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Rev. JOHN F. COFFEY, M.A., Editor.
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Catholic Record.

LONDON, SATURDAY, NOV. 29, 1884.

LORD DUFFERIN AND INDIA.

Lord Dufferin goes to India at a very critical period in the history of that country. The administration of the Marquis of Ripon was so singularly prudent and successful as to have averted troubles of the very gravest character. It is remarkable that just at the moment he resigns the reins of office there should be sinister rumors of uneasiness in regard of the political condition of India. It is but a short time since the St. James Gazette asserted that it had indisputable authority for saying that England is approaching a crisis in India in comparison with which the Sepoy rebellion of 1857 will appear commonplace. The dangers foretold arise from the disloyalty of the Mahomans in Calcutta and Bombay, and the Russian invasion which is always threatened by way of Afghanistan. The Gazette even went as far as to promise revelations in which the oppressions of the natives of India by tax farmers and collectors will be shown in as bad a light as the crimes of Warren Hastings. That famine is now impending, in the richest country under the face of heaven, is certainly not reassuring. Famines beget revolutions and we all know that revolutions sooner or later overturn governments. Speaking of the coming famine in India, that well-informed journal, the American, says it is difficult, if not impossible for us in this country to realize all the horrors implied in this bit of news. Bengal, the afflicted province, adds our contemporary, is the most densely settled portion of the peninsula:

"It is exactly ten years," continues the American, "since it was thus desolated before. In 1874, it (with the adjacent province of Behar) suffered more than it would have endured in five years of desolating warfare. Its people died by millions, as 37,000,000 at least have died in India since 1837. The ties of natural affection were sundered; parents sold their children for a few shillings to secure them a refuge and to prolong their own lives for a few weeks of hunger. Others died in the last agonies of slow starvation, while saving every morsel of food for the little mouths dependent upon them. Children were collected by relief agencies, who had been reduced to living skeletons for want of food. In a word, more than all the horrors our brave sailors had to endure on the Greely expedition were inflicted on an entire population greater than that of any European kingdom, except Russia. These horrors were renewed in 1877-8 in the western parts of the peninsula, under the eyes of Miss Florence Nightingale, who declares the official figures as to loss of life fall far below the facts."

The American holds the English rulers of India responsible for all this. They, however, maintain that they are not to blame, for they have, they say, given the country peace, freedom of trade, just government and equal taxation. Under these conditions they hold that "population has increased, because two of the Malthusian checks to its growth, war and pestilence, have been held in abeyance. Therefore the third—famine, takes a larger sweep. The country is overpopulated, and any failure of the overpopulation plunges whole provinces into ruin." The American very easily disposes of this argument. India, it points out, like Ireland, is a food-exporting country, and therefore cannot be overpopulated. Just as in the worst years of the Irish famine, the Irish exported great quantities of food, so in 1874 the export of grain and other food went on from Calcutta and other ports. It will be so, the American assures us, this year also. The Hindoo raises scarcely anything else but food. "He has," continues that journal, "to deal with a government which collects of him twenty per cent. of his crop in taxes. This must be paid in money, not as the old native governments were paid, in kind." He has no choice but to export enough or be evicted from his holding, as no native government ever evicted him. He is also obliged to export food for nearly all the manufactured goods he uses. There was a time when India was one of the chief manufacturing countries of the world. Her delicate cotton fabrics drew the European traders to her shores as much as did her spices and precious stones. In certain parts of the country every man, woman and child was engaged in this industry, and great manufacturing cities like Decca, with 80,000 looms, festudded the land. Now all

this is destroyed. Just government and equal taxation could not have brought about this destruction of manufactures, nor did over-population, for no such thing exists in India.

In 1877 a special income tax was established for the creation of a famine relief fund. But this tax has never been applied to its proper object, but diverted to pay the ordinary or extraordinary expenses of the Indian government. Lord Lytton, for instance, used it to pay the costs of the Afghan war. The East Indian government has no surplus to expend on famine relief, and will be further embarrassed by the impossibility of collecting the usual land rent from the people of the famine-stricken regions. The debt amounts already to \$748,000,000, so that to add to this burden were to further impoverish the whole land. The outlook is indeed a wretched one.

