The True Witness AND CATHOLIC CHRONICLE.

TEST IS IN CŒLO FIDELIS

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CITY AGENT.

Mr. P. J. Gleeson, of No. 22 St. Urbain, is our duly authorized Agent for the City and vicinity.

NEW AGENT.

Mr. Patrick J. Shea, is our agent for St. Thomas and the district surrounding, to whom subscriptions may be paid.

TRAVELING AGENT.

Mr. John Gough is our Traveling Agent, and is fully authorized to receive monies and grant receipts as such.

THE REV. MR. TOCQUE OF KINMOUNT.

We publish in another column a remarkable sermon delivered by the Rev. Mr. Tocque at Kinmount, on the 12th of July. It was delivered before an assembly of orangemen, and this fact makes it all the more remarkable. As may be understood there are many points in the sermon with which we disagree, but yet it is a sermon based upon broad and Christian principles, and most heartily do we wish that the spirit which it breathes was more general than it is. All we ask of our Protestant friends is that they shall not insult us, and under all the circumstances which surrounded the Rev. Mr. Tocque at the time he delivered his remarkable and manly sermon, we can afford to pass over the offensive way he spoke of us. In his case indeed we would go so far as to say that those offences were not intended, and we thus pass them bye.

HOME RULE.

The *Herald* in commenting on the Home Rule movement says:—

"The Home Rulers, having had a fight among themselves, are again at leisure to challenge everybody else to 'step on the tail of their coats.'"

This is the old cry. "Step on the tail of their coats." Could'nt the *Herald* furnish us with something new? The stage Irishman with bludgeon in hand, broken "caubeen" and trailing the "tail of his coat," is becoming a mythical personage, and surely the wits of satarists can supply a character in harmony with the genius of our people. Suppose we took a fling at the English clodhopper and associated his ignorance with the characteristic policy of the British M.P? To do so we would have to insult our citizens of English birth, and that we do not intend to do. But our enemies are always the first to throw the stone, although there are no men in Europe who live in a more perfect glass house. Then Irishmen have no right to disagree at all. They must be unanimous upon every question. They must be of one mind frm one end of the land to the other. So thinks the *Herald*, and the *Herald* only reflects, upon this issue, the opinions of Englishmen all the world over. Englishmen can be Republicans, Monarchists, Conservatives, Liberal Conservatives, Liberals, Advanced Liberals, and Internationalists, all of which factions exist at this hour in England, but Irishmen have no right to be Home Rulers and Anti-Home Rulers—they should in fact exhibit a perfection of political unity which does not not exist with any people in the world. Such an expectation is as absurd as the "coat tail" is insulting. We shall not forget the little incident to the *Herald*.

THE NEW ALLIANCE.

We rejoice to notice that the first branch of the French Canadian Catholic Union has been formed. This is a step in the right direction and most heartily do we welcome our French Canadian co-religionists into the ranks of the Catholic Union, of Montreal. We have no official right indeed to speak in the name of the Union but we know from personal knowledge that this practical testimony of mutual interests has given much satisfaction to every Irish Catholic in the City. Our French Canadian friends may depend upon it that the time is come when it is necessary for us to stand together. Unless we do so we will find ourselves put on one side, and being replaced, *not by friends.* To our French Canadian co-religionists we say that they are entitled to the sway in this Province, and more, that we shall assist them in retaining it. In their hands we feel that our liberties are secure. We shall stand by them in every issue where their legitimate power is assailed, asking only in return their friendship and assistance when our common Church is threatened. Push on the good work of Union, rally around the good old cause, and we shall yet crown our NEW ALLIANCE with the laurel wreath of glorious victory.

A QUESTION ASKED.

MONTREAL, September 4th, 1877.

To the Editor of the TRUE WITNESS.

DEAR SIR,—I would, through your columns, beg to ask the Postmaster General if one of the employees under his control obtained leave on the 16th July, to be absent from duty while he played and escorted a body of the imported Orangemen from the Orange Hall to Bonaventure Depot The person to whom I allude is Sergt. Major Johnson, of the Prince of Wales Battalion, a clerk in the Post Office here, appointed by the Hon. Lucius Seth Huntingdon. It is however nothing worse than letting General Robinson loose from Kingston, another Government official. I enclose my card.

OBSERVER.

Perhaps Mr. Johnson can give a satisfactory explanation to the above charge.—E.T.W.

