

THE TRUE WITNESS

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The Post Printing & Publishing Company, MONTREAL, CANADA.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1883

CATHOLIC CALENDAR DECEMBER 1883.

THURSDAY 13.—St. Lucy, Virgin and Martyr. FRIDAY 14.—Of the Octave. Fast. Consecration Bishop Brondelet, Vancouver, 1879.

TO OUR FRIENDS.

The success which has attended the efforts of our agents and patrons in extending the circulation of THE TRUE WITNESS during the present year is unprecedented in the history of any journal of its class in the Dominion.

ACCOUNTS.

We are now sending accounts to all subscribers in arrears, and request their immediate attention thereto. As we desire to enforce payment in advance in all cases in future, we request each subscriber to remit all arrears due and add the amount of subscription in advance for the coming year.

NEW AGENTS.

The following gentlemen have kindly consented to act as agents for THE POST and TRUE WITNESS in their respective localities. They are empowered to collect subscriptions and enroll subscribers:—Mr. M. E. McNeil, P. M. Irish Cove, N. S.; Mr. D. Allan, P. M. Marlboro, Ont.

The Forty-eighth Congress, which has just begun its first session, consists of 325 members, exactly five times as many as sat in the first Congress under George Washington.

The English Tory press are furiously assailing the Right Hon. Mr. Chamberlain, the President of the Board of Trade, for having consented to ask Mr. Parnell to recommend a person for the existing vacancy on the local Marine Board at Cork.

The Catholic Herald, formerly of Lawrence, Mass., but now of Boston, comes to us in a fine new dress and form. We congratulate our worthy contemporary on the advanced step it has taken, and hope that its many signs of prosperity will go on increasing with its usefulness.

The Rotunda in Dublin promises to be the scene of another grand national demonstration to-morrow evening, on the occasion of the presentation of the Testimonial to Mr. Parnell. Six hundred covers will be laid for the guests who are to attend the banquet in honor of the Irish leader.

who has been wisely keeping counsel with himself, and whose prolonged silence has made the English press feel so uneasy, will, no doubt, avail himself of the opportunity to unfold at judicious length the policy which the National party intend to follow during the next session of Parliament.

In a recent issue of this paper our Toronto correspondent called attention to the fact that a prominent Orangeman had become editor of the Canadian. This will explain to the readers of the weekly reprint of that sheet the disgraceful attack made in its last issue on the Catholic Record and its editor, Rev. John Coffey, a priest who is esteemed and respected in every portion of the Dominion.

The Cubans are stubborn people to deal with on the question of slavery. Slaves they have had, and slaves they think they should always have. Slavery in Cuba is the cause of much trouble to the Spanish Government, and all efforts in the direction of stamping it out are sternly resisted by those who thrive on the sweat, sufferings and misery of human beings.

The Daily Witness does not consider consistency much of a jewel or a thing much to be prized. For instance, it takes the greatest delight possible in reminding its readers how the English people used to "cut off kings' heads," and nothing but words of praise and admiration flow from its pious pen for the brutal regicides.

JACOB KALNBORN has turned informer against the men arrested in connection with the dynamite conspiracy to blow up the German Embassy in London. There is evidently no monopoly in the "informing business" by the Irish. This Kalnborn has testified that Wolf, the central figure of the plot, had intended the explosion should exceed in effect the explosion at the Præd station of the Underground railway, and that there was no danger of their being arrested, because the police were accomplices, and intended to obtain a reward which they would share with the other conspirators.

The London Times, in its bigotry and prejudice against the Catholic Church, suggested that Lord Ripon, the Viceroy of India, was a poor and narrow-minded person because at "the mature age of 50, or thereabouts, he apostatized from the religion of his fathers."

THE APPOINTMENT OF LIQUIDATORS. The successful attempt of two of the Directors of the late Exchange Bank to have themselves nominated, elected and appointed as liquidators to wind up the affairs of the bankrupt concern, must attract the attention of commercial and financial circles to the

unwise and deficient legislation contained in the Banking Act, passed last session. This act gives liquidators extraordinary powers in the winding up of a bank; their will is almost supreme and their action cannot be practically restrained. It is, therefore, perfectly clear that the position of liquidator is one which should be filled by a person recognized as competent, reliable and disinterested. It would be scandalous to give the powers of a liquidator to a man whose interest it would be to conceal transactions, misrepresent facts, and color proceedings which may have led to the collapse of the institution.

