

victory upon the heads of the men who fight under the "chosen leaf of bard and chief—old Erin's Native Shamrock."

## THE FIRE.

We publish on our eighth page an account of one of the most terrible calamities that ever occurred in Montreal. Eleven men have lost their lives, while nine others have been seriously injured, by this calamity only one—Barry—was a Catholic, and his funeral on yesterday morning was attended by an immense concourse of our people. The remains were brought to St. Patrick's Church, and were taken through the streets on a Catafalque, made by the hook and ladder brigade. They were followed by representatives from all the Irish Catholic Societies, foremost amongst whom we noticed the Catholic Union, MacMahon Guards, and St. Ann's Temperance Society. The band of the 6th Fusiliers, the Shamrock band, and a police force of about 50 attended as well. The volunteer fire brigade of St. Jean Baptiste, and Cote St. Louis attended also. In the afternoon the burial of nine of the victims took place. The Corporation, the fire brigade, the police, the volunteers and an immense concourse of people attended, and the demonstration was one of the largest ever held in Montreal.

For the first time in the history of public processions in Montreal the Orangemen formed a part of a public demonstration. Yesterday they flaunted their colours in the faces of the Catholic people, and this new departure is, we fear, not calculated to promote a kindly feeling between the Orangemen and the Catholics of the city.

## THAT DOLLAR TAX.

Some time since we drew attention to the anomaly of the Statute Labour Law. We pointed out the danger that our people incurred by a tax which worked so seriously to their disadvantage. We trust that Messrs. Kennedy, Donovan and Mullin will see to the matter, as it is one of the means by which our people are prevented from having their due share in the representation of the wards. Let the tax be either abolished or enforced—as it is at present it is an impediment in the way.

## REVIEWS.

**MEMORIAL DE L'EDUCATION DU BAS-CANADA**—par J. B. Meilleur, M. A., M. D., LL.D., ancien Quirentendont de l'Instruction Publique pour le Bas-Canada, etc., etc.

To trace the progress of a colony for nearly two centuries and a half, is a ponderous labour. This, however, has been done in the work now before us. It commences with a description of this colony in 1615, and pictures the rude and easy training which the colonists of that period were forced to be satisfied with. As our readers may imagine, education in the province of Quebec in those days, was of a primitive nature, and it was only here and there under the guidance of some good priest, that men were educated beyond their fellows. Doctor Meilleur traces the progress of education in Quebec from that early period up to a recent date, and traces with all the research of an experienced scholar, the trials and struggles which beset the labours of our early tutors. For such a task Doctor Meilleur was well adapted, and the result of his labours in *Memorial de l'Education du Bas-Canada*, and the mass of information—archaeological and historical—which it contains, adds a valuable record to Canadian literature.

**L'INSTRUCTION PUBLIQUE AU CANADA**—par M. Chauveau.

M. Chauveau's book, like Doctor Meilleur, treats the subject of education in Canada, historically and statistically. It is, too, like Doctor Meilleur's, exhaustive in detail, but has the advantage of being somewhat later in its date of publication. *L'Instruction Publique au Canada* brings the question down to 1876. The book embraces the Dominion at large,—each of the provinces being treated differently. M. Chauveau writes with the ease of a finished author. There is force, precision and grace, throughout all he has written in *L'Instruction Publique*, and as a reference to the question of education in Canada, must form a valuable text book of authority and dates.

**CATHOLIC WORLD**.—Price \$4.50 per annum; single copy, 45c. D. & J. Sadlier & Co., Montreal. Contents:—

The Prussian Chancellor. Veronica. Dante's Purgatories (Poetry). Six Sunny Months. May Flowers (Poetry). The Lepers of Tracade. Testimony of the Catacombs. Two May Carols (Poetry). Letters of a Young Irishwoman to her Sister. Up the Nile. May (Poetry). The French Clergy during the Late War. De Vere's Mary Tudor. Nautical. New Publications, &c., &c.

The May number of the *Catholic World* is good. The "Letters of a Young Irishwoman" continue to be interesting. "Up the Nile" is finished in the present number. We think "The French Clergy during the Late War in France," the most interesting paper in the number. There were perhaps more priests engaged in charitable works during the late war

than during any previous conflict on the continent of Europe, and the heroism they exhibited is illustrated by the writer of the Review. We remember quoting in the TRUE WITNESS the opinion of a German Prince, who had passed through the war, when at a dinner given to his honour in Rome, he said that if Frenchmen generally behaved as well as the French priests, the Germans would not have succeeded in obtaining a foothold in France.

