

# The True Witness

AND  
CATHOLIC CHRONICLE,  
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J. GILLIES.

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## TERMS YEARLY IN ADVANCE:

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MONTREAL, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1873.

## ECCLIASTICAL CALENDAR.

NOVEMBER—1873.

Friday, 14—St. Didacus, C.  
Saturday, 15—St. Gertrude, V.  
Sunday, 16—Twenty-fourth after Pentecost.  
Monday, 17—St. Gregory, B. C.  
Tuesday, 18—Dedication of the Basilicas of SS. Peter and Paul.  
Wednesday, 19—St. Elizabeth, W.  
Thursday, 20—St. Felix of Valois, C.

## NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The relations between France and Italy are suspiciously cordial, if not precarious, owing to the present uncertainty of the future policy of France. According to the *Perseveranza*, an Italian journal of some weight, M. Fournier does not return at present to his post at the Italian Court, and his resumption of its duties will depend upon the turn impending events may take. From the Catholic journal of Lugano we have the news, that in Swiss Catholic Jura a salutary reaction is beginning against the Radical persecuting Swiss Government. At some recent elections in the district of Delemont, the Conservative candidates obtained 1,500 votes, against 400 votes obtained by the Radical candidates.

Five of the men arrested at Autus, on the charge of being engaged in a conspiracy to abduct the niece of President McMahon and hold her as a hostage, have been convicted and sentenced to various terms of imprisonment. The three bureaux of the Assembly which deferred naming their members of the committee on the prolongation of McMahon's powers have since elected Count De Remusat, M. Leon Say, and M. T. Laboulay, all candidates of the Left. This gives the Republicans a majority of one in the committee. The result has given rise to intense excitement. It is said the Right, which, on the opening of the Assembly, submitted a motion prolonging McMahon's powers ten years, has offered as a compromise to make the term five years. M. Leon Say, at the request of the Government, consented to a postponement of the debate on his interpolation for failure to order elections to fill the vacancies in the Assembly.

Intelligence has been received of a great victory by the Carlists over the Spanish Government troops after a desperate fight, near the town of Miranda del Arga, in the Province of Navarre. The loss of the Republicans was very great, including among the killed Lieut. General Primo de Rivera. General Moriones was wounded and taken prisoner by the Royalists, with forty-one other officers of the Government army. The Carlists also lost heavily; among the wounded on their side is General Ollo and other chiefs. Madrid despatches report that the Spanish government has advices from Manila of the capture by a Spanish war steamer, in these waters, of two German merchantmen, having on board as part of their cargo, 2,000 rifles intended to be sold to Malay pirates. The news has created an excited feeling in government circles at Madrid.

Prince Bismarck has laid before the Federal Council the invitation of the United States Government to Germany to participate in the Philadelphia Exhibition, with a recommendation that it be accepted. It is probable that the German Reichstag will soon be dissolved, and the elections for the new one ordered to be held the last week in December.

The resolutions of the Irish bishops to recognise the Catholic University as a voluntary institution independent of State patronage and granting degrees on the authority of the Pope, has been received with satisfaction by the *Tablet*, which declares that the lesson of this policy will not be hard to read. "Heretical bigotry, warping the judgment of statesmen, refuses education to the Catholics of Ireland. The Pope, the constant friend of true liberty and culture, throws open to the youth of that country the domain of elevating literature and exact science. The State may yet for a while endeavor to ignore the validity of Catholic degrees. Let it be remembered, however, that degrees are above all things certificates and

badges of educational attainments, and if the Catholic University, as we do not doubt that it will, proves itself the home of real knowledge, the *Alma Mater* of a learned and efficient professoriate and of diligent and gifted students, then it will become as impossible for the State to refuse recognition of Catholic scholarship in the face of a noble university in Stephen's Green, as five-and-forty years ago it became impossible to refuse the political emancipation of the Irish Catholics in face of O'Connell's election for Clare."

Sir John Duke of Coleridge has been appointed Lord Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas, vice Sir W. Bovill, deceased. Mr. Hawkins on Thursday last, applied to the Queen's Bench for an extension of time for further hearing in the case of the Tichborne claimant until November, 1874, which was granted.

There was a riot in Portadown, Ulster, Ireland, on the 5th instant, growing out of the Guy Fawkes's celebration. The police had a fight with the Orangemen, and several persons were wounded on both sides.

