

The True Witness.

AND
CATHOLIC CHRONICLE,
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY
At No. 663 Craig Street, by
J. GILLIES.
G. E. OLERK, Editor.

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MONTREAL, FRIDAY, JUNE 11, 1869.

ECCLESIASTICAL CALENDAR.

JUNE—1869.
Friday, 11—St. Barnabas, Ap.
Saturday, 12—St. John a Baptist, C.
Sunday, 13—Fourth after Pentecost.
Monday, 14—St. Basil, B. O. D.
Tuesday, 15—St. Francis Carracciolo, C.
Wednesday, 16—St. John Francis Regis, C.
Thursday, 17—St. Ubaldo, B. O.

REMOVAL

The Office of this paper has removed to No. 663 Craig Street, one door off Bleury.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The Protestant Ascendency party in Ireland die hard. Though they cannot fail to perceive that sentence has been passed on the Establishment, and that the utmost they can expect from the obstructive action of the House of Lords, is a reprieve—they still continue to meet, and to protest against the inevitable. Like the brave old lady who in the height of the storm essayed to sweep the rising waves of the Atlantic out of her back kitchen with a birch broom, our champions of a lost cause put a good face on the matter, and cannot as yet realize the idea, that their ascendancy over their Catholic fellow citizens is doomed. It is a pitiable sight to see brave men thus making spectacles of themselves to men and angels.

The Irish Church Bill is now in the hands of the Lords. The Session is far advanced; the measure is a most important one; and in these facts their Lordships may find reason for postponing the settlement to a more convenient season. We need not fear for the ultimate results however; any serious combined action on the part of the Lords to maintain the Irish Protestant Church in its present position, will but hasten their own ruin, supported as is Mr. Gladstone's policy by such an overwhelming majority of the people of the United Kingdom. It will be carried therefore, and that soon, even though upon the plea of the lateness of the session, and the magnitude of the interests it involves, it may be put back for another year.

It is a striking feature of the French elections that none but extreme candidates have been returned. The supporters of personal Government have been very successful; the extreme republican party, men who advocate the views of the ultra-terrorists of the First French Revolution, and who ape the style and sentiments of Marat, have in many instances carried the day; but the moderate men are nowhere. What this forebodes it is hard to tell; but it is evident that the throne of Louis Napoleon is in a very critical position; all, however, depends upon the army.

Italy is quiet, though rumors of war and revolutions are still rife. Spain is vainly engaged in her endless task of spinning ropes out of sand, and in her toil of evolving order from anarchy. The revolutionary leaders profess great apprehensions of the Carlists; and we believe that if the people of Spain were free, if they could throw off the incubus of military despotism that presses upon them, they would by a large majority pronounce in favor of their lawful king.

Nothing has been done in the matter of the Alabama claims, Mr. Motley has been well received in England, but this we suppose is rather due to his eminent position in the literary world, than to his political character. The people of England have become excited on the question; and the Minister who adopts a bold tone as towards the U. States government, will be sus tained by the nation.

Mr. Holt's Resolutions on the Irish Church Question, seem to have been designed rather to embarrass the Ministry, than to effect any good towards either Ireland or Canada. They were met by a motion for the "previous question," and were thus quietly disposed of. It must not be thought, however, that thereby our Legislature has declared against the justice, or the expediency of Mr. Gladstone's Bill; it has in fact merely affirmed that it was not necessary or expedient for the Canadian Parliament to express any opinion whatsoever thereupon, at the present moment.

A correspondent addresses to us a set of questions, to which we offer a reply, to the best of our abilities:—

St. John's, P. Q., June 5th, 1869.

(To the Editor of the True Witness.)

Sir,—Will you kindly in your next issue answer the following questions, and oblige an old subscriber:—

- 1st—Have not we Catholics of Canada the right by law, or statute, or treaty, to have our procession of the Blessed Sacrament in the public streets, upon the feast of Corpus Christi, or the Sunday following?
- 2—If so, what is the authority which gives us that right?
- 3rd—While this part of our Divine Service is going on in the public streets, are the authorities bound to protect us from all obstruction and insult?
- 4th—What, under the circumstances, would constitute an insult? Would, for example, a Protestant, not believing as we do, standing in the street from simple curiosity, and to place where the Blessed Sacrament did not pass, remaining perfectly quiet, but not removing his hat be an insult?
- 5th—And suppose Protestants should be so impolitic, or from conscious duties, not remove their hats, when they even met with the Blessed Sacrament, would not God be more glorified by Catholics taken no notice of the act, or if taking notice, praying for them, than by speaking insulting language to them and ordering them with peremptory language to remove their hats?

