

The Catholic Register.

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

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TORONTO, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1901.

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

Thursday—St. Matthew, Apostle.
Friday—Holy Lance and Nails of Our Lord.
Saturday—St. Simplicius, Pope, Confessor.
Sunday—Second Sunday in Lent.
Monday—St. Lucius L., Pope, Martyr.
Tuesday—St. Casmir, Confessor.
Wednesday—St. Peter at Antioch.

Current Topics.

Hon. J. Israel Tarte has taken the first step towards the fulfilment of his pledge that within three years, if his views prevailed with the Government, a ship channel 450 feet wide and 80 feet deep will be provided between Montreal and Quebec. Mr. Frank B. Polson, of the Polson Iron Works, Toronto has signed a contract to deliver to the Government by the middle of August next a monster hydraulic dredge, combining all the latest improvements, which will be used for dredging the channel through Lake St. Peter. The dredge will cost \$250,000 all complete, and will be the largest machine of the kind in North America. It will be of the barge type, and built wholly of steel. It will be 160 feet in length, 12 feet deep, and will have a beam 40 feet. The pump will have a 36-inch suction pipe, and will be driven by 1,200 horsepower triple expansion engines. The dredge will be equipped with four boilers of the locomotive type, 25 feet long and 72 inches in diameter, with a working pressure of 160 pounds. It will have four times the capacity of the big hydraulic dredge which the Polsons lately completed and shipped to the Pacific coast.

The Western Fair Association held its thirty-third Annual meeting in the City Hall, London, last week, with Colonel Garthorne, President, in the chair, and a good attendance of members. The receipts for the year was shown by the Secretary's report, were \$28,591.47, or \$6,050.57 less than last year, but the balance brought forward from 1899 was \$5,496.99, against \$2,031.50 in 1899, thus making the actual receipts in each year almost the same. The amount expended in prizes this year and last was about the same. Assets have slightly increased, being now \$48,811.62; liabilities, nil. The directors are the same as last year, excepting that Mr. George Taylor resigns, and Mr. George McCormick takes the position.

The Brussels correspondent of The London Daily Mail describes a trust formed by leading financial houses in Europe and the United States, through the instrumentality of Col. Tays, with a view of controlling all the commerce of China. He declares that the King of the Belgians is the secret promoter of this gigantic undertaking, which will be called the International Company of the Far East. "Belgian interests intend to play a very prominent part in China in the future," says the correspondent. "M. Francoqui, former Belgian Consul at Shanghai, has left for China. He has been appointed Agent General of the International Company at a salary of \$4,000 a year. He was accompanied by railroad and mining engineers and other officials. The company has bought at Shanghai a large hotel, where fetes and receptions will be given with a view of eliciting sympathies of Mandarins and Chinese traders. The construction or acquisition of railroads in China, as well as the control of lines of steamers, forms a part of the company's programme. The advocates of this greater monopoly consider that the fate of the finances of all countries being interested will form a valuable guarantee of peace in China."

Hon. Mr. Dryden has introduced a bill for the encouragement of the sugar beet industry. The first clause provides for the setting apart annually out of the consolidated revenue of the Province of the sum of \$75,000 for three years for the purpose of encouraging the growth of sugar beets and the establishment of factories for the production of refined sugar therefrom. Out of this fund a bounty will be paid to manufacturers of first-class sugar made from fresh beets of one-half cent a pound for the first year, and one-quarter cent a pound for the products of each

of the two following years, and no longer. Should the amount claimed as bounty exceed \$75,000, the distribution thereof shall be pro rata, according to the amount of production. Provision is made that during the first year of the operations of such factory the beets shall be paid for at the rate of at least \$4 per ton at the factory, and for the two following years at \$4 and such additional price at the same rate as shall correspond to the proportion of saccharine matter which such beets contain in excess of 12 per cent. In the event of a dispute as to the quantity of saccharine matter, reference shall be made to the analysis of the Ontario Agricultural College, or to such person as may be nominated by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council, whose report shall be final. The Premier introduced a bill to amend the supplementary revenue act. One provision is to conform that act to the terms of an amendment to be introduced shortly to the assessment act repealing the "scrap iron" clause. The other provision made is clear that mutual fire insurance companies are not affected by the supplementary revenue act.

