

The following is the correct translation of the Latin:—

"I must say that your religious considerations and your entreaties give me courage to brave the indignation of men, as well as the fear of offending them, and give testimony to the truth. I am, however, more determined to do what I think my duty, by the aspect I owe to God Almighty and to all His Saints. For I well know that the marvelous works of God must obey the Divine law rather than human commands. For this reason, despite the terrible threats of the nobles of Germany, who want to prevent me from ever revealing to anyone whomsoever the fearful death of my master, Martin Luther, I shall not keep the truth captive in my mind; but for the glory of Christ Jesus, and the edification of the whole Christian world, I do now publish what I have witnessed with my own eyes; what I do know better than anyone else can pretend to know, and what I have related to the Nobles at Eisleben; and I do so not through hatred of anyone, nor the desire to gain approbation, good favours, or grace with anybody whatsoever.

"The following is what has happened. Martin Luther, being at Eisleben with several nobles of Germany, allowed himself to be overcome by his habitual intemperance, and drank with so much excess that we were obliged to carry him off, absolutely helpless with drink, and to put him to bed."

Here the translator interrupts the document to state that it was publicly known everywhere that Luther drank to excess. He could take five German quarts of wine at a meal. He used to boast "of eating like a Bohemian and drinking like a Dutchman." "To be put on low diet," he used to say, "is to live miserably. Let us eat and drink as much as possible and give thanks to God for His good things." No doubt the Holy Gospel of Jesus Christ needed "paring down" or reformation to bring it to the level of this lewd, unchaste and gluttonous apostate. After this short interruption the servant's story runs on:

"Having wished him a good night, we retired to our own rooms and went to bed, never fearing or dreaming of anything to go wrong. Next morning we went back to our master as usual to help him to get up and dress. On entering his room—oh, shocking to relate!—our said Master Martin was hanging from his bed, and miserably strangled!

"At this ghastly sight we were horribly frightened. And without delay we ran to the noble Princes, his guests of the night before, and announced to them the execrable end of Luther.

"These, terrified no less than we were, requested us at once, and by a thousand promises and solemn adjurations, to keep the most profound silence for ever and for ever, about this awful event, in order that nothing might be divulged. They then requested us to take down the horrible corpse of Luther and place it into his bed, and tell the people that my Master Luther had suddenly died. I confess that, touched by the entreaties of the nobles, and bribed by their munificent promises, we, like the guards at the Saviour's tomb, were determined to act as they wished, had not the invincible power of truth advised us to follow a different course. For human respect, fear, hope of gain, can sometimes hush the truth; but the voice of Religion and remorse of conscience, soon or late, prevail over such oppressions."

We know of only one other arch-traitor to Christ and His Church who suffered a death of this kind. It was Judas, who paid for his betrayal by ending his life by the rope. Of course this story of Luther's closing scene has been religiously kept from the world; but it is none the less authentic and true. What a strange institution is that church which could glory in such a founder! Is it any wonder that the divisions, uncertainties and contradictions of Protestantism exist to-day? No wonder that they advocate divorce and seek to make out that marriage is merely a civil contract. Poor Luther! Poorer Protestantism!

THE PARIS FUNDS.

A couple of months ago the French court pronounced judgment in the matter of the Irish national parliamentary fund which had been deposited in Paris. The court ordered Munroe & Co. to immediately deliver the money to Mr. Justin McCarthy. But the judgment stipulates that Mr. Patrick Egan's signature must be obtained before the funds can be disposed of. However, according to the law of France, there is an interval of three months allowed for appeal from the judgment, and until the expiration of that time it cannot be drawn. We may safely conclude that the Parliamentary Party will not come into possession of the funds before the middle of October. There is no reason—legal, moral, or otherwise—why a part of the fund may not be used for the benefit of the cause, in relieving the necessities of the party. But decidedly it is expected that a goodly share will go to the evicted tenants. It will be a grand relief when that fund question is forever settled. No matter for what good purpose the money is used, it is better than to have it locked up in a banking house, while the representatives of the people are forced to appeal to public generosity.

