

THE TRUE WITNESS

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THE POST PRINTING & PUBLISHING COMPANY, MONTREAL, CANADA.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 7, 1884

CATHOLIC CALENDAR

- MAY, 1884. THURSDAY 8—Apparition of St. Michael, Archangel. Conns. Bp. Nersis San Antonio, 1881. FRIDAY, 9—St. Gregory Nazianzen Bishop, Confessor and Doctor of the Church.

Mr. FRANC. KEMPEN, of St. Catherine's, Ontario, and Mr. John Mullin, of Vinton, P. O., have kindly consented to act as our agents for THE WITNESS and POST in their respective localities.

No pay, no spies—no well-paid detectives no dynamiters.

Mr. Blake, it is rumored, will shortly leave for Europe on a pleasure tour. He deserves a period of repose, considering the gallant work he did during the last season.

Unexploded dynamite cartridges have blown more people into fat cities to look after dynamiters than all this terrible explosive ever killed since it was invented.

JAMES O'KELLY, the Nationalist member for Hochelaga, was prevented by the Government from reaching the Madhi's camp in the Sudan, to fill the duties of war correspondent for the London Daily News.

There is very keen competition for immigrants. American companies pay \$7 for each immigrant when the ticket is purchased. Canadian companies only pay \$4 when the immigrant is reported to have arrived in Canada, and not infrequently there is a dispute about payment.

Since three ladies have graduated from Queen's University, Kingston, in medicine, sickness is on the increase among the dude element. One of the elegant fellows was vaccinated on the leg, as there was no knowing when he might want to wear low neck and short sleeves.

Bills are now before Congress to place heavy tolls on foreign tonnage. This is done to build up American shipping. If the Dominion reduced or abolished dues upon shipping the tax imposed by the United States will have a tendency to send foreign shipping to Canadian ports. Our statesmen should not let the opportunity slip.

According to the New York agents of the Steamship State of Florida, supposed to have been lost, the international code of signals has no distinguishing sign to indicate the presence of passengers at sea. This is a matter which should be rectified by the admiralty, as it would be at least gratifying to the relatives and friends of the missing to know what has become of them for a certainty.

What is the difference between a beggar and a bogus dynamiter? A beggar is a person created for the purpose of allowing the charitably disposed to exercise their benevolence. A bogus dynamiter is a creation manufactured for the sole purpose of allowing an unnecessary army of detectives to show extraordinary vigilance and retain fat places.

The Dominion greatly needs a bureau of statistics. At present it is difficult to obtain the most ordinary facts. Many of Canada's misfortunes may be attributed to ignorance of statistics. Would all the cotton mills have suddenly waked up and found themselves manufacturing one line of goods had facts and figures regarding the product of this fabric been accessible?

Farmers and business men with political aspirations will be pleased to learn that a move is being made to have the Provincial Legislature meet in November or December. In prolonging time, and on the opening of navigable time engaged in agriculture and commerce wish to attend to their private business. Only lawyers and professional politicians can afford leisure for parliamentary

duties at this season, and that class is only too well represented in the Legislature.

The Fathers of Confederation in the historical picture now on exhibition have all one complexion and that somewhat pallid. Is this "white about the gills look" intended to convey the impression that a ticklish game was being played and grave doubts existed as to its success? The fathers look as if they were all of the same age and the same flesh and skin.

It is rumored that there is an active movement of reorganization in the ranks of the Liberal party, especially in the Province of Ontario. Some of the younger members are advocating the construction of a new platform. Some are said to favor national independence. The report that Mr. Blake is about retiring from the leadership is pronounced unfounded. There is reason to infer that the leaders of the old hard-shell Grit party will not favor the new movement, nor will their counsel be sought.

The disallowance by the Dominion Government of the recent Act of the Ontario Legislature by which an extra fee was imposed on licenses under the Dominion Act is likely to give rise to much confusion and litigation. The Dominion Act went into force yesterday, and as the Ontario Government seems determined to enforce the Provincial Act prosecution will be pushed at once. The matter will, therefore, be placed before the Privy Council with little delay, and the license muddle disposed of.