**CATHOLIC RECORD**.—Hardy & Mahony, 505 Chesnut Street, Philadelphia. Contents:—

Sketch of Catholicity in Pennsylvania prior to 1800. Shadows. In Lord's Keeping. Look Again. The Corporal Beauty of Christ. The Vision of Religion on the Pacific Coast. Why the Church Condemns Freemasonry. A Ramble in Sabulum. The Fairest Fair. Religion and Heroism. Hypocrisy and Candour. Curious Clocks. Editorial Notes. New Publications.

This month's number is unusually interesting, and it is with much pleasure that we notice the *Record* holding its own.

**BLACKWOOD**.—Dawson Brothers, Montreal. Contents:—

The French Army of 1877. A Woman—Hater. Crete. Pauline. Harriet Martineau. A Railway Journey. Translations from Helne. The Political Situation.

"The French Army in 1877" has gone the rounds of the press, and all friends of "la belle France" were rejoiced to learn that France is herself again. With a grand total of 1,825,000 men, France ought to be secure, if there is no more broken down *Intendances*. The article on "Crete" is opportune, and "Pauline" continues to be attractive.

**HARPERS' NEW MONTHLY MAGAZINE**.—Unlike *Harpers' Weekly*, the *New Monthly Magazine* is not, so far as we have seen, a bigoted periodical. We have noticed nothing objectionable in its pages, while its contents and illustrations are of the most varied character. At first we were surprised at the absence of all abuse of Pope and popery in the *New Monthly*, but as that absence has, so far as we have noticed, continued, it is only just to Harpers that we should mention it.

**OUR YOUNG FOLKS' MAGAZINE**.—Written for "our young folks," this Magazine is well calculated to amuse and instruct the young ones of the household. The illustrations are good, and the letter-press is equal to that of our best Magazines.

**THE VOICE**.—Our excellent little contemporary continues to do good work among the Catholic people. Sound in logic, racy and instructive in story, the *Voice* does its share in promoting the good work of Catholic education.

**LIDONIE**.—A Novel by Alphonse Doudet. Lovell, Adam & Wesson, Montreal.

The work commences where most other works end—in a wedding. The characters are traced with care and taste, and evince a master hand in their production. The scene is laid in France, and the work has been crowned by the French Academy, an evidence of merit which its pages fully support. The book has passed through its sixtieth thousand in France, while in America, it has passed through four editions.

**THE SHADOW OF THE SWORD**—by Robert Buchanan.

This interesting book is likely to have a large circulation. The story brings us back to the time of Napoleon, and the many of the stirring events in the life of the great Emperor are touchingly dwelt upon by some of the heroes of the work—Corporal Derval and others. From the opening chapters to the close of this book the interest is sustained, as character after character hold the attention of the reader. The disasters which befel France during the year 1814, and many other important historical events are pleasantly introduced, and fix the periods of which the author writes, in vivid lines. Lovell, Adam, Wesson & Co., Montreal.

**DARK COLLEEN**—by the author of "The Queen of Connaught. Lovell, Adam, Wesson & Co., Montreal.

This book would have been better appreciated half a century ago. The Irish characters introduced are not such as one sees anywhere but on the stage, and very seldom even there now. People now-a-days travel, and travel has removed the grotesque ideas which the unlettered had of the inhabitants of Ireland. This book is neither friendly to Irishmen, nor just in its delineation of their character. The author of *Dark Colleen* makes an Irish doctor a vulgarian, and the ribald jest at the old man "perched on the ass's back," and "Cullen O'Cluskey," stamps the book with the brand of bigotry. It is a book we could not recommend to our people, and think that it will not be much appreciated by educated and impartial Protestants either.

**ROSINE**—by J. G. White. Melville. Lovell, Adam, Wesson & Co., Montreal.

A charming story of the Red Revolution, and free from all traces of bigotry. The captive priest being led by Communists, is a tribute to the heroism of the clergy, and the work is a pleasing set-off to others of an objectionable kind.

