

REMITTANCES

TO ENGLAND, IRELAND, SCOTLAND & WALES

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THE TRUE WITNESS AND CATHOLIC CHRONICLE.

MONTREAL, FRIDAY, MAY 30, 1856.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The announcement of the general amnesty to all political offenders—"with the exception," as Lord Palmerston said in the House of Commons, "of those unhappy men who had broken all the ties of honor"—will, we are sure, give general satisfaction, not only to the friends of the noble Smith O'Brien, but to men of all parties and of all races. Such acts as these will do more to strengthen the hands of the British Government, than thousands of "Coercion" and "Agrarian Outrage Bills." The news from the Continent of Europe is of little interest. Russia is said to have demanded explanations respecting the treaty recently concluded between France, Great Britain, and Austria, guaranteeing the independence of Turkey; and there is still much excitement in Belgium on the subject of French interference with the license of the Belgian press. Rumors also are rife of fresh outrages meditated by the Sardinian Government against the liberties of the Catholic Church; and it is known that that Power is but too anxious to give the signal for a revolutionary uprising throughout the Italian Peninsula.

From Washington, we learn that Mr. Crampton, and Messrs. Barclay, Matthews, and Rowcroft have received their dismissal from the American Government. This will, in all probability, be followed by the dismissal of Mr. Dallas on the part of the British Government; and thus, for the time, all diplomatic intercourse betwixt the two countries will be at an end.

GREAT MEETING OF THE FRIENDS TO IRISH COLONISATION.

On Thursday evening of last week, a meeting of the Irish Catholic citizens of Montreal, favorable to the objects of the Buffalo Convention, was held in the Hall of the Mechanics' Institute of this city; and from the crowds who were present, including many of our fair Irish citizens, it was easy to see that the friends of the movement in Montreal are both numerous and influential. The Hall was literally crowded; from an early hour every seat was filled, and every available inch of ground occupied. Never has it been our lot to witness on this Continent a larger or more respectable assemblage.

The Chair was taken at eight P.M., by W.P. Bartley, Esq., President of the Colonisation Society in this city. There were present on the platform, the Very Rev. Dean Kirwan of London; the Very Rev. Mr. McDonagh, Vicar-General of Perth; the Rev. Mr. Macleod, from the Diocese of Alichat in Nova Scotia; Terence J. O'Neill, Esq., of Toronto; and several other gentlemen who took an active part in the proceedings. The meeting having been called to order by the Chairman—B. Devlin, Esq., in his usual happy style opened the business of the evening, and laid before his hearers a short sketch of the policy which had been adopted by the Supreme Directory for Canada, in order to carry out the objects of the Buffalo Convention. He was followed by T. J. O'Neill, Esq., who having read the subjoined Address—adopted by the Supreme Directory for Canada—in an eloquent and impressive speech, pointed out the advantages, to the Irish immigrant particularly, and to Canada in general, which would flow from the realisation of the schemes of the friends of actual settlements.

The Very Reverend Dean Kirwan then addressed the meeting, and was listened to with breathless attention by the vast audience, whilst he explained the origin, objects, and progress of the great movement, of which he had been, under God, the originator.—We much regret that the very limited space at our command prevents us from giving the Reverend gentleman's eloquent discourse at length; as also that of the Very Rev. Mr. McDonagh, who succeeded him on the platform. Dr. Howard, the President of the St. Patrick's Society of Montreal, was then called for; and after a few happy remarks, the Secretary opened his lists, and a subscription in aid of the funds of the Society was taken up. The amount collected was upwards of \$300; and after a report from the Treasurer, Mr. Sadlier, of the state of the Society's finances, the meeting separated, highly delighted with the result of the evening.

It is the intention of the Directory to name a resident agent for Montreal, with a fixed annual salary. The duty of this gentleman will be to look after the newly arrived Irish Catholic immigrants; to give them all the information in his power; and to induce them, instead of loitering about town, to the great detriment of purse and character, to start at once for

the unsettled lands of the Province—there, with their good right arms, and the blessing of God upon their honest exertions, to make for themselves and little ones, free and happy homes.

