

The True Witness.

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The St. Henri Shooting Affair.

One of our reporters had an interview with the Hon. Mr. O'Connor the other day. During the conversation the St. Henri shooting affair was mentioned and the Hon. Mr. O'Connor said that if a formal complaint was made no doubt the Government would attend to it. But why should a formal complaint be necessary? The day after the shooting took place the local Government, it was currently reported, ordered an enquiry. Three months after that we heard that an enquiry had been instituted, but with closed doors, and what the public want is to hear the evidence and to learn who was to blame.

A Permanent Volunteer Force.

We hope there is some truth in the rumor that the authorities contemplate the formation of a permanent volunteer force of some kind or other. It is as necessary as a school of instruction; as it is necessary as an impartial upholder of the law. Positions in such a force should be given to men of long standing in the volunteer service, and such a position would be a reward for the sacrifices which many men have made in bringing the volunteer force up to its present standard of efficiency. What branch of the service such a force should form may be a matter of opinion. We still believe it should be garrison artillery, for artillerists are required more than anyone else, and as garrison artillerists they could do all the duties which might fall to the lot of infantry, just as well as infantry themselves.

Business.

The Monetary Times thinks that business is reviving, and that the worst features of the financial crisis have passed. "Over due notes," says the Times, "have decreased, and bills are met with more punctuality than they have been for some time past." This is satisfactory. It is something to be assured on such authority that business is improving, and that the people can look forward to a revival, even if in a small way, of the good times of some years ago. But if good times are to be permanent, they can only be made so by avoiding the causes of some of the distresses which have oppressed the people. The cry of "extravagance" is an old one, and it has been written about in all phases. With a sensible Governor-General, protection for our manufacturers; the practice of domestic economy, as advised by the Princess Louise, added to the assurance of the Monetary Times, that the worst is over; that prices have touched the bottom, that further fall is to be apprehended from a decline in the value of stock in the hands of merchants; and that the banks have faced the bulk of their share in the losses, written them off and done with them; we have reason to expect a revival of business during the next summer. No doubt the state of business at present in England will seriously affect our commerce for some time to come, but we can find some solace in the assurance that the chances of business improving are many.

Nationality in Politics.

Nationality in politics is wrong, says the Star. When we call for representation in the Cabinet for Irish Catholics, the Star and other papers clamor about the folly of such a procedure. It becomes philosophical over the absurdity of introducing Nationality into politics. It is very wrong, says the Star. Men should be put forward on their merit, and not that ground alone they should stand before the public. But when proceed home it is forced to be silent. Neither the Star nor any other paper in the country can deny the fact that not only the Cabinet, but many positions in the country are filled on the ground of Nationality. Let us take an extract from the Star to prove this:

The Richmond Guardian insists that in the appointment of a new Provincial Treasurer it is not best to lose sight of the fact that the office was established at Confederation as an English-speaking office, and that "the nature and work of the office of Treasurer in this Province, as well as the original agreement, make it necessary that the office should be filled by an English-speaking man."

religion and of their nationality. The French Canadian Catholics, the English Protestants, the Methodists, the Irish Catholics have each their representatives, or representative, in the Cabinet, and as it is in the Cabinet, so it is all over the country. The only difference is this—it is practised by some and not talked about—while it is talked about by others and not practised.

Distress in England.

If a famine were to sweep over England, would the Government allow the English people to perish by thousands in the ditches? Would the Administration of to-day treat the starving English as the Administration of Lord John Russell treated the Irish during the famine? It is not likely that it would. Scripture tells us to speak no ill of the dead, but is it an evasion of that command if we quote what one dead man said of another? The late John Martin, one of the most amiable and beloved men of his day, never spoke an unkind word of anyone except of the late Lord John Russell, and Mr. Martin used to call him "that viper." But Englishmen need not fear: they will not be starved to death in thousands. It is said, indeed, that the distress is, in some places very great, and cases are reported from the Black Country, where "households have passed three days without food." The distress, too, is general, from the Tweed to the Thames, factories are idle, workshops are quiet, mines are unworked, blast furnaces are out, and the laborers in the large towns are worse than they have been for many years. The present winter promises to be a very trying one. The poor houses will be full, and taxation will be upon the people. And what is the cause of all this? Great Britain is a great producer, but when customers fall off, misery must ensue. For the last two years the purchasers of British products have diminished enormously. The disturbed state of affairs in Europe has contracted the British market, and the loss of trade consequent on these disturbances comes home to the door of the working man. At one time this same working man made plenty of money and spent it lavishly, and now when the hard times come he is destitute. However, he will not starve. He is not an Irishman under the administration of "that viper" Lord John Russell.

