

The True Witness

AND CATHOLIC CHRONICLE.

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WEDNESDAY, JULY 23, 1897

LOYALTY.

It is needless to say that the Irish Canadian Catholic section of our Dominion is second to none in its loyalty to Canada. Every reason that can induce men of sense to be faithful to their allegiance exists here. The vast majority of those who left Ireland some years ago, and who have made Canada their home, if prudent, sober and industrious, have found here, if not great wealth, at least solid comfort, whilst not a few have risen to be classed amongst the very fortunate. In every respect Irish Catholics in this country have reason to be satisfied with their lot, and they are satisfied with it. It is sufficient to cast a glance around and about us to feel an honest pride in the success of Irishmen and the sons of Irishmen who have achieved the highest positions in the country, and who fill them with benefit to the Dominion and with honor and credit to their race. The Irish Canadian can point to the Confederation table, and in that historic picture single out, amongst the most able and eloquent of the fathers of our New Dominion, men of Irish names and blood who professed the faith of our fathers. In the Dominion Parliament Irish Catholics have always held their own, if not by numbers, certainly by distinguished ability. It would require many newspaper articles to do justice to the prominent roles honorably played by our people in the Legislatures of the different Provinces. To-day in all parts of the Dominion, in commerce and industry, as well as the learned professions, Irish Catholics also hold foremost place. All this is the result of honest effort, under the beneficent aegis of Home Rule. Canada governs herself. There are occasional injustices done here as elsewhere, but our country is, upon the whole, singularly free from bigotry. We advocate Home Rule for Ireland and we admire the progress and prosperity, yes, and the loyalty of Irish Canadians, as arguments in favor of granting to the dear Old Land the privileges that have been productive of so many blessings in this country. To those who claim that Home Rule for Ireland means separation from England and the disintegration of the Empire, the response is given: "Look at Canada with its French Canadian and its Irish Canadian Catholics, where can you find a more loyal people?"

These remarks we deem not out of place, in view of certain things that have transpired in connection with the celebration of the Jubilee of Her Majesty the Queen. Irishmen, the world over, approve of the action of the Irish representatives in the British House of Commons in relation to the Jubilee. Ireland had nothing to jubilate about. She had fought a great constitutional battle for Home Rule, and whilst winning to her side England's foremost statesman, failed in the effort, and saw her friend driven from power because he had sought to do her even partial justice. In Canada things are different. During Her Majesty's reign the rebels of 1837, by a judicious administration of affairs, were converted into warm supporters of the formerly hated régime, and to-day children of the patriots claim front rank as ardent supporters of Imperial connection. Irish Canadian Catholics, altogether apart from respect for the voice of the Church, which inculcates rendering unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's, as sensible men, enjoying the protection of good laws, enacted and administered by themselves as an integral part of the community, wishing to be known as true to our constitution, did their part to make the celebration here a success. For that worthy and sensible course they have fallen under the displeasure of that most contemptible of scribblers, the anonymous correspondent of a foreign newspaper. No doubt the persons whose names have been mentioned, and whose characters

have been traduced, many of them gentlemen who have sacrificed time, money and energy for the Irish cause, can afford to smile at the impotent media of a correspondent who is too cowardly to publish his slanders over his own signature. The man who comes out boldly and proclaims his views, assuming all the responsibility for his acts, however mistaken these views may be, will always command respect; whilst he who stabs in the back, under the cover of darkness, is simply an assassin. We have a good constitution, we are a free people, self-governed and fairly prosperous; we are loyal, and we are not ashamed to proclaim it; and those who take the trouble to make our sentiments known by honestly coming to the front on appropriate occasions, deserve our thanks and shall get them, even at the risk of being stigmatized by anonymous scoundrels as untrue to the grand old cause.

GOLD FIELDS.