The New York *World* estimates the Democratic majority in the State at 14,843, and makes the State Senate a tie. James D. Centre, one of the jurors on Stoke's trial, was sentenced to 31 day's imprisonment and a fine of \$250 for contempt of Court in speaking too freely of the case while the trial was in progress.

The Manitoba Assembly opened on the 4th inst. The Lieutenant-Governor's speech referred chiefly to the enlarging of the Province, now under discussion.

During the debate on the address on Wednesday, the 5th inst., the Rt. Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald entered the House, and stated that the Ministry had resigned, and that His Excellency had commissioned him to report the same to the House. His Excellency shortly afterwards sent for Mr. McKenzie.

The following list, as given by the *Globe*, supplies the personnel of the new Ministry:

Mr. Mackenzie, Premier, and Minister of Public Works.

Mr. Blake, without portfolio.

Mr. Christie, Senator, Secretary of State.

Mr. Cartwright, Minister of Finance.

Mr. D. A. Macdonald, Postmaster-General.

Mr. Dorion, Minister of Justice.

Mr. Letellier de St. Just, Senator, Agriculture and Immigration.

Mr. Fournier, Inland Revenue.

Mr. R. W. Scott, without portfolio.

Mr. A. J. Smith, Marine and Fisheries.

Mr. Isaac Burpee, Customs.

Mr. Coffin, Receiver-General.

Mr. Ross, Minister of Militia.

Mr. Laird, Minister of Interior.

At the time of going to press the Presidency of the Council was still vacant.

Parliament was prorogued on the 7th inst.

As we expected the fuller accounts come to hand of the reported great and decisive victory by the army of the Madrid revolutionists under the command of General Moriones, over the Royalists under General Ollo; thoroughly refute the telegrams. The republican victory turns out to have been a republican defeat, as the London *Times* of the 13th ult., editorially frankly admits. "It appears," says that journal, "from the statements of our Correspondent that General Moriones, the Republican commander, was really worsted in the conflict, and had to give way, though it is not so clear that he surrendered any important military positions to his adversary." From this the public will learn what reliance is to be placed on the reports of republican victories transmitted by the cable which is entirely under the command of the revolutionary party. The account of the battle by the *Times*' correspondent, an eye witness, is interesting.

On the 6th ult., General Moriones with 8,000 men and 16 guns advanced upon Lorea where, to oppose him, General Ollo had but 5,000 infantry, one squadron 150 strong of cavalry and four guns. At first the republicans had the advantage, and the Carlists gave way. The enemy crowned the heights the latter had abandoned, and affairs looked bad indeed for the Royalists, when General Ollo got his guns to play with effect, and the columns of the republicans fell into disorder. The conclusion of the battle is thus narrated by the *Times*' correspondent:—

"Fresh shots followed from the Royalist artillery men, and Moriones began to withdraw his men by retreating in echelon of battalions from the left. The Carlist left was then ordered to attack. A deadly fire was directed at our men by the regiments formed up on the Republican right to protect their comrades' retreat; but nothing could check the hot blood of the Navarros and Alaveses. 'Con la bayoneta' had been the order given to them, and the bayonet is their favorite arm. Cartridges, too, were wanting, and there was nothing left but the cold steel. At a racing pace the Royalist soldiery traversed the valley; never once checking, they doubled up the hillside. Fathers might fall, struck by the deadly hail showered from above, but sons did not stop. 'Adelante!' was the cry, and the enemy, already cowed, at last ignominiously fled. General Ollo did not spare himself; he and his son, a young aide-de-camp, were throughout in the thick of the fight, and the ordinarily calm General, for perhaps the first time in his life, became a little excited. 'Let the Cavalry come to the front,' called out some soldiers; 'Caballeria be —,' or something in Spanish very much to that effect, escaped the General's

lips, and then, seeing me at his side, he laughingly apologized for the expression. 'For what horsemen could ride over this ground,' he remarked; 'a little later, yes, but now it is too absurd.' At this moment his servant was struck full in the chest by a shot, and, staggering back a few yards, fell heavily to the ground. A few yards further we came upon an officer shot through the throat. 'Poor fellow, he is my first cousin,' said Ollo; and then the bullets began to hail around us; man after man went down; and an Artillery officer, riding up to the General, asked him where the guns should be placed. 'There' was the answer, pointing to the heights of Santa Barbara, from which point some of the enemy who had rallied were devastating the Royalist files. Dead men were lying about the ground in all the varieties of grotesque and strange positions in which they had been when the Grand Destroyer laid his scythe upon them. One was beheaded a low mound in the act of loading his rifle; the cartridge had fallen, but the weapon was in the dead man's hand, and a stern expression still to be traced on the countenance would make the passer-by believe that if the owner of the rifle had fired his last shot it would have been aimed with a will to mete out to another that lot just doled out to himself. It was too late.

