

The Catholic Register.

"Truth is Catholic; proclaim it ever, and God will effect the rest."—BALMEZ.

VOL. III.—No. 7.

TORONTO, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1895.

PRICE 5 CENTS.

HON. WM. HARTY.

Commissioner of Public Works

An event which goes very far to prove that the old prejudices against Catholics are wearing off more and more, and that their right to a full share in the conduct of our political institutions is more and more liberally conceded, was the election the other day of Hon. Wm. Harty in the City of Kingston. The contest, like the



one which preceded it, was made bitter by those who sought to make Mr. Harty suffer because of his religion. Happily the good sense of the community prevailed and Mr. Harty who enjoys a very exceptional degree of personal popularity was returned by a handsome majority.

Mr. Harty has been a very successful business man. He has been connected with a number of large enterprises in each of which he added to his reputation as a capable administrator of affairs.

It was the widespread recognition of his ability as a successful administrator combined with his many personal attributes which ensure popularity, that marked Mr. Harty as one who could, if he chose, take a leading part in any sphere of public usefulness. When the late Hon. C. F. Fraser became so weakened in health as to be unable longer to carry on the vast work entailed upon him by his department, Mr. Harty was by common admission looked upon as his successor. After Mr. Fraser's retirement from the office of Commissioner of Public Works for the Province of Ontario Mr. Harty was taken into the cabinet and took up the duties of that office.

It will be no light undertaking, indeed, to live up to the high record for capacity, firmness and integrity, attained by Mr. Fraser; but difficult as it may be, the ever altering circumstances will find in Mr. Harty a man whose probity of character and alertness of intellect will meet the high expectations of his friends, more especially of those Catholics of whom he is, in a special sense, the representative.

JUSTIN MCCARTHY.

Appeals to the Irish People

Justin McCarthy, M. P., chairman of the Irish Parliamentary party issued, on the eve of the new parliamentary session, the appended appeal to the Irish people:

The session which is about to open will be one of decisive influence upon the future of the Irish cause. One of its first tasks will be to amend Mr. Gladstone's Irish land legislation in many vital particulars in which the purpose of the Act of 1881 have been frustrated by means of legal subtleties and partisan administrations. Overburdened as the Irish farmers are by rent fixed upon their own improvements, by seasons of failure and low prices in almost every article of their stock and produce, and by the ruinous and constantly increasing pressure of foreign competition, immediate legislative relief is a matter of life and death to the Irish agricultural population. Inasmuch as the necessity for the promised Land Bill presses with equal urgency on the Protestant farmers of Ulster, it is unlikely that the House of Lords will venture to withhold the relief which they denied last session to the evicted tenants of the South. Both the necessity and the opportunity for a measure founded on the report of Mr. Morley's committee are therefore, matters of paramount interest to the Irish people. The approaching session will also probably be the last before the appeal to the country. On its work and history will depend to a large extent the result of that appeal. If the Home Rule Government, with its slender majority, is to be enabled to put down Unionist obstruction and make its appeal to the country, under the most favourable circumstances, against the present iniquitous powers of the House of Lords, the daily, nightly, and almost hourly attendance of the Irish party in its full strength at Westminster will be more than ever the first condition of the triumph of the Irish cause at the general election. That we may be able to ensure this unremitting attendance, it becomes necessary for me, in the name of the Irish party, to make an earnest appeal to our fellow-countrymen, whose battle we are fighting, in whose confidence alone lies our influence and strength, and to whose generosity we have never looked in vain for the sustenance of an independent and vigilant Irish representation in face of the power and wealth arrayed against us.

I make that appeal in circumstances of urgency, and with the fullest confidence that the generosity and wise patriotism which has impelled the Irish people so often before to give an example to all the democracies of the world in political self-support, will also impel them to rise to the demands of the present eventful crisis in the history of Ireland.

The position of our kindred in America and Australia, in times of deep industrial depression, does not permit us to hope for any considerable or adequate assistance from them at the present moment.

In addition to the maintenance of the party in undiminished strength at Westminster throughout the session it will be necessary for us to undertake an active and costly political propaganda all over Great Britain if we are

to combat effectively the misrepresentation with which an organization of unlimited financial resources is inundating the British constituencies in view of the general election. For all these reasons, then—to ensure the passing of the Land Act that will make an adequate reduction of the rental of Ireland, to again press forward the bill for re-establishing the evicted tenants in their homes, and to prepare the way for a speedy appeal to the country under circumstances that will offer the best hope of stripping the House of Lords of that veto which now alone stands between us and the establishment of an Irish parliament and a domestic Government of Ireland—I appeal with confidence to our fellow-countrymen at this momentous time to furnish us with the means of sustaining a party whose only ambition at Westminster is to secure happiness and self-government for our people, and upon whose continued unity and incessant energy it depends whether we shall in our day see the end of the dreary and heart-breaking story of Ireland's sufferings and wrongs.

