OFFICE AND HIGH MASS FOR THE LATE HON. T. D. McGEE, IN HALIFAX, N. S.

FUNERAL ORATION BY THE MOST REV. THOMAS L. CONNOLLY.

(Continued.)

Within a year from his arrival, he made his mark, and took such hold of the public, that at the first vacancy he became member of Parliament for Montreal. During that short year, there was scarcely a literary club, or society, or a scientific re-union, from end to end of the land, that was not charmed by the magic of his euphonious voice and the flashes of vivid lightning that shot out from his prolific brain. At the first outset, he found in Canada many and signal advantages denied to his people in the old country, and not enjoyed to the same extent by emigrants in the neighboring republic; but yet even in Canada he but too plainly saw that much was still to be achieved before his fellow-countrymen would be effectually placed on the same perfect level with their fellow-subjects of other creeds and nationalities. They were nominally equal before the law, but in some vital instances the law was defective and one-sided, and proscriptive to some extent. The anti-Catholic and anti religious school system of the United States was thrust on them in Western Canada, making their condition in this respect worse and far more galling than in Ireland itself. The rampant spirit of Orangeism, imported from the old country, seemed to have acquired new vigor and increased intensity on this new soil. Priests were insulted—their lives threatened—some few churches, I believe, were burned, and even several unavenged murders were committed in the daylight, without a jury unprejudiced enough to find an honest verdict. Hundreds of Catholics sold out their farms, and thousands of mechanics and laborers were forced, for the same reason, to seek employment elsewhere; and Fenianism to-day in Canada, odious and indefensible as it may be, is, I solemnly believe, to some extent, the inevitable recoil and natural offshoot of all these unfortunate ultra-Protestant exhibitions. We can easily conceive why an uneducated Irish Catholic might be a Fenian in Ireland; but why Fenianism, in its most odious and assassin forms, should have acquired such intensity in Canada rather than in any other part of the American continent, cannot be otherwise explained. Besides all this, there was no fellowship—no bond of union—no common standpoint whatever between Protestant and Catholic; and what is still more extraordinary and unintelligible, the same result obtained to a large extent between French and Irish. On the occasion of my first visit to that country, the three parties seemed to me to resemble three unleashed bulldogs, more or less ferocious, let into the same enclosure, for the mere purpose of worrying each other, without any imaginable benefit,—nay rather with sundry unsightly cuts and ugly bruises, and positive and downright injury to the most successful among the three.

Such was the social and political state of Canada when Mr. McGee arrived. His life was threatened, as far as I remember, on his first public appearance in Toronto. For aught I or any one else could foresee at the time, there was never to be an end to it. Instead of improving as years rolled by, and as the country was becoming settled, this gangrene seemed to be gnawing more and more into the social system, and wide-spreading, till it seemed to infect all classes. Every new importation from Ireland but added new virus to the malady, until the case appeared to be desperate as it was incurable.

In the honesty and simplicity of my heart at the time, I looked to the United States eventually for the only possible solution of the problem, but the unexpected phenomenon of Know-Nothingism in that country, of which I was an eye-witness, dispelled that delusion forever. We had the same evils to complain of, in an exaggerated form, in the neighbouring province of New Brunswick, where, together with the usual excesses, a midday and murderous conflict took place, which well nigh threatened the peace of the whole colony. But few years since the same, in lesser degree, occurred in Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, where the banners of the respective contending parties seemed to be for the moment, "Love God, and hate your fellow-creature as heartily as possible."

