

THE TRUE WITNESS

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The Post Printing & Publishing Company, MONTREAL, CANADA.

WEDNESDAY.....MAY 9, 1883.

CATHOLIC CALENDAR.

THURSDAY, 10.—Octave of the Ascension. SS. Gordianus and Epimachus, MM. FRIDAY, 11.—Finding of the Holy Cross (May 3). Bp. Lavallee, Louisville, died, 1867.

MONDAY, 14.—Whit-Monday. TUESDAY, 15.—Whit-Tuesday. WEDNESDAY, 16.—Of the Octave. Ember Day. Fast.

The United States have some difficulty in keeping their little standing army together. About four thousand men out of a total of twenty-five thousand deserted last year.

Our covetous M. P.'s want another increase in their salaries to the extent of \$100,000, or an additional \$500 each to their present indemnity of \$1,000.

The following despatch is a perfect reflection of the way in which justice is administered in a portion of the British Empire:—"The Grand Jury, at Dublin, have been summoned to meet tomorrow to find bills against the men charged with conspiracy to murder."

FRANZIS MANN, the Little Rideon murderer has been accorded another lease of life. This wretch was arraigned on May 1st at the Assize Court of L'Original on seven distinct charges, four of which were for murder outright, and three for assaulting with intent to kill.

A press despatch informs us that some of the members of the recent Convention were authorized agents of the English Government. What, if they were? The Government is very foolish in spending its money on "authorized agents," when the press of the country has been to such expense in sending hundreds of correspondents and reporters to criticize and take note of the proceedings at the Convention, to be afterwards given world-wide circulation.

Ma. Gladstone seems to be coming to grief between two stools—Affirmation and Coercion. By his coercive policy he has irrevocably alienated the sympathies of a large number of Irish representatives and English Radicals, while by the extreme liberality of his Affirmation bill he has forfeited the support of the more Conservative members of the Whig party.

he would vote against Sir Stafford's motion. These are two heavy knock-downs for the Premier, and it will be no surprise to soon see him knocked clean out of the saddle. "TEAR" Dublin Grand Jury did its business well and faithfully. After returning true bills in every case, but one, it avowed to the Court its inability of finding a true bill against Thomas Martin. The Court informed the gentlemen of the Grand Jury that a true bill was also expected from them against Martin, and sent them back to consider his case. Like true men the Grand Jury returned to their deliberations, and without delay or hesitation returned a true bill against Martin, whom, a few minutes before, they had found entirely innocent of the charge preferred against him. Consistency is evidently at a discount with Dublin Grand Jurors. With them it is not so much a matter of bearing testimony to, or shielding the innocence of an accused, as of paying humble submission and respectful obedience to the commands of the Castle when it has marked out an individual for slaughter.

One of the best acts of the New York Legislature, which has just adjourned, was the passage of a bill for the preservation and security of the natural beauty surrounding the Niagara Falls. Governor Cleveland, unlike his predecessor, aided the scheme, and when the bill was presented last no time in signing it. He has, moreover, appointed a good commissioner to carry out its provisions. For some years past, private interests were fast disfiguring and ruining the scenery of the Falls, and it was time for this action to be taken. But as this will only affect the American side of Niagara, the question suggests itself what is going to be done to save the Canadian side from disfigurement. Will the Ontario Government follow in the footsteps of its New York neighbor and do its share of the work in protection of the Falls? There are not too many Niagaras, and it would be well to do what can be done to save our half of this one.

The London Universe, which is one of the most sober and serious journals in Great Britain, has the following weighty and significant remarks on the political situation as it affects England and Ireland. It says:—"England cannot now afford to treat Ireland with contempt. She feels that she must count with her and listen to her appeals; and, unfortunately, history teaches us that piling appeals avails little, but that those backed by the will of a determined multitude have generally coerced attention. The Duke of Wellington avowed that he advised Catholic Emancipation to be granted in order to avert the horrors of civil war. It is patent to any statesman, who can read the signs of the times, that civil war may break out in Ireland within the next decade, unless Home Rule be granted. Civil war is a terrible calamity, one of the bitterest poisons which can be emptied from the vial of wrath. We pray, with all the sincerity and earnestness of our heart, that it may be staved off, and we believe it will be. It is our firm conviction, and we are confirmed in it by the opinion of an illustrious Irishman, a high officer of the Crown, whose name we are not at liberty to mention, that O'Connell's dream will be realized, and an Irish Parliament convoked in College Green before six years shall have elapsed."

