

The True Witness

AND CATHOLIC CHRONICLE
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JNO. P. WHELAN,
Managing Director.
MONTREAL, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 1.

CATHOLIC CALENDAR

For June, 1881.
THURSDAY, 2.—Octave of the Ascension. SS. Marcellinus and Companions, Martyrs.
FRIDAY, 3.—St. George, Martyr, (April 23).
SATURDAY, 4.—Vigil of Pentecost. Fast.
SUNDAY, 5.—Pentecost, or Whit-Sunday.
MONDAY, 6.—Whit-Monday.
TUESDAY, 7.—Whit-Tuesday.
WEDNESDAY, 8.—Of the Octavo. Ember Day.

AND now the Boers are to be given the Transvaal on their own terms. Somebody has said that God would help those who helped themselves.

A DESPATCH announces that Mr. Forster has gone to Ireland in a very bad humor, and that it is expected he will vent his spleen upon the Irish people. It was not enough that the liberty of individuals should be at the mercy of evil-disposed neighbors, but now the arch oppressor has visited the country with the express purpose of still further exasperating the people.

The mild and humane London Times, which chuckled with glee over the fact that "the Celts had gone with a vengeance" from Ireland in 1847-8, is now advocating the employment of a strong military force to crush out resistance in that unfortunate country.

HIS GRACIOUS Majesty the Queen has recently performed an act which will thrill with gratitude the peoples of the three kingdoms over which she has been called to reign. A despatch announces that after a long and elaborate discussion with her son, Prince Leopold, she has invested him with the titles of Duke of Albany, Earl of Clarence, and Baron Arklow.

In connection with the mongrels who, in their laughable efforts to relieve the landlords in Ireland from the position in which they have helped to place themselves, have been frightened by the Secretary of the Tullamore Land League, who, by the way, must be a terrible fellow, it may not be out of place to relate how their loyalty and courage evaporated upon the only occasion when it was put to test as apart from the unfortunate country which gave them birth only to be disowned by them.

The terrorism which exists at the present time in Ireland has received fresh evidence in the arrest of Mr. White, Secretary of the Tullamore branch of the Land League, for intimidating an Emergency Committee. The self-sacrificing spirit which prompts the members of these Emergency Committees to deeds of daring in the interest of the poor, oppressed landlords can now be better appreciated when we learn that a member of the Land League had been detected in the act of frightening one of the Committees, and so upsetting the nerves of these heroes that they have been unable to continue the good work of buying up pigs, etc. This piece of raciality outdoes in heinousness the

crime of the little boys who were arrested for whistling at the Magistrate a short time ago.

MR. RICHARD WHITE has written a very funny letter in answer to Mr. James Stewart. The writer, perhaps, did not intend to be comical, but a perusal of his second reply to the charges brought against him must necessarily make the reader smile. He first states that he was not present at the meeting at which the Committee was struck who had charge of the celebration under discussion, but was present at the previous meeting and did move the appointment of a committee who were merely to wait on the Messrs. Allan, and if they accepted the proposed honor, to make the necessary arrangements.

THE announcement that the Princess Louise, Marchioness of Lorne, is not to return to Canada this summer causes some comment in Canadian newspapers. Some of them go so far as to insult the lady by saying that she was never asked to come, while others aver that if she is a representative of the Imperial theme her presence in the democratic soil of Canada is a mistake.

BE-KNIGHTED CANADIANS.

No doubt the advice would be gladly adopted by very many of our public men if the opportunity to do so was afforded them, but, on the other hand, it is to be hoped that there are some who think that the word "Mr." is quite as honorable a handle to a name as any other in use. There have been proportionately more scamps and less honor among individuals bearing titles than among the "lower" classes of human beings, and why these distinguishing prefixes should be so highly valued by certain people is a problem for which no sensible man would be able to offer a solution.

HOLIDAY EXCURSION TRIPS.

