

# The Catholic Register.

"Truth is Catholic; proclaim it ever, and God will t' the rest."—BALMEZ.

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## THE DUBLIN CONVENTION

SPEECH BY MR. WILLIAM O'BRIEN.

A Hearty Invitation to the National Parliament of Ireland.

At a special meeting of the St. Patrick's Branch held in the Commercial Hall, Dublin, August 27th, Mr. William O'Brien delivered an address in the National Race Convention, in which he said:—The House of Lords with their usual blind infatuation have just been teaching us that the success of this National Convention is a necessity to the very existence of the Irish people (hear, hear), and I am glad to know that that feeling has been sinking deeply into the minds of our fellow-countrymen. No body can have a shadow of honest excuse for not taking part in this National Convention (hear, hear); to that Convention every genuine Irish Nationalist, be he Parullite or be he anybody else, will be welcome with a heart and a half (applause). Whether a man be a Healyite, or a Healyite, or be any other "He," let him come and let him speak out his mind freely (hear, hear). There will be no room for any man to force any unwise or dried programme down anybody's throat without the fullest and freest discussion. If any patriotic Irishman, no matter how he may differ with some of us, thinks that he sees anything wrong in the present state of things, and if he can suggest anything better, he will be perfectly free to express his ideas and to have the whole thing thrashed out and the movement, if I may use the expression, will be, so to say, in the melting pot. If any man believes that Mr. Redmond would be a better leader of the Irish people, or believes that Mr. Healy, or that anybody else would be a better leader of the Irish people let them by all means come to that Convention like men and give their reasons, and do their best honestly to bring the Convention to the side, but the one thing that Ireland has a right to demand from every man, no matter who he may be, is this, that once a decision is taken by that Convention, whether it be with us or against us, that that decision shall be final and shall be sovereign, and that from that time forth no man shall be at liberty to set up his own petty interests or ambition against the will and interests of the Irish people (applause). That Convention will be to all intents and purposes the National Parliament of Ireland (hear, hear), and to that Convention every genuine Irish Nationalist will owe true allegiance, awe and true allegiance, than any allegiance we are supposed to bear to the Parliament of Great Britain (applause). As to any attempt that may be made to say that this Convention will be a packed or a partisan Convention, fellow countrymen, I venture to say to you that the man who says that knows in his heart that he is stating what is utterly unfounded (hear, hear), and that he is simply looking out for any sort of pretext to discredit this Convention, or to discredit any Convention that could possibly be called for the purpose of National unity (hear, hear). Can any man listening to what I say, what I demand, or what section of the Irish people will be shut out from the deliberations of this Convention, unless it be by their own will, and through their own determination to have no peace on any terms with our fellow countrymen? Well, if I need hardly say, no, what is the constitution of this Convention is, but I don't think we can too often repeat it. Every clergyman in the country of every denomination will be free and welcome to be there. Every representative man, no matter in what capacity he has been elected by the votes of the people, will be entitled to be present there: every Town Councillor, every Town Commissioner, every Poor Law Guardian, every man who in any shape or form can pretend that he is an elected representative of the Irish people every parish in the country has only to form a branch of the Federation, has only to subscribe, I think, a very few pounds of an affiliation fee, to be entitled to send three delegates; but not only that, the right of attending is not restricted to this organization or to any other particular organization or section of the Irish people, the branches of the National League will be just as much entitled as the branches of the Federation to elect their delegates. Every other National organization in the country, every labor organization, every athletic club, every literary society in the country, every Foresters society or friendly society, every and any National organization in the country will be perfectly entitled to have their delegates present. And, remember this, they are not asked to subscribe to any pledge nor to bind themselves in any particular whatsoever to any doctrine beforehand. On the contrary they will be at the most perfect liberty to speak out their minds, whatever the present instincts as Irish Nationalists compel them to say (hear, hear). But, my friends, I ask you again, and I hope that every man through the country will insist upon an answer from our critics, I ask you again, what is the object of this Convention? The Irish people will be shut out from taking part in this Convention according to the constitution? All I can say is that if a Convention of this kind does not represent the Irish people who are entitled