The Department of Agriculture is taking energetic steps for the checking of the San Jose scale, and to that end, through a committee, will be in a position shortly to fill orders for crude petroleum and whale oil soap of a very good class for treating infected trees. Applications should be sent to Mr. George E. Fisher, Freeman, Chief Inspector. Mr. Fisher has just addressed a circular to the fruit-growers of Ontario, in which he speaks thus of the dangers now imminent from the San Jose scale:—"During the past year the increase and spread of the San Jose scale in this Province have been very great, and in sections which are generally infested, such as to cause considerable alarm. Many growers now realize it to be a very dangerous enemy to fruit trees, and one which should be vigorously fought. The rapid increase, quiet and far-reaching distribution, together with its habit of getting beyond the reach of remedies, make it exceedingly difficult to combat. Orchards in which only a small portion of the trees were marked during the inspection of 1899 now have the scale on every tree, and many trees that were then but slightly infested are encrusted. All orchards in such sections are more or less affected, and growers have seldom discovered the scale in them till they have found it on the fruit. Considerable quantities of badly-affected fruit were discarded as unmerchantable, the keeping quality being seriously impaired by a severe attack, and in some cases the fruit was not even gathered from the badly-infested trees."

Premier Ross in making Government his budget speech to the Ontario Legislature, proposed that a survey be made of the route of a railway from North Bay to the head of Lake Temiskaming, with a view to the possible construction and control of the road by the people. The Premier introduced this new feature of Provincial railway policy in speaking of the necessity for a railway in that region, and for conserving the rights of the public in regard to rates. The suggestion was a complete surprise to the members of the House, and was the subject of a good deal of discussion in the corridors. The mention of the Grand Trunk Railway's name, as the probable lessee of such a line led many to think that the idea had been seriously considered. The remainder of the speech, which was delivered with Mr. Ross' customary lucidity and force, breathed the new spirit of development of the natural resources of Ontario and of the dawn of an industrial activity resulting therefrom. The Premier also sketched the progress of the Province in the last 80 years, showing the remarkable advance made, especially in education and agriculture.

A full court delivered judgment at Winnipeg on Saturday upon questions submitted as to the validity of "The Liquor Act," passed at the last session of the Legislature. Their Lordships dealt with decisions given by the Privy Council in cases dealing with local prohibition and the Canada Temperance Act, and pointed out the distinction that, while these enactments ought to regulate the liquor traffic, the local act aims at suppressing the traffic, except for medicinal, sacramental and scientific purposes. The

unanimous decision of the court is that the Legislature has exceeded its powers in enacting the act, as it entrenches upon matters specially assigned to the Dominion Parliament, and conflicts with the British North America Act. The court did not deem it necessary to decide whether the Hudson's Bay Company has any special privileges under the act. The decision is a very exhaustive one, comprising about ten thousand words.

A pastoral issued by Cardinal Vaughan read in the Catholic churches on Sunday last, deploring the language of the oath taken by the King upon his accession. It says: "Along among the Parliaments of the world, the English Legislature compels the Sovereign to declare that the religions of three out of four members of the Christian world is superstitious and idolatrous." It urges Catholics at home and abroad to take such constitutional steps as will lead to the repeal of the objectionable part of the oath. The Cardinal has written to the King on the subject. He directs that a general communion of reparation shall be celebrated in every Catholic church within his jurisdiction, the second Sunday of Lent, and that in future the words "in reparation" shall be prefixed and read before the divine praises recited after benediction. The Cardinal says he brought the matter to the attention of a Cabinet Minister three years ago, who told him the Government would not take up the subject. After the Queen's death he wrote a letter to the King "couched in terms of fidelity and devoted alike for conscience and loyalty." The Cardinal does not say whether he received a reply. The Cardinal commends the Catholic press' protest, and hopes that "this sentiment of honest indignation will soon be removed."

The following is the text of the protest that has been laid before the Lord Chancellor of the undersigned Catholic Peers:

Mr. Luan.—On the opening of his first Parliament to-day His Majesty was called upon to make and subscribe the so-called Declaration against Transubstantiation, which was framed during the reign of Charles II., at a moment when religious sensitivities were unusually bitter. Some days ago we addressed ourselves to your Lordship, as the chief authority on English law, to ascertain whether it was possible to bring about any modification of those parts of the Declaration which are specially provocative to the religious feeling of Catholics. We received from your Lordship the authoritative assurance that no modification whatever was possible, except by an act of Parliament, and that no action of ours would, therefore, be of the slightest use to effect the pacific purpose we had in view. The Sovereign himself has, it appears, no option, and is obliged by statute to use the very words prescribed; although we feel assured that His Gracious Majesty would willingly have been relieved (as all his subjects have for many years been relieved by act of Parliament) from the necessity of reading with contentions epithets the religious tenets of any of his subjects. While we submit to the law, we cannot be wholly silent on this occasion. We desire to impress upon your Lordship that the expressions used in this Declaration made it difficult and painful for Catholic Peers to attend to-day in the House of Lords, in order to discharge their official or public duties, and that those expressions cannot but cause the deepest pain to millions of subjects of His Majesty in all parts of the Empire, who are as loyal and devoted to his Crown and person as any others in his dominions.—We are, my Lord, your Lordship's most obedient and faithful subjects.