TO THE IRISH CATHOLICS OF CANADA.

In addressing ourselves to the subject of Colonization, we would bespeak for it a calm and earnest consideration, as one, which deeply concerns the most sacred interests of those, who, next to our own immediate families, hold us each, and every one, under peculiar responsibility to them; for both advice and assistance; as belonging to our creed and race, and, moreover, as being too frequently regarded in the eyes of some of the philanthropists and Christians of modern times as unfitting objects for their sympathies or care.

It is naturally to our own countrymen, though we are satisfied there are others, who from sincere good will towards their fellow men, will co-operate with and assist us, that we particularly address ourselves. To the hearts of our own countrymen settled in this Continent, who have themselves, to some extent, suffered the wants and anxieties, the privations and frowns, the refusals and sneers, which the friendless and moneyless emigrant is exposed to on his arrival in a land of strangers. To those who have witnessed the flower of Ireland's sons arriving in our great towns and cities, the picture of health and cheerfulness, with the calm contentment of piety visible in every feature, degenerate into the lowest dregs of depraved society, shunning the honorable toil of their forefathers, which, in this country, would yield such ample remuneration, assuredly leading to independence in old age, and carrying with it the glad reflection of being able to bequeath to one's children an untarnished reputation. To those we would most strongly appeal, to aid us in our endeavors to avert the certain destiny of ruin, that awaits the infatuated stranger who is enticed by the glitter of city life to hover about the contaminating influence of hardened vice and loafing idleness, till both physical abilities and moral feelings become wrecked amidst the destructive examples of abandoned associates.

But alas! for the allurements which city employments present; in spite of every remonstrance which charity can advance, large numbers fritter away the most valuable years of their lives, where extravagant habits and endless temptations to expence abound, till the strength and energy of youth have died out with but little, if any means, acquired, till, at length, the heart of the unfortunate broken down stranger sickens at the bare idea of undertaking to subdue his share of nature's wild dominion, which, in hardy youth if wisely directed he would have faced with a courage worthy of a field of Alma or the Malakoff. To those who have long loitered about in seaboard towns and other crowded places, unlearning every thing of integrity and industry inculcated by kind and pious parents, we would say, "Tarry there no longer whilst enough of youth and energy remain with you to enable you still, after a few years of honest toil, to secure to yourselves a home of your own, a shelter, and more than a shelter, a calm and independent retreat for your old age, nestling in the bosom of an industrious, virtuous family. Surely with the sad examples before your eyes of what a mad career of indolence and vice have led you to, you would not barter away your chance of happiness here and hopes of peace and rest hereafter, to bequeath, only, to friends the bitter memories of a clear unclouded intellect debased by association with the wicked, and physical energies equal to any work of honest labor, debilitated and entombed in a premature grave."

To inspire with a faith that the road to independence by means of well directed, patient labor is open to all, no less to the Irish immigrant than to him born on the soil; no less to the Catholic than to him entertaining a different belief; both to those inhabiting the country and those who may arrive amongst us, is our present object.

We enter upon it not as a task; we behold in it a pleasing but a solemn duty, and feel cheered, at this stage the very childhood of our project, with the hope that we shall not appeal in vain, neither here, nor to the land we have left, for encouragement and support, when the moral and social elevation of the Irish Catholic race on this continent is the consummation devoutly aspired to.

In a spirit of generous policy the Canadian Government have appropriated a large extent of the public lands in their wild state to the settlement of immigrants and others unable to purchase lands in populous and old established localities; and though these lands cannot be represented as being in all cases such as would repay the settler for taking hold of them and improving on them, there is nevertheless a large quantity of so good a quality that if readily accessible would present sufficient inducement to a large number to make homes for themselves and families, which, under the advantages increase of population and congregated industry beget, would, ere long, present similar appearances of comfort and wealth to old and long established localities.

