

POLITICAL BLUNDERS.

The old saying about those "whom the gods wish to destroy," applies somewhat strikingly to the Herald of late. Certainly the pagan deities must have driven that organ distracted. It evidently attempts to "cut off its nose to spite its face." About a week ago it made a most ridiculous attack upon the Solicitor-General, and on Monday last, having probably nothing else to say, it makes three or four petty attempts to belittle the leading Irish Catholic representative of this province. Instead of manfully criticising his speech, it sees fit to make its party responsible for Mr. McCarthy's course and to endorse that gentleman, in order to have a shot at Mr. Curran. We would like to know if the Herald finds any fault with the following utterances of the Solicitor-General; if so, in what way?

"The previous speakers had referred to the difficulties that beset our path, and to the miserable disappointed politicians who were seeking to traffic upon those difficulties. Let them look at what has taken place within the past few weeks. Sir John Thompson (cheers), the great leader of the Conservative party, who had been sought by the party, and who had only accepted that leadership at the cost of a great personal sacrifice, which no man but a whole souled patriot would have consented to make. He had quitted the shores of Canada to devote his great talents as British Commissioner at Paris for the cause of our country and of the empire. He left us amidst the acclaim of all creeds and classes to fulfil a most important mission, even the great organ of the Opposition, the Toronto Globe, stating that in his hands, and with his ability, we had nothing to fear.

MR. MCCARTHY'S ATTITUDE.

What was the position of the man who not being able to rule was determined to ruin? Whilst Sir John Thompson was filling his great role, Mr. McCarthy was picking up the shattered weapons that had been cast aside by the late George Brown at the time of Confederation. Mr. McCarthy, blinded by his jealousy, would find to his cost that the people of Canada had outlived wretched bigotry and miserable fanaticism. The spirit of Sir John Macdonald was abroad amongst the Canadian people and the embers of race and religious discord could never be fanned into flame again."

The Herald seems to make objection to Mr. Curran's appointment; does it consider that the really interested parties—the Irish Catholics of this Province—have endorsed, through the mouth-pieces of their societies, irrespective of political stripe, the nomination of Mr. Curran to the responsible position he holds to-day? It would be more beneficial to the interests of those The Herald seeks to please, were it to come out frankly and say, "Mr. Curran made a very good speech, and if ever we get into power we would be happy to have the office that he fills occupied by as able a man." Or, if that would be too generous for The Herald, it should have criticised his speech. If it did not agree with his remarks, as it evidently does not, it should admit that it sides with Mr. McCarthy. The fact is that in its ungovernable anxiety to vent its spleen upon the Solicitor-General, The Herald over-stepped the mark. One paragraph would have sufficed for its purpose; the two or three additional cuts indicate spite, spleen and insincerity. However we are pleased to know—even at the cost of a few shots at Mr. Curran—that The Herald commends the tactics of the member for Simcoe, and that its party endorses Mr. McCarthy's policy of disturbance. "Tear the country to pieces; it matters not, provided we reach the treasury benches. We will strive to patch up everything once in power. Strike at every one, good, bad, or indifferent; never mind the consequences; we can stand the same as long as we get our hands on the helm." These are about

the words that The Herald dares not express, but that convey pretty exactly its sentiments.

C. M. B. A. No. 26 of Quebec.

The regular meeting of Branch No. 26 of the Grand Council of Quebec, was held on Monday, 24th inst. There was a large attendance of members and visiting brothers. In the absence of president Kelly, vice-president Kerr called the meeting to order. There were two candidates initiated and five balloted for. The report of the representatives to the Advisory Board was received and adopted. The explanation of the benefits and good work done were the first advisory board was instituted in Pittsburgh, Pa., was given by Grand President O'Reilly in a lucid manner. Several communications were read from the Supreme and Grand Council of Quebec.

Mr. O'Reilly said that the Advisory Council of the C. M. B. A. of Western Pennsylvania was established in June, 1888, it has at present no liabilities, and its assets are: in bank \$800; loan to Branch 49 of Pittsburgh, \$300; and it has contributed the following sums to deserving charities: 1st. To members who have been in straitened circumstances, \$300; 2nd. To the orphans of Pittsburgh, \$500; 3rd. To branches to aid them in holding open meetings, \$300; 4th. To Mercy Hospital, Pittsburgh, \$100. They also defrayed the expenses of the Grand Council Convention in Pittsburgh, paid all assessments for twenty-one members during the Homestead strike, donated \$25 to one of the branches to keep their Beneficiary Fund up and several other acts of the greatest charity, as this is the banner under which they live.

