

The True Witness

AND CATHOLIC CHRONICLE, PRINTED AND PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY

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G. E. CLERK, Editor.

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MONTREAL, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28, 1870.

ECCLESIASTICAL CALENDAR.

OCTOBER—1870.

Friday, 28—SS. Simon and Jude, Apostles. Saturday, 29—Of the Immaculate Conception. Sunday, 30—Twenty-first after Pentecost. Monday, 31—Fast. Vigil of All Saints.

NOVEMBER—1870.

Tuesday, 1—ALL SAINTS, Obl. Wednesday, 2—All Souls. Thursday, 3—Of the Octave.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The past week would seem not to have been altogether unfavorable to the French. Frequent sorties, and in force, have been made by the garrison of Paris; and even allowing for a little pardonable exaggeration, these would seem to have inflicted much loss on the besiegers, especially on the Bavarian contingent of the German army. The *Gardes Mobiles* have distinguished themselves; and these successes, even if not decisive, or productive of much apparent results, must have raised the somewhat impaired morale of the French troops.

On Thursday startling news reached us by telegram to the effect that Bazaine had capitulated, and concluded a treaty, military and political, with the Prussians. The military terms were that the army under his command were to lay down their arms, but to remain in Metz; the political, that the Empire was to be restored in the person of Napoleon IV. during whose minority Marshal Bazaine was to be Regent. How, or in virtue of what authority, the latter proposes to settle the political future of France we confess that we do not understand; nor do we see why the Prussians should undertake the perilous and ungrateful task of giving France a stable government. The people of France we suppose will have something to say in the matter; yet after all, it seems that they must fall back upon, either an Emperor, or a King. In the rural districts, and amongst the peasantry, we do not believe that the late regime was unpopular; and wild as at first sight the scheme attributed to Bazaine may appear it is by no means of impossible execution.

Later telegrams have thrown doubts upon the fidelity of those which first reached us. Bazaine is now said to be intriguing for the Regency; and the capitulation of Metz amounts to this—that Bazaine had proposed to surrender half his army, the remainder to garrison and continue the defence of the beleaguered place. These terms were of course rejected, and the siege, or rather blockade, continues.

The position at Rome remains unchanged. The Holy City, once rightly so called, but which in the words of Our Lord has been made a den of thieves "*speluncam latronum*" is trampled under foot by the mercenaries of an excommunicated King. Where lately the Vicar of the Holy One took council with the Fathers of the Church, the devil holds his court; and in lieu of the voice of prayer and praise, we hear but the coarse blasphemies, and obscenities of the soldiery of Victor Emmanuel, and of the vile rabble of thieves and prostitutes that followed close upon their heels. All rascaldom is in ecstasy; the Church and all good men mourn, and cry to heaven "How long O Lord, how long?" in the full assurance however, that ere long He will execute justice upon the enemies and persecutors of His Church, and that the words of the prophet Jeremiah will be fulfilled upon them. "Thou shalt render to them a recompense O Lord according to the works of their hands; * * * thou shalt persecute them in anger, and shalt destroy them from under the heavens O Lord." Amen.

The Catholic Hierarchy of Great Britain have united in a protest against the attack of the Piedmontese Government upon the Papal Territory and the Sovereign Pontiff; all Catholics are called upon to form a league of prayer for the deliverance of the Holy Father from the power of his enemies, and the enemies of the Church; and to protest against the outrage

against the laws of civilized nations, and the rights of weak States, of which he has been made the object.

Another disastrous shipwreck, attended with fearful loss of life, has been added to this year's list. The steamship *Cambria*, one of the staunchest vessels of the Anchor Line, from New York, has been wrecked off the coast of Ireland. The only particulars yet known are contained in the following telegrams:

LONDON, Oct. 21.—The steamer *Enterprise*, from Garson to Londonderry, picked up a boat off Innishaven Head at 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon containing a sailor and the corpse of a girl. The sailor stated that the steamer *Cambria*, of the Anchor Line, from New York, struck at 10 o'clock the night previous on Innishaven Island, and became a total wreck. Four other boats containing passengers left the steamer, but have not yet been heard of. The sailor reports that his own boat upset, and all on it but himself were drowned.

We give below some of the most important and latest items of war news transmitted by cable from Prussian sources:—

A Berlin dispatch says it is stated officially that the French Charge d'Affaires at the Spanish Court in Madrid had asked the Government, for the interest and preservation of the Latin race, to send to France an army of fifty thousand Spanish soldiers to assist in resisting the Prussians. This proposal was positively declined by the Spanish Government.

