

The True Witness.

CATHOLIC CHRONICLE,  
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No. 696, Craig Street, by  
J. GILLIES:  
G. E. CLERK, Editor.

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all subscribers whose papers are delivered by carriers, Two Dollars and a-half in advance; and if not renewed at the end of the year, then, if we continue sending the paper, the subscription shall be Three Dollars.

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We beg to remind our Correspondent that no letters will be taken out of the Post-Office, unless pre-paid.

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MONTREAL, FRIDAY, APRIL 3, 1868.

ECCLIASTICAL CALENDAR.

APRIL - 1868.  
Friday, 3—Our Lady of Dolours.  
Saturday, 4—St. Isidore B. D.  
Sunday, 5—PALM SUNDAY.  
Monday, 6—Of the Feria.  
Tuesday, 7—Of the Feria.  
Wednesday, 8—Of the Feria.  
Thursday, 9—HOLY THURSDAY.

REGULATIONS FOR LENT.—All days of Lent, Sundays excepted, from Ash Wednesday to Holy Saturday included, are days of fasting and abstinence.

The use of flesh meat at every meal is permitted on all the Sundays of Lent, with the exception of Palm Sunday.

The use of flesh meat is also by special indulgences allowed at the one repast on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays of every week from the Great Sunday after Lent, to Palm Sunday.—On the first four days of Lent, as well as every day in Holy Week, the use of flesh meat is prohibited.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Mr. Gladstone's Resolutions on the Irish Church question will provoke a serious opposition inside and outside of the House. Petitions against the principle therein involved are being circulated for signature. There have been lively debates in the Lower House upon the state of Ireland, but no new facts were elicited, and no practical suggestions made as to the nature of the remedies required. In the House of Lords, the Alabama claims furnished matter for a lively debate, in the course of which Lord Russell took occasion to vindicate the policy of his administration. The two Fenians, Thompson and Mullaly, convicted of the murder of the Police Sergeant Brett at Manchester, have been sentenced to penal labor for life.

The passage of the first detachment of our Zouaves through France to Marseilles, where they took steamer for Civita Vecchia, was a continual ovation. We regret to learn however that the Rev. M. Moreau was robbed en route of his trunks, containing besides money, and some valuable papers, a large number of important documents connected with a late process of canonisation. The French police are however very effective, and we may hope that the missing property may yet be recovered. The Zouaves arrived at Rome on the 10th ult., and having been honored with a presentation to the Sovereign Pontiff, were distributed amongst the several corps of Zouaves already organised.

The latest accounts from Abyssinia represent King Theodore as having taken up a strong position with guns and mortars, near Magdala, where it is thought that he will show fight. The captives were alive and well on the 12th February.

The Irish Church question will be dealt with, it is to be feared, in a party spirit, and with a view, not to the pacification of Ireland, but to the overthrow of the Ministry. What Mr. Gladstone proposes Mr. D'Israeli will oppose: and though the abolition of the State Establishment is inevitable, its existence may be prolonged for a few months, and the grievances of Ireland amplified, by the mutual jealousies of the Ins and the Outs in the Imperial Parliament.

There are of course, three courses open to British statesmen who are clear sighted enough to perceive that in some manner or another the Irish Church question must be settled—that the status in quo must be abandoned.

First—There is the course of dividing the existing endowments so as to give a fair share thereof, in proportion to their numbers, to the Catholics of Ireland, as well as to the members of the different Protestant sects—Anglican, Presbyterian, Unitarian, &c., amongst which the non Catholics of Ireland are distributed.

But in so far as we can learn, the persons most immediately interested, that is to say the Catholics of Ireland, speaking by their Bishops and Clergy, will not accede to this proposal; and refuse for themselves any share of the ecclesiastical endowments of Ireland, once indeed the property of the Catholic Church, but for some

three hundred years diverted to Protestant purposes.

Secondly—There is the course of endowing the Catholic clergy of Ireland from the Consolidated Fund. But this course is repudiated, both by Catholics who do not desire to see their Bishops and Priests degraded to the rank of stipendiaries of the State: and by the Dissenters of the United Kingdom, who to a man will be sure to oppose it, as unjust to themselves: for why, will they ask, should we be taxed for the support of two religions, in neither of which we have any share?

