

The True Witness

AND CATHOLIC CHRONICLE.

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WEDNESDAY.....JULY 21, 1897.

SIR DONALD'S PEERAGE.

The Daily Chronicle of London says "that Mr. Chamberlain, finding that his plan for colonial representation in the House of Commons is out of the question, wants Canada, Australia and South Africa each to have a representative in the House of Lords, and for this reason wished Sir Donald Smith, the Canadian High Commissioner, raised to the peerage. Mr. Chamberlain hopes that when the Premier returned home and consulted their governments they will arrange for the nomination of these representatives."

This is a subject upon which a great deal of nonsense has been written. Until the Queen's Jubilee, the Imperialists were looked upon as a small body of harmless ultra-loyalists, with pleasant, if somewhat wild dreams, of an all-absorbing Empire. Since the colonial Premier have been in London all kinds of speculation have been set afloat. A careful perusal of the speeches of our own Premier will convince the most casual observer that the matter is still in a nebulous condition. In so far as Canada is concerned the people feel that they are in a singularly happy condition. No change is desired at present. We have Home Rule in earnest, with all its blessings, and we are in no hurry for any other condition of affairs. Some day it may be necessary to reconsider the question of our relations to the Empire and to provide for the strengthening of the tie that binds us to the Mother Country. When that time comes the matter will, no doubt, be submitted to the consideration of the people at large. As a free and intelligent community Canada will be ready to do its share in the premises, but neither Mr. Chamberlain nor Messrs. Anybody else have any right, nor will he or they be allowed, to dispose of any portion of our liberties, or of our resources, without the consent freely given and freely expressed of the majority of the Canadian people. Sir Donald Smith is a level-headed High Commissioner of Canada; he knows the peculiarities of our population and the aspirations of the rising generation, and Mr. Chamberlain will do well to be advised by the Old Nestor, as he no doubt will, before any step is taken to define our position in the Imperial legislative machinery. Sir Donald was raised to the peerage for distinguished services in many paths of public weal. He will be able to render good service to this country in the House of Lords; but to suggest that he was given his promotion for the object hinted at, is to ignore the great role he has played in Canada's development, as well as in the fields of philanthropy and of popular as well as of higher education.

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESSES.

In looking over our exchanges we find a large number of excellent addresses delivered to graduating students in different parts of Canada and the United States. Indeed this seems to be an exceptional year as regards the eminence as well as the eloquence of speakers who undertook the task of speaking to the young men, prior to their entering upon the stormy sea of life. Amongst others is the Rt. Rev. T. S. Byrne, Bishop of Nashville, Tenn., who struck a good note in a vigorous address, telling the graduates of the Christian Brothers' College, St. Louis, Mo., to stand by their faith. The following extract is worthy of the careful study of Catholic young men:

"It cannot be denied that there does exist a prejudice against Catholics; that it is active, without being apparent; that it pervades our literature, our laws, and our social and political life; that it hangs like an obnoxious exhalation in the atmosphere, and poisons the air we breathe; that it may be doubted if it be potent for evil in this instance, as is commonly asserted. The world admires and honors who have the courage of their convictions, and bows in deference to a pure and noble life. With a young Catholic

gentleman, be 'respecting', if his haunts be not those of fashionable and expensive dissipation; if his associates be of the honorable, the virtuous, and the wise; if he live not like a pagan, while proclaiming himself a Catholic; if his conduct be an exemplification of his professions; if his life be such that he can stand before the world with pure heart and clean hands, and challenge its malignity; then, I say, that in these days, and in this land, his religion will be no bar to his advancement in any business or profession that is worthy of engaging the thoughts or the energy of man. The religion of Mr. Taney did not prevent him from reaching the distinguished position of Chief Justice of the United States; and neither did that of Mr. Charles O'Connor prevent him from reaping great emolument from his profession and winning the splendid reputation of being the first lawyer of the land."

CENTENARY CELEBRATION OF '98.

