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MONTREAL, FRIDAY, AUG. 17, 1855.

TO THE READERS OF THE TRUE
WITNESS.

We are now commencing our sixth volume; and it may be well to say a few words to our readers on our affairs past, present, and future. First of all, we are anxious to know whether, in our capacity of journalist, we have given satisfaction to the majority of our subscribers—to please *all* is hardly within the power of an editor. We have certainly done our best as far as our limited capabilities would allow;—and if we have not done all we might do, it is simply because we had not room. We are fully aware that the *TRUE WITNESS* might be made much more interesting to the generality of readers, if we had only space and some little assistance in the editorial department. There is more variety required in a weekly paper than one man can give it; and, with God's help, we will endeavor to make a better provision for the literary taste of our readers, by enlarging our paper and engaging a competent assistant. But this we cannot do unless we are well supported—unless our subscription list is also considerably enlarged, and our friends become more punctual and more prompt in their payments. We have many kind and active friends all over the province—many really good subscribers, whose returns are as regular as we could desire; but they are not sufficiently numerous to warrant us in making any enlargement of our paper as we purpose doing in January next, if God spares us life and health. To our large number of merely nominal subscribers—persons who patronise us so far as to take our paper, but seem to think payment wholly unnecessary—we would say that, whatever they may think, we certainly cannot persuade printers to work for us gratis; neither can our large paper-bills be liquidated without money; and we would thank those who are in arrears (some two or three years) to bear this in mind. This is a disagreeable subject, quite as much so to us as to the defaulters; but necessity has no law—we are compelled to speak in this way, hoping that it may bring these oblivious friends of ours to a better understanding.

To our generous and effective supporters—and we thank God they are many—we take this opportunity of returning our sincere thanks. On them we rely principally for that encouragement necessary in carrying out our views. Every one of them can get at least one of his friends or neighbors to subscribe for the *TRUE WITNESS*, and to pay for it promptly like men and Christians. If they can get more than one new subscriber, it will be all the better; but let every one endeavor to get one at least. By this means we shall soon be enabled to make our paper somewhat more worthy their support.

With regard to the principles on which the paper is conducted, it is needless to say that on all questions affecting religion and the well-being of our Catholic people, our course shall ever be precisely what it has been. We have but two great objects in view—the glory of God, and the spiritual and temporal welfare of our readers. We belong exclusively to no party, but we write for Catholics as a body; and, with God's help, will treat of all questions, either remotely or proximately affecting their interests.

ARRIVAL OF THE LEBANON.

We are indebted to the *Montreal Herald* for the following telegraphic reports:—

New York, August 15.

The Cunard steamer *Lebanon*, from Liverpool, with dates to July 31st, arrived here at 7 a.m.

Since the sailing of the *Baltic* nothing has occurred to alter the position of affairs, and this lack of news, together with the exceedingly unsatisfactory condition of the Austrian, Prussian, and German relations with the Western Powers, gave a dull and heavy tone to everything.

The latest despatches from the Crimea are to the 27th July, and announce nothing new.

At Liverpool the only excitement is that created by the Angel Gabriel, Mr. Orr, who had turned up there in the street preaching line, and created some disturbance.

The London *News* announces the arrival in that city of General Count Yennoski, a distinguished Pole, who came by special invitation of the Government. It is supposed that this visit has some reference to the affairs of Poland, which just now are under discussion in ministerial circles.

There had been very little change in Breadstuffs in the Liverpool markets; and the continued favorable weather on the crops had the effect of keeping the trade in Wheat and Flour very dull.

ARRIVAL OF THE AMERICA.

HALIFAX, August 15.

The steamship *America* arrived here at 4 1/2 p.m., with Liverpool dates to the 4th inst.

The news presents no feature of special importance.

The Allies were daily extending their advances.

The assault on the Redan and Malakoff was anxiously looked for. The latest advices from the Crimea were up to July 30th, on which day Gortschakoff telegraphs there was a cannonade on both sides, but nothing of importance.

A grand secret expedition is in preparation, and the harbors and Kameisch and Balaklava were crowded with vessels to take part in it.

The French Government is said to have chartered 97 small steamers for river service, each to be capable of conveying 500 men. Rumors were current in Paris on the 3rd that the bombardment of Malakoff and the Redan had been recommenced.

A despatch received from London at the latest moment says that the weekly newspapers learn that the siege of Sebastopol was about to be raised, and that communications of a momentous character had just been received from Germany by the Western Powers.

Accounts from Asia are contradictory, and it is asserted that the Russians were retiring from Kars and the Crejesnol.

From the Baltic there is no news.

The Queen had sent a message to Parliament, asking that provision be made for any extraordinary expenses which might arise. This was followed by a proposition from the Chancellor of the Exchequer to issue 7,000,000 dollars additional in exchequer bills.