The love of gain, and more particularly the desire to become suddenly wealthy, is one of the diseases of the age. Nowadays people cannot wait; the idea of earning one's bread by the sweat of the brow is more galling than ever. In such a condition of things, it cannot be wondered at that nearly every scheme for making riches rapidly should find a host of gullible people ready, despite all warning and experience, to become victims of their rash desire to avoid the safe but tedious path. It must be admitted that, to a considerable extent, the sensational tone of our daily press is very much to blame. The prominence given to every new raid is frequently little less than criminal. Not many months have elapsed since about a hundred heads of families, with their wives and children, were allured to Brazil, under the promise of easily acquired wealth. In that instance, no amount of warning availed. The dupes of the speculators were told that they were going to a land altogether unsuitable, that they were venturing into a climate that meant death, even should they escape the hardships, it was clearly pointed out to them, they must endure. Yet off they sailed, many of them to the death that had been predicted for them, others to return here objects of charity, after most terrible experiences. Within the past week the timing headlines of daily journalism have been proclaiming the discovery of untold gold, in an extreme corner of Canadian Territory. King Solomon's mines are not to be compared, it appears, to the Klondike country, and the Yukon and its tributaries are literally teeming with the precious yellow metal. True, the unwary are informed, that the country has its peculiarities, that it is not a good place to go to without a year's provisions ahead, that this is not a good time to leave. All the same, the danger is that many young and inexperienced people, will be led away by the glowing accounts of the hundreds of thousands of dollars that have been found by a few fortunate individuals, whilst little or nothing is said of the hundreds who have left their bones to whiten the soil of the new Eldorado. The note of warning given by the Minister of the Interior is timely. Venturesome people are not only warned of the danger attending the journey and the privations that may be expected in the mining regions, but notice is given, that the Government cannot be expected to come to the rescue, even were such a thing feasible, of any band of imprudent people who may place themselves in imminent danger of starvation by recklessly joining the race of fortune hunters.

THE MISSION OF THE LAY CATHOLIC.

For some time past the Catholic Summer School of America has been in session at Cliff Haven, near Plattsburg. The good work is being carried on with vigor, and the best results may be anticipated. In the field of secular learning, the names of the lecturers command the confidence of the whole people, whilst its Sunday discourses are of a very high order. The opening sermon by Rev. James T. O'Reilly, O.S.A., on "The Mission of Lay Catholics," has a noble effort well worthy of more than a passing notice. In his introductory sentences the eloquent preacher thus placed the question before his hearers:—

"The Church is a vast army marshaled in the cause of humanity under the banner of the Crucified. On her side are truth, justice and God. Against her are arranged all the forces of ignorance, hatred of religion, human respect, worldly ambition, moral depravity, guided by the spirit of pride under the banner of Satan. Man's soul is the prize; life or death the result.

"Need it here be asked, what are the duties of lay Catholics in this great army? What are the duties of rank and file in any army? Do they discharge their obligations simply by wearing the uniform of the soldier or cheering for their flag? No. The lay Catholic must do the fighting. He must advance the outpost of the Church in every field held by the enemy. In the literary, scientific, commercial and social field it is the duty of the lay Catholic to plant the standard of the cross and defend it.

"Priests have their own portion of the work. It is theirs to lead, to preach, to exhort, to advise, even to threaten at times, to offer sacrifice, to dispense the mys-

teries of God's grace, but there is great struggle going on, and the questions of the day, affecting man's social and religious life, are being discussed in the forum of the shop, the street, the club, the steamboat and the railway train. There the lay Catholic must uphold his honor and the honor of the Church. In the arena of everyday life the voice of the layman alone is heard. It is nonsense, eye, cowardice to plead that it is not good taste to intrude your religion on the attention of others. You cannot help it; you are forced to either compromise, which is tantamount to denial, or defend it. Religion is the one great question which is argued everywhere and by every one.

Having developed the ideas thus set forth he resumes the position in these words:—

"The first duty, then, of the lay Catholic mission is to carry the teachings of our holy religion into the everyday life of the world. This means loyalty to the standard of the cross, obedience to divinely constituted authority, generous use of the sacraments and a deep sense of responsibility arising from membership in the Church of God."