1st. and 2nd.—There is we believe no Law, Statute or Treaty, by which *explicitly*, the right to a public procession of the B. Sacrament is guaranteed to Catholics in Canada. But as the full exercise of their religion, as in times past, was guaranteed to Catholics by the Treaty wherein Canada was ceded by France to Great Britain, the right to such procession is, *implicitly*, guaranteed.

3rd. The Procession being legal, that is not contrary to law, the authorities are bound to protect those engaged in it from insult and outrage.

4th and 5th.—One answer will suffice to these. Catholics have no right to demand from their Protestant fellow-citizens more than this, that the latter abstain from outrage or insult. It would be both impolitic and unjust to ask Protestants to uncover, or to exhibit any outward signs of homage or respect, whilst the Procession passes along the public thoroughfares. On exclusively Catholic property, Protestants have no business to intrude, if their conscience forbids them to manifest such signs of respect.

FEAST OF THE INAUGURATION OF THE CHAPEL ATTACHED TO THE COLLEGE OF ST. ANNE

We have much pleasure in announcing to the former Directors, Professors, Students and friends of St. Ann's College, that the inauguration of our chapel,—already finished—thanks to their liberality—will take place on Thursday, June 17th, and not 21st, as was announced in the circular of March 4. This change is occasioned by the inconvenience of the day falling on Saturday, which would prevent a large number of gentlemen from attending, notwithstanding their desire to meet the friends and companions of their youth and visit the scenes endeared to them by early recollections. We sincerely trust that the change, which we considered necessary to make, will accommodate itself to the wants of all parties.

On Wednesday evening there will be a literary and musical seance and on the morning of the inauguration "Mozart's Twelfth Mass" will be rendered by the College Choir.

A. PELLETIER, Priest Superior.

St. Ann's College, June 1, 1869.

CORPUS CHRISTI IN BRUCE, ONT.

To the Editor of the True Witness.

Dear Sir,—According to custom this grand and imposing festival was celebrated on the 27th ult., at St. Mary's Church, Formosa, Ontario, in a manner commensurate with the August Object of the ceremony. The display made by the Catholics of the mission, directed and assisted by their amiable and talented Pastor, the Very Revd. Dean Schmitz reflected the greatest credit upon Priest and people, and showed that the true spirit of Catholicity pervades our co-religionists in this part of the Dominion.

A clouded sky, a gentle breeze, and the refreshing showers of the day previous rendered the weather all that could be desired.

Four temporary altars had been erected, which were beautifully fitted up and adorned with bouquets of natural and artificial flowers, sacred pictures, &c., and lighted up with wax candles in dazzling profusion. The platforms leading up to the altars were all carpeted, and spanned with arches of evergreens decorated with wreaths of flowers, mosses, roses, &c.

About 10 o'clock Solemn High Mass began—the Rev. P. S. Maheut, P.P., of Mount Forest who had travelled over 40 miles in order to be present—was celebrant, Rev. H. J. Kelly, P.P., of Riversdale acted as deacon, and the Pastor of the Church, as sub deacon.

The singing of the Choir, under the able leadership of Mr. S. Griffrer, organist, was truly excellent. Mrs. W. H. Riddell and her sister Miss Redmond sang by request two very beautiful pieces, "O cor a moris victima" and "O Jesu Deus Magna" in their usual good style.

After Mass, under the direction of the indefatigable pastor of St. Mary's, a procession was formed in the following order:—
School boys with appropriate banners,

Young men, with a handsome banner of St. Legerius,
School girls, dressed in white and wearing veils and wreaths,
Young ladies with a beautiful banner of the B. V. M.,
Incense bearers and children scattering flowers,
The Choir chanting Sacred Music,
Sub-deacon and deacon robed in rich Dalmatic,
BLESSED SACRAMENT,
Carried by Rev. H. J. Kelly, of Riversdale, under a canopy borne by the Trustees of St. Mary's, and surrounded by the seniors bearing lighted torches, and supported by a Military Guard of Honor.