"And yet," sentimentally adds the American, "India must be happy and prosperous, for she has all the elements which Henry George desires for any country. The land is nationalized, being the property of the government. The possibility of a landlord is excluded by the fact that the land-tax is the full amount of the rent value. There is also, as Mr. George wishes, absolute Free Trade. On his principles the country ought to be an earthly paradise. As a matter of fact its poverty transcends even that of Ireland, and for the same reason."

If the situation were not strained Lord Dufferin had not at this juncture been selected for the vice-royalty of India. The sound, sober, and equitable administration of the Marquis of Ripon served to postpone the crisis which for years has been impending. Lord Dufferin is credited with the highest diplomatic skill and keen knowledge of men and of institutions. He has certainly the talent required to govern men, even in times of extraordinary difficulty. But he has none too much of skill, none too much of governing power for the position to which he has been called and for which it is said he has long had a yearning and a longing. He appears himself fully persuaded of the difficult and intricate character of the mission before him. At a banquet lately tendered him in Belfast the noble lord, in a speech freed to a large extent from rhetorical glitter he was so fond of when Governor-General of Canada, appeared to fore-shadow days of trial and tribulation for India and of adverse criticism for himself:

"Above all, let me remind you, my lords and gentlemen, that when dealing with such vast subjects as those which occupy the statement of Calcutta; when handling the tremendous forces which are evolved out of the complicated and multitudinous political systems which exist within the borders of the Indian Peninsula; when endeavoring to mould by slow and cautious efforts the most ancient, the most continuous, and the most artificially organized civilization to be found on the face of the earth into forms that shall eventually harmonize more and more with those conceptions which the progress of science and the result of experience have shown to be conducive to human happiness, the result of the ruler's exertions are seldom perceptible at the moment, but far more frequently bring forth their fruit long after those that filled the field and sowed the seed have rested from their unrecognized and sometimes depreciated labors."

He then added that the days when great reputations were to be made in India are, happily perhaps, as completely past as those in which great fortunes were accumulated. Famous Indian pro-consuls were not, he thought, any longer required by their superiors or compelled by circumstances to startle their countrymen by the annexation of Provinces, the overthrow of dynasties, the revolutionizing of established systems and all those dramatic performances which invariably characterize the founding and consolidating of new empires. He expressed himself convinced that the successors of the famous Indian viceroys, who founded and consolidated British power in India, must be content with the less ambitious and more homely, but equally important and beneficent work of justifying the splendid achievements of those who have gone before them, by the careful and painstaking elaboration of economical, educational, judicial and social arrangements, calculated to bring happiness, peace, contentment and security alike "to the cabin doors of the humble ryot, to the mansions of the royal esquire and to the palace gates of her majesty's honored allies and princely feudatories."

"So convinced am I indeed," the noble lord proceeded, "of the truth of what I say, that I imagine the greatest success and triumph I can obtain is that, from the time that I depart from these shores and wave a grateful response to the farewell words of my name may never be forgotten. Nor let it be imagined that this humble programme is not enough to exhaust the energies and strain to the utmost the abilities and statesmanship of India's

most experienced servants and England's wisest counsellors."

