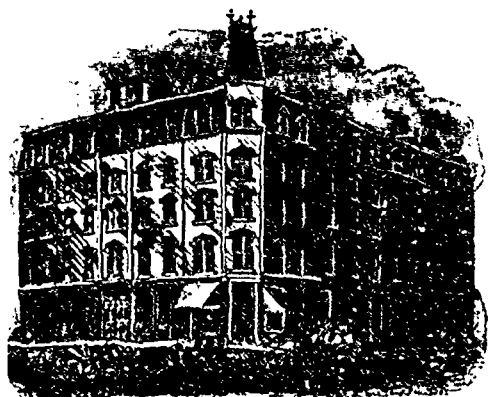


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laity not to transgress the bounds of Christian charity and justice, in striving for a remedy for their distressed condition." To those who have taken the trouble to gain a clear idea of what "boycotting" really means, it will appear as a most heinous crime against civil, moral and Christian law. Why it should be introduced into a merely political agitation is beyond the conception of people in this country who have studied the Irish situation. It is supposed that the policy of the Irish league is largely directed from the United States, but we imagine that if an attempt were made to introduce such tactics at home, the United States Government would make quicker and more effective work in stamping it out, than the British Government has done in Ireland. The effect which the Papal decree will have on the Irish situation is a matter of much speculation. There will be strong declamations against it, and some of the agitators talk of rebelling against the Church, but in the end the Church will, no doubt, triumph. Those who understand what "prudently but effectively" mean in a decree of the

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Vatican, will admit this. The circular addressed to the Irish bishops is a declaration of the Supreme Congregation of the Holy Roman and Universal Inquisition, confirmed by the Pope, and therefore must be accepted by practical Catholics as final authority. The bishops will be obliged to see that the commands are obeyed by the clergy, no matter how distasteful, and the clergy will be responsible for the obedience of the people. It is therefore almost certain that the influence of the clergy in favor of the course pursued by the agitators will be withdrawn, and with their withdrawal the league loses its real strength. Any refractory ones among the clergy will, no doubt, in the language of the decree, be "effectively" dealt with. Shorn of the influence of the clergy in upholding the "boycott" and the "plan of campaign," the Government will not likely find it a difficult matter to cope with the illegal acts of the league. The result will be that the Irish agitation will come down to the level of a constitutional, political movement for Home Rule, against which nothing can be said, in stead of being, as it now is, a powerful conspiracy against law and order, justice and morality, and a terror in the land.

Western Notes.

A 30 foot addition is to be added to the rear of the Commercial hotel at Neepawa, Man.

Upwards of ten thousand gopher tails were paid for, at the rate of 3 cents each, at the last meeting of the council of Wallace, Man. A bounty of one cent for each tail will be paid from the first of April.

L. L. Brown, of Dunham, Que., has written to Mayor Shelton, of Calgary, asking what inducements would be given to a man starting a tannery in Calgary. Mr. Brown has had a large experience, and is a brother of E. N. Brown, of the Mount Royal ranche. The Mayor replied that a free site would be granted and exemption from taxes, but no bonus would be given.

Assessment Commissioner Harris, of Winnipeg, reported the completion of the assessment roll for 1888. The total assessment of the city amounts to \$19,509,040, the exemptions to \$3,449,550, and the actual household population to 22,093, to which might be added about 3,000 for the floating population, making a total of about 25,000. In the city there are 1,243 horses, 1,570 cattle, 272 sheep and 368 pigs.