

THE TRUE WITNESS

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WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27, 1886

OUR esteemed contemporary the Canadian Freeman of Kingston says:—

"We are much pleased with the sentiments expressed in that true and fearless advocate of Irish Catholic rights in Canada, the Montreal Post, and we re-echo its sentiments when we remark that every word contained in the following extract is endorsed by every liberal minded man in the Dominion. We cannot say more, if we would, but leave our people to judge by the following:—"

The Mail is clearly dissatisfied with the verdict against it in the Laflamme case. Naturally so, but it should not indulge in bluster. It is going to Review with its trial. The verdict will "never be submitted to until the highest court in the Empire has had an opportunity of pronouncing on its merits."

SIR JOHN MACDONALD is reported to have expressed himself as being an admirer of Mr. Parnell, who has, according to the Premier, exhibited qualities of the most statesmanlike character. But one quality which has peculiarly won the admiration of Sir John is the power Mr. Parnell has of being silent.

The Montreal Daily Witness contained, with the exception of one or two words, the following startling editorial announcement in its issue of Saturday evening:—"Mr. V. H. Smith, the young weather prophet for 'Canada, has gone to England for the purpose of making investigations as to the machinery necessary to compel respect for justice and fair play."

The Tory method of dealing with the Irish question seems fast approaching the crisis of open violence and oppression, which have so largely characterized English legislation and administration of Irish affairs, but which so completely failed to break the spirit of the people.

The "only religious daily" says "that disaffection has become almost universal in all but one small corner of Ireland."

"We deem it our duty to draw public attention to the scandalous conduct of Orange bands and Orange rowdies of Fermanagh and of Donegal, which is in Monaghan, but on the very borders of Fermanagh."

In Lisnaskea the Orangemen attacked the parish priest's house and left scarcely a sound pane of glass in it, and also attacked and wrecked the houses of several other prominent Catholics there (in Lisnaskea). On the same day they attacked several houses in Lisbellaw in a similar manner.

The Ministerial organs, as a part of their mendacious account of the St. Jerome meeting, reported Mr. Daoust, M.P. for Two Mountains, as being among the prominent members who endorsed and eulogized the Secretary of State and his colleagues in the Government.

"I wish to declare that I did not speak either at the dinner or the meeting, and that I could not take a stand, which would be in contradiction to the one I took in the telegram which I signed with several of my colleagues some days before the execution of Louis Riel."

PEACE OR WAR?

WHAT is to prevent the English Parliament from dealing with the Irish land question as the United Provinces of Upper and Lower Canada dealt with the abolition of the seigniorial claims in this country in 1854?

SNUBBED.

The "Loyalists," according to the term they arrogate to themselves, seem to be in rather a disconsolate condition just at present. Undertaking to bully Lord Salisbury and, we presume from the reports, to "address" him into making an official declaration, they got snubbed for their pains.

A CABINET SECRET.

Sir John A. Macdonald is now at home, and we wish to again remind him of certain promises he made to certain Irish Catholics in Ontario in May, 1882. We shall not mention the date, we shall say nothing of those who were present, and we shall not reveal the secrets which were entrusted to our care.

"THE POST" IN "THE BUILDINGS."

In the Parliamentary Reading Room at Ottawa the Montreal daily papers are placed side by side. They are all, with one exception, placed on the top shelf, while the weekly papers being placed on the middle shelf, are mostly out of sight.

At the conclusion of the speeches, the chairman called upon all those in the assemblage who desired to support Mr. Chapleau and endorse his resolutions to pass to the left, and all those who condemned the Minister to pass to the right.

THE "AMERICAN CITIZEN."

The Hon. Mr. Chapleau said that Riel, as an "American citizen," had no business to come back to Canada and help the Metis in their troubles with the Dominion.

other pointing to his forehead, and seeming to base an argument on his supposed injuries." This account of the affair is corroborated by another independent witness, La Presse, which says that "the Hon. Secretary of State returned to the platform with his hair disheveled and his hand on his forehead, but there was no mark, no sign of violence, and it was discovered that it was simply a trick, by which the Secretary wished to 'pose as a victim.'"

As to the Ministerial press, they are divided: We see that La Minerve says "Mr. Chapleau was struck by a projectile of some kind or other;" the Gazette says that he was struck with a stick. Le Monde does not allude to the affair at all, probably because the reporter who represented it at the meeting was too honorable to tell a deliberate lie, such as was told by the reporters of the Gazette and La Minerve, because the "political exigencies" of their masters demanded it.

SCIENTIFIC RETALIATION FOR COERCION.

THE Queen's speech, as prepared by Lord Salisbury, is not suggestive of much good will towards Ireland. The relations between England and foreign countries are, according to Her Majesty, quite friendly, but her relations with the sister Island are strained to the point that coercion is threatened.

