

THE TRUE WITNESS AND CATHOLIC CHRONICLE

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EPISCOPAL APPROBATION.

"If the English-speaking Catholics of Montreal and of this Province consulted their best interests, they would soon make of the 'True Witness' one of the most prosperous and powerful Catholic papers in this country. I heartily bless those who encourage this excellent work."

—PAUL, Archbishop of Montreal.

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 14, 1901.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

DEATH OF REV. MR. GRENIER.

In "La Semaine Religieuse" we find a most touching account of the extraordinary and saintly life, as well as death, of the late Rev. Charles Ovide Grenier, of St. Isidore de Dorchester. This model and greatly afflicted priest was in his seventy-first year when God summoned him to an assured reward for a life of the highest spiritual merit. Abbe Grenier was born in Quebec, on the 18th February, 1830. He made a brilliant course of studies at the Seminary, and his theological course was equally remarkable. In 1855 he was ordained to the priesthood, after which event he was made vicar of l'Islet; in 1857 he occupied a similar position at St. Basile; and in 1858 he received his first appointment as parish priest in St. Pierre de Broughton. In 1863 he went back to St. Basile as pastor of the parish. Needless to tell of his zeal for the salvation of souls and his untiring efforts in all the duties of his ministry. From early college days he had been affected with a disease of the eyes, which was augmented by his close application to study, especially when in theology. Shortly after his return to St. Basile he suffered the loss of sight in one eye. This fearful affliction did not change his course of duty for one moment. He worked on, as if nothing had happened. One day, however, he awoke to discover that he had looked his last upon the things of earth, that light had forever left him, and that he was entirely blind. As a holy priest and an humble follower of Christ he made the sacrifice with cheerfulness. He removed to his family's home in St. Isidore, where for thirty-eight years he lived doing good, exercising whatever functions of the ministry that were within his power, and affording all in his vicinity an example of humility, resignation and piety that served as a perpetual sermon. He preached regularly, heard confessions, and even said Mass. As he had two Masses—one of the Blessed Virgin, the other for the dead—by heart, he was enabled daily to offer up the august sacrifice. He died as he had lived, a perfect model of priestly devotion, and after having gone through the third of a century of sufferings without once allowing a complaint to escape his lips.

REV. P. J. HEFFERNAN.—Elsewhere we publish a list of the ecclesiastical appointments made this year by His Grace the Archbishop. In the list will be found the name of the Rev. P. J. Heffernan, who has been given the position of vicar in St. Mary's parish. Father Heffernan is one of the bright promising examples of our young Irish-Canadian priesthood, and he is a child of the very parish wherein he is about to exercise the duties of his holy calling. Son of one of our most honored and respected citizens, he has ties binding him to St. Mary's that must impart great courage to his heart in the duties he has before him. Doubly "a labor of love" must be, for, while the priest is ever ready to consecrate all his time, talents, and labor in the cause of religion and of humanity, still, for him as for all others, "there is no place like home." We need scarcely express our wish that Father Heffernan may enjoy health and strength to carry to a successful issue his every effort on behalf of St. Mary's and its parishioners.

SHAMROCK'S TRIUMPH.—The victory of the Shamrock lacrosse team over the Capitals of Ottawa on Saturday last, was a crushing blow to a large and important section of the citizens of Ottawa, who have in many practical ways shown their deep interest in their team. The triumph of the Shamrocks is a striking and most impressive lesson of what Irishmen in Montreal and throughout Canada may achieve in other walks of life, besides that of athletics, if they united and made the sacrifices which are so necessary to attain success in any undertaking.

It was a sacrifice of leisure in order to practice, sacrifice of individuality

in order to follow the rigid rules of the captain, trainer and executive, a sacrifice of selfishness on the field, a unity of action—as one man—and that splendid courage and steadfastness so characteristic of the Irish race that won the honors of the day for the wearers of the green on Saturday. At the close of the fourth game when the score stood 3 to 1 in favor of the Capitals many of the Shamrocks' warmest supporters seemed to lose all hope. But Captain O'Connell and President McLaughlin, despite the odds against the team, were not the least worried.

All honor to the executive, the plucky captain and his gallant team for their splendid work, which added another bright page to the proud record of the organization.

LATE BISHOP O'FARRELL.

Only a few weeks ago one of our contributors made lengthy reference to the late eloquent Bishop O'Farrell, of Trenton, N.J. The recalling of his name pleased a vast number of our readers. These will be pleased still more to learn that a project is on foot to erect a memorial chapel at Hopewell in memory of Bishop O'Farrell. The fund is rapidly increasing, but it is the intention of the committee to gather \$15,000 before breaking the ground, or commencing the construction. If this wise course be adopted, there can be no doubt as to the successful issue of the undertaking.

