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The subscription price of the True Witness for city, Great Britain, Ireland and France is \$150; Belgium, Italy, Germany and Australia, \$200; Canada, United States and Newfoundland, \$100. Terms, payable in advance.

EPISCOPAL APPROBATION.

If the English speaking Catholics of Montreal and of this Province consulted their best interests, they would soon make of the "True Witness" one of the most prosperous and powerful Catholic papers in this country. I heartily bless those who encourage this excellent work.

† PAUL, Archbishop of Montreal.

SATURDAY.....AUGUST 27, 1898.

ST. ANN'S PARISH.

To-morrow, Sunday, there will take place at St. Ann's Church the beautiful, solemn and elaborate ceremony of the blessing of a chime of bells, which will be performed by Mgr. Decelles, coadjutor Bishop of St. Hyacinthe. Rev. Martin Callaghan, S.S., of St. Patrick's will preach the sermon.

On the following Sunday, September 4, Mr. Andrew P. Cullinan, who has finished his ecclesiastical studies, will be ordained to the priesthood in the same church by his Grace Archbishop Bruchesi. He is the son of a well known and highly respected fellow citizen, Mr. Andrew Cullinan. As our readers will remember, we have on several occasions alluded to the remarkable paucity of vocations amongst the Irish population of this city; and it is therefore with great pleasure that we chronicle this event. The young priest will celebrate his first Mass next day, Monday, September 5, in St. Ann's Church, when there will doubtless be a large congregation to receive a blessing which is always eagerly sought after by Irish Catholics. On Sunday, September 11, Father Cullinan will officiate at High Mass in the same church.

Turning from spiritual mundane matters, it may be mentioned that a Labor Day excursion is being organized under the personal direction of the Rev. Father Strubbe, to the pretty and historical village of St. Ours; and that a project is well under way in the parish to erect a large first-class and commodious Gymnasium, filled with every modern improvement, the total cost to be not less than \$10,000. All this goes to show with what zeal, energy, and untiring solicitude the good pastor and his assistants of St. Ann's are promoting the spiritual and temporal welfare of the flock entrusted to their charge.

THE TEMPERANCE MOVEMENT.

The question of Temperance has been brought prominently before the Catholics of the United States by a great convention of the National Catholic Total Abstinence Union which has just been held in Boston. In this country it will shortly be brought to the special notice of Catholics through the publication on the question of prohibition. The convention at Boston was an unqualified success. The report of the energetic secretary, the Rev. A. P. Doyle, who is not unknown to the parishioners of St. Patrick's, Montreal, was extremely encouraging. It is stated that "the year past has been one of good success. We have organized since the Convention in Scranton, 91 societies, and admitted to the roll of membership 4,000 members. Compared with the records of previous years, 1898 stands high on the roll. At the St. Paul Convention of 1894, there was reported for the previous year the organization of 68 societies with a membership of 2,663. At the New York Convention there was added to the National Union 179 societies, with a membership of 9,958. At the St. Louis Convention there was reported the organization of 120 societies with a membership of 5,761, while last year at Scranton there were but 74 new societies organized, with a membership of 3,459. This year we are able to report 91 new societies, with a membership of 4,000. This adds to the National Union, in the five years of my incumbency, 473 societies and a membership of 25,301. From further statistics supplied by Father Doyle it is known that, at the

beginning of this year, there were in the United States 921 Catholic Total Abstinence Societies, with a total membership of 77,223.

Father Doyle strongly emphasized the necessity of bringing the young into the ranks of temperance societies. It is often, as he forcibly pointed out, thoughtlessly said the children do not need total abstinence; of course they do not need it, but they do need to be warned of the insidious dangers lurking in the intoxicating glass; they do not need to be taught the reasons for total abstinence; they do need to be taught the advantages of and trained in the methods of society work, so that when they grow to maturity they may readily become active workers in the adult organizations. The permanent success of our movement depends on the prosperity of our juvenile organizations. The young people do not need the pledge we know, but the pledge needs them very much. Youth is the time of assimilation. It is the period when are stored up impressions which become the springs of activity in after life. Generally, if the heart of a man is to be held, it must be reached when it is young. This is doctrine as old as the world. The ancient conqueror practised it when he reserved the youth for his future subjects, only after having put to death his grown-up enemies. Just so, if it will be ours to triumph over the vice of intemperance in the years to come, it will be necessary to enlist under our banner the children of the day.