HON. MR. CHAPLEAU'S COUP DE THEATRE.

A criminal attempt was made, at the memorable St. Jerome meeting, called by the Hon. Mr. Chapleau, Secretary of State, to end the proceedings in a bloody and murderous riot. God knows what would have been the consequences, in a hall packed with two contending forces, if the signal for the row had not proved abortive.

BY WHOSE AUTHORITY? Sir John A. Macdonald, speaking in England the other day, pledged the people of Canada to support a scheme in favor of Imperial Federation. By whose authority, we would like to know, did Sir John A. Macdonald make this statement?

THE ST. JEROME MEETING.

Hon. Mr. Chapleau, and the Government, in his person, met with a crushing defeat at the meeting at St. Jerome, but this did not prevent the Gazette and La Minerve from representing the result as a triumph for the Minister and the Administration.

Not the Reform party nor the Reform press. The Globe ridicules the idea of Federation, even in face of Mr. Blake's coquetry, and nearly every Reform paper in the Dominion does the same. No. Sir John could not have been fishing in that water. Where then did he get his authority from? Not from the Mail, for it has repudiated the idea, and the majority, the vast majority of the Conservative press has followed in its wake and denounced Imperial Federation as an Imperial show.

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Here we have the Secretary of State convicted of an act which is a disgrace to Canadian statesmanship, and which cannot but give the outside world a very low opinion of our public men. A man who could resort to such abominable and dangerous tactics to save himself and destroy the validity of the popular verdict against the administration, is unworthy of public confidence and respect.

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obliged to read the organs of the lesson. Our esteemed morning contemporary says:—"It is quite useless for the Gazette and Minerve to attempt to keep their readers in ignorance of the fact that Mr. Chapleau's attitude on the points we have taken up was anything short of a serious blunder, or that the St. Jerome meeting was anything but a serious reverse for that gentleman. They should follow the example of The Herald, and give their readers reliable news, when they will be credited with a desire to deal fairly with their readers' intelligence. Do what they please, they cannot prevent the truth being told, and attempts to mislead and falsify will only recoil on themselves and destroy their reputation as public journals."

THE "GARDEN OF THE SOUL."

Here is a straw that shows which way the wind is blowing over there in Ireland. The most of us have heard of a prayer book known as the "Garden of the Soul. In all the old editions of this good work there is a prayer for the Queen and the royal family. There is not a mother's son of us who does remember that prayer, and, God forgive us, but we believe there are not many mother's sons of us who did not quietly "skip" that particular passage when reading prayers at grand Mass. Any of our readers who has a "Garden of Soul" can open it and see where the prayer for the Queen is given in Latin and English, with a versicle and response and collect and mentioning the Queen by name. Now, as a woman no Catholic would object to pray for the Queen of England or any other female in the world. The Church prays for all sinners, as well as for all saints, but it was hard to pray for the queen, because she was Queen of England, and the sovereign evidence of the wreck of our national glory, the drainage of our national existence, and the degradation of our national rights into provincial servitude.

LOST!

LAST week we challenged the Irish Canadian of Toronto to say, without equivocation or twisting, whether it was for or against a government that was guilty of unjust and oppressive administration towards the people of the North-West, that was the cause of the rebellion and that hanged a man for a political offence, in obedience to Orange dictates. We asked our contemporary to show its colors and to let us know under which flag it served, the Orange or the Canadian. Our challenge was plain, distinct and unmistakable, and we paused for a reply. The Irish Canadian, dated Thursday the 21st inst., is to hand, and with it what we suppose we must accept as a reply to our challenge. It devotes half a column to badinage about THE POST, but otherwise it is as mum as the grave. The Irish Canadian attacks some individuals connected with THE POST; that is all. That is the herring it draws across the path. Now, if we wished to pursue that line of conduct, we could retaliate with a vengeance. But that is not our way of doing business. We want to find out who are the friends and who are the enemies of the Irish Catholic people, and the Irish Canadian is the only paper of its class that has refused to nail its colors to the mast. All that is left for us now is to accept this silence as a proof of abandonment and to class the Irish Canadian as a Tory organ and the ally of Orangeism, for he who is not with us is against us. No one can serve two masters, and so far as our people are concerned the Irish Canadian is, we are sorry to say, lost to them. It is playing its old game, so disastrously tried by its one-time editor, Mr. Howson, and selling itself body and bones to Sir John A. Macdonald. Right or wrong, it wants to be with the paying side. In Canada to-day the Irish Canadian holds the same position as the Irishman of Dublin did, when its proprietor, Richard Pigott, was holding out his itching palm to the Castle authorities on the one hand and the Land League on the other. There let it, for the present, rest.

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BISHOP CLEARY ON THE IRISH NATIONAL LEAGUE, ORANGEISM AND HOME RULE.