THE *FREEMAN* ON ORANGE ROWDYISM.

The Dublin *Freeman's Journal*, owned and edited by a Protestant, writes of the late riots in Derry, where a Catholic was startled to death, thus:—

"There never can be any real prosperity in Ireland until the internecine feud between Churches is at an end. It is easy to see who is aggressor. Is there any celebration of the Siege of Limerick and the defeat of the pious Dutchman? Certainly not; and we trust that disgraceful day will never come when the Catholics of Limerick will degrade themselves by insulting their Protestant fellow-townsmen. Nothing can be more despicable than a spirit of paltry hate concerning a subject of which no Irishman needs to be ashamed. The Siege of Derry was undoubtedly a display of noble and splendid heroism. No man can read the story without feeling proud of a race which could achieve so much. But as we have given up our offensive displays on the 18th of June lest we should wound the French, why should we not cease a foolish parade which is solely intended to wound one's own countrymen? We may be certain that so long as a portion of our people continue to befool themselves as the Orangemen of Derry delight in doing, so long shall we lack the respect which attaches to a civilised nation.

PROTESTS FROM THE RUSSIAN GENERAL.

The Russian Commander-in-chief denies that the check at Plevna was as serious as the press circulated. He has issued the following proclamation in reference to the reports of the disaster:—

"In foreign newspapers much is said about the flight of our troops after the unfortunate affair of Plevna on the 30th of July, about the pursuit of our troops by the Turks to Sistova, about the unsuccessful attempts to besiege Rustchuk and Silistria, about the victories of the Turks at Rustchuk and at other places. All that is as impudent a lie as the invention, disseminated last month by the newspapers hostile to us, of an unsuccessful attempt to cross the Danube at Nikopol, and a victory of the Turks at Biela. Once for all, I request that no attention be paid to the systematic lies disseminated by the Turkish newspapers and by that part of the European Press which is hostile to us. If there is no news from me, that means that all is well and there is nothing new. When anything unsuccessful happened to us, I myself at once telegraphed about it."

PLEVNA.

Plevna has been and is likely to be for a short time longer, one of the objective points of the Russian army. A military correspondent describes it thus:—

Plevna is a town of 14,000 inhabitants, built in terraces upon a hill, with the Vid and Grivica Rivers covering three of its sides. Its streets are narrow and tortuous, and as most of the houses are built of stone and surmounted by orchards or gardens with high walls or thick hedges it is suceptible of a good defence. The circumstance that it is not commanded from any point in the environs renders the position still more formidable, as it can be carried only by assault. It has been strengthened as is the case along the whole line, by abattis and rifle pits, with redoubts at some of the salients. A good military road, crosses a branch of the Grivica about three miles outside of the town where there is an earthwork—leads to the Aussian position of Bulgareni. To the rear the communications are easy with Widdin and Rahova, the country to the north and west between Plevna and the Danube being chiefly a plain, with a few unimportant undulations, practicable for artillery in every direction during the dry season.

VERACITY OF RUSSIAN NEWSPAPERS.

It appears, by all accounts, that the Russian press generally gives impartial reports of the progress of the war. A military critic says that:—

Russian journalism, for reasons that are obvious, has never made much of a mark in the reading world, but it sets a good example just now to newspapers that are printed in more accessible tongues. It in "nothing extenuates," and gives its readers the truth, unwelcome though it may be, about Plevna, the Armenian campaign, and so on, and chronicles Russian reverses just as candidly as though it were printed in Constantinople. In this It affords a striking contrast to the old process of toning down by easy stages a "brilliant victory" into a "contested advantage," thence by fine degrees progressing from repulse to disaster and to retreat, until at last the total rout was admitted. By this means the mines of newspaper readers in in othes days were supposed to be prepared for disagreeable facts. but the journals, it is true, were not so much to blame as the controlling hands in the telegraphic wire. Military necessities may compel the withholding of important facts for a time for strategic purposes, but to attempt to "break" unwelcome news to a nation is about as useless and unsuccessful as preparations of a similar sort for the individual; and it is creditable to the Russian Government that it gives the bitter sauce to its children without any attempt to sprinkle sugar over it, but relying on its tonic effects to stimulate and make ready the army of reverse. The *Golos* tells its readers that the Russian mistake has been to fancy they were engaging in a military promenade—that it would be simply a walk over the Balkans—but that they cannot arrive at Adrianople by the mere weight of column alone. The Turks fight harder and better than was expected, and seems so far to have the advantage of generalship on his side, as well as the prestige of being at home. Young Russia, which is supposed to have for its maxim, "Whatever is, is wrong," will probably have an opportunity to engage in more practical work than phamphleteering before the campaign is over.