## THE WAR.

## FIRST BLOOD FOR TURKEY.

## LATEST NEWS.

## INCIDENTS, &amp;c., &amp;c.

The first engagement of the War was fought late at the end of last week, at Batoum, in Asia minor. The Turks

"Claim a double victory, and assert that the Russians were driven across the frontier. The latter, however, make light of both affairs, and absolutely deny the story of the bombardment and destruction of Poti. The forces engaged in this quarter are stated at 50,000 Turks and 125,000 Russians, the latter of whom will speedily be reinforced by large bodies of artillery which left Poland on Saturday.

TWENTY THOUSAND PERSIANS are also marching to the front to join the Russians. The latter statement is made on the authority of the New York *Herald's* Vienna correspondent, but a Persa special asserts that the Persian ambassador at Constantinople has made no engagement to support Russia.

Fighting was going on at Kars from day-break on Sunday, but no particulars have as yet been obtained.

CONSTANTINOPLE, April 30.—Complications are expected to arise in the event of the Russian squadron in Chios being ordered to the Mediterranean, and demanding passage through the Suez canal.

The Porte, in dealing with neutral shipping, reserves the right of searching suspected vessels, both on coast and at sea.

The Czar has telegraphed to the Prince of Montenegro:—"I am firmly resolved this time to realize the sacred mission of Russia and my predecessor. God will aid us."

The Roumanians have reoccupied Kalafat.

The Russians having concentrated and advanced their siege train, have attacked the Turks before Kars. The battle commenced at day-break on Sunday. Details momentarily expected. Mukhtar Pasha is in Kars.

A telegram from Ibrail announces that the Russians are building a bridge over the Danube there.

LONDON, April 30.—The Vienna correspondent telegraphs that the Porte, not the Turkish commander, notified the powers that he might find it necessary in self-defence to cross into Servia. The powers replied that it was advisable to avoid such a step as long as possible.

The *Gazette* publishes a letter from Lord Derby to heads of Departments of State, announcing certain rules according to which men-of-war of both belligerents are forbidden from using any British port for a warlike purpose, bringing their prizes thereto, embarking any warlike stores, or more coal and provisions than sufficient for immediate wants or remaining more than 24 hours, except in case of stress of weather, damage or necessity of obtaining provisions.

In the House of Commons Gladstone gave notice that he should introduce five resolutions. They declare that England has just cause of complaint at the conduct of the Porte; that until there is a change of conduct and guarantees are given, the Porte has no claim to the support of the British Crown; that in the midst of complications, and with war actually begun, the House earnestly desires that the influence of England in the Councils of Europe be employed for the effectual development of liberty and local self-government in the disturbed provinces; that the House further desires that the influence of England be addressed to the promotion of harmonious action among the European powers.

Her Majesty Queen Victoria on Tuesday issued a proclamation declaring her determination of observing a strict neutrality in the war between Russia and Turkey.

An English army corps of 30,000 or 40,000 men is being organized for despatch to the East, the command of which, it is said, will be offered to Lord Napier, of Magdala.

It is rumored that the English fleet has been ordered to Alexandria, Egypt, to protect English interests.

The Toronto Field Battery have placed themselves at the service of the Imperial Government if any necessity should arise, but no answer has as yet been received.

Russia has upwards of half a million troops along the Danube and in the Caucasus, while the aggregate of the Turks is only some 150,000. The attack at Batoum, resumed on Friday night, resulted in further disaster to the Russians, under the Grand Duke Michael. The Turkish fleet has been ordered to blockade the Black Sea ports.

The New York *Herald's* St. Petersburg correspondent states that intense enthusiasm prevails throughout the Czar's dominions. Russia has 300,000 men on the Danube and 125,000 men in the Caucasus, while the opposing forces of Turkey are 100,000 along the Danube and 50,000 or less in Asia Minor. Both sides exhibit weakness in skilled generals, and the position in Roumania is unfortunate. Austria and Russia are contemplating an agreement whereby Bosnia will be ceded to Austria.

It is stated that the son of Schamyl, the famous Circassian chieftain, has been sent to Kars to assume command of the Circassian irregulars. The Porte is very sanguine. The move will excite rebellion in Circassia.