Belfast Orangemen.

BELFAST, April 24.—The Orangemen employed in Queen's Island shipyards refused to-day to allow one thousand of their fellow workingmen, who are Roman Catholics, to resume work at the yards and chased them away from the place. In the attack which attended the expulsion of the Roman Catholics a number of persons were injured. The conflict proceeds intermittently. More than 6,000 Orangemen have been marching about in procession, threatening to attack the Nationalists. The military has been kept between the two mobs and will probably prevent their meeting to-night. Several fights between less considerable bodies of Nationalists have been stopped by the police. At one o'clock this morning (25th) the city of Belfast is quiet. Most of the crowds have disappeared. The police are patrolling the districts where trouble is most likely to occur.

THE GOVERNMENT'S ACTION.

LONDON, April 24.—In the House of Commons to-night Mr. Thomas Sexton, anti-Parnellite for North Kerry, asked Mr. Asquith, home secretary, in the absence of Mr. Morley, Irish secretary, whether the attention of the Government had been directed to the Belfast riots; if so, what measures had been taken to preserve peace, and whether the speeches of the eminent politicians who had instigated the riots would be considered by the law officers of the Crown. Similar conduct of the Orangemen on a previous occasion. Mr. Sexton added, had resulted in the killing of twenty people. The Belfast police apparently had made no effort to prevent the looting on Saturday night of the tavern kept by the Catholic, Connolly. Would such negligence be tolerated by the Government? In reply, Mr. Asquith read the official report of the rioting in Belfast yesterday and Saturday. The facts related correspond with those cited by Mr. Sexton and already published. As regards the speeches of the eminent politicians, as Mr. Sexton had designated Mr. Balfour and Lord Randolph Churchill, Mr. Asquith expressed the opinion that they had incurred a very heavy responsibility by using intemperate language directly calculated to incite the bitterest party strife. The Government had taken every possible step, he said, to prevent a recurrence of the deplorable demonstration in Belfast, and believed that further trouble would be averted.

HIGHLY SPOKEN OF.

DEAR SIR,—I have used your Hayward's Yellow Oil for sprains, bruises, scalds, burns, rheumatism and cramp, and find it an unequalled remedy. My neighbors also speak highly of it. Mrs. MINT, Montreal, Que.

PRESENTING THE BANNER.

Sir Donald A. Smith's Able Speech and Mr. C. A. McDonnell's Eloquent Reply.

On the occasion of the grand banquet, in the St. Lawrence Hall, on last Saturday, an incident outside the ordinary took place.

When the cheering which greeted the conclusion of the Finance Minister's speech had subsided, the gathering broke out in cheers again, for they saw Secretary Jacobs enter the dining room bearing the handsome banner which the Conservative ladies of Montreal were to present to the club, and followed by Sir Donald A. Smith and a number of ladies. Among the fair arrivals were Mesdames G. E. Foster, M. de Sola Tasse, Andrea, Massey, Mathieu, McCaskill, David, Misses Nash, Tasse and about twenty others.

In presenting the banner, on behalf of the ladies, Sir Donald Smith spoke of the honor he left at being entrusted with this duty, and said that in placing the banner in the hands of the Sir John A. Macdonald club the ladies did it with the assurance and in full confidence that it would be borne aloft by the members in the cause of justice and with the idea that determination to uphold, as far as might be in their power, the dignity and honor of Canada. (Applause.) Looking at what had been done by the great man, now gone from amongst us, but whose memory was held in reverence, and would continue to be held in reverence and to be respected by the people of Canada even more as time went on, not alone by those calling themselves Liberal-Conservatives, but by all parties, and the desire of whose heart was to that which would benefit his country, so that should be in every point and in every way equal to any other, no matter what that other might be; looking to that, the ladies had great confidence in placing the banner in the hands of the club that bore his name. They also had confidence that the club would widely represent the Liberal Conservatives, the rising generation of Montreal, and would be in unison with the liberal-minded men throughout the country; that the club would conserve and keep intact all that was good in the past, and at the same time not be satisfied with that, but would be ready to adopt any improvement and everything that might be for the good of the country, because it was necessary that there should be changes and improvements, not for the sake of change, but that they might be in accord with the needs of the day, whatever these might be. The ladies also had full confidence that the club would uphold loyalty and would loyally follow the leaders of the party, who were determined to do full justice to all in the Dominion, not to one particular sect, but to all, whether French or English, Protestant or Catholic. (Applause.)

Sir Donald then formally handed the banner over to the club, amid much applause.