Fifteen years ago an association was formed in Ireland for the purpose of celebrating the one hundredth anniversary of the rebellion of 1798. Naturally the association took root in the United States, and now it is proposed that next summer there shall be a national pilgrimage from America to Ireland to commemorate the event and to revive the memories of the great men who figured in the last important struggle for Irish independence. A pamphlet issued on the subject announces:

"The object of the National Committee, which meets in Dublin, was to cement the relationship of these native Irishmen and Irish descendants so that at the proper time they would journey back to the Emerald Isle and show to the people of the earth what a powerful nation Ireland would be if her sons had stayed at home."

Among other objects of the Association is the raising of funds with which to erect a suitable monument to the memory of Ireland's fallen heroes. The pilgrimages will be to Wexford, Kildare, Antrim, Down, and to other parts of Ireland which were the scenes of havoc, victory or defeat, in the insurrection ninety-nine years ago, when the Irish people rose and fought for liberty.

It has been arranged to have a ten days' sojourn in Ireland in the summer of that year at excursion rates, with the privilege of remaining a year. Various side trips will keep the pilgrims busy sightseeing. Among the principal anniversary celebrations will be that of Vinegar Hill, in commemoration of Theobald Wolfe Tone, the founder of the Society of United Irishmen. This anniversary will be celebrated on June 22."

A committee of prominent descendants of Irishmen has been formed in New York, and it is proposed to charter two steamers for the pilgrimage. The names of the promoters are a guarantee of the success of the enterprise. No doubt many Irish Canadians will wend their way to Erin's shores on the occasion of this memorable centennial.

The Federal Courts of Colorado will shortly be the scene of a preliminary struggle for wealth before which the fabulous resources of even Monte Cristo sink into insignificance. It is an application on behalf of Leonard S. Ballou and Alexis M. Say of New York, against the owners of the Little Johnny Mine, at Leadville, the plaintiffs demanding an interest in the property and an accounting of the mineral taken from the Uncle Sam claim since June 29, 1893. It is alleged that, in 1890, John F. Campion and others secured a three-years lease on the various properties now constituting the Ibox or Little Johnny Mining Company, and during this period the defendants became aware of the riches within the Uncle Sam and Johnny claims, that these facts were withheld from the plaintiffs, who upon the strength of untruthful statements and misrepresentations as to the value of the claims were induced to transfer to Campion their interests for a nominal sum. The plaintiffs also allege that they were defrauded out of the royalties due them, and that since June, 1893, over \$300,000 in gold has been extracted from the Uncle Sam claim, and they ask that because of this fraud the sale be set aside and an accounting ordered.

The plaintiffs' attorney stated in court that in this property the fabulous sum of \$150,000,000 worth of gold was in sight.

It is an old Scotch axiom, that the fewer presents one gives his intended bride the better; and in the case of Harry Lansing, of Lincoln, Nebraska, its common sense is strongly emphasized. Mr. Lansing courted Miss Oakley and showered on her \$2,000 worth of presents. Miss Oakley accepted both the presents and himself; but, when the time came to ratify the bargain, she accompanied another man to the altar. Now Mr. Lansing wants his \$2,000 worth of presents back, and, as the former Miss Oakley refuses to return them, he is invoking the aid of the law.

ADVICE from Rome are to the effect that the Vatican has called upon the French Bishops "to supply information as to the different kinds of ecclesiastical music in their dioceses, and the Pope is preparing instructions on the subject, with the intention of inaugurating certain reforms, including the abolition of female voices at liturgical services. While approving of instrumental music, His Holiness thinks it should be limited to the organ and basso continuo, and the organ should be used with a young Catholic

wind instruments, the violin being discarded as sensual and profane. The music of Haydn and Mozart does not meet with the Pope's approval." It is well to take all such reports with a grain of salt.