to ask our critics in plain English to tell us who are those mysterious Irish people or where we are to find them (hear, hear). As a matter of fact, and I think our American friends, who are here and who compare the constitution I have just sketched with the constitution even of the most democratic of their own assemblies in the great country beyond the Atlantic, I think they will agree with me that a fuller and a freer representation of the people was never yet called together in any country under the sun, and the man who will stay away from the convention, or who will talk of it as a packed or as a partisan convention, I venture to say he is a man who is afraid to face the public opinion of his own country and of his own race. (Applause.) I should not at all wish to say one hurtful word upon an occasion of this kind, but this I do say, that if this Convention is to be a packed or a partisan convention it will be a convention with every element that goes to make up a nation's life or to mirror the free public opinion of the Irish race the world over. (Applause.) The man who would figure and stay away from the Convention will be simply confessing himself to be a disensionist—worse, far worse, than the man, no matter how strong his opinion may be against us, the man who would go to the Convention and have it out like a man, and there, in the presence of his country for the result (hear, hear). In every country there has to be some supreme court of arbitration. I ask you, my friends, if men are not to be bound by a Convention such as that, whose doors are thrown open wide to every class and every section of the Irish race, I ask that it had no connection with its relations with the Irish party. Those Judgeship carry a salary of \$30,000 a year, and are among the most dignified and coveted distinctions in the British judiciary. This is only the best of many great sacrifices, necessary and otherwise, made without a murmur by Edward Blake in the thankless task of attempting to aid the Irish home rule movement. He has been subjected to insulting personal attacks by Mr. Healy, who has never lost an opportunity of sneering at him publicly. But Mr. Blake has tolerated it with astonishing patience, because he desires to aid the majority of the party in their efforts to rescue the cause from the destruction with which it is threatened by faction.

Will Healy and Redmond Coalesce?  
The New York World's London correspondent cables:—The coalition between Healy and John Redmond against the majority of the Irish party (Charles Dillon) is the most important pending development in Irish politics. Possibly no formal fusion of the Healyites and the Redmondites may take place, but a tacit understanding to act together in Parliament would be sufficient for their purpose of destroying the utility of the recognized Irish Parliamentary party. No two men, by the way, could be more antipathetic to each other personally than Healy and Redmond. The Irish race convention, which is to assemble in Dublin Sept. 3, is the Dillonite and the Redmondite possible opportunity of frustrating these tactics. Dillon and his friends believe that the convention, being representative of the Irish in America and the colonies, will give a fresh impetus to the movement for unity in Ireland. But this, they say, will not avail anything unless the majority of the Irish party get money from their compatriots abroad. Lack of funds has completely paralyzed the action of the party. The organization, which has been abandoned, whereas it has been abandoned, whereas if money were forthcoming to organize these districts properly four-fifths of the Healyite and Redmondite members could be displaced unless they gave loyal adhesion to the majority rule.

Clerical Changes.  
Rev. T. J. Heydon, C. S. B., Professor of Belles-Lettres in St. Michael's College, has been removed to the college at St. Michael's, Ontario, to take the duties of Director of Studies. Father Mungovan, from the latter institution, comes to St. Michael's here, and will take its Treasurer, which is about to be vacated by Rev. J. J. Guineane, whose health necessitates a voyage across the Atlantic, that will many friends hope, will much improve his physical. Father Heydon's departure from St. Basil's is a matter of regret to the parishioners, as well as to the collegians, who had, during his too brief stay at St. Basil's, been benefited by his unvarying courtesy and kindness, both as Priest and Professor.

Ordination.  
On Saturday of this week, at St. Basil's Novitiate, St. Clair avenue, Messrs. Donnelly, Player and Reath will receive minor orders; and on Sunday at 8 o'clock Mass in St. Basil's church, there were read, solemnly, together with Messrs. O'Connell, Sullivan and Pomeroy, will be raised to the order of sub-deacon.