No time should be lost at the next session of Parliament to introduce an amendment to the Act, to the effect that no director, official or other person, directly or indirectly responsible for the collapse of a bank, will have the right or power to act as liquidator in the winding up of the institution.

THE MARITIME DECADENCE OF THE UNITED STATES.

During the last fiscal year the United States exported domestic merchandise to the value of \$804,223,632. The imports during the same period amounted in total value to \$723,180,914 on which customs duties aggregating \$210,637,293 were collected. This represents the high average ad valorem duty of 42.8 on all the dutiable goods imported. In connection with these official figures, the American people see a dark contrast between them and the figures that represent their shipping interests. Upon an interchange of commodities valued at over \$1,500,000,000 during a single year, there is manifestly a large profit for the ocean carrying trade; but this profit, which would enrich American capitalists, sustains splendid fleets of American vessels and give work to legions of hardy American sailors, nearly all goes into the pockets of foreigners.

THE COLLAPSE OF THE EXCHANGE BANK.

The shareholders and creditors of the Exchange Bank, and the general public, have at last been afforded an opportunity of contemplating the ruin of that financial institution, and of ascertaining the causes of the disastrous collapse. Yesterday a meeting of the shareholders was held for the purpose of appointing liquidators to wind up the concern, the proceedings of which were given in our last edition of yesterday's issue. The meeting was decorous but stern in its attitude towards the directors under whose sway the Bank has come to grief. The creditors and shareholders felt and saw at once that their fortunes, or the portions thereof, which they had confided to the Bank for safe keeping and fructification had been wrecked and lost beyond recovery by shameful mismanagement and systematic misapplication of the funds.

On paper. If the capital and nominal reserve fund are taken into account, the total liability aggregates \$3,470,959. To meet these liabilities the Bank presents a table of assets which are worthless to an enormous extent, and which show the criminal and culpable manner in which the concern was managed. These assets on paper reach the total of \$3,150,304, but of this amount \$671,963 represents discounts overdue, \$440,000 over-drawn accounts secured, \$670,358 over-drawn accounts unsecured, and only \$305,941 can be classed as immediately available.

It would be difficult to make a worse showing than the above. It clearly proved the necessity of going into immediate liquidation. The responsibility of this condition of affairs lies primarily with Mr. Craig, the President and Manager of the Bank, but all the blame must not be attached to him. It was the duty of the Board of Directors to watch over and supervise his dealings and to check him when he violated either the regulations of the Bank or the laws of honesty. This, according to their own public confessions, they did not do; in fact, they were totally ignorant of the abyss into which the bank was being surely plunged.

AN ENGLISH MINISTER'S DECLARATION.

We would recommend the few Canadian journals that still are given to the miserable and contemptible work of persistently misrepresenting facts in connection with Irish affairs, to study and ponder well the following declaration made by a loyal member of the English Government. The Right Hon. Mr. Chamberlain, President of the Board of Trade, in speaking at Wolverhampton yesterday declared that "it is the bounden duty of the Liberal party to do its utmost to remove the just causes of discontent and disaffection in Ireland. It must no longer tolerate such a sham fraud and transparent imposture as the present Irish parliamentary representation system, where one in 25 has a vote. The perpetration of this injustice would justify disaffection and give the leaders of the Irish party the strongest arguments for separation, as showing that it was impossible to obtain justice from the British Parliament, and give fresh vigor to the agitation which it is our duty to ally."

THE SEPARATE SCHOOL SYSTEM IN ONTARIO.

A movement has been set on foot in Ontario to obtain for the Catholic population of that Province the same rights and privileges that are enjoyed by non-Catholics in the matter of education. The principle of separate schools is already recognized there, but all the advantages, material or financial, are on the side of the common schools, which are, in the end, for all practical purposes, Protestant schools. What the Catholics want is simply to have these advantages divided between the two systems in proportion to the numbers that patronize each system. Our esteemed contemporary, the Daily Witness, rather unwisely and ungratefully objects to any consummation of the sort. It says:—"At present the Romish Church is making an assault in that province on the common school system, and demands that everything that is done for the people at large shall be done over again for Roman Catholics under ecclesiastical supervision."

PROTESTANTISM IN ULSTER.