To direct attention to these lands, and any others, that are, or may hereafter become, available; to devise the best means of selecting the good and rejecting the indifferent, to point out the cheapest and most expeditious route for arriving at them from any given point; to advise as to the best mode of sustaining ones self on them under the disadvantage of limited means, by informing where employment the most adjacent to the centre of settlement could be obtained, or any other information necessary or useful to the stranger, would compose in part the duty assumed by the present association aided by local societies. To secure the services of an earnest intelligent assistant as Secretary and Agent will be the first object of our solicitude, as, on the ability, energy, and zeal of that officer, will in no small degree depend the successful promotion of the objects we have in view; the other office of trust the Treasurers shall be filled only by one possessing the unqualified confidence of the Directors.

We would fain enlarge the grounds of our contemplated usefulness; but having to trust to the public support for the means of defraying the expenses contingent on the organization, we deem a close economy most necessary, till a realization of our objects to some extent shall convince of the feasibility of our views, when, we have no doubt, public liberality will enable us to carry out more largely the projects of benevolence comprehended in our plans.

But not alone to those settled in this hemisphere would we confine our solicitations for support; the aid of the Irish Hierarchy and Clergy, landlords and resident gentry, and all others interested in the well-doing of their fellow-countrymen and co-religionists, we would respectfully invoke; besides their pecuniary assistance, their information and advice will essentially advance the interest of our association, their countenance and God-speed will cheer the traveller on his journey, whilst their sympathy in our undertaking will stimulate our own efforts in the good cause; to those also who wish to see sturdy labor imported into the country for the clearing up of our own forests, and the performance of our Canals, Railroads, and other public works, we also look for encouragement and assistance. On the subject of Colonization it is necessary to make but little remark. As distinguished from immigration, we would beg emphatically to observe, we offer no advice on the subject of any man's quitting his native land. Our object is not to hold out inducements to any class of the Irish to settle on this Continent. On the contrary, if his situation be at all tolerable and the rates of wages such as are equal to the wants of a family, we would say, "You have a country which for soil, climate, and healthfulness, the broad surface of the Globe cannot surpass, if it can equal it; a priesthood numerous enough to meet the spiritual requirements of the people to their fullest extent, devoted to their interests under every exigency and bound up with them beyond the influence or terrors of

any worldly power." In a word we would say, "If not forced by the inducements of divided families or the bitter pressings of want, remain at home; for with all her privations, and the selfish ungenial policy of the English Government she is still glorious Catholic Ireland; and perhaps we may yet live to see her free and happy Ireland!"

But to those whose determination to emigrate is decidedly formed; who have no friends to attract to one section of this Continent more than to another, we would say, "Come hither; we have weighed well the responsibility of the advice before imparting it, and we have no misgivings in asking you to come and settle down amongst us. Canada has at no time known a period in our remembrance when the laborer or mechanic could not obtain a fair equivalent for his labor; we can sincerely bless Providence for the advantages of climate and fertility our united Province possesses, which leave no room to envy the oldest or most opulent portion of the United States; and in our political condition, under the existing form of Government, we have ourselves to blame if bad laws be enacted or injurious ones stand unrepealed."

We wish not to create any delusive idea touching the character of the country, or the condition of its people, which would lead to disappointment and vexation. We would forewarn all that the country, prolific as it is, will yield its fruits only to the arduous application of toil and untiring industry; industry, thrift, and sobriety will procure it not riches, at least a competent support for every man; and for those overtaken by sickness or laid down by accident, the benevolence of our communities makes abundant provision for their support and recovery without distinction of nation or creed.

In this undertaking the paramount aim and object of our solicitude is to see large numbers of the good old Catholic stock congregated together, united by the bonds of charity, nationality, and faith, lending their labor and advice to each other in overcoming the trials and difficulties of their new position. With the hallowed presence of their beloved pastors in their midst, providing education for the young cheering the labors of the old, arbitrating amongst the discontented to keep aloof litigation and strife; and it is not the dream of a visionary to forebode for a colony thus conditioned, the realization of as large a portion of contentment and comfort, as in this world of troubles, it is the common lot of man to enjoy.

We are no Communists, we believe in each man's enjoying personally the reward of his own industry, and if the idler and the drone be beyond the reach of being stimulated to exertion by the bold and successful struggles of his neighbors; we can only say "let him persevere in his course of idleness and he will be sure to reap its certain rewards poverty and reproach."