And how was this gigantic evil to be remedied? We had three millions of people in these now united Provinces; and I must be excused for stating my honest conviction that I saw but one man alone with expansion of heart and head enough to grasp the magnificent design, and with the lever of genius and indomitable energy to carry it into triumphant execution, and that man was Thomas D'Arcy McGee. Other prominent party leaders seemed to me to be ever screaming and piping lamentations, and playing on the passions of the unthinking, and poking up the dead men's bones of centuries gone by, for the purpose of finding the God-send of a grievance; and therefore with all their acknowledged ability, they did but harm to the country and to the public and but very little good to themselves. They were their whole lives pulling down rather than building up, and therefore when dying left nothing behind of an enduring character or worthy of a people's gratitude. Not so with the great and good man we mourn to-day. To him belongs the singular privilege of having inaugurated what his journal in Canada was called, the *new era* of peace, benediction, prosperity, and brotherly love, where there was naught before but heart-burnings, and hard feelings, and deeds of death, and darkness, and total alienation of brother from brother, and party feelings, and schism in their most unchristian and revolting forms Without ceasing for a moment to be the ardent lover of Ireland, her religion, and her people, he was first among the benefactors, and in a certain sense father, of his adopted country. By herculean labor he succeeded to a large extent in tearing up, root and branch, senseless and inveterate prejudices, and blending all hearts in one common effort for one common weal. He did what before him no one ever seriously attempted with any show of success. He made man's "justice and peace kiss," and without the compromise of a single principle, religious or political, he brought rich and poor, Protestant and Catholic, English, French, Irish, Scotch and Canadian, into the bond of amity and the social compact, and unified a whole mass of heterogeneous people, far more than the most ardent lover of his new and interesting country could ever have anticipated. And this, I confess, is the secret why I myself esteemed, loved and admired him, as the Catholic Irishman, with all his failings, of whom I felt most proud.

Had I never seen him, and that he had lived and died in Australia, his literary works and the thrill of his Irish and inspired oratory, and above all, his life-long and distinguished services to religion and country, would endear him to my heart, and embalm his memory, as it now does, in my never-fading recollection. But returning to his history in Canada within ten short years he was, under God, mainly instrumental in acquiring a position for Irishmen, which I solemnly believe since the days of Henry the Second they never attained elsewhere. Up to a late period in life he carried his Irishry so far as to wish that all Irishmen were grouped and would live together in separate communities on this continent, so that their religion, language, customs and associations might be preserved in their integrity as in the old land; and for this reason alone he forfeited his life-long and kindly relations with his best friend, Archbishop Hughes, with whom he had for a considerable period a life and death on the subject.

And Oh! tell it not in Gath—publish it not in the streets of Ascalon, lest the daughters of the Philistines rejoice—this is the Irishman—the pride, the honor, and benefactor of his race and creed—the giant in intellect and the *guest* father of his country—the foremost among the founders of her institutions—the most genial and warm-hearted, and in a human sense, the best and greatest man in this wide domain—and this is the man who has been so ruthlessly cloven down and his soul hurled before the dread tribunal of his Maker without having had time to say, "God have mercy on me!"

And by whom has this tremendous deed been perpetrated? Was it by wild Indians?—a Savage, a Cherokee, a Blackfoot, a Hottentot or a New Zealander? Was it by an Orangeman—English, Scotch, American, or Canadian? Was it by a Bengal tiger, a hyena, or a demon in human form? But, Oh God! to think that this prince of Irishmen, for mere blood-money, for private vengeance, would have been trailed for months, and struck down by the miscreant blood red-hand of one of his own countrymen, is perfectly overwhelming. Whenever I look back at the deed with all its accompanying horrors (and it is a spectre that haunts me almost at every hour), I feel as if my blood would curdle and my heart shrivel up within me. Instead of being dwarfed by distance of time, in my view it is every day looming up more hideous and more appalling. Since the stabbing of Henry the Fourth of France, by Ravaillac, nothing like it in atrocity excepting the public murder of President Lincoln, has occurred for three hundred years. In the absence of all knowledge of the particulars, save what we all learn from the press, I only hope, and, I fear against hope, that my worst suspicions will not be realized; and in the midst of all I so poignantly feel on the subject, to know that it was not an Irishman who did the deed will be a relief that I cannot express in words.

But the deed is done, beyond all doubt by an assassin's hand, who perhaps,

"Should against the murderer shut the door,
Nor bear the knife himself."

Besides this great and good man,

"Hath borne his faculties so meek hath been
So clear in his great office, that his virtues
Will plead like angels, trumpet-tongued, against
The deep damnation of his taking off:
And Pity, like a naked new-born babe,
Striding the blast, ...
Shall blow the horrid deed in every eye."

Impiously pushing God aside from His throne, and the arbitrament of that life which he alone could give, and ought to take away at his own sweet time, the assassin, countryman or stranger, committed the foulest deed that can be conceived against God or man. In a fell swoop he extinguished one of the most brilliant lamps of God, and stopped in one second the throbbings of a giant's heart.