The many jests which have from time to time been made by the papers of rival cities at the expense of London, Ont., in reference to the River Thames and the navigation thereon, were answered yesterday with an emphasis which will wither the smile on the jester's lips, and turn a fruitful subject for jokes into as prolific a source for the commentaries of the moralist. It was humorously said of the river in question, that excursion boats were frequently stranded on oyster cans or sardine boxes, when it became necessary for some of the male passengers to chivalrously volunteer to wade in the water and shove the steamer from its fixed position; that when an animal entered to drink all the boats in the river touched bottom; that steamers had frequently to be propelled by boat-hooks.

ber will not be missing this morning. The despatch announcing the calamity stated that the steambot was over-crowded to a disgraceful extent, and that the manager, when expostulated with, replied that he knew his own business, or words to that effect. He will now be required to make fuller explanations. That there was criminal carelessness exhibited cannot for a moment be doubted, and that the criminal will be allowed to escape justice is not at all probable. In fact it would be better for himself that he was at once placed under lock and key, for the maddened relatives of the unfortunate victims may not stop to reason that the excursionists were themselves to blame, to a certain extent, before attempting to take the law into their own hands.

THE SITUATION IN IRELAND.

The clouds hanging over poor Erin are gradually darkening and expanding, and so dark are they at present that it seems they cannot be dispersed before a storm has burst upon the devoted inhabitants. The New Pallas affair, in which the people were successful, has a deeper significance than a superficial observer would be ready to attach to it. It was a united opposition in defiance to England's soldiers and to the representatives of her law as well as to the representatives of her law in Ireland, to the cruel privileges exercised by the landlords. Although similar affairs have been of almost daily occurrence throughout the country, the affair at the Castle of the Massey's assumed greater proportions than usual, because it was a prearranged, determined and in the end successful attempt to fight the question out with such British troops as the authorities were able to send against them.

The success of the peasantry in this instance cannot fail to encourage them in other distressed districts to adopt a similar plan if the circumstances are as favorable, and a number of these conflicts in different parts of the country at one and the same time cannot be otherwise termed than as insurrection. There can be no doubt but that the English Government of the present day, like that in power immediately previous to the rising in 1798, are eagerly awaiting the first pretext for turning the resistance to landlord rule a rebellion against the authority of the British Queen, and treating the people as rebels. There can be no doubt, also, that the existing Government, like its predecessor referred to, is intent upon driving the people to despair and consequent rebellion. This is a bold statement to make, but the facts are too plainly evident to allow a possibility of misconception of the manoeuvres directed from London. How long the people will be able to restrain themselves is a difficult question to answer, but the Irish were never patient under oppression, and even the cool reasoning and good advice of their trusted leaders may not much longer suffice to keep them in line.

HOW RENTS WERE INCREASED IN IRELAND.

There are very few people who are aware of the extent to which rents have been increased in Ireland as compared with the rentals charged some seven or eight decades ago; and it will enlighten those who continue to wonder why the Irish are always dissatisfied and impoverished to learn at least one of the causes which led thereto. We will, therefore, give a statement of the rentals charged in the several Irish counties in the year 1800, and compare them with the rentals charged in 1880, giving at the same time the Government valuation of the lands for last year. We are assured that the figures will furnish food for reflection to the most unthinking and cause a revulsion of feeling to those who have been prejudiced against the efforts of the Land League through want of knowledge on the subject.

gining of the century the rentals charged in Tyrone were £106,747. Last year they amounted to £544,980 while the Government valuation was only £435,985. Fermanagh's rentals in 1800 reached £94,603, but last year they amounted to £294,396, the Government valuation being £235,517. In Cavan for 1800 the rents charged amounted to £92,745, while in 1880 they reached the sum of £615,632. The Government valuation reduced the figure to £492,504. From the County Down the landlords of 1800 drew only £221,154, but in 1880 the rentals had reached the enormous figure of £1,009,710. If the Government valuation was accepted, the rentals would only have reached £807,768. County Antrim paid in 1800 only £124,481, while last year the rentals amounted to £1,440,972. Government valuation, £1,152,958. In Armagh the rentals charged in 1800 amounted to £119,434, but in 1880 they had reached the sum of £503,788. Government valuation, £419,823. The Lords of the County Monaghan drew in 1800 the sum of £93,549, but those of 1880 demanded £331,211, while the Government valuation called for £264,966. Thus the total amount of rent drawn from the Province of Ulster in 1800 was £969,137, while in 1880 the rentals charged amounted to £5,381,671, the Government valuation for the same year being £4,562,079. For the sake of simplicity we will put the rest of the figures in tabular form:—

Table with 4 columns: County, Rentals in 1800, Gov. val. in 1880, Rentals in 1880. Lists counties including Lond., Meath, Dublin, Wicklow, Wexford, Carlow, Kildare, Queen's Co., King's Co., Westmeath, Longford, Kilkenny, Waterford, Cork, Kerry, Limerick, Clare, Tipperary, Galway, Mayo, Sligo, Leitrim, Roscommon.

