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THE IRISH IN CANADA. Interesting Interview With a Canadian Priest.

Dublin Freeman's Journal, Aug. 18. Our Miltownmalbay correspondent writes that he has had the pleasure of speaking to Dean Egan, of Canada, who willingly gave the following facts as regards the Irish in the Dominion.

Asked what were the opinions of Irishmen in Canada about the Irish

The Dean replied—I may say in the first place that I belong to no Irish political party, and it may easily be taken for granted that Irishmen in Canada have no interest in view save the welfare of their fellow-countrymen at home. Enjoying as we do the full blessings of "Home Rule" in Canada, and that under the British flag, and knowing its advantages, we ardently desire a similar state of things for this country. For this reason we have had through the influence of the Irish people both the Dominion and Provincial Legislatures and forwarded to the British Government at home, motions passed recommending Home Rule for Ireland. We have also con-tributed large sums of money for this purpose. Our people in Canada are intensely Irish—not only people like myself, who have been born and brought up on the soil, but the rising generation also are educated to take the same deep interest in the land of their forefathers. We saw with deep regret the present deplorable political state of things. When the people had the game in their own hands and when success was almost in view the cause has been retarded, and must be so for an indefinite period, by the rancorous divisions and unseemly quarrels of some political schemers. These so called leaders have alienated the sympathies of those who are able and willing to lend a helping hand in their demands for justice, and who abhorred the outrages that were perpetrated on the Irish people in the name of "law and order." These Irish leaders have given by their divisions a semblance of truth to the oft repeated charge that the Irish are unfit for self-government. The Catholic Irishman of the United States and Canada are often shocked by the unfolding to the property of the property of Miltownmalbay's population in Canada we would have one constable. Catholic tone of some of your leaders and their newspapers. There are and their newspapers. There are leaders envious of the influence of Bishops and priests, which influence they would prefer to hold themselves. I am not in favor of the unnecessary interference of priests in politics, but this cry of "no clerical dictation" savors too much of the French infidel, and is out of place in Catholic Ireland. Occasions have risen, and do still arise, when it was the duty of the priests to interfere to expose the injustices that were perpetrated by tyrants, demand the redress of these injustices, save the people from the intrigues of selfinterested politicians, and from the crimes that were enacted in the sacred names of patriotism and liberty. Are the Bishops and priests of Ireland to the Bishops and priests of Ireland to stand aside and see their good Catholic flocks misled by political adventurers who had in view their own interests, not those of the people? The Catholic clergy of Ireland are of the people and for the people. Their interests are identical with those of the people. They have fought and suffered for and with the second and it will be a sorry. with the people; and it will be a sorry

if through the machinations of any political intriguers they shall lose confidence in the "Soggarth Aroon." If such a day—which may God avert!—should come the religion and national ity of its population, is a Catholic country. Who will say that this great majority rule this country or that their wishes are to any extent even considered? Who will say that they are anything more than more taxpayers? Some statesman has said that he was for a "Parliamentary King and a Parliamentary constitution, but not for a Parliamentary God and a Parliamentary religion." We know that the English rule of Ireland is theo retically based and a practically based and a parliamentary constitution, but not for a Parliamentary religion." retically based and practically carried out upon the exploded idea of a Parlia mentary God and a Parliamentary re ligion. Some years ago the Govern ment made boycotting illegal, yet they systematically violate the law in regard to more than 80 per cent. of its population professing the Catholic religion. So far as possible Catholics are excluded from all high offices which confer political power and a prominent share in the administration. Unless a Catholic is a slavish adherent of the Government he can scarcely attain any prominent position. The few exceptions prove this rule. This is true in every department. This is the consistent British fair play which boycotts Catholics, yet makes boycott-ing a criminal offence in Ireland. And yet in this systematic exclusion of Catholic Irishmen from the higher offices of State in their own country, this persistent and ill concealed determination to keep them in inferior pos-itions, in this state of things the priests of Ireland—the most intelligent body of men perhaps in the world, and the most sincerely devoted to the interests of the people-must be excluded from giving an houest opinion in matters that are of vital importance. This is nothing new in the world. We learn from hew in the world. We learn this history that in nearly all the nations of Europe, even from what are called the middle ages, the Church was called upon to arbitrate between national the arbitrate between the arbitrate.

day for the people of our dear old land

"No priests in politics." This cry has been heard in Germany, France, and Italy in modern times, and with what results? Secret societies have obtained control in these countries. They have banished God and religion from edu-cation and society. They have labour-ed to destroy the influence of the Church, and a state of anarchy prevails which nothing but the authority of the Church can control. This is the state of things which some of your advanced politicians would introduce into Catholic Ireland. Irishmen, be-

What is the general extent and climatic condition of Canada, and how does the Canadian climate suit Irish people?