THE Reverend Luke Callaghan, who obtained the degree of D.D. in Rome, a short time ago, has left the Holy City and arrived in England last week. The Reverend Doctor has just left Liverpool to proceed to Ireland, where he will remain until the 30th instant. He will return to Canada by the S.S. Vancouver of the Dominion Line and be in Montreal on 8th August next. We wish him a safe return to his native city, where he will be heartily welcome. Rev. Martin Callaghan, S.S., is visiting his brother, Rev. James Callaghan, at Baltimore. It is understood the latter reverend gentleman will once more resume his pastorate in St. Patrick's Church as one of the assistants to Rev. Father Quinlivan, P.P.

Two Chicago priests were prostrated by the intense heat at Chicago, last week, both of whom have succumbed. They are Rev. August Folton, colored, pastor of St. Monica's Church, and the Rev. Otto Goenbaum, pastor of St. Nicholas Church. In the death of Father Folton the Catholic Church of the United States loses one of the two men of his race engaged in the sacred ministry of the altar. He left his residence early in the afternoon to make some sick calls, but had scarcely proceeded three blocks when he was struck unconscious, in which condition he died. Father Folton was forty-six years old. In the case of Father Goenbaum his extreme old age accelerated the fatal strength of the stroke.

A SENSATIONAL despatch tells us that the projected visit of the Duke and Duchess of York to Ireland is creating considerable apprehension in British Royal and Ministerial circles. It is seriously stated that efforts have been made, informally, to ascertain from the Irish leaders in parliament whether they propose to organize, or countenance, any hostile demonstration against England's future King and Queen. All this is simply rubbish. If the Duke and Duchess go to Ireland, the Irish people are not likely to do anything that will mar their wide-world reputation for generous hospitality. The people will not go into hysterics of loyalty, but they will receive the distinguished guests with the courtesy they deserve, and the characteristic geniality of the Irish race.

REPRESENTATIVES of the various Catholic societies of Boston and vicinity met in that city last week to arrange for the convention of the Catholic Young Men's National Union, to be held there on August 31 and September 1. It may be a matter of comment that the Catholic young men's associations of the States seem to take a greater interest in each other's welfare than do similar bodies in Canada. A convention of Canadian Catholic young men's associations similar to the one in contemplation in Boston could not but be productive of good results. In any event the suggestion is worthy of more than a passing consideration.

THE statements frequently published in the Press that Americans are only too glad to fall down and worship the aristocracy of the old world have received a strong rebuke at the hands of Mr. Ogden Goelet, a wealthy American at present sojourning in London. "I would rather see my daughter in her grave than contract such a marriage," is the remark attributed to him when speaking to a close friend recently, referring to a report that Miss Goelet was engaged, or about to be betrothed, to the young Duke of Manchester. The noble Duke at best is far from being an attractive specimen of the genus homo, and in addition to this his financial affairs are far from being in a state which would justify a wealthy bride in accepting him.

THE Boston police authorities are determined to put a stop to the wholesale slaughter of birds for the sake of fashion and in doing so have struck the proper chord. While it has always been an offence to kill them, the new law forbids, under a penalty of \$10 for each offence, the selling or wearing of birds' bodies and feathers. The chief of the State police has sent a circular to every milk liner and dealer in Massachusetts dealing in such goods, informing them of the passage of the new act.

THE Montreal correspondent of the Toronto World has turned his guns on Mr. Tarte. He says that the Liberal leaders of this district make no secret of their determination to bring about the retirement of Mr. Tarte from the administration at Ottawa.

MR. JAMES COCHRANE, our well-known fellow citizen, has been visiting Ottawa. His arrival there was chronicle by United Canada. Mr. Cochrane is an old time Liberal and is now what is called a "free thinker" and is a very able and energetic man.

that in his experience, lack of discipline, unrestrainedness on the part of friends, and a faltering administration, are more dangerous to governments than the attacks of their enemies."

Amongst the echoes of the Jubilee celebration of Her Majesty the Queen, is the following London despatch:—

Perhaps an odd feature of the services at St. Paul's has not been reported in America. Sir Walter Parratt, who presided at the organ, played the national anthem and the choir sang the rejected second verse, that from sheer shame the people have refused to sing for the last thirty years. The first verse and the third every one knows. I will give the second:

Send her victorious
Long to reign over us,
God save the Queen.

