

The Catholic Register.

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THURSDAY, AUGUST 22, 1895.

Calendar for the Week.

- August 22—Octave of the Assumption. 23—St. Philip Benizzi. 24—St. Bartholomew, Apostle. 25—Feast of the Most Pure Heart of Mary. 26—St. Zephyrinus, Pope and Martyr. 27—St. Joseph, Calanactus. 28—St. Augustine, Bishop, Dr. of the Church.

Official.

The clergy of the Archdiocese are hereby notified that the ecclesiastical retreat will begin this year on the evening of Monday the 20th instant in St. Michael's College. They are all required to be present.

A priest will be appointed to stay at Barrie to attend to the sick cases that may occur in the northern district.

The Carmelite Fathers will be good enough to attend to the dangerously sick in the Deanery of St. Catharines; whilst sick calls occurring in the districts centering around Toronto will be looked after from here.

The clergy will please announce this arrangement to their congregations on the Sunday before the retreat.

By order of his Grace the Archbishop. JAMES WALSH, Secretary. Toronto, Aug. 19, 1894.

With reference to a comment made on the death of the late Prof. Huxley in this paper, it is interesting to note that the following lines will be read upon the tombstones of the insufficiently alleged agnostic:

And if there be no meeting past the grave, If all is darkness, silence, yet his rest. Be not afraid, ye waiting hearts that weep, For God still "giveth his beloved sleep." And if an endless sleep He will so best.

The Hamilton Spectator holds out an invitation to us to consider carefully the report of the Ottawa School Commission. The more carefully this report is examined the smaller is the possibility, even for such an upright foe of Christian education as the Spectator, to magnify it to provincial dimensions. It concerns Ottawa only; and some of the Ottawa Separate schools it concerns very creditably.

The Mail and Empire drops a fat tear upon the loss of Hon. Edward Blake to Canada, and upon the results of his sacrifices for ungrateful Ireland. But would the paper be so gravely exercised if it thought Mr. Blake were really returning to Canadian public life. We know not; rather would the party sand-bag then be loaded for big game, and Tim Healy himself might prepare to take a lesson in foul play.

Mr. Swift MacNeill, writing to the Times, quotes Lord Castlereagh promoter of the Union, as saying at the time that the relative population of the two countries entitled Ireland to 202 members. The depopulation of Ireland since the union is urged by the American millionaire who runs the Pall Mall Gazette as an argument why Ireland's representation should to-day be cut down according to London's representation by population.

Catholic journals in the United States never fail when discussing the A. P. A. to call it, derivatively, a Canadian transplanted evil. In doing so they may be actuated by patriotism and attachment to the republic; but they can hardly expect to be taken seriously. Senator Hoar, who has written an address to T. C. Evans of Boston, the most prominent fanatic in the United States at the present time, a terrible indictment of A. P. A. ignorance frankly recognizes the American birth and growth of the secret society. Traynor, the nominal head of the organization, may have been a Canadian at one time; but he is a type of the malevolent who fails to sustain his notoriety in a British community and who imagines—we will not say rightly—that the republic is a better field for his class. Certain it is that such annoyance as we have

had from the Canadian P. P. A. has been wafted across the Niagara River to us from the United States.

Canadians, who know Mr. William O'Brien will thank him for the well merited punishment which Mr. T. M. Healy has earned at his hands over the latter's attack upon Mr. Blake. We have before us the full text of Mr. O'Brien's letter to The Freeman's Journal of the 10th in which he says:

"If Irish gratitude and chivalry are not to become bye words, it is time to make some protest against the unbridled blackguardism with which Mr. Blake's name is dealt with in Mr. Healy's letter. 'Stranger' though he be in the sense that millions of the best Irishmen on earth are 'strangers,' he is at least entitled to be spoken of in the language of common decency."

