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FATHER O'DONNELL

Pastor of St. Mary's and Delegate to the Irish Race Convention, Home Again.

HE RECEIVED A MAGNIFICENT RECEPTION FROM HIS PARISHIONERS A Grand Entertainment in St. Mary's Hall and Presentation of an Address of Welcome.

An Interesting Interview With the Esteemed Pastor by a Representative of "The True Witness," at St. John's, P.Q.—Some Interesting Details of the Leinster Hall Meeting—It Recalled the Ancient Days of Tara Hall, and Disposed of the Question of the Capability of Irishmen to Govern Themselves—A Prophecy that Ireland Will Have a Parliament in College Green Within Five Years.

Last night was one of special joy to the parishioners of St. Mary's. From Amherst street eastwards, and in the vicinity of the presbytery and church, there was an immense throng of people of both nationalities assembled to accord an enthusiastic greeting to the esteemed pastor, Rev. P. F. O'Donnell, who had returned from Ireland, where he was representing this city in conjunction with Mr. E. Halley, as delegate at the great Irish Race gathering in Leinster Hall, Dublin.

well worthy the efforts of such distinguished genius and such enlightened patriotism. We were convinced that not only the voice but the heart of the O'Donnell was there, with the same blood coursing through it as pulsed in the veins of the famous O'Donnells of other days, whose names and whose deeds emblazon the most glorious pages of Irish and Spanish history.

The train bearing the party reached Bonaventure station at 8 o'clock in the evening, and a large delegation of the local parish societies was present to receive them. Carriages were then taken and driven along Craig street towards the St. Mary's Hall. At Amherst street the party were met by the parishioners, headed by a band, and it was with difficulty that a passage could be effected so great was the crowd, a large number of whom were vainly striving to obtain a glimpse of their pastor.

When Ireland is a nation once again these names shall illumine the brightest pages of Irish history relating to the closing years of the 19th century. When that day comes—and come soon it will—when all our wrongs shall be righted, though we may remember the cruelty that clothed its naked villainy with old odd ends stolen from Holy Writ and that seemed a saint when most it played the devil.

When the carriages reached St. Mary's Hall, Father O'Donnell was immediately escorted by Mr. Thomas Heffernan, whose powerful physique was exerted to the full in gaining an entrance to the stage. In the hall there were also assembled a large number, who were awaiting the arrival of Father O'Donnell, and as he entered he was given a warm reception.

Each representative of that greater Ireland over the wastes of waters in both hemispheres was actuated by such motives as these, as he wended his way to the portals of Leinster Hall. Sweet and pure is the religion that adorns the minds of exiles, and the sons of exiles, with such charitable sentiments.

Rev. P. F. O'DONNELL, P. P., St. Mary's: Rev. and Dear Father O'Donnell.—There are moments in life when the sentiments that stir the hearts of a people beating in affectionate union for a common cause become so sublime and intense that they never can be portrayed by the most lofty efforts of eloquence.

Oh! England can to-day easily perceive that persecution has been a signal failure; that the blood of Irish martyrs has brought forth good seed; and that the devotion and chastity of Irish exiles has been prolific in the perpetuation of a noble Irish manhood the world over.

Your voice, Rev. and dear Father, was heard in Leinster Hall, in Belfast, and in other great countries of old Ireland, and that voice reverberated across the broad waters of the mighty Atlantic, till it was re-echoed in the Irish homesteads of free, grateful America. And that voice was proof to us that the English press of this country, and this city in particular, was once again misrepresenting old Ireland as well as her honorable cause and the patriotism of her noble sons.

What do you think of the attitude adopted towards the Convention by Mr. Redmond and Mr. Healy? "Well," he replied, "that is a somewhat delicate question. I think, however, the time has come to speak out. Both these gentlemen are endowed with considerable ability, but the course they

the old Irish hundred thousand welcomes. We welcome you, then, as our Irish Priest from that holy land where St. Patrick planted the Faith.

"She's not a dull or cold land, Not she's a warm and bold land, Oh! she's a true and old land, This native land of mine."

We welcome you from dear old Erin, where repose the remains of our forefathers, with the dust of the immortal patriot martyr, Robert Emmet; we welcome you as loyal Irish-Canadians, and last, but not least, we welcome you as our own sogaarth sroon, whom we wish to ever retain—pouring the waters of regeneration on our children; giving the nuptial benediction at the sacred altar, where troths are pledged; advising and directing us o'er the stormy passage of life; consoling and comforting us when on our bed of death we await the opening of the portals of Eternity.

We now earnestly hope that in the wise dispensation of Providence your superiors will kindly permit you to remain with us always. But if ever again you leave us it will be on another mission to Ireland to congratulate her generous sons and daughters in the day of their glorious success, when the banner of old Erin shall again wave triumphantly over her own House of Parliament in College Green. Then, as to night, we can once again repeat, with all the ardor of our hearts' warmest devotion: "Old Ireland forever! O'Donnell Abou!" (Signed on behalf of the Parishioners).

