

# The Saint John Monitor.

Vol. XI.

Saint John, N. B., March 19, 1910.

No 16.

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## "REDMOND, NO WEAKNESS."

(Standard and Times, Philadelphia)

At no period in constitutional history was there so remarkable a political situation as that which presently exists, as the result of the shuffling of the cards at the election tables. There is a nice equipoise between liberals and unionists. It is so fine that were the Irish Nationalists and the Labor members withdrawn from the game there must be a political deadlock as inscutable as the Gordian knot, and no Cromwell on hand to dare to try to cut it. The king has spoken only a few words, but these show that His Majesty still "dearly loves a lord," and his little desire to punish the House of Peers for its almost treasonable action in vetoing the supplies voted him by the Commons. He speaks in muffled and oracular ambiguities, constructed on the principle that in politics, as in love affairs, language was invented to conceal men's thoughts. The King will have to be spoken more plainly to by the Prime Minister on the subject of the peoples rights than he has been, if Mr. Asquith desires to play the part of the Duke of Wellington and save the country from civil war. Mr. Redmond did not mince any words when dealing with the attitude of Mr. Asquith. He told the minister in terms as remarkable for directness as the king's were for equivocation that unless the Peers' powers of veto were doctored the Irish Nationalists would not support his programme. This he told him, not individually, but as the official spokesman of the party. Mr. Redmond's warning appears to have had a sobering effect upon the principal parties, and made them consider the consequences likely to ensue from a defeat of the Ministry and a return of the Unionist-coalition reactionaries and protectionists to office. Hence Winston Spencer Churchill was put up to outline an alteration in the program at first agreed on by the Cabinet by placing the question of Veto in the front. Instead of that of the budget, as at first arranged. William O'Brien condemns, in his usual vigorous style, any acceptance of the principle of the budget, as fraught with more disaster to Ireland than even the loss of Home Rule, but this seems extravagance. Budgets are annual affairs, and the inequalities of any particular one may surely be offset by the advantages of a measure placing all the affairs of Ireland in the hands of her own elected representatives. So that at present the chances of the struggle are pretty equally divided, with the Home Rule horse a little in the lead. Much depends on the coolness and generalship of the Irish leader. Therefore we may say again, Redmond, no weakness! stand firm, and all may yet be well for Ireland.

## WHAT IS HOME?

What is home for? Peace.  
What do many of us make it?  
A place for relating trials.  
A place for displaying tempers.  
A place for being disagreeable.  
A place for dispute.  
A place for haste.  
A place for fault-finding.  
A place for fretting and worrying.  
A place for tears.  
A place for snarls.  
A place for growling.  
A place for swearing.  
A place for sulking.  
A place for meanness, such as none but a home companion would forgive; for ugliness such as none would inflict upon a stranger.

Place opposite this: Home a place for cheer, for warmth, for comfort, for intelligence, a place for peace, repose, a place where the soul may extend toward a nobler, better life. Home!

The word itself comes from the Sanskrit "kama," meaning abode, place of rest, security

## WILL HONOR GOLDSMITH.

Acting on a suggestion by Very Rev. Dean Kelly of St. Peter's Athlone, Ireland, the Westmeath County Council have decided to preserve the old home of Oliver Goldsmith of Lissoy from further decay.

## ONE YEAR OF TAFT.

Shuns Publicity.

Most men like publicity. To get one's name in the newspaper is the height of ambition of a great many people as varied in their tastes as they are removed in their social stations. It is a pardonable vanity. Public men, with rare exceptions, know that publicity is an asset, and have no objection to having their talents or their virtues, their opinion or their fads exploited by a friendly pen.

Unfortunately for Mr. Taft that kind of fame does not appeal to him. Not only does he not crave, but he actually shrinks from it. In this again he much resembles Mr. Cleveland, whose too often utter indifference to it frequently annoyed his well wishers. Mr. Taft goes on the principle that what a man says is of little consequence it is what a man does that counts.

Administration is judged by its acts a man's place in history is established by what he has done and it makes little difference that he talked much about what he was going to do, or what he would have liked to do or, what he thought ought to have been done; that whether he wears a red tie or a blue, or puts his left shoe on first is not of great moment.

