

ACT OF THE UNION.

THE LONDON TIMES ON ITS EFFECTS

The Trade, Commerce and Manufactures of Ireland Prior to The Act of The Union.—A Glance at Her Industries Since Then.

The articles of last week and the week before were more or less in parenthesis, and merely were brought in on account of the opportunity, afford by the study of this question, to give our readers an idea of the many dark clouds that hung over Ireland during the past century. In order not to break our chain, or rather to take it up where we had laid it down, we will repeat one or two paragraphs that must serve as a text for what is to follow, and then we will continue on to the end of this important question.

A slight glance at Irish history will inform anyone desirous of knowing the truth, that Ireland never had a Government founded on the principles of the British Constitution, animated by the public voice, and sympathizing with the public wants. This is a problem that has not yet been solved; but by God's help its solution is now in the hands of the G. O. M. The government of Ireland, from the reign of Henry the Second to the Revolution of 1688, was one continued scene of rapine, plunder, and extermination.

The "Glorious Revolution of 1688," which secured liberty to England, established in Ireland a most ruthless despotism. "To the Catholic, it was a servitude—to the Protestant a drunken triumph—to both, a truce, without trade and without constitution," said Grattan.

Until 1788, the Irish Parliament was a chapel of ease to that of Westminster; the edicts of the British Minister were registered by that submissive Assembly, almost without a murmur or complaint. The Irish Revolution of 1782, gave to Ireland an Independent Parliament; they were indeed independent, but they did not recognize the political existence of three-fourths of the people, who were the mere spectators, the audience, to cheer the actors in the great political drama. In 1793, the elective franchise was granted to the Irish Catholic—he was made half a freeman; at the end of seven short years, in 1800, before he could understand or value the sacred trust placed in his hands, he was disfranchised—the Irish Peer was disfranchised—the Irish Commoner was disfranchised;—by an act of political turpitude, the most disgraceful that ever dishonored any age or nation, she was deprived of her independent Legislature. The Irish Parliament was in its infancy; it was allowed no time to mature itself. It would have become every day more Irish—its enemies plainly saw this—all its interests were in common with those of the Irish people. It had only eighteen years of existence to counteract the effects of ages of misrule. Notwithstanding the unnatural position it stood in with reference to the great body of the people—though it represented only a fraction of the Nation—it did more for Ireland than all the Governments that preceded or have succeeded it. There is no other green spot in the dreary desert of her history, that the eye can rest upon, or the Irish heart rejoice at. "There is not a nation on the face of the habitable globe," said Lord Clare, in 1798, "which had advanced in cultivation, in commerce, in agriculture and manufactures, with the same rapidity in the same period." Yet, this same Lord Clare was the helpmate of cutthroat Castlereagh, in bartering away the liberties of his Country and in strangling her infant Parliament. "In four years," said Grattan, in the English Commons, "the Irish Parliament gained for Ireland what you did not gain in England in a century—Freedom of trade, independence of the Legislature, independence of the Judges, restoration of the Jurisdiction, repeal of the Perpetual Mutiny Bill, Habeas Corpus Act, Nullum Tempus Act;—a great work; you will exceed it, and I will rejoice." This evidence in favor of the Irish Parliament must be conclusive; it came partly from one who afterwards became, as we have seen above, the base instrument for its subversion, and partly from him whose name must be for ever embalmed in the grateful hearts of Irishmen—the illustrious Grattan, who remained faithful to his Country to the last.

This will bring us to the trade, com-

merce, and manufactures of Ireland, prior to the act of Union, with a glance at her industries since the Union. To begin then, we shall quote from the London Times, of January 8th, 1831, the article referred to, would fain persuade the ignorant of the immense advantages the Union conferred on Ireland, in point of trade and commerce—this is the papulum upon which the enemies of Ireland are fed; but, it shall be our duty to show from irrefutable and impartial sources, that the "great London organ," is now, and was on the day it contained the following passage both unreliable and untrustworthy.

"Suppose that England should prefer to buy her corn cheaper than she can procure it from the Irish ports, which she could do from almost every part of Europe, her people would, for the same value for which they now procure say six millions quarters of Irish corn, obtain nine millions of equally good corn from abroad, and would thus secure a greater abundance of food for the same amount of British industry employed in manufactures." The Times is a powerful auxiliary to bring to the support of those whose opinions are, that Ireland reaps immense advantages by the measure of 1806, which secured for the landlord of Ireland the monopoly of the English market for the supply of his agricultural produce. Now it will be our duty to show, that that measure had more effect in undermining and subverting the manufactures, reducing the trade and agriculture, and grinding the wretched people of that country to the dust, than all the Acts passed by the English Parliament for centuries, though they were as numerous and as cruel as the perverted ingenuity of jealousy, cupidity and monopoly could invent. This boon, which the defenders of the Union say is equivalent to Ireland for the loss of her domestic Legislature, has brought down destruction upon her manufactures, ruin upon her trade, and desolation upon her wretched agricultural population.

After a long and perhaps rambling preamble we have at last reached the most important stage in our series of replies: the ruin of Irish trade by the Union.—EDITOR TRUE WITNESS.