SECOND VERSE.

O Lord, our God! arise,
Scatter her enemies,
And make them fall!
Confound their politics,
Frustrate their knavish tricks,
On Thee our hopes we fix—
God save us all.

And Sir Edwin Arnold adds: "It will not be accounted indecorous to observe that it was Her Majesty's own wish that the old text of 'God Save the Queen' was maintained."

La Minerve in a recent issue gave the origin of the national anthem "God Save the Queen." In the memoirs of Le Marquis de Crequi it is related that when Louis XIV. paid a visit to the Convent of St. Cyr, which was a boarding school, the scholars as he entered the chapel sang in unison a little hymn. The words were the composition of the Lady Superioress, and the music was by the famous Lulli. The following are the words:—

Grand Dieu, sauvez le roi!
Grand Dieu, vengez le roi!
Vive le roi!
Que toujours glorieux
Luis victorieux
Volez en ennemis
Tousjours soumis
Grand Dieu, sauvez le roi!

The song and music found their way into England in the following manner. Handel, the German composer, who was musical director at the Court of George I., heard the piece at St. Cyr. He asked for a copy of it, and, having obtained it, on his return to London presented it to His Britannic Majesty as his own composition. In a short time the simplicity of the air, as well as its solemnity, won it favor and it soon was generally adopted as the National Anthem.

From the despatches from London to the American press it would seem as if United States Secretary of State Sherman has been able to give an extra twist to the Lion's tail. His sharp reply to Lord Salisbury, touching the seal dispute, has aroused all the virulent indignation of the newspapers of the great English metropolis. The Globe has the following:—

"The memories of Cleveland's imperious message are all revived by the extraordinary and insulting despatch which Mr. Sherman had permitted to find its way into the papers. Waiving the merits of the question, which, fortunately, is one for the naturalists, the astonishing tone of Mr. Sherman is in defiance not only of the usages of diplomacy, but of the maxims of ordinary civility. Englishmen will be glad to see that Lord Salisbury has, so far as a patrol of the seal fisheries is concerned, treated the message as though it had never been sent. If he were to go a step further and to direct Sir Julian Pauncefote to intimate to Mr. McKinley that Her Majesty's Government declines to receive despatches couched in such language, and could only reply to the next by handing Col. Hay his passports, the action would be endorsed by the complete approval of the nation."

The Times, in its usual dignified way, plainly states that the Secretary is unfit for his office. Meanwhile the Foreign Office is keeping its counsel to itself.

THE Midland Review, commenting upon the action of Rev. D. Parker Morgan, the Episcopal minister of Trinity Church, New York, who recently draped his pulpit with the English flag, and, during the course of a sermon, declared that a monarchy was preferable to a Republic, says:

The statement, it is reported, has created a sensation. While this may be true, it is also a fact, that not a single patriotic council in the United States has passed a resolution condemning his utterance. If he were a Catholic priest, what a spilling of patriotic rhetoric there would have been!

After all, why be severe upon the poor parson? He feels that way and he is not by himself. This cry of Anglo-Saxon brotherhood has a deeper significance than most people dream. There are a number of "American first families" who are beginning to sigh for a monarch to rule them. Byron once wrote of Moore, "Little Tommy dearly loves a lord." Their love of a lord is about as close to religion as some of our American flunkies ever get. Some of the truest Americans in this country, to-day, are those whose parents were foreigners.

THE Catholic Union and Times of Buffalo, N.Y., contains the following announcement:

Experience has proven that a good Catholic paper cannot be published for one dollar a year. No paper ever made so long a fight for a dollar subscription.

the New York Catholic News, now in its eleventh year, from the start the News has been a well managed and well edited paper, and was always worth more than the dollar a year charged for it. But despite its metropolitan field and other advantages in favor of a dollar subscription as against the inland papers, the News has been compelled to increase its subscription to two dollars a year, beginning with July 1st. This takes from the dollar list the only respectable paper ever published in the United States at that price.