Again: "My present object is merely to protest as a former colleague of Mr. Blake on the committee of the Irish Party, against the recklessness with which the fame of our country for gratitude and hospitality is traduced by these cruelly false and foul attacks upon a stranger who has many claims upon our tenderness and respect. When the Irish people find that the virtuous at first reserved for Mr. Dillon and myself, and then flung in turn at Mr. Justin McCarthy, Mr. Sexton and Mr. Davitt, is now poured upon a man who has nothing, but loss of power and purse to face in embracing the Irish cause, and nothing but years of villainous abuse in presuming to differ in opinion with Mr. Healy, they will probably come to the conclusion that the dead set made upon Mr. Blake is only the latest phase of the policy of driving every man of delicate feeling from the service of Ireland by the lowest intellectual roudism."

It is not time that Mr. Healy was formally expelled the Party which has already virtually ostracised him?

Antigonish Casket: The encroachment of the State in recent times upon the domain of parental rights in the matter of education, has tended to obscure the principle that it is to the parent that belong at once the right and the duty to determine what kind of education his child shall receive. But the principle is so plainly founded in the law of nature and so luminous in itself that it can never suffer more than partial and temporary eclipse. Men of so widely divergent views on other matters as Lord Salisbury and Mr. Balfour in England, Senator Hoar, in the United States, and Goldwin Smith, in Canada, have been of late laying a special emphasis upon it. In a letter recently addressed to THE CATHOLIC REGISTER, of Toronto, the latter says: "Let Catholics take their stand on the broad ground of parental duty and right. Let them say that it is every man's duty to educate as well as to feed and clothe his own children, and every man's right to have his children brought up in the way which he conscientiously deems best. Let them say that the State has no right to deprive a man of the means whereby to give his children a religious education by forcing him to pay for a man of which he cannot conscientiously avail himself and to which his convictions are opposed. They will then occupy a position which it will be extremely difficult to assail, and the sympathy of Liberals of the old school, who are favorable to individual and family freedom, will incline to their side. But if we have the Public School system and the school tax I do not see how we can allow any one Church to be recognized by the State to the exclusion, and not only to the exclusion but to the virtual disparagement of the rest." The writer's contention in this last sentence is readily met by the editor of THE REGISTER. He points out that the system of separate schools in Canada is based on the principle which Mr. Smith himself so strongly upholds, inasmuch as the provisions of the Constitution which guarantee such schools are but a recognition of the inalienable right of the parent to control the education of his child. There is no exclusion and no disparagement involved in the giving to one religious body what is freely granted to the others if they only choose to avail themselves of it.

The Ottawa Schools.

Under the plan of public education which we enjoy in Ontario the right of the state to see that all the schools are kept up to the standard of efficiency is incontestable. If this principle be denied, then the education is deprived of its public character. The schools of the majority are, in this respect, exactly upon the same plane as the schools of the minority. As the Department of Education stands in impartial sympathy towards both, the apprehension has never arisen in

the Province that the state may exercise its powers of inspection in a manner calculated to create annoyance, or give the impression to any class of people that a spirit of partisanship has crept into the public office. That would constitute a hardship.

But, as we say, such a thing has never been imputed by Protestants or Catholics in Ontario. It does not affect in the least the satisfaction both to the majority and to the minority, with which the principle has worked, that the Government in a particular school or district should find it necessary to apply the test of efficiency. It has very rarely been done in Ontario, and it is more frequently called into operation in England, but always with justification. So that the conditions here cannot be less satisfactory to the general public than they are in England.

The Ottawa Catholic Schools' Commission has reported, and we present to our readers to-day a lengthy digest of the findings. In doing so we have adhered to the language used by the Commissioners themselves. It is for the clergy and Catholic people of Ottawa to ask themselves whether the duty they owe to the cause of education, and to the interests of the rising generation of Catholics in the Capital city of the Dominion does not require action upon the facts now officially presented to their notice.

We do not think there is a Catholic in the Dominion so short sighted as to question the impartiality of the members of the Commission, or the strict attention to facts and the avoidance of opinions all through the report. For ourselves we have nothing but praise for the manner in which Mr. Scott, Dr. Ryan and Mr. Tilley have performed their duty.