Governor Walcott, of Massachusetts, delivered an address full of kindly sympathy with the movement, closing with these words:—

"I trust that you will leave behind you a strong impulse toward temperance and morality among our people. I bid you, my friends, Godspeed in your great purpose. May it increase in beneficence and in extent, and be assured that you are doing, like soldiers in the field, good service to our beloved country."

The convention closed with a declaration of principles, from which the following extracts will be read with interest by our temperance friends:

The convention recognizes that a close association with the Church and devotion to our duties as Catholics are requisites for the proper extension of our work.

It appreciates with delight the many examples of devotion to total abstinence principles, now presented to us by the hierarchy and clergy of the country, setting before our people a noble example that they should cheerfully follow.

It appreciates the kindly assistance given to our work by the clerical authorities of the Church in the Archdiocese of Boston, as evidenced by the life and acts of His Grace Archbishop Williams, and we trust that the kindly words of encouragement and promises of co-operation, presented to us in the address of welcome of the priests of this Archdiocese, may be the act from which will come similar words of encouragement from the Catholic clergy of the country, whose advice we are anxious at all times to follow, and whose co-operation in our work we most respectfully seek.

It recognizes that legislation affecting the liquor traffic, as well as the obedience to legislative enactments regarding excise laws, as effective remedies toward lessening intemperance, and we, therefore, appeal to the members of the Catholic Total Abstinence Union of America to become co-operative in the endeavor to have enacted still further restrictive legislation regarding the liquor business, and to aid and support legitimate efforts to see that officials enforce the laws regarding the same business.

As nothing tends to greater morality and sobriety than the proper observance of the Sunday as a day devoted to religious devotion and rest, the Union of America observes with pleasure the growing sentiment of the public in favor of the prohibition of the sale of liquor on this day, and it cannot fail to notice with appreciation the efforts of its clergy in having Sunday laws enforced, and trusts that the enforcement of all laws forbidding the sale of liquor on Sunday will soon more universally prevail.

A STEP TOWARDS HOME RULE.

The new Irish Local Government Act is a great step in the direction of domestic self-government. It sweeps away the Grand Jury system, the Presentment Sessions, the Poor Law Boards, the Boards of Guardians, and the Town Commissioners and corporations. These bodies have hitherto had extensive powers; but all of them have had one feature in common, namely, the non-representation upon them of the majority of those who paid the taxes which they fixed and levied.

The new law substitutes County Councils, and for smaller areas within the counties, subordinate bodies called District Councils, for all the boards, etc., enumerated. Section 1 of the Act establishes, in every administrative county a County Council, consisting of a chairman and councillors. To this council is transferred all the fiscal business of the Grand

Jury, with the exception of the power of making presentments for malicious injury, which passes over to the County Courts. The presentments of the Grand Jury had to be formally approved of by a Judge of Assize. This fiat is now abolished, as is also the traverse board alluded to, so that in all general matters the County Council is practically an independent local Parliament. Besides the powers of the Grand Jury, the County Council will have the power of the Board of Guardians with respect to raising and levying the poor rate, in other words, all the rates in each county for the future will be raised by the County Council in one general rate. In addition, the County Council will have transferred to it the administration of the Diseases of Animals Act, the Explosives Act, the Acts relating to Technical Education, and the management of lunatic asylums, including all the powers of the Board of Control, which is abolished. Upon the County Council is also conferred large powers for acquisition of land for county purposes, and a number of other duties and powers to be considered hereafter in detail. The new councils thus constituted will be elected by Parliamentary electors for the county, with the addition of women and peers, who are qualified in other respects, and the elections will be by ballot.

