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WEDNESDAY.....DECEMBER 19, 1888

HON. JAMES MCSHANE informs us that the alleged interview, published in the Toronto Empire as having taken place between him and the Montreal correspondent of that paper, is a pure fabrication. No such interview ever took place.

BISHOP WALSH, of London, Ont., will, it is said, succeed to the Archbishopric of Toronto. The probable successor to Dr. Walsh in the diocese of London is Dr. D. O'Connor, President of the Sandwich College. The filling of these vacancies is expected to be made from Rome on December 22nd.

In nothing do men better manifest their confidence in a cause than in putting up their money to support it. Therefore when the people of France take up the Russian loan with eagerness, we may be sure their feelings are enlisted where their money is invested. The transfer of Russian securities from Berlin to Paris, which the late transaction indicates, has in it a meaning which cannot be mistaken.

The nature of the demand the Canadian Pacific Railway Company is going to make on parliament next session is revealed in the cable despatches to-day. In addition to the guarantee of interest on fifteen million dollars granted for the surrender of the monopoly, the company, it appears, want a further compensation for allowing other railways to cross its track. When and where are these raids on the public treasury going to stop? Does the Canadian Pacific own the country?

RICHARD PIGOTT has been fixed upon as the man who forged the letters with Mr. Parnell's name attached, of which the London Times has made so much. That the Times people have known the letters were forgeries is evident by the way they are conducting their case before the Commission. Pigott appears to have been a professional informer and traitor from the start, but now that he is found out he will probably get his deserts.

SIR CHARLES TUPPER has given the Imperial Eadlets a setting back which ought to convince them of the hopelessness of the task they have undertaken. He doesn't believe the British Empire will go to eternal smash unless the colonies are brought back under the paternal rule of Downing street. Sir Charles is, perhaps, the most practical of Canadian politicians, and the vigor with which he sat upon the Imp. Feds. has flattered them out badly.

MR. MONTAGUE has got the grandhouse out of his corruptly obtained seat for Haldimand in the House of Commons. The decision was given yesterday on appeal by the Supreme Court of Canada. Every conceivable rascality was resorted to by the Tories to wrest that county from its old love, the Liberal party, Montague only managing to get in by a very few votes majority and these were obtained in a way which led to his being unseated three times. As the county can only be carried for the Government by fraud, we may expect a repetition of the old game, but with less success, let us hope.

ANOTHER scurrilous attack on the Irish Nationalists appeared in the Star of last evening. Our contemporary appears determined to convict them in advance and accepts as gospel proof the statements of force, sworn rascals drummed up by the Times to bolster up its slanders and forgeries. The Irish people of Montreal and elsewhere do not let the paper which thus insults them feel their resentment, they do not the stuff we take them for. The cloven-foot is fully exposed. Mark where it has its imprint.

EVERY nerve is being strained by the Tories to defeat Col. Rhodes in Megantic. They are calling men to their assistance from all over the continent, and all the power of the federal government has been brought to bear in the contest. As the Irish Catholic vote is considerable in the county a great effort is being made to entrap it, but we think the Irish Catholics are too well posted

to be lead astray. While the Tories are trying to persuade them to vote against the Moror government they are pushing a hot canvass among the Protestants to get them to do the same on the ground of Mr. Moror's alleged friendship for the Jesuits and alliance with the Castors. They think they are doing finely, making great execution with their two-edged sword, but it cuts both ways all the same. Let the Irish Catholic electors stand firm and true to Mr. Moror, vote for Col. Rhodes and they will make no mistake.

PORK PACKERS, flour men and all sorts of persons dealing in food are pushing the Ottawa government to raise the duties on imported food. Have the people who consume the food no claims to consideration? Would it not be in order for the people who eat bread and pork to send a deputation to Ottawa to present their claims? Why should they be compelled to pay more than they should for their food that dealers may make excessive profits. If these dealers cannot compete in a legitimate way with others, what right has the government to tax the people to put money in their pockets. Two cents additional per pound on pork means a direct attack on the scanty table of the poor and the laboring classes generally. It means pinching where economy is most difficult. Of all the villanies of the villainous tariff nothing is more outrageous than the tax on the sort of food which is used most by the poor. It is imply infamous.