At the same time let it be borne in mind that, with the two languages, and with the French and the English views of education contending one against the other, the Brothers have been battling at Ottawa for the past thirty years with an educational problem essentially local, and in no way bearing comparison with their schools in any other part of the Province. The School Board has also been divided within itself; one set of trustees contending for cheap tuition and inferior school buildings and supplies, while the other set has been aiming at progress. So that the hard, uphill work of the Brothers will never be fully known to the public. Then again, let it not be forgotten that the Commission went to work at a time when St. Patrick's school was in a state of demoralization owing to an outbreak of diphtheria. The school would have been closed in Toronto or anywhere else, but in Ottawa school board management is carried out upon rather peculiar ideas. However, the Commissioners examined the handful of available pupils, with the result as the report plainly shows, of an amazing lack of uniformity. Here and there the answering is as high as 87, 86 and 85, and in corresponding classes it is as low as 22. In some subjects the ridiculous record of 2 and 3 and 5 marks appears. Thus the averages are destroyed, and evidently this is in a great measure due to the nearness of the holidays and the score which diphtheria had brought about in St. Patrick's school. The glaring absence of uniformity cannot be accounted for any other way.

It is to be regretted that the Brothers failed at the outset to comprehend that the Commissioners were performing a duty. While we think we appreciate the position taken, that it was not intended to treat the representatives of the Minister of Education as intruders, but that the request for the Commission was interpreted as a breach of faith pledged to the French Brothers, the result shows clearly enough that the members of the School Board acted from the best of motives. The fact that Catholic education in Ontario is part and parcel of the public education system should be considered sufficient in itself to settle any misunderstandings on the part of the French Brothers, and to clear away all confusion from the local issue raised.

The Ottawa Catholic schools have, in short, been brought into comparison with the other Catholic schools of the Province. At a moment when the Government officials and the public press are bestowing well-deserved praise upon the Brother's schools in other centres of educational progress, the Ottawa schools must be

judged, on the evidence before us, as inferior, although we repeat again that the creditably high percentages so frequently made by some classes, junior, and senior, show that the Commission examined the pupils under the manifest disadvantages referred to.

On the other hand the Sisters of Charity have reason to be proud of the Commissioners' report, one of their classes scoring as high as 77 per cent. The facilities offered by the Sisters to the Commissioners have also shown that these admirable teachers wherever they are laboring are abreast of the times.

The English Brothers must experience a feeling of relief that their vicissitudes at Ottawa are closed. Put the same Brothers teaching in any of our schools up here and they will show just as creditable work as the Brothers' schools throughout the Province produced in the recent examinations. The Catholic people of Ottawa, now that all the facts are known, cannot lag behind in the educational race, and it is for the party of progress to inaugurate on the Board an era of liberality towards their schools, both English and French.

Mr. Blake's Home-Coming.

Hon. Edward Blake is returning to Toronto fresh from the honors which his conferees and the Irish people have bestowed upon him for his splendid work in the recent general election.

Only one Irishman, either in the old land or in America, at this moment publicly offers ill-will to the great Canadian statesman, who has labored with so much zeal and with such marked success, to save the Irish people from the perils of disunion, and worse than disunion, of treachery, which threatened to overwhelm them at the polls. That man is T. M. Healy; and few will doubt that the fact of the Nationalist representation of Ireland being increased instead of reduced at the general election, is in a large measure due to the quiet strength displayed by Mr. Blake when, through motives of dishonorable ambition, the bolt of scandal was shot into the party organization. Fortunately, we believe, the shot was aimed at Mr. Blake, and he was well able to stand the shock. Instead of injuring him, it recoiled upon Mr. Healy himself, and the letter, which we publish to-day, in which "that individual" is abused so venomously, is only the harmless rage of a mean and defeated schemer. Mr. Healy has become quite reckless, and while Mr. Blake has personally treated him with the contempt he deserves, it is pleasing to see that indignant members of the Irish party have not remained silent spectators of the attack.