Members of the Congregation and others with suitable banners.

The procession thus formed filed along in splendid order the line of March, which had been planted on either side with evergreens in great variety, halting at the way side altars to receive the Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament amid the solemn tolling of the two fine bells in the tower and the firing of a salute by the Guard of Honor. At two o'clock, having made a circuit of about one mile, the procession returned to the Church where the ceremonies of the day were terminated by the solemn Benediction of the Most Holy Sacrament, which was received by the vast assemblage of some 2000 persons with every exterior mark of the most pious devotion and reverence.

Before closing I will briefly refer to the services that took place on Pentecost Sunday in this mission. On that day some sixty children were admitted to their first Communion, and it was most edifying to see with what order, piety, and reverence the ardent young souls approached the Table of the Lord, and received for the first time the Bread of Life.

The girls robed in spotless white with veils and crowns of sweetest flowers, the boys all neatly attired, with rosettes on their breasts, encircling the altar of the Most High and the Priest in their midst! "Truly this is the House of God and these are the Temples of the Holy Ghost!" But enough—I must conclude.

Yours very truly,
VIATOR.

WILLIAMSTOWN, June 4th, 1869.

MR. EDITOR.—The glorious festival of Corpus Christi, so dear to every Catholic heart, was celebrated here last Sunday with more than the usual splendor.

His Lordship of Kingston arrived on Saturday from Quebec, and though fatigued, kindly consented to perform the office of the following day. The grand high mass began at half-past ten a.m., and at its conclusion, the procession issued from the main door of the Church.

First came the cross-bearer and acolytes; then the females of the parish, two and two, and followed by the nuns with the young ladies of the boarding school, wearing flowing veils reaching almost to the ground, and, from time to time, chanting hymns of praise in honor of our dear Lord.

Next were sixteen little creatures—also convent children—robed in spotless white, carrying baskets of flowers which they strewed before the "Holy of Holies."

The sanctuary boys, torch bearers and tabernacles succeeded, and then came our Bishop over whom was held a rich canopy of cloth of gold, bearing in his hands a golden Remonstrance, containing the "Bread that came down from Heaven"—the Sacred Host, the object of the love, respect and adoration of two hundred millions of faithful souls. The male portion of the Congregation closed the Procession which was very large and, we are happy to say, as orderly and edifying as we could desire.

The route was splendidly decorated; the greatest taste being displayed in the construction of the arches.

The people having returned to the Church, His Lordship explained in a lucid and thorough manner the great mystery of the day. At seven p.m. solemn vespers were sung and the proceedings of a day that will be long remembered by the truly pious people of St. Mary's, were terminated by a Benediction of the Most Holy Sacrament, amid a blaze of light and beauty, impossible to describe.

Yours truly,
SPECTATOR.

WILLIAMSTOWN, GLENGARRY,
May 31st, 1869.

To the Editor of the True Witness

Sir,—Interesting events in connection with the promotion of educational interests by the good Sisters of the Congregation de Notre Dame, wherever a Branch of their excellent community has found a foothold, are matters of such daily occurrence, that I hope yourself and your numerous readers will pardon the intrusion on your space, for the following lines regarding their flourishing Mission School in this village of Williamstown?—On the morning of the 27th inst., I had the pleasure quite unexpected, of witnessing a very pleasing spectacle in our charming little Parish Church, on that occasion seven children attending the Convent of Notre Dame here, approached the Table of the Lord

for the first time, and partook thereof of the Bread of Life. The whole scene though simple in itself, was nevertheless extremely touching; and was rendered still more so in my estimation by the following circumstance. During the solemn moment of their receiving Holy Communion, these happy innocents robed in white, were assisted by an equal number of the young lady boarders attending the Convent and similarly attired, who bent over their young wards, like guardian angels in a protecting attitude, to shield them—then even more than at any other time, from the assaults of their spiritual enemy! I will not further trespass on your space at present, than to add that the Convent School de Notre Dame at Williamstown, continues to maintain its already wide spread reputation as a first class educational seminary for young females, and that as a well wisher of the Institution, I would rejoice to see it even more liberally patronized than it is at present.