CANADIANS do not view with favor the proposed arrangements between the two great trunk lines, whereby competition will be destroyed. Both have cost the country an enormous amount of money, and healthy rivalry between them is exactly what the country wants. It is all very fine for English stockholders to deprecate competition. They are looking after their dividends solely and do not care a rap for Canadian public interests. In fact, their proposal amounts to nothing more than a scheme to bleed Canadians. From this instance we may see how our affairs are regarded in England. To the minds of Englishmen Canada is a cow to be milked. If she will not submit, then get rid of her—sell her to the butcher. The same idea underlies all the dealings of England with the Dominion, and dominates the Imperial Federation movement. Canada may be loyal to England through pride and affection, but England is only loyal to Canada for dividends.

A significant comment on the relative prevalence of crime in Ireland and England is furnished by the special returns for the quarter ending September 30th last. In Ireland there has been a general decrease in crime. In fact there was no crime to speak about outside the districts where disturbance has been created by the landlord's eviction campaign. Even in the disturbed counties, Galway, Clare and Kerry, there were only eighty-one crimes, or about one-half of the total of all Ireland. Two murders are reported, murders by police and emergency men are not mentioned. During the same quarter the crimes in London alone were far in excess of the total offences committed in Ireland. Of murders in London there were twelve, as against two in Ireland, and bodies of persons who had died by drowning or violence, leaving no clue to the mystery of their death, were found almost daily. In fact, Ireland is free from crime compared with England, in spite of malignant misgovernment and the exasperation of the people.

It is evidently not Canada but the British empire that the paper Empire at Toronto has a mission to preserve. If not why is it everlastingly howling about the "Old Flag" and accusing advocates of reciprocity of a desire to tear down that venerable bit of bunting? As a matter of fact the French largely outnumber the English in Canada. So do the Irish. The former carry the tri-color, side by side with the red cross; the latter carry the green. Each venerates its own colors more than those of England, while the Bourbon table-cloth waving over L'Estandard, and the banner of Union Alet, borne aloft on many occasions, show a considerable difference in the ideas of our people concerning old flags. A new flag would be a refreshing change. Our present flag of the Dominion resembles a soiled red shirt marked by much wear with greasy suspenders and decorated with a postage stamp on the tail. Nobody can look at it and keep a straight face. Give us the positive beaver, chewing a maple leaf, even if it does look like a rat on a stump. It is our own way.

SIR JOHN MACDONALD's reputation as a constitutional lawyer has been badly shattered in his legal contests with Mr. Mowat before the Privy Council. When he began his encroachments on provincial rights in Ontario he boasted on the platform of his knowledge as a constitutional lawyer, and declared he would twist the neck of "the Little Tyrant" who had dared to oppose his policy of centralization. Mr. Mowat, nothing daunted by Sir John's bluster, took the several cases into court, one after the other, and beat the Great Centralizer in every one of them. The last case of the kind has just been decided, like the rest, against Sir John's contention and in favor of the province.

When the award of the Boundary Commission was confirmed on appeal to the Privy Council, the Dominion Government maintained its right to the Indian title in lands which it had granted to timber and mining companies, composed of its political friends. Mr. Mowat traversed this claim and made a test case with the St. Catharines Milling and Lumbering Company. The case was argued last fall before the law lords by Mr. Mowat and Mr. Blake for the Province, and by Mr.

Dalton McCarthy and others for the Dominion. A cable despatch published to-day states that a decision has been rendered in favor of the Province. Thus after ten years' costly litigation, Mr. Mowat has succeeded in wresting his province free from the centralizing grip of Sir John Macdonald. The other cases were the Boundary Award, the Escheats Bill, the License Act and the River and Streams Bill.

The victory is of the greatest importance, not only to Ontario, but to all the provinces, and, like the others, fixes forever the constitutional limits of the federal power in a very important particular. The Ontario government deserves the gratitude of the sister provinces for the determination with which it resisted the policy of centralization and the ability with which it presented these cases and carried them to a successful issue.