The District Councils are divided into two classes—Urban and Rural. Where there is an urban sanitary authority at present existing an Urban District Council will be formed and this council within its area will have all the powers of the Grand Jury with regard to roads, etc., and will raise its own rates, while being subject to some general control and answerable for certain contributions to the County Council. In the areas where no urban sanitary authority exists, rural districts, governed by Rural District Councils, will come into existence. The rural district will as far as possible correspond with the existing Poor Law Union, and will be composed of councillors elected on the same franchise as the members of the County Council, two members being elected to each electoral division now electing one guardian, with an increased number for electoral divisions or wards which now elect more than one guardian. The District Councils for each division will also be the guardians for that division, so that in the rural districts there will be two distinct bodies consisting of the same individual members, but having separate functions. The District Council will have the powers at present possessed by the Burial Presentment Sessions, and also will take over certain of the powers of the guardians. Neither these councils nor the guardians, however, will have any power to make or levy rates, this being done by the County Councils, who will provide the funds for local purposes.

Seven boroughs—Dublin, Belfast, Cork, Limerick, Derry, Waterford and Galway—will become "administrative counties." This means that they are to have the same powers as County Councils, and that the franchise under which the members of these municipal corporations are now elected will be extended, so as to be the same as that under which the County Councils will be elected. The first elections for cities and towns under the new act will take place on January 15th, next, and those in the counties will be held on March 25th, 1899.

These changes, it will be seen, are almost revolutionary in their character; and they constitute a very substantial instalment of Home Rule. The establishment of a national parliament in Dublin will be the logical sequence of the "Local Government (Ireland) Act."

CANADA'S EXAMPLE.

A cablegram states that an Act has been passed by the Volksraad of the Dutch Boer Republic of South Africa, granting to every citizen of that country who is the father of twelve boys, a bonus of \$500. This is simply following, in a clumsy and impracticable way, the law passed by the Quebec Legislature at the instance of the late Premier Mercier, who, as is well known, passed an Act granting a hundred acres of land to the father of a family of twelve children, irrespective of sex. The Boer condition as to the sex of the children will render the Act nugatory, if such an Act has really passed the Volksraad. Many a father in this province has applied for and obtained the land on the conditions prescribed; and amongst these fathers have been several Irish Canadians, whose names are on the official record, and are personally known to us, but which, in deference to their modesty, we refrain from publishing.

The conditions said to have been imposed by the Transvaal in this connection are calculated to defeat the object of the promoters of the Act, which is presumably to induce settlers to take a permanent interest in the country of their adoption.

THE SUPPLY OF TEACHERS.

Under the above-mentioned heading the Daily Telegraph, of Quebec, publishes this sneering article:—

"Horace Greeley's advice to the young man, to 'go west,' would appear to be applicable to the ladies also, judging by the number of candidates who recently applied to the Roman Catholic Board of Examiners for teacher's diplomas in this Province. Over a thousand candidates in one year alone are rather too much of a good thing, and though their benevolent intentions towards the rising generation were frustrated in the case of nearly one-half by a failure to pass the requisite examination, yet the 612 remaining were much more than sufficient to fill up the yearly gaps by deaths, marriages and other fatalities in the teachers' ranks. The explanation given is that a number of the ladies go in for a teacher's diploma as they might for a ring or a bracelet—that is to say, that they want it as a distinction without having any intention of putting it to practical use; whilst, in the case of others again, the obtaining of a diploma is a test required by some religious orders as a preliminary to the reception of a novice. Still, a sufficient number remain, after making all deductions, to create too great a competition among teachers, and to frustrate the efforts of the Government to raise what are admittedly deplorably low salaries. It is curious that so many girls in the country, especially, fail to perceive that

the profession they wish to enter is a thankless one for all but the most talented, and that the elementary school teacher is more poorly paid, and worse fed, and treated with barely more consideration (if with more at all), than a good servant in a city family. This latter class is in high demand, whilst teachers are as plentiful as blackberries; and though the teaching profession is considered the more genteel, we could never understand what greater dignity was involved in teaching children than in nursing them."