THE HOME RULE PARTY.—It is not often that the European correspondents of the secular press pay tribute to the Nationalist Party, or its leaders, in the Imperial House of Commons. The "Star" of last Saturday publishes a lengthy letter from London in which the writer does justice, in one way at least, to Mr. Redmond and his following; and, considering all the circumstances, that letter presents a most hopeful prospect for Irish Nationalist Party. It is true that towards the end he says:—

"Ireland will have to wait a long time yet for Home Rule; but the Irish party, if it can continue united, will, for some years to come, be able to tie England to a Government of reactionary conservatism, and keep the Liberals almost indefinitely in opposition; unless, following the settlement in South Africa, whenever that time comes, or the disappearance of Lord Salisbury from public life, there should be a realignment of political parties in England and Scotland, of which as yet there are no indications."

But this unqualified and unsubstantiated assertion that Home Rule is still far off, is sufficiently contradicted by the very next paragraph, in which he tells us that:—

"Fortune has favored the Irish party in Parliament. In Ireland also, things are obviously going Mr. Redmond's way. The Parliamentary fund of 1901, by dint of careful management, was made to cover the expenses of the session, and provide allowances for those members who cannot attend at Westminster without pay."

Moreover, in spite of all the prognostications of failures, the Irish County Government Act of 1898, which established an equality in rural Local Government in Ireland and England, is, on the admission of the Irish Attorney-General, working well. The United Irish League is gaining strength. A new land agitation, this time for a compulsory land purchase act on a large scale, is under way, and in view of the successes at Westminster and the improved outlook for the National party in Ireland, Mr. Redmond's autumn campaign, which is to open at Westport, seems likely to approximate to some of the triumphs Parnell achieved in Ireland in the eventful years between 1878 and the Parliamentary enfranchisement of the Irish peasantry in 1884.

This is certainly explicit, but it is merely the conclusions that flow from the full column of appreciative remarks that constitute the first part of the letter. We cannot reproduce it in full, but we deem it right to extract from it a few passages,

which we bring together in a disjointed manner—remark that the context omitted in each case merely strengthens the remark that we quote. It is thus the "Star's" correspondent sums up the situation:—

"In the newspaper retrospects of Parliament no feature has come in for more emphasis than the new position of the Irish Nationalist party. At the general election the reunited Nationalists carried 82 of the 103 seats in Ireland; and in the late session, under the leadership of Mr. John Redmond, they made England more aware of their presence in the House, and of the existence, of the Irish demand for Home Rule, than at any time since the divisions in the Nationalists' ranks, following Parnell's disappearance from the scene."

"Mr. John Redmond, who has now had 20 years in the House, has, by common consent, proved himself resourceful and a most capable Opposition leader. Even the Unionists concede his success, and they now realize that the chaos of the last 10 years in Irish politics, which enfeebled the Nationalists, is now at an end."

"Most of the awkward questions about the war and the details of its management which Mr. Chamberlain or Mr. Brodrick had to answer or evade were put from the Nationalist benches. From the Nationalists also came the strongest protests against the way in which the Government used its great majority to railroad business through the House. There were more divisions in the late session than in any since 1887."

"In the wearisome and disturbing session of 1887, as a result of the manoeuvring of the Irishmen, there were 485 divisions, the highest number in the history of the House. In the recent session there were 457. The Irish members were responsible for scores of them."

"For the Government the session has been a singularly barren one. In spite of their big majority, they carried only two or three of the numerous domestic measures which were introduced. The others had to be abandoned for lack of time, and at the end of the session business was rushed in a way which evoked protest from old Parliamentarians in the House of Lords, as well as in the House of Commons, and brought on the Government many rebukes from their more candid friends in the Unionist press. From the point of view of the Nationalists the session was full of achievement. They worried the Government almost as much as the Irish members harassed Gladstone and Forster from 1881 to 1885. They had demonstrated also that, whatever may be the feeling toward Home Rule, Ireland is now as insistent as ever in her demand for a separate Parliament, and that Mr. John Redmond and his followers are bent on pushing this demand."

When the "Star's" London correspondent admits all that we have just quoted, it is scarcely probable that he believes his own assertion regarding the remoteness of Home Rule. In any case the Nationalist Party must have achieved wonderful success during the past session, to merit such a tribute from such a source.