On the fourth of July, Mr. Justin McCarthy addressed a meeting in London, at which he said that the government is determined to carry the evicted tenants' bill at the present session. He said that the Home Rule conflict cannot last much longer now. He would ten times prefer the concession from the Liberals; but were the Tories to come into power, they would soon discover the necessity of the Irish votes and would develop a latent sympathy for Home Rule.

As to the sympathy of the Tories—latent or otherwise—we have our misgivings. We don't, however, deny the fact that they might find it expedient, advisable, and even necessary to do what Ireland has been so long asking; but not on account of sympathy for the cause—rather would it be due to fear of the consequence were they to act otherwise. However, under all these ripples upon the surface we can easily perceive how the deep and irresistible current is flowing onward to the ocean of Irish liberty. Even the less noise is made the more striking is the progress and the more apparent the gathering strength of the Home Rule cause. The Times and its friends have always sought "to lash the Irish into open expressions" (to use the words of Goldwin Smith), for they knew well that the louder the expression the less effective the action. To their great dismay they now perceive that the Irish are bent on action more than on words; and the result is that some fine morning people who deemed Home Rule "a dead issue" will awaken to hear that Ireland has secured political, legislative and national autonomy.

This release of the Paris Funds will be another step in the right direction; it will be a great help to the party and to the people. Wonderful has been the spontaneous generosity of the Irish at home when Mr. McCarthy placed the position recently before them. Surely so much good will, noble sentiment and generous patriotism will not go long unrewarded. We are anxious to see the evicted tenants' bill carried, for we know it will be the herald ray of dawn—and in its track must come the "sunburst" of Home Rule.

A terrible drowning disaster is reported from Mad, near Tokay, in Northern Hungary. A ferryboat, which was crossing the river Theiss, near the town, July 1, was capsized with 200 people on board. It is reported that about 100 of the passengers were drowned.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

MR. FRANK HART says that he is really glad to be relieved of his duties on the Board of School Commissioners, but he thinks a flagrant injustice has been done to the Irish people in disposing of their chosen representative without consulting them through their member of parliament.

At the recent meeting, held in Ottawa, of the different representatives of British colonial interests, there were prominent Irish Catholics from different parts of the civilized world. It is another evidence of the important positions occupied by members of our race the world over. Amongst the leading statesmen and representative men from the antipodes may be mentioned the Hon. Mr. Fitzgerald, a grand type of the Irishman and a living illustration of the success that the developed talents of our people have carved out for them in lands beyond the seas. In this issue we give our readers a report of the splendid speech delivered by one of our own Irish-Catholic representatives, in the person of Hon. Solicitor-General Curran, in reply to the toast of the Parliament of Canada at the grand banquet given in Ottawa, in honor of the imperial delegates.

In our next issue we will give an appreciation of the grand work that is being done by the Catholic Summer School of America. This remarkable institution is bringing together some of the leading men of the United States, and the little town of Plattsburgh, on the shores of Lake Champlain, puts on the appearance of a University town, during the few weeks of the session. It would be difficult even in a lengthy report to convey an idea of all that transpires of deepest interest. Some of the addresses during the first week were really wonderful efforts, especially those of the Rev. Dr. Conaty, President of the School, and Rev. Joseph H. McMahon—of the New York Cathedral. In next week's TRUE WITNESS we will strive to convey an idea of the effects produced by such men as these, and of men like Father Halpin, S.J., Prof. Robinson of Yale, and Father Elliott, the famous Paulist.

THERE is a question of holding the next convention of Jewish Rabbies in Montreal. If such be realized we would be glad, as this is a great Catholic centre, and the more and the higher the representatives of non-Catholic bodies that we have the better it ultimately must be. Here those leading men of creeds outside our Church have an opportunity of beholding Catholicity not only in its externals and grandeur, but also in the social life and in the beauty that it flings around the home.

