all for themselves." Such is their "loyalty" as British citizens. As long as the imperial government passes coercion Acts, Arms Bills, or Penal laws of any kind, as long as their class is permitted by the government to domineer over the vast majority, so long are they "loyal;" but the moment one slight act of reparation for past injuries, or one little step in the direction of justice to the Irish nation is in contemplation, at once the phantom "Loyalty" disappears and the demon of "Anarchy" leaps upon the stage. Heaven save us from Ulster Unionist Loyalty! Heaven protect both Ireland and all Great Britain from such a plague!

WE PUBLISH a letter from "L. E. C." on the question of "Early Closing." We are exceedingly pleased to know that our article of last week upon this subject has brought forth the views of those interested in the passing of the Bill, as undoubtedly expressed in the letter in question. It is only fair that every possible phase of such a question should be dwelt upon and given to the public. While still adhering to our views, as expressed last week, we see a great deal of common sense and manifest reason in what our correspondent of to-day states. There is no doubt about the hardship that clerks have to endure through long hours and constant attention to business; on the other hand there is no reason why one municipal district should be made "flesh" of, while its neighbor would be made a "kettle of fish."

SIR HENRY JAMES has written recently to the London *Standard* to express his sorrow and indignation at the horrible fact that Irish priests have interfered in politics. These priests destroy ever little project that flashes through the fertile brains of Lord Salisbury, Mr. Balfour and Sir Henry James. Yet this indignant Knight has only words of approval when Irish parsons parade their ideas upon the political platform of the country. When the Archdeacon of Armagh, or the Vicar of Derry pause forth

streams of insult against the Irish Catholics and strives to help the Balfourites in creating religious animosities and fanning into flames the smouldering embers of hatred, when these worthies are making the North ring with attacks upon Home Rule and all its advocates, Sir James Henry and the *Standard* are silent. If the course adopted by these religious gentlemen are to be approved, then the conduct of the priests is worthy the highest commendation. The priest never seeks to raise creed against creed, class against class; but these men of frantic fervor are looked upon as patriotic and prophets by the "loyal" *Standard*. How comes it that the same number of that organ, in which the condemnation of the priests, for their meddling in politics, appears, we find a peculiar approval of the course adopted by the parsons, in becoming political orators and agitators? Is Sir Henry James a hypocrite, or is he so prejudiced, and so blinded by his prejudice, that he cannot see himself "as others see him?" What a similarity between the dispositions and policies, each in his own sphere, of Hon. Mr. Balfour of our day, and Balfour of Barley, as pictured by the "Laird of Abbotsford."

USUALLY we confine our notices of publications to the magazine column, but there are exceptions to every rule, and this week we find such an exception in the case of that most admirable weekly, the *Ave Maria*, of Notre Dame, Indiana. We call the attention of our readers to that most instructive and ably written magazine, principally on account of the earnest and energetic manner in which its publishers and editor have commenced the year 1893. We trust it is not yet too late to inform our friends that with this year's volume several most interesting, highly instructive and charmingly written serials and essays have been commenced. We need merely mention the names of some of the writers and the titles of their papers to establish at once the value of their contributions to the Catholic periodical literature of the day. "The Vocation of Edward Conway," by Maurice Francis Egan; "Traces of Travel; Along the Vesuvian Shore," by Charles Warren Stoddard; "Talks at the Tea-Table," by Louisa May Dalton; "A Family Holiday Abroad," by Mary Catherine Crowley. We sincerely advise every Catholic family in Canada, as well as in the United States, to secure and read the *Ave Maria*; once it has entered the home it will be like the constant presence of a sweet "Hail Mary" hovering about the hearthstone and bringing blessings to all.

WE UNDERSTAND that on next Easter Sunday Prof. Fowler, the genial and accomplished organist of St. Patrick's, will celebrate the silver jubilee of his connection with that church and as head of its choir. During the quarter of a century that Mr. Fowler has presided at the organ in St. Patrick's he has not only

won for himself a high name in the musical world, but what is still better he has gained the esteem and earned the gratitude of hundreds. He has been prodigal of his time and talents, and has consecrated them to the grand work of building up the choir and in doing good on all sides. The concerts he organized, the services he gratuitously rendered on charitable and other occasions are not to be counted. We have taken the liberty of mentioning the fact of next Easter being the twenty-fifth anniversary of his connection with St. Patrick's, in order that those who might feel interested may have time to consider whether some steps should not be taken to testify to Prof. Fowler their appreciation of all he has done for the congregation and choir of the great central parish in particular, and for the Catholics of Montreal in general.

LA PATRIE publishes a letter from Mr. J. B. Rouillard, in which he replies to Mr. Francois Tujague, of New Orleans, who warned the French-Canadians against the dangers of annexation with the United States. This worthy gentleman, who very probably would like to "shoulder his musket" if it suited his purpose to be a true Canadian, gives the readers of *La Patrie*—and much to the delight of that organ—the following piece of romance:

"We pretend to have at least as much to bid us to the United States, in a French point of view, as to the British Crown. In the first place, they have not conquered us, nor hanged our patriots, and moreover, there are now there more French-Canadians, Frenchmen and their descendants, than in Canada. The Government of the United States has never persecuted our ancestors as did the English the masters of Colonial Canada. The American republic never took hold of families, of whole populations of peaceful and laborious people to transport and disperse them to the four cardinal points, as were the Acadians, separating the child from its mother, the husband from his wife, burning, ravaging and ruining everything."

If Mr. Rouillard's brain is not rusted, his patriotism certainly is touched in that way, and he evidently is bent on rusting that of his fellow-countrymen.—Rouillard is a significant name for an annexationist. Would Mr. Rouillard kindly tell us what the United States Government has done for the tens of thousands of French-Canadians in the great Republic? Has Congress made any provision for the preservation of the French language, the conservation of French institutions, and the perpetuation of French laws? Also, we would like to know in what legislative hall of all the Union the French language has been preserved, and in what State has he ever heard of both languages being official? Indeed, we fear that Mr. Rouillard is really, from a national standpoint, what his name suggests.

IT IS UNFORTUNATE that our trans-Atlantic friends have not been able to give us the text of Hon. Edward Blake's speech, in the House of Commons, on the Home Rule Bill. We have received comments more than sufficient to show that it was a masterpiece; but, as yet, the speech itself has not been cabled. We hope to secure it for next week's issue, as we are aware that a great number of our readers are anxious to see it.