BERLIN, Oct. 22.—The *Staats Anzeiger* of yesterday, in its account of affairs before Metz, says: The sickness in the armies is due to the uniformity of the food; dysentery is decreasing and typhus will doubtless go with the present cold weather; desertions from the garrison are increasing, the fugitives all give the same reason, hunger. The invading force and the German armies generally receive abundant supplies of all sorts of cattle. Thousands of sheep have been sent to France for the Germans.

LONDON, Oct. 22.—The armistice at Mezieres ended yesterday afternoon. The bridge over the Meuse, near that place, will be blown up by the Prussians to-day, but the bombardment will not be commenced until more troops and munitions of war can be brought up. The French force within the walls of Mezieres is computed at about five thousand men, and are fragments of various French regiments.

LONDON, Oct. 22.—A despatch from Amiens to-day announces that the Prussians are only 3 kilometres distant. Every preparation has been made to defend the town. A special train laden with munitions of war passed through Amiens to-day from Lille, going to Rouen.

The journals publish the accounts of the deserters from Metz, who say that Bazaine is dead, and that Canrobert was in command, and hunger and pestilence prevailed. These stories were discredited. However, at Berlin the capitulation of Metz was hourly expected.

Chartres has been surrounded by the Prussians twenty thousand strong. They have also forty cannon. The Prefect of the Department and the Mayor of the city arranged with the Prussian commander that the rights of citizens shall be respected.

Le Constitutionnel to-day announces that Lord Lyons, British Minister, has made an important communication to the Government here. He wishes aid from Austria and Italy to effect an armistice in order that the elections for members of the Constituent Assembly may proceed. He stated that Russia would act in the same direction.

VIENNA, Oct. 23.—The Austrian Government, responding to the representations of England, urgently advocates armistice at Tours and Versailles.

The evening edition of the *Times* contains special telegrams from Berlin stating that Prussia has repeated her willingness to grant armistice if the principle of the cession of the territory be conceded. Mere dismantling of fortresses in Alsace and Lorraine under European guarantee is insufficient. Deserters from Metz are constantly arriving at Berlin.

The Empress Eugenie is in London holding a conference with Lord Granville. Negotiations very favourable for peace are progressing. England asks for armistice, not for the purpose of electing a Constituent Assembly, but for a restoration of the Empire. Eugenie to re-enter France and Bazaine leave Metz to protect her, restore order, and make peace. Trochu approves the plan.

It is rumoured that a defensive alliance has been formed between Turkey and Greece against the encroachments of the Western powers.

LONDON, Oct. 23.—Despatches from Bombay announce that troops are leaving Madras for China.

NEW YORK, Oct. 22.—The loss of the steamship "*Cambria*" is fully confirmed, and there is little to give hope that the passengers who had taken to the boats have escaped. The coast is a very dangerous one, and it is evident from the upsetting of the one boat from which the single survivor of the wreck was picked up,

that the sea was very rough at the time of the disaster. Nevertheless those who had friends on board need not be in haste to imagine the worst. The coast is admirably guarded by expert and adventurous men, and it is not impossible that if the boats were driven ashore some of the passengers were saved.

FULL PARTICULARS BY THE SOLE SURVIVOR.—LONDON, Oct. 23.—The telegraphic lines have all been destroyed by the recent storms, and McGartland's narrative has just got through from Londonderry as follows: The voyage from New York was generally fortunate notwithstanding the unpleasant weather which prevailed until the night of Wednesday, the 16th of October, between 10 and 11 o'clock; the *Cambria* was then under sail and steaming rapidly. Suddenly, when all was apparently going well, she struck on Mistrain Island, ten miles west of Donegal, and thirty miles west of Londonderry, the vessel began to fill through large holes stove in the bottom, and the fires were soon extinguished. It then became evident that the steamer was hopelessly lost, and efforts were therefore directed to save the lives of the passengers who were massed upon deck.

Four boats crowded with passengers were launched and put off from the sinking steamer. McGartland entered one of these and he saw no more of the ship or other boats. The weather was very heavy, and he thinks there is no doubt that all the boats were swamped, and that he is the only survivor. Almost instantly upon getting into the boat it capsized, and he lost consciousness. Upon reviving he found himself in the sea, but grasping the gunwale of a boat which had righted. He succeeded in getting into the boat a second time, and found therein the dead body of a lady. Mr. McGartland was tossed about for many hours, when he was picked up by the *Enterprise*, Capt. Gillespie, who cruised about the scene of disaster for a long time in hope of saving life and property. McGartland says that almost at the very time of the disaster the passengers and crew were congratulating themselves on the tempestuous voyage which was nearly finished, and rejoicing in the fact that in one short hour they would land at Moville.