We find in the last number of the Dublin Freeman's Journal to hand, a sterling letter from the pen of an eminent Canadian prelate, who has proved himself on more than one occasion to be a true friend of Ireland and a courageous supporter of the Irish party and of Irish demands for an Irish Parliament. The letter was a message of hope and encouragement with a golden ring, addressed to the Irish National League in Ireland, from the Right Rev. Dr. Cleary, Bishop of Kingston. As the letter contains much that is of special interest to the Irish Canadian people, we have much pleasure in giving it a prominent place in our columns, along with the timely comments made on it by the Dublin Freeman. The letter reads as follows:—

BISHOP'S PALACE, Kingston, Ont., Dec. 21st, 1885.

T. D. Sullivan, Esq., M.P., Dublin.

DEAR MR. SULLIVAN,—I enclose a draft for £70 11s 3d sterling, made payable to you. It is the contribution of this little city of Kingston to the Irish Parliamentary Fund whose treasurer is requested to acknowledge its receipt through you. We have held a public meeting in our city hall to proclaim to all Canadians that it is the demand of the people of Great Britain, and why she demands it. There was a splendid demonstration in regard of the number of citizens who sympathize with Ireland's constitutional efforts; and the intelligence and social worth of the men who pleaded her cause, and, above all, the irresistible force of the arguments by which the plea for Home Rule is supported. The Orange faction opposed the meeting, and subsequently held a special meeting of their own to denounce our "treasonable project," as they were pleased to term it. They held that they are the Derry of Canada, and they denounced the Pope, one and all, and the Bishop of Kingston, and the whole Catholic Church of this and of foreign lands, and except Pope Adrian the Fourth. But they failed to adduce even one argument deserving the notice of thinking men. They could not, after two weeks of consulting, canvassing, coaxing and pressing, gather as many as six gentlemen of education and recognized public merit into association with them upon their platform; and, what a still better symptom of the decay of their cause in Kingston, as on the banks of the Erie, a large proportion of the Protestant gentlemen, who, for one reason or another, appeared at the meeting, were observed to abstain ostentatiously from any signifying approval of the empty platitudes and stale old calumnies, ten thousand times refuted, which formed the staple of Orange eloquence on that occasion. Allow me to congratulate you on your signal success in winning for Ireland the representation of College-green in the last British Parliament that we hope shall legislate for the Irish nation. The victory so completely gained by the National Party in three of the four provinces, and the advanced state of the enemy's Northern stronghold as to give them, even there, a majority of counties and a majority of seats in the present, with a fair prospect of further advances should another contest take place in the future. This has rejoiced the hearts of all Irishmen, and of none more intensely than of Kingston's Irish sons. I remain, dear Mr. Sullivan, your very faithful servant, JAMES VINCENT CLEARY, Bishop of Kingston.

No doubt that this warm and sympathetic utterance from a patriotic Bishop in a foreign land will give new heart and courage to the people at home, and will let them see that the Irish exile can hold his own against the Orange foe even in the "Derry of Canada."

The Freeman's Journal devotes a leading article to the letter of His Lordship, in the course of which it says:—"It was announced yesterday that since the last meeting of the National League, America had sent \$15,000 to the Parliamentary Expenses Fund; the Irish National League of Australia had forwarded \$2,300; the people of Lyttleton, New Zealand, had contributed \$250. From the province of Ontario had come \$260 raised amongst the Irishmen of Guelph, and \$350 odd collected in the city of Kingston. Accompanying this latter subscription is a letter from the Most Rev. Dr. Cleary, formerly President of St. John's College, Waterford, subsequently Parish Priest of Dangarvan, and now Bishop of Kingston. At home Dr. Cleary was an earnest, courageous, and practical supporter of Ireland's constitutional claims; and that, too, at a time when the Home Rule proposals of Mr. Butt were looked at askance by many worthy Irishmen. In the growing prosperity of the great self-governing Province that is now the scene of his labors he finds the most convincing proof of the advantages that autonomy can confer upon a people. Moreover, in far-off Kingston there are not wanting reminders of the forces that are employed in the service of misgovernment and alien rule at home. The Orange organization has been transplanted to Canada, and the fell anti-Catholic spirit that inspired its founders ninety years ago animates those who profess its intolerant and unchristian principles to-day in the New World as in the Old. Fortunately the power of the faction is not proportionate to the malevolence of those who lead it, or to the bigotry and violence of the rank and file. The greatest danger to the future peace and prosperity of the Dominion is that the Orangemen in their blind rage against Catholicism, and their blatant Anglomania, may initiate a war of races with the Canadian Catholics of Irish and French descent. They are fiercely aggressive enemies of everything that is Catholic and that is not British. Seeing the manifestations of their policy, and looking to its possible consequences, Dr. Cleary must often be