Dean-The answers to this question can be found in a geography much better than I can give it. The extent of the Dominion of Canada as to area is much larger than that of the United States. A great part of the North-West is not settled, though the Government is holding out every inducement to settlers. The condition of emigrants to Canada would be much more favorable than that of the earlier settler of 70 years ago who laid the foundation of wealth for themselves and their families and made the country fertile and productive. I think that there is no civilization in the world in its gov-ernment, laws, customs, and education higher than that of Canada. There are no people more content or more loyal to their Government than Canadians. I often think it is a great happiness for a people to live under a Government which is their own, which sympathies with their wants, and to which they may be loyal. Such is the Canadian Government, and if it is not so it is the fault of the people themselves. They have Home Rule to its fullest extent, and there is perfect confidence between the Government and the people. What a want and a loss to the people of Ireland they do not live under a Government run on these lines! The people here have not that respect for even the laws that are for their protection, because they know that these laws have been enacted by he not even in uniform. There the people look upon the representative of the law as their protector and friend, and in case of emergency he will find plenty to come to his assistance. How different are things here! And this can't be from the natural perversity of the Irish, or from their re-ligion, which teaches obedience and justice. The people of Ireland are naturally loyal if they were treated with justice and humanity, but the administration of a just and constitutional Government has not been extended to them as to other parts of the empire. As to the climate, I think it is the healthiest and most invigorating in the world. We have cold dips for two or three weeks in winter that are

extreme, but we are prepared for them. In like manner in summer we have a short spell of extreme heat, but the rest of the year is moderate and healthy. The sleighing, tobogganing, skating, golf, cycling, and other out-door amusements are healthy. I have been in Canada for twenty gight years and have never for twenty-eight years and have never had a day's illness. I have suffered more from cold and wet in one winter in Ireland than I have during that time in Canada. And if you take me varies from circumstances of la and other local causes; but an interview like this is too limited in its sphere to describe all this. Taking it, however, from a practical point of view I would say the climate is good for Irish

people.

cultural Department? Dean—This is too large a question and cannot be done justice to in a short interview. I would say in general that farming in the settled parts is in a flourishing condition. There are, of course, many exceptions of persons and places which prevent me making this a universal proposi-tion. The Government has instituted agricultural colleges where young farmers are taught scientifically and experimentally to obtain the best results from their farms. A great deal of labor and expense are lost both here and abroad for want of this knowledge. They are taught in three colleges the proper methods of draining, the proper management of the different kinds of soil, how to care and feed hogs, poultry, cattle etc., and to make butter with the least expense and labor, and with the best results and profits. I have often from the pulpit recommended our farmers to avail themselves of the advantages to be dethemselves of the advantages to be derived from these colleges, and I am happy to say they have to a large extent done so, and always with great benefit to themselves. The Hon. Wm. Mulock, D. C., who is proud of his Irish descent, the Postmaster General of Canada, a brilliant statesman and an

to Canada are not good if they do not | go to take up a farm in the North-West. On this matter any one intending to do so had better consult Mr. C. R. Devlin, Emigration Commissioner for Canada, 14 Westmoreland street, Dublin. Mr. Devlin has been one of the most eloquent and brilliant repre sentatives of the Irish Catholic that has ever stood in the Dominion Parlia-He has the entire confidence of Irishmen in Canada, and you may be sure that any information he gives will be reliable. He will not as Commissioner lure anyone to Canada unless there are good prospects of his success; and you may rest assured that the Government of Canada will do its duty honestly by any one it takes in charge. To sum up, we have in Canada the fullest measure of Home Rule, and her Maj esty has not in her extensive dominions more loyal subjects than the Irish and French Catholics. They would be the very first to oppose separation from Great Britain. Our Premier, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, is a Catholic. Our late Premier Sir John Thompson, was a Catholic of Irish descent. Ido not mention gentleman before us is a ruler of men, and that by virtue of his control over a body of well-educated, thoroughly disciplined and absolutely obedient followers he is a very real power the this as being of any advantage to us, because our Premiers who were Pro-testants were equally as just to us in their administrations. I mention this to show that no adverse discrimination is made under our system. Such dis-crimination cannot be made without serious risk to the party in power. We have six Catholics in the Cabinet and several Catholics in the Senate. In the United States Government there is only one Catholic in the Cabinet—the first for many years—and no chance at all of a Catholic President. Our system of Catholic schools is one by which the taxes of Catholies go to our own schools. which are under our own management. In the States Catholics have to pay taxes to support the public or Protestants schools and afterwards build, equip, and support Catholic schools

when they can do so. Taking in all we are holding our own in Canada.

A DAY IN MANILA.