AN international conference on the seal question will be held at Washington. Let us hope that something definite may be reached and that there shall be an end to shuffling. The most recent despatch says:—

"Mr. John W. Foster, on behalf of his government, is urging that the experts representing the governments interested should meet and compare the results of their investigations with a view of arriving at an agreed state of facts. That is the sole object of the proposed meeting. Any idea that this conference will deal with the question of revising the regulations is entirely misleading. Conferences between the representatives of the United States, Canada, and the Foreign and Colonial Offices are proceeding almost daily."

The same wail is heard in the offices of nearly all the Catholic weeklies of Canada and the United States, regarding the failure of subscribers to pay their annual subscription. A contemporary in referring to the delinquents says:—

"There is another class—we are sorry to say among Catholics—who never want to pay until force is used. We desire to strongly but firmly impress on the minds of all such, that however unpleasant it may be to do so, where there is no other course open, this extreme method will be resorted to, and at once, if those long standing accounts are not paid. All delinquents will please take this notice as final."

It would appear from recent reports, that it was not reserved for the subcommittee at Ottawa to petition His Honours to send a delegate to Canada, but that the Liberals of the Legislative Assembly of Quebec also took similar steps in December last. The document, which was published a few days ago in the secular papers, goes on to say:—

That a general election was probable in February or March; that at the general election of 1892 the majority of the clergy intervened in the contest to the detriment of the Liberal party; that this intervention was still more general at the federal elections on June 23, and continues: "The undersigned believe in their soul and conscience that this intervention in these last fights was inopportune and unjustified, disservice to the prestige of the clergy, to the efficacy of their authority, and we regret to say that it gives to the enemies of our clergy the opportunity to assert that a Catholic is not able, like a Protestant, to freely exercise his rights as a citizen, following his judgment and his conscience. The influence of the Canadian clergy upon our Catholic population is large; the signers would not have it circumscribed; they would rather see this influence expand."

The signers drew attention to the fact that those of them who formed part of the Legislature in 1889 unanimously supported the Hon. Mr. Mercier, then Prime Minister, when he proposed a law giving a legal existence to the Society of Jesus. They also voted in favor of the measure known as the Jesuits' Estates Act, giving to the Catholic institutions of this Province a sum of more than 2,000,000 francs.

THE representatives of American Western railways say that there has been a decided revival of prosperity during the last few months, that it is continuing, and that the prospect of its increase throughout the year is exceedingly bright.

LA VERITE announces the departure of Mgr. Laffame, Rector of Laval University, Quebec, for Europe. The learned Rector will proceed to St. Petersburg where a convention of geologists will meet in the month of August. Bon voyage.

THE Plattsburg Daily Press has the following:—

We protest against that bill which has been introduced into the United States Senate creating a department of public health and making the head of it a cabinet officer. People are scared and worried out of their lives now taking care of their health. What with 5,000 new doctors graduating every year, with ten patent medicines for every man, woman and child in the country, with the household and ladies' pages of the newspapers teeming with awful warnings and horrid examples of ailments brought on by neglect of this or that fanciful precaution, the race is in a fair way to be driven crazy over its health. To do all the things the hygienic writers require of us now would take our whole time, 48 hours out of every 24. Go to. Give us rest. Keep your body clean and comfortable, eat a moderate supply of wholesome food, keep your conscience clear, and your temper good, occupy yourself with cheerful work and forget all about your health. That is the way to be well, and we charge nothing for the prescription.

HONORARY DEGREES.

The conferring of honorary degrees by colleges in the United States has degenerated into a farce. The Pittsburgh Catholic says:

"As usual, honorary degrees were scattered around promiscuously this year by the third rate colleges. The only

growing, and even some of the first-class colleges are giving away titles to men who can neither speak nor write with accuracy. And these poor daws wear their feathers and think themselves very fine birds. The colleges which descend to the fraud and quackery of dubbing are not worthy to be called seminaries of learning. If a degree is worth having it is worth winning, and he who wears a learned title without winning it, is a charlatan and an impostor."

