

"THE TRUE WITNESS"

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The Post Printing & Publishing Company,
MONTREAL, CANADA.

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 19, 1883.

CATHOLIC CALENDAR.

SEPTEMBER, 1883.

THURSDAY, 20.—St. Eustace and others, Martyrs. Vigil of St. Matthew. Bp. Gardland, Savannah, died, 1854.

FRIDAY, 21.—St. Matthew, Apostle. Ember Day. Fast.

SATURDAY, 22.—St. Thomas of Villanova, Bishop and Confessor. St. Maurice and others, Martyrs. Ember Day. Fast.

SUNDAY, 23.—Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost. Epist. Eph. iv. 23-24. Gosp. Matt. xxii. 1-14. Bp. Smyth, Dubuque, died, 1865.

MONDAY, 24.—Our Lady of Rainbow.

TUESDAY, 25.—St. Cornelius and Cyprian, Martyrs (Sept. 16). Bp. Rosati, St. Louis, died, 1878.

WEDNESDAY, 26.—St. Linus, Pope, and Martyr (Sept. 23). St. Cyrian and Justine, Martyrs.

To our Subscribers.

We are now mailing the accounts due for subscriptions to THE TRUE WITNESS to our subscribers, and wish particularly to draw their attention to an announcement made a few months ago, in which we stated that all privileges, such as club, &c., were abolished, and that all who wished to get the TRUE WITNESS for \$1.00 per annum could do so, provided they paid that amount strictly in advance each year, otherwise they would be charged at the usual rate of \$1.50 per annum. We trust also that those who are in arrears will promptly pay their indebtedness. We hope that our agents all over the country will make a new effort to collect accounts due and increase our circulation. All remittances can be made by registered letter or Post Office order, addressed to THE POST PRINTING AND PUBLISHING COMPANY, MONTREAL.

Mr. HENRY IRVING, the foremost actor on the English stage, who is about to pay a visit to the United States, entertained for a time the idea of bringing over a British critic to write the performances for the American papers. The project was a most silly one, and would certainly, if carried out, have got the actor into hotter water than he would bargain for. It is strange that a man of so much intelligence and experience as Mr. Irving ever conceived such a wild idea. The Paris *Figaro* pointed out to him that American papers would not be very apt to use criticisms prepared by the press agent of a British actor, and Mr. Irving accordingly abandoned the untimely scheme.

HIS MAJESTY QUEEN VICTORIA has not yet learned to forget John Brown. She is making more fuss over his mortuary departure than she did for any of her royal consins, or even of her daughter Alice. On her recent visit to the Balmoral estate Her Majesty ordered the outdoor servants to wear black on their arms as mourning for the deceased Jaquie. And the servants didn't relish the idea one bit. The Queen next had Brown's grave in the Kirkyard of Orkney enclosed with handsome iron railings; and now preparations are being made to put up the large monument of gray granite, also ordered at the personal expense of the Queen. The inscription engraved on it was written by Her Majesty, and describes Brown as "the devoted and faithful personal attendant and beloved friend of Queen Victoria," and ends with the words, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things; I will make thee ruler over many things. Enter thou into the joy of thy Lord." The *Glasgow Herald*, commenting on this freak of royal grief, humorously remarks that "this sounds as though the Queen's prerogative extended to post mortem rewards."

The anti-national character of the school books used in the so-called national schools of Ireland was brought to the attention of Chief Secretary Trevelyan by Mr. T. P. O'Connor, M.P. The honorable member, with these school-books in hand, showed that they were compiled in such a way that they would be quite as suitable reading for children in Timbuctoo as for Irish boys and girls. The only book wherein the name of Ireland, or of anything national connected with the country appears, is in the geography. The selections are all taken from Scotch and English authors, and bear reference to every other land under the sun except Ireland. Grattan and Flood and Curran and O'Connell, Moore and Mangan and Davis and Griffin, Carleton and Lever, and the host of other great Irish poets, novelists, orators and historians are completely ignored by the commissioners of 'Irish' national education. When these facts were laid before the House, the Government had not a word of defence to offer. The attempt to denationalize the youth

of the country by enforced ignorance was as evident as it was contemptible. It excited the scorn and the ridicule of the fair-minded and the intelligent. The result of the *casus* was that in the name of the English Government Chief Secretary Trevelyan promised to look into the Irish national school books and to effect an improvement in harmony with the wishes and sentiments of the people.

