

Irish Day at the World's Fair.

Weather more disagreeable than that on Saturday last has seldom been experienced, even in the windy and muddy city of Chicago. That was Irish day at the World's Fair; and the "Sons of the Gael" had made elaborate preparations for a national display worthy of the occasion; but from day-dawn to dark of the 30th there was a continuous drizzle of rain which would have kept within doors people less ardent and patriotic than the Irish. The down pour, however, did not prevent ten thousand men and women, born on the old soil or descended from the old stock, from filling an appearance at Festival Hall, every seat of which was filled before the proceedings began.

The Hall was handsomely decorated with flags—the Star Spangled Banner and the Harp of Erin entwining each other in loving embrace. The stage was reserved for prominent citizens of Chicago and others—the clergy occupying the front seats. Among the more distinguished of the latter were the Archbishops of Chicago and Dubuque, the Most Rev. Doctors Feehan and Hennessy. Also at the front were seated the Hon. Edward Blake, Lord Mayor Shanks of Dublin and his wife, Mr. Arthur O'Connor, M.P., F. Driscoll, M.P., Hon. John Fitzgerald, Hon. John F. Finerty, Mr. Carter Harrison, Mayor of Chicago, Mr. M. P. Brady, Vice-Chairman, and Mr. J. T. Keating, secretary of the committee of management. Immediately in rear, amongst others, were Alderman Henney of Ottawa, William Hart, M.P.P. for Kingston, Mr. Hugh Ryan, contractor, Mr. M. J. Gorman, barrister, Ottawa, Mr. John L. Lee and Mr. Patrick Boyle of Toronto, Mr. M. J. Tracey and Mr. Edward McKeown late of that city.

It was about three o'clock when Archbishop Feehan took the chair. On rising, the venerable prelate was greeted with hearty cheers; and when they had ceased he said he was rejoiced to see so large an assemblage of Irish-Americans celebrating with their fellow-citizens the accomplishment of the great Exposition. "There are no people," continued his Grace, "on this broad land that love their flag more earnestly, more deeply than the Irish, and, in the hour of distress, there are none who would be more ready to come forward and rescue it from danger and peril than the Irish. But while they love the green flag, the American-Irish are still true to the stars and stripes. They love the stars and stripes, but still cannot help loving the flag of their mother country, and there is no one here today that does not pray that the green and gold will soon float over the mother home."

Archbishop Hennessy, having been introduced, addressed the audience at considerable length, dwelling particularly on what had been done by the Irish missionaries of old for civilization in every land. He said: "In three hundred years the Irish race gave more to the Church than any nation before or since. The number of bishops, priests and nuns were so numerous that it looked as if the race belonged to those orders. The Irish received religion as a benefit. Colleges, schools and other educational establishments sprung up. To these schools came people from England, Scotland and Germany. Everything was free, even transportation to the island. To study and to teach was a national habit. Ireland was the seminary of the church, it was the seminary of Europe. God planted His seed there, for He knew the day was not far distant when it would be needed elsewhere. The mystic body of Jesus Christ never appeared in any place to such advantage as in Ireland. It was the island of Saints and doctors."

The Hon. Edward Blake was the next speaker, and the distinguished Irish Canadian must have been exceedingly gratified by the cordial welcome with which he was greeted by the Irish of Chicago. He was in his happiest vein, and delivered a speech that was in keeping with his brilliant record. The Hon. gentleman explained the Home Rule Bill from its inception to its final passage in the House of Commons. He paid a well-deserved tribute to the Irish in America, whose never-failing love and generosity had enabled the "men in the gap" to carry on the fight for freedom; and he expressed the hope that they would continue their support till the battle was over, and Ireland had her own again. "There are those," said Mr. Blake who say that we Irish are incapable of self-government, that we can't take care of ourselves, but I think we can take our part in the government of the country in which we are cast. The Irish seem to do so now, and some people say, do a little more than our share."