Justice in the Dublin trials is becoming inconsistent. "Skin the goat," alias Fitzharris, charged with being one of the principals in the Phoenix Park tragedy, has been acquitted. The very same evidence of the informers, which justified a verdict of guilty in the cases of Brady and Curley, was given against Fitzharris, and it was, moreover, corroborated by independent witnesses, who swore they saw him in the Park on the 8th of May. This favorable verdict is all the more remarkable by the fact that the prisoner failed or refused to call a solitary witness to say a good word on his behalf. There was no attempt made to prove an alibi or to make any other mode of defence. The testimony of the informers and the corroborations of the independent witnesses remained uncontradicted on every point. One would imagine that in such a situation the jury could have no other alternative but to render a verdict of guilty. But strange to chronicle, the jury decided otherwise, and Fitzharris will not keep company with Brady and Curley on the gallows for having kept company with them in the Park. A question suggests itself at this juncture: If the evidence against Fitzharris was not sufficient to hang him, how is it that identically the same evidence was found sufficient to hang his two companions, Brady and Curley? It is singular; it is mysterious!

The following cablegram from Dublin is very suggestive, and throws considerable light upon the tactics of the Government. It reads:—"Dublin, May 1.—Nevin, arrested on Saturday, charged with conspiracy to murder, and who turned informer, has been released. It is believed he knows nothing of any conspiracy."

Here we have a man arrested and charged with a terrible crime by the Castle officials. The man is innocent, but feeling that a "charge is equivalent to a conviction," he resolves on saving his own life by swearing away that of others, who are equally innocent. He is surrounded by detectives and magistrates, and he avows his purpose of turning informer. The Government accepts his proposal, and he begins to let the police into the secrets of a terrible conspiracy to murder. There is delight in the Castle over the discovery of another gang of assassins, and Nevin is petted, well fed, and promised scores of good things. At the expiration of forty-eight hours, however, there was quite a

transformation in his case. The Castle began to smile, and the police saw that Nevin was nothing but a bogus or fraudulent informer, trying to save his own life, and that there was but little chance of hanging men who would be arrested on the strength of his information. It had become too palpably evident that the conspiracy to murder on which he informed never had an existence, so the best thing the Government could do was to let Nevin go quietly, which they did. This is only an illustration of how Dublin Castle manufactures evidence and creates assassination plots for the purpose of killing off its opponents, intimidating the people and affording a pretext for coercive legislation. It is no exaggeration to say that at least half of the plots to murder are hatched within the Castle.

CARDINAL MCLOSKY ENDORSES THE PHILADELPHIA CONVENTION.

The new President of the Irish National League of America, Mr. Alexander Sullivan, waited upon Cardinal McCloskey yesterday and was warmly greeted by this holy and venerable dignitary of the Church. His Eminence congratulated Mr. Sullivan on his election to the presidency of the League and heartily endorsed the action of the Philadelphia Convention. The struggles for liberty and justice have always received the endorsement and support of the Catholic Church—a fact which some people seem to be unacquainted with, or attempt to deny. We expect to hear from London in a few days that Cardinal McCloskey is wanted in Rome to receive conjointly with Archbishop Croke, a rebuke or admonition from the Holy Father for his encouragement to the Irish National League in its fight against the British Government for the rights of an oppressed people. This action of His Eminence is in the meantime a crushing reply to that lying report cabled from Downing street that the Pope had condemned all those who had taken part in the agitation against the paternal (?) government of England, and that His Holiness would refuse to confer the honor of the Episcopacy on any priest who sided with the people against Dublin Castle. Nothing else was wanted to complete the already immense success of the Philadelphia Convention than the warm endorsement of the Cardinal and Archbishop of the American metropolis, and nothing more is wanted to ensure the prosperity and usefulness of the Irish National League in America than the blessing of His Eminence. With right and justice on its side, and backed by religion the Irish cause must ultimately succeed.