THOS. HEFFERNAN, Chairman, DENIS MURPHY, Secretary, JAMES MORLEY, Chairman of Concert Com.

Father O'Donnell was received with a perfect storm of applause when he arose to reply. Despite the fact that he was very much fatigued after his long journey, he delivered an eloquent and stirring address. An interesting programme of musical selections followed, after which the meeting was brought to a close.

In an interview with a representative of the TRUE WITNESS, Father O'Donnell gave some interesting details regarding the great Convention, to which he had been a delegate from Montreal, and its immediate and probable subsequent effect upon the all-important question of Home Rule.

"The Convention itself?" he said. "It is without doubt the greatest, both from the point of view of its numbers and of its representative character, that has ever been held in Ireland in the history of modern times. It recalled, as the cultured and patriotic Bishop O'Donnell, who presided over it, said, the great national gatherings of the Druids in ancient days at Tara Hall to make laws for the government of the country. Those with whom I came in contact during my journeyings throughout the length and breadth of the old land after the Convention—and they were many, I can assure you—claimed that it was the grandest assembly of Irish ever held there. It was well worth while to travel all the way to Dublin for the sole purpose of seeing it. Perfect harmony, unity, and dignity, characterized its lengthy discussions; there was not the slightest hitch. As Bishop O'Donnell said at the close of the proceedings, it was a proof and a guarantee that, when Ireland regains her parliament, that parliament would be a legislative assembly worthy of the name. No other nation in the world could offer a parallel to the Irish Race Convention, with its accredited representatives from all over the globe—from Canada, from the United States, from South America, from Australasia, from Africa. It was a unique gathering—a gathering of the representative sons of Ireland and of descendants of the sons of Ireland at the cradle of their race."

"Its effects upon the Home Rule movement? It has given a new and powerful stimulus to the national cause, and its influence will be seen later on in the slow but sure return of unity to the ranks of all Irish Nationalists. Before it was held the cause was in a state bordering on inanition. Some, in fact, thought that it was as dead as Julius Caesar. Especially was this the case abroad, where false and misleading news had been industriously sent over the cables by the enemies of Home Rule, whose policy has ever been to sow dissension and disunion in the Nationalist ranks. At home, self-seeking men, would be leaders, were busily engaged in destroying the movement by furthering their own personal ambition at the expense of that national unity through which alone Ireland can hope to recover her lost parliament. As a result of the convention, the cause is full of life and vigor. Unity has been restored. Before the Convention the rank and file of Irish Nationalists were of one mind as to the necessity of Home Rule, but they were divided, and bitterly divided, as to the means to be employed in securing it. Now they are practically all united, not only on the question of Home Rule itself, but on the means of obtaining it. They are resolved that, as the Convention unanimously laid it down, the majority must rule in the cause is ever to succeed."

"What do you think of the attitude adopted towards the Convention by Mr. Redmond and Mr. Healy?" "Well," he replied, "that is a somewhat delicate question. I think, however, the time has come to speak out. Both these gentlemen are endowed with considerable ability, but the course they

have pursued and are still pursuing has hindered instead of helped the cause to which they profess to be devoted. The Convention gave them an opportunity of proving their sincerity. Did they avail themselves of it? No. On the contrary, they did their best to make it a failure. They criticised and carped at those who called it together, in the manner in which it was convened, and at those who took part in it. Indeed, they had for three years been vilifying the leaders of the Irish Parliamentary party, who bore it all with a truly noble patience, their motive being to keep silent in the face of these bitter and unwarrantable attacks in order to avoid giving scandal to the friends of the Irish cause all over the world by revealing the dissensions which prevailed in the Home Rule ranks. Some think that they were patient too long. I do not think so, for I believe, with John Dillon, in the healing efficacy of patience and time. After three years' forbearance it was at length found necessary to call the attention of the Irish race to the facts. We expected to see both Mr. Healy and Mr. Redmond at the Convention, but, as you know, we were disappointed. Even before our arrival—we handed our joint letter to the reporters, while we were still on the tender which came to take us to land from the steamer, for publication—we announced that we were going to the Convention pledged to no party and no leader, but that we, as friends of and workers in the Home Rule cause, were going to do our best, in conjunction with the other delegates, to restore unity to the Nationalist Party. Rev. Dr. Ryan, of Toronto, tried to have an interview with Mr. Redmond, who was formerly, I was told, a pupil of his. But he was unable to do so. Mr. Hunt, of Australia, failed in the same object, although it was he who, through the three newspapers which he has at his command, had caused Mr. Redmond to be lionized on his visit to Australia. The Australian press, I notice, have already severely censured Mr. Redmond for his conduct towards Mr. Hunt. As to Mr. Healy, he avoided being interviewed until the Convention was over, when the Rev. Dr. Ryan had a two hours' talk with him. Mr. Healy's attitude, as shown in his interview with Dr. Ryan, may be thus briefly summed up: He thinks himself a greater man than Mr. Dillon, and therefore will not condescend to follow him as a leader. Both Mr. Redmond and Mr. Healy poured vulgar abuse upon the delegates who had gone from abroad to attend the Convention. Mr. Healy sneered at us as a lot of "nobodies," and Mr. Redmond's paper, The Independent, went so far as to call us "asses." The Independent, too, declined to publish our second joint letter, which would have removed the misrepresentations about us which it had published.