THE LOUISVILLE RIOTS.

We give below from our American exchanges a detailed account of the fearful riots which took place in Louisville last week, during the time of the election. Who can read these accounts without a thrill of horror and of generous indignation? Which of us will not thank our stars that we live not in "the freest country in the world," but in the so-called "paradise of fools?" Never in modern times have such wholesale barbarities been perpetrated on harmless, unoffending people—we beg pardon, we were forgetting the scenes enacted in France during the Reign of Terror, when France was, we suppose, for the time being, "the freest country in the world," inasmuch as mob-law was paramount to all others—just as it is to-day in the cities and towns and villages of the neighboring republic.

What will the *Boston Pilot*, and *Brownson's Review*, and the other native-Catholic journals, say to this? Are the miserable survivors of the Irish and German population of Louisville to be set down as asses because they have left that polluted city to its wicked Know-Nothing masters? We trow not.

We are loath to counsel anything that might lead to bloodshed; but the fact is, that such foreigners as choose to run the risk of remaining in the United States, must organize themselves, and arm at once. It is never lawful to become the aggressor; but it is *always* lawful to defend a man's own life; and our opinion is, that if these brutal Know-Nothings knew the foreigners (as they call them) to be well armed, able and willing to defend their lives, they would not dare to attack them. Cruelly and cowardice almost invariably go together. With regard to the Irish, who were the chief sufferers in this lamentable tragedy, they have been trained from their infancy to a horror of using fire-arms. You will find them rushing out, with sticks in their hands, to encounter the deadly assault of men armed with double-barrelled revolvers; for the Irishman—at least the Catholic Irishman—never goes into a fray with intent to kill. He merely intends to fight, and if he can to knock down his man. But all this must change. In a country where he is proscribed and hunted down, he must learn to turn on his pursuer, and defend himself when attacked. Where he has to deal with infuriated wild beasts, "panting for blood," he must either fight them with their own weapons, or leave the country to themselves:—

From the Louisville Courier.

We passed, yesterday, through the forms of an election. As provided by the statute, the polls were opened, and privilege granted to such as were "right upon the goose," with a few exceptions, to exercise their elective franchise. Never, perhaps, was a greater farce, or as we should term it, tragedy, enacted. Hundreds and thousands were deterred from voting by direct acts of intimidation, others through fear of consequences, and a multitude from the lack of proper facilities. The city, indeed, was, during the day, in possession of an armed mob, the base passions of which were infuriated to the highest pitch by the incendiary appeals of the newspaper organ and the popular leaders of the Know-Nothing party.

On Sunday night, large detachments of men were sent to the First and Second Wards to see that the polls were properly opened. These men, the "American Executive Committee," supplied with requisite refreshments, and as may be imagined they were in very fit condition on yesterday morning to see that the rights of freemen were respected. Indeed they discharged the important trusts committed to them in such a manner as to commend them forever to the admiration of outlaws! They opened the polls; they provided ways and means for their own party to vote; they bullied and bullied all who could not show the sign; they in fact converted the election into a perfect farce, without one redeeming or qualifying phase.

We do not know when or how their plan of operations was devised. Indeed we do not care to know when such a system of outrage—such perfidy—such dastardly—was conceived. We only blush for Kentucky that her soil was the scene of such outrages, and that some of her sons were participants in the nefarious swindle.

It would be impossible to know when or how this riot commenced. By day break the polls were taken

possession of by the American party, and in pursuance of their preconceived game, they used every stratagem or device to hinder the vote of every man who could not manifest to the "guardians of the polls" his soundness on the K. N. question. We were personally witnesses to the procedure of the party in certain wards, and of these we feel authorized to speak. At the Seventh Ward we discovered that for three hours in the outset in the morning it was impossible for those not "posted" to vote without the greatest difficulty. In the Sixth Ward a party of bullies were masters of the polls, forced to run a gauntlet, beat unmercifully, stoned and stabbed. In the case of one fellow, the Hon. Wm. Thomasson, formerly a member of Congress from this district, interfered, and while appealing to the maddened crowd to cease their acts of violence, Mr. Thomasson was struck from behind and beat. His gray hairs, his long public service, his manly presence, and his thorough Americanism, availed nothing with the crazed mob. Other and serious fights occurred.

In the Sixth Ward, one of the most quiet and respectable in the city, foreigners were driven from the polls and then beaten for presuming to do that which the Constitution grants them. About the Court House there was stationed during the day a party of worthless bullies, who disgraced the city by their demoniac yells and acts of ruffianism.

The first severe fighting occurred near the corner of Shelby and Green streets, about 11 o'clock in the morning. In this Germans, Irish and Americans actively participated. The foreigners were worsted, and several of them taking refuge in a house, had to escape the rear way with broken bones and bruised bodies. This partly subsiding, a German fired his gun at a carriage in which a lady and gentleman were riding. Another man was also shot while driving along in his buggy.

