

THE TRUE WITNESS

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WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25, 1888.

A BILL is before the U.S. Congress to appropriate \$7,500,000 for the manufacture of steel guns.

THE Ontario Legislature will assemble on Wednesday next, the 25th inst.

"FREE TRADE and honest government," is the platform proposed for the Democratic party in the United States by the New York Telegram.

If it were not for paternal Tory government sugar could be had in Montreal for three cents a pound.

WHEN Mr. P. Parcell subscribed \$2,000 to the Tory election fund in 1882 the money was accepted, no questions asked, no vouchers returned.

ANOTHER priest, Father McFadden, has been committed for trial for holding an anti-landlord meeting.

"CANADA must submit." So said Chamberlain, so says the United States Commissioner.

NO OBJECTION appears to be offered to women obtaining their rights wherever they have the brains to win their way.

IN Wales the people have formed a league on the same lines as the Irish National League.

MR. BISHOP IRELAND, who has charge of the Catholic diocese embracing the southern half of Minnesota, is enthusiastic in his appreciation of the high license there.

THE Ottawa Citizen rises to the occasion with the observation that "the man who will sell his vote is unworthy of enjoying the privilege of exercising his franchise."

It is announced by ministerial organs that, "seeing that it is U. S. Congress is not likely to deal with matters affecting Canada for many weeks to come, it may be found necessary on the part of the Canadian Parliament to hold but a short session in February and March."

The National press is quite cheery over the prospect of the parliamentary session.

Parliament. Previous to that function there will be a conference of the Irish members to fix on a programme for the ensuing session.

THE London Advertiser gives utterance to a brave, true sentiment when, alluding to Bright's objection that Mr. Gladstone might appoint Parnellites to the highest offices of state, it says:—"England has few abler or more honorable men than Parnell himself, and some of his followers are men of conspicuous ability."

AFTER doing its level best to "bray" the Quebec loan and run down the credit of the Province, the Kazoot-to-day sets up a wild wall over the success which has attended the floating of the bonds.

IMPRISONING Irish leaders is having its foreseen effect. As each prisoner is released the event is made the occasion for an outburst of national enthusiasm, which tends to strengthen and advance the cause.

THE POPE is reported in the cables as having, at an audience with Irish bishops, exhorted them to use their influence to restore quietness and respect for the law in Ireland.

IN spite of the efforts of the authorities to keep back information, reports of terrible suffering come from the armies on the frontiers of Austria and Russia.

"UNEASY lies the head that wears a crown," said Shakespeare; but a more uneasy head does not lie anywhere, we believe, than that under Balfour's billycock hat.

THE blood of tyrants is not human; they like to incarnate Moloch, feed on our souls until 'tis time to give them to the tombs.

ACCORDING to the cable reports, Russia continues to pour her whistled Pandours and her fierce hussars towards the frontiers of Austria and Germany.

is ready to go, if the powers be not willing to let her have her way. On the other hand, she slies see that to let Russia obtain the immense advantage at which she aims would place them at her mercy, so she also feels that they must fight now as a safer alternative than at a future time when Russia would be vastly stronger.

THE Kazoot defends Mr. Balfour, of course, against the charge made by Mr. Wilfred Blunt. But the manner in which it takes sides with the miscreant abettor and apologist of open murder and secret assassination shows that it would speak out louder in favor of resolute coercion if it dared.

It is not an unusual thing for defeated candidates for parliament in Ontario constituencies to blame the Catholic voters in a manner conveying reproach and insult.

PROFESSOR GALBRAITH, whose noble self-sacrificing devotion to the National cause in organizing the Protestant Home Rule Association of Ireland, has had to endure much from the anti-Irish Irishmen.

In this eminent churchman we have a fine representative of those Protestant patriots who have given many and glorious proofs of their devotion to Ireland.

O'BRIEN'S RELEASE.

William O'Brien emerged from his prison cell at Tullamore to receive the warmest welcome ever given to an Irish National convict.