IMMIGRANTS REFUSING TO EAT MEAT.

Yesterday Mr. Daley, Dominion Immigration Agent, with his assistants, had their hands unusually full, as they had to care for no less than 2,450 immigrants who arrived via Quebec at the Tanneries depot outside the city. These new comers to the Dominion were largely Irish, the rest being composed of English and Scotch people. The former had shipped from Blackhead Bay, Ireland, and intended to settle in Ontario and Manitoba as farmers. They were well dressed, and apparently formed some of the best bone and sinew of their native land. During their stay at the Tanneries for refreshments, an incident occurred which caused no little wonder and admiration among the spectators. On the arrival of the train Mr. Daley ushered the immigrants into the spacious eating room, where tables were abundantly covered with vegetables, meats, etc. All seemed to be doing full justice to the meal except the Irish; not that they were not as hungry as their fellow-immigrants, for they had not tasted food since their departure from Quebec, but they refused to eat the proffered meats on principle; it was Friday. Mr. Daley remonstrated with them, and endeavored to persuade them that travellers under their circumstances were not expected to adhere to the strict observance of the rule of abstinence regarding meat; it was useless, however, and notwithstanding the kind-hearted remonstrances of the Agent, and the tempting appearance and odor of the viands, these Irish immigrants could not be prevailed upon on any consideration to break the law of abstinence, and contented themselves with plain bread and butter to appease their appetites. The incident is significant, and is only another slight proof or illustration of the unalterable allegiance of the Irish people to the practice of their Faith. In the meantime would it not be well that the officials should respect the religious convictions of the immigrants, and prepare a meal which could be partaken of on Friday without any violation of conscience, real or imaginary?

HANGING AND EXTRADITING.

In the estimation of all intelligent people who will give the subject a minute's consideration, it should require much less evidence to justify a demand for the extradition of an accused party than it would to justify a sentence of death against him. This proposition is clear and cannot be controverted, for it is evident that, if there is not sufficient evidence to extradite the accused, the insufficiency of that evidence becomes greater when it becomes a question of hanging him. The British Government, however, in dealing out justice to Irishmen have pursued a directly opposite course. They have passed sentences of death on evidence which they dare not offer to a foreign friendly power as sufficient to secure the extradition of accused parties. The British Cabinet held a special meeting to consider the question of the extradition of Sheridan and Walsh. The meeting was divided on the question whether the Government had cause sufficient to demand the surrender of these men from the

United States, although the Dublin Judge and Juries were undivided, were unanimous in declaring that there was cause sufficient to hang the alleged subordinates of Sheridan and Walsh and Tynan. This inconsistency, if its significance is not misleading, tells the tale of a most horrible outrage on justice and on the lives of the men sentenced to death. Lord Granville, unlike Judge O'Brien, took the ground that the English Government was far from being prepared to ask for the extradition of the alleged leaders of the Invincibles, and he was convinced that unless the Government was better equipped with stronger evidence, extradition would be refused by the United States. Now, the evidence which Lord Granville declares insufficient to extradite, is exactly of the same calibre as that which Judge O'Brien found sufficient to sentence to death. Is this not a rather unequal and inconsistent way of dealing out justice? Lord Granville further advised the Cabinet to withhold the demand for extradition until the Government case could be strengthened by further evidence; would it not also be in order to advise the postponement of the execution of the men sentenced to death until the case against them could be fortified by less doubtful testimony? No subordinate should be hung when his leader cannot be extradited on the same evidence.

TREE CULTURE.