The Toronto *World* is distinguishing itself by the independence of its views. It speaks its mind plainly and leaves no room for equivocation. There is one thing our contemporary cannot stand and that is toadyism, or a superabundant loyalty to Canadians. In relation to the visit of the Earl of Carnarvon to Canada, it complains that his Lordship had no sooner landed "than some of our Great-Britain worshippers began to distend with loyalty or wind, and straightaway proposed a public reception to the Earl in such chief cities as he might pass through." The *World* further adds that it knows of no important "services rendered to Canada" by Carnarvon which would justify Canadians in dispensing more than ordinary hospitality to the noble earl. Our contemporary concludes its severe and unloyal article by stating that "as a statesman the doctrine of Lord Carnarvon is the very essence of toadyism; and of those who ran about now distorted with desire to honor him would but remember that it is he who laid down the doctrine that the lieutenant-governor is only a part of the colonial administration staff, having no finite right in himself and responsible in everything to the governor-general—thus paying the way for a complete surrender of provincial autonomy—and then shut their tooting mouths, and go into their houses, they would bring more credit upon the country than by proposing a hospitality that can only belittle the dispensers. It is time we rose from grovelling colonialism to the true height of ourselves and come to look upon British statesmen as the same flesh as ours, and treat our visitors only with such hospitality as is their due, basing it upon some distinctive merit, not upon the mere fact that they are Englishmen, which is an assumption that we do so because we are only Canadians."

SUSPENSION OF THE EXCHANGE BANK.

It has been the opinion of business men for some time that the Exchange Bank would have to curtail its operations, and perhaps go out of business, but the general impression was, that the directors would gradually bring about a liquidation and not startle the public by suddenly suspending payment. At a meeting of the Directors on Saturday, however, it was decided to suspend payments altogether for the present, and as these gentlemen own more than one-half of the capital stock of \$500,000, the doors of the bank will be closed to business to-day. The embarrassment has arisen through pushing business beyond a point which it was safe to go, and the bank was forced to borrow money because of the difficulty of realizing on its own outstanding loans. This, we believe, is the true position of affairs, though it is perhaps not official. It is officially stated that the bank, while taking advantage of the ninety days allowed by law, will do so with the least possible inconvenience to note holders and depositors, that the circulation will be redeemed as rapidly as possible, and early and persistent efforts made to realize on loans outstanding. We believe that the directors have acted in good faith, and have all along sought to make the Exchange Bank a profitable concern to the shareholders. They are themselves very deeply interested, which is a guarantee that nothing which can be done for the good of the institution will be left unaccomplished. What is wanted now is a little patience on the part of the creditors, which they can safely allow, for on examining into the last statement of liabilities and assets we find that ample funds exist for the payment of both creditors and shareholders, unless, indeed, totally unexpected and heavy losses are encountered. The capital and rest amount to \$800,000, and the management states that both are intact, and that the bank has a contingent fund of \$110,000. The statement of its affairs on September 1st is as follows:—

LIABILITIES.	
Capital.....	\$500,000
Rest.....	300,000
Circulation.....	\$467,385
Dominion Government deposits.....	277,608
Provincial.....	100,000
Deposits to secure contracts.....	63,000
Public deposits.....	1,853,377
Due from banks.....	18,237
Due foreign banks.....	48,767
Other liabilities.....	50,518
Total.....	\$3,868,884

ASSETS.	
Specie.....	\$ 35,605
Dominion notes.....	36,550
Cheques on other banks.....	117,351
Due from banks in Canada.....	96,275
Due from foreign banks.....	1,509
Loans on stocks and bonds.....	\$ 287,360
Loans to municipal corporations.....	2,060
Loans to other corporations.....	283,128
Discounts current.....	2,854,845
Overdue debts, unsecured.....	3,300
Overdue debts, secured.....	27,013
Real estate.....	26,890
Bank premises.....	105,000
Total.....	\$8,775,493
Liabilities of Directors.....	19,133

DOMESTIC INFLUENCES AND EDUCATION.