To show the appreciation in which Ireland's great Tribune, O'Connell, is held by the first and brightest character of our age—the reigning Pope—we clip the following tribute to the illustrious dead from a recent Roman despatch:

"The Pope on Sunday received twenty Roman and foreign ladies belonging to the Association for the Assistance of Poor Churches. Among those present were two Misses O'Connell, descendants of Daniel O'Connell. The Pope was especially gracious to these two ladies, with whom he conversed regarding their ancestors, naming him 'the great Irish patriot.' His Holiness said that when fifty years ago he was staying in England he made the acquaintance of O'Connell, whom he had also heard speak in the House of Commons, and the aged Pontiff went on to give a vivid description of a sitting of the House, when O'Connell delivered one of his brilliant and incisive replies to the Minister of the day."

THE LORDS OF THE HICKORY

Will Meet on Saturday—A Grand Game Expected.

The Montreal and Shamrock teams, on Saturday, the 28th, will again enter into the struggle with each other for the grand title of champions of Canada and the World. For a quarter of a century these teams have faced each other on the field, and for a quarter of a century lacrosse, as played by them, has been the criterion of the world. The Indians, the fathers of lacrosse, and thirty years ago its most brilliant exponents, succumbed once to the superior prowess of the Shamrock boys, and they never regained their ascendancy. Since then they have yearly receded in the race, until now the "intermediates" could most likely "whitewash" the finest Indian team that could be put forward.

When the Indians were the lords of the hickory, and the Shamrocks and the Montrealers were budding white teams playing the game on the primeval Indian rules, lacrosse was a vastly different game to what we see to-day. Science was an unknown quantity; rubber running shoes, lacrosse sticks with guards, and other invaluable accessories, the fruit of the white man's fertile brain, were unknown, and the players, white and red, considered themselves well equipped if they went on the field with a pair of ordinary pants, a pair of moccasins and unlimited endurance. There was wonderful scope in those days for the display of individual brilliancy, and a player who had captured the ball would no more think of surrendering it to one of his own side than to his opponent. The acme of prowess in those days was to "freeze" on to it until they were near enough to shoot it through the opponent's goal. It is easy to understand, therefore, that the player who happened to have the ball had an exceedingly interesting time until he lost it again.

The Shamrocks, it seems, were among the first to apply their intellects to improve lacrosse by infusing science into the game. A maxim among them was that the ball would travel quicker than the man; therefore, it was only reasonable that a game into which passing and a good handling of the hickory was introduced, in place of the animal endurance which had obtained for so long, would be a quicker game and divide the play more among the members of the team. After the introduction of the present scientific game, the Shamrocks were unconquerable for five consecutive years.

There is no game equal to lacrosse for vivacity and interest to the spectators, a total stranger to its rules can enjoy watching a game equally with the most practiced player as soon as the fundamental principle, that the ball is to be passed through the goals to score, is understood.

The match next Saturday will, we sincerely hope, be marked by not alone a spirit of cordiality worthy of two combinations of the merit and calibre of the pioneer lacrosse organizations, but that it will also be a splendid exhibition of their science, fleetness and endurance and result in a Waterloo for the Montreal on their own territory.

We have no doubts of the result of the match, because apart from our aspirations and good wishes for the success of the Shamrocks on their next step upon the bridge which leads to certain victory, for they are now entering in the second half of that series, we are firmly of the opinion that the Montrealers cannot lower the green and white colors.

STANDING OF LACROSSE CLUBS.

SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIP.

	Played.	Won.	Lost.	To Play.
Shamrock.....	4	4	0	4
Montreal.....	4	3	1	4
Capital.....	3	2	1	5
Toronto.....	4	1	3	4
Cornwall.....	5	0	5	3

INTERMEDIATE CHAMPIONSHIP.

	Played.	Won.	Lost.	To Play.
Y. Shamrock..	4	4	0	4
Quebec.....	4	3	1	4
Montreal.....	3	2	1	5
Sherbrooke....	4	0	4	4
Crescent.....	3	0	3	5

JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP.

	Played.	Won.	Lost.	To Play.
Jr. Shamrock..	2	2	0	2
Montreal.....	2	1	1	2
Le National...	2	0	2	2