The Provincial Government have done a wise thing in setting apart a special day to be devoted to the planting of trees in the cities, towns and rural districts of the country. In many of the neighboring States this wholesome custom prevails, and Arbor Day is a holiday looked forward to with general interest and pleasure. The results have already been so salutary and fruitful in every way, that the example is being more and more widely followed. On account of the variable climate of the Province, it has been found necessary to divide it into two sections, called the Western and Eastern Divisions, and a different day is appointed in each for the purposes of the Act as lately passed. In the Western Division the day set apart is the 7th of May, and in the Eastern Division, the 16th. On those days the Lieut.-Governor in his Proclamation earnestly recommends to all the inhabitants of the Province to devote their time to the planting of forest trees; and requests all municipal, religious and scholastic bodies to co-operate for the success of this new work in this Province, and which promises important results in the near future. It is satisfactory to find that this recommendation of His Honor is being heartily acted upon, and that the inauguration of the first Arbor Day will be attended with interesting ceremonies, which will make it attractive and give it all due prominence. Hon. Mr. Beaubien, representing the Agricultural Exhibition Society, is moving in the matter, and has enlisted the co-operation and services of the City Fathers. The Road Committee has made arrangements for the planting, on Monday, the 7th inst., of all shade trees which will be planted this year and they have also provided 600 more to be planted in the parks and squares throughout the city. The benefits to be derived from the planting of trees along our spacious streets, or on private property, cannot be over estimated, either from an ornamental, financial or sanitary standpoint. The attractiveness of a city or town is largely secured, when its streets are lined on each side with rows of stately trees, while shrubbery and shade trees add strikingly to the beauty and comfort of a residence, and, as a consequence, its rental value. But it is from the sanitary point of view that the best arguments can be derived in favor of an Arbor Day. A town or city plentifully supplied with shade trees is, all other things being equal, more healthy to live in than one that is not. They purify the air by absorbing a great deal of the miasmatic atoms and noxious gases which fill the enclosed atmosphere of a city. It is to be hoped, therefore, that our first Arbor Day will be auspiciously inaugurated, and that the importance of tree culture will make itself felt more and more every succeeding year.

DEFEAT OF GLADSTONE'S GOVERNMENT.

A test vote was reached yesterday in the House of Commons on the Affirmation bill, by which the Liberal Government had undertaken to extend to avowed atheists, or agnostics, the same political rights and privileges which are enjoyed by all the rest of her Majesty's subjects. The bill had, in the strictest sense, been made a Ministerial measure, and as such the House divided on it; the result has been a serious defeat for the Gladstone Government, as the bill was thrown out by a vote of 292 to 289—or a majority of three in almost a full House. The defeat will leave the Cabinet in a more awkward plight, since it was only the other day that the Premier advocated the necessity of passing the bill in a speech of unsurpassed power and eloquence, which amply showed the intensity of his own convictions in regard to the measure and to the duty of the Liberal party. It was confidently expected that the impression which he then made on the recalcitrant and wavering section of his followers would be so deep and effective as to secure a small majority for the bill. But the Premier counted without his real host, the Irish members who, to the number of fifty, voted against the bill. It was this action of the Irish representatives, who held the balance of power, that forced this exceptionally strong Government under water. Gladstone, in his speech endorsing the Affirmation Bill, declared that tampering with a majestic principle could be no longer suffered, and that he would sooner see the Liberal ship go down, if sink it must, with the flag of