In Retreat.  
The Priests of the Archdiocese of Toronto went into annual retreat at St. Michael's College on Monday last. The preacher is the Very Rev. Dr. Maguire, Superior of the Seminary of Baltimore, Md.

## REGISTER JOTTINGS.

Very Rev. Hughall H. Walsh, D. D., O. P., Regent of the English Dominican College, Vienna, has arrived at St. Saviour's Dominican Priory, Dublin.

Very Rev. F. Canasani, rector of the Propaganda House, has arrived in Arranagh, and is the guest of His Eminence Cardinal Logie at Ara Coeli, the residence of the Cardinal Arch-bishop.

The death of Cardinal Monaco La Valletta has reduced the number of members in the Sacred College to sixty-one, of whom thirty three are Italians and twenty-eight foreigners.

Among the members of the American pilgrimage which arrived in Rome last month were several Canadians, Mr. J. Casey, Miss M. Casey, Montreal, and Mr. and Mrs. Cascahy and Miss M. Cascahy, Victoria, B. C.

Very Rev. Father Bernardino of St. Teresa, General of the Discalced Carmelites, has arrived in Dublin. He intends staying for a short time in Ireland, and will hold a visitation in the different convents of his Order.

Bishop Lavigne, Vicar-Apostolic of Cote d'Azur, on the Malabar coast, has made a report of his Vicariate to the Propaganda, from which it appears that the number of Catholics under his jurisdiction is 120,000. There are 305 native priests.

It is expected in Halifax that a Catholic chaplain will accompany the Leinster regiment which is to relieve the Berkshires now there, as there are many Catholics in the former corps. Rev. Father Brindley, who accompanied a British regiment to Canada some years ago, was highly popular.

The Bishops of three of the southern Irish dioceses—namely, Cork, Cloyne, and Ross—intend proceeding to Italy early in September for the purpose of attending sacred conferences in the neighborhood of Rome in connection with the recent beatification of the Blessed Thaddeus McCarthy, a distinguished predecessor of their lordships in these sees.

Cardinal Vaughan, since his appointment as Cardinal Manning's successor, in London, has employed a number of Roman Catholic laymen as lecturers in the public parks and open spaces. The new movement is under the direction of the Cardinal's brother. The lecturers are men of education, and are for the most part drawn from the ranks of the legal and other professions.

The following general statistics show the growth of the Church for all Australia combined: 1890, No priest: a few Catholics; 1892, 100 priests, three chapels for schools; 2,000 Catholics; 1895, five Archbishops, 400 Cardinals, 18,000 priests, 7,400 churches and chapels, 721 schools, 711,260 Catholics. The Australian Catholics have a flourishing press and at least two excellent monthly reviews.

At a meeting held at the Cathedral of Hobart to take steps for celebrating the golden jubilee of the Archbishop who had the honor to be declared a general holiday, is one of the most zealous and influential of the Catholic Pious. He has a Catholic organization of his own called "The Fifteen Club" and prizes from time to time this club offers prizes of fifteen guineas for the best essay on any matter in hand, the progress of Catholicism in England.

The Paris correspondent of the Daily Chronicle informs us that the Monseigneur for the past thirty-seven years as one of the principal Roman Catholic deities of France, will henceforth be incorporated with the "Merveilles," the famous organ of the Vendôme. The move, he adds, is a sensible one, for it has long been apparent that the columns of the Monseigneur had far short of the brilliant writing which for many years made the paper a force to be counted with even by the fiercest anti-Catholics.

M. Froubelle, the new French Ambassador, has been received in good state at the Vatican, first by His Holiness the Pope, and then by his Eminence Cardinal Rampolla del Tindaro, the Secretary of State. At the Vatican he was received with military honors, and conducted to the body by the Monsignore, Archbishop of Palermo. After the formal reception by the Pope in a public hall and in presence of the dignitaries of the Papal Court, he was entertained for twenty minutes in private conversation with His Holiness.