Norfolk, Ripon, Doncaster, Abingdon, Ashburnham, Westmeath, Kenmare, Galaburgh, Gormanston, Southwell, Blanford, Mowbray and Stourton, Braye, North, Peter, Arundell of Wardour, Domes, Stafford, Clifford of Chudleigh, Hertford, Tinnis, Balfour, De Freyne, Howard of Glossop, Aston, Gerard, Morris and Killinan, Bampton, O'Brien.

To the Lord High Chancellor, House of Lords, February 14, 1901.

A pilot's attempt to bring in San Francisco during a thick fog the big Pacific mail steamer City of Rio de Janeiro, early on Friday morning, led to the wreck of the vessel on Fort Point ledge, outside the Golden Gate, and the loss of 151 persons out of a total of 308 on board. The explanation of the terrible loss of life is that the vessel sank in fifteen minutes after she struck, thus carrying down most of the small boats, which still hung on the davits. The officers showed great coolness, and the passengers behaved well until the bow began to sink suddenly. Then, when it was seen that the vessel was on the point of sinking, there was a wild panic. Men and women ran screaming to the boats only to find them not lowered. One or two hundred Chinese were huddled together below, clung to the deck with terror. Many jumped overboard, and were carried down by the

swiftness of the steamer. All about was thick darkness, which probably prevented many escaping. The most prominent passenger on the steamer was Rowanville Wildman, U. S. Consul at Hong-Kong, who was accompanied by his wife and two children. It is thought all are drowned. The ship was in command of pilot Frederick Jordan when she struck. He was rescued. Captain William Ward went down with his vessel. As nearly as can be learned, there were 208 people on board the Rio de Janeiro, as follows:—Cabin passengers, 29; second cabin, 7; steerage (Chinese and Japanese), 68; officers and crew 114. The following have been accounted for:—Rebored, 77; bodies at morgue, 10; total, 87. Missing, 121. Surgeon Arthur O'Neill was picked up with one Japanese and seven Chinese passengers by the Russian ship Harbinger. The surgeon was not injured by his experience, and he told one of the clearest stories of the terrible disaster. He said it was exactly 5.25 o'clock when we struck, as I took note of the time by my clock. The ship struck with an awful crash, and the blow must have torn out her entire side near the bow. She sank very rapidly, and was under water in such a short time that no orderly effort could be made to launch the boats. Almost in a moment the ship presented a scene of wild disaster. Nearly every passenger was asleep when the ship struck, and they came rushing up in their nightclothes, only to find no means of escape. "I think it could not have been more than five minutes after the ship struck after she went down. A moment after she struck the engineer reported the pumps would not work, and the fire was out."

Lord Salisbury, in the House of Lords, referring to the anti-Catholic declaration contained in the oath which King Edward took at the opening of Parliament, said that although he deplored the language in which the declaration was couched; it must be remembered that the sentiment represented the passions and feelings of the period when it was adopted. Passions of Parliament now were not so strong; but there were undoubtedly parts of the country where the controversies which the declaration represented still flourished, and where the emotions which it produced had not died out. If legislation were undertaken, it ought to be started in the House of Commons, and he was not certain but that strong feelings might be aroused there.

The following despatch Southern regarding the convict lease system operated in South Carolina, whereby negroes are placed in practical slavery, is published in New York:—

Charleston, S.C., slave dealers in Anderson County, who have been operating under the convict lease system, which was condemned in court a week ago, have made the first move by releasing twenty-one negroes who were held captive in the stockade. The grand jury was ordered to make a searching investigation, and a report will be submitted to a special court called for March 7. It is said that among the negroes held in the Anderson stockade were several aged men who had served as slaves before the war of the rebellion. One 68 negro secured his freedom through his former master. He said he had been caught like others with the curious and mysterious contract which had to be signed, and was sent to prison and informed he would be shot if he tried to escape. Judge Bond has declared the whole system will be exposed. Much uneasiness is being felt over the probable report to be made by the grand jury. While southern Congressmen have been violently agitated by the system here, North Carolina relative to the treatment of negroes, who are reputed to be held practically as slaves. A number of informal conferences have been held with a view to drawing up resolutions which will insure Congressional inquiry into the alleged horrors exposed.

