

The Catholic Record.

"CHRISTIANUS MIHI NOMEN EST, CATHOLICUS VERBO COGNOMEN."—"CHRISTIAN IS MY NAME, BUT CATHOLIC MY SURNAME."—St. Pacian, 4th Century.

VOL. 6.

FOR THE WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, AUG. 16, 1884.

NO. 305

CLERICAL.

We make a specialty of Clerical Suits, and turn out better fitting and better finished garments than any Western House.

N. Wilson & Co.,
136 DUNDAS STREET

Written for the "Catholic Record."
The Vision of the Vestal.

The light of faith not yet had shone on Erin's lovely land,
But temples of the sun and moon arose on every hand;
Grave, venerable sages and consecrated maids
Served zealously Tienne and Nerf in all their sacred shades.

Two vestals of Nerf Naom one fair spring morn reclined
Beneath a marble temple where their Goddess was enshrined;
Their robes of white and silver were bound by costly gems;
Grace, beauty, love and innocence crowned them with diadems.

But sadness o'er that splendor threw a dim mysterious veil,
Thus spoke the youngest, fairest one with beauteous cheeks all pale,
"Listen, my friend and mentor, to a dream which has oppressed
With undefined foreboding and questioning, my breast."

"Thou knowest that soon I am to be admitted to the sacred threshold o'er,
Where none but the elect may go, to offer rites divine;
Last night with blood-red poppies crowned,
I solemnly vowed before Nerf and Latona, can it be that I have sleep?"

"But suddenly it opened—that awful inner door,
And a form of men majestic stepped its jewelled threshold o'er,
She took my hand and kissed me, then whispered, 'Come away!
Let me lead thee from this darkness to everlasting day.'"

"Then passed we from the temple where the statues seemed to frown,
I shrank from them in terror—then passed we from the tower;
O'er moors and fair rages, thro' woods and mountains we sped;
Till at last we reached a gloomy sea with leaden billows heaved.

"Far, far across the sullen waves, we saw the further shore,
It seemed a land of darkness, with heavy clouds hung o'er;
Pale lightning flashed among them, and hollow thunders raged;
Came faintly from the distance with rush of ghostly wings.

"Fear not, my child? my guide exclaimed, as I drew back appalled,
Then on we glided o'er that tide where never sea-birds e'er
On—'we sped until we reached the darksome shore beyond,
'Where lotus flowers nodded, and winds among rank sedges moaned."

"It was a land of twilight—solemn and sad and still;
But hark! that cry lamentable—it seemed the blood of a giant,
Then saw I in amazement, kings, sages, warriors, bards,
Processions, groups, and lonely ones, glide by—their only words

"As they passed, that bitter wail, 'How long? how long? how long?'
Black clouds in low above them, and pale lights flashed among them,
But on we sped, we two, o'er heights precipitous,
Above the clouds were tipped with gold—beneath, a radiant clime.

"Strange, beautiful beings wander there, and turn as we pass,
To greet and adore us earth-born, and cry, 'How long? 'Alas!
'What means that cry? I questioned, and was answered wide,
'They seek deliverance thro' one whom thou hast never known—'

"Not here we rest, on—on, we sped, and lo! before us rose
A deep, broad gulf whose surges roared far down,
Beyond its chafing waters appeared a dazzling dawn,
A horizon of glory, in blinding splendor gleamed.

"My guide with mantle round me, stepped from the dizzy cliff,
And o'er the dread abyss we floated swift as airy sails;
We reached the shore—we entered—but oh! sense failed me there,
And words can never paint a scene so marvellous and fair.

"Such forms of glorious beauty were passing to and fro,
While grand, entrancing harmonies o'erwhelmed us in their flow,
I could but fall adoring him whoever he might be,
Who formed this place of perfect bliss—and could it be—for me.