We are astonished that such an article should have appeared in a newspaper professing the principles which the Daily Telegraph does. To begin with, we cannot have "too much of a good thing," as the Telegraph contradictorily puts it. It is a good thing that so many young Catholic women in this Province should have the meritorious ambition of qualifying themselves for the reception of a teacher's diploma, even if they do not intend to adopt teaching as a profession; for the necessary proficiency in the studies requisite to the obtaining of such a diploma cannot fail to be of value to them in after life, and to raise the tone, from the point of view of secular and religious knowledge, of the society in which these women will live and move. It is a still better thing that so many young Catholic women in this province should have the noble ambition to adopt the profession of teachers. Not long ago the Daily Telegraph of Quebec joined in the anti-Catholic crusade against the present system of primary instruction in this province, and one of its reasons for so doing was the large number of teachers who had no diplomas. Of course, not being a Catholic organ and having a bad case besides, its criticisms had no effect. It is hardly consistent or logical, however, to complain, first, of the fewness of qualified Catholic teachers, and then to sneer at the large number of Catholic candidates who endeavor to qualify by pursuing the stipulated studies and presenting themselves for examination. The statement that teachers are as "plentiful as blackberries" is a ridiculous exaggeration, while the confession, that it could never understand what greater dignity was involved in teaching children than in nursing them, carries with it its own commentary. Again, if every Catholic young woman was to become a "domestic servant," would not that avocation be overcrowded, and consequently underpaid and overworked?

GRIMSBY ELECTION.

A by-election has been held at Grimsby, England. Mr. Doughty, who stood as a Radical and Home Ruler at the last general election, was then elected by a majority of 181. Recently he threw up his Radical and Home Rule principles, resigned his seat, and asked for reelection as a "Unionist." He has been elected by a majority of 1,548.

Leaving aside the charges of wholesale bribery and corruption which have been openly made by the correspondents of the Liverpool Daily Post and the Manchester Guardian, there are other proofs that the Liberals and Radicals are desirous of withdrawing their support from Home Rule on the ground that the great majority of Home Rulers are Catholics. A writer in a prominent Liberal journal says plainly:—

"When, two years ago, Mr. Dillon, fresh home from a visit to the Vatican, announced his intention of mustering his party on the side of the Unionists against the Liberal party in the struggle round denominational schools, I, assuming there was a limit to human patience and long suffering, ventured to recognize the knell of Home Rule for Ireland. I did not think the forecast would be so speedily justified. The Daily News, the leading Liberal organ, says plainly that 'Home Rule must be hung up by the Liberal party until the Irish Local Government Act has been seen in operation.' The Conservative party has always been the avowed enemy of Home Rule; and its organs, commenting upon the Grimsby election, take care to give fresh expression to their hostility. The Daily Mail, of London, says:—

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"The result of the Grimsby election must be pronounced the final and deadly blow to Home Rule. On Home Rule Alderman Doughty resigned; on his opposition to Home Rule he is triumphantly returned by a majority which we may fairly pronounce immense. He dared to say straight out what every man on his side, with the exception of the Irish members, was thinking. The great, marvellous and ever victorious Liberal party of Sir William Harcourt's speeches may attempt to explain the stubborn fact of 1,547 majority away if it likes, and, if it can, extract any comfort from the process. But for the average man the truth remains, that the only issue on which the members of this party approach to outward agreement is one which is bitterly repugnant to the Irish people. It may, of course, be said that Mr. Doughty's personal popularity explains the Liberal debacle. But such a contention amounts to this: that Home Rule is so little believed in by the public that one man's influence will persuade hundreds or thousands to change their views upon it. If there were deep conviction or fervent belief, such a sudden change would be unthinkable.

The People, another metropolitan Conservative organ, has this to say:—

"We have never seen anything more remarkable than the effect of Mr. Doughty's return for Grimsby on the Radical party. For a long time they have had an idea that Home Rule was only swallowed with difficulty by their supporters in the country, but they certainly had no notion that there was such an eager desire to spit this particular morsel out. It is not going a bit too far to say that this election has definitely convinced the Radical leaders that the whole country—not merely their opponents—frankly and heartily detests Home Rule, and that it must not merely be quietly dropped, but openly repudiated."

The lesson of this election to Irish Nationalists is plain. The Liberals and Radicals have always in their hearts hated the Catholic religions, just as they hate religious education of all kinds in the public schools. As long as Irish Nationalist votes kept them in office, all was well. They concealed their anti-Catholic prejudice. Now that the Irish Nationalists, following the directions of the Irish Hierarchy, have supported the Conservative Government in its educational policy, because it was favorable to "voluntary"—that is separate schools, the Liberals and Radicals show themselves in their true light. The duty of Irish Nationalists is to close up their ranks and to keep themselves a solid phalanx, aloof from both the Conservative and the Liberal and Radical parties, ready to give their support to either only when it is willing to concede, and in a position to concede, Home Rule to Ireland."