WHILST the Tory Government is strengthening the barriers against trade with the States and its organs shouting to "shoot down in their tracks" all who advocate reciprocity. The Canadian Pacific Railway, and other lines subsidised by the Dominion treasury are crossing the border in all directions and building roads in American territory. Does this not prove the interdependence of the two countries in matters of commerce and traffic. We read in a contemporary that Quebec is now moving to extend the Quebec Central Railway so as to connect with the C.P.R. short line. In order to secure this piece of road will have to be built in American territory, and the problem is how to apply the public money of the country to build railroads in the United States. Of course it will be solved. The Dominion and Provincial governments will have to provide handsomely, English capitalists will do something, and the work is done! The long talked of bridge across the St. Lawrence at Quebec will follow, "thus furnishing to Quebec and the Lake St. John belt of country not only the shortest possible connection with the C.P.R. line and over that into the Maritime Province, seaports, but also the seaports and great manufacturing centres of New England."

GOLDWIN SMITH hits the nail on the head occasionally. In a letter to the Berlin, Ont., Telegraph, on the amenities of journalism, he writes:—

The most notable part of it is that the two journals which, in the last twenty years, have most disgraced themselves by butchery treatment of political opponents have been the personal organs of Sir John Macdonald. Demoralizing and degrading as Sir John Macdonald's whole system has been to the country, no part of it has been more demoralizing or more degrading than his dealings with the press.

The Professor must have read the article which appeared in THE POST some time ago on Sir John Macdonald's journalistic ventures. It is, however, flattering to Canadian journalism that Sir John is every now and then compelled to establish papers to do his dirty work, as old ones die from it, like the Leader, or revolt from it, like the Mail.

Not excepting the Times, the St. James's Gazette is the most rabid of English journals in hatred of the Irish. Run by a brace of renegade Jews in the Tory interest, its brutality is always offensive and sometimes disgusting. From a recent issue we clip the two following paragraphs as specimens of its feelings and manner of expressing them:—

"The editor of the Wexford People has been sent to prison, and there he will be allowed to rot for five weary weeks. He has been educating public opinion (so his counsel declared), and now he has been taught a lesson himself. The greatest and grandest in the land must bow to the law—even the editor of the Wexford People."

"Mr. Healy—Timothy of that ilk—says the Irish party have waited 700 years, and are not tired yet. Well, England has combated Irish disaffection for 700 years, and is not tired yet; nor will she be for some time to come. This business is going to be fought out on the present lines of the campaign 'till Doomsday. Mr. Healy has for reason to congratulate himself that he did not live in an earlier stage of the Irish question. If he had his head would, no doubt, have long since adorned a gate-post somewhere in county Longford."

THE liar on space at Rome has got in some of his fine work in the cables published to-day. He says the Pope refused to bless medals and reliquaries sent to Rome by an Irish priest, who intended them for distribution in Ireland. The Pope sternly said: "I cannot bless them. The people of Ireland are disobedient. They seem to prefer the gospel of Dillon and O'Brien to the gospel of Jesus Christ." This bears the stamp of falsehood on its face. That is not the way things are done at Rome, and anyway Leo XIII. is too great a statesman, we think, to be guilty of so petty an exhibition of temper. Apart from that, the lego of the position shows its absurdity. It is not that the Irish people prefer the gospel of Dillon and O'Brien to that of Our Lord, but because they prefer them as political leaders seeking justice for their native land, to Balfour and the murderous tyranny of the British Tory Government. Are the Irish the only people on earth who must submit to extermination without protest or resistance? The Pope has strongly expressed his sympathy and compassion for the negroes of Africa, and has summoned the nations to put down slavery in the dark continent. Have the Irish, who are shot down by British troops as the negroes are slaughtered by the Arabs—who are plundered and enslaved by sword and gun as the negroes are, no claim on the sympathy and compassion of His Holiness? If this should be so, it would be strange indeed. But the despatch evidently manufactured. We cannot believe it true. In any case the Irish have reason to thank God that Parnell is a Protestant.

## THE SHAME OF CANADA.

A French contemporary the other day charged that American money was used to carry the provincial elections in favor of Mr. Moror. Absurd as the statement was, it was but a repetition of what was said by a campaign sheet published at Toronto during the last federal general elections. The implication is that the Conservatives are so corrupt that they can be brought to vote against their principles by foreigners. Disgraceful as the imputation is, it is strengthened by a statement in the Toronto Mail. Referring to the cry that American money is to be used to carry annexation that paper relates, on good authority, how an ex-Minister wrote to a leading Conservative in Prince Edward Island the other day intimating that the Americans might take this step, and asking what the consequences would be. The answer was that the Conservative rank and file in the island was "decidedly on the loose," and "quite ready to take Yankee money, at par 'at that'."