AN EXCELLENT SUGGESTION

BY A SUBSCRIBER TO ORGANIZE AN EXCURSION TO THE CATHOLIC SUMMER SCHOOL AT PLATTSBURG—ST. ANN'S YOUNG MEN'S SOCIETY SHOULD TAKE THE MATTER IN HAND.

MONTREAL, July, 1897.

To the Editor of the TRUE WITNESS:

SIR,—I noticed a short time ago in your paper a suggestion as to an excursion to the Summer School at Plattsburg. I agree with your correspondent as to having some society run it. If they do not take too long to organize it. The Railways would make things as pleasant as possible, I presume.

READER.

[Here is a grand opportunity for our St. Ann's Young Men, under the guidance of their ever vigilant director, Father Strubbe. The School at Plattsburgh closes about the middle of August, so that no time is to be lost if the project is to be carried out this summer. They can make this a grand success and many Montrealers will thus be made acquainted with the advantages that the Catholic Summer School, almost at our door, offers.—Ed.]

CHICAGO has determined to reap some benefit from the bicycle craze. The City Council recently passed an ordinance taxing every bicycle one dollar, and it is said that there are nearly a half million of wheel owners.

THE Milwaukee Catholic Citizen is the authority for the statement that the Catholic News is said to have absorbed \$80,000 in trying the experiment of a dollar weekly. An expensive lesson, certainly, for whoever paid the bill.

SCANDALS AND SCANDAL-MONGERS.

[San Francisco Monitor.]

The newspapers of San Francisco have within the past few weeks been out-Heroding Herod. No words are adequate to express their brutality and blackguardism. What every decent man has thought and is thinking has been well and ably expressed in an editorial in the Stockton Mail, as follows:

We believe that it is the business of a newspaper to give news. We think the eloquence of the wife of a man well known is a fair matter of news. But we do not believe that all the surmises of gossip, all the details of low suggestion, are news or are fit to be printed in papers which must be taken into the home.

This is no fling at any one newspaper. The Examiner is the chief offender, but that is simply because the Examiner has more money and push than the other San Francisco papers. They yearn for yellowness with all the Examiner's yearning. All are tarred with the same stick and everybody knows it.

We do not suppose for a moment that any San Francisco paper will bate one jot of its sensationalism for the Mail's objection. But we do say that we are not alone in deploring this degradation of the functions of great and powerful journals, all of which do much good and all of which, alas, do much evil.

It is perfectly true that there is a wide demand for this kind of reading and that the demand grows more clamorous. A few years ago the Police Gazette was sufficient to supply this class of readers. To-day it is neither enough in bulk or in nastiness. The demand has been created by the newspapers themselves.

It is certain that the exploitation of such nastiness as this Bradbury meets is a distinct menace to the purity of thousands of young girls. More than one ruined and lost woman will yet look back to curse the day her mind was so poisoned.

The other day one man murdered another in cold blood down Fresno way. As the victim lay dying he said: "Well, I guess Len will be satisfied now. He's a big man now and will be in all the papers. He always wanted to be a big man." It seems to us that these words of a poor, ignorant wretch are, in their pathetic meaning, a tremendous indictment of the methods of the great newspapers.

Perhaps it is true that nothing must stand in the way of circulation. Perhaps the souls of women and the lives of men are of no value compared to a catch of fresh subscribers. We do not undertake to decide for others. But as for us, knowing nothing of the future and fearing it as little, we should yet be afraid to go through the strait and dreadful pass of death with such results of a life's work in hand.

With the last paragraph alone we differ. We do know the future, and we do know that these words are true: "It must needs be that scandals come, but woe unto the man through whom the scandal cometh. Whosoever shall scandalize one of these little ones, it were better for him that a millstone were tied round his neck and that he were cast into the depths of the sea." The daily papers are doing the devil's work daily. Out of late they have surpassed themselves in the service of their master. The people who without protest pay for these papers are aiding and abetting in the devil's work. They shall not be disappointed of the devil's reward.