But while marking out for himself this quiet and uneventful course in India, Lord Dufferin took his hearers somewhat into confidence as to the changed position of India, both as to the foreign relations and domestic condition:

"Things," he said, "go very fast with us nowadays, and the changes in their conditions and relations are as multiplex and instantaneous as those in a kaleidoscope. Yesterday India was an isolated region, remote from the disturbing influences of foreign contact. To-day we have a European neighbour on our north-western frontier, and ere long we may have another on our eastern boundary. Happily, I have the good fortune to be united to the Foreign Minister of Russia by the ties of personal intimacy and regard. I am convinced that a more moderate-minded, wise, and unaggressive statesman does not breathe in Europe. I believe his great desire is that Russia should live in amity with England, and that no causes of disagreement and suspicion should be generated in Central Asia between the two countries. He has more than once assured me that he regarded the expansion of Russia in a south-easterly direction with regret, and that his most earnest wish is for such a condition of affairs to come into existence as should impose upon that expansion its natural and permanent arrest. I rejoice to think that it should have fallen to my lot to co-operate with a personal friend in arriving at this desirable and necessary result. Nor within the confines of India itself have matters remained a whit more stationary. The spread of education and the extension of railways, the congestion of population, slow moving as are the habits of Indian thought and sentiment, have created new requirements, and demand fresh readjustments, the successful accomplishment of which will call for the most extensive knowledge and the acutest insight."

We cannot help but looking on Lord Dufferin's allusion to his friendly relations with the Russian Foreign Minister as altogether far-fetched. Personal friendship has, as the noble earl is aware, little to do with matters of public policy—especially where the antagonistic claims of rival states are concerned. The Earl of Dufferin is a loyal servant of Britain, and would not permit his regard for the Russian Minister to influence him in any matter of public concern to his country. Nor can he expect, nor does he really expect, the Russian Minister to do otherwise by his government. If the government of Russia decide on a further extension of its south-eastern boundary, the Foreign Minister must either resign or seek, by all means in his power, to carry out its purposes.

Lord Dufferin may not startle his countrymen by the annexation of Provinces, or the overthrow of dynasties, or the revolutionizing of established systems, but he well knows that he has been called to the government of India at a most critical period, and that, judging from the present gloomy outlook in that unfortunate country, his administration cannot but be eventful. If he have the courage to inaugurate reforms tending to the amelioration and the happiness of the vast populations confided to his government, he will leave a name in history more deeply revered and truly honored than that of any of the famous pro-consuls alluded to in his Belfast speech. Let him, in a word, give the Hindoos just government and equitable taxation, and his name will be blessed by countless generations.

THE NEW CABINET.

Already the Cabinet makers are at work framing an administration for President-elect Cleveland. According to our contemporary, the Advertiser, Senator Beck, of Kentucky, one of the most prominent representatives of the Democratic party, gives the following as the probable Cabinet of Cleveland: State, Mr. Thurman; War, Gen. McClellan; Attorney-General, Mr. McDonald; Postmaster-General, Mr. Reagan; Secretary of the Treasury, some first-rate New York business man (Belmont?) This would, indeed, make a strong Cabinet—strong in ability and strong in popularity. Mr. Thurman, in the Department of State, would, we cannot entertain a doubt, restore American diplomacy to the traditions of a noble past, lost sight of in later years by the obtrusion into high posts of nifty-hammers and flunkies.

We feel, however, constrained to say, and we submit the matter to the earnest consideration of our American Catholic contemporaries, that the Catholic body is entitled to some representative in the Cabinet. There are first-rate business men outside of New York, and Catholics too, any one of whom could fill the post of Secretary of the Treasury. We take the liberty of suggesting one name, that of the Hon. P. H. Kelly, of St. Paul, Minn. Mr. Kelly's name is a household word, not only in his own state, but throughout the great north-west, where he is one of the representative business men. He has the shrewdness, the sagacity, the caution and the initiative required in a Secretary of the Treasury. He has, besides, rendered his party great and signal services. As a delegate of the Chicago Convention, and a member of the national democratic committee, his in-

fluence was felt throughout the campaign in the direction of unity and enthusiasm for the nominees of the party. And to the labors of such men as the Hon. Mr. Kelly, to their singleness of purpose and patriotic disinterestedness, must be attributed the great victory that has this year crowned the standards of the democracy.

ALAS, POOR BURCHARD.