"How are the valiant fallen? Jonathan slain in the high places? I grieve for thee, Jonathan, exceedingly beautiful, and to be loved as the mother loveth her only son," by those who, in this world, basked as I did in the sunshine of your genial friendship.

And, oh! my friends, I will ask here to-day, for what has this terrible retribution been inflicted? Is it for any criminal act, any treasonable or libellous speech or writing against the State or fellow-subject? If so, redress was at hand, the appeal was obviously to the outraged law. If only a private feud, a quarrel, a personal insult, there was another remedy—unsanctioned, indeed, nay, condemned by religion—in the manly, the open, the midday fight for honor. But for the coward wretch, who tracks his victim in the shades of night, and craven-like lurks in holes, around corners, and crouches behind walls for the security of his own worthless life, while sending the assassin bullet on its errand of death, the scathing contempt of the universe together is not a feather's weight as compared with God's maledictions on such a man. In point of fact, that crime has no proper name in human language. The blow of the assassin is terrific beyond doubt, but a million of such cowards never did and never could or would fight a nation's battles. Assassination never yet redressed the grievances of a people nor won back the lost boon of their national independence. There is not in all history an instance of such a fact. Neither can there be. It is God himself who assures us that all who take the sword shall perish by the sword. Besides the many instances of assassination and its inevitable retribution, quoted by the press when lately alluding to this subject, I heard myself from a competent authority in France, where I resided for some years, that of the hundreds of assassins who were prominent during the French Revolution, there was scarcely one ever known to have escaped a bloody and disastrous death. Marat, the prince of assassins, was killed naked in his bath by the weakly hand of a girl, who plunged the fatal dagger into his heart at a moment when he was probably plotting to make her a victim of his lust, as he had already victimized her dearest ones on earth at the guillotine. Robespierre, who in the name of liberty boasted of having cut off the heads of thousands, had his own jaw bone nearly torn away by a woman, and like a coward as he was, screamed at the intensity of his torture as he was carried on a hurdle in the bloody track to the Place de Greve. Need I remind you of the terrific end of Booth, said to be cut up in fifty pieces, and the atrocious death of his wretched accomplices, marked as it was by everything a mighty nation could do to disgrace and to consign them to everlasting infamy. Such was the end of assassination from the beginning of the world, and in my soul I believe that there will be no exception to the rule unto the consummation of all things.

In Mr. McGee's case it would now appear evident that he lost his life to save the people of his country from a band of assassins, and for the unpardonable crime, in their eyes, of fearlessly expressing his honest political opinions in this free country. The crime perpetrated against Mr. McGee, if committed by a clique, as alleged, is a crime against every man in this land, whose life and liberties are thereby threatened, and for the same reason. This is the first time that midnight political assassination has been imported into this country, and if it be proven to be by an Irishman, I, on the part of Ireland and the Irish, repudiate the foul deed as being in any way chargeable to us as a people.

The Herald.

Wednesday, June 10, 1868.