On the re-opening of the schools a short time ago we took occasion to draw the attention of parents to the care they should bestow on the choice of a suitable one for their

children. Many parents think that when they have selected a safe and well-conducted school and sent their children to it, their duty begins and ends there. A little reflection would show this to be a grievous mistake. Sending their children to a good school is only a part of the parents' duty. Parents should, if possible, visit their children occasionally in the school-rooms to see for themselves the progress they are making, the manner in which they are taught, and the condition in which the class-rooms are kept. When parents hand their children over to the staff of a school, they should not forget that they delegate, at the same time, their authority to the teachers to exercise it at discretion and correct the children for their faults when necessary. Parents then, instead of receiving and encouraging their children to carry home complaints against their teachers, should co-operate with the teachers, sustain their authority and inculcate the necessity of obedience thereto. Parents whose education enables them to do so, should assist their children in the preparation of their home lessons—indicating how the thing should be done without actually doing it for them. Parents unable or unfit to assist their children in the matter of book lessons should, nevertheless, interest themselves in the youngsters' work, watch over them, and see that they spend sufficient time upon the preparation of the tasks assigned them.

As soon as children develop a taste for reading, and begin to peruse other books than those furnished them at school, an increased vigilance becomes obligatory and necessary. The "cheap and nasty" dime novels, with their sensational rubbish, or their soft, sickly, sentimental twaddle, or their dangerous, insinuating impurities—the "Pictorial Blackguards" of New York, the illustrated gutter literature, so foul and so filthy—these publications, and others of like ilk, the curse of our civilization, the disgrace of the printing press, and the moral maelstrom which engulfs and swallows up in their unholy abysses so many of the once-promising youth of our country—should be rigorously and unrelentingly excluded from every household in the land.

In the formation of the minds of boys and girls, no factor is more potent and influential for good or evil than the character of the works they read and the publications they peruse. Bad books have filled the jails, prisons and reformatories of the land, and have sent to the gallows hundreds of ill-guided youths who might have been a credit to their country, an honor to their parents, and an ornament to society.

No responsibility is greater or more serious than that of parents in this matter. They must be too vigilant, too careful or too cautious as to the formation of the minds and characters of the children whom God has entrusted to them, and of whose guardianship He shall one day demand a strict account. Let the schools, then, do their part of the educating efficiently and conclusively, and let the parents co-operate with the schools in "training up their children in the way they should go," saving them from the profligacy of the streets and the contamination of bad company—and no company is worse than that of a bad book or a malicious print.

RELIGION A BARRIER TO HIGH OFFICE.

The *Catholic Record* of London, Ont., has had its attention drawn to an anomalous state of affairs in regard to the personnel of the executive government in the several provinces of the Dominion. Our contemporary points out that the Catholics of Canada have not complained that a Governor General of their faith has never been appointed since the English occupation of the country, although they might with very good reason have done so. The *Record* then makes the following strong case in relation to the Lieutenant-Governors of the various provinces. It says: "But because they have not done so, is no reason why attention should not on their behalf be called to the singular but unmistakable fact that out of our eight Provincial Governors, but one is a Catholic, Lieut. Governor Robitaille, of Quebec. Whence this strange exclusion of Catholics from these high executive offices? Are their public men less qualified than the Cornwalls, Downways and Robinsons that now fill them? No one will, we think, advance any such absurd statement. Well, then, there must be some object in excluding Catholics from preferment to these high places. Whatever that object we should know it. The fact that Catholics are in a minority in every Province but Quebec is not just reason why the Lieutenant-Governors of all the Provinces but that one should be Protestants. In many other Provinces the Catholics constitute a very large proportion of the population, and will, we can make no doubt, before very long convert their present minorities in these Provinces into majorities. These people have, however, in the meantime a right to their just share of governing power, which they cannot have so long as their religion is made a barrier against the preferment of their leading public men."

This is a calm and considerate view of the position of Catholics in this Dominion. Our contemporary's points are all well taken, and its questions referring to the disagreeable facts are ones which half of the population of Canada is interested and even anxious to have answered. Religious intolerance is a contemptible trait in any Christian and civilized government, but it would be singularly out of harmony with the genius and spirit of Canadian rule. We do not want even the thin edge of the "nasty thing" introduced into our system of Home Rule. We must avow that up to the present there has been on the part of the powers that be a rather perceptible inclination to ignore the