A Protestant Writer Describes a Visit

Professor Dean P. Worchester, of the University of Michigan, has contributed to the Independent an interesting article on "A Day in Manila." While the professor's article s ows certain earmarks peculiar to the products of all Protestant pens on matters having a Catholic bearing, yet the reader may well overlook them in the presence of frank and direct testimony of the good work of the Catholic priests. After sketching in his article his experiences in driving through the old and the new city of Manila, the professor con-

tinues: "We are, of course, anxious to see the interior of one of these mysterious conventos, and bethink ourselves of a note of introduction to Padre Sone of the priests at the Ateneo Municipal, or Jesuit school for boys and young men. We find the buildings of the Jesuits less forbidding in their external aspect than those we have just seen. An hermano, or lay brother, receives us at the door and takes our cards and letter. In a moment we are shown up stairs and seated in a reception-room ornamented with fine old oil paintings. This room looks out on to a hall, which suddenly fills with students at the stroke of a bell. We now as a specimen of the Canadian survey them with interest, noting that climate for Irishmen I think the picture all are dressed alike and that most of will be favorable. Canada is of large them show plainly that they have ity of Ireland will infallibly extent and the climate consequently write from circumstances of latitude them show plants blood in their velns. They are for the most part the children of mestizos and creoles who can afford to pay liberally for their educa-tion. The boys look rather sickly, but the uproar which arises a few minutes from the court below serves to convince us that their physical welfare What is the condition of agriculture? is not wholly neglected. They are And what about the Government Agri-

having a good lively game of football.

Padre S—now appears, and we find ourselves being welcomed by a man with the bearing and polish of a welleducated gentleman. He takes us through the museum, and we are much interested in the display of strange mammals and beautiful birds which have been gathered from all over the archipelago. We are shown a splendid collection of ethnological material.

There are wicked krises, knives and

There are wicked krises, knives and lances from the Moro country; wooden idols taken from pagan tribes; strange ornaments and curious utensils, whose uses we can hardly guess. We begin to realize that there are a good many different peoples in the Philippines, and that they do not live in the vicinity of Manila.
"The material shown us has been

gathered by Jesuit missionaries, who are at present allowed to work only in Mindanao, Basilan and Sulu, among the fierce Moslem tribes. Their work is often carried on at the risk of their lives, but it is none the less carried on unhesitatingly, and in many instances it has been productive of good results. "Of the actual work of the school

we see nothing, but as we pass along the halls we meet other members of the teaching force, and it does not take us long to discover that we are dealing with well-educated and well-bred men,

extensive farmer, has given many lectures on farming which are said to "As a special favor we are invited to inspect the chapel. Externally it is have been productive of excellent results. It is a pity that more of our Catholic Irish have not taken to farman unimposing structure. Once within it we are simply amazed. It is finished the middle ages, the Church was called upon to arbitrate between nations, and was necessarily the arbiter between Governments and subjects.

We find that she was always on the side of justice, and especially to obtain justice for the people against their oppressors. When the policy of the Church did not suit the cry was raised,

and we can hardly believe Padre Swhen he tells us that not only this image, but all the other carving that we see, is the work of Philippine natives. We cannot doubt that there is some good stuff in men who develop such artistic ability.

"Padre S— now invites us to drive with him to the Jesuit observatory, which is at some little distance; but before we go he wishes us to meet the padre superior of the mission, who proves to be a kindly, gray-haired old veteran, with a cordial greeting and a pleasant word for each of us, heretics though we be. He is gentleness though we be. He is gentleness personified, or, at least, he seems so to as; but as we come to know more of Poilippine men and affairs we shall learn that the head of any one of the religious orders has need of other qualities than the gentleness of the dove the wisdom of the serpent must not be lacking. It is difficult for us to realize that the mild mannered, kindly old gentleman before us is a ruler of men, affairs of the colony-but such is the

case. "We bid our adieus to the padre superior and a pleasant drive brings us to the observatory. Here we are especially interested in the elaborate apparatus for recording the occur rence, direction and duration of the earthquakes which so frequently visit the archipelago. We find other ap paratus for the study of terrestrial magnetism and a very complete set o meteorological instruments. A special feature of the work of the observatory is the foretelling of the approach of the fearful tophaons which cause such terrible loss of life and prop-erty in the Northern Philippines and the China Sea. Notice of the approach of one of these dreaded storms is telegraphed in every direction where there are wires to carry messages, and is cabled to Hong Kong if it is likely to invade the China Sea. Ships have time to seek shelter and thus much damage is prevented.

The reports of this observatory are of interest to scientific men the world over, and it is to be hoped that serious harm may not come to it during the present troubles, especially since the order which has established it, in the face of many difficulties, is the only body of men that has ever successfully attempted to continuously carry or important scientific work in the Phil-

FINDING RELIGION.

A recruit being asked why he objected to attend church parade, said he had no religion, and couldn't make up his mind on the subject. "Sergeant-major!" said the officer, "this man every Sunday until further orders will parade with the Roman Catholics at on return of the part he will fall in with the Church of England at 10:15; and he will be back in time for the Wesleyan parade at 11:30. He will thus have every opportunity given him of selecting a religion.

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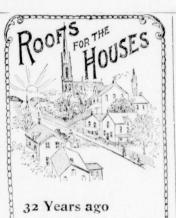
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