CANADIANS are a healthy people, and many of them are enterprising enough to live to over one hundred years. Mark Twain says that we should respect centenarians, as a great many people have tried to be centenarians and failed. The Dominion possesses 198 persons whose heads are troated with the snows of over one hundred winters. They are divided as follows:—Quebec, 57; Ontario, 106; Nova Scotia, 24; Prince Edward Island, 8; Manitoba, 2. British Columbia is young yet, possessing a solitary antiquity who has reached the patriarchal age of 95.

Two sons were discovered near the American lines burying their dying father into the State of New Hampshire. When asked the reason, they said that if he died in Montreal the executors would get all the money, but if he died in New Hampshire they, as his legitimate heirs, would inherit his property. We want reform in Quebec. Heirs have no rights that executors are bound to respect. A father making his will told his son that he had left him all his property, and named two executors. "You had better," said the heir, "make me executor, and leave the property to the other fellows."

A few Montrealers, who have become ashamed of the shops of their fathers, are anxious to have a Heraldry bureau established in the Dominion in connection with that of London. If these home-made aristocrats are anxious for a coat of arms, they can be provided with beautifully fitted jackets at Longue Point. And if they wish to wear freely of the whiskey sold in Montreal's lowest groggeries, they will soon acquire the habit of seeing more curious animals than the whole College of Heraldry ever dreamt of in its most inspired moments.

Another scene has been shifted in the Ontario conspiracy case. Counsel for the accused having objected to the manner in which the counts of the indictment were framed, the matter has been carried to the Queen's Bench division, where the argument will be heard towards the end of the present month. It looks as if the defendants were afraid to face an investigation and wish to escape on a technicality. They could make no greater error. Public sentiment demands the fullest investigation. No whitewashing process will be accepted and the attempt will recoil on those who undertake it.

In the Beauport Insane Asylum, Quebec, there are 430 females and 470 males confined under the charge of 47 guardians, or about 20 patients to each guardian. These guardians are poorly paid, and consequently are not over efficient, and there are only two night watchmen to look after this vast number. Ventilation is bad, and the clean and the dirty, the idiots and the maniacs, are all mixed up together. The cost of maintaining the establishment is \$121,203, or about \$136 for each patient. It is suggested that the Ontario system of sending patients home to their relatives upon probation should be tried. Seemingly there is much need of reform.

According to the Lieutenant-Governor's proclamation, Arbor Day will be kept throughout the province on the 12th of May. There will be no division for the East and West, as last year. This work of tree planting is one of the most useful that our citizens can indulge in, and one from which great benefits can be derived. It is to be hoped that the municipal authorities and the clergy throughout the province will extend adequate patronage and encouragement to this act of tree planting, and help to make the work a labor of love.

The resignation of Kingston, Ont., has become vacant by the death of Dr. Barker. As the position is one of considerable emolument there will doubtless be a very large number of applicants. The appointment is in the gift of the Ontario Government. A large proportion of the population of Kingston and vicinity are Irish Catholics. It would, therefore, be a graceful act on the part of Mr. Mowat to favor the application of one of his Catholic supporters, among whom there are many capable men in the "Limestone city."

The lucrative offices at present are largely held by Orangemen, and it is high time that the claims of the Catholics were recognized.

During the last session of the Ontario Legislature a license fee act was passed, by which it was sought to charge liquor dealers higher rates of license to those who applied for licenses under the Dominion act than to those who took out licenses under the Crooks act only. Sir John rebelled against such discrimination on the part of the Ontario Government in favor of its own legislation, and was accordingly instructed the Governor-General to veto the license fees act passed by the Provincial Legislature. A notice of the disallowance of the act has been published in an extra of the Canada Gazette. This proceeding will have for effect to intensify the bitter feeling and increase the antagonism between the Provincial and Federal Governments.