A MEMORIAL ALTAR

To the Late Very Rev. F. Smyth, O.P.

There are many people in this city who will be pleased to learn that on the Feast of the Holy Rosary a beautiful new altar in memory of the late Very Rev. T. Smyth, O.P., ex-Provincial of the Irish Dominicans, was unveiled in St. Saviour's Church, Lower Donk Street, Dublin. We take the following description of the altar from an English exchange:—"It is a work of great artistic merit and reflects much credit both on the architect, Mr. Ashlin, and on the sculptors, Messrs. Ryan and Son, Lower Donk Street. The altar is composed of Sicilian marble with columns of Numidian marble and jasper. On the centre panel under the altar table are carved figures of St. Catherine of Siena and St. Dominic, around which are entwined foliage of vine and grapes. The recesses, in which are beautifully moulded panels inlaid with Mexican onyx, is a very fine piece of work. Adjoining the panels is a pedestal on which rests a statue of St. Dominic, the work of Mr. Smyth, Grand Brunswick street. At the external points are pedestals on which rest marble angels, one holding the chalice, the other the Gospels. Between the statue and the angels is carved foliage, in the centre are scrolls with the words, "Lumen in ecclesia" and "Doctor veritatis." Above the panels are beautiful canopies, very richly carved into croquets and finials. Above this level are carved pinnacles, panelled and croqueted. The central canopy is a splendid work of art. It stands 19 feet from the floor to the top of the figure, and is very fully ornamented with tiers of small pinnacles and croquets. The centre is supported by eight columns of Numidian marble, surrounded with finely carved capitals. The work has been executed by Mr. Ryan, the eminent ecclesiastical sculptor, in a manner that leaves nothing to be desired. It is perfect in every part, even to the smallest detail, and is a credit to his firm. The altar, which is in the new aisle, is a worthy memorial to the deceased, whose memory will long be cherished in St. Saviour's, which was the scene of his labours for so many years.

A Montrealer's Success.

The many friends of Mr. Frank Brennan, formerly engaged in the coal business in this city, will be pleased to learn of his success in his new business, the silver mines of Pinos Altos, New Mexico. We take the following from the Silver City Enterprise:—"On the west side of the Pinos Altos range, and about three miles from Pinos Altos town, Frank Brennan is developing the Talasco mine, a great vein belonging to the Dorsey group. Work will also be started on the Quartzite claim, which has produced fabulously rich gold ore heretofore."

Japanese Boycotting.

An English firm doing business at Yokohama recently sued a Japanese merchant in the native courts and secured a decision under which he would have to accept and pay for certain goods that had been imported by his order. The Japanese did not appeal, but neither did he pay. The trade guild to which he belonged quietly informed the Englishmen that they would be boycotted if they insisted on enforcing their judgment, and as the resident partner of the British firm deemed it inexpedient to face a general boycott in Japan, the firm submitted to a compromise involving a serious loss.

Australian Crops a Failure.

There has been a total failure of the harvest in the northern part of South Australia, caused by a long-continued drought. Numbers of farmers have been ruined by the loss of the crops, and are in a destitute condition. Wheat is one of the staple products of the colony, the latest statistics showing that of the 2,625,741 acres under cultivation in 1892-93, 1,723,711 acres were sown in wheat.

Telegrapher's Competition.

A competition has just been held in Belgium between the telegraph operators employed by the government, on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of the telegraph. There were three prizes offered, one for reception by ear, according to the Morse code, another for reception on the telephone, and the third for transmission by the Hughes keyboard. The results obtained are very important, inasmuch as they show that the Belgian operators excel those of any other country. For the ancient reception the record was 1,610 words in an hour. This result, which gives twenty-seven words to the minute, was obtained by an Antwerp operator. The reception by the telephone gave 2,297 words in the hour, or thirty-nine words a minute. A Bruxellois gained this prize. The transmission by the keyboard was 2,308 words an hour, or forty words a minute. The winner of this was also from Brussels.