Republican anger has, since the election, fallen so thick and fast on the Rev. Samuel Burchard, of "Ram, Romanism and Rebellion" fame, that he feels himself a truly wretched man. With tears in his eyes—we speak metaphorically, of course—the rev. gentleman has risen to explain:

"I designed," he said, "to cast no dishonor upon the Roman Catholic Church, either upon their integrity, their patriotism or Christianity. I had reference in my remarks to the Democratic party and to their doings, and I meant, first, to characterize that party in their antecedent action and history as manifesting, if not friendliness, certainly no hostility, to the vile use of rum; second, I meant to be understood that the party in question had endeavored to use the Catholic population of this country as a factor in their ranks for partisan and political purposes. No reflection, as you perceive, is here cast upon the Roman Catholic Church; third, I did mean to emphasize the fact that the party in question did not frown upon the late rebellion, but rather encouraged the effort to sever and destroy this Republic."

The explanation is a poor one, but were it ten thousand times as strong, it could not deliver poor Brother Burchard from republican fury. In an evil time he spoke, and words of evil portent did he speak. He thought he might, by an asinine alliteration, build the fortunes of republicanism, but lo! the fabric that he thought to strengthen is now levelled with the dust. True, indeed, is it, as the Pilot puts it, that the tongue of Blaineism will not cease for many a day to curse the unruly member within the senate jaw of the reverend Burchard, whose untimely wagging closed the White House and lost the Presidency to Mr. Blaine.

COLLEGE GAMES.

Some time since the London Tablet, reviewing the annual record of inter-collegiate games in England, pointed with pride to the numerous victories won by Stonyhurst, and warmly commended the Jesuits for their discreet interest in College sports and the facilities granted to their students when preparing for these competitions. No College director of any experience fails to recognize that a well-regulated campus is an important factor of college life. Athletic exercises are encouraged not merely for the sake of physical development, but for mental and moral vigor as well, and it is generally observable that wherever the gymnasium and the playground are wisely patronized, other influences being equal, discipline is easiest maintained. It is always possible to abuse a good thing, and it is complained that in some educational institutions, notably the great universities of England, athletics are inordinately promoted. On the other hand, in some colleges that we know of, there is little or no provision for out-door pastimes, and the results of this neglect are apparent to all save those who will not see. In this province a safe medium course is pursued, and there is no cause of complaint, at least so far as Catholic colleges are concerned. All necessary means are provided, under fatherly direction and care, for healthy recreation and amusement, and it is safe to say that the students who enter with most spirit into the games are generally the most diligent at their desks and the foremost in their classes, and excellent in their behaviour at all times.

We are led to these remarks by reading the report in an Ottawa paper of an inter-collegiate contest at the good old game of Rugby football between the Harvard University eleven and an Ottawa College team. True, it was a struggle between fully developed men, and youths who were most of them in their teens, but that made the fight on the college side all the more glorious. It was not by any means a walk-over for the big men, and when the score in the second half-play was declared a tie, the enthusiasm of the Ottawa students may be easily imagined then described. The match throughout was most interesting and the visitors were delighted with their hospitable reception and treatment. How the boys will look back to that day! and how they will strive by their good conduct and application to deserve the privilege of arranging another encounter. Such events as this help to promote that esprit de corps among the students and that attachment to Alma Mater which are an evidence of the present prosperity and an earnest of the future success of the institution. As to setting proper limits for sports and games, without interfering with studies, no one knows where to draw the line better than Dr. Tabaret. We are glad to learn that the college directors are negotiating for the purchase of a valuable piece of land, six acres in extent, only two blocks distant from the

main building, and that the work of preparing it for summer pastimes will be immediately begun. The grounds will be none too large for over three hundred students.

A SHUFFLING OF THE CARDS.