claims and rights of the Catholic population. This inclination has got to be checked. The exclusion of Catholics from high offices cannot be consequent on their unfitness, for it generally does not take a smart man to fill them, and even if it did, there are some smart men among those professing that faith. The Catholics do not want any monopoly of high or low office; but at the same time they do not want the monopoly to fall into the hands of any other creed. Where they could enjoy such monopoly by virtue of their overwhelming numbers alone, they don't do it. There is no such thing as Protestant ostracism in Quebec, although all the sects put together only form a handful in the population. Protestants have filled offices in this Province from the Premiership down. This is only as things should be, but, in the mean time, it is desirable that the same spirit of tolerance should exist all over the Dominion, and should be equally manifested by the Protestants when they happen to be in a majority. Exclusion from high office on account of religion should be made a thing of the past. It may be that the fact of naming anybody but a Catholic to the big positions of the country is all right, but it looks bad. Even in matters of national policy it doesn't do to be too reckless of appearances.

THE NORTHERN PACIFIC RAILROAD.

The completion of the Northern Pacific Railroad has been made to occupy a large share of attention in the newspapers during the past few weeks. Foreign lords and other capitalists were imported by the President of the road, Mr. Villard, to lend eclat to the ceremony of driving the "golden spike," and prominent public men in the United States were treated to free excursions for the same purpose. While the completion of this highway deserves to rank with the great achievements of the time, still the history of its conception and early construction cannot but recall some of the most stupendous frauds of the age. The enterprise is not a new one; it was engendered some twenty years ago, but for various causes had to be frequently abandoned. It was among the most obvious and important causes of the great financial catastrophe of 1873. Its charter was secured in 1864 under conditions which rendered the chances of construction remote. In 1865 the charter passed into the hands of a company which did nothing towards carrying out the construction of the road until the notorious Jay Cooke, banker, appeared upon the scene. With the collapse of Cooke & Co. the commercial world is familiar. As hard practical business men fought shy of the Northern Pacific and Mr. Cooke, the latter addressed himself to the widows and orphans of the country to invest their little all in the enterprise. Cooke got around the Sunday school people, the religious press and innocent clergymen. He convinced the more credulous of them by his behavior that he took but little interest in the Northern Pacific except in so far that it would benefit the widow and the orphan. He got up excursions for clergymen and provided a summer resort for the more indigent of their number. They, in consequence, recommended Mr. Cooke and his project to the purses of their simple flocks. The pious weeklies and Sunday school organs urged investments in Northern Pacific and boldly endorsed what they must have known to be a swindle. When the final crash came the families of hundreds of clergymen and of others saw the savings of a lifetime swept away in a moment. Jay Cooke had ruined thousands. Two years later the bankrupt concern was again brought to the surface, and the construction of the road has been pushed at the expense of the public domain. The road received a land grant aggregating 57,920,000 acres, of which, according to the last report of the United States Auditor of Railroads, 42,600,000 acres are available to the company. Conceding 30 per cent of this territory to be worth little or nothing, the valuable agricultural and mining lands along the route are estimated to yield a price averaging at least \$3 per acre for the entire grant, or a substantial subsidy of \$127,500,000 for the road. The first 2,600,000 acres sold by the company netted a price of \$9,000,000, and the lowest valuation placed on the grant by experts in Congress is \$108,000,000.

The cost of the entire road, as estimated by the Auditor of Railroads Accounts in the Interior Department, is \$87,466,000—a total which is swelled to \$93,526,668 in Mr. Villard's official response to a Congressional committee of last year. Consequently, taking the lowest valuation put upon the grant, and the highest estimate of the cost of the road, it appears that the Government grant sufficed to build the entire line and left a surplus of about \$15,000,000 to the credit of Mr. Villard and the other stockholders.

Although it is a great matter to have another channel of commerce across the continent established, the people in the States and Territories, through which the Northern Pacific runs, protest that the road is used by Mr. Villard and his companions as a means of extortion. This is how an Oregon paper describes the situation: "One man—Henry Villard—has secured absolute control of every railroad, steamship, steamboat and means of transportation between California and the British line. Not a passenger or a pound of freight can be moved in all that wide domain composed of Oregon, Idaho, Montana and Washington territories without the consent of this railroad king. And within the same regions he has unlawfully grabbed forty millions of acres of public land, which was long since forfeited for non-compliance with the acts of Congress, but which the monopolist not only refuses to surrender, but also refuses to pay taxes

thereon, and is compelling the people to build all the common roads, bridges and other public improvements to benefit his unlawfully secured lands. And within all this wide domain he compels the people to pay more than double the rates for passenger travel charged in the Eastern States, and at least four times the rates of Eastern roads for moving freight; and this notwithstanding his railroads were built by grants of the people's lands."