religious toleration nailed to the mast. This declaration, to all intents and purposes, is equivalent to an avowal that the defeat of the measure in the House of Commons would be regarded as a vote of less confidence, and, if so, will the present rejection of the measure, by a clear majority of Parliament, be met by an appeal to the electors? It looks as if Mr. Gladstone had no other honorable mode of getting out of the difficulty, created by his own eloquence, except he wants to swallow the dishonor of defeat. There is one lesson pointed out in this vote, and it is, that Ireland has only to send a united and resolute band of seventy or eighty members who will hold the balance of power between the two great English parties, not only in certain contingencies and on certain occasions few and far between, but always and on every question. The Irish party could then dictate to the British Parliament by holding the power to make or unmake Governments, and the situation would be beautifully reversed. One of three things would happen—Ireland would either rule England, or England would have to give up party government by confounding the Tories and Whigs to meet and oppose the Irish representatives, or England would have to give the Irish party their ticket of leave, to set up Parliament for themselves in College Green. Now, England would never stand being governed or dictated to by Ireland, nor would her Tories and Radicals ever combine or work together, for there is too much of the devil in the one and too much of holy water in the other; then the only alternative left would be to get rid of the subversive and disturbing element and let it take itself off to the banks of the Liffey. That things will come to such a pass, in one way or the other, we have not the slightest doubt.

THE CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY.

Sir Charles Tupper delivered his annual statement on the Canadian Pacific Railway in the House of Commons last Friday evening. In spite of the feeble state of his health, the Hon. Minister of Railways held the attention of the House for over three hours, and was listened to with deep and general interest. This, and probably his last effort, was fully worthy of his parliamentary record as an eloquent speaker and able exponent of the Ministerial policy and plans. Sir Charles' statement of the great national railway enterprise was as favorable as it was elaborate and complete. The sanguine expectations which the Government had entertained two years ago had been more than realized, and the Minister had no hesitation in expressing his belief that before the end of 1886 through communication by rail would be opened between the Atlantic and Pacific borders of the Dominion if the same progress would be made in the future as was made in the past. This would be four-and-a-half years sooner than was required by the contract. This fact the Minister maintained, went a long way to disprove the assertion of the Opposition that all of the resources of the Dominion were not sufficient to secure the completion of the road in ten years. He ventured to say, in fact, that there was no precedent in the world for such rapid progress in such an immense undertaking. For the benefit of those who will have to travel over the road later on, assurance was given that this rapidity in the construction of the railway would not interfere with its efficiency, solidity or safety, for reliable railway men declared the road, so far built to be first class in every respect. The danger of steep grades would be avoided as much as possible, and between Montreal and the Rocky Mountain pass no grade will measure more than fifty-two feet in the mile. On the other side of the Rockies, however, there would be grades of about 116 feet in the mile which Sir Charles admitted would be a disadvantage, but which he considered would be outweighed by the many advantages in opening up the most valuable portions of British Columbia. The change in the selection of the Kicking Horse Pass would make the distance from Callander to Fort Moody 2,528 miles which would shorten the road by 119 miles as compared with the Yellow Head Pass and round by the head of the Columbia River. Sir Charles also dwelt upon the immense expenditures already incurred by the Company and pointed out that for the single item of locating the line up to date the sum of \$655,976 had been expended, and that it would probably reach a round million before the completion of the line. The Government has, so far, paid to the Company \$3,174,011 cash and 7,879,100 acres of land. The total cash outlay on the sections of the railway being built under the charge of the Government has been \$20,266,883. Sir Charles also stated that out of the seven million dollars paid to the company, no less than \$6,497,788 had been expended for equipment of the road and rolling stock, and of this last amount the country had received \$835,521 in the way of Customs duties levied on the material brought in by the company. He expects, moreover, to see the rest of the twenty-five millions, which the Government are to grant to the company, expended for rolling stock and the simple equipment of the road. Besides the building of the main line, which is the only one stipulated for in the Canadian Pacific contract, the company has of its own accord and without any aid from the Dominion, undertaken to build extensive branch lines, which will not only tend to increase the through traffic but will especially tend to the development of the Northwest in several directions at the same time. Some 561 miles of this branch line have been projected, and of which 145 have been so far completed as to permit of the

running of trains. Sir Charles Tupper concluded his able statement by recapitulating the many advantages which would accrue to the country at large from the building of this great national highway.

PROTECTION FOR THE WORKING CLASSES.