From which you may gather the impression that Mr. Taft takes a too serious view of life, does not lay sufficient stress on the importance of little things and is too solemn to appreciate humor. That would be to misjudge him. A very human man this President, a man of much sympathy and with a large fund of humor; but without a keenly sensitive man.

## NOT A BORN ADVERTISER.

Some men are born advertisers, some men cannot escape advertisement, and some are left unadvertised. Not for years has there been such a democratic President, and under ordinary circumstances presidential democracy makes good copy, but Mr. Taft fills little space in the newspapers.

One reads stray paragraphs about Mr. Taft's walks, and occasional reference to the grey sweater that he wears when he is out on a tramp, but there are few photographs of Mr. Taft in that sweater. Perhaps the reason for it is Mr. Taft's constitutional inability to see that the grey sweater is of more importance than a measure affecting the welfare of the country.

That is Mr. Taft's weakness. A great legislative policy seems to him of greater consequence than a grey sweater. Mr. Taft's misfortune is that he cannot be sensational.

## DEATH OF CATHOLIC ADMIRAL.

Seattle, Wash., lost one of its earliest and greatest benefactors, and the Catholic Church one of its most devoted and energetic sons, in the recent death of Admiral W. J. Thompson, retired. Admiral Thompson served the first two years of the civil war as a soldier in the Union Army, passing thence to the navy, where he served under Admiral Porter till the end of the war.

## THE RIFLE RANGE.

The work of adding four more targets to the already at the rifle range is now going on. A concrete retaining wall is being built and a heavy stone protecting wall, the face of which is protected by earth and sods. A high board screen has also been erected back of the targets. The firing points from the 200 yards range back to the 1000 yards range will have to be lengthened so as to allow the new targets to be used. The work is being done by Messrs. Flood and Bates. The addition of the four targets will greatly facilitate in the matches, as where formerly only 18 men could shoot at a time, now 30 men will be able to do so. It is expected that all the rifle clubs will have large memberships this year.

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## ADVICE FROM A METHODIST WORKER.

Miss Amy Bernardy, commissioned by the Italian government to study the needs of Italian women and children in the United States had this to say recently in the "Methodist Church" in Rome regarding the proselyting attempted by various Protestant churches among the immigrants. "The Italian people," said Miss Bernardy, "are either Roman Catholics or free-thinkers. They are by tradition Catholics, especially the women, and they come to this country strong in faith. They land here, and instead of civic societies extending the hand of welcome and undertaking to teach them to be good Americans, it is missionary bands belonging to Protestant faiths who meet them and take them under their wing. To unsettle the faith of the Italian emigrant is to unsettle his conscience. He loses his peace when he is thus treated, and he braces a new faith, and he makes a bad convert."

## STANDS FOR RIGHT TO ORGANIZE.

Monsignor Isaac P. Whelan of St. Patrick's Cathedral, Newark, N. J., indorses the sentiments underlying the notable address made recently by the Rev. William J. Kerby, professor of sociology in the Catholic university, at the Catholic college in New York City. "The Catholic Church," says Monsignor Whelan, "most certainly indorses union labor because the Church stands for the right, and it believes the labor union is not only right in principle, but necessary. Man's great aim in life since the world began, is to improve his condition, safeguard his interests, provide for the future and protect those dependent upon him. Unionism stands for all that and more. Unfortunately we hear all about the unpleasant phases of union labor, brought about by misguided and hot-headed agitators, but only very little is heard of the better side. Deeds of violence and acts that result from drink-crazed brains should not be credited to the principles of unionism. I have the greatest sympathy for the individual who tries single-handed to combat the well trained and perfectly systematized forces that stand between him and the attainment of his ambitions. It is only through the union of the men with these ambitions that any lasting and substantial benefits can accrue to more than a few scattered individuals."

## TWO OF A KIND!

Chatham Commercial.

Phil. F. Barry is sporting a pleasant smile these days—Twin daughters!

## WITH OUR CORRESPONDENTS

"Subscriber," Fredericton:—The Monitor is in its eleventh year of publication, the first number appearing on December, 2, 1899.

2.—The Right Rev. John Sweeney, D.D., Bishop of St. John died on March 25, 1901, nine years ago on Friday next.

3.—The Monitor has been enlarged twice, and there has not been any change in its ownership or management since the start.