That the people of Canada have been corrupted to a fearful extent, everybody knows who have had anything to do with elections. Public spirit has been destroyed. Political virtue is lost. This is a great shameful fact. And we honestly believe that a syndicate of Americans could enter into competition with Sir John Macdonald and his "combine" for possession of Canada and beat them, if such Americans only put up enough money. So thoroughly has Sir John debauched the electorate and made bribery a supreme influence in elections that in almost any Canadian constituency Satan with money could get elected to parliament, even were the Archangel Michael his opponent. This is a sad confession to make, but it is true. "Happy is the man who has a country to sell," is the doctrine taught by Macdonaldism, and there are enough persons in Canada to accept and act upon it to turn the elections in favor of any one who can put up the purchase money.

## THE LAND QUESTION IN ENGLAND.

We are familiar enough with pictures of the desolation produced by landlordism in Ireland, but the description given by a clergyman of the Established Church of the condition to which the agricultural regions of England are reduced, is scarcely less appalling. In a paper, published in the Church Reformer, he relates his impressions of Devonshire. "It is the contrast, he writes, 'ever present to the mind between the beauty and glory, the promise and everlasting hope of nature, and the hopeless, aimless, dreary lives of those who live in the midst of her beauties, which weighs the spirits down; the contrast between that which is and that which might be but for the folly and greed of man; the thought of how all these gifts of nature are the joy of a few, while the thousands whom they might rejoice and serve are, in despair, and often only with a fierce reluctance, turning their backs upon them and seeking the slums and dens, the over-crowded work-shops.'"

He describes the people as quiet, patient, enduring, honest, but "the deeps are breaking up," he says, and their patience is becoming exhausted. The agricultural laborers are leaving their homes and the houses are falling down, and the fields are lying half tilled, and there are left behind the old and helpless and decrepit to drag out a few weary years on parish pay or in the work-house. It is quite a rare thing for a young man to remain very long in one place. That which used to be the most stationary of the population is completely changing its character and is becoming nomadic; the old firmness and slow patient perseverance, than which one can imagine no grander base for a nation's strength, is disappearing, and nothing but a fresh attachment of these men to the soil will restore it.

Lack of work is said to be the cause of the disappearance of the English peasantry, but the writer we have quoted says he has seen field after field that once produced twenty and thirty bushels of grain to the acre which is now a ready marsh. Everywhere it is the same. There is no lack of work to be done. The land is crying out for more labor. But those who now farm the land will not employ the laborers, perhaps cannot, and the laborers are not able to gain access to it for themselves.

These views of the state of rural England are abundantly sustained by other observers, who, in seeking a remedy, declare the present system of land tenure must cease. Landlordism must go, is the cry in England as well as in Ireland, though we do not hear it so loudly expressed, because the people crowd into the cities and the noise of machinery drowns their voices. But the social war is at hand, for soon American, colonial and other foreign competition in manufacturing will bring about the same results in the cities of England that agricultural competition in the same regions has produced in the country. In fact, this is being felt already, and when pushed further, the results are obvious.

## TWO SORTS OF CRIMINALS.

The constant revelations of cunning, ferocious crimes, committed with the object of obtaining money, in the city of New York and elsewhere has led the Herald of that city to reflect upon the failure of the churches to check the flood of iniquity overspreading the land. The dramatic persons in one famous case are described as "a professional gambler in the foreground who is at least caught in one of his own snares; who excites popular interest only because a long list of human wrecks are the woeful result of his career; whose victims remind us of the fish which the trout catches and strangles by the gills on a willow twig. In the background are a couple of villains, whose business is to keep under

cover in the daytime and prey on the community after nightfall; who have no moral principle than a ton of coal; whose capital in trade consists of a self-cooking pistol and what is known as nerve; whose relation to ordinary society resembles that of the shark to the fishes of the sea; who represent a class of men who compel us to tax ourselves in order to supply accommodation for them in some State prison. Their co-operatives are two women who are used as decoy ducks and about whom the less said the better."

Such characters we are told are plentiful, and the crimes they commit occur every month in the year. Whereupon the Herald observes:—"These are stern hard, cold and uncompromising facts, and they indicate a condition of society which need not excite our astonishment, though they may well rouse philanthropy and religion to increased activity."