"The moon rose, and the ghastly remains of humanity were thrown still more repulsively into relief by its shadows. 'Let the cavalry charge,' said the General, and away went our single squadron helter skelter after the breathless Republicans. Here the ground was favorable, and if Ollo could then have disposed of two good regiments of horse, the whole of Moriones's artillery must have been captured. Presently the squadron returned. It had taken some prisoners, killed a good many of the foe, and its Lieutenant had sabred a Republican commander. 'There he lies,' said the young officer to Ollo, 'and here I cut him down,' and the lieutenant drew a sword still reeking with his victim's gore. There is something especially repugnant when we attempt to analyze our nature and find how strong the love of destruction is prevalent with the best of us under certain circumstances. The officer in question is one of the kindest and best-hearted fellows you can well imagine, but he was positively delighted he had killed the Commander."

"Along the best road we marched towards Giranqui. 'Where is A?' 'Poor fellow! He is dead.' 'And B?' 'Wounded.' 'Glorious victory! How pleased the King will be,' and such were the themes of conversation till we arrived at our quarters for the night."

So much for the great republican victory, and the crushing defeat of the Carlists.

The election of M. Loysen, as one of the *Cures* in Geneva is accounted for in the report of the *Times*. The Catholics of course took no part in the sacrilegious business, and the election was managed by the enemies of the Church. There were polled 1,256 votes, of which 1,256 were cast for the apostate priest. This tells the whole story.

The Catholic Bishops in Germany continuing firm, and the penalties hitherto inflicted on them having failed in their intent, the *Times*' correspondent thinks it likely that the Archbishop of Pozen will be deposed by the Government; and that, if he should persist in exercising spiritual functions after his deposition, he will be imprisoned. Should this fail, the State must either avow itself vanquished, or must sentence the contumacious offender to death.

Thus at last shall the glorious principle of "civil and religious liberty," as understood by Protestants, be triumphantly vindicated.

We have received three beautiful photographs of the vision of the Immaculate Conception, which took place on the 11th of Feb., 1858, by the Blessed Virgin appearing to the little peasant girl, Bernadetta Soubirous, near the village of Lourdes, in the South of France. Published and for sale by Murphy & Co., Baltimore, Md., at 25, 50 cents and \$1.00 each, according to size. They can also be obtained from Messrs. D. & J. Sadler & Co., Montreal, and from all Catholic booksellers.

ST. PATRICK'S ORPHAN ASYLUM BAZAAR. —We have much pleasure in stating that the "MacMahon Flag" has been presented to the St. Ann's Total Abstinence Society who polled more votes than all the other Societies combined, we believe some 3,096. We congratulate this Society on being thus publicly acknowledged the favorite of the Irish people of this City.—Com.

## A CARD OF THANKS.

It is with feelings of very sincere gratitude to God, and to their generous patrons, that the Ladies who conducted the St. Patrick's Orphan Bazaar, just ended, have the pleasure to announce that the net proceeds of the Bazaar amount to \$6,600.25. To realize this unusually large amount the Ladies think it right to state that their portion of the labor was even less than usual;—a proof of the deepening interest of the community in the welfare of the little orphans, and of the helpless and aged poor whose wants are thus provided for. The cause of so excellent and favorite a charity seemed, as might be expected, to remove every distinction of religion or nationality. The cause of the little orphan children of God was the common cause of all, and was espoused with the same cheerful and ready charity by all. The Ladies offer their best thanks in return for this generosity, inspired by such high and holy motives, and they shall be happy to engage their little proteges to unite in asking the choicest blessings of Heaven for their constant and noble benefactors. Special thanks are due to the young gentlemen of the Independent Band who attended gratuitously every evening during the Bazaar, and also to the gentlemen of the St. Patrick's Temperance, and the Catholic Young Men's Societies, for their invaluable services in the Hall of the Bazaar.