"Protestant Ulster" is a phrase which has been made to do considerable work and to weigh heavily against the efforts of the Irish people, as a whole, to achieve their political freedom and to advance the social and material interests of the country. Orangemen and their leaders have always boasted of the staunch Protestantism of the North, and have persistently attributed to this religious element the prosperity, enlightenment, peace and order claimed by them as the distinctive features of their province. This claim, in the past, was never properly, or, at least, successfully, challenged, and the world was allowed to believe that it was based on undeniable facts. But the game of deception and hypocrisy has gone too far, and the "Protestantism of Ulster," which has so often been put forward as a reason why the national demands should not be granted or even discussed, has been thoroughly ridiculed with the figures of the Government statistics. A flood of light has been let in on the position of affairs in the province. Instead of being able to sway the destinies of Ulster and to make its ascendancy effective, Protestantism is found to be in the minority and to be without any right to the boast or claim that Ulster was the exclusive domain of so-called Loyalists.

The other day we published a table of figures, compiled from official returns, from which it is clear that the appellation of Protestant Ulster is quite unwarranted, for in the whole province the Catholics are in a decided majority over Protestant Episcopalians and Presbyterians combined. The figures are: Catholics, 833,566; Protestant Episcopalians, 379,402; Presbyterians, 451,629. Taking the nine counties of Ulster separately, the table shows that in all of them, except two, the Catholics number more than any other single denomination, and in all except four the Catholics number more than all the other denominations united. In the County of Tyrone, for example, where Lord Rossmore and his Orange rowdies assembled to disperse a Home Rule meeting, the Catholic population numbers 109,793 as against 87,907 of all other sects—Protestants, Presbyterians, Methodists and non-descripts. Fermanagh, where the Orangemen have been also boasting, blustering and threatening, contains 47,359 Catholics while the total of all other denominations in the county is but 37,502.

While the Catholics can be counted on to endorse and support, as one man, the national demands, it must not be imagined that the whole Protestant population of Ulster is opposed to the policy of the National League. The Orange faction, which makes all the noise, forms but an inconsiderable portion of the Protestant minority. Then again, as Mr. Healy's victory in Monaghan has abundantly proved, the Presbyterian farmers are in thorough sympathy with Parnell and the League. It is certain that if Lord Rossmore and his fanatical followers were not aided and encouraged by the soldiers and police in their riotous conduct, the Nationalists would have but little difficulty in carrying the day in the major part of the province. Another popular fallacy engendered and kept up by the pretensions of the Orange "loyalists," is that superior intelligence and greater prosperity exist in Ulster on account of its Protestantism. They proclaim to British statesmen and to all the rest of the world that they are the only industrious, educated, truly religious and loyal people in Ireland, and that the rest of the Irish people are sunk in ignorance, idleness and crime. But when these pretensions come to be subjected to the test of serious examination and enquiry, their statements turn out to be baseless and their claims to be purely fictitious. Ulster is neither the most wealthy nor the most intelligent of the Irish provinces.

Taking education as the standard of intelligence, the statistics show that the number of persons who can read and write is five per cent. greater in Ulster than in Ulster. The percentage for Munster and Ulster is about equal, so that in the matter of education and intelligence the "Protestant North" is not superior to the "Papal South," while it is much inferior to "Papal Leitner." Now, as to the question of wealth, which naturally springs from industry and which is a sign of prosperity, let us again look behind the rest of Ireland. The proof of this is found in the figures of the Blue Books. Thus the amount assessed for Government income tax in Leitner is nearly four million of pounds sterling in excess of the amount assessed for Ulster. Averaging the income tax charged as per head of the whole Irish population, the figures are: For Ulster, 3s 5d, and for the other three provinces, Leitner, Munster and Connaught, 5s. This suffices to show that, instead of being superior, Ulster is actually inferior to the other parts of Ireland as regards the annual value of its property and profits. From these facts and figures it remains simply evident that Ulster does not enjoy a monopoly, either of intelligence or of wealth, to the exclusion of the other provinces, and farther, that Ulster Protestantism, or rather Orangeism, is not the overpowering giant that it was generally supposed to be. Orange brag and impudence have had their day, and the race of the so-called Loyalists is run. Their mutinous voices will no longer be taken for that of Ulster, and their antagonism to the political and social emancipation of Ireland will no longer be allowed to go unchallenged or to exercise an unwarrantable influence with the powers that be in the settlement of the Irish question.