"And yet we had but entered the borders of that land,
The suburbs of that city built not by human hand,
While, filled with silent ecstasy, with hidden face I lay
I heard a voice which thrilled me, 'Arise! it seemed to say;

"Then saw I One approaching, majestic and divine,
Whose eyes of light ineffable looked pityingly in mine;
He seemed to be a sovereign—the ruler of the land,
For he bowed to him with anthems I could not understand;

"And yet, oh, mystery! his crown was not of gems or gold,
But a coronal of wounds did that brow emblem of love;
His hands were pierced and from them dripped the blood like crimson dew,
And where it fell bright lilies bloomed, and fragrant roses blew.

"And as the scented zephyr waved his snowy robe
I saw beneath, in his left breast, a wound that opened wide,
And methought I saw a multitude from every race and clime
Who had found better in his heart from grief and pain and crime.

"He plucked a green and glistening palm and placed it in my hand,
And then the vision faded—Farewell, farewell, happy land,
For I awoke, and round me was the light of mortal day,
And our marble deities looked coldly on me as I lay."

Years passed away and lo! that dream became a reality,
A Christian martyr on this earth, the gentle vision;
In heaven with all those joys unutterable was crowned,
By Him whose diadem appeared a coronal of wounds.
Lowe, P. Q. E. C. M.

THE LIEUT.-GOVERNORSHIP OF QUEBEC.

In the Globe of the 4th inst. we read:

"The English press of Quebec are booming Mr. Alonzo Wright as the next Lieutenant-Governor of that Province. Mr. Wright's name offers to Quebec politics the shield of a good reputation."

Not only does Mr. Wright's name offer to Quebec politics the shield of a good reputation, but likewise the honor of the highest qualifications required to fill such a position with dignity and success. We have already taken strong ground in favor of Mr. Wright's appointment to this office and now propose to give reason for our course. The English-speaking minority in Quebec is numerous, wealthy, intelligent and patriotic. Than this body of our fellow-citizens none other in the Dominion have done more to promote the best interests of the country, and certainly none are more closely identified with its material advancement. In all the great enterprises of trade and of manufactures they have taken the very foremost place, and if Canada be what it is to-day it is very largely due to their foresight and energy. Mr. Wright himself is a grandson of Philiman Wright, who, in 1797, left his native State of Massachusetts, penetrated the forests of the Ottawa Valley, then an unknown land, and by his indomitable perseverance and unflagging industry opened up for settlement one of the finest regions on the continent. With the development of the Ottawa country the name of Wright is inseparably connected. With its growth and prosperity that family is so closely identified, from its founder in Canada, Mr. Philiman Wright, to the member in the present Parliament of the Dominion for the county of Ottawa, that the friends of the latter may, with justice, claim that his appointment to the office of Lieutenant-Governor of Quebec were but a partial acknowledgment of long public service, enormous public sacrifices, and the fitting crown of an individual career of the highest honor. As we have made mention of the services rendered by the Wright family in the opening up of the Ottawa country, we may be permitted to refer to the narrative of the first settlement on the Ottawa, recited by Mr. Philiman Wright himself before a committee of the Lower Canada House of Assembly in 1820. He informed the committee that in 1797 he had visited Canada, and then viewed the country on both sides of the St. Lawrence, the whole of the distance from Quebec to the Grand River, in the township of Hull, taking some time to explore and examine the country, but particularly the parts bordering on both sides of the Ottawa. He again visited the country in 1798 with the purpose of further informing himself regarding the local situation of the lands on the Ottawa or Grand River, and formed the fixed determination of commencing a settlement on its fertile banks.

The Ottawa country had, he found, immense resources in fine timber, not only merchantable but for making ashes, and sufficient to furnish vast supplies for any foreign market. But the country was unknown to, or thought of, by the inhabitants of Montreal, except the North-West Company, whose interest it seemed to be to keep it uninhabited and closed to settlement. With two companions from Massachusetts he returned to the Ottawa. The three brave Americans were, on revisiting Massachusetts, enabled to report to the public the following:

"That they had ascended the Ottawa, or Grand River, one hundred and twenty miles from Montreal; the forty-first mile they found some settlers, who appeared rather inactive, as far as related to their farms, but little done to what, apparently, might be done, towards making themselves independent farmers. We however, ascended the Ottawa, up the rapids, sixteen miles farther, to the head of the Long Sault to Hull. The river is remarkably smooth, and the water still, and sufficiently deep to float a sloop-of-war; at the last mentioned place we proposed to explore the township back of the river; accordingly we spent twenty days, say from the 1st to the 20th October, 1799. I should think we climbed to the top of one hundred or more trees, to view the situation of the country, which we accomplished in the following manner: We cut smaller trees in such a manner as to fall slanting, and to lodge in the branches of those large trees, which we ascended until we arrived at the top. By this means we were enabled to view the country, and also the timber, and by the timber we were enabled to judge of the nature of the soil, which we found to answer our expectations; and after having examined well the local situation of the township of Hull, we descended the river, and arrived, after much fatigue, at Montreal, when we gave a general description of our discoveries, and returned home to Massachusetts, where, after a report was made public about the situation of this part of the country, I was enabled to obtain and hire

as many men as I wanted to commence a new settlement.

"Immediately hired about twenty-five men, and brought them with my mill iron, axes, scythes, hoes, and all other kinds of tools I thought most useful and necessary, including fourteen horses and eight oxen, seven sleighs and five families, together with a number of barrels of clear pork, destitute of bone, of my own raising, all of which left Woburn on the 2nd February, 1800, and arrived in Montreal on the 10th."

It was not till the 7th of March, 1800, that the party arrived at Hull, where, with the assistance of all hands, the first tree was felled and the arduous work of settlement actively begun.

"The year 1800 was spent in clearing lands, building, and raising vegetables and roots. Among the latter were about 1,000 bushels of potatoes, which I put into the ground (to keep them through winter) so deep that I lost the whole of them by the rot, occasioned by the heat of the ground.

"The year 1801 was spent in clearing land, and sowing about seventy bushels upon seventy statute acres, and prepared about thirty acres for spring wheat and peas; also a great deal of time was spent in going to Montreal for provisions. Seeing my people were going on well, as to provisions, houses, &c., I gave directions how to proceed until my return."

By the year 1803 Mr. Wright had cleared 180 acres, and the settlement began to flourish, but as it had as yet no market its prosperity could not, of course, be considered as fixed on a firm basis. Mr. Wright accordingly resolved to get some timber ready, and in 1807 arrived at Quebec with the first timber ever brought from Hull. Mr. Wright was therefore not only the pioneer farmer, but the pioneer lumberman of the Ottawa Valley. He for many years sat in the Legislature of Lower Canada as representative of the rich district he had opened to civilization, and in the legislature rendered good service to his adopted country. But it is not on ancestral claims alone that we wish to press the claims of Mr. Alonzo Wright, M. P., to the Lieut.-Governorship of Quebec. Mr. Wright has individual claims. He has for twenty-one years represented his native county, one of the wealthiest, most popular and intelligent constituencies of the Dominion. He had not long been in Parliament till he had won the esteem of his fellow-members, and no man to-day stands higher in the estimation of gentlemen of both sides in the Canadian Commons than the member for the county of Ottawa. Mr. Wright is a representative man among the English-speaking minority of Quebec, and that minority in now, we are inclined to think, fairly entitled to the honor of the Lieut.-Governorship. The last census shows that minority to be made up of

Irish.....123,749
English.....81,515
Scottish.....54,923

or a total of about 260,000 souls. Since 1867 the Lieut.-Governorship of Quebec has been filled exclusively by French Canadian gentlemen, to whom Mr. Wright would prove a very worthy successor. No public man among the British minority of the Province more acceptable to the French and Catholic majority could be selected for the position. During his long and honorable parliamentary career Mr. Wright has never failed in his duty by his Catholic constituents. In the most trying times he has been the trusted friend of the Catholic people, and his vote and speech in Parliament have never been missing when occasion demanded them in the assertion of Catholic claims to equal rights in the great matter of education. One instance alone will suffice to show Mr. Wright's broad and liberal spirit in this regard. Our readers have no doubt lively recollection of the New Brunswick school law difficulty. In the House of Commons on the 20th of May, 1872:

Mr. Costigan moved, seconded by Mr. Renaud, and the Question being proposed, that a humble Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General, representing, That it is essential to the peace and prosperity of the Dominion of Canada that the several religions therein prevailing should be followed in perfect harmony; and that every law enacted should be in accordance with the rights and usages tolerated by one of such religions is of a nature to destroy that harmony;—That the Local Legislature of New Brunswick in its last Session of 1871, adopted a law respecting Common Schools, forbidding the imparting of any religious education to pupils, and that such a prohibition is opposed to the sentiments of the entire population of the Dominion in general and to the religious convictions of the Roman Catholic population in particular.—That the Roman Catholics of New Brunswick cannot, without acting unconscientiously, send their children to schools established under the law in question, and are yet compelled, like the remainder of the population, to pay taxes to be devoted to the maintenance of those schools.—That the said law is unjust, and causes much uneasiness among the Roman Catholic population in general

disseminated throughout the whole Dominion of Canada, and that such a state of affairs may prove the cause of disastrous results to all the Confederated Provinces.—And praying His Excellency the Governor General to disallow the said law, and to call the said law into question as soon as possible.

On this motion a debate arose that was adjourned till the 22nd, when:

The Honorable Mr. Gray moved, in amendment, seconded by Mr. Bolton, That all the words after "Canada" to the end of the Question be left out, and the words "that the constitutional rights of the several Provinces should be in no way impaired by the action of this Parliament

that the law passed by the Local Legislature of New Brunswick respecting Common Schools was strictly within the limits of its constitutional powers—and is amenable to be repealed or altered by the Local Legislature—should it prove injurious or unsatisfactory in its operation; that not having yet been in force six months, and no injurious consequences to the Dominion having been shown to result therefrom, this House does not deem it proper to interfere with the advice that may be tendered to His Excellency the Governor General by the responsible Ministers of the Crown, respecting the New Brunswick School Law," inserted instead thereof;

The Honorable Mr. Chauveau moved, in amendment to the said proposed amendment, seconded by the Honorable Mr. Abbott, That the words "His Excellency the Governor General, representing that it is essential to the peace and prosperity of the Dominion of Canada, that the constitutional rights of the several Provinces should be in no way impaired by the action of this Parliament—that the Local Legislature of New Brunswick respecting Common Schools was strictly within the limits of its constitutional powers—and is amenable to be repealed or altered by the Local Legislature—should it prove injurious or unsatisfactory in its operation; that not having yet been in force six months, and no injurious consequences to the Dominion having been shown to result therefrom, this House does not deem it proper to interfere with the advice that may be tendered to His Excellency the Governor General by the responsible Ministers of the Crown, respecting the New Brunswick School Law," be left out, and the words, "Her Majesty, praying that she will be pleased to cause an Act to be passed amending the British North America Act, 1867, in the sense which this House believes to have been intended at the time of the passage of the said Act, by providing that every religious denomination in the Provinces of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia shall continue to possess all such rights, advantages, and privileges, with regard to their schools, as such denomination enjoyed in such Province at the time of the passage of the said last mentioned Act; to the same extent as if such rights, advantages and privileges had been duly established by Law," inserted instead thereof;

A further discussion arising, its termination was postponed till the 20th, when Mr. Chauveau's amendment was defeated by 34 to 127. Amongst the minority we find the name of Mr. Wright (Ottawa County).

Mr. Colby then moved an amendment, affirming that the House regretted that the school act recently passed in New Brunswick had proved unsatisfactory to a portion of its people, and hoped it might be so modified at the next session of the legislature of that Province as to remove all just grounds of discontent existing. This amendment, which was of no practical good to the Catholic minority of New Brunswick, was carried by a vote of 117 to 42. In the minority again do we see recorded the name of Mr. Wright.

When the question on the amendment thus modified was put, the Honorable Mr. Dorion moved, in amendment thereto, seconded by Mr. Paquet, That the words "and this House further regrets that to ally such well grounded discontent, His Excellency the Governor General has not been advised to disallow the School Act of 1871, passed by the Legislature of New Brunswick," be added at the end thereof.