The Oath of Office.

The Ottawa Herald, a paper by the way that we rejoice to see making a mark for itself, takes objection to a portion of the oath of office as administered to the Governor-General at Halifax. The objection of the Herald is based upon the apparent fact that Her Majesty the Queen claims "spiritual" authority over Canadians of all religions, and this, the Herald urges, should not in justice be asked, nor in practice be given. The obnoxious passage is as follows:—"No foreign prince, person, prelate, state or potentate hath or ought to have any jurisdiction, power, superiority or authority, gubernatorial or spiritual within the realm." No doubt the wording of the oath grates harshly upon Catholic ears. In the eye of the law the spiritual is subservient to the temporal authority of the State. In fact, the State knows no spiritual authority save that which, by fiction, acknowledges the Queen as "defender of the faith." We may have our dioceses and our parishes, but the law does not recognize them, and the meaning of the obnoxious clause appears to us to be that the law shall not recognize them, directly or indirectly. The clause cannot mean that the Queen claims "spiritual" authority over all her subjects, for if she does, then the clause is a dead letter, and must remain so. Catholics, for instance, deny the right of any power on earth, save the Pope, to exercise spiritual authority over them. To the Pope they give spiritual obedience, and that obedience, although sometimes the cause of discussion, no one will attempt to interfere with. The clause is obnoxious, but as a grievance it is a sentimental one; and while we are not disposed to make too little of sentimental grievances, yet we should be careful not to make too much. We can all afford to smile at the idea of Her Majesty claiming "spiritual" authority over her subjects, but that will not induce a single Catholic to falter in his "spiritual" allegiance to the Pope. That clause of the oath is in fact a dead letter, and as such we can afford to treat it. Although Catholics are not fairly represented in public life in England, yet they have liberty of conscience, a fact which Pope Pius IX. cheerfully recognized.

The Belleville "Intelligencer."

That highly respectable journal, the Belleville Intelligencer, is in a hurry. It frets and fumes like a veritable madman, and bundles "lies" and "falshoods" with all the "base" and "malicious" adjectives it can control within the limit of its phraseology. With the Belleville Intelligencer everything it disapproves is wicked, wretched, wrong, horrible, most horrible. Reason is not akin to the composition of its columns, and of journalistic courtesy it knows as much as a Chinese washerman does the classic harmony of Deethoven or Weber. Being so we do not expect gentle treatment at its hands, and just now we are "malicious liars," who publish "infamous falshoods" and "a disgrace to the profession" of journalism, and in general so contemptible that we wonder much at the highly susceptible Intelligencer noticing us at all. And the cause of all this trouble is because we stated it was alleged that the Hon. Mr. McKenzie Bowell made a certain statement about the Aylwades, which we, for the satisfaction of the Intelligencer, now repeat over and over again. This repetition of the offence will, of course, subject us to another torrent of choice sobriquets from the gentlemanly columns of the Intelligencer, but, even so, we have become accustomed to abuse, and must needs grin and bear it. We say that it has been alleged, over and over again, and give the assurance of our columns for the statement, that our informants were amongst the most liberal and highly cultured men we ever met. But this statement we do not ask the Intelligencer to consider; in reply to its fury all we have to say is to repeat our statement that it was alleged, and that it has been proved that the Hon. Mr. McKenzie Bowell did not use the language attributed to him, then the Post has done him a great service, by bringing about a discussion which has been smouldering for a long time.

The Meeting of Parliament.

When Parliament meets it will meet to undertake the settlement of, with the exception of Confederation, the most important issue that has ever come before Canadians—Free Trade vs. Protection. The majority secured for the policy of Protection guarantee that a Protective policy will be carried, but the friends of Protection may rest assured that it will not, or cannot, be carried unless by overcoming difficulties of a very serious nature. The United States will threaten; England will oppose, and a few weak-hearted politicians may falter, but Protection must be kept steadily in view and finally carried in face of all intimidation. Canadians are the arbiters of their own destiny, within the