P.
ALEXANDRIA, GLENGARRY,
31st May, 1869.

(To the Editor of the True Witness.)

Dear Sir,—Yesterday was a day fraught with blessings to many a Parish and fireside, as a reward for the public tribute of homage and adoration paid our Divine Redeemer, in the solemn Procession in honor of His Real Presence in the Holy Sacrament. And as a member of this ancient Catholic Parish, I am happy to be able to inform your readers that it too was similarly blessed; and that our Grand Procession here this year, was even a greater success than that of last year, an account whereof I remember reading in your columns. The day was all that could be desired for the occasion, the arrangements complete in every respect. The usual ornamentation of the streets with evergreens, and pretty arches over the crossings, as well over the three Repositories; one of which was erected at McPhee's cross, another at Mr. Allan Grant's private residence, and the third at Dr. Leclair's; the last Benediction having been given in the Parish Church, which also was tastefully decorated with drapery, banners, &c., thanks to the assistance of our good Sisters of the Holy Cross, and the liberality of some of our merchants here, who lent goods out of their stores for the adornment of the Church! The singing—both in the Church, and at the different Repositories, was really good for a country village—the music too, along the line of march was commented on in very flattering terms. In a word, the whole thing passed off very satisfactorily, and creditably to all parties concerned. Various opinions have been expressed as to the number of persons who joined in the Procession, but in my opinion, there could not have been less than fifteen hundred people walking in the Procession, not to speak of on-lookers, one very satisfactory feature of the day's celebration, was the decorous and respectful demeanor of our Protestant neighbors and visitors; who did not, either by word or act, afford the slightest pretext for our taking offence in any way whatever, and another cause for congratulation I find in the fact that notwithstanding the large crowd of people assembled, from this, and the neighboring Parish of Lochiel especially, a single case of intemperance was not observable so far as I could learn; and at sunset, the streets were as peaceful as a village church yard. Believing Mr. Editor, that the appearance of these facts in print, will afford satisfaction to many of your readers, I have ventured to send them to you for publication in your next issue.

And am, &c.,
PARISHIONER.

The Rev. H. Brettargh, Parish Priest of Trenton, having only a fortnight since decided upon a trip to England, the land of his birth, his devoted Parishioners determined upon presenting him with an address and also a purse. The time allowed to carry out this good work was indeed short, but under the well directed efforts of the gentlemen throughout the Parish who took the matter in hand the purse was a most gratifying success, how well they succeeded in this tribute of respect and good feeling is handsomely answered by the handsome sum of Two Hundred and Ten Dollars (\$210.00), presented on behalf of the subscribers, to the Rev. H. Brettargh at his residence on the eve of his departure immediately after the reading of the address by D. R. Murphy, Esq., in the presence of a delegation of several gentlemen. The beautiful and costly purse in which was contained the free will offering was the present of Mrs. T. McCabe of this place for which she received the sincere thanks of not only the Rev. H. Brettargh, but also of the delegation.

On Thursday, the 27th inst., the rev. gentleman was accompanied to the cars by several of parishioners, who bid him farewell and God speed.

ADDRESS.

To the Rev. Henry Brettargh, Parish Priest, Trenton:
Reverend and Beloved Pastor,—It is with mingled feelings of regret and pleasure that we approach you with this address upon this the eve

of your departure from amongst us for a few months to visit the land of your birth and early association. Regret, that even for so short a time we are to be deprived of the benign influence of your presence amongst us, and the attentive watchfulness, devotedness, and care which you unceasingly and unhesitatingly bestow upon the members of your flock in this Parish in the fulfilment of your many and arduous Pastoral duties. Pleasure, that after the lapse of over fifteen years' close ministrations in the vineyard of Christ in this mission, you are spared to enjoy what must indeed be a great pleasure to you, a visit to the home of your birth where you spent the sunny hours of childhood and a part of the maturer years of manhood and where the eager, welcome, and happy greeting of kin and friends alike await you. Rest assured beloved and dear Father that our prayers will be continually and devoutly offered up to the Almighty God to grant you a safe and speedy passage across the Atlantic, a pleasant and happy sojourn with your many friends in merry England and a safe return to your numerous and devoted flock. Please accept the accompanying purse as a further earnest of the good will of your parishioners.