It would seem the more protection and the more favors a corporation receives from a government, the more is it inclined to eat up the substance of the people with unbridled greed.

THE POSTAL SERVICE IN ENGLAND.

Mr. Henry Fawcett, Postmaster-General of Great Britain and Ireland, has completed his annual report for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1883. The report contains much that is interesting concerning the growth, extension and operation of the different branches of this important service in Great Britain and Ireland during the past year. At the outset, the Postmaster-General conveys the intelligence that the business of the Department continues to manifest satisfactory progress. The gross revenue of all branches of the Department was \$9,413,812, and the total expenditure amounted to \$8,352,064, leaving a net revenue of \$1,061,748, which is \$38,727 less than the net revenue of the preceding year.

It is estimated that the average number of letters per head of population was:—in England and Wales, 40; Scotland, 30; Ireland, 16; against 21 in the United States, 15 in France, 13 in Germany, and 6 in Italy and Spain. It will thus be seen that England is far ahead of any other country in the art of letter writing. This large average in favor of England is to be attributed to the heavy mercantile correspondence indulged in by English business firms. It is mentioned in the report that one firm alone in London posted as many as 133,000 letters for a single mail or despatch, and another firm mailed 162,000 postal cards at once. Heavy postings of circulars by individual firms, ranging from 144,000 to 456,000 in number, are also mentioned. These figures are simply enormous. Just imagine what must be the bulk of correspondence that passes through the post offices of commercial towns when one individual can mail at a time a half million circulars or a quarter of a million of letters and postal cards. The result is that the total number of letters delivered in the United Kingdom during the year goes into the billions; the exact number is 1,280,636,200, an increase of 4 2-10 per cent.; of postal cards 144,016,200, an increase of 6 3-10 per cent., and of newspapers 140,682,000, being slightly less than last year. The decrease in the number of newspapers passing through the mails is attributed to increased facilities offered by railway companies for sending newspapers as parcels. The number of post offices in the United Kingdom is 15,496, and the total number of persons in the department holding permanent situations is about 44,000. The list of retired officers in receipt of pensions shows a total of 3,335, whose pensions amount to £176,826 a year. In addition to these about 41,000 persons are employed by local postmasters, most of whom have other employment and are engaged on postal duties during only a part of the day.

Another important branch of the postal service is the savings bank department, the business of which shows satisfactory progress and is summarized as follows:—The deposits at the close of the year amounted to more than £40,000,000, an increase of nearly £3,000,000 during the year. This is the largest annual increase since the establishment of the bank in 1861. There were 788,858 accounts opened during the year and 537,494 closed, and the number of individual accounts remaining open at the close of the year was 28,598,976, an increase of 251,364 over the preceding year. The savings bank business in Ireland, Mr. Fawcett says, again shows a large annual increase, the deposits amounting to £732,673, or nearly £100,000 more than the previous year.

The telegraph in England being under the control and management of the Government, forms a branch of the postal service. It may be said at the outset that, unlike the telegraph companies in America, the governmental administration of the telegraphic department in the United Kingdom gives the greatest satisfaction to all classes of the people. The employees are well paid; the public is well served and is not overcharged for the benefit of watered stock; and the Government makes a fair profit out of the operations of the year. These operations were as follows: The number of messages sent was 32,092,028, an increase of 746,165 over the previous year. The number of messages sent in London was 12,874,707, an increase of 303,673 over the previous year; 147 post office and railway station offices were opened for telegraph work during the year, making the total number of telegraph offices 5,742. The gross revenue from the telegraph service was £1,740,063, against £1,630,443 for the previous year; but owing to a considerable increase in the working expense of this branch of the service, the net revenue for last year was but £235,570 against £284,810 in 1881-82. A reduction in the minimum charge for inland telegrams from one shilling to sixpence is contemplated, and will be made as soon as the necessary increase of plant can be effected. Thus in all three branches of the postal service of England there is abundant evidence of good management, economy and progress, characteristics which have made it the model department of the public administration, and one which other Governments would do well to copy.

ENGLISH TESTIMONY ON IRISH SUBSISTENCE.