THE FENIANS

Are a funny set, as well as troublesome and dangerous fellows. General O'Neill, for example, who is the President of the Brotherhood, and who has recently made a tour of the States to awaken the organization and infuse new life into it; has adopted a new and extraordinary system of military tactics on the safe side of the Niagara River. He seems determined to conquer Canada according to the ancient Irish maxim, that "you may as well kill a man as frighten the life out of him." It is presumed that, looking to this latter result, the General ordered a grand pic nic, with Irish music and novel dances, near Buffalo, and the exuberance of his men in these pursuits seems to have already stirred the Canadians very profoundly, for a telegram from Ottawa, of the 1st instant, informs us that the military preparations for the *anticipated* Fenian raid are completed. Sir Charles Wyndham and Adjutant General McDougall are directing affairs, which are now altogether different from what the Fenians found in 1866. Regulars and Volunteers are amply supplied with the Snider-Enfield breech-loader. Field brigades have been formed, composed of Regulars and Volunteers, and each has attached to it a battery of artillery and a troop of cavalry, under the command of a Brigadier, chosen from the officers of the line. If the Fenians intend to subdue the Dominion by dancing, singing, and military parades on the United States banks of the lakes, we suppose there is no law to prevent them doing so, and General O'Neill will get plenty of men to "fight it out on that line" during the year, provided always that he promises to grant extensive furloughs just before the Presidential election in November. In view, however, of the frolic going on at Buffalo, a leading Fenian organ—the *Irish Republic*—deems it a duty to warn its readers against the impositions of O'Neill to obtain money out of the Irish of the United States—only to lead them afterwards into serious jeopardy. Every sensible person knows that the United States will not—unless prepared to enter into a gigantic war with Great Britain, and present circumstances pronounce such an idea absurd—tolerate a Fenian invasion of Canada; but General O'Neill, with strange perverseness, (if his conduct be actuated by honesty) or with criminal deception, asserts the contrary, and states that if the men and money are placed at his disposal, the green flag will speedily float over the British Provinces and Dublin Castle. This is folly of the worst kind, which even the *Irish Republic* cannot tolerate, and this organ very honestly sets itself to the task of "lambasting" O'Neill and his multitudinous officials in the following style:—"Our poor, honest, honorable, hard-working rank and file, love their lost land and hate her oppressors. They can easily be roused to a frenzy of excitement, and get to enlist, and many of them to march to battle. But before they go, we respectfully ask them to decide a few doubtful points. Some of them have helpless young families. Will these Fenian leaders provide them with food and raiment and education, with a home and a calling in life, if they are left orphans? The great O'Neill and his multitudinous officials have not done this—are not doing it—for the families of Luby and of hundreds of other patriots now rotting in English dungeons. Thousands of other honest enthusiasts will lose their situations. It is believed that not less than thirty thousand of our best men were ruined by the former raid on Canada. All who coolly think that a predetermined failure and certain disgrace are worthy of such great sacrifices, may make them if they so please. But that subject is worthy of a little reflection—that's all. And above all things, let the honest men who really leave their homes to fight, see to it that all leaders, senators, organizers, and officials are in the field, at their head. Every man who invites and encourages others to go must go himself—not merely to escort supplies on railroad trains, or to skulk for a fortnight about Malone or St. Alban's and then say he was "at the front." Every man who helps to get up this guilty movement must take the field as a soldier—and if he refuses and shows the white feather, we will brand him before the world as a liar, a hypocrite, and a coward. So, gentlemen, if you choose the cheap glory of merely "talking," we will put you through the somewhat unpleasant process of doing so." We like this style of this talking. It is healthy; it is vigorous; it is honest; and more than all it is sound and true. It remains to be seen whether the *Republic's* advice will be accepted, or whether any considerable number of Irishmen will close their eyes to the dictates of common sense and reason, and rush blindly to destruction at the behest of General O'Neill; for they may rest assured that all they can accomplish by a raid at the present day, before they would be assailed in the rear by a United States army, and in the front by a well-disciplined and well-drilled British force, of all nationalities, determined to protect their property, is to murder a few unarmed and inoffensive individuals, who are in no way responsible for the wrongs of Ireland, and to rob them of their portable possessions. A Fenian fair at Buffalo may be a very healthy and pleasant pastime; military reviews in sight of Canada may be all very well; and even that martial ardor, which expends itself in talk and frightens the Britishers, can well be excused, but those robbing raids, in which human blood is uselessly shed, should be denounced by every loyal and right thinking man.