These remarks were, of course, addressed to a distinguished and cultured audience of learned Catholics. For the well-informed Catholic to listen to the truths of his religion being lightly treated there is no excuse; but where the culture and information necessary to carry on a religious discussion are wanting, then indeed is silence golden. The Reverend Orator was happiest in his treatment of the subject, when he launched forth upon the duties of laymen in the political field. Daniel O'Connell said that nothing would be politically right that was morally wrong. Dealing with the duties of Catholic laymen in matters political, from that standpoint Father O'Reilly said:—

"In this country the political duties of the layman are not the least of his responsibilities. The purity of our politics rests upon the virtue of the citizens and the security of the republic depends upon the purity of its politics. The lay Catholic owes it to himself, his Church, his country, to prove the fallacy of that accepted doctrine that man may be a good man, pure and honest in his private life, and at the same time crooked in politics. If a man is crooked in politics he is a dishonest man, and it only needs temptation and opportunity to prove it. We should always oppose the election to office of corrupt men, especially if they use the name Catholic to help them, and we should never allow men to represent us as Catholics unless we are satisfied that they can be endorsed as practical members of the Church. Too many weak, selfish and unprincipled men have ridden to power on a Catholic vote, only to bring disgrace on themselves and the Catholic name by their dishonesty and political corruption.

"It is not enough for the Catholic to be no worse than other men; he should be better than other men because he is a Catholic. A Catholic representative in any position should be a man upon whom we can rely always to stand firm in defense of right and in opposition to wrong. Again, it does not follow because State and Church are separated and each has its own field in which to work, that the State alone shall monopolize the use of political methods and that the Church shall confine itself to prayer—God helps those who help themselves. It often happens that the enemies of holy religion make use of political power to check our progress, to enact iniquitous laws, to deprive Catholics of their civil and religious rights. We should not be too timid about using the same instruments to combat them. We should never be ashamed to combine as Catholics and to make our influence as a body felt at the polls in defense of religious and moral rights.

Nor did the Rev. Lecturer forget the laywoman in his admirable discourse. Her duties, he said, may be summed up in one word—mother. He said the sanctity of the home is threatened all along our social life. No human influence but the example of strong, virtuous Catholic womanhood shall be able to stem the progress of secret immorality.

He urged well informed Catholics to make use of the press, not so much for controversial purposes, which he deprecated, as to disabuse the minds of others of the errors that are being constantly circulated, and the misstatements that abound concerning the Church; and he made a special plea to avail ourselves of our religious associations, so as to do the work for which they are specially organized and propagate the faith through the noble example of Catholic efforts.

The sermon treated the subject, in all its branches, with vigor and thoroughness, and must have made many laymen conclude that in the past they have fallen far short of the performance of their whole duty to the sound cause of Catholicity.

ORANGE fanaticism must be growing apace in Louisville, Kentucky, according to the following paragraph in the Midland Review of that city, under date July 22nd:—

The columns of the Times, of this city, for several days have been a battleground between the defender and assailant of Orangism. The struggle is now over, yet it must be admitted that the latest Catholic champion badly worsted his Scotch antagonist. Another Orangeman named Murdoch now leaps to the front and beseeches some one to tell him who invaded Canada and killed a preacher named Hackett. The next thing we know some one will be digging up the ancient quarry of the murder of Cock Robin. By the way, who was it gave orders to put down 'the contumacious Orange rebels' after the passage of the Catholic Emancipation Act? Who was it conspired to prevent Victoria from ascending the English throne?

THE GODLESS SCHOOL.