The latest accounts, which must be taken with a pinch of salt, are to the effect that in the German army before Paris the cry for peace is waxing loud; that Bismarck, who is in opposition to Moltke, is for peace, and that Great Britain is again about to intervene betwixt the two contending parties. We may therefore hope that before *All Saints Day* an armistice shall have been concluded, and the basis of a lasting peace laid down.

DEATH OF THE VERY REVEREND DR. GORDON.—Again we have imposed on us the painful duty of recording the death of a distinguished ecclesiastic, Vicar General of the Diocese of Hamilton, which occurred on the morning of Saturday, 15th inst., in the Episcopal Palace of that City.

The Reverend deceased had attained to a ripe old age, having been born in Dublin in 1792. In 1817 he emigrated to Canada, and then feeling a call to embrace the ecclesiastical state, he entered the College of St. Raphael which had been lately opened in the county of Glengarry by the late Bishop McDonnell. Here he completed the necessary theological studies for the sacred office of the Ministry, and in 1829 he was ordained priest. During many years he served as parish priest in Niagara, and on the 13th of November, 1846, he took the place of the late venerable Vicar General McDonnell. In this post he labored for years with never flagging diligence amongst a large Catholic population by whom he was loved and honored as their spiritual father. In a well known work, *The Irish in America*, we find the following notice of the subject of this brief memoir:—

"There is still living in Hamilton, Western Canada, as Vicar General of the Diocese an Irish priest—Father Gordon from Wexford who has witnessed astonishing changes in his time. He has seen the City founded, and the town spring up; the forest cleared, and the settlement created; the rude log chapel in which a handful of the faithful knelt in the midst of the wood, replaced by the spacious brick church in which many hundreds now worship. And not only has he witnessed astonishing changes but he has himself done much to effect the changes which he has lived to see accomplished."

Yes! His indeed has been an active and a useful life, and he has now gone where he will reap the reward of his labors and receive the wages of the industrious servant in the Lord's vineyard. Long will his memory be held in honor by the Catholics of Hamilton, and of the Province of Ontario.

FUNERAL OF THE LATE ARCHBISHOP OF QUEBEC.—The mortal remains of this good and deeply lamented Prelate were consigned to the grave on Tuesday, the 18th inst., amidst an imposing group of mourners composed of the Bishops of the Province, the clergy of the Diocese, and the most distinguished of the citizens of Quebec. Indeed as represented by their respective Bishops, all the Catholics of the Province may be said to have assisted at the sad though imposing ceremony.

The Cathedral was suitably arranged for the occasion. A solemn *Requiem* Mass was sung by MONSEIGNEUR BOURGET Bishop of Montreal assisted by the Rev. MM. Martineau, and Godbout. A funeral sermon brief, but impressive was preached by the Rev. M. Louis Paquet of the Seminary of Quebec; after which the last solemn rites were performed, and the body of the late Archbishop of Quebec was consigned to its final resting place at the foot of the altar.

PROROGATION OF THE COUNCIL.—It is stated in the journals that a letter has been written by the Sovereign Pontiff suspending the meetings of the Council; since in the present condition of affairs, and Rome being in the possession of an enemy, such meeting would no longer be opportune.

ORDINATION.—In Toronto, in St. Michael's Cathedral, on Tuesday the 18th inst., the Holy Order of Priesthood was conferred on the Rev. Mr. McEntee, by His Grace the Archbishop of Toronto.

We republish, but merely as a newspaper rumor, that Mgr. Lafleche will probably be the successor of the lately deceased Archbishop of Quebec.

No one can doubt the ardent sympathy of the *Minerve* for France, and its brave soldiers. But the *Minerve*, as must every honest Frenchman, feels degraded and insulted by the presence of a Garibaldi at the head of a French army, who in his usual *bancombe* or bombastic style, declaims against the political and social system of Europe. If France can be saved only on such terms—then, says the *Minerve*, let France perish!

"If Garibaldi," says our respected contemporary, "continue to parade at the head of the French armies, his mouth full of impetuous and insolent threatenings against the social order of Europe, we can but invoke fresh humiliation for French arms, because they are doomed to defeat. France cannot, at one and the same moment, conquer by means of Garibaldi, and remain untouched in her honor. Rather may she perish, than disgrace herself to all eternity. If it is by such sad means she clings to life, she has ceased to be Catholic and we are no longer French."