Our efforts now shall be directed to encourage the organization of local societies in every city, town, and village. It will be the duty of those to exert every effort in enrolling members; to forward the amounts collected to the Treasurer appointed by the supreme Directory after deducting their local expenses, which should be regulated by the most rigid economy; to transmit all intelligence in relation to the association with despatch and frequency and to extend as industriously as possible all information intended for dissemination by the Directory.

To commence active operations as early a day as possible, those societies already organized should exert themselves in taking up subscriptions and contributions which will be regularly acknowledged through the columns of the public papers, by the Secretary, and in order to enable the Directors to judge to what extent they may feel justified in extending their operations they must see at an early day how far their project meets with encouragement as evidenced by the pecuniary aid of the well disposed.

In those places where societies have not been already established it is recommended that no time be lost in forming them, and an early intimation thereof conveyed to the Secretary.

T. T. KIRWAN, D.D. J. H. McDONAGH, V.G. E. DEVLIN. T. J. O'NEILL.

Montreal, 22nd May, 1856.

COLONISATION MEETING IN TORONTO.—We learn from the Catholic Citizen of Toronto that a large meeting of Irish Catholics was held on the evening of Sunday the 18th inst., in the Vestry of St. Michael's Cathedral, to receive the report of the Toronto Delegates to the Buffalo Convention, and to establish an auxiliary Society to carry out the views of that body. John O'Donohoe, Esq., was called to the Chair; and John Mulvey, Esq., was requested to act as Secretary.

On the motion of M. Hayes, Esq., seconded by D. Mahony, Esq., it was unanimously—

Resolved—"That the present meeting highly approves of the propriety of establishing a Colonisation Society in Toronto; and that a Committee of seven persons be now appointed to make preliminary arrangements to call a meeting for that purpose."

A Committee was then named, in accordance with the above Resolution.

PROCESSION SUNDAY.—The Sunday within the Octave of the Feast of Corpus Christi is always, when the weather permits, observed in Lower Canada with those solemn rites and public processions, wherein the Church makes confession of her faith in the mystery of the Eucharist, and testifies her gratitude to her Divine Spouse ever present with her on her altars, for His wonderful love and condescension towards man. This is the object of the Church in her processions; this the answer to the infidel or heretic who enquires "what mean you by this service?"—Ex. xii., 25. A procession is an "Azelo Da Fé," or "Act of Faith."

This year fortunately, the weather, though cloudy, was fine enough to allow of the procession leaving the church. In consequence, about 10 A.M., the different religious societies of Montreal, with their banners and appropriate insignia—the Christian Brothers, with their pupils—and the members of our Religious Communities—mustered in front of the Parish Church, and formed the advanced guard of the procession.—Immediately after them appeared the Clergy, followed by the magnificent Dais, beneath which, bearing the Blessed Sacrament, walked His Lordship the Bishop of Portland. Then came, the St. Patrick's Society of Montreal, followed by the St. Patrick's Temperance Society, and the St. Patrick's Congregation, who closed the imposing array.

In this order the procession passed down St. Joseph Street, and along Commissioner Street, to the Grey Nunnery. From thence it returned by McGill Street, Notre Dame Street, stopping at the beautifully decorated altar in front of the Recollet Church, to the Place d'Armes, re-entering the Parish Church about half-past twelve. The utmost order prevailed; and though large numbers of persons, to whom the cere-

mony must have been as incomprehensible, as it was novel, were present, no insult or interruption of any kind was offered. This, in a large and mixed population like that of Montreal, and in a country where party feeling is so strong as it is in Canada, is highly creditable to all classes of our community; and is a satisfactory proof that, whatever the differences of religions amongst us, in this part of Canada at least, the principles of religious toleration are not only professed, but practised.