The total rentals, therefore, charged in 1800 throughout the country amounted to only £5,263,587, while in 1880 they had reached the figure of £19,106,192. The Government valuation was £15,373,749. What do our "friends" say to the above statements?

VICTORY!

Cablegrams from London announce that the service of writs and collection of rents in Ireland are practically ended, owing to the determined resistance of the people, and this in the presence of the numerically strong and highly-trained army of soldiers and police which the Government has placed at the disposal of the sheriffs. In the counties of Limerick, Cork, Tipperary and Kerry alone, where the spirit of resistance has been the most strongly and extensively manifested there are 10,000 British troops, composed of thirteen infantry regiments, five cavalry regiments, three brigades of royal artillery, and a force of marines. In addition there is the ever present constabulary. We feel assured that in view of the grand and noble stand taken by the Irish people, will those just and profound legislators in Westminster be able to see their way to a more comprehensive land bill, and to complete land reform. The Irish nation will, with a not gentle hand, wipe away the dust of national prejudice and contempt, gathering for ages, from the spectacles through which their English readers have been poring over the hell-devised statutes which had robbed it of land and liberty, so that the present perplexing document prepared by Gladstone & Co. will be so amended by Ireland's representatives as to possess little of its original appearance when it passes its third reading. And will the Lords dare to reject it? Without presuming to give them credit for more common sense than they possess, we think that there is sufficient intelligence in the House of Peers to teach them in what direction their self-interest lies. By one bold step is Ireland resuming her ancient prerogative as tutor to the world. As in centuries past she was the source from which civilization spread through Europe, now she is teacher to the nations of the great truth that to the people belongs the land. As in ancient days her Saints suffered in the cause of Christianity, now are her people sufferers in the cause of humanity. Can it be denied that an agitation with so great and noble an object in view will not be confined to Ireland. Already in the Scottish Highlands are the clausmen considering the question as to whether or not their country is sufficiently depopulated, and are rapidly coming to the belief that loyalty to self is the paramount consideration. The plegmatic Englishman, also, has on more than one occasion shown that he is an apt pupil with an inclination to become tutor in turn. It would not be the first time he accepted a lesson from Irish hands, and turned it to account against his oppressors. Let the landlords, therefore, beware. A people have ere now been driven to effect a revolution by physical force, and it was the lords who suffered most in the struggle. It is amusing to read the editorial comments on the land question, disguised in the form of European correspondence, in one of our morning contemporaries. Contemptible sneers at the efforts of the Land Leaguers are curiously intermixed with admissions of their success and of the necessity of land reform in Ireland. The old Irish members, who under the leadership of Isaac Butt, continued to

adopt that passive policy in reference to Irish affairs which accomplished just as much as it ever did in the English House of Parliament, are represented as being the most active land reformers among the Irish representatives. But the idea that Ireland's grievances would be eradicated through the simple efforts of her representatives in Parliament, that the most strongly worded and convincing arguments from Irish tongues would influence English hearts to justice, has long been exploded. It was the teachings and advice of Parnell and his followers to his countrymen, and not his or their pleadings to an alien Parliament, that forced the legislators to put their heads together for the purpose of devising another evasion to an ever-present question; and it will be the result of that teaching and advice which will compel them to present a satisfactory solution to the problem. Not that it was necessary to teach the Irish people the misery of their condition or to point out to them the wrongs under which they suffered. Experience had taught them all, and with them, God knows, experience had been found a stern tutor. But it was necessary that some man or men should spring up to point out a road to them by which they might pursue justice. And now that they have recognized the path to which they were directed as the proper one, who shall say that they have not followed it persistently, with determination, and in unity, until now justice is sighted, and almost within reach.

A CONFUSED EDITOR.