Mr. Arthur O'Connor, M.P., was next introduced. "He was impressed—coming as he did from Europe—with the strange contrast not only as between the great kingdoms of that country and the American republic, but between the condition of Ireland and the condition here. In the kingdoms of Europe all rights, privileges and claims emanate from the Crown. Here the Government emanates from the people themselves. Europe is groaning under the burden of military preparations. "We come," said he, "to your city to see it beautiful with productions of peace and honest industry, and in the grounds of this exposition we find side by side the results of that free American industry on the one hand and the small and

pitiful exhibition of our country as exhibited in the Irish village on the other. I think it is not unreasonable to hope that before very long the circumstances of Ireland will enable her to proceed to emulate your own great nation."

The Lord Mayor of Dublin followed in a neat speech which told with effect upon the audience, who rewarded it with warm applause. He fittingly acknowledged the compliment, not only on his own behalf, but also on behalf of the citizens of ancient and historic Dublin. The Lord Mayor continued: "That millions of my countrymen, born in a land of great natural beauty, but boasting little of wealth or resources, in which life is lived under primitive conditions, affording but little scope for physical or intellectual energy, should have found a home in America suited to their vigorous natures, will always appear to me to have been a dispensation of providence, alike beneficial to the Irish race and to the great republic of the United States. That my countrymen should have shown themselves so adaptable to the conditions of American life and so ready to become useful and devoted citizens is a testimony to their fitness as a self-governing race which needs no addition."

Rev. Father King of Dublin next spoke, and next came a fine effort by the Hon. John Fitzgerald of New York, who eloquently portrayed the genius of the Irish race. After that the Hon. John Finerty addressed the vast assemblage. Mr. Finerty is always a favorite with the people of Chicago, and the Irish of that city have no cause to be ashamed of him. He is a fluent and sometimes a fiery speaker, and what he says is well said. His speech on this occasion was marked with scholarly research; and as he pictured the chivalry and valor of our countrymen, in times long gone by as well as recent, he stirred the hearts of his listeners to their inmost core. Contrasting the conditions of the Irish at home and the Irish in America, Mr. Finerty said: "Here he fears not the tyrant's lash; he is not bowed to the earth by the hand of the oppressor; he is not the heir of a system of artificial ignorance, invented to degrade and debase his nature. Here, sir he has risen to the full measure of his stature in the image of his God. The stars of liberty shine around his head and his face, long sorrowful, is transfigured by their radiance. He has, in the words of Curran, swelled beyond the limits of the British chain, which has dropped from around him, and, standing thus 'redeemed, regenerated and disenthralled' before the nations, the Irishman, in all lands but his own, can say in the accents of truth and with the majesty of manhood, Brothers, be bold here a brother and an equal!"

Mr. Eugene Davis—the talented poet and litterateur—read an interesting paper on the literature of Ireland, after which the proceedings closed by the whole audience singing "God Save Ireland." P. B.

His Grace at Lafontaine.

The good French-Canadian population of Lafontaine had the happiness to receive their Archbishop in their midst on last Friday, September 29th. As is customary with that truly Catholic people the advent of monsigneur was celebrated in every respect as *une fête religieuse*. The large congregation at the early Masses and the number of devout communicants who thronged the altar rails gave the best proof of the sterling piety of the people and the devotedness of their worthy pastor Fr. Beaudoin. His Grace accompanied by Fathers Gearin and Beaudoin entered the church at 10 a.m. and High Mass was immediately celebrated by the Rev. Father Colin of Midland. The other members of the clergy who were present in the sanctuary were the Rev. Father Gillons chaplain, Penstanguishene, and Fathers Cantillon and Tracy. Mass being concluded His Grace addressed the people in their native tongue. Their good Pastor had already informed them of the object of his visit amongst them and he was very happy to be there that morning to administer the Sacrament of Confirmation to their children and address a few words of paternal counsel to the congregation. His Grace then explained in clear and forcible language the nature of the Sacrament which he was going to administer. As in the natural order, the child after birth, needed new strength, vigor for the support of life, in the supernatural state to which man had been elected by grace, the new being infused into the soul by Baptism, demanded force and courage to retain that divine faith, which the child obtained by the spiritual regeneration of Baptism. His Grace then dwelt on the wonderful gifts which the divine spirit infused into the soul by means of this sacrament and concluded by impressing on his hearers the necessity of professing, both by word and example, by their observance of the commandments of God and of His Church, that great Christian and Catholic faith which they had received in Baptism and which was strengthened and fortified by Confirmation. The Archbishop then administered the Sacrament of Confirmation to about eighty children and afterwards published the usual Plenary Indulgence and Apostolic Benediction which the Church accords on such occasions to those who have devoutly

confessed and communicated. The ceremony being concluded Mr. Houllis on behalf of the parishioners presented His Grace with the following address in French of which we give the translation:

To His Grace the Right Rev. Dr. Walsh, Archbishop of Toronto:

Most Rev. Pastor,

We are happy to extend you our most hearty welcome, and we beg you to accept this testimony of our fidelity.

It is written in the Scripture: "There is but one flock and one Shepherd." So it is with the parishioners of Lafontaine.

We all unite with our pastor to present you with this address in order to express to you our great joy in seeing your Grace who will bestow upon you the blessings of God.

May it please your Grace on this solemn occasion of your pastoral visit, not only to confirm our children, but also to cast your eyes upon all the others of your flock committed to our care and to beseech the Heavenly Father in our behalf.

The crozier and mitre, which are the emblems of your authority, remind us of the goodness of our Saviour carrying on His shoulder the lost sheep and thus give us a greater confidence in your pastorate.

Your task, indeed, is a difficult one, and one replete with responsibility; but we promise to second your efforts by faithfully obeying your commands through our parish priest's teachings.

We sincerely hope that your voyage through life may continue pleasant and prosperous, that you may be the instrument employed by God in doing great good and that finally you may have a happy entrance into the peaceful home of the Christian Shepherd. Signed

THE PARISHIONERS OF LAFONTAINE.

In reply his Grace thanked the people for all the kind sentiments expressed in the address. He was always happy, he said, to meet the French Canadian portion of his flock. Whilst Bishop of London he had first known and appreciated the strong religious feeling which pervaded the French-Canadian settlers of Ontario. He again thanked them for their kind words and should always preserve them in his memory as a most pleasing remembrance of his visit amongst them. In the evening his Grace left for Barrie with Father Gearin, his attendant priest, and was met at the station by the Very Rev. Dean Egan, with whom he remained that night.

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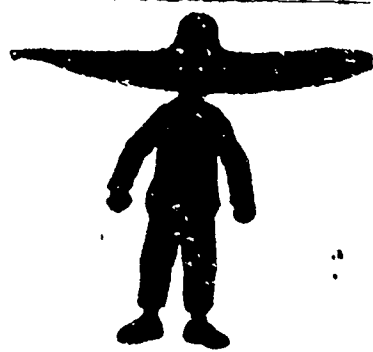
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TORONTO POSTAL GUIDE. During the month of September, 1893, mails close and are due as follows:

	Cross.	Due.
G. T. R. East	a.m. p.m.	a.m. p.m.
O. and Q. Railway	7.15 8.10	7.15 8.10
G. T. R. West	7.30 8.25	12.40pm 8.00
N. and N. W.	7.30 4.20	10.05 8.10
T. G. and B.	7.00 4.30	10.45 8.50
Midland	7.00 3.35	12.30pm 9.20
C. V. R.	6.40 4.00	11.05 9.10
G. W. R.	a.m. p.m.	a.m. p.m.
	noon	9.00 2.00
	6.15 4.00	10.30 8.20
	10.00	
U. S. N. Y.	6.15 12.00	9.00 5.45
	4.00 10.30	11.00
U.S. West'n States	10.00	
	6.15 10.00	9.00 7.20

English mails close on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10 p.m., and on Saturdays at 7.00 p.m. Supplementary mails to Mondays and Thursdays close on Tuesdays and Fridays at 12 noon. The following are the dates of English mails for September: 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 25, 26, 28, 29, 30.

N.B.—There are branch post offices in every part of the city. Residents of each district should transact their Savings Bank and money order business at the local office nearest to their residence, taking care to notify their correspondents to make orders payable at such Branch Postoffice.

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