A recent despatch from New York brings us the following:—

Benjamin Simon, a 14-year-old school-boy, because he failed to pass the examination at the College of the City of New York, being deficient in drawing, drowned himself in the Hudson river on Saturday night. His body was recovered next day and taken to the home of his parents at 80 Suffolk street. Before committing suicide the lad mailed this note to his home:—

"My dear Parents, I notify you that I will commit suicide. The reasons are that I had no opportunity to carry out my resolution to study on account of our circumstances. I have but few regrets that I must part with the world at such an age. The most important is that I have not held my resolution to agitate among the working masses for their emancipation from wage slavery by the overthrow of the capitalistic system and for the establishment of the co-operative commonwealth advanced by the Socialist-Labor party. I am grieved at the idea that you will grieve, although the hand that wrote it will then be cold and stiff. The resolution to commit suicide, though long delayed, will at last be executed. I cannot write more. My hand is trembling, but, if you want to do the last request for your son, who is now dead to you and to the whole world, grieve not. I am wholly prepared to die, the death I myself have sentenced.—Your son,

BENJAMIN SIMON.

The telegraphic report states that overstudy had affected the boy's brain. No doubt, but the godless system of education which the boy was undergoing was the direct cause of the calamity that befell him. His poor little head was crammed full of secular knowledge ill digested. At the early age of 14 he had already sought to solve the great problem of emancipation from the bonds that enslave society. He was anxious for the working masses, and the unfortunate child had evidently no idea of a Supreme Ruler. No lesson had been taught him from the inspired book. The school in which he had received his instruction is the much vaunted National Common School. There no time is wasted in learning how to know, love and serve God, and a little brain brought up out of all contact with Divine light, face to face with human misery, seeks, quite naturally, the ending of its slavery in suicide. "I have few regrets that I must part with this world at such an age." No thought of the eternity beyond. The godless school produces the godless scholar. If the suicide of this unfortunate youth will only cause some men to think for a moment, does it not offer a terrible lesson. What is to become of the country that excludes God and the teachings of Christianity from the curriculum of its schools?

VICTORIA SQUARE, of all places in the city, should be kept as a thing of beauty and a joy forever. It is true that the Parks and Ferries Committee make it their business to see that the Square is kept in proper condition, but there is something so much in evidence as to demand the intervention of the powerful arm of the law. Beautiful as it is in itself, the effect of the square is spoiled by the number of idle and, in not a few instances, questionable characters, whom the police allow to frequent it. It is a matter of surprise that these people are not asked to move on. Of course, everyone is entitled to a seat in a public square, but that does not carry with it a license to be all day on a bench in a drunken sleep, or when awake use filthy language.

CANADA has at last swung into the path of her destiny, and every recurrent year impresses on the pages of the world's history the immense importance to the future commercial prosperity of the Empire of the great North American continent. Lumber, coal, iron, copper, and other valuable commercial products Canada possesses in abundance, and now to, as it were, reap the climax of the immense resources with which Providence has blessed us comes the news of the discovery at Klondyke of gold mines in comparison with which the fables of the great Golconda ones fade into insignificance. With every attribute required by a prosperous country, the near future may be a big increase in immigration.

LADY SOMERSET, for so many years the head and front of the W. C. T. U., has resigned her proud position as president because her fellow members refused to endorse her views in connection with renewal of the Contagious Diseases Acts for India. The nature of these Acts are not apparent but there is little doubt as to the nature of the President of the W. C. T. U. There is a saying that a wilful man must have his way, but how much more true to nature the aphorism would have been if only the word "woman" had been substituted for that of man.

A CORRESPONDENT of a Western journal says that he views with alarm the increase of the French Canadian race in Ontario. He says that they are now masters of Northern Ontario, and five years hence at the rate of progress already made will reach 300,000 in strength. Fifteen years ago there were none or very few French Canadians in Northern

Ontario. He adds that where the French Canadians go they stick, and no hard work is too hard to discourage them, whereas the average Ontario settler is becoming educated above hard work.

The Utica Globe, in its issue of July 23rd, contains a fine picture and short sketch of the career of Judge J. D. Purcell. It is interesting to observe American newspapers beginning to take interest in our public men, and in the case of Judge Purcell they could not have chosen a better subject. His many excellent qualities of head and heart have endeared him to the people of Montreal, and his elevation to the Bench was hailed with satisfaction by all who knew him.