Intelligence was immediately communicated to the Lafayette and Kentucky engine houses, and instantly a force was armed marching toward the scene of the reputed outrages. Going up Shelby street this body of men and boys became wild with excitement, and when they reached Green street were panting for blood. Here it was that while the preliminaries of battle were being arranged, the Americans received a volley of shot, and then the engagement followed. In this first shot officer Williams was peppered with small shots; Joe Salvage received ten shots; Frank Stout was shot slightly in the arm and side; William Richards received a charge of small shot indiscriminately over his body; Ward Morris was slightly injured, and Wm. Atkinson received several bad wounds. In the same melee Mr. Ether was wounded by a ball that crashed the bones in one of his legs, rendering amputation necessary for the safety of his life. Having dispersed the Germans, the mob demolished the corner coffee house, kept by Chris. Mein. In a short time this army of Vandals, receiving constant armed accessions from all quarters of the city, as the news was spread, took up its march, stopping next at Conrad Kitzler's, corner of Walnut and Shelby, who was sitting in his house quietly enjoying his pipe and beer. His neighborhood had not previously been the scene of any disorder, and he had particularly abstained from going on the street during the day. No attention, however, was paid to Mr. Kitzler's good behavior. The property for which he had laboriously worked was nearly demolished, his furniture cut in pieces, and the lives of himself and family threatened.

At this point a fight occurred in the street, in which a German, residing on Shelby and Madison streets, was killed and several injured. E. M. Saatkamp, a German baker on Walnut street, received several cuts in the head. Having finished the work of destruction at poor Kitzler's, the mad mob pushed further on Shelby street, and had nearly reached the Catholic Church, which they proposed sacking and burning, when Mayor Barbee appeared in the crowd. His efforts at pacification were for some time fruitless, but at last he gained the multitude's attention, went and examined the church, reported "no powder found," and then having assured them that they had won the election, ordered them, under the command of Captain Rousseau, to return to their respective wards.

Peace was but partially restored in that section when a cannon, fully manned for action, followed by fifty men, armed with muskets and bayonets, came up street at a furious rate. This party, under the command of Captain D. C. Stone, proceeded up Main street, crossed over to the head of Jefferson, and while in that vicinity the following property was destroyed, viz:

Ambrewster's large brewery was fired, workmen severely injured, stock and machinery totally burned. Loss over \$6,000. Mr. A. was out of the city at the time. The pretext for destroying his property is that some person had shot from one of his brewery windows at a crowd who was pursuing a German.

Adolph Peter's brewery, adjoining, was fired three times, but unsuccessfully.

Charles Heybach's establishment was completely riddled, and a man named Fritz shot in the breast.

The confectionary of Daniel Smook was attacked, and the females driven to the garret, where they were nearly suffocated by the smoke from the burning brewery.

Baker's house, next door, was stoned and otherwise injured.

In the attack on the brewery, Sadler, the cart driver, was badly wounded, and his wife, being driven over the bridge, she could not gain any admission into the houses of any of her friends, for fear of their being mobbed.

The bakery of Charles Beckers was attacked and stoned, and the windows in Chas. Drou's barber shop broken. These houses belong to Mr. Raymond, who lives in the country.

The grocery store of Fred. Burghold was completely gutted of its contents, his damages being fully \$1,000. Adjoining, the shoe store of Joseph Hook, was similarly treated. These houses are the property of Jacob Stealer.

About 12 o'clock at night a frame grocery on the corner of Madison and Shelby streets was burned.

On Main street, just above the Woodland Garden, a coopering establishment, belonging to Thos. Garrety, was set on fire between 12 and 1 o'clock yesterday morning, and burned to the ground. Mr. Garrety was sick in bed at the time, and had been confined for several days. His loss, though small—some \$500—leaves him and his family destitute.

On Main street, a little further above, on the opposite side of the street, the coopering shop of Edward Prim was burned to the ground. Loss about \$600.

During the trouble on Monday afternoon, a German named John Vogt, residing on Clay street, near Mad-

ison street, was shot and killed. His wife was cut across the breast, and her young child injured. A German named Keiser, living on Marshall street, was killed.

Walter Murphy, an Irishman, was chased by a large party and shot on Monday evening, near Owsley, Kinnaird & Co.'s pork house. He died yesterday morning, having previously stated that James Genet was his murderer.

George Edgerton, while conversing with some ladies on Green street, received a shot just below the chin.

John Feller, a German, was stabbed seven times in a fight in the corner of Shelby and Marshall, and Hein, a German ropemaker, while walking along the street, was attacked by a crowd and terribly beaten.

The above, we believe, comprises an account of the occurrence in the east end of the city, as full as could be gathered. A great many whose names we could not ascertain were more or less injured.