AN ELEGANT GIFT.

The banner is a handsome one of white silk, the reverse side being light blue, and is mounted on a beautiful stand and staff. On each of the upper sides of the banner hung knots of sky blue ribbons. The coat of arms of the club, "Tenax Reposta," is the beaver surmounted by the Crown, and branching out on either side are scrolls of maple leaves and Scotch thistles. Beneath are the words:

SIR
JOHN A. MACDONALD
CLUB.
FROM THE LADIES.

Tasseis of gold pendant from the flag and a beautifully tinted autumn maple leaf in the centre angle make up as beautiful a banner as could well be imagined. The banner, which is now in the possession of the secretary, will be returned to the ladies as they desire to place their autographs on the reverse of the banner.

In reply Mr. McDonnell, the popular and eloquent president of the club, made the following happy remarks:

SIR DONALD SMITH AND LADIES—Permit me in the name of the officers and members of the Sir John A. Macdonald club to express the deep sense of their appreciation of the noble spirit of generosity which prompted you to place in the possession of our club such a grand

symbol the motto and name of the first honorary president the late Sir John A. Macdonald.

While the members of our club have even striving to do their duty as citizens of Canada, and, by every fair and honorable means, endeavor to promote the prosperity of the Liberal Conservative party, they never anticipated such a beautiful testimony of approval emanating from a distinguished member of the ladies of Montreal. When we first conceived the idea of forming a club our thoughts naturally turned to a name and I am proud to say that the first name suggested was that of the late Sir John A. Macdonald. Your generous action will be therefore also accepted as an endorsement of our efforts to honor the memory of great Canadian Statesman who so often led the Liberal-Conservative party to victory on the great battle field from which he was called with the stamp of death on his features.

Sir John A. Macdonald is dead but his memory lives in the history of his country, is honored by the rising generation, cherished by you and typified in the three great actions of his life, our Confederation our National Policy and our National autonomy. The circumstances under which you have offered you splendid gift are of special significance to every member of our Club, because you have chosen as your standard bearer on this occasion Sir Donald A. Smith, one of Canada's noblest sons, the prince of benefactors, the friend of young Canadians, the patron of educational establishments and the pioneer of higher education for your sex. May your banner inspire other young Canadians to unite with us and stand neath it and rise to a true conception of the duty of a citizen. May it usher into existence among the adherents of the Liberal-Conservative party of the City of Montreal that spirit of enthusiasm and enterprise which will lay the foundation of a home for the Conservative clubs and those who profess the principles of the party, upon the walls of which we can place your magnificent banner.

I thank Sir Donald Smith for his noble words, and offer you, ladies, on behalf of our club, our deepest expressions of gratitude, and assure you that we will ever strive to be worthy of your confidence and respect.

J. P. Kavanagh Banquetted.

A pleasant gathering assembled at the Stanley House Monday evening to do honor to Mr. J. P. Kavanagh, local manager of the Ogdenburg Coal and Towing Company, previous to his joining the ranks of the benedicts. About thirty-five gentlemen were present, some of them coming from as far west as Toronto for the occasion. The banquet was in the nature of a surprise for Mr. Kavanagh, and this was not lessened when Mr. T. F. Moore arose and after making a neat speech, presented him on behalf of his bachelor friends, with a handsome silver water pitcher and a cake basket. Speeches were made by many of those present, and a jolly time was had by all. The occasion of this pleasant reunion was the marriage of Mr. Kavanagh to Miss Julia Teresa Quinlan, a sister of Mr. T. J. Quinlan, of the Queen Insurance Co., which was announced to take place on the 26th inst., in St. Patrick's Church. Mr. Kavanagh, who is a native of Pittsburgh, N.Y., has been in business in Montreal for a number of years, and is well and favorably known in social as well as commercial circles in this city.

Unknown persons, for unknown reasons, having sent numerous anonymous letters to the Roman Questura, asserting that the late Dr. Ceccarelli, one of the Holy Father's physicians, had died from the effects of poison, his body was exhumed and the result of the autopsy has clearly proved that the regretted doctor died a natural death. It is thought that the author, or authors, of these infamous, anonymous communications should be sought for as usual among the anticlericals, who are for ever on the lookout for something sensational to serve up to their respectable adherents.

An explosion occurred in a mill at Matagorda, Spain, on the 12th, killing a large number of men.

INDIGESTION CURED.

GENTLEMEN,—I was thoroughly cured of indigestion by using only three bottles of B.B.B., and truthfully recommend it to all suffering from the same malady. Mrs. DAVISON, Winnipeg, Man.