FAREWELL DINNER TO COLONEL SMITH.—A Farewell Complimentary Dinner was given to Col. Smith, Inspecting Field Officer of Militia, by a number of his friends, the military officers of this County, on Friday evening last, at the North American Hotel. At half past seven, thirty gentlemen sat down to dinner, which was prepared by Mrs. Murphy in her usual excellent style. Col. Gray presided, on his right was Col. Smith, the guest of the evening, and on his left the Hon. George Coles, Leader of the Government. He was very ably assisted by Col. Haviland. After the substantials and liquids had been satisfactorily discussed, the regular toasts of the evening were duly proposed and honored. The following is a list: 1st. The Queen—proposed by Col. Gray. 2d. The Prince and Princess of Wales and the Royal Family—proposed by Col. Haviland, in a brief but eloquent speech, in which allusion was made to the felicitious visit of their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales to Ireland, and the providential escape of H. R. H. Prince Alfred from the assassin's bullet. 3d. His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor and Commander-in-Chief—proposed by Col. Gray in a graceful and complimentary speech, and responded to by the Hon. Geo. Coles, supported by A Mitchell, Esq. A difference of opinion, however, existed between these two gentlemen—the former very truthfully, in our opinion, saying that not the least of the difficulties which any Government in this colony has to encounter in dealing with the question of militia and defence, is the hostility of the people generally to all military duty—and the latter maintaining that, with few exceptions, the people were willing to undergo any amount of militia training, and to shoulder their muskets in defence of their homes at a moment's notice. 4. The Army and Navy—proposed by Col. Haviland; responded to on the part of the army by Capt. Middleton, of the 4th (King's Own) Regt., and on the part of the Navy, by the Hon. B. Davies. 5. Col. Smith, our distinguished guest—proposed by Col Gray, who, among many other sound opinions, hinted that it would be much the wiser plan to sustain effectively a small, but well disciplined force, armed with the latest breech-loaders, rather than have a large, useless militia, armed with guns and broomsticks. At the same time he paid a high compliment to Col. Smith for the increased efficiency to which the Volunteer Militia had been brought, with limited facilities, during the time he had charge of them. Col. Smith's reply was eloquent, appropriate and in good taste. As it may be of interest to the Militia generally, we give an outline of it:—"Mr. President and gentlemen—I am utterly dumbfounded—for, in rising to return thanks for the very great and unmerited honor you have done me, I am weighed down by a sense of my incompetency to do so, particularly rising so immediately after one so gifted as the gallant Colonel. Language, it is said, has been given to man for the expression of his thoughts. I can only say, then, that language, like so many other gifts, sometimes signally fails to perform its duty. I cannot find words to express my sense not only of the very flattering manner in which my health was proposed, but of the very friendly and kindly feeling which has been evinced towards me on all sides. Had results been at all equal to my earnest wishes, I might have had some claims to your kindness; but as it is, it is totally undeserved on my part. Whatever success has attended the Militia organization, is due entirely to the hearty co-operation of all ranks, and to the deep interest which the Commander-in-Chief has taken in the movement. Under the felt necessity of military organization, for purposes of defence, the militia of the Provinces of British North America has made great progress. In the midst of a movement involving the security of soil, property, and all the most sacred rights, Prince Edward Island could not remain inactive, with, figuratively, its hands in its pockets. Let me draw an historical parallel: If, as a deep thinker has said, history is philosophy teaching by example, it may be useful. The Republics of old Greece were very much in the same position, with regard to a foreign foe, that the Provinces of British North America would be in a similar case at present, and had also a powerful and aspiring neighbour. On the great day of Salamis, the Corfiotes failed to take a part in the blow struck for the liberties of Greece. Herodotus transmitted the shame to posterity. I have been stationed in the Ionian Islands, and to this day, after centuries have swept other memories away, it is still a reproach to the Corfiotes that they were not on the muster-roll of those who fought at Salamis. Will there be a similar case in modern times?—will future history carry down the reproach that in the event of a great struggle, Prince Edward Island remained passive? No, Mr. President and gentlemen! such a supposition would be an insult to the manhood and origin of the inhabitants of this Island. You have felt this, and have zealously co-operated to carry out the wishes of the Commander-in-Chief, ever solicitous for the welfare and dignity of the colony. I will not detain you any longer. I shall ever bear in affectionate remembrance, an Island where I have spent two very happy years of my life, and where I have met with so much kindness and friendship. I cannot express to you all I feel. I trust you will take the will for the deed, and I only add that I most heartily thank you." Later in the evening, on proposing the toast of the Volunteer Militia of Prince Edward Island, Col. Smith expressed the opinion that, physically, this force was as fine a body of men as any portion of Her Majesty's wide Dominions could boast of. It consisted of nine thousand men, and it was a source of pleasure to him to be able to state, that out of this number, who received instructions last year, only about two hundred, from various causes, were absent from drill—a fact which testified at once to the patriotism and loyalty of the Island Militia, as also to their willingness to undergo military training for the defence of their homes. The 6th and last regular toast—Mrs. Dundas and the Ladies—was proposed by Col. Haviland, and responded to by Capt. Fitzgerald, in a very gallant and humorous strain. After this, several Volunteer toasts were proposed, which prolonged the festivity into the small hours of the morning; but about 1 o'clock, the company dismissed, well pleased with the corporeal and literary feast of the evening, and at the harmony and good feeling which characterised it. Nearly every gentleman who spoke expressed, and certainly every gentleman present experienced regret that Col. Smith's services should be lost to the colony, and that officer will carry away with him a kindly recollection of those gentlemen for this exhibition of esteem extended to him. He deserved no less at their hands. Among the Volunteer toasts proposed, were Her Majesty's Ministers—by Col. Gray, responded to by Hon. G. Coles and Hon. J. Warburton. "The Opposition"—proposed by Hon. G. Coles, and responded to by Hon. G. Brecken, Esq. "The Militia of Prince Edward Island,"—proposed by Col. Smith, and responded to by Col. Gray. The Fourth Estate, the Bar, the healths of Cols. Gray, Haviland and McGill, and Major Rankin were also duly honored, and elicited some happy speeches.