Remains then only the third course:—That of Secularisation *pur et simple*, and the appropriation of the funds thence accruing to some common and purely secular purpose. This probably will be the course ultimately adopted; and the purpose to which the secularised property will be devoted, will most likely be that of national, "unsectarian" or in other words "Godless" education. We may be permitted to doubt whether Catholics will be any gainers by the adoption of this course: indeed it would do more to Protestantize Ireland in a single generation, than has ever been effected by a Protestant Church Establishment, and all the R. C. Missions to boot, since the days of Elizabeth.

Nothing, however will be done by the present Parliament; and it not the first, one of the first tasks of its successor elected under the new electoral law, will be the settlement of the Irish Church question. In that Parliament we may expect from what we know of the opinions prevalent amongst the majority of those classes to whom the right of franchise has been extended by the last Reform Bill, that there will be, if not an absolute majority of "secularists" at all events a very large minority holding their views. To this party all religious questions are mere matters of speculation; all dogmas, but hypotheses more or less absurd, but all equally unfounded upon facts, for accounting for the moral phenomena of the universe, and for expressing the relations betwixt man and God—if indeed there be a God. For this reason, the Education question logically takes precedence of the Church question; and perhaps if the state of Ireland will allow of it, it will be dealt with first of all by the Legislature, since the great difficulty that the Irish Church question presents at present, is, to find an investment for the secularised funds of the existing Establishment. With one general system of purely secular or Godless Education for the United Kingdom set up, this difficulty would exist no longer: and there would be little delay in dealing with the funds of the Church of England and Ireland as By Law Established.

We translate from a letter which over the signatures of O. Berthelet, President, and of MM. Joseph Royal, and S. Rivard as Secretaries of the Committee—appeared in the *Moniteur* of the 22d ult. —

"PONTIFICAL ZOUAVES.  
"The Canadian Committee for the Pontifical Zouaves informs the public, that being desirous of taking all possible precautions, the organization and departure of the second detachment will be contingent upon the receipt of letters from Rome, in which the Chaplain is expected to forward details which it is important that the Committee should possess before taking any definitive action. It may therefore so happen that the date of departure be put back a fortnight, and that the answers of the Committee to the many questions put to it, may also be delayed.  
"For this reason, the Committee taking these contingencies into consideration warns those who have addressed to it their questions, neither to slacken their preparations, nor continue the practice of their several professions: neither should they contract new engagements as if there were to be no despatch of a second detachment."

O. BERTHELET, Presid  
JOSEPH ROYAL,  
S. RIVARD,  
Secretaries of the Committee.  
Catholic papers are requested to copy.

OUR ZOUAVES.—The French papers notice the arrival in splendid condition of the first detachment from Canada of this fine corps. Their appearance, the word of command given in English, excited no small surprise amongst the Parisians: but when their origin and their destination were known, that feeling gave way to one of natural pride at the noble spirit evinced by the descendants of Old France in the New World. No! Frenchmen have not degenerated on this Continent: and the names of Larocque and Murray are names of which all Canadians, no matter what their national origin, may well feel proud. The age of Chivalry is not dead: as Burke himself would admit had he seen our Zouaves, and witnessed the noble *elan* amongst our Canadian youth.

HOUSE OF REFUGE.—On Wednesday, Feast of the Annunciation, a Pastoral Letter from His Lordship the Bishop of Montreal was read in all the Churches of this City recommending to the charity of the faithful the establishment of a House of Refuge for the young and destitute poor, for whom there is no room in any of our existing institutions. Such an asylum is much needed, more especially for the number of young Arabs of our streets, who are fast hurrying along the *down-hill* road that leads to perdition. We have no doubt therefore that the Bishop's appeal will be promptly and generously replied to by the Catholics of Montreal.

The Inquest on the Mr. Thompson, and Scott, the fireman, who were killed by the explosion at the fire on St. Paul street, has elicited nothing to denote the cause of either the fire, or of the explosion. Dr. Hunt showed that it was possible that the burning leather might have generated an inflammable gas which on coming in contact with atmospheric air would explode: but all is mere conjecture as to the cause of the sad accident. The Messrs. Coghlan have been discharged from custody, there being really nothing against them.

We learn with pleasure from the Toronto *Freeman* of the 26th ult., that Mgr. Ljach, Bishop of Toronto, has returned to his episcopal city in greatly improved health. His Lordship was able to assist at Mass, and again in the afternoon at Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament on Sunday 22d ult., to the great delight of his clergy and attached people.