This amendment was by the Premier of the day, Sir John A. Macdonald, declared a motion of want of confidence. Mr. Wright was one of the most influential of the supporters of the administration, but he felt it his duty to pronounce censure on its course in regard of the obnoxious school law, and did so fearlessly. The journals give his name among the thirty-eight members who supported Mr. Dorion's amendment. Mr. Wright did not content himself with a mere silent vote. He spoke on the subject, and though we have but a meagre report of the discourse before us, we will give our readers the summary of his observations that appeared in the daily press of Ottawa:

"Mr. Alonzo Wright considered himself bound, as representing a large Catholic constituency, to express his views, and was unwilling to give a silent vote on this subject. He had promised to deal fairly with his constituents in such matters, and could not certainly vote in favor of this motion. Catholic and Protestant had in his constituency invariably lived in harmony. He contended that the interests of a minority, whether Catholic or Protestant, should be protected. He recollected a missionary in his constituency

who had most faithfully attended to the educational interests of both classes of the community, and it would be against his instinct and education if he refused to the Catholic inhabitants of New Brunswick simple justice."

In the session of 1875, after four years trial of the infamous and tyrannous school law, Mr. Costigan moved:

"That a humble address be presented to Her Majesty, representing that it is essential to the peace and prosperity of the Dominion of Canada that the several religions therein prevailing should be followed in perfect harmony by those professing them, in accord with each other; and that every law passed by this Parliament, or by the Local Legislatures, disregarding the rights and usages tolerated by any one of such religions, is of a nature to destroy that harmony. That the Local Legislature of New Brunswick, in 1871, adopted a law respecting common schools, forbidding the imparting of any religious education to pupils; and that that prohibition is opposed to the sentiments of the entire population of the Dominion in general, and to the religious convictions of the Roman Catholic population in particular; that the Roman Catholics of New Brunswick cannot, conscientiously, send their children to schools established under such law, and are nevertheless compelled, like the remainder of the population, to pay taxes to be devoted to the maintenance of such schools; that the said law is unjust, and contrary to the spirit of the Constitution, and causes much uneasiness among the Roman Catholic population disseminated throughout the whole Dominion of Canada, and that such a state of affairs, if continued, is likely to prove the cause of disastrous results to all the Confederated Provinces; and praying that Her Majesty will be pleased to cause an Act to be passed amending 'The British North America Act,' by providing that the Roman Catholic inhabitants of New Brunswick, who are in a minority in that Province, shall have the same rights, privileges and advantages with respect to separate or dissential schools, and the same exemptions from taxation for the support of public or common schools as are now respectively enjoyed and possessed by the Roman Catholic minority of Ontario, and the Protestant minority of Quebec."

Mr. Wright spoke in favor of these resolutions. He is reported in Hansard in these terms:

"Mr. Wright (Ottawa) said he was sure every one regretted the necessity which existed for bringing this matter before the House. This was a very difficult problem, and on a satisfactory solution of it depended much of the future peace and prosperity of this Dominion. The hon. member for Victoria deserved the thanks of the House for the calm, moderate and logical manner in which he placed his case before it; from first to last in the course of this question, the hon. gentleman had proceeded in the same temper, and he deserved the congratulations of both sides of the House. The proposition he had placed before the House deserved the most careful consideration. We had but recently commenced a great political experiment. So far in the main we have been sailing in the flood-tide of success, we have all the elements within our borders for building up a great nationality. But that nationality must be founded deep in the love, reverence and esteem of the people. It should not be founded upon injustice, but upon the eternal principles of right. This was one reason why he would vote for the resolution. He would not argue the constitutional question; it had already been very fully canvassed in this House; moreover it had been dealt with by the highest judicial authority in the empire, who had rendered his decision. If that decision was correct, then while the Confederation Act protected the rights of the minority in Quebec and Ontario, the rights of the minority in New Brunswick had been shamefully neglected in the framing of that Act. As had been already pointed out, they enjoyed certain rights and privileges up to the time of Confederation, which were taken away from them by the Confederation Act; they would be told that the constitutional difficulty was the real difficulty and the circumstances that we could not by any possibility violate the constitution. But this was not the first time the constitution had been violated—it had already suffered much violation. When the House voted 'better terms' to Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, did it not violate the Constitution, and when the motion was adopted by the House the other night to change the mode of constituting a co-ordinate body with themselves, what was that but an attempt to violate the constitution? If ever an attempt was made to destroy the constitution, a determined and decided attempt was surely made the other night. How did the hon. member for Bothwell, who introduced the resolution, criticize the hon. body to which it referred. He told this House that the Senate was an asylum for political prostitutes—that was said boldly and openly in this House. For his part he (Mr. Wright) declared that such an attack upon the hon. the Senate certainly meant an attempted violation of the constitution. He appealed to them especially as representing a county in which there was a large majority of Catholics to adopt the resolution before them. From the liberal Catholics of his constituency he had always received an independent support, and they even supported him against one of their own religion, trusting in his honor that in the hour of their extremity he would do his best to obtain for them justice. From the first he always endeavored to sustain the member for Victoria, and on one occasion he

