

The True Witness AND CATHOLIC CHRONICLE, PRINTED AND PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY

No. 195, Fortification Lane, by J. Gillies to whom all Business Letters should be addressed. G. E. CLERK, Editor.

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MONTREAL, FRIDAY, Sept. 24, 1875. ECCLESIASTICAL CALENDAR. SEPTEMBER, 1875.

Friday, 24.—Our Lady of Mercy. Saturday, 25.—St. Januarius, Bishop, and Companions, Martyrs. (19th Sept.) Sunday, 26.—Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost. Monday, 27.—St. Cosmas and Damian, Martyrs. Tuesday, 28.—St. Wenceslas, Duke of Bohemia, Martyr.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

M. Buffet, the French Premier, has addressed a circular to the Prefects of the Departments respecting the families of the Reserve Forces now undergoing a month's drill. He expresses a hope that employers, following the example of the Government Offices, will not make any deduction from the salaries of the men thus temporarily absent, but will appeal to their comrades to share their work among them, and that married day laborers will be the only class requiring relief.

Galen, and with respect to the Franciscan Convent, which, upon the departure of the Religious, was taken possession of by Herr Albers. It is scarcely necessary to observe that in all those cases the revisioner is in no way hostile to the former religious proprietors. It would appear that the law of suppression will be put in force against all establishments without distinction.

The Public Prosecutor of the Spanish Supreme Court of Justice, in accordance with the opinion of the Judges' Chamber sitting at Madrid during the vacation, has asked the Government that the Bishop of Urgel should be brought to the capital to answer the criminal charges preferred against him.

All the persons prosecuted at Florence by the Italian Government for conspiracy against the State have been acquitted on the particular charge; but one of them has been sentenced to nine years' imprisonment for the illegal detention and manufacture of arms.

Latest advices state that the Consuls of Austria, Germany and Italy despair of bringing about negotiations between the Bosnian insurgents and Serber Pasha. The English, French and Prussian Consuls, whose track lies in Herzegovina, are still hopeful, because the insurgents there show a conciliatory disposition.

The lady and four children who were advertised in the Times the other day as being missing, and since stated to have disappeared in company with a clergyman, have been found at Paris by the solicitor of the husband, who resides in North Devon.

Venice has now been fixed upon as the port at which the Prince of Wales will embark for India. The Serapis, which will coal at Malta on the way out, is ordered to be prepared to receive his Royal Highness at Venice on October 16, and the departure will take place the same day.

The Queen has consented to become patroness of the Church of England Temperance Society, "organised, as it appears to be, on a basis which includes all who advocate temperance, without insisting necessarily on total abstinence."

The decrease in emigration to the United States continues. Last year there was a great falling off. This year the diminution is still greater. During last month the whole number of emigrants arriving at New York was 9,262; in July last year, the number was 15,634—a decrease of 6,372.

WHAT IS EXCOMMUNICATION? It would be well if those who write upon the subject in the public press would give us a sharp and exhaustive definition of the term Excommunication.

Why this discrepancy of opinion? Because the word has two very different meanings in the ears of a Civilian and in those of a Churchman. To the former excommunication implies the sentence pronounced by an ecclesiastical court, but ratified by a civil tribunal; to the churchman excommunication is utterly independent of all civil control.

If we take this view of the meaning of Excommunication, Guibord was undoubtedly excommunicated; neither can his status as a member of the Church be in anywise affected by the decisions of the civil tribunals.

MODERN PROTESTANTISM.

The Protestant Church of the present day is divided, strictly speaking into two great divisions; High Church and Low Church. Each of these is again subdivided into sections innumerable, the former being composed of Tractarians, Puseyites, Episcopalians, Ritualists and having an upward tendency to Catholicity, while the latter, which embraces the great bodies of the Baptists, Wesleyans and Presbyterians, strange as it may appear and notwithstanding that they take the Bible, the whole Bible, and nothing but the Bible, for its guide, leans towards infidelity.