Some mischievous boys were playing in the streets of Gratiotown on Sunday morning last, with a lot of sulphur phosphorus, a can of which they had found, and which they took for candy. Falling on the wooden side walks, it ignited, and caused considerable alarm at first: and rumors of Fenians and Greek fire, were of course rife. No serious injury was done.

It is said that the Government is in possession of information that another Fenian raid on Canada is in preparation, and that arms have been stored along the frontier. Whether these reports be true or false it is well to be on our guard, and we understand that the authorities have taken all necessary precautions.

The Grand Jury have returned a True Bill against Mr. Picault, Jr., charged with manslaughter, in that he served out strychnine instead of santonin to two customers, enquiring for a vermifuge for their children. By this sad error two lives were destroyed.

The Quebec papers report the serious indisposition of the Rev. Mr. Nelligan, V.G., who formerly and for many years was pastor of the St. Patrick's Church.

Mr. John Doherty has kindly consented to act as agent for the TRUE WITNESS in Peterboro and vicinity, Subscribers in arrears will please favor Mr. Doherty with a call.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—From want of space we are compelled to hold over one or two communications received.

PASTORAL VISIT OF HIS LORDSHIP THE BISHOP OF OTTAWA TO EGANSVILLE.  
EGANSVILLE Ont., 25th March, 1868.

(To the Editor of the True Witness.)

MR. EDITOR.—On Thursday the 20th ult. the people of the village of Eganville might be seen all eager and abroad in holiday attire. A stranger in the village might ask: "What is all this about? The people seem to care nothing for worldly affairs; still all appear to be on the alert, as if something extraordinary were to happen."

The meaning of all this might be told in these few words—viz: The first pastor of the Diocese is to come on this evening, and the people are trying to show all the respect possible to that venerable personage.

We will first see what these good people have done to respect their saintly Bishop.

You can see they have the Pembroke Brass Band, led by the Rev. J. Gillie, a gentleman whose name is a sufficient guarantee of respectability to any body to which he belongs, together with their parishioners *en masse*.

They formed a respectable procession about 2 o'clock p. m., in front of Rev. Mr. Byrne's residence, and the cortege, led by that holy pastor, followed by the Pembroke Brass Band, proceeded on their way to meet his lordship and welcome him into their midst. This done, they retraced their course to the Parish Church, the Band playing several pieces suited to the occasion.

His Lordship, accompanied by the Revs. John and James McCormack, Rev. Mr. Byrne, Rev. John Gillie, and Rev. Mr. Molloy, with the parishioners, proceeded to the church, and immediately after that the Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, after which his Lordship and Father Molloy addressed the congregation in a very touching and tender manner.

During the two days those reverend gentlemen remained in the parish, the good Catholic might have the great pleasure of seeing the people of that mission flocking to the church, from daylight till dark, to discharge those sacred duties which our holy mother the Church imposes on her children at the time of the Pastoral Visitation.

It was a pleasing sight, on the second day of the Pastoral visit, to see the number of boys and girls who were admitted to the Sacraments of Confirmation and the Eucharist.

Immediately before leaving, his Lordship addressed the congregation to a considerable length in both the French and English languages.

The parishioners, clergymen, and Brass Band, after escorting his Lordship for a considerable distance, returned to their respective homes, with the consolation that they had performed their duty on the occasion.

A LOOKER ON.

Remittances unavoidably crowded out; shall appear in our next.

PERREBONNE ITEMS.  
ST. PATRICK'S DAY CELEBRATION, ORDINATIONS, COLLEGE EXHIBITION ETC.  
(To the Editor of the True Witness.)

DEAR SIR,—Permit a friend of your highly esteemed journal to lay before its readers, not a few of whom are deeply interested, as parents, relatives or friends of the participants, in the proceedings which I am about to relate, a short account of the celebration of our national festival, ordination, college exhibition, etc., which have taken place at College Masson within the past few days.