It is some time since we read in the Ottawa Sun that the correspondent of the Toronto News at the capital had telegraphed his paper that the government was finding greater obstacles than they expected in the way of appointing John Rochester, ex-M.P., to the Post-mastership of Ottawa. It is, according to this worthy correspondent, a foregone conclusion that Francis Clemow will be appointed to the Senate to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. Skend:

"This is all right," saith the News correspondent. "Clemow is a prominent Orangeman, yet that would make no difference unless Rochester, who is also an Orangeman, were appointed to the postoffice. Against this combination of Orange element the protest of the Catholic electors of the city and county comes. On the other hand, the name of James A. Gouin, proprietor of the Russell House, is mentioned in connection with the postoffice. While no one could be more popular than Mr. Gouin, there is an objection raised in his case. It is a well-known fact that Chas. H. Mackintosh, the city senior member, has recommended Frank Hawken, assistant postmaster, for the position, while Mr. Tasse, the junior member for the city, supports the candidature of Mr. Gouin. The appointment of the latter, it is held, would be to give the nomination to the junior member."

The correspondent of the News is evidently well up in the way things are done at Ottawa. But when he sums up Mr. Francis Clemow's qualifications for a senatorship in his statement that he is a prominent Orangeman, he gives away that gentleman's case altogether. Mr. Clemow has not only been a prominent Orangeman—he has been a howling bigot of the Johnson of Ballykilbeg style. Than this he has no other claim on the place. We could name without difficulty fifty Protestant Conservative gentlemen in the Ottawa Valley with claims and qualifications for this position that require no endorsement from office-seeking and plunder-loving Catholics. The Senate, as we once before stated, requires all the strength it can get from respectable appointments. And the Catholic body has a right to expect from the government that no outrage should be inflicted on its just sentiments of self-respect by any such appointment as that of Mr. Clemow. As to the post-mastership, we have nothing to say but that Mr. Gouin is, in all respects, better qualified for the post than Mr. Rochester. If the government paid less attention to the wire-pullers, little difficulty would be experienced in filling the place with a competent man.

TWO SIDES TO THE PICTURE.

We are accustomed to hear belauded the school system of Ontario, that we can hardly believe there is anything like it under the sun. It so happens, however, that in this view we are laboring under a very sad delusion. The system of Manitoba is much younger than that of Ontario, its present school law dating only from its creation as a Province in 1870. The North-West Territories likewise have, within a very brief period, inaugurated a school system which, like that of Manitoba, is based on equality and justice. There is no one-sidedness, no inequality, no extortion. Can we say the same for Ontario? Have we not here inequalities in the matter of assessment, inequalities in the matter of representation at headquarters, inequalities in regard of public aid to our schools; inequalities, in fact, all round, from the university to the elementary schools? At the late meeting of the East-Middlesex teachers' convention, Mr. Colton opened the eyes of his hearers by a statement of things educational in the North-West. He is thus reported in the Free Press:

"Mr. Colton said things were rather flat in connection with the North-west, but he decided to comply with the request of the Inspector, and speak to them of educational matters in Moose-jaw, where he occupied the post of chairman of the School Board. There had been a School Act passed by the North-west Council, appointing a School Board on a similar plan to their local board, six members being Roman Catholic and six Protestant. People here had an idea that there were no schools in the North-west, but such was not the case. There were twenty-eight stations in the Territory. The Government made a grant last year of \$7,815, and \$8,000 was contributed by the ratepayers, thus making a total expenditure on education of over \$15,000. Therefore, he thought people had nothing to fear on going to the North-west from educational troubles. In regard to the promotion of teachers, the newly appointed teachers were placed in the first book, and they were promoted to the second book and to the third. He thought this system preferable to that in use in Ontario. He also spoke flatteringly of Lieut. Governor Dewdney, who has aimed and endeavored to promote the interests of education among them, by increasing the Government grant from one-half of the teachers' salaries up to the sum of \$600 to one half of the salaries up to \$800, at the late session of the North-west Coun-

cil, while at the same time he reduced the numerous attendance from fifteen pupils to ten, in order to receive the Government aid."