Constitution, and no outside pressure, from any quarter, should be permitted to stay for an instant the right which the Parliament possesses of doing in a constitutional way everything it thinks best for the benefit of the people. We will be told that the United States will "close down;" we will be told that Liverpool, and not Montreal, will command the price of grain; we will be told a host of trouble that is sure to overtake us if our industries are protected; but the country voted for Protection, and the government must either give it or go to the country again. We say this much because of the murmurs which meet us from time to time about "difficulties," &c. What are statesmen for but to overcome difficulties? What are our Ministers paid for but to devise means for removing the barriers to our success? The necessity of Protection has now been established, and it will be more fully established when Parliament meets, and any indication to avoid the situation upon the part of the Ministry would be treason to the popular will. That such indications exist we do not say, but the Anti-Protectionists are doing all they can to spread the rumour that Protection is almost impossible. Why it should be so they fail to establish, and when the discussion of the question comes up we venture to express the opinion that what is now regarded as next to impossible will be found to be nothing of the kind.

The Loyalty Question.

The Kingston Daily News having abandoned the "brand" argument, comes to a fair discussion of the question of loyalty. It asks us where we get our information when we say that there are so many Annexationists and Canada First men in this country? Well we answer—by personal observation and from the press. Look at the Toronto Telegram objecting, and strongly objecting, to any tendency that may exist to rule Canada for the benefit of the Empire. It places Canadian interests first, and argues that Canada should be ruled for the benefit of Canadians and not for the benefit of the Empire at large. Does the Daily News object to the reasoning? Again, look at the Hamilton Spectator saying that "the true policy for Canadians is to help themselves," or that the policy of Canada should be "with a sole eye to the benefit of Canada, and without regard to the effect upon any other country," and that "this is the best practicable, if not the best imaginable," policy for this country to pursue. Does the Daily News object to this? What paper in Canada will say that Canadian interests should be made subservient to the interests of the Empire? Very few, and among the few who will say it, how many will be guided by motives of interest? Again, the News says that we admit the weakness of our own reasoning when we say that the manifestations of the Canada First men are not necessarily hostile to England. Certainly, and we repeat it. It is not, these people say, because they love England less, but because they love Canada more, that they desire to place Canadian interests above all others. If you tell them that disrupting the Empire is necessarily an act of hostility to England, they will answer: No, because England does not care for Canada. We repeat, too, that the Catholics are not so much disposed towards Canada the First party as Protestants, because Catholic teaching is opposed to revolutions of all kinds. But that there is a strong feeling in favour of placing Canadian interests before those of the Empire we have too many occasions to observe. We must remember, too, that at present it is the interest of Canadians to be loyal to the Empire, but once let it be to their interest to declare the other way, and we fear that declaration would come with no uncertain sound.

Impossible.

The Rev. Mr. Black is, no doubt, an amiable man. He is certainly a broad-minded clergyman and one who means well to everybody. Such, at least, we believe him to be. But like most men, who are not Catholics, the Rev. Mr. Black does not appear to understand the issue between the Orangemen and the Catholics. It is very hard to drive the facts of the case into any head except one in sympathy with either side of the house. On Thanksgiving Day, however, the Rev. Mr. Black delivered a sermon in the Ottawa Street Church. There are many passages in that sermon with which we do not agree, and many which prove that the Rev. Gentleman is free from the slightest feeling of bigotry towards his Catholic neighbors. But without that he does not understand the issue between what is called "Orange and Green." This, we think, he proved when he made the following remarks:—

Why the peace and general acclaim of joy on Friday? The populace had found a rallying point, and the fashion was changed. We can say that the Rev. Mr. Black is a man of the week. One that will give more joy to our Governor-General and his wife, and to the noble Queen whom they represent. One that will cause more joy among the angels of God in the courts of heaven. What is it? Simply, let the Roman Catholic Bishop of this city, the Episcopal Bishop, the Moderator of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, and the President of the Conference of the Methodist churches, have a procession with one carriage on the 11th of July and St. Patrick's Day, and other suitable occasions. These four men represent nine-tenths of the people of this Dominion.