A CONTEMPORARY'S RELIGIOUS ABSURDITIES.

The Star, in discussing questions of a religious nature, is very apt to emit strange and peculiar views. It was only the other day that we were under the necessity of correcting the errors and of pointing out the nonsense that found their way into the columns of our contemporary while discussing the "relations of American Catholics with the Papacy." To-day we have again to draw its attention to a few more absurdities, this time written in favor of Protestantism. Commenting on certain objections made to the proposition by members of the English Church, "that the Bishop of Algoma be requested to select from the Church in England or Ireland a successor to Dean Baldwin in the rectorate of Christ Church Cathedral," our contemporary says "we do not wish to say anything for or against the proposition." And why not? We think that the proposition is highly objectionable; not because power would be given to the Bishop of Algoma to choose a successor to Dean Baldwin in Christ Church Cathedral, but because His Lordship would be sent on an equivocal, if not a useless mission. If the Bishop of Algoma were to select one from the Church in Ireland, for instance, it is very probable that Christ Church Cathedral in Montreal would have for Dean a Catholic priest of very pronounced views on the Irish question, and that, you know, would not suit; or if the Bishop sought a successor in the Church in England, he might select a Jesuit, which wouldn't suit much more. No, the aforesaid proposition is a bad and an erroneous one. But if it was proposed that the Bishop of Algoma should select from the Church of England, then his Lordship might secure the services of a minister that would be more acceptable to Christ Church Cathedral. The Star next makes the following contradictory and absurd statement: "The Church of England is neither English nor Canadian, but catholic, and it is not in accordance with its catholicism for one branch of the Church to attempt to hedge itself in from the remainder by a sort of clerical national policy." Clerical National Policy is good! It is on a par with its "American Catholic Home Rule." Our contemporary has a happy knack of making "verbal cocktails" which most greatly puzzle the philologist as to what their exact meaning is. But where did it get its authority to announce that the Church of England is Catholic, and not English? Does our contemporary know the meaning of the word Catholic? It means "universal"; now, universality is no trait and no characteristic of the Church of England, as a bird's eye view of history and of the geography of the world will disclose. Then it is nonsense to talk about the Church of England being Catholic. You might as well assert that London is England, that Paris is France or that a branch was the whole tree. The Church of England is distinctly English, composed of English, confined to English, and nothing else. To look for Catholicity in that would be about as foolish and idle a task as to look for the St. Lawrence river in the Montreal reservoir.

THE "IRISH CANADIAN" AND ITS "AUTHORITY."

The Irish Canadian is very angry because our Toronto correspondent told the general public who its editor was. It is, of course, not unnatural that a journal, which depended for support upon its claims of being an exponent of Irish Catholic opinion, should be annoyed at having the unpleasant fact revealed that it is edited by one so closely related to the Orange Sentinel. It is a blending of Orange and Green that perhaps will not be considered happy by the subscribers of our contemporary, but assuredly we are not responsible for the fact, and most people will be inclined to believe that it was only fair to the readers of the Irish Canadian that they should be made aware of it. So much we have done, and have but one regret in the matter, and that is, that the proprietors of the Irish Canadian should have found it necessary to abandon the principles or which it was supposed to be the exponent. Being angry, the Canadian must vent its wrath, and proceeds to do so in a virulent attack on the Managing Director of The Post Printing and Publishing Company, whom it accuses of "having attempted to effect the sale of other people's property without their consent or even knowledge, and which attempt failed because the avowee of the Managing Director would not consent to the payment of the commission of the intermediary." We might be pardoned for asking what bearing this has on the question at issue. But the Managing Director of this paper has no desire to shirk any issue his enemies may raise. We say then on his behalf that this accusation is an absolute falsehood, and we demand most seriously that our contemporary name the "intermediary" referred to, and the pretended "authority" it has for the statement. It will by no means surprise us should the latter prove to be a notorious individual who, doubtless, has unpleasant recollections of former encounters with THE POST and its manager. Whoever is responsible for the statement, let our contemporary name him, and we assure it he will find that we have put the question seriously, and moreover that this calumniator will be afforded every opportunity of substantiating his charge. By the way, is the Irish Canadian not only edited by a gentleman open to suspicion—to put it mildly—of Orange sympathies, but is it also controlled by the unwary individual above referred to, whose usefulness being gone, groans in spirit and in pocket at being bowed out of their presence by the