The sub-committee of the private bills committee appointed to consider the City of Quebec Bill, which is about the worst specimen of a backwoods and narrow-minded measure that was ever brought before a Legislature, have struck from the bill clause 120, which provided that "every professional man, business man, mechanic, workman or day laborer who has not his residence within the limits of the city must obtain from the city clerk a license to exercise his profession, art or trade, or to work within the limits of the city, and pay for such license the sum fixed by the council." The committee, however, failed to wipe out the obnoxious tax upon commercial travelers. The City Council of Quebec, by pushing this bill, are taking the surest means of leaving the old capital nothing but a bare rock.

LORD COLWICK, Chief Justice of England, seems to have improved upon his radical notions since his recent visit to the United States, and to take a rather democratic view of his duty. During the funeral obsequies of the late Prince Leopold, when all public institutions were in mourning, his Lordship refused to adjourn the Court at which he presided, and, in reference to the matter, said:—"My own view is that of a distinguished predecessor, who on a similar occasion remarked that he thought the true way of showing respect to Her Majesty was to administer justice to Her Majesty's subjects who were anxious to have justice done to them. Whatever may be our own feelings," he added, "we have no right to keep persons in prison four or five weeks when the courts can and ought to determine upon their cases."

This announcement transmitted by cable on Monday that Mr. Davitt had abandoned politics and had determined to take up his permanent residence in Australia, should be taken cum grano salis. Indeed, we are in a position to state that there is not a word of truth in it. Mr. Davitt, to be sure does intend to visit the Antipodes in a few months' time, where he will give a series of lectures presumably on the chief political events of the day, but more especially, on matters pertaining to Ireland. It is also his intention to come to the United States and Canada, where he is assured of a hearty welcome. Mr. Davitt's tour of the world will occupy about eighteen months, a period of time sufficient to allow him to ventilate his theories, which, although many of his friends may differ with him, are in the main, sound and politic.

HENRY GEORGE says that the talk about the progress of the present century having improved the condition of all classes was not true. In the old world it had driven the poor farmers to poorer lands and crowded them into smaller holdings. Speaking at Cooper's Union the other day, of the spread of the labor movement all over the world, he said:—"I rather like this thing of alien dukes and earls coming over here and buying up our land by the square mile. I think these things will open the eyes of the American people to a principle that they may not see now. And in what is an alien landlord any worse than a home landlord? If I have to work for a man and give him my work for nothing it matters very little whether he is an American Republican or an English aristocrat." Mr. George would solve the labor problem by abolishing the private ownership of land and make the land as free as air, which he claims, is the natural right of man. His theories are fascinating.

There has been published a petition from the church wardens of Notre Dame to the Dominion License Commissioners for the county of Hochelaga, in which a strong protest is entered against the proposal to grant a license authorizing the sale of intoxicating liquors opposite the entrance of the Catholic Cemetery at Cote des Neiges. That petition is timely and we hope the Commissioners will be governed by it. It is drawn up in the name of His Lordship Mgr. Fabre, Bishop of Montreal, in the name of the clergy and of the Catholic population of the surrounding municipalities. The petitioners rightly hold that a whiskey-drinking place in front of the burying ground would be a disgrace to our people, a want of respect for the dead, and a scandal to all strangers visiting the locality. There is no necessity for such an establishment. The Commissioners have but one course to pursue—to refuse the license.

Texas is quite a curious contrast in the policy of the different governments of Europe with regard to the question of emigration. England, on the one hand, not only urges and advises its people to abandon their homes, but spends millions to force them to emigrate; France dispatches her idle hands to the United States; Germany, on the other

hand, is at her wits' end trying to prevent her people from leaving the country. The mania for emigration has increased to such an extent in Germany that the town workmen and the agricultural laborers are rushing from the country en masse. New laws are being introduced by the German Government with the object of putting a check upon this sweeping tide of emigration. Those who wish to leave cannot of course be forced to remain in the country, but the Government proposes to make them pay dearly for the privilege of emigrating. All servants or persons receiving wages are to be restrained from going beyond the boundaries of German territory before they have fulfilled their term of hire. Fine and imprisonment are to be the penalties inflicted on all those who seek to steal away without the consent of the master, more particularly if the intended emigration be to any colony belonging to a foreign power. In the case of domestic servants the law is still more severe, as it gives the master power to imprison the delinquent until the term of service shall have expired. The stringency of these laws ought to be sufficient to seriously interfere with and diminish the great tide of German emigration.