REV. FATHER QUINLIVAN.

For about a month past, Rev. Father Quinlivan, the beloved pastor of St. Patrick's, has been abroad; in the Western States, where he has sought, by change and rest, to secure an amelioration in the condition of his health. We all know that Father Quinlivan has been more or less ailing for quite a long while. His zeal in exercise of his parochial duties, and the unsparring manner in which he has devoted all his energies in the service of the Church, the congregation, the children and the schools, have had a natural but most undesirable effect upon his system. It is to be hoped, however, that the trip he is now taking will procure for him the much needed renewal of strength and health which he has long desired. In about two weeks he will return home to continue his interrupted labors in our midst, and it seems to us that the occasion would be a very appropriate one to prove, by a demonstration of welcome, how truly the congregation and all friends of St. Patrick's appreciate his sterling worth and his untold services and sacrifices for the welfare of the whole community.

HOW CRANKS SUCCEED.

It is very remarkable that if an enterprising citizen wishes to advance his own interests with the community, by having the public made aware of his profession, or business he could not get a line published in the secular press, unless he pays a high figure for its insertion; yet the first stranger that comes to town, with the obvious object of extracting

money from the pockets of the foolish, can have whole columns dedicated to his nonsense and use the press as a convenient medium of free advertisement. We have an instance of this at the present moment in our city. It is unfortunate the credulity should be so intense that it becomes the source of so much gullibility on the part of the great public. Were it not for a sensation-seeking press these itinerant jugglers would pass unnoticed by the mass of our people—much to the benefit of the latter. But when lengthy interviews are published, most romantic accounts—sarcastic or otherwise—are given, and a fictitious importance is imparted thereby to the individual in question, we need not be surprised if the people go to see, to hear, to encourage, and to pay money to a stranger, whose strength, like Samson, lies in his hair.

PRESIDENT MCKINLEY.

We had gone to press last week when the shocking news of the shooting, by an anarchist assassin, of President McKinley, one of the greatest Presidents of the United States, was dashed from Buffalo to all quarters of the civilized world. In those later days of rapid communication, such important events are made known with electric swiftness; consequently the daily press, since last Friday, has kept every country in the world acquainted with the facts of the horrid attempt upon the life of that noble, gifted and lovable ruler. It is too late, as a matter of news, for us to furnish full details of the mournful and sensational series of events that have marked the most astoundingly criminal deed of the new century. But it is never too late, provided the earliest opportunity is taken, to give expression to the sentiments of horror and of sympathy that animate us—horror at the crime, so totally inexcusable and unjustifiable, that has been committed, and sympathy for the victim of the foul deed, as well as for the frail and loving wife of the good President, and with all the true and honest citizens of the great Republic whose destinies he has so patriotically guided during the past few years.

When the press of all countries and of every imaginable political color, when the rulers and heads of every form of government known to civilization; when the pulpits of every section of Christendom; when, in our own church, from the Sovereign Pontiff down the whole line of the hierarchy and priesthood, are perfectly harmonious in the grand universal expression of hope that the Lord of Providence would frustrate the evil desires of the lawless assailant and of prayer for the speedy restoration to perfect health of the great man thus stricken down, we can do little more than blend our humble voice with those of the tens of thousands and unite in that accentuated sympathy and in those fervent prayers.

Of the countless number of writers who have paid tribute to President McKinley, during the past week, one remarked that "lightning invariably strikes in high places, and that is why there are few persons who are in such constant danger of death by violence as those who, either by inheritance or by the election of their fellow-citizens, are raised high above the level of their fellow-creatures." The history of the last half century, and of the rulers in various lands during that period, furnishes ample proof of the exactness of this statement. If we consider that within a few years, comparatively speaking, three Presidents of Republics—one of France and two of the United States—have been murdered by anarchist, or maniacal hands, and that now the assassination of a third President of the American Republic has been attempted, we must conclude that it is as safe to be Czar of Russia, or Shah of Persia, as it is to be the head of a constitutionally governed country—a land of liberty.

When the Nihilist flings his death-dealing bomb at the autocratic ruler in a land where certain liberties are restricted, deeply and seriously as we may denounce the act, still we cannot help feeling that there may be some ground-work, insufficient and frail in fact, but yet enough to afford an explanation of the individual's conduct; but when the arm of the same species of organization is raised with deadly purpose against the inoffending, the liberty-loving, the purely democratic ruler—who occupies his post of honor by virtue of the popular suffrage, and only for a limited time—speculation is at a loss to assign a reasonable, or even an excusable motive for the deed. If it be not mania, it must be the deepest-dyed villainy.