PRESIDENT MCKINLEY has signed the Dingley Tariff Bill, and it now remains to be seen what effect this famous measure will have on the business interests of the country. The United States newspapers dwell with enthusiasm on the ceremonial attending the signing of the bill by the President. It is to be hoped that they will show the same enthusiasm when the new measure shows its practical results.

THE Midland Review rises to remark that "the papers are filled with an account of the destruction of missions and churches in China. Five missions have been wrecked and three churches burned to the ground, it appears, within the last two weeks. At this juncture perhaps it would not be amiss for Mr. McKinley to inquire who introduced the A. P. A. among the Chinese pagans."

THERE is a man, or rather an apology for one, in Louisville, Kentucky, who has been nominated for the office of coroner by a so-called convention of Republicans, and in accepting the nomination he is credited with using the following language:—

"I want to state unequivocally that I am opposed to Catholicism, a religion which violates the Second Commandment. I am opposed to the man who sits in the Papal Chair in Rome, and calls himself Lord God. I want to say that if I am elected the first duty I shall perform will be to find out who dies in the convents, and how they die."

THE New York State authorities have a very difficult problem to solve, and there is little doubt that whatever its solution it is being eagerly looked forward to not only by other States but also in Canada. It is how to treat convicts so that while undergoing punishment for their crimes they may still preserve their faculties. Seven convicts in Kings County Penitentiary have been adjudged insane and removed to the asylum at Matteawan, and this wholesale destruction of intellect is ascribed to the rule of the State, which compels on its prisoner enforced idleness. In January the prison contract labor law was revoked and now these wards of the Government sit in their cells all day until the inactivity and horrible sameness of their existence saps away their reason. Commissioner Burtis, speaking on the subject, says:—

"I have no hesitation in saying that this is the worst law that was ever enacted in this State. I don't know that I favor the Contract Labor law altogether, but this doesn't help matters much. For instance, we used to make mail bags here and sell 'em to the Government. They're made in Trenton prison now, and the Government gets 'em there. The same contractor that used to be here is now selling goods in this State made in the State prisons of Massachusetts and Connecticut. I don't know that the labor union men are much better off. There is one thing certain, however, we're turning out here, at an awful rate, a supply of lunatics."

PILGRIMAGE TO ST. ANNE DE BEAUPRE.

SPECIALLY ORGANIZED FOR ENGLISH SPEAKING CATHOLICS, TO TAKE PLACE NEXT SATURDAY, JULY 31.

On Saturday next the pilgrimage for English speaking Catholic men and youths to St. Anne de Beaupre will be held. The arrangements are in the hands of the Rev. Fathers of St. Ann's parish, and that is the best guarantee of the success of the undertaking. The reliable and commodious steamer Three Rivers will leave the Richelieu pier at 7 p. m. This is probably the last opportunity of the season for English speaking Catholics to visit the famous shrine under the immediate direction of their own pastors and it should be made good use of.

POPE LEO'S PROTEST.

HIS HOLINESS DEMANDS THE RESTORATION OF HIS RIGHTS.

ROME, July 15.—A letter from the Pope to Cardinal Oreglia di San Stefano, Dean of the Sacred College, was published to-day. His Holiness thanks the bishops who assembled at the recent organizations and signed an address declaring their attachment to the Holy See. The Pope exhorts the bishops to inculcate this feeling upon the Catholic world, and concludes:—

"Every day the necessity appears greater for replacing the Holy See in the position Providence assigned to it. As long as the difficulties which oppress us endure we will continue to complain of the violence done the Papacy, and to demand the rights safeguarding our liberty."

MRS. SADLER TESTIMONIAL.

Subscriptions may be addressed to the chairman, Sir William Hingston, M.D., Montreal, P.Q.; or the secretary, Mr. Justice Curran, Montreal, P.Q.; or to the treasurer, Mr. Michael Burke, 275 Mountain street, Montreal, P.Q.