As you are already aware, Mr. Editor, this institution has, within the last twelve months, changed its course of studies, being now exclusively devoted to the instruction of young men, who intend to make commerce their profession. The opening of the College as a commercial institution has at last supplied a want long felt by the commercial community at large and by the Canadian youth in particular, who were beginning to look, with a species of disgust, upon the various other professions, already enumerated and hardly able to furnish bread to their professors, and who longed for some new field of labor on which to exhibit and exert their talents and energies. Here, then, at length, is an institution, the only one of its kind in Canada, offering to young men of all grades of society, and who intend to pursue a commercial life, just such a course of education as they stand in need of, with the liberal inducement of procuring them position, if desired, at the termination of their course. To say that the course is a finished and practical one, would give but a faint idea of the admirable fitness of the arrangements made and method adopted by the director of the college to insure the students a complete and veritable commercial education.—The English and French languages are placed upon an equal footing in this institution, and are taught by able and experienced professors, in the most expeditious and perfect manner. The "Business Department" is indeed a "business" looking establishment, containing a first-class counting room department, a telegraph office, a banking department and an exchange office. In a word, nothing has been spared by the able directors of the college to make it the first, in every sense of the word, of its kind in the country.—But, Mr. Editor, I have wandered from my subject. What about Patrick's Day? Since the opening of this, the first commercial, term of the college, nothing of much interest took place, calculated to disturb the quiet routine of college life, till last St. Patrick's Day, when for the first time on a public occasion, the spacious halls resounded with the merry laugh and hearty cheers of the sons of the Green Isle. For weeks the day had been anticipated; preparations were made on the most extensive scale; invitations extended, and so enthusiastic was the desire of celebrating and honoring "Le Jour de St. Patrice," that all had suddenly become devoted sons of the illustrious Saint. At last the long-wished for day came, a *grand conge* was announced by the kind-hearted Superior, the sports and plays commenced, and the many hours "flew on Angels' wings." Impromptu speeches, embryo eulogies of the Great Saint, thanking him for many things and especially for the *grand conge* and gala day he had obtained for them, were frequently indulged in during the day by the younger portion of the community, who knew well that they were not destined to deliver any of the carefully prepared speeches and panegyrics which were to come off in the evening. When that time had arrived, a bountiful and exquisitely prepared supper, gotten up by the generous procurer of the house, was partaken of by the English speaking members of the community and their invited guests. During a considerable portion of the evening, the festive board, was graced by the presence of the Rev. Superior, and director of the college, both of whom made very handsome and appropriate replies to the invitation extended to them. Speeches were also delivered by Messrs. Desmond, Cox, Donnelly, Broderick and Foster. Did space permit me, Mr. Editor, I would endeavor to give you, at least an outline of the devotion and love for poor, dear oppressed Erin, expressed in the eloquent, beautiful and touching addresses of those truly eloquent speakers. After a series of songs, toasts, and other interesting and attractive entertainments, the many company "broke up," satisfied and happy, with hearts still more full, if possible, of love and affection for their "dear native Isle of the Ocean." Few, I ween, spent a pleasanter St. Patrick's Day and evening than the Irish students of College Masson.

On the following evening, the eve of the festival of St. Joseph, patron Saint of the house, two addresses, one English, the other French, were presented to the Rev. Mr. Primeau, superior of the college. Full of affection, respect and thanks, these flattering addresses did, indeed, but pay a just and well-merited tribute of esteem and gratitude towards this Rev. Gentleman, who has endeared himself to all by his affable and winning disposition, and truly paternal care of those confided to his charge.

But the most interesting ceremony of all, was the ordinations, which took place on the 22d., His Lordship, the Bishop of Montreal, officiated, ably assisted by Rev. J. Gratton P. P. as deacon of honor, and Rev. J. B. Primeau as assistant deacon. The ceremonies were long and interesting, apparently taxing the good and holy Bishop's powers of endurance to the utmost, and, by their grandeur and solemnity, impressing the large congregation present with the deepest sentiments of veneration and love for that religion, which alone could exhibit such a sublime and imposing spectacle, and of which they had the happiness of being members. And no wonder; there is something inexpressibly solemn, awe-inspiring in the Church's ordination of her Ministers, which strikes the spectator with sentiments of admiration and reverence felt at no other time.

The following gentlemen were promoted to:—Tonsure, Z. Gravel, P. P. Shahan; Minor Orders, P. Chabillon, F. X. Chagnon; Sub-Deaconship, Rev. E. A. Archambault, Rev. J. E. Brochu, Rev. C. Larque; Priesthood, Rev. J. P. Belanger.