The Factory Bill, introduced into the House by Sir Leonard Tilley, is a piece of legislation which should have been enacted long ago. The working classes have received but very light protection from the law, and far-far treatment had to depend upon the good will and kindness of their employers. In all manufacturing countries government interference has been found necessary to protect the health and life of those employed in factories. Manufacturers may work irreparable ruin to the population of a community by subjecting their hundreds of employees to exhausting and dangerous labor, long hours, unhealthy surroundings and insufficient protection from accidents.

The proposed law for the Dominion, in its several provisions, tends to the protection of life and health to a certain extent. The measure contains in the first place a lengthy list of the different classes of factories to which it will apply, and declares that it includes any premises, room or place in which steam water or other mechanical power is used to move or work any machinery employed in preparing or manufacturing or finishing any article, substance, material, fabric or compound, or in which any manual labor is exercised by way of trade or for purposes of gain on the making, altering, repairing, ornamenting, or finishing of any article, or adopting it for sale. The main provisions of the bill are that no child can be employed in any factory who is under the age of 12 years, nor a child between 12 and 15 years, unless the employer can produce a certificate as to age and place of birth, to be verified by the inspector of factories. No woman or child must be employed for longer than 10 hours a day, or 60 hours a week; they shall have at least one hour at noon for dinner, and if the inspector orders, the meals shall not be taken in the room where work is carried on. It will be unlawful to keep a factory in which the life of any person there employed is likely to be endangered. All dangerous structures, such as machinery, apparatus, elevators, hoists, hatchways, etc. must be properly guarded. Every factory must be sufficiently ventilated and kept in a cleanly state and free from filth arising from water closets or drains. They must not be overcrowded, and must be provided with separate closets for the sexes. Machinery and steam engines cannot be cleaned while in motion. Proper appliances must be kept for extinguishing fires, and fire escapes shall be provided in all buildings over two stories in height. All these provisions are just and proper, as far as they go, but the bill fails to sufficiently cover the ground in regard to the employment of children. A child of twelve years, even with a certificate from his parent or guardian, is too young to be placed in a factory to work from seven o'clock in the morning till six at night. The country should be able to fill its orders without extracting labor, and so much of it, out of our childhood. If we want to have a robust manhood do not encourage unhealthy youth, tired and broken down by premature hard work. In France experience has taught the legislators that more care should be taken of the youth of the country, and a Government decree has just been issued relating to the employment of children in factories. It is absolutely forbidden to let boys under seventeen or girls under eighteen years of age to work in mills. It is also prohibited to employ children in the manufacture of certain dangerous chemicals. Neither can they be employed in manufacturing bone, horn, or like articles, the dust of which is injurious to the lungs, nor in business involving risk to life and limbs. The decree, moreover, regulates the amount of work which they must not surpass, as for instance to draw any vehicle which, together with the load, shall weigh more than 200 pounds. These are provisions which will safeguard not only the life of the working classes, but will ensure the growing strength of the population. There is one clause in Sir Leonard's bill which will create havoc among the provisions relating to the hours of labor for women and children. By this clause the Inspector will be given the power to allow manufacturers to keep their female and youthful employees at work from six in the morning till nine o'clock at night, if the exigency of trade, custom or accident to the factory should demand it. Work of this duration, however must not extend over six weeks. But even with this restrictive period no child or woman should be allowed to work from six in the morning to nine at night. This clause will open the door to abuses which will lead to incalculable damage to the strength, vigor and health of the children and women. Ten hours a day is long enough at any time, if not too long. Exigency of health should pass before exigency of trade, and the conservation of the physical powers should not be interfered with on account of accidents to the factories. Sir Leonard Tilley's Bill, remedied and amended in these respects, will then prove an acceptable boon to the working classes and an adequate safeguard for the health and strength of the population of the country.

MEETING OF PARNELLITES.

LONDON, May 8.—At a meeting of Parnellite members of Parliament last night, at which Mr. Parnell presided, a motion was passed in favor of the formation of a sub-committee on "matters of foreign and colonial affairs and local affairs; the committee to be composed of five members.