Not only have Mr. Blake's friends displayed their indignation, but the Nationalist press has spoken with no uncertain voice. The Freeman's Journal says:

Every man in the Nationalist party, no matter how high his position or great his services, who refuses to bow down to Mr. Healy's very erratic statesmanship, has been violently assailed and covered with abuse. First it was Mr. Dillon and Mr. O'Brien who were assailed. Then Mr. Davitt and Mr. Sexton are included in the attack. In the letter which we publish to-day attack is poured out upon the Chairman of the party, and in a still more offensive form on Mr. Blake. It is not needed to offer one word of vindication on Mr. Blake's behalf from the jibes levelled against him by Mr. Healy. We believe that in Ireland and America that disgraceful attack will be read with unanimous disgust. It is not needed to remind the Irish people of the sacrifices Mr. Blake has made and the services he has rendered to the Irish cause. Since he abandoned a splendid position in Canada to throw himself into the Irish movement he has laboured to promote it with splendid ability and indomitable zeal. He has been untiring in his efforts. He has been lavish in his contributions. A cheque for £1,000 to the Election Fund is amongst the latest proofs of his devotion. If Mr. Blake is affected in the least by Mr. Healy's sneers in good company. When the Irish people see Mr. Healy abusing and denouncing jointly and severally Mr. Justin McCarthy, Mr. Davitt, Mr. Sexton, Mr. Dillon, Mr. O'Brien and Mr. Blake, completely unaffected by a 38 to 14 vote against him in the party, they will draw their own inferences as to his methods and his objects.

This is the real feeling of the Irish people. We need hardly suggest that the Irishmen of Canada, especially of this city, offer Mr. Blake on his arrival here a sincere expression of their gratitude and appreciation of his magnificent work in the Irish cause. They, of course, will regard

it as unfortunate and deplorable that Mr. Healy has turned out so badly; but let that be forgotten in the cordiality of a hearty welcome home.

Tory Home Rule.

The speech of Mr. Gerald Balfour in the House of Commons shows that he is not only a man of facts, like his brother, but that the Conservative Government is prepared to condescend to Irish demands some measure of reform all round. Journalists on this side of the water who are asserting the contrary either do not read Conservative opinion in England, or they are talking nonsense through sheer love of the blatherskite role. This statement is made quite impartially, and is intended to apply to papers on both sides of opinion concerning the Irish question. When we have a paper like The London Saturday Review, ultra-Tory as it always has been, declaring in one issue that "in face of the increased Home Rule majority in Ireland it would be simple folly to ignore the prevalent opinion of the country and to proceed during the next few years as if nothing had happened"; pressing that view forward week after week, and declaring that it is the opinion shared by all the Conservative organs of the country; when we find The Spectator outlining the policy of the Government with confidence that suggests inspiration, what is the use of denying the signs of the times?

Ireland has spoken with convincing determination, and the steadfastness of her leaders like Mr. McCarthy, Mr. Blake and Mr. Dillon has captured the admiration of the thinking public men and electors of England. Two anti-Home Rule members have been defeated and their seats taken for the national cause. Not only that, but in every Home Rule constituency through the country, with two exceptions in a city of Dublin, the Home Rule majorities have been increased.

The Government realizes that the Irish verdict is supported by 10,000, 000 of Catholic British subjects throughout the Empire; and unless Conservatives are hopelessly blind to their present opportunity, they cannot permit it to escape them.

The Spectator's policy in brief is this: endowment of a Catholic university in Ireland; the removal of discrimination in Catholic elementary education, and liberal grants to all the schools; an honest land act; the creation of county councils, and a central legislative body in Dublin. The Spectator comes out and plumply asserts that the Government of Ireland has heretofore been a record of scandalous failure, and that it must be ended without delay. In no Conservative paper is this policy called by the name of Home Rule, but we have to await the mature presentation of it before we can say how much Home Rule it implies. *Clam. J. C.*

A Remarkable Jubilee.

The Italian Chamber having risen, the Government can devote more time to the preparations that are going forward for the celebration of United Italy's silver jubilee on the 20th September.

This has been, indeed, a remarkable year for jubilees, but there surely has been no more remarkable event of the kind ever witnessed than that for which Italy is now making ready. In five and twenty years the country has gone into hopeless, helpless bankruptcy, poverty has depressed the masses so heavily as to paralyze public opinion and political and social corruption have eaten into the vitals of administration.