Undoubtedly that society is in a bad way when such revelations can be made concerning it. It is all very well to constitute courts, build gaols, employ detectives and policemen to deal with these criminals, but there is something more requiring attention. Atrocious as are the crimes perpetrated for gain by professional robbers, swindlers and confidence men and women, they differ only in degree, not in kind, from transactions taking place every day under the name and according to the forms of business. Poisonous adulteration of food is the rule, not the exception. Even poison itself is adulterated. Cheating, gambling, swindling of all sorts, are carried on openly in stocks. The highest public honors are secured by bribery, fraud and misrepresentation. The highest trusts, the most sacred obligations are violated, evaded and excused by men looked upon as paragons of business success.

In their dealings with those who work for them many employers are unscrupulously harsh, unjust and dishonest to the extent that they make and take all possible opportunities for depriving those they think dependent on them of the rewards of toil. Persons of this class, who generally know enough of the law to keep safely within it, would resent the imputation of being no better morally than professional thieves. But, in reality they are worse, for the success they achieve by means, palpably dishonest in the view of the unsuccessful, leads such to the penitentiary or the gallows by precisely the same immoral reasoning that secures fortunes for more refined cunning rascals. Like the criminal, described by the Herald as occupying the foreground, with a long list of human wrecks as the woeful result of his career, we have in our mind's eye men who have robbed their employees, cheated their neighbors, entered into all sorts of schemes for making money corruptly—men who exult only in their character and surprise at their success. These are the men who give an impulse to crime and create the state of society deplored by the Herald. The villainy they teach duller men clumsily imitate and the very instructors of turpitude may be seen holding up their hands in holy horror that the "professionals" have greatly bettered their instruction.

But the incentive to crime, by bad examples of success obtained by dishonest methods, is not the only evil. A spirit of hatred and revenge is roused against the authors of wrongs, and "the patience long of him who cherishes a wrong" has its reward of suggestion, which only waits occasion for satisfaction. Religion teaches men to forgive their enemies and to do good to those who despitefully use them. But human passion is often stronger than religion. Therefore, he is a wise man who will not wrong another. He may not make so much money, he may make more, but he will not have a spectre dogging his steps, and a voice crying ever in his heart—

"Remember thou wretch,  
That has within thee undivulged crimes,  
Unwhipped of justice."

## COL. RHODES IN MEGANTIC.

COL. RHODES has met with a warm welcome in Megantic and entered upon the contest with every reasonable prospect of success. The more respectable Conservative newspapers endorse his candidature and the whole independent press have declared in his favor. The folly of opposing him is manifest. His defeat would not effect the standing of the government, while it would deprive the Protestant minority of an able representative. His election would do a great deal to soften and overcome the asperities which have grown out of the Riel excitement, harmonizes the political elements and insures tranquillity. His presence in the Cabinet would be a guarantee of fair play to the classes he represents, and, on the whole, of the greatest benefit to all classes. But these happy results are not to the liking of the Tories. They prefer dissension, turmoil, disruption, religious and national discord, anarchy, anything in fact, rather than that they should remain in the cold shades of opposition. So they go into Megantic rattling the bones of Riel to frighten the Protestants and strive to prevent, if such vile practices can prevent, the closing up of an unfortunate political sore and the re-establishment of good feeling between English and French, Protestants and Catholics.

Such tactics are to the last degree reprehensible. These Tory promoters of dissension must admit that the feelings aroused over events connected with the Northwest rebellion must die out sometime. They must also admit that the longer those feelings are kept alive the worse for the country. Why, then, do they assail Col. Rhodes as a Rielite and call upon the Protestants of Megantic to reject him for that stupid reason only!

Such unworthy conduct, however, is not astonishing in a party which takes its inspiration from the junta at Ottawa. If they can only keep the people of Quebec divided

they think they will be able to govern them as they like.

We earnestly hope the people of Megantic will not be misled by these wretched tactics, but give Col. Rhodes the hearty support he deserves in the good and patriotic stand he has taken.