JUSTIN MCCARTHY.

Church and State.

Rev. Dr. Augustine F. Hewitt, Superior General of the Paulist Fathers, in the next issue of the Catholic World will answer the critics of the late encyclical of Pope Leo XIII. He will say: "We do not cherish any absurd wish that the United States, or any single State, should establish the Catholic religion. There is none so insane as to conspire and plot to bring about the realization of such an impossible scheme. It is true that the Pope says that the Church would bring forth more abundant fruits if, in addition to liberty, she enjoyed the favor of the laws and the patronage of the public authorities."

"Such a state of religious unity and harmony we must, of course regard as desirable, but it is only ideal, and there is no practical utility in speculations upon the happy effects it might produce. "We have no doubt that it would be the greatest possible blessing to the nation, even in temporal and worldly sense, if all or a majority of its citizens were to embrace the Catholic religion and live according to its precepts and rules. It is our duty and our right to strive for this end; but only by argument, persuasion, example and moral means.

"Our greatest jurists have declared that this is a Christian country. Sunday is recognized and its observance protected by law. Thanksgiving and fast days are proclaimed by authority. Chaplains are appointed in Legislatures, in the army and navy. Colleges under control of ecclesiastics and institutes of charity have been liberally aided, and among these have been some institutions under the direction of Catholic authorities. There is nothing in this policy which is un-American. It would be contrary to the spirit and letter of our laws to favor one denomination above others.

"It is un-American for the State to ally itself with the sect of the secularists, and to discriminate against religious societies as co-workers in the cause of religion and morality. This is not the legitimate separation of State from Church, but hostility of State against Church."

IRELAND.

Sexton, Dillon and Healy on Current Topics

A Hopeful Outlook

In a recent speech at Listowel, Kerry, Thomas Sexton delivered a speech of some length in reply to an address of confidence in himself and the Irish Parliamentary Party. After referring in terms of regret to the failure of the potato crop, Mr. Sexton pointed to the great decrease in crime Kerry and continuing said:

The Coercionists used to point to Kerry as being a black spot on the map of Ireland. They can make that claim no longer, and believe me, that the contrast between the state of Ireland under coercion in the last administration and the admirable spirit of moderation and self control in which the people of Ireland are waiting the performance of the pledges of the Liberal party, will be a lesson of inestimable value to the Irish cause when the final appeal upon Home Rule is made to the electors of Great Britain and Ireland. Another fact in the general situation is that the Irish party, your representatives, while waiting for Home Rule, have been able to give indispensable assistance to reforms required in Great Britain within the last two years. The Irish members by incessant attendance in the House of Commons have given help, and in my judgment indispensable help, to give the people of every district and in every parish of England and of Scotland the care of their own affairs. We have given to the people of London the control of their local boards. We have given to Great Britain a reform in her system of finance, by which a great part of the public burdens is transferred to capital and fortune instead of being from the wages of the laboring population. We shall certainly prove Wales in the coming session that we are willing and eager to give religious equality to her people, and when the next election comes we shall be in a stronger position than we were at the last election, for we can appeal not only to the justice of our cause, but to the sense of gratitude due to us for the service we have rendered.

CONFIDENCE IN THE LIBERAL GOVERNMENT.

I see no reason for any want of confidence or of hope. The Liberal Government are standing to their guns; the Liberal Government are solid for Home Rule. So long as the Liberals adhere to the policy of Home Rule, so long as they press it forward as circumstances allow, and there are circumstances to be considered and obstacles to be overcome, the support of Ireland is their due upon the basis of the compact, and I am here to submit to you that it is the duty of the Irish party to continue to carry out that compact, and if ever it should come to pass that a change of policy were to come to be a matter of consideration, it will be the duty of every Irish member, before any such change be made, to come to his constituents and to obtain their opinion, and to seek their sanction, and it will be the duty of all Irish members to take the judgment of the people of Ireland in National Convention.

As to the policy of the government in not forcing the Home Rule issue last year, Mr. Sexton said:—