THE "METEOR" AGAIN.

THE *Islander* insists that the "wonderful meteoric appearance" was "O. K.," as "Old Hickory" Jackson used to abbreviate *all correct*. The *Islander* wants to know the facts as they presented themselves to our vision on the evening of the 13th ultimo. Well, we will "favor" our contemporary as far as we can. Our attention was called to the remarkable appearance of the western heavens, about 7. 30 on the evening in question, by one or two gentlemen who were standing at the corner of Davies & Weeks' store. On looking, we saw, some thirty degrees above the horizon, what the *Islander* very properly designates a zig-zag, sinuous streak of light, or luminous track, which, as a matter of course, projected from west to east—very much in shape like the illustration in the last No. of *Harper's Weekly*, which contains an exhaustive article on this very subject of shooting-stars, aerolites, &c. There was not the slightest sign of a luminous head or meteor in connection with the streak when we saw it; but in the same part of the heavens, were two strata of clouds, with an intervallum between,—one of which was black and dense, and the other light and fleeting. Along the outer or western edge of the under strata, the luminous track seemed to shoot along for a few minutes, and, after a close observation of it, we came to the conclusion that the light of the sun, which gilds the mountain top when the valley is in darkness, produced the "appearance" or silver lining which we fancied we had often witnessed on summer evenings before. To the westward of the clouds, the *Islander* will understand, the sky was clear to the horizon.

Since writing the foregoing, we have read the *Examiner* of the 8th instant, wherein the editor, noticing the difference of opinion between the HERALD and the *Islander* on the subject of the meteoric appearance, declares that "the luminous undulating streak which attracted so much attention, was not visible until after the flight of the meteor". This makes some slight difference in the aspect of the affair. As we did not see the meteor witnessed by both our contemporaries, of course we submit to superior evidence; but at the same time, there is a strong doubt upon our mind as to the connection between the meteor, and the "undulating streak" seen by a number of witnesses. The affair, however, is not so "wonderful" as to call for further observation or criticism.

COLONEL A. J. DOUGLAS SMITH'S FAREWELL TO THE VOLUNTEERS.

FIVE Companies of the City Volunteers, Artillery and Infantry, paraded on Monday evening last at the Drill Grounds, under Lieutenant Colonel Henry Beer, and were reviewed by Colonel A. J. Douglas Smith, I. F. O., immediately previous to his departure from this command.

Lieutenant Colonel Beer, with much military adroitness, manœuvered the Battalion for an hour and a-half. And in simple justice to both officers and men we must frankly say, that at no time have we seen the Volunteers acquit themselves with so much *eclat*. Upon the whole, they excelled themselves in drill and accuracy of movements, and practically evinced what they have achieved under strict military discipline, inaugurated by, and carried out through the instrumentality and immediate supervision of the zealous and polished soldier, the Inspecting Field Officer.

The Battalion having been halted, Colonel Smith addressed that body in a succinct, practical, able and touching speech, marked by its soldierly spirit and manly and feeling animus. He adverted, with much praise, to their appearance and discipline—their physique—and spoke of them as being a body of men, such as a thorough soldier would be proud to command.

He then observed that their military status had been arrived at by assiduity and obedience to strict discipline, which had produced the harmony of feeling and of military action by which they had attained the present result of high efficiency as soldiers. And he enjoined upon them as an imperative duty to continue in rigid military subordination, which alone can render soldiers worthy of the arms they bear, the flag they honor, and the Sovereign and country they serve.

Colonel Smith then expressed his regret that in a few days he would have to join his Regiment of the line, and cease to be with them—the Volunteers—and no longer their commander. His associations, however, with them would often recur to him with pleasurable feelings. He wished them all much good and happiness, and finally said, "I bid you a soldier's and friend's farewell."