## WRITTEN FOR THE TRUE WITNESS.

### SHORT SERMONS FOR SINCERE SOULS.

No. 43.

"THOU SHALT NOT COMMIT ADULTERY."

If courtships contribute to inflame the breasts of young people with the unholy fire of impurity, so also do balls and dances. Between these two evils indeed there is but this difference: courtships are the private schools, balls and dances are the public schools of licentiousness. I am not speaking of those modest and decorous dances with which the children of Israel celebrated their deliverance from Pharaoh and the waters of the Red Sea; I am not speaking of the dances with which the faithful people of God returned thanks for the victory of Judith over Holofernes; I am not speaking of such dances as those with which King David greeted the Ark of the Covenant on its journey from the house of Obededom to Jerusalem. The balls and dances I would now denounce are those balls and dances which are carried on as our modern balls and dances are carried on; those balls and dances with their immodest dresses and lascivious movements which modern society tolerates whilst it cannot approve. Behold our modern ball-room even in the houses of those who are deemed discreet and prudent as the world goes. A room lighted up with a sensuous glare. Crowds of young women rouged and painted; dressed, or rather undressed, to the very verge of immodesty; their forms exaggerated, their every movement and attitude voluptuousness personified. Nothing has been omitted in their toilet that can serve to render them more attractive; which is only another phrase for more sensuous and provocative of carnal love. And these young women dressed as at other times they would not dare to leave their bed-room; these young women are led about on the arm of young men heated by wine, by the excitement of the moment, and by the whispered remarks of their lewd companions. Can these young women call themselves pure and free from sin? If there is a purity of the soul as well as of the body; if there is a purity of mind as well as of action, can these young women claim to be beyond reproach? Alas! have we not assembled here in this ball-room the whole of those three forces that are ever battling against God;—the world, the flesh, and the devil. But music is heard, and the dance begins. Gracious God of Heaven! what do you behold? Can it be possible that we are in a Christian land? can it be possible that we live in an age that deems purity or modesty a Christian virtue? Were a husband to enter his wife's room suddenly, and to discover a strange man or an acquaintance with his arm round his wife's waist (I speak plainly as becomes the gravity of the evil) what would be his feelings, what estimate would he form of his wife's virtue? And yet, fy, oh, fy, Catholic mothers, this is what you permit; nay! encourage and approve of in your daughters. Watch your daughter, whom you received an angel of purity from the baptismal font; watch her circling round this crowded ball-room with that young man as they dance the fast dances. Ought you not to die of shame? ought you not to sink into the floor to hide yourself from the gaze of man?—And if this mercy is not vouchsafed you, ought you not to fly from your seat, to rush after your hitherto pure daughter, to tear her away from this shame, and to hurry her home from this crowd of sin before the anger of God is provoked to call upon the walls to fall upon you? Do not tell me that there is a difference between your daughter's case and that of the wife. Yes, there is this difference, it is true, and to your shame be it said. The husband is too jealous of his wife's purity to tolerate such conduct for one instant; whilst you, Catholic mothers, care so little for your daughter's modesty as not only to tolerate this outrage, but to encourage and approve it. Nay, more; not only may a friend or an acquaintance encircle your child's waist, but any man may exercise the liberty who chooses to claim her in the dance. Was there ever outrage against decency equal to this? But the one, you say, is public; the other is private. What! is, then, the courtesan less a courtesan because she flants herself in brazen impudence before the public gaze? Does a crime become less a crime when done in public? You are not content with the crime only, you must needs add the scandal also.

I fear, Christian parents, that with some of you at least, my words will fall upon your ears unheeded; and I fear it on this account, because the Fathers of the Church, in all ages, even the Cypriens, the Basils, the Chrysostoms, the Austins, with all their burning eloquence and glowing zeal, have denounced these evils, and they yet exist. What did I say, exist? They not only exist, but are sanctioned—I had almost said sanctified—by social custom.