Impossible! That day will never come. It is simply not within the range of human nature, so long as man is what he is. In certain places Catholics may look at Orange processions without betraying any feeling of annoyance, but to expect a Catholic bishop, or a Catholic layman, to join in such a procession is to ask them to imitate the spaniel that licks the hand that spurs him. There is no use preaching peace between "Orange and Green." There never has been peace, there is no peace, and there never will be peace. But why did not the Rev. Mr. Black select some other day when Catholics could consistently join their Protestant friends? We will turn out on St. George's or St. Andrew's Day to do honor to our English or Scotch friends if they wish it. We would protect their right to walk the thoroughfares just the same as we would protect our own but Orangemen, that is quite another thing. At the same time we are willing to admit that the Orange Association contains men who do not mean to do harm. Like all other associations, there are good and bad men in it, but even if they were all good the name of Orangemen is quite enough to make such a proposition as that hinted at by the Rev. Mr. Black as futile as the doubtful occupation of "whistling a jig to a mile stone."

More Reflections.

The Press has commenced pecking at the Marquis of Lorne. It is finding fault with something that happened at Halifax, with something, also, that happened in Montreal, and with some other thing that happened in Ottawa. At each place there was an alleged blunder made, and the press has not been slow to express its views. Some of those who censure the Marquis of Lorne do so, no doubt, with the best intentions, but they appear to forget that the Governor-General and the Princess Louise, instead of being more exclusive, have been in some instances even more easily approached than Lord Dufferin.

Take the receptions of Lord Dufferin and the Marquis of Lorne and the Princess Louise in Montreal. If people must meet Governor-Generals, then let us see which of the two was the most accessible. At the reception of Lord Dufferin, cards had to be sent to the aide-de-camp two days before the day fixed, while at the reception of the Marquis of Lorne and the Princess Louise there was nothing necessary but a decent coat. No questions were asked, no enquiries were made, and an escaped convict could walk in and make his bow just as well as the most esteemed man in our midst. Men that no respectable citizen would introduce to his family circle, might be introduced to the Queen's daughter! Let us take the most democratic view that is possible of this reception, and let us look upon the Princess Louise simply as the wife of a gentleman engaged in public life; and what gentleman would like to place his wife in a position where she could be even formally introduced to every Tom, Dick and Harry who wished? We think the mistake was that the Marquis of Lorne and his wife were too democratic. At least they should be surrounded with as many safeguards as surround a private citizen, and care should be taken that none but decent citizens, or people known, should be more introduced to them than to any other lady or gentleman in the land. The man who is not careful of the society his wife, his daughter, or his sister keeps, cannot be a good citizen; and it is erroneous to think that because some men happen to be born to station in life, that they must leave themselves open to meet the common thief, who would be shunned in the house of any man, rich or poor, who valued his reputation, or the honor of his family. We think it an outrage upon any lady to place her in a position where she will be obliged to meet characterless men. No doubt the people who were at the reception were the creme de la creme of Montreal, but anyone—thief, burglar, escaped convict, anybody—could have gone; and at least a lady has a right to be guarded against having anyone introduced to her except a man of good character.

Low-Necked Dresses and Democracy.

The Mail devotes a column to low-necked dresses. It attacks Colonel Littleton's order about low-necked dresses for the reception. It thinks the order injudicious and absurd. In Canada we cannot do as they do in England, says the Mail. Our climate and our democracy forbid it. We would like to agree with the Mail in all it says upon the subject, but the tyrant Custom is against us. We suppose, however, that even Custom must be assailed by little Jack-giant-killers in the Press. While, then, we think the Mail right in its strictures on low-necked dresses, it appears to forget two things, and those are: that no one ever heard of ladies in high-necked dresses, in our time, being presented to royalty, and the other thing is that people are democratic from necessity, and not from choice. The loudest leveller, or the fiercest Communist—the men who would drag everybody down to their own level if they could—would be the most tyrannical aristocrats if they knew how, or if they dared. Men on this continent preach democracy, while it answers their purpose, but once their children, or children's children, attain wealth and rank, these same children assume the airs and don the habits of the higher walks of life. Take the son of the long-winded, loud-mouthed democrat, educate him at the University, surround him with all these elements which are calculated to expand the mind, enlarge the heart, and to make him superior to the majority of men, and will he become a democratic agitator, shouting "Liberty, Equality and Fraternity" from the house-tops? Nay, not only the sons of democrats, but democrats themselves adopt the habits of better men just as soon as they can with decency. They will tell you "No," but history and experience belie them all the world over. Look at society in New York or in Boston, and who are the aristocrats of to-day, who but the democrats of yesterday, the men whose fathers were loudest in the theory of "equality." And this is as it ought to be, and as it will be, to the end of time. Every hour of our lives, are every hour of the lives of those who will even deny it, is spent in working up the ladder, and no one is so pleased as the democrat for wealth, distinction and worth, in legitimate way is a noble virtue, but the danger is that that struggle may be accompanied by an unbefitting servility which is as demoralizing as it is weak. Aristocracy in this country, as aristocracy is understood in Great Britain and Ireland, is neither possible nor desirable, but that grades in society will exist is just as certain as they exist all over the civilized world. Accident makes the democrat, as accident makes the aristocrat—the difference is this: one would not exchange with the other, and with that other, it is our grapes, and if he was a true man he would admit it. Offer your democrat a baronial hall and £30,000 a year. Will he refuse? Let the world answer. We are not now discussing the merits of aristocracy and democracy; we are simply pointing out the fact that the democrat who condemns aristocracy would rejoice to be an aristocrat if he could. The sides we would take in a controversy between aristocracy and democracy might not be the popular one, but here in Canada the people are so circumstanced that they can follow a happy medium, free from the evils of both extremes. As for the low-necked dresses—well, that is a more delicate subject. We certainly do not like them. When positively "low," we think them indecent, but the difficulty appears to be to define when a dress is "low-necked." This, however, one's own sense of propriety will tell. We agree with the Mail that the custom is objectionable, and that more drapery would be becoming. But, still ladies object, custom is powerful, and the dresses go from high to low and from low to high.