The Senate Committee on relations with Cuba has agreed to an amendment to the Appropriation Bill regarding Cuba. The amendment recites the recommendation of the joint resolution of March 30, 1898, and goes on to say that the President is hereby authorized to leave the government and to leave the Island of Cuba to its people as a government, shall

have been established in said island under a constitution which, either as a part thereof, or in any ordinance appended thereto, shall define the future relations of the United States with Cuba, substantially as follows:—

(1) That the Government of Cuba shall never enter into any treaty or other compact with any foreign power or powers which will impair or tend to impair the independence of Cuba, nor in any manner authorize or permit any foreign power or powers to obtain a colonization, or for military or naval purposes or otherwise, lodgment in or control over any portion of said island.

(2) That said Government shall not assume or contract any public debt, or pay the interest upon which, and to make reasonable sinking fund provision for the ultimate discharge of which the ordinary revenues of the islands, after defraying the current expenses of government, shall be inadequate.

(3) That the Government of Cuba consents that the United States may exercise the right to intervene for the preservation of Cuban independence, the maintenance of a government adequate for the protection of life, property and individual liberty, and for discharging the obligations with respect to Cuba imposed by the treaty of Paris on the United States, now to be assumed and undertaken by the Government of Cuba.

(4) That all acts of the United States in Cuba during its military occupancy thereof are ratified and validated, and all lawful rights acquired thereunder shall be maintained and protected.

(5) That the Government of Cuba will execute and, as far as necessary, extend the plans already devised or otherwise to be mutually agreed upon for the sanitation of the cities of the island to the end that a recurrence of epidemic and infectious diseases may be prevented, thereby assuring protection to the people and commerce of Cuba, as well as to the commerce of the Southern ports of the United States and the people residing therein.

(6) That the Isle of Pines shall be omitted from the proposed constitutional boundaries of Cuba, and the title thereto left to future adjustment by treaty.

(7) That to enable the United States to maintain the independence of Cuba and to protect the people thereof, as well as for its own defence, the Government of Cuba will sell or lease to the United States lands necessary for coaling or naval stations at certain specified points to be agreed upon with the President of the United States.

(8) That by way of further assurance the Government of Cuba will embody the foregoing provisions in a permanent treaty with the United States.

NOME RULE.

By Morrison Davidson.
"Do not unite with us, sir. It would be the union of the shark with his prey; we should unite with you only to destroy you."—Dr. Samuel Johnson.

"If it must be called a 'Union,' it is the union of the shark with his prey; the spoiler swallows up his victim, and they become one and inseparable. Thus has Great Britain swallowed up the Parliament, the Constitution, the Independence of Ireland."—Lord Byron.

"The manner in which, and the terms upon which, Mr. Pitt effected the union, made it the most fatal blow ever levelled against the peace and prosperity of England."—S. T. Coleridge.

"I know no blacker or fouler transaction in the history of man than the making of the Union between England and Ireland."—W. B. Gladstone.

"I met Murder on the way. He had a masque like Castlereagh; Very smooth he looked, yet grim; Seven bloodhounds followed him."—Shelley.

While John Bull has, for weary months, been exerting all his energies to create a fresh Ireland in South Africa, he has all the time, with characteristic heedless, been ignoring the Ireland at his own gates—the Noble of the Nations whose tears have been flowing, not for centuries, for but at least seven long centuries of unmitigated oppression and woe. But if John Bull has been trying to forget Ireland, Ireland assuredly has not been forgetting him. In the Parliament just opened he finds himself face to face with an Irish Opposition more united than he ever encountered even in the stirring days of Charles Stuart Parnell and the "Resources of Civilization."

bow, or older, and we get no "forrad, etc." unless the rapid disappearance of the population of the Sister Isle be regarded as true "progress."

Dr. Sangrado, of Gil Blas fame, it may be remembered, cured all manner of diseases by blood-letting, by depleting the life of the body. And so there are politicians and "statesmen," who avowedly, or more commonly tacitly, hold that the best way to improve a country is to get rid of its inhabitants. They make it a solitude and call it Political Economy, and that is practically the policy which the enlightened "Predominant Partner" has pursued towards unhappy Ireland for generations after generations.