Canada than anybody else. Father O'Donnell heard a genuine Irish bull, too. While speaking at the Convention a Philadelphia priest, whose parents had been Irish, but who is of American birth, expressed his pleasure in seeing the land of his nativity for the first time! He saw the bull himself at once, and immediately avowed that its preparation was a proof that he was of Irish stock.

AN IDEAL RECEPTION

C. M. B. A. of the District of Montreal Honor Grand President Hon. M. F. Hackett.

A Most Enthusiastic Gathering—Eloquent Speeches Delivered by Rev. J. E. Donnelly and Rev. Father Laroque—The Scope and Character of the Organization and its Splendid Career Dwelt Upon.

There was striking evidence on Monday evening, at the Seminary Hall, that the C.M.B.A. Grand Council of Canada, in the district of Montreal, is an institution which has not only come to be regarded as one exercising a powerful influence in the community, but also destined to attain a still higher place, ever far beyond the most sanguine expectations of its enthusiastic administrators. The occasion was a reception to Grand President Hon. M. F. Hackett. The function was very largely attended and of a most enthusiastic character. A significant feature of the meeting was the splendid measure of unanimity everywhere visible, both nationalities, Irish-Canadian and French-Canadian, having about equal representation. The hall was beautifully decorated with bunting, banners and mottoes.

Grand Chancellor T. J. Finn and Chancellor Germain, M.D., acted as joint chairmen, and accompanying them on the platform, besides Hon. M. F. Hackett, were Hon. L. O. Tailleux, Rev. Father Laroque, Rev. Father Donnelly, Rev. Fr. Shea, Rev. Father O'Mara, Rev. Father M. Callaghan, Ald. Compton, Dr. Rivet, Messrs. M. J. F. Quinn, G. C. M.P., Frs. Martineau, M. L. A.; L. J. A. Surry, F. X. Lenoir, M. Sharkey, J. Bohan, ex-M.L.A.; A. B. Pettus, J. A. Doniger, P. Reynolds, J. Reynolds, ex-Ald. Tansy, M. J. Folan, James Shea, G. A. Carpenter, H. J. Ward, Judge Purcell, J. L. Jensen, C. O'Brien, C. Dandelin, J. A. Castigan, A. H. Spreding, B. Charbonneau, P. O'Reilly, Grand President Grand Council C.M.B.A. of Quebec, Joseph Bohan, ex-M.L.A.; H. Krieger, J. Courtois, C. A. McDermott, Dr. Hackett and P. C. Shannon.

Letters of regret at their inability to assist at the reception were read from Mr. Justice Curran and others. In opening the proceedings, Grand Chancellor Finn, on behalf of the seventeen branches of the C.M.B.A. in the district of Montreal, in a neat speech, welcomed those who had assembled to do honor to Hon. Mr. Hackett, Grand President C.M.B.A. Grand Council of Canada, who had done a considerable amount of work in this Province towards the advancement of the Association. The Hon. Mr. Hackett had also filled some of the most important positions in the Grand Council, and had worked most assiduously to advance its interests in every particular. In consideration of the services he had rendered to the Association, he was, at the triennial session in August last, elected Grand President by acclamation; and the large audience of that evening was a sufficient proof of the esteem in which he was held by the members of the Association in the district of Montreal. (Applause.)

Japanese Boycotting.

Dr. Germain, on behalf of the French section of the C.M.B.A., also heartily welcomed those present.

Rev. Father Laroque, of St. Louis Church, was introduced, and delivered a practical speech, during the course of which he demonstrated with a clearness such as would do credit to the most able insurance expert the striking differences which exist between the relative cost of a policy in the C.M.B.A. and the regular insurance corporation. Father Laroque gave an array of figures which were convincing on that point. During the course of his able effort he paid a high tribute to the late Bishop Ryan, of Buffalo, the founder of the organization.

Telegrapher's Competition.

An interval was then devoted to music and recitations. Mr. Mainville sang "Le Tri-Ésperance de La Charité," in good style.

Australian Crops a Failure.

Mr. John F. Shea, and Master Shea, his son, rendered a duo on the cornet and violin, with fine effect and excellent execution.

Japanese Boycotting.

Mr. L. T. O'Brien recited "Old Folks," with magnificent effect. He responded to an encore by giving a French version of Macbeth's combat with Macduff.

Telegrapher's Competition.

Mr. Charles Hamelin sang "A Life on the Rolling Deep," in a splendid manner. Mr. Hamelin is the possessor of a melodious baritone voice. Next followed a solo on the violin by Master Shea, accompanied by Mrs. Turvey, which was enthusiastically received. Mr. John J. Rowan, the sweet tenor of St. Patrick's, was then heard in a charming ballad.

Australian Crops a Failure.

Continued on fifth page.