Our letter from Michael Davitt, which will be found in another column, is replete with interesting and cheering news. The fact that public opinion in England is no longer to depend on the London *Times* and its Orange correspondent in Dublin for information on the progress of events in Ireland, is one of the importance of which cannot be over-estimated. Up to the present, Englishmen, both in public and private life, have been constantly kept in the dark about Irish matters. They know nothing except what they get from the *Times*, and that journal takes its supply from the notorious Dr. Patton, the editor of the Dublin *Express*, one of the most unscrupulous and bitter anti-Irish sheets published in either hemisphere. Irish news coming from such a source, published in the *Times* and copied into the provincial papers, could not afford much delectation to the average Briton. But this policy of slander and misrepresentation of the Irish character, of the events and movements in the sister isle, will be largely, if not effectually checked by the action of the English gentlemen alluded to in Davitt's letter, who have formed a committee, having its headquarters in London, to collect accurate and reliable information on subjects connected with Ireland. The committee is composed exclusively of Englishmen of advanced Liberal views, several of them being members of Parliament. It is confidently expected that this praiseworthy movement will be followed by a marked change in British public opinion and on the claims and policy of the Irish National party and on the evils of landlordism. As a matter of fact, Englishmen know more about the affairs of the Transvaal, China, or Madagascar than they do about Ireland, for, as a general rule, the speeches of Irish members in the House of Commons are suppressed by the English press. With the plain, unvarnished truth before them, told by men of high standing in the community, English statesmen and politicians will be able to see and understand that no matter which of the great parties guided the ship of State, Ireland was always ruled and governed by a small faction of Tories of the old ascendancy school, whose uniform policy was to thwart the wishes and outrage the feelings of the great mass of the people.

Already this committee of Englishmen have laid before their fellow countrymen in the columns of the *Fortnightly Review* the first fruits of their investigation into the condition of the Irish peasantry and their feudal relations with the landlords. The article contributed to the *Review* is from the pen of Dr. Ernest Hart, the able editor of the *British Medical Journal*. It is, as Davitt justly remarks, the most valuable contribution to the literature of the Irish question that has appeared before the public for a long time. We commend it to the attentive perusal of many of our journalistic confreres, who can not see anything but exaggeration and *irrebrandism* in the utterances of those more intimately connected with the Irish cause. The testimony of this Englishman is independent, unsolicited, disinterested, and consequently of the utmost reliability. Dr. Hart, speaking for the committee of Englishmen, owes nothing to the officials in power, and expects nothing from the Nationalists. According to the official reports there was no exceptional distress in Ireland, nothing beyond what the poor law was capable of meeting; but Dr. Hart says he "has seen" "thousands of acres of grass lands reverting to a state of nature from want of cultivation"—"land which once supported thousands of families." And on the very outskirts of these "lands, on bog and moor, and the poorest soil," "heavily encumbered with masses of stone," "there are thousands of people reduced to starvation and kept alive by eleemosynary aid."

What will our anti-Irish critics on this sequestered have to say to this evidence? Will they reject it and continue to defame and lie about the men that would endeavor to remedy this dire and crushing evil? Or will they be governed by it and learn to write and speak the truth or at least hush up on Irish subjects? There are some whose deep-rooted prejudice and whose dislike or hatred of the Irish will force them to adopt the former course and continue their policy of misrep, sensation and slander; while there may be a few who will revolt at the idea of further looking at and depicting the facts from an untruthful and prejudiced standpoint. The following statement by Dr. Hart is worthy of special consideration. He says: "For my part, after having seen the actual state of the population, and after having examined with some minuteness the economic condition and prosperity of the land, I cannot think that in a country where four millions of acres of reclaimable land are calling out pitifully for labor, where thousands of families of agricultural habits and of laborious instincts are pleading for work and hungering for the tenancy of deserted farms, where labor is becoming scarce, where the population is deteriorating in quality by the continual exportation of the strongest and most promising elements; that in such a country, and under such circumstances, Englishmen should readily resign themselves to accept the continued banishment of the flower of the population to a foreign soil, as the best and the only means of meeting this great national difficulty."

The times have indeed changed when a committee of Englishmen, composed of the shining lights of the intellectual and political circles of England undertake, of their own free will, to investigate the condition of the Irish people and the state of the country, and to fearlessly unfold the results of their labors before the public, no matter how damaging the facts may be to the record and character of English rule in Ireland.