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| D. R. Murphy, | Thos. Hollerin, |
| F. J. McGuire, | P. L. McAuley, |
| T. McCabe, | Matthew Mulhern, |
| W. Robertson, | Zebert Smith, |
| A. Macauley, | Lewis Prieur, |
| John Lindon, | Adrian Duville, |
| P. Egan, | Patrick Henan, |
| Edwd. Jordan, | Jas. Quinlan, |
| And 260 others. | |

REPLY:

Allow me gentlemen to thank you for your kind expressions of regard and kind wishes for my welfare and enjoyment, I assure you that with all bright anticipations of seeing again those relations and friends from whom I have been so long separated; I do not leave without a deep feeling of loneliness at parting from a congregation with whose life and welfare my heart has become so intimately interwoven. Trenton was my first and has been my only mission. For upwards of fifteen years I have labored amongst you, I hope according to those lights and graces which God has vouchsafed me, and this I must say, a kinder, more docile, or more liberal congregation could not exist. I will not say that your truly handsome testimonial has taken me by surprise, for though you have endeavored to collect secretly, it is in the very nature of things impossible to keep such matters secret, nor would any act of generosity on your part surprise me, but this I will say, it was unexpected, and I fear undeserved, your generosity on all previous church collections has always been so great and you have so very recently made me that handsome present of a pair of horses and harness that I feel an absolute reluctance to receive this your latest and so generous present, there is one view of the matter however which reconciles me to its acceptance, nay, forbids me to refuse it, those testimonials have a wider signification than these material expressions springing spontaneously from the Catholic heart, they are grand acts of faith offered through the Priest to Almighty God. It is your faith in God's Church and its mission which has suggested this present and the testimonial to the Priest of that Church, and as such I dare not refuse it for God. And there is a consolation in this fact that whereas I can never hope to repay you sufficiently for it, God in his abundant bounty will not allow it to go unrewarded. Hoping to be spared to return to you in a few months to labor yet many years amongst you I thank you sincerely for your kindness and may God's be ever upon you.

H. BRETTARGH,
Priest.

To the Editor of the True Witness.

Sir,—I see by your last that Mr. Thomas Widd denies having been the author of the pretended anonymous letters that appeared in the Montreal Witness of the 6th of October last. In spite of that denial, I repeat my statement, and am ready, anxious even to confirm it upon oath, if Widd will but give me the chance to do so.

I will come to details. The letters in question were written partly by Widd himself, and partly by me, but at Widd's instigation—at No. 25 Hermitage street, on the 1st or 2nd of October last: I am not quite certain as to the day. We had just finished writing the letters, and were still talking, when Mr. Herron, the step brother of the Chief of Police, Mr. Hughes, came in, and the papers were lying on the table close to where he took a chair. No doubt that Mr. Herron recollects the circumstance, and to him I appeal in corroboration of the truth of this part of my story.

I have also in my possession a letter from Thos. Widd, in which, by the regard I bear him, I am earnestly requested not to fail again in meeting him at night for business of importance. This too corroborates my story: for what other important business could Widd have had to transact with me, of whom he now pretends to entertain so low an opinion?

That he thought highly of me last autumn that letter shows; and when Thos. Widd called on M. Bouchard of the detective police, he referred him to me, speaking of me to M. Bouchard in high terms. For the truth of this fact, I appeal to the detective police officer, whom I have named.

And what has become of the letters, by the inspection of which truth might be elicited? The said letters having served their purpose—that of throwing odium and suspicion on the Mile End School for the Deaf and Dumb—were demanded back again from the hands of the Police, to whom they had been given by Thos. Widd. It was, I believe one of the employees of the Witness who so got back the letters. Now I challenge Mr. Thos. Widd to produce them: to put them, the originals of course, in the hands of the Police, so that by a careful examination of the handwriting their authorship may be established. I fancy that Mr. Widd does not dare to encour-