THE CELT AGAIN TO THE FORE.

The six days' walking match in Madison Square Garden, New York, ended in the greatest physical achievement man is ever known to have accomplished. During its progress, the race assumed a quasi-national importance, and awakened a continental interest. The race itself was made exciting by the international rivalry which had been introduced into it. There were contestants, American, English, Irish, Scotch, Dutch, German, French, African and Indian, but the chief struggle lay between England and Ireland, in the person of Rowell and Fitzgerald. Things had gone so easily with the Englishman at the beginning, and he had made such a high record in previous races, that it was widely accepted as inevitable that he would also carry off the honors of the present contest and place an unprecedented score to the credit of England. But the "big-footed" Irishman, who got his early training and education in Montreal, was destined to give an exhibition of endurance of muscle and stomach, and a speed of limb that would astonish the world. On the fourth day of the race Fitzgerald succeeded in beating down both his rival and the record. From that out excitement at the fast and anxiety to learn the gradual results knew no bounds. In one hundred and forty hours, or four less than six days, he left six hundred and ten long miles behind him, to Rowell's six hundred and two. The achievement is a wonderful one, and is an additional proof that the Celt is about the best all-round man both in an intellectual and physical sense that the human race can produce.

A CANADIAN PETITION AGAINST THE PROPAGANDA SPOLIATION.

At the request of Cardinal McOloskey and other heads of the Catholic Church in the United States, the American Government entered a protest against the proposed action of the Italian Government to bring that portion of the Propaganda property known as the American College under the hammer, and to invest the proceeds in Italian Government bonds. Such a conversion of the Propaganda real estate would have involved a loss of nearly sixty per cent., and to this extent it would have been tantamount to confiscation. The principal grounds upon which the American Bishops urged the interference of the authorities at Washington was simply that Catholics in the United States had contributed money to the improvement and maintenance of the College, and that to force it to sale would be a flagrant violation of vested rights.

President Arthur had no hesitation in instructing the Secretary of State, Mr. Frelinghuysen, to put in an opposition to the action of the Italian Government. This prompt remonstrance drew from the Depretis Ministry a humble stipulation to exempt the property of the American College from the operation of the decree against the Propaganda. In acceding to the demand of the United States, King Humbert's Government cannot be considered to have been influenced by fear, but must have acted as it did from a conviction that the decree of the Court of Cassation was not just and could not be enforced without a violation of right. Under these circumstances, it is the duty of Catholics in other parts of the world to call upon their respective governments to interfere on their behalf in protecting those portions of the Propaganda property in which they may have an interest. The Catholics of the lower provinces have concluded to fulfill that duty, for we see by the morning despatches that the Archbishop of Halifax and the Bishops of the Ecclesiastical Province have drawn up a petition and forwarded it to the Governor-General of Canada, urging the Government to protect their rights vested in the Propaganda. The petition shows that they have an interest in the financial affairs of the Congregation of the Propaganda, whose revenues are held and administered in trust for them; that the congregation is not a religious order in the church, and as a consequence cannot and does not fall under the law suppressing religious orders, passed by the Italian Government and as wrongly interpreted by its Court of Cassation; and finally that the threatened action of the Italian authorities would result in enormous loss, amounting to confiscation, and would cripple its power for good to the detriment of the petitioners. It is to be hoped that our Government will take the same prompt and earnest action as the United States did; the justice of the Canadian

ple is the same as the American; and it cannot be gainsaid in one case no more than it could in the other. It may be remarked that the American Government acted with singular graciousness in the matter. The Catholics form something less than one-fifth of the population of the country, still their request was complied with, with as much spontaneity as if it were the interests of the whole body that were affected. The Dominion authorities have accordingly an excellent precedent to follow, and they should remember that it is the interests of half the Canadian population for which protection is demanded.

ABUSIVE AND INSULTING.