A REVOLVING SHELL GUN.

A novel gun is described by a contemporary as:—

A most valuable addition has lately been made in the shape of a revolving shell gun. It is the invention of a Frenchman; and, in connection with the electric light, may be considered as the very best defence yet brought out against torpedo-boats. It throws a one pound shell with a pointed steel head capable of piercing the plates of which the *Thornycroft* is constructed, and has a range of something like 3,000 yards. Briefly described, it is a Gatling gun on a large scale, having five revolving rifled barrels instead of ten, the said barrels being about 3½ feet in length, and 1¾ inches bore at the muzzle. The loading and firing arrangements are similar to the Gatling, only, instead of a cylindrical case being place on the top of the breech, the cartridges are arranged in flat cases of five, which are fixed in an inclined position at the side. The turn of a handle causes one of the cartridges to slip into the chamber, when it is thrust forward into the barrel and fired. This weapon is fixed on a pivot at the stern, while a Gatling gun at each end of the bridge, and one on the forecastle, are also always ready for giving a warm reception to any of the enemy's boats which may attempt to approach the Turkish flag-ship while at anchor.

FUNERAL OF BRIGHAM YOUNG.

A Salt Lake despatch says the funeral of Brigham Young was carried out in accordance with written instructions given by Brigham Young in 1873. A contemporary thus describes it:—

He desired that the body be made clean and kept from one to four days; that the coffin be made of redwood, with a canopy top, giving the appearance of his being able to turn over if he desired; that he rest on a cotton bed and be dressed in Temple robes; that the females of the family buy no black to wear at the funeral, but they could wear such if they had it, and that the males wear no crape; that the services consist of singing and prayer, and that if friends desire to speak a few words they be at liberty to do so; that the body be carried on a bier to the southeast corner of the private burying ground on the hill east of the Lion House and deposited in a cut stone vault covered with slabs and earth, and then roofed over, and there he desired to rest until the resurrection. He desired no one to cry or exhibit signs of grief. There were ten tiers of seats in front of the stand, occupied by the family and the relatives of deceased. Not less than twelve thousand persons were in the building. All his wives and children with a few exceptions were present, and many scores of grandchildren and relations more distant. The demonstrations of grief were few, though all seemed sad. From 9 o'clock the organ had been playing "The Dead March in Saul; "Mendelssohn's "Funeral March," and a march composed for the occasion, by a Mormon. George J. Cannon was Master of Ceremonies, and at noon announced the hymn, "Hark from Afar," which was sung by the Tabernacle choir of two hundred and twenty voices, opening prayer by Apostle Richards, a hymn, brief addresses by David H. Wells, Apostles Woodruff, Trow, Cannon and Taylor. The speakers confined themselves to laudations of Brigham Young and exhortations to the Saints to remember and obey his counsels to proceed with the erection of temples, the foundations of four of which have been laid. A hymn composed for the occasion and the benediction by Orson Hyde closed the services. The procession then formed and marched to the Cemetry, half a mile distant. Four thousand persons were in line with uncovered heads, The ceremonies at the grave were brief, being only hymn and prayers. Brigham's first wife stood by the grave, sometimes leaning on the arm of Amelia, the favorite. Spectators were allowed to pass the tomb, after which it was closed and sealed.

A SENSATION RELIGIOUS.

The *Witness* of Tuesday, the 28th September translated an article from the *Gazette de Sorel* which referred to the fact of a poor American girl escaping from the convent in a deranged state of mind, and the *Witness* immediately flung an air of mystery round it, and loudly called for more light on the subject. Even the *Star* could not stand the sickening efforts of its contemporary at sensation making, and rebuked it severely. We translate from the *Gazette de Sorel* of the 3rd inst., an article that exposes the whole affair in its true light and defends a Catholic Institution:

"We do not know from what source the *Witness* borrowed such information; but what we do well know is that the said source is not the mirror of truth, It seems to us that the ample details that delicacy permitted us to give on the subject, were sufficient, without having recourse to flighty versions like those given by the reporter of the *Witness* But we understand it now; the version was intended to cast a slur on a Catholic institution. We might say for instance to the young girl "that she prefered to die sooner than return to the convent," and if we compare this last phrase with certain other parts of the writing above quoted, the malicious insinuation is still more striking. It is our duty to repair the matter. In the first place, let the *Witness* rest assured that all that could possibly be said about this unfortunate affair has been said already, and that the sooner it is forgotten, the better it will be for the morality of our little town so little used to like sensations (or events). In the second place the *Witness* counts wrong. Not only two Protestant ladies, but several persons applied to the Chief of police to see the young stranger, and were equally dismissed for the good reason that the latter did not care to serve as a "show" for the curious. At her own request, she received no useless visits, and we cannot imagine where the *Witnees* fished up "the gentleman who succeeded in obtaining an interview with her," unless it be the same person, who, in order to render himself interesting, relates to any one who listens, that he passed the evening with the young stranger, whose insane act he admires sufficiently, to say distainfully. It is not our *Canadians* who could make so much of it! Suffice, it is to say the *Witness* would do better to let the matter drop here, instead of trying to make out of it a weapon of religion; for that is impossible unless it lies, and we will always be there ready to confound it or to unveil the truth.

LACROSSE.—SHAMROCK v. ATHLETICS.

This match came off last week on the Toronto Cricket Ground in presence of a large crowd of spectators, considerable numbers of them having accompanied the foreign team from Montreal. The Queen's Own band furnished the music, and the coolness of the day helped to make the proceedings very enjoyable. The *Globe* says:—

"Arrangements were made previous to the commencement of play, that the match should be considered over at ten minutes to six, in order to suit the strangers. The ball was faced at 3:20, and lively play was shown until 4:05, when Farmer, who was fielding well throughout, secured the first goal for the Shamrocks after a series of plucky runs. The next game was again secured for the Shamrocks by Lynch, who made a neat drop-shot through the posts. The ball was again faced at 4:40, when it was evident the home men intended to make a desperate effort to retrieve their position. After the ball had travelled once up and down the field, Fred Walker secured the first goal for the Athletics. The ball was faced for the fourth and last time at 4:45, and the struggle continued for the remarkably long time of one hour and five minutes, neither side obtaining any decisive advantage. At 5:50 time was called, the game standing in favor of the Shamrocks by two to one. For the home team Sullivan, McKenzie, and Walker made some brilliant running, and Rough's dodging and wriggling seemed to puzzle his opponents not a little. For the Montreal men, Hoobin, Butler, Giroux, and Farmer rendered conspicuous service. The following are the teams:—Athletics—Field Captain, W Hook; Goal F Sullivan; Point, R McKenzie; Cover-point, J Aird; Fields, J. Wright, R Muldrew, C. Varcoe, F Walker, W Rough, B B Boulton; Home men, R T Blatchford, James Carruthers, and T G Dexter. Umpires, A M Blakeley and Harry Brown.

Shamrocks—Field Captain, M O'Connell; Goal' P Murphy; Point, J Hoobin; Cover-point J Morton; Fields, T Brennan, T Butler, E Giroux, J Hyland, T Farmer, C. Maguire; Home men, T. Keogh, — Conroy — Lynch. Umpires, John Mulvey and Robert O'Farrell.

GINX'S BABY.

The conduct of the author of "Lord Bantam," "Ginx's Baby," and the late Agent General for the Dominion of Canada, Mr. Jinks, does not seem to satisfy the Home Rulers. The *Catholic Times* says in relation thereto:—

The versatile author of "Ginx's Baby" is in a dilemna. Following the rising of Parliament, he utilises the columns of a Dundee paper to vindicate himself from the charge, brought against him in the House by Mr. Callan, of having broken his pledge to the Irish portion of his constituency. The pledge was, as alleged, to back the Home Rulers in their demands, without which Mr. Jenkins would not have sat for Dundee. Mr. Callan, on seeing Mr. Jenkins's defence in print, called upon him to withdraw it or submit to an exposure. Mr. Jenkins stood fast. Mr. Callan then placed before the public some extracts from letters written to himself by the Liberal candidate for Dundee before the election came off. Two of them are worth giving. In one Mr. Jenkins wrote:—"I shall help you in any fair claim on the Treasury, in any attempt to reform your Judiciary, and in the greatest of all your ambitions—the power of legislating on purely Irish questions by an Irish legislature." The next is significant;—"My views are sufficiently well known, and a matter of tactics it would be better for you *not* just now to draw further public attention to them, or make any public statement about them." It must be "as a matter of tactics" that the hon gentlemen has since changed front, and brought this revelation upon himself. The moral of this episode is that public men should be consistent. If an acceptance of the Home Rule programme endangers the chances of a British candidate, let it be manfully refused. No good can come of this secret conniving with one side to throw dust in the eyes of the other, and then stultifying both. Politics ought to be conducted with candour and good faith."