We regret our inability from memory to do justice to Colonel Smith's address, which far surpassed in strength of diction, ability and feeling, this our feeble, meagre notice of it.

The Battalion gave Colonel Smith three times three long, loud, hearty cheers, which he, the gallant soldier, received with his manly brow uncovered.—COM.

ARCHBISHOP MANNING ON THE ATTEMPTED ASSASSINATION OF THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH.—The Catholic Aged Poor Society held its annual dinner at the Albion on Monday evening last. The Archbishop, in proposing the health of Her Majesty, said: I have the happiness to propose to you the health of her most gracious Majesty Queen Victoria, and I am confident that I shall interpret your thoughts and feelings, and that I shall represent the universal desire of the Catholics of England, in laying at Her Majesty's feet an expression of our profound and heartfelt sympathy. Eight and forty hours ago we were all wounded by the tidings of a deed which I have no words to describe. It was an axiom among the pagans, "Maxima debetur puero reverentia." The grace and dignity of youth exacted from them a special reverence. In its presence immorality was abashed, and brutality held its hand. But we have been shocked and wounded in every manly sense by the assassination attempted against the son of our Queen—against a youth innocent of all offence, free from all the animosities and broils of political contention—noble and generous in his bearing, and engaged in a public mission of royal benevolence to the people of Australia, and in the kindliest offices of charity to the national service in which he bears a part. This horrible and guilty deed has aroused, I am confident, in the breast of every christian, of every man and every mother in her Majesty's dominions, a sorrow, an indignation, and a sympathy, the expression of which for the want of a more prompt and better opportunity, I desire on this occasion, in the name of the Catholics of England, most respectfully to lay at Her Majesty's feet."

[From the London Journal.]

LEAP YEAR LAW.

In an ancient Saxon Law, it is enacted:—"Albeit, as often as leap yeare doth occurre, the woman holdeth prerogative over the manne in matter of courtshippe, love, and matrimonie; so that when the ladye proposeth, it shall not be lawful for the manne to say her nale, but shall entertaine her proposal in all gude courteoie."—The law is supposed to be still in force.

THERE was a Meeting of the Executive Council on Thursday last, at which, it is rumored, the Board of Education was re-organized, and three School Visitors appointed,—in accordance with the amended Education Act. If our information is correct, Mr. William McPhail has been appointed School Visitor for Queen's County; Mr. John McSwain, for King's County, and Mr. Robert A. McKelvie, for Prince County. The Board of Education is constituted as follows, namely:—Revs. Angus McDonald and Isaac Murray, (Examiners); John McNeill, Esq., (Secretary); Hons. C. Young, J. Hensley, J. Longworth, A. A. McDonald, and F. Kelly, D. O'M. Reddin, Peter Sinclair, and Edward Roche, Esqrs.,—business members. We are not personally acquainted with the School Visitors, and cannot, therefore, say much about them; but we think we can safely say, that a better choice of a Board could not be made; and whatever political changes may hereafter take place, we trust the present Board will not be disturbed.

The German Catholic Union successfully carried out their plan of having in New York one of those religious pageants which are seldom witnessed outside the Continent of Europe. Twenty-five thousand men marched through the streets, to the church of the Redemptorists where a grand clerical procession took place in connection and the religious services of the day. Ecclesiastical decorations adorned many of the streets through which the members of the Union marched. It was got up to prevent the people from joining secret societies.

THE Halifax *Chronicle* of the 5th inst., says:—"There appears to be an unfortunate difficulty between the pastor of the African Baptist Church in this city, and a portion of the congregation. The service was interrupted on Wednesday night, and a disgraceful scene ensued, rotten eggs and other unpleasant missiles being freely used. About a dozen persons have been summoned to appear at the Police Court on Monday, to answer the complaint of the pastor, charging them with disturbing the congregation while at public worship."

An Ottawa (Canada) despatch says the witness Turner—who gave evidence against Whelan—while attending a ball one evening lately, was inveigled outside and cruelly beaten by three men, two of whom were subsequently arrested. Graham, another witness received a threatening letter, with drawings of a coffin and pistol, and remarks to the effect that he was not forgotten, and that Fenians never did things by halves.