A TWENTIETH CENTURY FAIR.

The Toronto Globe argues with much force that Canada should have a "World Fair" in the Fall of 1901. It contends that now that the eyes of the world are turned towards Canada, now that it is striding forward month by month with giant steps, showing "so wonderful an expansion in its foreign trade, giving on every side abundant evidence of genuine and magnificent prosperity, earning a chorus of admiring applause from 'the people' and 'the press' of the

English-speaking people in the four quarters of the earth; developing new resources and unsuspected riches almost daily, and, let us hope, settling at last the numerous perplexing and irritating differences with our great neighbor to the south—such a moment would seem a favorable one for Canadians to make one further great effort to promote their growing prosperity and place before the people of the world an attractive exhibition of the wonderful wealth and resources of their country, with an invitation to the people of all lands to come and share in them. Paris, as the Globe reminds us, is having a World's Fair in 1900. This will mark the close of the nineteenth century. Let us in Canada welcome the incoming century, the century that will witness the growth of the Dominion into a mighty nation. The twentieth century will be to Canada what the nineteenth century has been to the United States, only our prospects are easier, brighter and in every way happier than were those of our neighbors a century ago. The first year of the new century should see us, unless all indications fail, at the very flood of fortune and prosperity. Let us seize the opportunity to call the attention of the world to the fertility and vastness of our unpeopled western lands, to that marvellous mineral wealth, the wonderful story of which is only now beginning to be told, to the thousand opportunities that wait for labor alone and the thousand more that need but capital and energy, and above all, to the millions of homes that await the coming of our fellow men in the old world.

We agree heartily with the Globe's contention. Where we join issue with it is on the point—where should the International Exposition be held? The Globe naturally wishes it to be held in Toronto. But it cannot reasonably deny the claim of Montreal, Canada's largest city, mercantile metropolis, and principal port, to the honor of having such an exposition within its urban limits. Moreover, an international exposition, to be held in Montreal, was mooted a few years ago, and extensive preparations were made for it; but the project failed because of other projected expositions elsewhere, and circumstances to which it is unnecessary to refer now. Montreal has indisputably the claim to be the city in which a Canadian Twentieth Century World's Fair should be held.

PUBLIC interest may be revived in the Tichborne case as a result of the arrival in England from Australia of one Helem, who thinks he can be of service to Sir Roger Tichborne, and may be of service in enabling him to obtain the whole of the family property, of which the law now allows him only one quarter, and he is prepared to go into the witness box for that purpose.

THE effect of the war taxes may in the long run prove to be a salutary lesson in the fiscal policy of the United States. Mr. Charles N. Treat, collector for the Second Internal district of New York says:—

The War Tax law marks a change or transition in our economic policy. It means, in my judgment, that the burden of taxation is to fall more within the country and less on its imports. It is growing more and more apparent that if all the money required for the running of the Government, or the percentage that has been allowed, is to be derived from a tariff on imports, it will become oppressive.

It is a matter of notoriety that for some years the birth rate in France has been sensibly declining, and that it is generally feared that "National decadence" is setting in. The wisdom and ingenuity of the Legislature is sorely taxed to check this undesirable tendency, and many are the suggestions and propositions to that end. Many of those are, to say the least, are eccentric and unique, and ignore both morality and common sense. Among the laws relating to the subject, recently passed, is one to take effect in Madagascar in 1899. It is as follows:—

After the beginning of the year every man of twenty-five who is not a father, whether the child be legitimate or illegitimate, must pay an annual tax of fifteen francs. Single or childless women over twenty-five must pay half that amount yearly.

A committee appointed by the American Education Association are evidently bent on Americanizing the Queen's English by a system of tail-docking. The report of a recent meeting of the committee says that a decision has been reached by which the spelling of the following words is simplified:—

Program (programme), altho (although), thoro fare (throughfare), tho (though), thoro (through), thru (through), throout (throughout), prolog (prologue), demagog (demagogue), catalag (catalogue), decalog (decatalogue), pedagog (pedagogue).

The changes, of which the foregoing words are a sample, will be submitted to the Executive Committee of the National Association. The idea of the committee was to spell the words exactly as they sounded. The indolent man values rest, but the industrious man values labor.