The school system of the North-west is flourishing. It has been started on a good basis—that of equality. There is no coercion of conscience in that great country. Protestants are free to maintain their schools, and Catholics to maintain theirs. There is an equality in that great country in the matter of education that should fill just men here with a laudable envy. Let us take a leaf from the school law-book of Manitoba and the North-west, and then we may boast—but not till then.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

We insert with pleasure the following letter, which speaks for itself. We need not, we feel confident, assure our esteemed correspondent that we had any desire whatever to misrepresent him or any other speaker at the Church Congress. In discussions of this kind there is nothing whatever to be gained, but much to be lost, by misrepresentation:

The Rectory, Smith's Falls,
14th November, 1884.

MR. EDITOR:—My attention has been drawn, by a friend in Ottawa, to an article in your paper of the 1st Nov., on "Religious Education," as discussed at the Anglican Church Congress."

The question of Sunday Schools was also referred to in your article above mentioned, and my name appears, and I am reported as having stated that "the Roman Catholic Church had no Sunday Schools."

I write now to say that I think I qualified my statement at the time, though the reporters seem to have missed the words of qualification.

I think what I really said was this: "The Roman Catholic Church has no Sunday Schools—at least, she has no Sunday Schools such as ours." What I meant was that the children of Roman Catholics were not left to the uncertain and indefinite teaching of irresponsible and often incapable young men and women of the various congregations, but that the teaching which they did receive was definite and systematic.

I am quite sure that you had no intention to misinterpret or misrepresent me, though I think I have been misrepresented by a good many ignorant talkers and religious spouters who heard of, or read, or misconceived my imperfectly reported speech at the Toronto Church Congress.

I am a friend of Sunday Schools and of religious instruction every day in the week too.

What I do wish to see is thorough teaching of Christianity, definitely, distinctly, and systematically, by the authorized teacher.

I may say that I am indebted to a genial and kindly Roman Catholic friend of mine here for a copy of your able and seemingly well conducted paper, containing the part of my speech above referred to.

Yours truly,
A. C. NESBITT.

IS THIS FAIR?

The Ottawa Sun a short time ago reported that it was stated, on the very best of authority, so good indeed that it did not admit of contradiction, that within a few weeks before its writing a number of recent importations from England had been quietly placed in good positions in the civil service, without examination or qualification. The Sun gives an instance of one individual who, the very day after his arrival in Ottawa, almost before the autumn air of Canada had had a fair chance to expand his English lungs, was trotted up to the public buildings and politely requested to do the Canadian government and the Canadian people the honor of going through the form of working for them.

The Sun asks, in the name of common sense and of reason, if this is fair. Under the Civil Service Act it is indeed, as our contemporary alleges, supposed that no person can be appointed to office who has not passed the necessary examination. Yet it is well known that temporary employment is given to many who have not passed the necessary examination. Many of those so employed go on working for years. This is indeed a violation of the spirit, if not of the letter of the act, and an injustice to those who have passed the necessary examination.

"But why," asks the Sun, "should outsiders, strangers in the land, be shored in as temporary clerks, or any other kind of clerks, when we have hundreds of our own young men well fitted to fill any ordinary position under government?"

"And how about the scores of young fellows who have specially prepared themselves for service; who have passed the examination, and who are anxiously awaiting their turn to be placed behind a public desk? Is it fair to them, is it fair to their parents, is it fair to the people of Canada, who have to pay the proper, recently imported Englishmen, with Tomnoddy or My Lady Fitzfoodle, while qualified Canadians are compelled to kick their heels out in the cold?"

We have only one answer to give the query of our contemporary. Not only is such a course not fair, it is unfair in the last degree. We have no desire to raise a cry of nativism. We would exclude no one from office, whatever his race, nativity or color, provided he have the necessary qualifications. But no man should be promoted to office, no matter what his nativity, color or parentage, without these qualifications. We are not, however, we must confess, sur-

prised at the of by the Su looked upon colony. And good-for-nothing nothing, did we have in the good quality, of their ends a public crib, nation will the Sun be removed.

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