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THE APPARITION OF A CROSS

The Moniteur de Rome gives an account of the curious apparition of a cross, as described by Mgr. Vidal, of the mission of St. Paul in Sura, and who is Procurator of the Lazarist missions. He writes:—"The mission of the Solever (Fiji Islands) has witnessed a fact that will deeply impress the faith on those who saw it. It was the apparition of a cross in the sky, and seen by the united tribe of the Solever country." He then gives the account of how that, before the arrival in those parts of Catholic missionaries, several Protestant clergymen had been out there, and their preaching had been listened to by other tribes, but the tribe of the Solever resisted. The religion that they observed was worshipping idols, but one day one of the heads of that religion went to the chief of the tribe to consult him about the missionaries that had come to teach them a new religion, and he said to the chief: "Before leaving our religion of Paganism, as the Europeans call it, it would be necessary to consult our gods to know if the religion brought to us by these men is good." The chief then answered that he would assemble all his people. "We will offer a sacrifice to our gods, and we will pray to them to know which is the real religion, that of the ancient, or that which is being brought to us by the Papala-i (white men). We will follow the advice that we shall receive." The tribe, then on a given day, met at the foot of the Kororiera mountain, and the sacrifice was about to be prepared when over its highest point the sky became brilliantly illuminated, while a cross appeared in the light. Mgr. Vidal says this cross was perfectly distinct, while two figures were clearly seen one on each side of it, in the act of contemplating the cross. One of them he says was Our Lady. The impression caused on these people was so great that the chief and the priests of their Pagan worship asked for the Catholic missionaries to be sent to teach them the real faith. Mgr. Vidal gives in his account the word of the Pagan priest,

who said to him: "The cross is the sign of a new religion that we do not understand, it is the real religion, and it must be ours." This apparition took place on the 20th of last December, and the whole of his tribe has since been converted. A large cross has been erected on the top of the mountain to commemorate the miracle. The missionary Fathers are also working with great success amongst the other tribes on the islands, and are making many conversions.—London Tablet, July 8th, 1893.

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ORDINATIONS AT STE. CUNEGONDE.

His Lordship Archbishop Fabre  
Officiates.

On Sunday, Feast of our Lady of Mount Carmel, ordinations took place at the Church of Ste. Cunegonde. His Grace the Archbishop was present, and proceeded from the presbytery to the church accompanied by the clergy in sacred vestments. The ceremony was very imposing, 13 in all receiving the different orders.

The church was crowded. The choir, under the direction of Mr. Theriault, rendered Haydn's mass, with full orchestral accompaniment. The following is the list of those who filled the various offices at ceremony: His Grace Archbishop Fabre, officiating pontifically, archdeacon, Reverend M. Palin d'Abouville, Superior of Canadian College; deacon of office, Rev. L. N. Dubuc; sub-deacon of office, Rev. J. Bourassa, master of ceremonies, Rev. A. Perron. The other offices were filled by Seminarians.

The following gentlemen received orders: Priesthood; Revd. A. Curotte, Revd. C. Lamarche, Revd. E. Roy, Revd. F. Labonte, Revd. M. Picotte, Revd. J. Therien.

Deaconship—Rev. M. Leblanc, M. Robillard, M. Thibault, M. Arbour.

Minor orders—Rev. F. Caisse, Tonsure—M. Tremblay and a religious of C. S. C. Among the priests present were: Revs. M. M. Ecrement, pastor of St. Cunegonde, Belanger, Tessier, Geoffrion, Cote, Serieys, Danguy, Urique, Driscoll, Schlickling, Laliberte, Denis, St. Jean, Chevrier, Hebert, Latraverse, Derome, Merechi, Descarriers, Piette, Labonte, Carriere, Lachapelle, Xoual, Morin, Cousineau, Jobin, Roux, Rev. M. M. Dera, Durantaye, Marsolais, Lamarche, Comtois, about 30 ecclesiastics and several others.

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JOURNALIST DEAD.

Mr. T. J. Richardson of the Hansard Staff Passes Away.

An Ottawa despatch of the 19th instant announces that Mr. Thomas John Richardson, one of the best known journalists in Canada, and a member of The Hansard staff, died at six o'clock this evening at his residence on Nelson Street. Mr. Richardson came to Canada from England over twenty years ago and was connected with the Toronto press for several years, being chief reporter of The Globe also on the reportorial staff of The Mail and old Telegraph. In 1876 he came to Ottawa to publish The Hansard. He was for a time Mail correspondent here, and was afterwards connected with the editorial staff of The Citizen. About eight years ago he was appointed one of the official reporters of the House of Commons, succeeding Mr. Lumsden, who resigned, a position which he held until the time of his death.

It will be remember that last session he met with an accident, breaking his arm by falling on a slippery sidewalk, and was unable to continue his duties. A. C. Campbell was appointed temporarily in his place. He never entirely recovered from this fall, but was able to be around until a few days ago. Heart failure was the immediate cause of death. He leaves a widow and two daughters, the eldest being 18 years and the youngest being 5 years old. He was connected with several Catholic societies in the city, including the St. Vincent de Paul and the Catholic Mutual Benefit, being president of the advisory council of the latter. He was also a member of St. Joseph's Church choir. The funeral takes place Wednesday morning. He was about 46 years of age.

LOCAL OPTION.

This term should be applied to the choice every intelligent person has between Burdock Blood Bitters, the natural and certain remedy for dyspepsia, biliousness, constipation, headache, and bad blood, and the various imitations offered by unscrupulous parties as being "just as good." There is nothing else as good as B.B.B. It is an honest medicine.

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GENTLEMEN.—I was thoroughly cured of indigestion by using only three bottles of B.B.B. and truthfully recommended it to all suffering from the same malady.—MRS. DAVIDSON, Winnipeg, Man.