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A. O. H.

Division No. 2 to Hold its Annual Excursion on August 5.

The members of No. 3 Division have secured the steamer Three Rivers for their fourth annual excursion on Thursday, August 5th, 1897. The Ancient Order of Hibernians is an organization of a national spirit; whose thoughts are Irish, whose hearts are Irish whose teachings are Irish, one with all the people of their race, reflecting all their feelings, animated by all their national and religious desires, and its objects are to keep in touch with all our Irish Catholic citizens. It is the desire of the Committee to bring together a galaxy of Irishmen and women (and their descendants) that they may participate in the amusements afforded them on this occasion. They have secured the services of H. Murphy, (of Chicago) the Irish champion piper of the World, as well as Casey & Davis' Orchestra, also an Irish Glee Club, composed of members of the Order, whose rendition of ancient song, of the combats, and the virtues and the sorrows of the Gael, will be a feature in itself to warrant the occasion an enjoyable one.

The personnel of the Committee who have kindly offered their services, in cooperation with the Committee of Management, will be a guarantee to every excursionist who will avail themselves of the coming event of Division No. 3, on the 5th August, 1897.

ST. PATRICK'S T. A. & B. SOCIETY.

The annual picnic and games of the St. Patrick's T. A. & B. Society, at Isle Grou Bois, Saturday, July 17th, was a complete success. The weather was all that could be desired and over 1200 people availed themselves of the fine day and accompanied the members on their annual outing. Music for dancing was supplied by Prof. Casey's orchestra and the want of the people in that respect were well looked after by the music committee. The following programme of games was carried out.

Children's go as you please, 10 prizes. Girls' race, 8 years and under, 1. M. O'Callahan; 2. L. Feeley; 3. A. Hayes; 4. F. Costigan; 5. F. Hickey. Three quick leaps, for boys of 15 years and under, 1. D. Kelly; 2. F. Lukeman; 3. J. Stevens; 4. F. O'Callahan. Children's race, 50 yards, five prizes. Boys' race, 8 years and under, 1. E. Newbold; 2. Jas. Lukeman; 3. J. Laiselle; 4. Joseph Doyle; 5. John Costigan.

Girls' race, members' daughters, 12 years and under, 1. Rose Kelly; 2. N. Brown; 3. Lily Costigan; 4. Annie Doyle; 5. H. Bresola. Boys' race, members' sons, 12 years and under, 1. D. Kelly; 2. J. Stevens; 3. W. Cusack; 4. John Doyle; 5. John Costigan.

Boys' race, 15 years and under (open), 1. J. Stevens; 2. F. O'Callahan; 3. D. Kelly; 4. F. Lukeman; 5. R. Quigley.

Girls' race, 15 years and under (open), 1. Ethel Cheeketts; 2. N. Brown; 3. F. Johnston; 4. C. Levesque; 5. M. Bradley.

100 yds. race, members of the Society of over 12 years standing, 1. J. H. Kelly; 2. P. Connolly.

100 yds. open, 1. F. Kerr; 2. H. P. McDonald.

Quarter mile, open to all members of the society in good standing, 1. W. P. Doyle; 2. J. Nolan; 3. J. Blanchfield. Bean guess, 1. J. J. Bolster; 2. J. J. McElhann; 3. Mrs. J. McCaffrey.

Irish jig, 1. J. Edwards; 2. F. McDonald.

The grand hurley match, 17 married vs. 17 unmarried members, was won by the latter, by a score of three games to two. The Exhibition of Sacred Art, which is going to be held at Turin next year, has been generously aided by His Holiness. It has just been announced that he will give a prize of about £400 to the holder of the best painting of the Holy Family. The Holy Father is also taking much interest in the Raphael Exhibition, which is going to be held at Urbino; the birthplace of the immortal painter. He has given a precious cameo to be drawn for by lot, in order to defray some of the expenses of this exhibition.