A French paper publishes the following calculation, by which a voyage can be made round the world in two months and a half: From Paris to New York, ten days; by rail from New York to San Francisco seven days; from San Francisco to Hong Kong, China, via Yokohama, Japan, in twenty days; from Hong Kong to Suez, thirty-two days; from Suez to Paris, six days; total seventy-five days.

THE Halifax *Reporter* says that two prisoners, named Loome and Day, convicted of burglary at the last sitting of the Supreme Court, and sentenced to six months imprisonment for their accomplishments, escaped from the County Jail on the 6th inst; but were speedily captured and returned to the place from whence they came.

WE are glad to learn from our vivacious contemporary, the Summerside *Progress*, that the inhabitants of that interesting town are not in the dumps because the steamer *Emperor* calleth not; but that they are "gay and happy still." Long may they continue in that joyous mood, to which, we have no doubt, the lively rallies of the "muddy holler" man materially contribute.

A Montreal special says the troops in the garrison are under orders. The soldiers' wives at St. John have been ordered out of the barracks, and accommodations for 2,000 troops are being prepared. The hospital are being provided with field panniers, and Government detectives are watching the frontier.

The Pope sent an agent to the United States to raise troops there for the Papal army. Garibaldi has written several very earnest letters to his friends, and to the authorities in America, entreating them, on behalf of the Liberal party of Italy, to discourage the project.

OUR friend of the defunct *Weekly*, Mr. John Ross, has returned to this city, after an absence of several months in the States. It is his intention to embark in the newspaper enterprise about the 1st of July next.

AN ARISTOCRATIC CONVERT.—Lord Beaumont was received into the Church by Rev. Father Douglass, Superior oft he Redemptorists, on the 23rd ult. He was confirmed by Cardinal Reisach. Lord Beaumont is anxious to join the Zouaves without loss of time.

THE Young Men's Christian Association of this city forwarded to the local relief committee of Cape Breton, a handsome contribution of seed grain and potatoes, to to assist the destitute farmers of that Island.

An Englishman, on his way from Michigan to Prince Edward Island, to remove his family out West, was knocked down in Portland, Me., on last Friday night, and robbed of $185 in gold.

The C. B. *News* says that the country is looking well, and more than ordinery care and industry is being bestowed upon farming operations.

Sir Robert Napier is to have the freedom of the city of London, and a sword valued at two hundred guineas, presented to him on his return from Abyssinia.

An armless violinist from Prussia has gone to Paris. He places his fiddle on a stool and executes most difficult music, using the toes of both feet.

A submarine diver is soon to attempt to remain under water in New York from sunrise until sunset on a wager of five hundred dollars.

WE omit our usual European and American despatches this week, as they do not contain much news of importance. There is no change in gold quotations.

FLOUR is steadily declining in price. It has been sold at auction last week at from 46s. to 53s. Housekeepers will be glad to hear this news.

IF there is a law in this city against vagrancy, it ought to be carried out occasionally, for the number of this class at times is occasionally annoying.

DAWSON'S Tannery, which was sold by Public Auction, on Monday last, was bought in by Dr. Hammond Johnston, for the sum of £1025.

THE *Princess of Wales*, in coming to her moorings, during the blow of Saturday night, ran foul of Pope's Wharf, which received considerable damage.

THE Judge and most of the members of the Bar left Charlottetown on Monday, to attend the Court at St. Eleanor's, which opened yesterday.

SINCE the failure of Impeachment, Secretary Stanton has resigned as Secretary of War, and General Schoefield has been appointed thereto.

SOME of the New Brunswick papers appear to think that Judge Wilmot will shortly be appointed Governor of that Province.

OWING to competition, the fare from Boston to New York, which was formerly $5, has been reduced to $1.

THE Hon. Mr. Rose, Finance Minister, is shortly to proceed to England on Government business.

THE Hon. W. Howland is about to be appointed Governor of Ontario,—so the Canadian papers say.

THE 4th Regiment is to proceed to England in the troopship *Himalaya*, the last of the present month.

Cardinal Andrea died suddenly on the 9th, at Rome, from appoplexy.

RECRUITING for the Pope's army is going on vigorously in Quebec.

GENERAL DOYLE is to return to Nova Scotia in August.

AN effort is about to be made to build a theatre in Halifax.

THE Nova Scotia fishermen are reported to have done well so far this spring.