In the Fifth Ward, between 1 and 2 o'clock Monday, a dastardly attack was made on Henry M. Smith.

Late in the afternoon, in the Sixth Ward, an Irishman was peacefully walking along the pavement in front of the Court House, when he was assailed by a gang of men standing by. He attempted to escape, but was pursued by some thirty men who had concealed on their persons short sticks, with one end loaded with lead. He was knocked down and brutally beaten, and one man actually thrust a large pitchfork into his chest. He was then taken up and dragged to jail, the man marching along with the pitchfork on his shoulder, blood running from its prongs. While the victim was placed in jail, the attempted murderers were permitted to go along undisturbed in search of other subjects.

In the lower part of the city the difficulties originated near the corner of Chapel and Main streets. About 5 o'clock a man named Rhoads pursued an Irishman into a house on Main street, was fired at and killed. John Hudson, residing on Green street, near the corner of Preston, was shot in the Eighth Ward, about the same time. William Graham, a foundryman, while assisting Rhoads, was shot in the back of the head by Barrett, an Irishman. Barrett was immediately seized, shot and hung!!! but not dying, he was taken to jail, where he expired during the night.

About 8 o'clock, the block of brick buildings on the corner of Main and Eleventh streets were surrounded by a very large, excited, and well armed mob. The cannon was stationed in the streets, and the corner building, occupied as a grocery store by Mr. Long, an Irishman, was fired. His three sons were in the house at the time, one of whom escaped with the assistance of C. W. Field, while the other two perished in the flames. The fire immediately extended, burning the adjoining three story brick house, occupied by D. Riordan, an Irishman, as a feed store. A frame building, occupied as a boarding house by Charles Ryan, was next consumed. Two vacant houses then caught and were burned. Next came a brick, occupied by McKinney, a cigar maker and saddler. Adjoining was a brick, in which Patrick Flynn lived, also tenanted in part by Mrs. Henry, Mrs. Wheeler, Mrs. McGinty, and Mrs. O'Dowd. The next house was occupied by Denis O'Brien, Mrs. Henery, and Mrs. McGrath. Farther up the street two brick stores, one used by John McDonald, grocer, were nearly demolished. On Eleventh street, the fire destroyed two houses occupied by Denis Higgins, James Welsh, and Mrs. Monahan. All the above twelve houses were the property of Patrick Quinn—brother of an Irish Catholic priest. Mr. Q. had a room in one of his houses, was shot and beaten and then burned last night. On the opposite side of Main, two houses occupied by John Fitzgerald and Mrs. Trainor were burned.

The acts of incendiarism that we have just recorded, while outrageous in themselves, do not compare in atrocity with the dreadful murders that were committed at the same time. Seeking to escape death from the flames, the wretched inhabitants only reached the street to meet death in another form. As soon as one appeared at a door he was fired at and generally killed. A number were taken off badly wounded, and others, shot to pieces, returned to the burning houses, preferring rather to be burned than to meet the infuriated mob. One man escaped in woman's clothes, was detected, and shot! Another, who came out covered with a blanket, and leaning upon the arm of his wife, torn away, and deliberately shot! To escape from within to the street without being killed was almost a matter of impossibility. How many of these miserable people, thus caged in their own house, were burned alive! there can be no computation. The blackened and charred remains of some have been discovered, while we hear of wives and children whose husbands and fathers are not to be found.

THE EFFECT.—Yesterday most of the business houses in the first ward were closed, the populace being in constant fear of another outbreak. Over one hundred German families quitted the city, many with their furniture and goods. Others had the remnants of their damaged household possessions taken to auction stores for sale. The effect of the terrible riots of Monday on the prosperity of Louisville, will be perceptible for many, many years.

From the Journal, Aug. 8.

There was a grand evacuation yesterday. On Fifth street, below Main, and also in the lower part of the city, many of the Irish families residing there left, notwithstanding the assurance of the Mayor that they would be protected. About three hundred left on the mail boat for Cincinnati.

THE LOUISVILLE RIOTS—THE IRISH IN THE UNITED STATES—THE CATHOLIC PRESS.

To the Editor of the True Witness.

Montreal, August 13th, 1855.

DEAR SIR—The past week has brought sad news from the South. The smouldering fire of persecution begins to break forth, sweeping away every barrier that would obstruct its course. Know-Nothingism has made a new demonstration at an election in Louisville. We have, as yet, no reliable accounts of this last outrage, further than that the Irish were literally burned up in their houses, and one Irishman lying in the public street, forsooth, for having fired on Americans. A very likely story that he, or any other like him, would have fired from their houses on Americans without grievous and intolerable provocation. The truth is, that the Know-Nothings of Louisville envied the notoriety of their brethren of Ellsworth, New Orleans,