THE SUEZ CANAL.—The Khedive is in favour of the neutralization of the Suez Canal, negotiations for which are progressing. He is willing to sell his 1,500 founder's shares.

LONDON, April 30.—The *Times* says the orders to the Davenport dockyard are to press forward the necessary works on the commissioned and non-commissioned ships with all speed, and to direct close attention to such necessary works, leaving all else for future completion.

A Vienna correspondent telegraphs that the Porte, not the Turkish commander, informed the powers that it might find it necessary in self-defence to cross into Servia. The powers replied that it was advisable to avoid such a step as long as possible.

1,000 Turkish fugitives have arrived at Varna and 800 at Stamboul.

All war news has to be submitted to a Government Committee at St. Petersburg.

The closing of the navigation of the Danube by Russia seems a rather serious matter. The freedom of navigation is notoriously a stipulation of the Treaty of Paris.

Announced at the War Office that the Government has made preparations to send 50,000 men at a moment's notice to Egypt—25,000 from England and 25,000 from India.

Rome, 28th.—The Italian Government has issued a proclamation of neutrality.

Berlin, 28th.—Germany is stated to be making efforts to induce the Porte not to expel all Russian subjects from Turkey.

A Paris correspondent says:—Greece only delays declaring war until the Russians cross the Danube.

A Vienna despatch reports that Austria has clearly intimated at both St. Petersburg and Vienna the point beyond which the extension of the war would interfere with her interests.

## OUR OTTAWA LETTER.

## FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.

PARLIAMENTARY NOTES.—THE PROLOGUE.—THE ANGLIN MATTER.—THE SPEAKER UNSEATED.—A RUSH FOR THE DOCUMENT.—THE OTTAWA ELECTION.—RELIGIOUS NOTES.—MR. COSTIGAN'S SPEECH, &c. Parliament was prorogued on Saturday afternoon, by the Governor-General in the usual manner amidst a flourish of Kettledrums, and trumpets, and the Honorable members left for their homes that evening or Monday. Notwithstanding the long session a good deal of the intended work was left undone, still it was not altogether barren of results. If gentlemen will persist in spreading out over four or five hours, what can easily be condensed into a one hour speech, we can expect nothing else at the end of the session. The House looks desolate enough to-day, and well may the old woman on whom rests the responsibility of sweeping the floor exclaim in a burst of anguish:—

I feel like one  
Who sweeps alone,  
Some banquet hall deserted,  
Whose lights are fled,  
And garlands dead,  
And all but me departed.

Politicians are still harping on the Anglin matter, and come to all manner of conclusions, from unknown premises. They say that Blake's sickness is merely a sham, for that it is a well known fact he is as sound in health as a mountain river trout, and that he told Mr. McKenzie he considered the Speaker's duty was to resign as he should be like Caesar's wife—above suspicion, that Mr. McKenzie stated Mr. Blake's wish to the latter who philosophically refused, where upon the Minister of Justice—like Achilles—retired to his tent in disgust. I may remark en passant that the guidance who circulate this version of the affair are for the most part conservatives. For my part, although aware that the Hon. Mr. Blake often "sulks," yet considering the amount of work he has done during the session, the cause for astonishment is that he did not get sick long before. There is only one other man in the cabinet does more work than Mr. Blake and that is the Hon. Mr. McKenzie, Minister of Public Works. He is really an extraordinary man. To hear him talk of, and answer the most alarming questions about the Pacific Railroad one would suppose he had been engaged in surveying and mapping the Country over, which it is to run, for the past thirty years. He knows, or seems to know, all about every lake, every portage, and almost every big stone from Fraser River to the proposed terminus at Esquimaux. When Mr. Blake is away he has to answer all questions concerning the department, and is thoroughly posted in the business. Of late he seems weary and restless. He looked somewhat scared the night of the first division on the tariff when he saw the opposition having the large minority of 78. All the other ministers are ninny except Huntington and he is frightfully lazy. He is too lazy to speak although one of the best speakers in the Country.