YESTERDAY'S Herald contained an editorial in reference to the strike against payment of rents in Ireland, which was as perplexing and incomprehensible as the latest puzzle presented by Gladstone in the shape of a land bill. It appeared as if the editor had not the slightest idea of what he was writing about, and was determined that not one of his readers should be more privileged in that respect than himself. Any person who perused the article in question must have concluded it profoundly impressed with the belief that Irish affairs were indeed in a very mixed condition. As far as we could gather from the points which it appeared the editor attempted to make, he reasoned that if the landlords in Ireland were entirely dispossessed of their property by the tenants, those of the latter class who were holding five hundred acres at the time of the strike would be doing a great injustice to their fellow-countrymen who were only in possession of—say fifty acres. And he also argued that if a redistribution of property was to take place, and the small farmers to profit thereby, the inhabitants of the cities would become possessed of a grievance inasmuch as they did not share in the benefits arising from the reconsecration of the land. Perhaps the editor referred to did not understand the question he undertook to discuss, or, perhaps, he is one of those who cannot comprehend a certain matter because they will not. But in reviewing the position which Ireland holds at the present time he should remember the axiom which says that "a desperate disease requires a desperate remedy." Landlordism is a cancer which has been eating into the heart of Ireland for centuries past, gradually destroying its life notwithstanding the many grave consultations held by learned and distinguished gentlemen in Westminster. Failing to obtain any relief from a disease which was threatening her entire destruction, and she had waited many years in the hope which maketh the heart sick, Ireland has at length determined to try a remedy prepared by herself, which is at once simple and radical. She has decided to try and effect her own cure, and the effort to do so promises so far to terminate successfully. Now, all the time that she has been suffering from this terrible disease she knew that the learned and distinguished gentlemen, who from time to time assembled in Westminster to discuss this extraordinary case, were political quacks to a certain extent, for although they held and recognized the only true remedy, they refused to apply it because of the expense attending it, and which they were afraid they would have to pay because their patient was so impoverished on account of her long illness. This neglect was the more heartless since they themselves had planted the germ of the disease, and had carefully fostered its growth. At last Ireland discovered a simple and effectual remedy, although of a much more expensive kind than that which the nature of the disease at first demanded, and much more expensive than that which has been selfishly withheld from her; but, in the despair which ever animates the hopeless, she grasps it eagerly and cries out to those wily quacks who have been pottering about her case for so many years past, "Here, you have your choice; release me again the remedy in your hands, and I will take that which I hold in my own!"

CORRESPONDENCE.

GRAND PIC-NIC.

To the Editor of THE POST AND TRUE WITNESS: On Tuesday, May 24th, the pupils of the Brothers' schools of Ogdensburg held their annual pic-nic in Butternut Grove, one mile and a half distant from the city of Ogdensburg. No sooner had the sunny morning displayed her beauties in the east, and gilded with her radiant beams the mountain top, than hundreds of boys, both little and great, might be seen, with well filled baskets, slowly wending their way to the place of rendezvous. At eight o'clock the signal of departure was given and, after a pleasant walk through fields covered with the green mantle of spring, the grove came into view, and was hailed from afar with many a joyous shout. A few minutes later this sylvan grove rang with the silvery notes and merry laughter of hundreds of happy youths. As the day advanced the turmoil and bustle increased, till half-past ten, when the sound of the bugle announced that the games were about to begin.

The sports opened with a baseball match played between the Shamrocks and Young Americans. The game from the beginning showed a decided advantage in favor of the Young Americans, but at the 7th inning the scales were turned, and the brave Shamrocks showed their superior skill in ball playing, the palm of victory, the score being sixteen to eight. Next came the match between the "Young Shamrocks" and the "Maple Leaf" which was easily won by the former by a score of fifteen to three. The bugle sound now announced the midday repast, and the shouts of mirth gradually gave way to the more solemn sounds of the pots and kettles of the ordinary department. Well filled baskets, viands were brought into immediate requisition, then all sat down to a sumptuous repast, at which the most jovial gaiety presided. After a short respite, the valley began once more to resound with the merry ripple of juvenile voices, which was kept up without intermission till half-past one, when all interest became concentrated in the issue of the athletic games, which were as follows:—Back race, won by J. Sabourin; Wheelbarrow race, J. O'Hagan; Three-legged race, J. McDonald; Hop, Step and Jump, E. Burns; Running race, J. Sabourin; Three Hundred Yards race, J. Sabourin; Throwing Hammer, J. Sabourin; Football, Clippens.