That lascivious dances existed in society even in the first ages of the Church is abundantly evident from the fact that Tertullian and St. Cyprien, two of the earliest Fathers found it necessary to denounce them in two entire works. And do not persuade yourselves

that it was not your kind of dances that they denounced but rather those pagan spectacles which so often ended in bloodshed and murder. No, Tertullian speaks of them as those dances which men persuade themselves to look upon as lawful and allowable; for the devil, he says, uses the strategy of those who when they wish to destroy an enemy, offer him not poison in vinegar and wormwood, but in highly seasoned meats, in cups full of exquisite wine, or in delicate liqueurs in order the more surely to conceal the poison.

And the holy Bishop Basil, thus raised his voice in holy protest before high heaven against balls and dances. "Men and women assemble together for diversion to sing and dance, and often piercing each other with the darts of concupiscence, they return leaving their souls in the hands of the devil. They give themselves up to immoderate laughter, to lascivious songs and to gestures and postures which provoke sensuality. Tell me; how dare you rejoice; how dare you laugh, when you ought to weep and mourn for so many sins committed? How dare you amuse yourselves with profane songs when you ought to bless God in hymns and canticles? How dare you dance when you ought to prostrate yourself in homage to God and to Jesus Christ? For whom ought I to weep? For this young and as yet innocent girl or for this married woman whom you are leading out to the dance? The one will return having left behind, her modesty and virgin purity; the other will be received back with her fidelity suspected, if not destroyed; and if either indeed should still preserve her purity of body, she will carry back at least thoughts and desires contrary to purity. What excuses can you offer for thus exposing yourselves to so evident a danger? Assuredly you will have to carry those excuses with you to the bar of divine justice."

Nor did the great St. Austin speak less rigorously against these balls and dances. Denouncing the custom amongst some of dancing on festival days after having been at Mass, he tells them they came to Church Christians and left it Pagans. And in another sermon he says the women had far better break the Sabbath by spinning and the men by ploughing in the fields than by dancing. St. Ephrem speaks of dances in equally energetic language.—"Wherever there is dancing and music there is blindness of men; spiritual ruin of women, weeping of angels, and rejoicing of devils. "Who," he asks in another place, "who established this unholy custom? Not St. Peter nor St. Paul nor St. John nor any other of the Apostles, founders of the Church of God. Who was it then? It was the horrid dragon with his interminable folds that taught it."

St. John Chrysostom having heard of a certain ball, and having reason to suppose that some of his flock then present had participated therein ascended the pulpit and in most vehement terms denounced the evil, declaring, that did he know the individuals who had been present there, he would immediately drive them ignominiously from the Church and would forbid them for ever to assist at the services of the Church. Arguing against these balls in another place he calls them that devil's game wherein the players are inevitably caught in the meshes of the enemy of their souls and fall under impure temptations, for if sometimes even in the Church where all is holiness and retirement and reverence, impure thoughts will overcome you, how can you reasonably hope to escape them in the dance where everything is done which is calculated to arouse carnal love and to draw you from purity.

## THE CATHOLIC RECORD—November, 1873.

Hardy and Mahoney, Philadelphia.

The contents for the current numbers are as under:—1. The Evangelical Alliance. F.; 2. Sister Mary Patricia, S.N.D. *Chas. H. A. Esling*; 3. The O'Donnells of Innismore; or, The Two Marys. Chapters I, II, III, IV.; 4. Divine Authority Essential in the Institution of the Church. *Very Rev. Dr. Moriarty, O.S.A.*; 5. Temporal and Spiritual. *London Tablet*; 6. Autumn Leaves; 7. The Broken Pitcher; 8. The Best Solution of the School Question. *Chas. H. A. Esling*; 9. The Martyrs of Sebaste; 10. Conferences on the Bible and the Church—The Conformity of the Hebrew Gospel a proof of the Truth of the Scripture Narrative. *Very Rev. Dr. Moriarty, O.S.A.*; 11. Pictures in Stone. C. J.; 12. New Publications.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT.—The Sisters of St. Joseph of the House of Providence, Toronto, return sincere thanks to the congregation of the different Parish Churches of the city, for the liberal sums contributed in aid of the House, on Sunday last, the 2nd inst. The following are the respective sums:—

St. Michael's	\$334 00
St. Mary's and Brockton	214 00
St. Paul's	160 00
St. Patrick's	98 00
St. Basil's	93 00

—Irish Currier.

Mr. Green, builder, and five men working at a building at St. Thomas, Ont., were precipitated to the ground by the breaking of one of the beams at the top of the building. Two of them were seriously hurt, while a third has died.