The Latest Failure.

GLASGOW, December 5, 1878.—Great excitement prevails throughout the commercial circles of Scotland to-day, consequent upon the suspension of the Caledonian Bank. Business men throughout Scotland are asking themselves what will happen next. If this bank was really able to pay all its obligations the occurrence of the suspension at the present time tends to deep suspicion respecting other banks. Petitions for the liquidation of the bank were presented to the Court of Sessions to-day. The head office of this bank is at Inverness. This, as well as all the branches in the various parts of Scotland, is closed.

HOW IT CAME ABOUT.

The progress of the Caledonian Bank toward suspension was quite marked. The fact of its possessing the four shares of the City of Glasgow Bank was discovered when the latter was made public and the confidence of the people began to wane. Ten pound shares of the Caledonian Bank gradually dropped to thirty shillings and they would certainly have gone even lower had the concern not gone into liquidation. The Scotch banks still remaining intact have agreed to take the Caledonian's notes and bills as deposits. But this has not reassured anybody.—N. Y. Herald.

An itinerant doctor called Reid has been committed for trial at Brockville on charges of theft.

Presentation to Archbishop Lynch.

At St. John's Hall, on Wednesday evening, December 4th, His Grace Archbishop Lynch was presented with a handsome photograph of himself, of a large size, and elegantly framed. The portrait was the gift of Mr. James Britton, Honorary President of St. Aloysius Benevolent Society. The hall was filled to its utmost capacity, a large number being unable to obtain admittance, and the greatest interest was manifested in the ceremony. Previous to the presentation, the following address was read:—

To His Grace the Most Rev. the Archbishop of Toronto:

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR GRACE,—With feelings of most profound veneration and respect, we, the St. Aloysius Society, welcome your Grace on the occasion of the first visit with which you have honoured our Society, in its new location. We hail your Grace's presence among us as a kindly approval of the efforts we may in the past have made to correspond with your Grace's intentions, and as an earnest of all good for the future. Ever since the inception of this Society it has been its chief delight to glory in the right of calling your Grace its patron, and your Grace has been a true patron indeed. That your Grace should wish your Grace to the establishment of this Society has continued to animate you in our regard, and many a blessing and gift we have been able to acknowledge at your hands.

In view of the deep interest your Grace has always taken in our welfare, spiritual and temporal, we have endeavored to give you a brief synopsis of the present state of the St. Aloysius Society. We are about to complete our first year of organized existence. In the execution of the objects for which this Society was commenced various committees have been formed. One of fourteen members visits the Central Prison every Sunday, and imparts instruction and such consolation as may be possible to its inmates. During the past year about fifty have been proposed for confirmation and have received the sacraments. The Society would earnestly represent to your Grace the pressing want of a Prisoners' Bazaar, which, in connection with the St. Aloysius Society, would be able to aid in relieving the Prison sometimes without means and thereby exposed to the worst forms of temptation.

Another committee visits the General Hospital and has established there a library of good Catholic books for the use of the patients. Another, the Committee for the Christian Doctrine, forms a society of twenty members. This committee is charged with conducting the Parochial Sunday School in St. John's Church. The number of children in the school is about 250 and is increasing. A children's choir has been organized and is making good progress.