## AN UNWISE CRUSADE.

A letter in the Boston Herald, signed "H. Winn," points out very clearly wherein the Protestants of that city have shown great wisdom in making a clean sweep of all Catholics and their sympathizers at the recent school board elections. The trouble in the schools arose, as our readers are probably aware, over the use of a book called "Swinton's Outlines of the World's History." This work, in stating the incidents of the reformation, recites that Pope Leo X., to raise money, adopted an extensive sale of indulgences, which, in former ages, had been a source of large profit to the church; that the Dominican friars, having a monopoly of the sale in Germany, employed an agent, Tetzel, one of their own number, who carried it on in a manner very offensive, especially to the Augustinian friars, which agent one of them, Martin Luther, took the lead in opposing. In a foot note under these statements Swinton gives this definition:

"These indulgences were, in the early ages of the church, remissions of the penance imposed upon persons whose sins had brought scandal on the community. But in process of time they were represented as actual pardons of guilt, and the purchaser of indulgence was said to be delivered from all his sins."

Of course no Catholic could, or should, tolerate teaching so manifestly untrue. Objection was taken to the book, and it was pointed out that the law of Massachusetts plainly forbids the school committee "to direct to be purchased or used in the public schools school books calculated to favor the tenets of any particular sect of Christians." This includes, Mr. Winn contends, books calculated to disparage the tenets of any sect, for disparaging one favors another. A text book may not even set out truths marshalled in a way "calculated" to have the prohibited effect.

Of course, the law being thus clear, the trustees, as we would call them, had no alternative but to strike the book from the list of school manuals, which they did. At the same time it was brought to their notice that one of the teachers, in explaining the passage quoted concerning indulgences, not only told the pupils that an indulgence was a permission to commit sin, but later added: "Should a murderer be brought before a judge he would only have to put his hand in his pocket and produce indulgence papers to be pardoned." Also, "You pay so much money in advance for leave to commit certain sins."

Here the violation of the State laws was as plain as the perversion of history and the trustees removed the teacher to another class, but did not lower his rank or salary. On account of these decisions of the Board a great furor was raised by certain Protestant clergymen. They condemned the action of the trustees, organized and demanded that Swinton's history be restored and the teacher reinstated, although both one and the other were "calculated to favor the tenets" of the Protestants contrary to the law. When the trustees declined to comply with these unlawful demands, war was declared against them and the pulpits rang with the usual denunciations of the "Romish Aggression" and all that sort of thing. Fresh from their own private schools, Mr. Winn tells us, Protestant leaders entered into nice disquisitions as to how they could by means of the State lawfully shut up the Catholic schools and force Catholic children into their own kind of training, using the old plea of state necessity, under which tyrants have always endeavored to suppress liberty. Then, in order to swamp the Catholic vote, well knowing the opposition of Catholics to woman suffrage, "confident that they could use this weapon without being struck back, by reason of the Catholic conscience on the subject, they brought out from ten thousand to fifteen thousand women from their congregations to register and beat the school committees." Under all this provocation, the writer says, "with rare exception the Catholics showed the judicial temper and moderation needed on the school board to a far greater extent than their adversaries."

After successfully combating the arguments whereby it was sought to ostracize all Catholics from all share in school management, Mr. Winn shows how the foreign birth-rate of Catholics largely exceeds that of the native Protestants. He writes:—

Such have been the pernicious theories and resultant practices of the native Americans in Massachusetts in the relations of the sexes, and the individuation of woman, that with eight times more in proportion of the youthful and child-producing population absent in the west in 1850 than in 1880, the average birth-rate to natives was 22.12 to each 1000 people per annum then, while in the five years ending 1880 it was only 15.44. The lowest rate in the leading states of Europe during the 20 years ending 1879 was 26 per 1000, in France. This means extinction; and we find that, while in 1880 there were 902,354 living in Massachusetts who were born of native parents the number had fallen in 1885 to 865,491. The Puritan race has committed Hari-Kari, and steadily wends its march to the grave. But the birth rate to the foreign born in Massachusetts was 49.52. Whatever may be the truth of its tenets, it is to the eternal honor of the Catholic church that, while the Protestant clergy are powerful to stem the current of the hour—say, often jump into its swim—Rome throws her arms, like the sacred circle of Kitchener, about the homes of her people, and lifts her lamp to light an undiminished throng down the pathway of future generations.

Mr. Winn follows this up by showing that elegant but forcible language what the Protestants of Boston may expect the Catholics have a majority. This year the