We have noticed, from time to time, that sections of the American press sneered at the precautions taken by royal personages when going abroad, or even travelling through their own dominions. The assassination intended in the case of that

land of perfect freedom and of republican principles, no such precautions are necessary. And, as a matter of fact, men occupying such positions as those held by the Presidents of France or America, have such unbounded confidence in their fellow-citizens that they decline to be hedged in by unnecessarily numerous precautions, and they blend unhesitatingly with citizens of every class. The result is that they expose their persons to death and they discover, when too late, that they are men who are not capable of appreciating liberty.

It is not a boon but a curse to accord freedom of action, and even of expression to these members of murderous and secret organizations. They are a perpetual menace to mankind; they are the enemies of God and man; they possess perverted natures that cannot be tamed, not even as much as the nature of a tiger, or a serpent. To legislate against them is no easy matter, for they bid defiance to all authority and all laws. We can see no way of meeting them than by denying them every benefit accorded by law to ordinary citizens. They should be outside the pale of executive consideration. Once one of them is known to be what he is he should no longer be allowed abroad amongst his fellow-creatures. It is insane to wait until some dreadful crime is committed in order to punish the culprit; a preventative course would be preferable, and that can only consist in making professed anarchy a crime against the State. It should suffice that his connection with such societies be established in order to justify his removal from the pathway of humanity—we do not mean by death, but by incarceration for a sufficient term to frustrate all designs that he might form, or that might be formed by others for him.

At all events we trust that this sad and severe lesson will not be lost on our American cousins. It is high time that greater value should be placed upon the lives of such personages as the President of the Republic; it is a national duty of the highest moment. For our part, we can only pray that the days of anarchy are numbered, and that the boon of pure Christian education may be afforded the masses.

THE MAYORALTY.

Those immediately interested are already commencing to "feel their way" in connection with the next term of the mayoralty. The first slight indication, in that direction, has come from "friends" of the present Chief Magistrate of Montreal. Our readers will doubtless recall how strongly we fought during half a year prior to the last mayoralty contest, for that small degree of justice which our people have been led to believe would be their portion in this city. We need not remind any one of our attitude concerning the candidature of Mr. Doran on that occasion. We then struggled for the maintenance of a principle, and if we failed in attaining our object, it was simply due to the tardiness and apathy of our own people. It was only at the eleventh hour that Mr. Doran was induced to come forward, after months of hesitation regarding a candidature, and yet, handicapped as he was, he made such a fight and rolled up such a vote that it was quite obvious to all citizens that he had been in the field a few weeks earlier he would have carried the election. Now, all that is passed and gone, and we have the future to deal with—but sustained by the experience of the past.

On that occasion we took our stand upon principle, and in favor of the inviolability of the unwritten compact, which accorded each of the three elements of our population, its turn in the mayoralty representation. The election was lost, and the honorable gentleman who had occupied the civic chair for two years was given a second term of two years. It was then argued that Mayor Prefontaine had initiated many civic works and commenced the solution of several civic problems, and that it would be unwise and unfair to the city to prevent him from having an opportunity of solving his problems for the benefit of Montreal. He then, declared that if he were again accorded a term he would see that the Irish Catholic candidate would receive no opposition on the next occasion. We may state, while recalling the past, that when elected by acclamation for his first term, Mr. Prefontaine declared that he would not seek a second one.

Well! He did seek a second term of two years; at least, he was "in the hands of his friends," and his friends' hands grasped at the second term, and got it. Now, it is rumored and reported that Mr. Prefontaine (or rather his friends) intend that he should be candidate for a third term of two years—making his mayoralty career one of six years. While it was to be seen, the absence of all

opposition this time to the Irish Catholic candidate, he (or his friends) makes use of the very peculiar argument that, as the Irish Catholics lost their turn last year, it becomes again the turn of the French-Canadians next year; that is to say, Mr. Prefontaine's turn. To say the least this is a very modest pretension on the part of a person who did not intend to seek a second term, but who took one, and who purposed securing their term for the Irish people next time.

Of course, we are only now referring to a published report that may or may not have any solid foundation. And, we may add, if it is intended that the mayoralty of Montreal should be vested in one individual as a life office, we have no objection that Mr. Prefontaine should be that one. He belongs to the element which can claim a vast majority over all the others; he has been a creditable chief magistrate, doing honor to the city, to the office and to himself, on all important occasions. By all means, if the position is to become the monopoly of one man—let Mr. Prefontaine be the one. He has occupied the chair for four years almost; another term will see him six years king of our civic domain; a life-term would not bring on the deluge. However, if it be agreed (between the present Mayor and his friends) that his occupation be in perpetuity, at least, we object most emphatically to the succession being made hereditary. At least let there be an election—open to candidates of the other two elements—when in their natural course the life of Mr. Prefontaine and that of his mayoralty come to a close.