Your Grace will, we are certain, be delighted to hear that the Junior branch of our Society, founded with your gracious approval and blessing, a week or two ago, is in a prosperous condition and already consists of thirty-five members. We again, as a society working in connection with the Church, under your Grace's guidance and patronage, beg to again express the veneration and deep love in which we hold your Grace, both as our patron and as our Archbishop; our great appreciation of your Grace's most endeavored for our own advancement, spiritual and temporal; and our most sincere thanks for the many benefits received by our body at your Grace's hands.

And we beg to thank you for the work we have undertaken, your paternal benediction. Signed on behalf of the Society, ANTHONY COTTARI, Secretary. REV. JOHN McLELLAN, President.

His Grace in reply expressed with considerable feeling his appreciation of the good work the Society is doing, and urged a continuance of their exertions in a cause which would be productive of so many blessings, both in this life and that to come. Speaking of the Junior branch organized in connection with the Society, His Grace related that Cardinal Manning had once sorrowfully observed to him "our boys are lost between their leaving school and their becoming men. It is a difficult question to answer how boys might be saved from the temptations which beset their path during their approach to maturity, but the establishment of a Junior branch to such an association as the St. Aloysius Society, they had taken a long step towards solving the problem.

Opinion of the Press.

The Mail correspondent from the Capital sent the Vice-Regal reception says:—"Since the Princess passed the matted yards of the fleet at Halifax, she has not, I am sure, heard a good British cheer, and of all the apologies for a cheer that I ever heard in my life, the Ottawa attempt is the weakest and weirdest." It is a pity the correspondent did not remain able to report that under the combined influence of genial weather and a brilliant illumination the people of Ottawa proved their capacity for giving "a good British cheer," again and again as the Vice-Regal cavalcade passed through the densely crowded streets. Whether Toronto would do better than Ottawa with people up to their ankles in mud and a heavy rainfall may well be doubted.—Ottawa Free Press.

Halifax Chronicle: "If he (Mr. Blake) wants to be leader it is quite possible that he can be, for his splendid talents have no warmer admirer in the Dominion than Mr. Mackenzie. No man regretted more sincerely than the late Premier the fact that Mr. Blake, on account of his onerous professional duties and poor health, was unable to take a more active part in public affairs. Mr. Mackenzie was proud to serve under Mr. Blake in the Ontario Government, and was ready to serve under him at Ottawa. If the Tories are counting upon any quarrel in the Liberal party on the question of leadership they are mistaking the characters of our Liberal statesmen. Such able, honest and patriotic men as Alexander Mackenzie and Edward Blake have proved themselves to be, are not likely to have any disagreement over a matter of precedence. They could safely be made a committee of two to settle the question and their report would cheerfully be confirmed by the whole party."

Londoners Reducing Expenses.

Economy is the order of the day. Even the Fifth of November Guys were limited in number and mean in appearance. If you go to the great co-operative stores of London you find that the provision departments are the chief quarters of business. Among the upper middle classes extravagant dinner parties are dropping out of fashion. Men, who a few years ago, would not be seen on the railway in anything but a first-class carriage, now ride second; men who used to ride second now ride third. We are all economizing. The Daily Telegraph has just discovered that the depression in trade is very serious, and the other journals are discussing the same subject. The Telegraph to-day confesses that "every great interest in the country complains, and the complaints of some grow louder every day. Journals, trade circulars, private letters, common conversation, business arrangements, supply evidence of one descrip-

tion, almost universally unfavorable; and a dark list of failures provides confirmation different in kind, but even more likely to produce conviction. But the Telegraph finds consolation in the fact that "as it is the darkest hour which immediately precedes the dawn, so it is justifiable to take the universal gloom and depression now prevailing as really signs that revival cannot be far off." It is a good thing to hope. But at the same time it would be well to prepare for the possibility that the force of the tempest has not yet spent itself. I fail to find any glimmer of light in the clouds. I unhesitatingly affirm that "things" are not yet "at their worst." London Letter to New York Times.

American Internationalists.