The Toronto Telegram has distinguished itself over the dynamite hoax in the Queen City. Among all the respectable journals of Canada it is the only one which we know of that had the utter baseness to connect the name of the Irish people with the bogus affair and to vomit its rancid bile upon their devoted heads. We expected better things, at least a little more fairness from the Telegram, but we have been miserably disappointed. The news of the discovery of the cartridges had no sooner reached the office of our contemporary in the afternoon than the Telegram editor took up his pen to dash off an article on the subject for the last edition. Insults couched in the most offensive language were dashed off as the spontaneous expression of the sentiments which animate him towards the Irish. His article smacks more of ruffianism than of gentlemanly breeding. What harm if there were any cause for its violence and its vileness? We will allow our readers to judge of this nauseous production for themselves. It reads:—

"The liberation of Ireland from the iron heel of the despot by blowing up the Ontario parliament buildings seems a roundabout way of going to work. But Irishmen are not the most logical people in the world and they always do things differently from other people. The destruction of a building in Canada would have no more effect on the British government—if that was the object those who placed the dynamite where it was found had in view—than firing a gun at the moon. But it shows what the people of Canada have to expect at the hands of men who profess to be working in the interest of a country for which Canada has done so much. When the Irish tenants were starving the people of Canada contributed one hundred thousand dollars for their relief, and the Canadian parliament passed resolutions asking the Imperial government to grant to Ireland as large a measure of home rule as it could, compatible with the integrity of the Empire. If the attempt to blow up the parliament buildings is to be the return for all this, it is just as well that we should understand it at once. O! this we may be sure, that nothing would have a greater effect in alienating the sympathy of the people of this country, Irish as well as English, Scotch and Canadian, than the Irish cause than the carrying out of some such plot as that which has been discovered."

The Telegram has spoken much evil, and should retract and apologize to the people that it has so wantonly insulted.

MR. GLADSTONE'S ORATORICAL TRIUMPHS.

The Franchise Bill was again before the House of Commons on Thursday. During the debate one of those narrow-minded haters of the Irish people, a Mr. Henry Chaplin, made a motion by which it was declared that to increase the electoral privileges in Ireland would be to take a step that would prove dangerous to the welfare of the State. Mr. Gladstone at once rose to enter his protest against the motion and to oppose it in one of his most powerful orations. The Premier laid down the principle that henceforth both countries, England and Ireland, should enjoy equal rights, and he declared in solemn tones that it would be impossible to maintain the union between the two islands unless such a policy was pursued. He pointed out that England was strong enough in wealth and population as compared with Ireland to let her be equally strong in right and justice. His appeal to the English Commons to act fairly and justly towards Ireland had its effect upon the House, and Mr. Chaplin was obliged to withdraw his motion. This is another oratorical triumph for the old statesman. The series of speeches which Mr. Gladstone has delivered in the present session are admitted to be equal to anything he has ever done, and he once more stands out in bold and unapproachable relief from his colleagues as the supreme oratorical master of the House of Commons. The old man has only to put in an appearance and make one of his great speeches and the insane exuberance of his friends, and the silence and inaction of his foes once more remind the House that there is no one like him, that he is, in fact, the keystone of the whole parliamentary structure. It is said that there has been a strange revival in him of the love of power, and that he has not, and never had, the remotest intention of effacing himself by descending into the House of Lords.

CLOSING THE LAVAL UNIVERSITY.

The Rector of the Laval University has made an announcement regarding the condition of this venerable centre of art and science which the people, not only of this Province, but of Canada at large, will receive with the deepest feeling of regret. The University has for some time past been in straightened circumstances, and at the annual celebration of its foundation the Rector explained the necessity that had at last forced itself upon the authorities of the institution for the closing of at least two of the departments—those of law and of medicine. The Rector was careful to point out that this curtailment of the University's usefulness was due to the want of funds, and not to any other motives. The University has