Mr. O'Brien's confinement of Mr. Blunt's charges against Mr. Balfour will deepen the feeling of horror with which that abandoned man is regarded throughout the civilized world.

crime. Thus to calculate the slow torturing to death of men quiescent of offence, save devotion to their country, betokens a character of refined devilishness, and must arouse all humane Englishmen to a true conception of the character of the man who has, by his atrocities, brought disgrace upon the name and the Government of England.

IRISH AND SCOTCH IN CONGRESS.

There are now in the American Congress the following natives of Ireland:—Thomas Wilson, of Minnesota, born in Ireland, May 15th, 1827.

The following are natives of Scotland:—John M. Farquhar, of New York, was born near Ayr, Scotland, April 17th, 1832.

MALICIOUS JOURNALISM.

It is a rule invariably observed by honorable journalists: that while a case is before the courts, no comment on it should be withheld.

It is this sort of trial by newspaper in violation of the law and in defiance of justice which has called forth so frequently of late denunciations of the press.

EXECUTIONS BY ELECTRICITY.

The State Commission appointed to consider the various plans for inflicting capital punishment, with a view to the adoption of the most humane, has reported to the Legislature at Albany.

After reviewing the various modes of criminal executions in different nations the report observes:—

- 1. That the effort to diminish the increase of crime by the indiscriminate application of capital punishment to various offences involving different grades of moral turpitude, or, in other words, by the enlarging of the number of offences to which capital punishment is made applicable has proved a failure.

graveyard, with sufficient quicklime to insure their immediate consumption.

Fourth—That the public accounts of the execution be limited as regards its details.

Lastly, your commission, pursuant to the direction contained in the statute creating them, respectfully submit the foregoing to your consideration, and annex hereto as part of their report a proposed act which they believe will render effective the changes they suggested.

PROTESTANT GREETINGS TO THE POPE.

An extraordinary revolution has evidently taken place in the attitude of Protestant christendom towards the Papacy. The change is doubtless due to the recognition by all thoughtful men of the fact that the Papacy represents, in the highest and best sense, the most powerful forces opposed to the spread of Socialism and Nihilism.

To Joachim Vincent Pecci, Bishop of Rome and Pope of the Catholic Apostolic and Roman Church, be both an exonerating benediction! A priest of blameless life for fifty years, wise, moderate, successful as a priest, governor, archbishop, nuncio, cardinal, Pope, we send him our Christian salutation.

his is very different to the language we have been accustomed to from the organs of Protestant opinion. The Pope is no longer the bugbear he once was, but "a priest of blameless life" and "a Christian," deserving of "health and evangelical benediction."

PRACTICAL POLITICS.

Quite in accord with its principles and tactics, the senior Government organ deprecates the introduction of party politics into the discussion of the Montreal harbor question.

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finally and properly settled by the undertaking of the improvements of the St. Lawrence as a national charge.

A TRUE IMPERIAL POLICY.

If Lord Salisbury should adopt the policy attributed to him in the cable despatches, he would perform an act of profound statesmanship, while not materially departing from the methods of his predecessors.

- 1. The pacification of Ireland by the passage of a Home Rule Bill.
- 2. The conciliation of the English Democracy by the passage of a Local Government Bill.

Should the first mentioned measure be conceived in a spirit of truthfulness in the Irish people and generosity in meeting their reasonable demands, it would be impossible to over estimate its profound, far-reaching influence on the happiness and welfare of the Empire.

By the adoption of this policy Great Britain would indeed become impregnable. Her stability would be assured in the dawn of a new era, and her legislators could turn with ease to the fulfillment of that larger destiny which can only be accomplished on lines of wisdom and justice.

The second measure in the contemplated policy is the natural corollary of the first. The concession of Home Rule to Ireland will necessitate local government in England, Scotland, and Wales.

"FOOLS" AND TAXATION.

"Sir Richard Cartwright," says the Empire, "has repeatedly given the Canadian people to understand that they are fools." Perhaps this extraordinary statement is to be attributed to the exuberance of the organ's youth, the imaginative faculty being strong in infants of its age, for had Sir Richard expressed this sentiment, time, place and exact quotation are needed to verify it.