In the afternoon of the same day, the grand *seance*, usually given on the feast of St. Joseph, but postponed this year in honor of his Lordship's intended visit to the College, came off in one of the beautiful and spacious halls of the building. Long before the hour annotated for the opening of the *seance*, the Hall was filled to overflowing with the *elite* of Terrebonne society, as well as by numerous relatives and friends of the students from your city and elsewhere. At half-past three precisely, his Lordship entered the Hall, accompanied by several members both of the clergy and laity,—the College Brass Band in the meantime playing "Hail to the Chief." At the conclusion of the air, and when his Lordship had taken his seat, one of the students, Mr. A. Allard, ascended the stage, and, in a short address, welcomed him to the College. The panegyric on St. Joseph, was then delivered in English by Mr. P. Cherrier. This young gentleman, although French in his mother tongue, spoke and pronounced his beautiful and ably written address with as much ease, grace, eloquence, and facility, as if he had never known any other language than the one he was then speaking, affording a striking and practical example of the thorough manner in which the English language is taught in the institution.—An *ouverture* on the violin and piano, by Messrs. Fowler and Martelle, then followed; after which Mr. A. Allard delivered, in French, an excellent and scientific production on "Earthquakes." Commencing with the probable cause of these mysterious convulsions of Nature, and then giving a rapid history of the most remarkable ones recorded in history, he concluded by expressing the belief that even these incomprehensible revolutions of the Earth's interior, were no other than extraordinary means employed, from time to time, by Divine Providence, to convert men from their wicked ways, and recall them to a sense of their duty towards Him. The next speaker was Mr. E. J. Murphy, of Boston, U. S., who took for his subject "Home." If we may be permitted to judge from the elegant, affectionate and tender strains in which he discoursed on the "dearest of all spots," I am inclined to believe he has a happy home somewhere. The young gentleman has a clear vice, distinct enunciation, and a remarkably easy delivery. It is seldom I have had the pleasure of listening to a piece so ably composed and finely spoken. Each of the above literary productions would compare favorably, if not far surpass, many of those delivered in our first-class classical Colleges.

The next thing in the programme was a "chanson Comique." It was rendered by Messrs. Mathieu and Allard in the most original and humorous manner possible. The drollery and burlesque, interspersed here and there in the song, excited among the audience roars of laughter and applause, in which the good and venerable bishop frequently joined. Never have I witnessed the powers of art and the charms of music so successfully employed. Mr. Mathieu made good his seemingly absurd promises; and Mr. Allard, notwithstanding his incredulity, his uncultivated and rude voice, rustic manner and firm determination not to be made sing "like an artist," finally yielded to the softening influence of his tutor's melodious strains, and became a perfect vocalist himself, and when last heard from, was travelling with Railroad speed to San Francisco to rival Jenny Lind and reap a golden harvest.

The distribution, by his Lordship, of the valuable and beautifully designed "Crosses of honor," next followed. These crosses have been presented to the college by some of the highest officials, and most influential patrons of learning in Canada. Their number fifteen; one of which is of pure, massive gold, the gift of the Hon. J. P. O. Chauveau.

These splendid testimonials of virtue and fidelity are distributed every two weeks to as many students as have, by their good behavior, application to study, and observance of college discipline, merited them. At the conclusion of the distribution of prizes, his Lordship addressed the students in a few appropriate remarks, congratulating them on the good account he had received of them from their Superiors, on the happiness they that day enjoyed, and exhorted them to persevere in the practice of virtue and the love of learning, in order that they may one day, become virtuous, accomplished, successful, and honorable members of society. At the termination of the bishop's remarks the band struck up the national air of Canada, the audience began to disperse, and your correspondent "followed suit" after having spent a pleasant and happy day. Long may the College Masson flourish and continue in its present prosperous course; long may its able and noble hearted directors live, to welcome on many such occasions, guests as happy and well pleased as those they had the pleasure of receiving and greeting on Sunday last.

Yours, &c.,  
SUBSCRIBER.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY IN PERTH.  
The National Festival of Ireland's Patron Saint was celebrated in Perth on the 17th ult., in a manner becoming so great an occasion. Owing to the very unfavorable appearance of the weather, and the bad state of the roads, many members of the St. Patrick's Society were unable to attend. Notwithstanding the morning being cloudy, and every indication of rain, yet, at an early hour, there was a movement in the streets which fully indicated that something more than usual was to take place in Perth on that ever-glorious day. There were the signs of joy, intermingled with sorrow, in the countenances of many true and loving Irishmen—joy because once more they intended to do honor to Ireland's immortal Saint, and sorrow lest any obstacle might intervene to prevent celebrating the day with all the splendor, magnificence and respect that the Society could possibly display. Cold indeed is the Irish heart that pulsates no welcome to the advent of Saint Patrick's Day.—Even the young boys looked forward with hopeful anticipation for a fair day, which the elder people so earnestly desired. Great indeed was the joy of many on beholding, when the process-