had voted want of confidence in the Government, led by the hon. member for Kingston, which he (Mr. Wright) had usually supported. He was then told that the course he had pursued would cause him to lose the Protestant support in the county, but he was proud to say that the Protestants thanked him for the action he had taken in supporting so liberal a measure. He especially appealed to his friends representing a Protestant minority in Lower Canada to support the resolution before the House. If ever the time should arrive when the Protestant minority of Quebec were not treated with liberality, to whom should they appeal but to the high Court of Parliament, and that appeal would not be made in vain. Every legal means had been tried, the appeal had been taken to the British Privy Council, which had decided against the Catholic minority. In the hour of their desolation and despair they come to this House asking justice, and under those circumstances, endorsing as he did every word in the resolution, he felt satisfied that at all events on the part of the Protestant majority in this House the appeal would not be made in vain."

We have dwelt at length on this matter, for we feel the importance of the cultivation in this great country of a spirit of friendliness, forbearance and consideration amongst all classes of our people. In Parliament Mr. Wright has done his share to cultivate and foster such a feeling. In the gubernatorial chair he will do likewise. An appointment such as his would be one of real worth and public usefulness, an appointment all the more advisable and urgent as we are but as yet on the threshold of our national existence, with all the difficulties of rival races and clashing interests but partially overcome—one that could not fail to fill with hope and courage and confidence those true Canadians who trust and pray that this great northland may become the mightiest nation on the American continent.

We see it stated that Mr. Wright has declared that he would not, were it offered him, accept the position of Lieut.-Governor of Quebec. So much the worse, we say, for the office and the province, but all the better for the Dominion at large, whose interests he will still continue to promote in the national Legislature. We feel that by giving full expression to our views concerning Mr. Wright we simply do our duty to the public and to a statesman whose merits in the heartless scramble for place and preferment, that is the bane and the curse of our politics, are too frequently forgotten.

DIOCESE OF PETERBOROUGH.

When his Lordship the Right Rev. Dr. Jamot came to Peterboro' there were many things needed, but especially a respectable Palace and a Cathedral. His Lordship, ever mindful of the spiritual good of his flock, first built a separate school in the south end of a separate street, thinking it too far for the children to that vicinity to walk to the other separate school on Murray street. He then spoke of building a new Cathedral, saying that the house (which was built long years ago for the Parish Priest) would serve him as a Palace until the House of God would be built first, and that then they would build a dwelling house. As they would cost sixty or seventy thousand dollars to build a suitable Cathedral, and as the town is large and Catholics much scattered, making it necessary to soon build another church, His Lordship and the committee concurred in the opinion that it would be best to build an addition to and beautify the old church. The contract was then let for \$17,500, to Mr. James McNamara, an industrious and ambitious young man, who has every prospect of rising. The old church is 100 feet long by 60 broad. They intend making a T church of it by building a transept across the end, and then a very large vestry will be built at the rear of that, so that the whole building will really be in the form of a cross. God would be built first, and then they would build a dwelling house, and as the town is large and Catholics much scattered, making it necessary to soon build another church, His Lordship and the committee concurred in the opinion that it would be best to build an addition to and beautify the old church. The contract was then let for \$17,500, to Mr. James McNamara, an industrious and ambitious young man, who has every prospect of rising. The old church is 100 feet long by 60 broad. 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