The Rev. Father Gauthier replied briefly. He said he was quite taken by surprise at their magnificent gift, and taking into account the little time he was in their midst, it was too much kindness on their part, but he hoped, with the assistance of God, to merit their good wishes, and that it would be his constant care to advance their spiritual interests.

The Synod of the Catholic Archbishops and Bishops of Ireland at Maynooth was concluded on Monday. His Eminence the Cardinal Archbishop of Dublin, in his closing address, said the decrees passed were designed to counteract the increasing infidelity and lukewarmness in religion.

In the case of the two Nichols, father and son, who have lately absconded with a large sum of money in their possession, stolen from the coffers of a bank, it is highly gratifying to learn from the Witness that they were men of exemplary morality, the elder Nichols having prohibited his son from going boating on a Sunday.

According to the Witness, bands of assassins are ever prowling about the Mountain on sanguinary designs intent. As yet we are happy to learn that nobody has been hurt.

PREPAYMENT OF NEWSPAPER POSTAGE.

We would again remind our subscribers that on the FIRST OF OCTOBER they will receive the TRUE WITNESS free of postage. As this will increase our expenses considerably, and be no small advantage to them, we trust that those in arrears to us will be prompt in remitting the amount of their indebtedness and also their subscriptions in advance.

LIBERALITY.

If there is one virtue more than another Protestants are fond of praising themselves for, it is their extreme liberality in religion and politics. What they possess in such an eminent degree themselves, they of course must admire in others, and hence they patronise and applaud what they are pleased to denominate "liberal Catholics."

Yet, their liberality very seldom assumes a practical shape. They do not, for instance, care in the exuberance of their generosity, to vote for Catholic candidates for Parliament. There are over three million Catholics in Great Britain, but we do not know of any Catholic member; while, if justice were done, and in proportion to their numbers, they should have about sixty.

Here in Canada it is much the same. Quebec sends a number of Protestants to the Dominion House, but how many Catholics go from Ontario? Three, we believe. John O'Donoghue did slip in for East Toronto, but did not stay long.

ADDRESS AND PRESENTATION.

To the Reverend Charles Gauthier, Parish Priest, St. Mary's Church, Williamstown.

DEARLY BELOVED PASTOR, — Although this is the first time we have assembled to address you on an occasion of this kind, we but respond to the promptings of our hearts in performing a duty rendered pleasant by its associations.

We are well aware that when you came amongst us, although a great deal had been done, very much remained to be performed, and the zealous manner in which you have applied yourself to the task, has already aroused the deepest sympathies of the parishioners in your behalf.

Recognising, therefore, the eminent services you have rendered this mission since your advent to it, and also the many inconveniences you have met with while performing these good works, we not only feel a pleasure but a duty in begging your acceptance of our appreciation of your true worth.

The Rev. Father Gauthier replied briefly. He said he was quite taken by surprise at their magnificent gift, and taking into account the little time he was in their midst, it was too much kindness on their part, but he hoped, with the assistance of God, to merit their good wishes, and that it would be his constant care to advance their spiritual interests.

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CARDINAL MANNING ON RATIONALISM.

On Sunday, 5th inst., the Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster re-opened the church of St. Augustine, Manchester, which has been undergoing repairs and decoration. In the course of a sermon on "Jesus Christ and Him crucified," as the central doctrine of the Catholic faith, he maintained that the Catholic Church was the one universal Church which was to give "faith by bearing" to the world, and in proof that this was the true Church he pointed to the confusion, the contention, the contradiction, the wasting, and the perishing of everything separate from that one Church.

He spoke not desparingly of that time. He respected the Puritans, because they were in earnest and because they revolted against empty and dead forms—against keeping up the belief in the Sacraments when the grace of the Sacraments was denied, and because they rejected the imitation of the Mass when belief in the Real Presence was denied, and for burning confessionals when belief in absolution had ceased.

The Cardinal also delivered an address at the opening of a new Catholic church, dedicated to St. Lawrence, at Birkenhead. He said that England was once the promise of the empire of Jesus Christ, and she was on her probation now, when the voice of truth was as audible as ever.