Just before the Usher of the Black Rod came to summon the Commons to the presence of the Governor-General on Saturday, the report of the Committee on Elections and Privileges was put into the hands of the Clerk of the House to read, and he had scarcely commenced when he was interrupted by the said summons. Mr. Anglin smiled. The Clerk put the document away in a drawer, but McKenzie, Bowell and Hon. Peter Mitchell made a rush for the document; their prey was not to escape thus easily. They ran their eyes over the report and found that it was to the effect that the Hon. Mr. Anglin had unwittingly placed himself within the penalties of the "Independence of Parliament Act," and that he was in consequence unseated. The countenance of Mr. McK. Bowell became transfigured, and he pressed the paper to his breast, while Mr. Mitchell looked as if he would kiss it.

There are twenty-four members in all whose seats are in danger, not including the three vacated. It is said Blake wants a general election, and it strikes me, in a humble way, it would be a most excellent plan.

I suppose you are aware the Premier managed to pass a bill of indemnity in favor of those members who came under the Act (we Irish should be well posted in bills of indemnity.) Each offending member is liable to a fine of \$2,500 for every day he sits in the House. Thus, suppose the member for Marquette were one of the twenty-four, and he sat altogether sixty days, he would have to pay sixty times \$2,000, which amounts to the respectable sum of \$120,000. Verily members of Parliament must be rich or the framers of the law must have been blockheads. Suppose a man sat on an uneasy seat five years; suppose—but excuse me that's enough for the present.

We are in the throes of an election contest here in Ottawa. Mr. Currier, the unseated member, is seeking re-election, and is opposed by Mr. J. P. Featherstone, our ex-Mayor. Mr. Currier is an easy-going man, a Conservative of the old school, honest, conscientious, and by no means a bigot, either in religion or politics. His opponent thinks or thought some few years ago, that the Irish Catholics of Ottawa are not entitled to a seat in either house. At that time the Hon. John O'Connor and Mr. D. J. O'Donoghue ran against one another for the Local Legislature, and Mr. Featherstone, thinking the opportunity an excellent one, put himself forward with the idea of beating the divided forces of the enemy, and slipping in between. In fact he nearly succeeded. He now indignantly wants to know why it is the Conservatives made such an onslaught on the Hon. Mr. Anglin, the only Irish Catholic holding a prominent position in the House. He imagines the Irish Catholics to be a stupid lot of beings.

This is the Month of Mary. The Bishop preached a magnificent sermon in the Cathedral on Sunday night, entreating his hearers to keep it devoutly and religiously.

Mr. Costigan made a great speech in the House on Friday night, against Mr. Anglin and the New Brunswick School Act.

## PERSONALS.

O'LEARY—Weston has challenged O'Leary to walk any distance from 600 to 1500 miles.

DEVLIN—We rejoice to notice that Mr. Devlin M. P., has returned to Montreal in improved health. PRINCE CHARLES—Prince Charles of Roumania is giving assistance to the Russians.

COSTIGAN—Mr. Costigan M. P., passed through Montreal this week on his way home.

BARNUM—Barnum is coming to Montreal shortly. CURRIER—FETHERSTONE—Messrs. Currier and Featherstone are the Candidates for Ottawa.

O'CONNELL—Mrs. John O'Connell the widow of the Liberator's favourite son is dead.

MURPHY—Owen Murphy, Mayor of Quebec, quelled a riot by his temperate language and firm demeanour, during a disturbance in Quebec.

HAYES—President Hayes desires a full discussion of his Southern policy at the extra Session, and that the public mind may be relieved.

WOOD—Archbishop Wood of Philadelphia and a number of prominent Catholics of that city have left for Rome.

KEARNEY—Rev John Kearney, left Providence, R. I., for Rome on Saturday last. He brought \$50,000 in gold to the Pope.

SPALDING—The Rev. John Lancaster Spalding, S.T.L., was consecrated Bishop of Peoria Ill. by Cardinal McCloskey, on Tuesday the 2nd April.

PATTON—Mr. Patton, Chief of the Fire Brigade of Montreal is among those seriously injured at the fire in Montreal.

BRAY—Rev. Mr. Bray is to lecture on the Catholic Church in Canada, in its Civil aspect, about the 15th of May.

VON HILLERN—Bertha Von Hillern, a female hailing from Providence, R. I. has accomplished the feat of walking 145 miles in 50 hours.

DOFOWAN—Mr. Donovan, the Irish Catholic representative of St. Anne's Ward has been elected Chairman of the Water Works Committee.