It being now five o'clock, the bugle sound announced the end of the play. A few minutes later the hill-side was ablaze with little fires, on which was prepared the tea for the evening collation. After having partaken largely of the delicacies provided, the rest of the evening was spent racing, jumping, boat-riding and fishing till six, when the return signal was given, and three hundred and fifty-four bright youths fell into ranks to return in procession to the city. Having returned to the Cathedral school, they separated, and each one, after having spent a very pleasant day, returned to his own happy abode, which was reached before night with her sable clouds, had overspread the day's delightful countenance.

E. P. McDONALD, Cathedral School, Ogdensburg, May 26, 1881.

"THE \$100,000."

To the Editor of THE POST AND TRUE WITNESS: Sir,—Under the above heading, the Star of the 27th instant writes on the generosity made of the sum of \$100,000 disposition voted by the Parliament of Canada for the relief of the people of Ireland in the recent famine. Your contemporary finds it good that a large portion of that money (some \$11,000) was spent "in repairing fishermen's piers."

It is fair to ask: When the Canadian Parliament voted that sum, was it the intention of the Canadian people that their money should be spent in making public works that should have been made by the Imperial Government, seeing that that Government has usurped the functions of Government in Ireland? The Star further says:—"The money could not have been spent in a better way. So long as there were no deaths by starvation the best means of disposing of the gift was in a way that would be of permanent benefit to the people, and this has been successfully accomplished."

But there were deaths from starvation, and there were persons on the point of death from starvation, and the Nunn of Kenmare shows us that there are little children starving in Ireland, and therefore the logic of your contemporary is singularly at fault.

BAZAAR IN PRESCOTT.

To the Editor of THE POST AND TRUE WITNESS: DEAR SIR,—A brief notice of the progress of Catholic affairs in this, the eastern section of the Province, may not be without interest to many of your readers. The quiet little town of Prescott has a large and influential congregation, and can boast of a separate school building equal to the best in any town in the Dominion. Shortly after the advent of the late Father O'Donnell as parish priest, about five years ago, a suitable site was purchased and operations commenced, resulting in the erection of a beautiful brick structure consisting of four spacious and well-ventilated rooms, capable of accommodating three hundred pupils. This substantial building, which is an ornament amongst our public institutions, cost something in the neighborhood of twelve thousand dollars, and, considering the time, it is not surprising that at the death of the Rev. gentleman, which took place in December last, a very considerable balance remained unpaid. It remained for the Rev. Father Murphy, who took charge of the parish, to put forth an effort to liquidate this debt, and well may he feel proud, both of the effort and the success attending it. Generously assisted by the ladies of the congregation, prominent amongst whom were Mrs. Moran, Mrs. O'Brien, Mrs. McCarthy, Mrs. McPartland, Mrs. Kingstone and Mrs. Kavanagh, he organized the most successful bazaar ever held in this vicinity, all things considered. The ladies' tables were amply supplied with costly articles of once ornamental and useful, and for six nights the crowds which thronged the hall furnished tangible proof of Catholic zeal for their institutions. Each evening a band of music was in attendance; no less than four having volunteered their services, viz: the Prescott Band, Odd Fellows Band, Ogdensburg City Band, and the Starsfield Band, also of Ogdensburg. Altogether a most enjoyable time was spent, not a single incident occurring to mar the harmony of the proceedings. The thanks of the management are due to the members of the several bands as well as to the proprietors of the ferry boats. On Monday evening the 5th of May the raffle was completed, leaving the prize winners satisfied, and those not so fortunate not the less satisfied that about \$2,800 were realized on behalf of their school.

It is to be hoped that the progress of the children will be commensurate with all that has been done in their behalf; however let this there need be no fear; our Rev. Superintendent having had long experience thoroughly understands school discipline and management, so that with the co-operation of parents and teachers the school must become one of the best of its kind in the province. But a very important matter in connection with the Church in Cardinal, a mission attached to this parish, has claimed his attention. There, alas, a pressing debt had to be met. Father Murphy