Three men were arrested recently while attempting to escape over the Portuguese frontier on suspicion of being connected with the late attempt of Moncazi on the life of King Alfonso. When the prisoners were searched documents of a compromising nature were found in their possession, and among others were papers clearly connecting them with an international body having its headquarters in New York. In view of the importance of this announcement, a Herald reporter immediately called on several prominent members of the socialist labor party to obtain their ideas on the news. The reporter found them but little inclined to talk on the affair, which they affected to disbelieve. In order to convince them of the reality of the announcement the reporter showed the incredulous gentlemen a copy of the despatch, but this failed to convince them that there was any foundation for the reported discovery. One gentleman, more communicative than his political friends, said, "Why, that despatch cannot be correct, because there is now no internationalist society in America. It was dissolved some years ago in Philadelphia. It is evident, therefore, there is some mistake. In this country the socialist labor party has replaced the Internationalist Society and the socialists have nothing whatever to do with these attempted assassinations. These are the acts of either individuals or of small groups of desperate men with exaggerated notions. They are the result of the ignorance and oppression of the masses of the people in Europe, while the doctrines of socialism, which are essentially law-abiding, only take root among intelligent and educated men, who understand that the evils which afflict society are not so much due to political as to social causes. The socialists are too intelligent not to understand that nothing is gained by killing a king who is sure to be succeeded by another king. What they aim at is to alter the structure of society as to make kings impossible and assassins unnecessary. This is more particularly the attitude of the American social labor party, who live in a country where, whatever changes the mass of the people may desire to make in their government, social and political, can be made gradually and legally by force of the ballot. It is not likely that intelligent men living under such conditions would consent to become the associates in crime of men who use that dangerous and barbarous method of checking evil, the dagger of the regicide. No, the despatch from Madrid will prove to be unfounded. One thing is certain, the socialist labor party has no connection with any of the late attempts made on the lives of European monarchs, and I do not believe that any section or group of men belonging to the old International Society has had anything to do with these attempted assassinations."—New York Herald.

What the Halifax Chronicle Thinks.

The newspaper correspondents who were here during the visit of the Marquis and Princess did their work so well, as a rule, that they deserve the highest praise. Their reports, generally, are excellent and certainly very flattering to Halifax. The exception to the rule is in the case of the correspondent of the Montreal Gazette, whose journalistic abilities did not make a very favorable impression here, and whose reports, though quite complimentary to Halifax, were not what the Gazette should have had. The most serious blunder committed by the correspondent was the sending of a telegram to the effect that the Marquis was particularly gracious to some societies, while his treatment to others, notably the Charitable Irish Society, was far from cordial. In fact, the correspondent informed the Montreal public that His Excellency had deliberately slighted the Irish Society. A report of this kind would do harm under any circumstances, but the sending of it to a Montreal journal was especially to be regretted, because in that city, unfortunately, it takes very little to create bitter feelings between the people of different races and religions. This exceedingly stupid report threatened to cause serious trouble. Fortunately, however, steps were taken to ascertain the facts, and the Gazette, both by editorial remarks and by publishing telegrams from reliable people in Halifax, fully atoned for the wrong its correspondent had done.—Halifax Chronicle.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Big Man Has His Little Enemies—Mayor Beaudry Hissed.

To the Editor of the TRUE WITNESS and POST. Sir,—The silence of the city press on the conduct of those who hissed our worthy Chief Magistrate, when passing under certain arches, on the occasion of the public reception given to the vice-regal party, is rather remarkable. The festivities of the day might have been unpleasantly marred if Mayor Beaudry's friends, who swarmed the streets in legions had resented the insult thus offered him. The aforesaid hissing should remember that the object of the respect and confidence of two-thirds of the citizens; that his action on the last 12th of July—the cause, no doubt, which drew upon him the attention of the hissing—is endorsed by the large majority of the community, and was specially commended by Judge Ramsay on the occasion of the late Orange trials. Yours, X.

Montreal, December 4, 1878.

THE BEST HOLIDAY PRESENT.—Send a relative notice that you have paid for him a year's subscription to the TRUE WITNESS, and all through the year every time a number arrives that friend will have a new reminder of your kindness. The many thousand hints and suggestions its pages will afford will be turned to profitable account, and supply additional cause of gratitude.

Lately on a dark night a stage coach with nine passengers was passing between Leadville and Canon City, Col., when suddenly coach and horses and driver and passengers fell over a bank and down sixty feet into a creek below. The coach turned over three times in its descent and landed bottom upwards. Six inside passengers escaped serious injury; three outside were equally lucky and the accident was fatal to only one horse, which was so much hurt that it was necessary to shoot him.