An interesting character in the history of art has just passed away in the person of M. Henri Breton, who died the other day in Greece at the remarkable age of 102. Over eighty years ago M. Breton was one day walking about in the neighborhood of the Temple of Venus, when, to his surprise, he saw them lift from the soil the fragment of a marble figure of exquisite beauty. He obtained possession of it and had the excavation completed in the middle of the night, and the broken statue was transferred to a French man-of-war and thence to the Louvre, where it now stands, the wonder of the world, as the Venus of Milo.

It is announced that Mr. Justin McCarthy, M. P., has arranged to bring his "History of Our Own Times" down to date. He hopes to have it ready next autumn. The last volume of the history stops with the General Election of 1880. The six years since are able talents, interesting and important of the Victorian period, and thus constitute a social development, or literary evolution. Few who took part in making the history could be as well trusted to write it as Mr. McCarthy. His temper is essentially that of the impartial and the disinterested, and he has not written since Mr. McCarthy visited Canada, but his speeches are still remembered for their scholarly eloquence and vivid earnestness.

Death, which has been busy of late among the English Jesuits, has removed another distinguished member of the Order in the person of the Rev. Ignace Scyles, a son of the eminent ecclesiastical architect, Father Scyles, who followed for some years the profession of his father, in which he displayed considerable talent. He afterwards joined the Society of Jesus, and was ordained priest in 1865. After many years' service on the English mission, both in Westminster and at Preston, he was sent to Demerara (British Guiana), where he was appointed Vicar-General of the diocese. Where his death has occurred at an age of sixty-three. Father Scyles, who was highly gifted as an artist, has left many evidences of his genius.

The Pope has been recently presented with a typewriter. It is a very elaborate and magnificent specimen, being laid with ivory and silver. The Papal arms have also been introduced in its decorations with excellent effect. His Holiness on receiving it examined it with interest, but remarked that although he would have it used by somebody who understood its mechanism, he thought he was himself too old to learn. Among the Pope's scientific toys none amuse him. It seems, more than his photograph, which contains a rare collection of voice-plates, including several of those of his deceased friends. By means of this elaborate photograph the Pope has heard Madame Patti sing "Home Sweet Home," and likewise the voices of Gladstone and the two Presidents of the United States.

IRISH LAND COMMISSION.

Features of the Last Annual Report Just Issued in London.

The report of the Irish Land Commission for the period from April 1st, 1895, to March 31st, 1896, has been issued. It is stated that the number of fair rent notices disposed of during the year was 4,181, and the number disposed of since the passing of the Land Law (Ireland) Act of 1881 was 210,979. The number of notices awaiting hearing on March 31st was 1,254 by the Land Commission and 4,166 by the Civil Bill Courts. Judicial rents were settled by the commissioners during the year in seven cases, and originating declarations and agreements have been lodged in 1,062 cases, so that altogether 1,080 cases were settled during the year without litigation. No proceedings were taken to nominate arbitrators to fix the amount of judicial rents. The entire number of rents fixed up to March 31st was 308,243, not including judicial leases and fixed tenancies. The total rental dealt with was £2,818,221, and the aggregate judicial rent fixed £1,908,016, the result being a reduction of 29 per cent over the entire country. Up to March 31st 290 direct applications to fix fair rents for a second statutory term were made to the Land Commission, and 159 to the Civil Bill Courts; of these 55 applications have been transferred to the Land Commission.

The total number of applications received under the Purchase of Land Act, 1885 and 1886, was 29,490 for £11,416,085; of these 8,795 applications for £1,448,445 have been withdrawn or rejected on account of insufficient security, defective titles and for other reasons. The amount so rejected during the year was £3,284. The commissioners provisionally sanctioned during the year 214 applications for £9,307, making the total sanctioned up to March 31st 26,821 for £9,987,595, after deducting cases provisionally sanctioned in former years, but rescinded since April 1st, 1896. Of the total amount (£9,987,595) provisionally sanctioned, 25,208 amounts have been issued to the amount of