DOMVILLE—Mr. Domville, of Ottawa urged his hearers at a recent meeting in that city, to "fight the Grits till Hill froze over and then fight them on the ice."

BERTRAND—Last week Father Bertrand's house, in Ottawa County, was broken into, and money and documents were stolen.

CONROY—The Bishop of Ardagh, the Apostolic Delegate to Canada, will leave Ireland in the first week of May.

PERRAULT—Mr. C. O. Perrault, of Montreal, Vice-Consul of France, is referred to as one of the probable Canadian representatives at the Paris Exhibition of 1878.

FEATHERSTONE—J. P. Featherstone has been chosen by the supporters of the Government, to oppose Mr. Currier for the representation of Ottawa.

TROLLOPE—T. Adolphus Trollope is writing a life of Pope Pius IX.; which announcement is a great deal like a literary surprise.

BALFE—It is proposed to get up a public memorial in Dublin to the Irish Musician, Michael Balfe.

CHARITY—The choir of the Gesù will give a concert in Mechanics' Hall Montreal to-morrow evening. The proceeds are to go to the relief of the sufferers caused by the late fire.

DE MORGAN—A Mr. De Morgan an English radical threatens to march 250,000 men to the House of Commons if the impostor Arthur Orton will not be released.

"SPERANZA"—Lady Wilde ("Speranza") has addressed a poem to Longfellow. It is a token of the appreciation of the American laureate from the Irish patriot poetess.

O'FARRELL—Father O'Farrell of New York is to lecture in Montreal, on the "Glories of Ireland." The lecture will take place under the auspices of the St. Patrick's National Association.

LYNCH—There is no truth in the rumour that the Right Rev. Dr. Conroy is about to succeed Archbishop Lynch at Toronto. We are glad to know that his Grace continues to improve in health.

CONYNGHAM—Lord Francis Conyngham M. P., for Clare, has become President of the Society for the preservation of the Irish Language.

LABRANCHE—Lt. Col. Labranche, of the 65th Battalion, has offered to raise a Canadian regiment for active service, in the event of England being engaged in war.

GLADSTONE—Mr. Gladstone has given notice that he will move a resolution in favour of securing Self-government for the disturbed provinces in Turkey. "Self-Government" for any country except Ireland.

MEANY—The many friends of Mr. Meany will rejoice to hear that he is likely to succeed in bringing out a daily paper in Montreal.

DUDLEY—The Earl of Dudley won \$50,000 on O'Leary's victory over Weston. He devoted the money to the restoration of Worcester Cathedral.

EMMET—April 25 was the 113th anniversary of the birth of the Irish patriot and American jurist Thomas Addis Emmet.

SCOTT—Sir Walter Scott, who was so anxious to found a family, is now represented alone by Mrs. Maxwell-Hope-Scott, a child of Lockhart's daughter, and a Catholic.

SHAKESPEARE—Monday, April 23, was the 261st anniversary of the death of Wm Shakespeare, and on that day the foundation-stone of the Shakespeare Memorial—Theatre, library, and picture-gallery—was laid at the place of his birth, Stratford-on-Avon.

SERIOUSLY WOUNDED—William Ferguson, "Old Willie" Fireman; John Livingston, Fireman; John Nolan, slightly injured, Charles Reddy, Benjamin Harrison, Edward Storey, Israel Bishop, Guardian Buckingham, William Chester, Andrew Ferguson.

KILLED—Richard Scholes, Fireman; George Lynch, foreman Water Works Department; William Perry, (Belfast) Fireman; Michael Higgins, Fireman; Michael Barry, Fireman; Pierre Camelle, Alderic Beauchamp, watchmaker, Joseph Parker and Antoine Saunders, a stone cutter, were killed at the catastrophe in Montreal on Sunday last.

MANNING—Cardinal Manning's "True Story of the Vatican Council" told in an article in the new series *The Nineteenth Century*, has created a sensation. His Eminence tears to tatters the calumnies prevalent regarding the origin and the history of that great assembly. We shall give some of it next week.

ANGLIN—The report of the Committee of privileges and elections fully exonerates Mr. Anglin from all suspicion of wrong doing, and admits that he acted under the belief that there was no violation of the law in accepting work in the regular business from the offices of the Government, but it asserts that such practices are contrary to the spirit of the law, and that the seat is vacant.