cost the Seminary of Quebec upwards of one million dollars for its maintenance and equipment since its incorporation, and, as the loss year by year continued heavy, it was found impossible to keep up the institution in its present condition. Laval holds an honorable position among the universities of the New World, and one of which Canadians may well feel proud. It has exerted untold influence for good in this country. The range and capacity of the University have evoked praise from some of the most eminent scholars of Europe. Its appliances are of a superior standard, and its library is perhaps the most extensive and best in Canada. It is well equipped in every department. To allow a hall of learning of this stamp to be even partially closed for the want of monetary assistance would be more than a mistake—it would be a blow at the intellectual standing of the community and an injury to the youth of the country. It would, moreover, be a disgrace to the name of our French fellow-citizens, especially as the University represents their interests more directly. We have only to look around and find all the great colleges belonging to other denominations materially assisted by private means in the shape of endowments. McGill, Queen's, Dalhousie and other universities have been the recipients of bounteous offerings of gold from generous admirers and supporters of higher education; but Laval has shared but little in the prosperity of individual citizens. Private bequests to it are few and far between. The duty of the hour is to save the institution from collapse. The Quebec Chronicle has a very feeling and sympathetic article on the question, during the course of which it says: "We hope that no such calamity is to overtake the Province of Quebec. Laval University, though an ecclesiastical institution and officered mainly by Roman Catholic priests, is one of the most liberal scholastic academies in the world. Protestants and Catholics alike have been educated within its walls. Its staff of professors embraces gentlemen of the highest learning, irrespective of their creed and belief. Roman Catholic in name, Laval University has ever opened wide its doors to the children of Canada, and many of our foremost men to-day, though Protestant in religion, owe their training to this splendid school. . . . Representing the secular view of the situation we have no hesitation in coming to the conclusion that such a decision must prove a grave mistake on the part of the eminent Rector and those associated with him. Once close the law and medicine departments, even for a brief space of time, and the influence, the prestige and the standing of the University must suffer an eclipse from which all future hope must depart. The fact is, our Roman Catholic friends cannot afford to close Laval University. It is the scholastic institution of the Church par excellence. Laval University is a great institution in every way. It must not be allowed to close. It must go on spreading light and learning among the people. Should it be compelled to close its doors, the intellectual progress of Quebec will suffer an experience from the effects of which it cannot speedily recover."

THE TREASURER'S BUDGET SPEECH. Hon. Mr. Robertson delivered his budget speech on Friday in the Provincial Assembly. The effort was a marked success and stamped the honorable treasurer as a good financial orator. It was received with general favor by the House and the ex-leader of the Opposition, Hon. Mr. Joly, acknowledged it to be a clear and convincing speech. The Province of Quebec has been for years crying out for economy and retrenchment, but it was most difficult to find a treasurer ready or strong enough to heed that cry. To-day, however, the province has in Mr. Robertson a treasurer who has looked the situation straight in the face, and who has resolved to grapple with it. He frankly admitted that there had been too much extravagance in the past and that the burden on the people had reached the stable point. He intended to make a halt and break that burden. He spoke in this strain with the spirit of frank-landing, or with any wish to reflect on previous administrations. To them belonged the responsibility attaching to the appropriation and expenditure of the public funds that had been made; to him would belong the care and the duty of providing economically for the future wants of the Province. Mr. Robertson then argued that the question which should engage the serious attention of the Legislature was not so much how the country got into its present financial difficulties, as what were the best means to be devised and employed to retrieve our position, and how the annual expenditure may best be brought down within the ordinary limits of the annual revenue at the very least, and to provide for the gradual extinction of the provincial debt. The treasurer stated that there was no further use of denying the fact that for several years past the ordinary revenue, even with the addition of unexpected or extra revenue, had not been sufficient to meet the expenditure made. This open statement does not make previous treasurers out to be the most truthful financiers. The annual deficit, accordingly, as the figures were manipulated, ranged from \$300,000 to \$500,000 a year. If such a state of things were allowed to exist much longer the Province would not only be embarrassed, but it would be sunk in practical insolvency at no very distant date. This is the condition of the treasury which Mr. Robertson has resolutely set to work to remedy, and as he rather appropriately remarked, to prevent our credit at home and abroad from being destroyed and to keep dishonor from falling upon