£3,951,261 in respect of sales for £10,121,114, the amount issued during the past year being £72,081 for 270 loans. Of the loans issued, 12,414, to the amount of £9,747,585, were for 1895, 3,041, to the amount of £8,187,790, for 1896, 1,212, to the amount of £2,366,364, for 1897, and 2,008, to the amount of £659,512, for 1898. Under the Purchase of Land Act, 1891, the commissioners have received during the year 1,502 applications for advances from 224 estates, for £600,276, in respect of sales where the purchase money agreed on was £517,168. During the year 1,656 applications for £517,955 were provisionally sanctioned, and 1,401 loans issued, for £404,266. Applications have also been received from 928 tenants for advances amounting to £172,164 for the purchase of their holdings, forming portions of estates in the County of the Lond. Judge. In such cases 920 for £64,500 were sanctioned, and 818 for £99,588 issued. Out of the total of 1,774 advances for £547,893, 754 for £177,704 were assigned to Unstar; 202 for £130,874 to Leinster; 289 for £28,136 to Connaught; and 409 for £186,121 to Munster. Since the passing of the Act up to March 31st, 10,886 applications for £3,117,770 have been received, and of these 1,268 for £111,000 have been refused. During the same period 6,761 loans for £2,286,581 were issued.

The aggregate results under the Land Purchase Acts show that for the year ended March 31st that 839 applications for £124,366 were rejected, 2,090 applications for £632,772 were provisionally sanctioned, and 2,064 loans, amounting to £610,876, were issued. On November 1st last the total amount payable in respect of advances under the Act of 1885 was £206,100, payable by 21,802 persons. Of this amount £125,004 had been paid on March 31st, leaving £81,172 due from 1,069 purchasers. At the date of the report this amount in arrears had been reduced to £4,182, due by 400 purchasers. The amount receivable under the Act of 1891 on November 1st from 5,302 payers was £208,818, and of this £38,607 has been received, leaving £169,211 to be recovered from 65 payers. The total amount of loans issued in cash by the Land Commission since the passing of the Land Purchase Acts (exclusive of the Arrears Act, 1882, and the Purchase of Land Act of 1891), and the Tramways and Public Companies Acts, up to the date of the report, has been £10,218,145. The total amount of principal repaid by the purchasing tenants has been £899,000 10s. 6d., and the interest paid by them has been £1,779,480 8s.

The property of the late Established Church produced during the year a total income of £640,616, including £108,617, the proceeds of sales of property and the redemption of income. Total payments have been made during the year amounting to £687,478, which include special payments of £92,076 over and above the fixed charges on the fund, and which have been applied in reduction of the debt to the National Debt Commissioners. The income receivable for the present year, taken on April 1st, is £604,267. The fixed charges and the cost allowed for administration, taken on the same date, amount to £377,098, thus exceeding the rental by 227,566. This excess, it may be anticipated, can be covered, and the indebtedness of the fund further reduced, as in past years, out of the moneys received from redemptions.

Victory for the Government.

Messrs. Paterson and Blair, two of Mr. Laurier's Ministers were elected on Tuesday by large majorities. Mr. Paterson ran in North Grey, and defeated the Conservative candidate, Mr. McLaughlin, by 490 votes. Mr. Blair was elected in Queen's and Sanbury, heading the poll by a majority of 894 against his opponent, Mr. Wilmut.

Beyond strictly party lines we believe the factors in the New Brunswick contest did not operate offensively to good taste and the amenities of the campaign; but in North Grey the usual vulgar appeals to the grosser passions were indulged in by those by whom the Conservative cause was unfortunately abandoned. Till the latter party is thoroughly purged of the muckwags who are flirting with McCarthyism and the P. P. A., it may hope for little better fortune than that which awaited and overtook it on Tuesday.

The Anicete (Paris) noticing the report that the Osrine is to remain at Belmont as the guest of the Queen while the Osrine is in Paris, says: "If this report is true, France will be face to face with an event of enormous gravity, the consequences of which will be incalculable."