

The Catholic Record.

Published weekly at 41 and 43 Richmond street, London, Ontario.

Price of subscription—\$2.00 per annum.

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Publisher and Proprietor, THOMAS COFFEY.

Agents for Advertising—Ten cents per line each insertion.

Approved by the Archbishop of Toronto.

Correspondence intended for publication.

Persons writing for change of address.

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London, Sat., Sept. 13th, 1890.

THE EQUAL RIGHTERS' LATEST EXHIBITION.

The bogus association, which delights to call itself by the name of "the Equal Rights Union," is laboring to revive the issue which predominated during the recent election campaign.

At the meeting there was but a small attendance, the hall presenting for the most part an array of empty seats.

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Such nonsense as this was swallowed eagerly enough by the "independent intelligence and worth" that were listening to the two professors.

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description of the man in buckram whom the fat knight's valor put hors du combat.

We never for a moment supposed that either Ontario or Quebec is entirely free from fanaticism, but we had confidence, and we so expressed ourselves in the CATHOLIC RECORD, that the good-will which prevails in both provinces between Catholic and Protestant neighbors would be a sufficient obstacle to the success of a cry which could only result in discord and ill feeling.

Professor Smith's address was supposed to be the speech of the evening; but he and Dr. Caven were about equally lugubrious in lamenting the failure of their movement which was inaugurated with such a flourish of trumpets, though both endeavored to conceal their discomfiture by expressing confidence in the final triumph of the principles they maintain.

It would not be possible within the space at our disposal in this issue to follow up all the erroneous statements of the two Professors respecting Ultramontaniam and Jesuitism.

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set the Pope is judge, but his judgment is given, not as depending on his personal will, but on divine revelation.

The admirable pastoral letter which has been issued by His Grace the Archbishop of St. Boniface, and which appeared in the CATHOLIC RECORD of last week, states accurately and eloquently the grievous wrong which has been inflicted on the Catholic body of the Province of Manitoba by the recent school legislation.

His Grace's pastoral is to be followed by a petition to the Governor General in Council to interfere, in accordance with the provisions of the British North America Act, to prevent the consummation of the grave iniquity which has been perpetrated on the Catholic minority, so far as it is in the power of the Provincial Legislature to perpetrate it.

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THE MANITOBA SCHOOL LAW.

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deep seated hostility to Catholicism, and that the whole system will work according to Protestant ideas."

Mr. Dalton McCarthy had influence enough to induce the Manitoba Government to inflict this gross injustice on the peaceable and law-abiding Catholics of the Province, but we are convinced that the better feelings of those Protestants who love fair play will in the end prevail, and that there will be a reaction against the injustice even in Manitoba.

It will be observed that the increase of the French in Ontario is much more rapid than in New Brunswick or Nova Scotia. No doubt the census of 1891 will exhibit more startling figures than these.

The most startling thing about the matter is the complete lack of understanding displayed by the Mail in regard to the lesson which the figures tell. The increase of population of French origin in the four provinces indicated is 349 per cent. in twenty years, which, mathematically calculated, amounts to less than 11.7 per cent. for each decade separately taken, whereas the increase of total population in the four provinces named was over 16 per cent. during the latter of the two decades; and, if the North West, Manitoba and British Columbia be taken into the account, the disproportion in the French increase will appear still more manifest.

Of course the actual state of the case is to be attributed in great measure to two causes: one, the large emigration of French-Canadians to the United States, the other, the immigration of other nationalities into Canada, and particularly into the English speaking provinces, but, contrary to the Mail's alarming or startling inference, the fact remains that the French-Canadians are not gaining, nor are they at all likely to gain a preponderance in the Dominion, nor even in the province of Ontario, notwithstanding the very large percentage of increase which the above figures show that they have gained in this province.

It does not appear from the figures that even in Quebec the population of French origin are increasing on a par with the general population of the Province. The population increased over 14 per cent. during the decade from 1871 to 1881, whereas the figures given above show that the increase of population of French origin during the two decades was only 26.7 per cent. This indicates during each decade an increase of less than 11.3 per cent. in the population of French origin.

But it is true that the figures show a large increase of French-Canadians in Ontario. This is undoubtedly owing to the fact that many French-Canadians think they will better themselves by moving into this Province. Still it cannot occur that French-Canadians will preponderate in Ontario. This would not be the case even if the whole French-Canadian population of Quebec were to move into Ontario, which is an impossible hypothesis.

Whatever may be the extent to which French-Canadians may settle in Ontario, at the present time, they certainly cannot come in such numbers as to justify the fear that they will in time outnumber the English speaking population. There may be temporarily a large increase in the French Canadian population of the Province, but such increase can only be temporary, and it must necessarily be limited by the proportion in which the French and English-speaking populations stand towards each other in the two Provinces.

In the conviction that an increase in the population of our Province benefits the Province generally, we hold out inducements to foreigners to settle here. It would be very foolish if while we invite Icelanders, Russian and German, Jews and Mennonites, and Heligolanders to settle in the Dominion, we were to throw obstacles in the way of our own fellow citizens, Canadians by birth, from moving from one Province to the other if they see fit.