IRELAND'S DECAY UNDER ENGLISH RULE.
Between 1841 and 1891 the entire population of Ireland diminished by 42 per cent., and the manufacturing population by 61 per cent. About the middle of the "forties" the inhabitants numbered over 9,000,000; now they are, perhaps, under 4,600,000, and our "Unionist" Sangrados are as busy with their lancets as ever. The virile youth of Ireland, stripping and maimed, are "going, gone—gone." It is "Unionist" policy to get rid of Home Rule by getting rid of the Home Rulers. And that is "statesmanship" at the dawn of the Twentieth Century.

Solitudinem faciunt pacem appellant. "They make a desert and call it peace." In the highlands of my beloved Scotland that "peace" is now, alas, all but unbroken. In extension of this palpably infamous state of things, it may be remembered that, in the debate in Parliament (1897), on the Report of the Royal Commission on the Financial Relations between Great Britain and Ireland, the Chancellor of the Exchequer (expressed to ridicule the idea that British Rule was responsible for the famine (1846-1848) which then swept off a million and a quarter of the Irish race, in much the same way as in India, at this very hour, millions of "black men" are being slowly done to death by Government-manufactured hunger. But in the famine-stricken "forties" it is indisputable that it was only the potato that rotted. There was not a notably plenty of other produce in the country to have fed twice the population, if the folks had only eaten it; but they foolishly parted with it for money wherewith to staunch the Rent fiend's devouring maw and perished accordingly.

John Mitchell the Intrepid in his United Irishman (March, 1849) thus luminously illustrated the actualities of the then economic situation, in commenting on an inquest held on a family named Boland. The Bolands successfully tilled a farm of twenty acres and died of starvation. "Now what became of poor Boland's twenty acres of crop? Part of it went to Gibraltar, to virtual the garrison; part to South Africa, to provision the robber army; part went to Spain, to pay for the landlord's wine; part to London, to pay his Honor's mortgage to the Jews. The English ate some of it; the Chinese had their share; the Jews and the Gentiles divided it amongst them; and there was none for Boland."

In truth, but for the inexorable tribute, Ireland abandoned during the "famine" years, in every class of the population, minus the "Unionist" and the "aberrant." According to the Revenue Return for the three years ending Jan. 5, 1849, there were paid for the starving people to the British Exchequer, £13,398,681. In the same year they exported to England, as Rent-tribute to landlords (mostly absentee), 595,926 head of cattle, 839,118 sheep, 698,021 pigs, 959,810 quarters of wheat flour, and 3,658,575 quarters of oats and meal. And this estimate of exports, the Report significantly adds, "is of necessity defective."

In truth, in her hour of extreme agony, Ireland was relatively the greatest food-exporting country in the world. A Home Rule Government would, in the emergency, have promptly prohibited all food-exports, and not a life would have been lost.

But the decrease of Irish population, though deplorable—it is half a million less than in the year of the Union, 1801—is, perhaps, not after all the most saddening fact. Since 1865 the proportion of paupers has nearly doubled; in England, it has been diminished by a half. The proportion of deaf mutes in Ireland nearly one-third larger than in Britain; of blind, two-fifths larger; of lunatics, one-third larger; while the proportion of births over deaths in Ireland is five per cent., and eleven per cent. in Britain. In proportion to population, Ireland is the fourth meat-producer, and the sixteenth meat-consumer.

UNJUST TAXATION.
And just as the Predominant Partner has grown enormously in population and prosperity, the burden of his Taxes has become lighter; whereas those of unhappy Ireland have automatically increased with her decrease in numbers and wealth. And here we are brought face to face with the standing inequity of Indirect Taxation in a most concrete form. To tax a commodity in common use—say, tea—is about like very some of injustice. It deals with the income of the washerwoman and of the duchess as if they were equal in amount. It is, in point of fact, the worst of all conceivable taxes—a Poll-Tax.

And the poorer you are the more severely are you hit. In Britain the taxation of Commodities is only 23 per cent. of her total; whereas in Ireland it is 76 per cent. In 1820 the taxation of Commodities in Britain was £2.88 per head, and in Ireland 11s. In 1874 the figures were £1.3s. and £1.2s. respectively. In the period, 1851-85, £2,300,000 were added to the taxation of Ireland, to make up Continued on Page Five.