In the Parliament just closed Premier Crispi stood his tongue in his cheek, and stood in brazen silence under accusations of personal wrongdoing which would have roused the sense of shame even in a Tammany Hall boss. And Crispi is typical of his political majority, which, sharing in his corruption, supports him with the honor that is attributed to thieves as long as they have the hop of the ball.

The only actual fact the Italian Government can afford to jubilate over is the continued imprisonment of Pope Leo XIII. But while the politicians have earned the ridicule and contempt of the world, Christian civilization has learned to give homage to Pope Leo with more significant testimonies and demonstrations of admiration than have ever marked the reign of any Pontiff before him. In

addition thereto the faith that seemed almost dead in Italy has in the late municipal elections shown unmistakable signs of revival, and it is not impossible to perceive the beginning of the end of unaligned secularism.

So will United Italy celebrate this silver jubilee. If it is to be a jubilee of silver speech alone we can comprehend it, for there is no denying the almost unlimited possession of that sort of currency by Crispi and his conferees.

Europe and Armenia.

In his great speech at Chester on the 6th Mr. Gladstone paid a marked compliment to an Irish Catholic journalist, Dr. Dillon, of The London Daily Telegraph, who, at the peril of his life, went into Armenia and brought out the truth concerning the almost incredible outrages which the Turkish Government has been perpetrating upon the Christian people of that unhappy country. "I name him with honor," said Mr. Gladstone, speaking of the journalist, "he went into Turkey laudably making use of disguise for the purpose of getting into Armenia that he might make himself thorough master of all the facts." The evidence which Dr. Dillon has published in The Telegraph and The Contemporary Review, it is impossible to exaggerate. "The whole substance," said Mr. Gladstone, "may be summed up in the four awful words, plunder, murder, rape and torture." "And," he continued, "there is not one of these misdeeds for which the Government at Constantinople is not morally responsible." The Sultan's Government disarmed the Armenians and then turned the Turkish cavalry and the Kurds upon them. This, too, in spite of the fact that the Powers of Europe have the right to march into Armenia and turn out the Turks. And it must come to forcible ejection before very long, else the extermination of the Christian population in the cradle of civilization will have been completed.

A. O. H.

The Hibernians of this city had a beautiful day for their outing on the 14th; and the stately Chippewa has seldom carried a party better pleased with the incidents of the trip, going and coming across the lake. At an early hour in the morning the members of the Order, wearing their handsome badges, made their way to Yonge street wharf, and by seven o'clock the large steamer was loaded with Celts, young and old, of both sexes, and as happy as the day and its surroundings could possibly make them.

A run of about two and a half hours brought the excursionists to the old town at the foot of Brock's monument; and from this point they were ferried to Lewiston, the shallow water preventing the Chippewa touching the latter port. Taking the train for the Falls the party shortly arrived at Suspension Bridge, where the greater part of it got off and received a cordial greeting from local Division No. 1. Forming into line the visiting brethren were conducted to Orchard Park, where they were hospitably entertained, and where also the games and amusements took place and continued till the moment of departure. The baseball match between the Wellingtons of Toronto and the Senecas of Niagara Falls was a fine test of strength and skill; but the Canucks were too much for the American boys, whose score was a third below that of their competitors. Still it must be seen that the Senecas played a manly game, and if they did not win, they deserved to win.

Those who went up to the Falls were well repaid by the many interesting sights always to be seen there. A few crossed the bridge to the Canadian side, and, taking the electric railway, went as far as the road goes—to Chippewa. The scenery along the route is delightfully impressive. Victoria Park, Dufferin islands, and Loreto Convent on the one hand, and the ceaseless flow of the great cataract on the other, make an object-lesson that is not soon forgotten.

For the opportunity of witnessing these grand sights, and in many cases renewing old acquaintances, as well as for the privilege of inspecting several of the large factories—among them the new and costly paper mill—thanks are due the Hibernians of Toronto. The committee of management did everything to make their friends comfortable—and they succeeded admirably. The conveyance by the swift and spacious steamer Chippewa and Chioara was a delight in itself; the music—furnished by O'Connell Band—was rich in Irish melody; and the care and attention of the steamer's officers, left nothing to be desired. The excursion, from beginning to end, was marked with good-fellowship, and all felt that a very pleasant day had passed.