The late vote of the House of Assembly on the "Want of Confidence" motion, has, as was generally anticipated, led to the resignation of the Sir Allan McNab administration, and the remodelling, rather than the reconstruction, of the Cabinet. The following is a list of the new Ministry:—

- Speaker of the Legislative Council and Premier—Hon. Mr. Tache. Inspector General—Mr. Cayley. Attorney General West and Leader of the Assembly—Mr. J. A. McDonald. Commissioner of Crown Lands—Mr. Cauchon. Commissioner of Public Works—Mr. Lemieux. Postmaster General—Mr. Spence. Receiver General—Mr. J. O. Morrison. President of the Council—Mr. P. M. Vankoughnet. Attorney General East—Mr. Cartier. Provincial Secretary—Mr. Terrill. Solicitor General West—Mr. H. Smith. Solicitor General East—Mr. Dunbar Ross.

From this it would seem that the only changes are—for the Lower Province, the substitution of Mr. Terrill for Mr. Drummond; and for the Upper, of Mr. Vankoughnet for Sir A. McNab. The measures of the new Cabinet are supposed to have undergone as little change as the men; and it is therefore not expected that they will find the Legislature more disposed to accord to them its support, than to their predecessors. A dissolution of Parliament, and a general election, are therefore looked upon as inevitable.

Under these circumstances it behoves the Catholic electors of Canada to be on the alert; and so to avail themselves of the power which a general election confers upon them, as to secure the return to Parliament of the greatest number possible of representatives pledged to support "Freedom of Education," and the right of Catholics to support such schools, and such schools only, as the Church approves of. We are told indeed that there is no connection between politics and religion; but this atheistical doctrine, which tends to ignore God as the Supreme Ruler, will, we hope, find no acceptance with Catholics.—Whether we eat, or drink, or vote, we are bound to do all things for the honor and glory of God, and as responsible to Him for all our actions. The elective franchise is a trust, conferred indeed by human laws, but still one for which he who exercises it, will have one day to render an account to the great Judge.—We do not mean that Catholic electors should exact a confession of faith from the different candidates who may present themselves, or impose upon their representatives any religious tests. But we do mean to assert that it is their duty, from which no power on earth can absolve them, to take heed that they be not accessory to putting in places of power and trust, men, avowed enemies of their religion, and who purpose its destruction. We ask, and this we have the right to ask, of our representatives—that they shall respect our conscientious religious convictions, as we are prepared to respect theirs—that, as we, Catholics, seek to impose upon Protestants, no educational system to which they are adverse, so also, they will deal in the same liberal spirit with us; and refrain from enacting laws by which we are taxed, and the public funds—which are the common property of all—are exclusively devoted, for the support of schools of which we can not avail ourselves without doing violence to our conscientious convictions, and setting at naught the reiterated injunctions of our Church. The rallying cry of Catholics at the polls should therefore be—"No State-Schoolism"—and "Freedom of Education" for all, both for Protestants and Catholics.

It is with regret that we notice the bitterly hostile tone of the American press towards the British Government; as if it were the determination of our neighbors to provoke a contest betwixt two nations mutually bound to keep the peace with one another. In vain has the British Ministry offered explanation after explanation upon the unfortunate enlistment affair, and given to the Cabinet at Washington every possible assurance of its perfect good faith, and firm intention to adhere to the existing treaties. The American Government will not be satisfied unless Mr. Crampton be recalled; and the British Government cannot recall Mr. Crampton without, by implication, acknowledging itself guilty of the act which the former imputes to it. Then there is the Nicaraguan difficulty. A filibuster of the name of Walker, at the head of a gang of Yankee marauders—to whom in civilized communities the gallows would be awarded as the meet recompense of their piratical exploits—is recognised as the head of the Nicaraguan Government by President Pierce; who thus officially ratifies the gross and unprovoked outrage perpetrated by citizens of the United States upon the independence of a neighboring State. That France or Great Britain can look with indifference upon this high-handed violation of the rights and liberties of an independent nation, is scarcely probable; nor is it likely that they will tamely acquiesce in a policy, which, if not resisted at the outset, would in a short time lead to the forcible annexation of Cuba, and the whole of Central America, by means of piratical expeditions from the United States. Filibustering may be an American "institution;" but it is scarcely one which the Powers of Europe are prepared to recognise.