This too, we expect will, be the feeling of all good Frenchmen. The "sons of the crusaders" will surely never submit to the infamy of being led by a Garibaldi; better for them, less dishonoring would it be for them to allow their country to become a province of Prussia.—Better things are, we hope, we believe, in store for France; and victory, if again it revisit her standard, will be the reward of her fidelity to the ancient faith. Of this we may be sure: no Catholic, no man of honor, will serve under Garibaldi.

The *Times* publishes the following portion of the report of an English surgeon in China as to the cruelties there inflicted on converts to the Catholic faith. About Protestant converts the Chinese do not seem to bother themselves:—

"At the request of the French Minister, four Roman Catholic converts have been removed from the yamen to the foreign settlement. One is an old man over 60 years. They have all been more or less tortured in various ways, and present a perfectly horrible appearance; their bodies fearfully emaciated, and covered with gangrenous sores filled with maggots.—One man has been placed on a rack, and all his joints cracked. Another has been beaten so severely on the hands and feet that the tendons are exposed. There are still in the yamen three men and six women (converts), but these are in such a wretched state that the authorities dare not move them. One of those women has had needles driven underneath her finger nails, and her body sprinkled over with drops of boiling oil. Another, a young girl aged 16 years, has had all her fingers chopped off by small pieces. It is reported that they have suffered other indignities too horrible for publication."

The *Witness* quotes from a Yankee paper some remarks upon the want of "men of brains" in France at the present moment, as an illustration of the "Effects of Jesuit Teachings," and it goes on in the following strain:—

"The practice of leaving the education of the masses to the priests, and the politics of the country to a despot, has not proved favorable to the development of generalship or statesmanship."

A good argument, only unfortunately the facts are the other way. In France, for many years, Education has been a government monopoly; the State has undertaken the functions of teacher, and has put down the priests.—What the French are to-day is the result, not of Priest Education and Popery, but of State-Schoolism and Caesarism.

A slight shock of an earthquake was distinctly felt in this City on Thursday of last week the 20th inst. The vibration lasted about half a minute, and was accompanied with a low rumbling noise. No great injury was done, but several nervous people were a little alarmed; the shock seems to have been generally felt throughout the Province. Profound thinkers, and able reasoners of the *Witness* school will of course attribute this shock to the blighting influences of Popery. The Seminary of Montreal and the Jesuits are both shrewdly suspected of being at the bottom of it. Time will show; and *en attendant* it behoves all sound Protestants to be on the alert against the machinations of the perfidious Church of Rome.

We publish below a list of the sums already forwarded for the reconstruction of the Cathedral, by the several parishes named below:—

La Pointe Claire, \$50; St. Isidore, \$80; La Riviere des Prairies, \$26; Ste. Genevieve, \$60; Longue Pointe, \$68.25; Ste. Anne des Plaines, \$40; Ile Dupas, \$38; St. Jean, \$90.60; Repentigny, \$10; St. Joseph du Lac, \$10; St. Bruno, \$40.66; St. Polycarpe, \$42.50; St. Columban, \$16.00; Ste. Sophie, \$28; St. Lin, \$59; Rigaud, \$65; St. Jacques de l'Abigian, \$36; St. Olet, \$21.75; St. Zotique, \$60; St. Anicet, \$69.85; Chateauguay, \$47.80; Vaudreuil, \$86; Les Cedres, \$48; St. Jerome, (Parish), \$35.65; St. Jerome, (Village) \$34; Sault au Recollet, \$67.70; Pointe aux Trembles, \$67.25; Ste. Julie, \$22; Berthier, \$23.25; Coteau du Lac, \$40; St. Hubert, \$79.45; St. Esprit, \$50; St. Paul l'Ermitte, \$34.75; St. Urbain, \$32.60; Lanorite, \$50; Ste. Scholastique, \$21.70; St. Thomas, \$32; Ste. Beatrix, \$10; St. Cyrien, \$35; St. Norbert, \$22.56; St. Francois de Sales, \$25; St. Roch, \$67.53; Ste. Melanie, \$8; Vercheres, \$96; Terrobonne, \$14; St. Timothee, \$4; Ste. Philomene, \$40.