In case, however, that our present chief's magistrate's ambition (or rather the ambition of his friends, in whose hands he is) should fall short of a perpetual mayoralty, we would advise our fellow-citizens of the Irish Catholic element to learn from their experience of last year, that it is high time they should be girding, on their armor and selecting their champion for the fray. Don't let us be caught napping again. To use plain English, the aim seems to be to exclude us out of representation in the civic chair, and we have no intention of submitting to the same. We can stand defeat with equanimity, but we will not be humbugged, nor cajoled any longer.

Now, all that we have just written is based merely upon the supposition that the published rumor of Mr. Prefontaine's candidature for a third term of two years be well founded. But we must add that whether the report be exact or not, we know that the majority of the French-Canadians would never willingly consent to such a course. It is true that in our province, and our city, the French-Canadians are in an immense majority, but characteristic of their national and natural chivalry, they never sought to prejudice the rights or interests of any other element, and they never are likely to do so.

PRIESTS AND WILLS.

Our friend the "Western Watchman," seems to have developed a faculty for saying most unpleasant things, or, at least, saying indifferent things, in an unpleasant manner. In a recent issue that organ contains an article upon "Priests and Their Wills," in which, very properly, it is stated that priests should make wills and even deposit them in the diocesan chancery. We agree fully with every consideration in that article as far as it regards the inconveniences and troubles arising from priests dying intestate; equally are we of accord with the editor in his remarks concerning the relatives of a priest as his heirs, and the church, the religious institutions and the poor. But it would seem, that the "Watchman" could not even treat that simple subject without introducing some phrase, or other, calculated to grate upon the Catholic ear. As, for example:—

"It is a very unusual thing for a dying priest in this country to bequeath what he has to his family, and where it is done the prayers at his funeral are said without fervor orunction by his fellow-priests. It is considered discrediting for a priest to be wealthy, and a disgrace for him to leave his wealth to his relatives."

We would be long sorry to think that the foregoing represented the ideas and sentiments of our clergy—and we believe that it does not. "His fellow-priests" must needs bring a very mercenary spirit to the altar, if the "prayers" at the dead priests' funeral are said without fervor orunction by them, merely because he did not leave them a few dollars. Surely our priesthood is animated with loftier and holier aspirations. If they pray "without fervor orunction" for their departed fellow-priest, it would be preferable that they should refrain altogether from attending his funeral, or, if, according to the canon law, they are obliged to attend, that they should do so with the same indifference as they would show to the funeral of a layman. For the sake of the Church, and for the sake of the poor, we would advise our fellow-priests to be as indifferent to the funeral of a fellow-priest as they would be to the funeral of a layman.

TO

A BASEL In an editor's "Schools," and compromise the Public Schools, gives rise to bigotry.

"In Winnipeg practically there was school effort education of girls largely. The school probably benefited for instruction. There was a passing examination given by them which will be usually qualified."

It would have been that the respecters of those schools and teachers, and an indication of less reliability later. We must hold the value of public school, calm, dignified, or of our religion, not having less serious a mind. As to and accomplished egories of teaching, diplo school, diploma could ever raise of our teaching, a totally different remember who teaching nuns examination, judges, or ex-

the same to do were to under- for the teacher is invasion in education we are not guilty of mean insinuation quoted.

While legally whatever other a compromise Catholic authorities are submitting. As Mr. Lang general who is surrender, may yet still feel which he fought just. So the west—was of Lao XIII.

can get a wait more—feel that and must even insinuations of as ill-timed and as false as the

EMPTY P

the "Message ed in New C some reasons attend Church he refers to. Amongst other says:—

"Why more do not attend great extent ing church off- gards the church, while they attempt ship. Take any country; take in New Canada the common name. The visitor is reced. The usher will the common vestible waiting see the flashing of the vestments, while the church, while a seat in the without a small appearance of."

"There are not people do not more would actually convince wanted for any the funeral of ship would be whole cause for found outside of."

This may be lieve it is, of a non-Catholic in the United States, forget that as Church goes on arise, for insid- ists no distinc-

INSANE OR lic Journal" seems to find of Judge Fitz. He recognizes ties as a rail- of the law. The for the new laws in this