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agreeing with the Mail that it would be an evil if French-Canadians would settle in Ontario in large numbers. They are peaceful, industrious, and law-abiding citizens, and we ought to welcome them to the Province more heartily than we would welcome foreigners. But it is absurd to entertain a fear that they may in time preponderate over the rest of the population. The 102,743 persons of French origin living in Ontario in 1881 were but slightly over five per cent. of the population. There are, in fact, more Germans in the Province than persons of French origin, yet we do not for a moment entertain the idea that Canada will soon become a colony of the Kaiser William.

The Mail's fears are preposterous, and the expression of them can only have the effect of embittering against each other the different nationalities of the Dominion, to the injury of the country.

A CHILDREN'S RIOT.

A sad effect of religious rancor was witnessed in Toronto last week, culminating on Thursday. We clip from the Globe the following account of the occurrence.

A somewhat serious row occurred yesterday between the children attending the new Public school at the corner of Caer Howell street and those enrolled as pupils of St. Patrick's Separate school, William street.

The children go to school at the same hour, adjourn for recreation at a like time and are dismissed at 4 o'clock. They consequently meet at least three times per day, and that the meetings are not friendly past incidents as well as the present occurrence go to show. The children attending the Separate school are designated "Dogans" by those attending the Public school, while "Protestant Brats" is the name given to the Public school pupils. Yesterday, as is usual, the doubtful compliments were exchanged as some of the boys left for lunch, at noon, and a fight ensued, during which fists, stones, and school-bags were freely used.

It was renewed at 1 o'clock, when the use of stones became more general. The "Protestant Brats" cut away the "Dogans," and followed them to the school-house, where several windows were smashed in by the stones, and it was found, when studies were resumed, that the various classes were minus their more stalwart members. As matters looked serious and further trouble was anticipated the police were communicated with, and Inspector Ward, of Agnes Street Station, with two of his most active men were on hand by 4 o'clock, the hour at which school breaks up. Hearing that the windows had been broken in St. Patrick's School, they visited that building and found that very many of the pupils were detained lest the disagreeable performance of the noon should be repeated.

There was, however, a sufficiently large number of pupils abroad to create a row, and a royal row it was for the time it lasted. Boys and girls shared in the combat, and a more excited crowd of youngsters no one need care to see. Those who did not take an active part had a brother, sister or companion who did and were loud in their cries for help. Hundreds of children took part, but, as might be supposed, when the police appeared the juvenile combatants decamped. It is quite possible that a number of summonses will be issued. Inspector Ward declares that if party feeling continues to grow with the children as it appears to be growing now, he may not be surprised to see a policeman preserving order at the school gates. This is the first occasion here on which mere children have shown bitter party animosity.

Further intelligence has developed the fact that the assailants were the Public school pupils, who attacked the St. Patrick's school children without any provocation. The Mail hints at this fact, putting upon it the following gloss:

Whether justly or not, all the blame in the recent fight between the scholars of the McCaul street Public school and the St. Patrick's Separate school is laid on the Protestant youths. P. O. Tripp went to the schools yesterday and secured the names of a dozen boys who took prominent parts in the fight. They will be summoned before Magistrate Denton for breaking windows. This seems to have been the extent of the damage, though what might have resulted had the police not opportunely arrived can only be conjectured.

But on Saturday the truth of the matter was made manifest when summonses were issued against four pupils of Caer-Howell school, namely, Henry Bennett, 176 Centre street, nine years of age; Wm. Myers, 182 Centre street, twelve years; Robert Forsyth, 264 Simcoe street, eleven years; and Frederick Charleston, 248 Simcoe street, twelve years. They are members of the Public School, and will be called upon to answer a charge of "riotous and disorderly conduct." A great deal of interest is centered in the case.

It has been frequently urged by the opponents of Catholic schools that Catholic or denominational teaching results in religious rancor. It will be seen from the events of last week that religious rancor is rather a result of the Protestant split in which the Public schools are conducted. The Catholic children are taught the golden rule of Christian morality, "to love their neighbors as themselves."

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C. M. B. A. CONVENTION.

The Catholics of Montreal essentially religious people much edified last week by their midst of delegates from the Dominion, who assembled for the purpose of promoting the Catholic Mutual Benefit Association.

The quiet, solemn demeanor of five hundred men, who were drawn to St. Patrick's church in the ranks of the processional thirty or forty priests, represented every diocese in Canada, spectators fervid expressions and of thanksgiving to God, genuine Catholicity existed in the quiet city and in the most of our country. Every delegate presented a branch of the C. M. B. A. it was easy of calculation how many were benefited and how many were blessed by the provisions of a society that lightened and practical Christian all its members, and insured comfort and independence made desolate by the death winner, High Mass, at ten, was the prelude to the sessions of the convention. A blessing of God was every exercise and concluded with prayer and benediction.

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