The undermentioned sums have also been received from the several institutions named below:—

Bishop's School, \$26; Pupils of Lachine Convent, \$20; Pupils of Villa Maria, \$100; Orphans of the Providence Asylum, \$4; Deaf and Dumb, \$10; St. Antoine Academy, \$10; Pupils of Christian Brothers Schools, \$350; Pupils of Longueuil, \$8; Pupils of St. Denis Academy, \$50. The monthly collections taken up in the Cathedral have yielded as under:—January, \$25.25; February, \$30.40; March, \$30.72; April, \$27.75; May, \$30.50; June, \$19.50; July, \$23.40; August, \$37.50; September, \$38.

REPORT OF THE MINISTER OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION OF THE PROVINCE OF QUEBEC FOR 1868 AND P. RT. OF 1869.—From this Blue Book we gather that in Lower Canada the numbers of both schools and scholars are steadily on the increase, an increase proportionally greater than the increase of population. Our system of education may not be perfect; nay, if its working were entrusted to bad hands it might be made to work very oppressively; but as carried out by the Hon. M. Chauveau it has done much good. It would be well for our Catholic brethren in Upper Canada if they in the matter of education were so well off, and as liberally dealt with, as are the Protestant minority of the Lower Province.

The *Montreal Gazette* having made some remarks upon the Canadian contingent of the Papal Zouaves, publishes the following reply from M. De Bellefeuille. We give the most important portions:—

"This is your question: 'Is it true that the final removal of the French troops from Rome was almost, if not precisely, simultaneous with the departure of a large body of Canadian Zouaves whose term had just expired; and is it considered conspicuous gallantry in a soldier to refuse to serve one day longer than his exact period, even though its termination find a cause for which he fights in deadly and unexpected peril, and though, therefore, his sword is of more value than ever to the chief whom he abandons?' Or, under these circumstances, does the canon of military honor require a brave man to re-enlist under the flag he assumes to love, and to guard it most vigilantly when most dangerously threatened by its foes?"

No, sir, it is not honourable for a soldier, nay, for any one, to desert and abandon a cause he thinks good and just, at the very moment when it seems in danger. The soldier who would take advantage of the expiration of his engagement to leave the ranks of an army that is marching to the battle ground, would assuredly show neither courage nor devotion; or, to use your own words, the canon of military honor requires a brave man to re-enlist under the flag he assumes to love, and to guard it most vigilantly when most dangerously threatened by its foes. I am happy to agree entirely with you on this point.

But, Sir, the Canadian Zouaves did not abandon the ranks of the Pontifical army at the time of the final removal of the French troops from Rome, nor at that moment when the state of things in Europe made all the Catholic world fear an attack on the States of the Church. On the contrary, the Zouaves, whose term of engagement expired during that period, did re-enlist. I affirm it and I prove it.

The detachment of Canadian Zouaves known as detachment No. 4, left Montreal on the 25th of June, 1868, arrived in Rome on the 15th of July following, and enlisted the following day, or the day after, for the term of two years. It was therefore on the 16th or 17th of July, 1870, that their engagement expired. This detachment is the only one whose term was up during last summer. Well, has it come back to Canada? No; on the day their engagement came to an end, all the men of this detachment, except two or three who had been previously sent home on account of sickness, all of them re-enlisted and remained in Rome. They saw the invasion of the Pontifical States, they were present at the siege of Rome; they without doubt took a part in the light fighting made as a protest against the spoliation which the Pope has undergone, they have endured the insults and the bad treatment of the Roman mob, they have been brought prisoners into the interior of Italy; and they are now by sea coming to Canada with all the other Canadian Zouaves; All these facts have been published during the last few weeks by the Catholic papers of Montreal and cannot be denied.

What may have brought you to think that some of our Zouaves left Rome at the eve of the brittle is perhaps the late arrival of 112 of them. But you will not forget, sir, that these men forming the detachment No. 7, embarked at New York on the 3rd of September, were not able to reach the end of their journey on account of the events which took place in France as well as in Italy, whilst they were at sea. And many will think that if of the seven detachments sent from Canada one has shown more courage and devotedness than the others, it is surely the last one, who left Canada to go to Rome at a moment when a terrible war was threatening to bring on a general conflagration.

Hoping, sir, that I have in those few lines sufficiently answered your questions, I remain, very sincerely, Yours, &c., E. LEF. DE BELLEFEUILLE, Chevalier of St. Louis.

Montreal, 22nd Oct. EXTRAORDINARY CONVERSION.—The Hon. Billa Flint, in a letter addressed, through the *Bellefeuille Intelligencer*, to "Priest Brettargh," has declared that he is a Catholic. What will his Methodist friends say now? HODIERNUS.