THE POTATO BUG.

The English papers complain that potato bugs is sent to the old country by Canadians as objects of interest to their agricultural friends. By and by this irrepressible insect may turn out to be something more than a source of amusement. The Liverpool *Catholic Times* says:—

Our lively cousins over the Atlantic seem determined that we shall have Colorado beetles at any cost, and curiosity is so strong on our own side of the water as to encourage this doubtful curiosity. We observe that the Glasgow police, finding a perforated tin cannister in the mail ascertained that it was full of living beetles and locusts. A general battue was carried out, and then the vessel was forwarded to the postal authorities in London. It is now believed that the simultaneous discovery in a Bristol railway carriage of a lively beetle, and portions of a perforated cardboard box, arose from the carlessness of some one charged with the conveyance of a specimen insect. Orders have been given to watch the American mail, and arrest all such immigrants; but stern action should also be taken against any person or persons proved to have carried or received living Colorado beetles. If this country is to grow a colony of them, there will be ample time to repent any laxity now manifested in guarding against the pest."

ADDRESS AND PRESENTATION.

A presentation of a nicely filled purse was made to the Rev. Father Stenson, of Almonte, on Friday last previous to his departure for Ireland. The presentation took place in the hall of the F. M. T. A., which was tastefully decorated for the occasion. On the platform with the Rev. Father Stenson were seated Rev. Fathers McCarthy, McGinnis, McCormac and McConkery; also Messrs. McDermott, Stafford and O'Brien. Mr. Dowdall, the chairman, made a few introductory remarks, after which a beautifully composed address was read by Miss Theresa Hanover, at the conclusion of which Mrs. Ellen McAuliffe presented the purse.

The rev. gentleman was deeply moved by this unsuspected token of love, and feelingly expressed his thanks, not only for the donation, but for the expressions of gratitude and esteem contained in the address. The gentlemen on the platform each made a few remarks, wishing Rev. Father Stenson a happy voyage.

Rev. Father McCarthy was then introduced by Rev. Father Stenson as the pastor of St. Mary's during his absence. The proceedings were closed by the brass band of the F. M. T. A. playing a few very nice selections.

COM.

THE BALKANS.

VIENNA, Aug. 15.—The operations begun with so much success by the Russians on the southern slopes of the Balkans and in the rich valley of the Tundja have resulted in considerable losses for them at last, and in a terrible catastrophe to the populations of these regions. In the various battles fought at Eski Saghra, Yeni Saghra, Kezanlik and Kalofer, the Russians have lost more than 12,000 men killed, wounded, or taken prisoners, and the inhabitants of the fairest and most fairest valleys of European Turkey have been partly annihilated, partly driven from their homes. The fragments of Gourko's corps are intrenching themselves in the Shipka Pass the 8th Corps, appointed to support them is echeloned between Selvi, Brenova, and Tirnova, and a division of the 11th Corps occupies Koyarawitze. Against these troops, which form the bulk of the Russion forces in Western Bulgaria, there is advancing with slow but steady pace a Corp d'Armee coming from Shumla by way of Osman Bazar. Sulleman Pasha, too, with a portion of his Army, the flanks of which are covered by another detachment, is advancing from Slivno in the direction of Elena; and lastly, some of Osman Pasha's men are marching from Lovatz by way of Selvi on Gabrova. Russian reinforcements, indeed, are coming up. and parts marching by way of Sistova and Nikopol, are already on the scene of action, but the remainder will scarcely be able to arrive before September, and they are more than sufficiently counterbalanced by the fresh troops which the Turks are receiving from Asia. Moreover, as the military condition of the Russians is much worse than that of the Turkish camp, the gaps occasioned by sickness among the former are so considerable as almost to establish an equilibrium of force between the two combatants.