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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1898

## EPISCOPAL APPROBATION.

If the English speaking Catholics of Montreal and of this Province consulted their best interests, they would soon make of the TRUE WITNESS one of the most prosperous and powerful Catholic papers in this country. I heartily bless those who encourage this excellent work.

(PAUL, Archbishop of Montreal.

## ENGLISH SPEAKING CATHOLICS AND THE CENSUS.

The Catholics of Canada number nearly one-half the total population; yet they are given one statistical column, in which French Canadian, Irish, Scotch and English Catholics are lumped together. Protestants comprise a little more than one-half the total population; yet they are accorded a score of statistical columns in the census. Separate columns are devoted to Adventists, Baptists, Christians, Church of England members, Congregationalists, Lutherans, Methodists, Presbyterians, Quakers, Salvationists, "Protestants," Unitarians, Universalists, and to subdivisions of some of these sects.

What we English-speaking Catholics ask as a matter of justice, is either a single separate column distinguishing us from French Canadian Catholics, in whom we have been for generations statistically merged in the census returns, to our great disadvantage; or three separate columns showing our nationality, as Irish Catholics, Scotch Catholics and English Catholics.

There are two reasons why we desire and demand a separate classification from our French-Canadian brethren in the Faith. In the first place we want to know what our present numerical strength is, and to do in future what other denominations have been able to do in the past, namely, to take note of the numerical progress which we are making. In the second place, we wish to remove grievances and injustices from which we suffer, because the extent of our numbers and influence is not officially known, grievances and injustices in regard to educational, commercial, social, and public affairs.

We speak on behalf of the English-speaking Catholics of the Province of Quebec, whom we in special manner represent; but we believe that English speaking Catholics in other parts of the Dominion share our views on this subject.

Already we have received a large number of letters from English-speaking Catholics in various walks of life, expressing their hearty approval of the attitude which we have taken upon this question. Pressure on our space prevents us from publishing more than the following this week.

Since writing the above we have received an important letter on the subject from the able Dominion Statistician, Mr. George Johnson, which we publish further on. Mr. Johnson misunderstands the grounds on which English-speaking Catholics, in this Province at all events, ask for a separate classification from French-speaking Catholics. It should be remembered that amongst the Catholics of this Province language and nationality form the basis of a sharp line of division of a parochial character which affects the administration of religious, charitable, and educational institutions. Moreover, the distribution of public patronage in this province, as amongst Catholics, is, as a general rule, determined by considerations con-

In answer to a letter, Mr. Johnson writes:

The "True Witness" Printing & Publishing Co., Ltd., Montreal, P.Q.

Dear Sir,—In answer to your letter of the 12th inst., requesting me to give my views on the propriety of dividing the Roman Catholic population into English and French-speaking, in the next census, I have to say:

1. The different religious sects of the country are given in the census on the basis of variation in creed. But there is no difference between the creed of the English-speaking Roman Catholics and the French-speaking Roman Catholics. It is claimed that the Pope of Rome has but one belief for all nations, kindreds and tongues. In these circumstances would it be advisable to separate the French and English Roman Catholics into two columns, where always heretofore they have been put into one column?

For all practical purposes such as the distribution of patronage for instance have you not already a sufficiently accurate gauge of the proportion of French-speaking Roman Catholics and English-speaking Roman Catholics?

Take the case of Montreal. The census of 1891 established that there were 162,984 adherents of the Roman Catholic form of Christianity in the city. It also established that in the city there were 126,162 French Canadians. These would almost all be Roman Catholics. Thus 77 per cent. of the Roman Catholics of Montreal would be French-speaking, leaving 23 per cent. English-speaking Catholics. In 1881 the proportion was 78 to 24, and in 1871 it was 73 to 27. In the run of 20 years a proportion of say seventy-five French-speaking and twenty-five English speaking city officials out of every 100 Roman Catholics appointed to civic offices would about fill the bill and be fair and square as between the two languages.

Take the city of Toronto, where there were according to the last Census 21,830 Roman Catholics and 823 French-speaking persons. Assuming that all the 822 were Catholics, the French-speaking Catholics would be entitled to have 4 representatives in every 100 Roman Catholic officials connected with the city government.

In the same way the proportion can be obtained for the city of Ottawa or any other city or province. Is not this sufficiently clear for all practical purposes without calling for a division of the Roman Catholics into races—a division that introduces the idea of diversity where no diversity really exists.

Now the census returns as published give not only the figures I have quoted but give also the figures for each ward of each city, so that the proportion of the English-speaking Roman Catholics and French-speaking Roman Catholics can be ascertained with sufficient accuracy for all practical purposes. Why seek to secure by direct means what you are already able to secure by putting two and two together?

I present these two points for your consideration not because I would be personally averse to the use of two columns and the separation of the Roman Catholics into two bodies, but because I do not believe that it would be best for the minority to secure such a division, while it would not be proceeding upon any scientific basis to introduce race diversity into a census of religions like that of Canada.

Yours very truly,  
GEORGE JOHNSON,  
Statistician.

Ottawa, Dec. 13, 1898.

## HON. JAMES O'BRIEN.

Yes, I am heartily in sympathy with the "True Witness" in its undertaking to secure for English-speaking Catholics a classification in the census which will clearly show their numerical strength in the various cities, towns and villages throughout the Dominion.

## MR. QUINN, Q. C., M. P.

I am glad to see that the "True Witness" has drawn the attention of the Dominion Statistician to the necessity for a separate classification of English-speaking Catholics in the census. I have often tried to find out our position as regards population in the Dominion and Provinces, but was obliged to wade through such a mass of figures and examine so many different classifications that I have been com-

plained and puzzled. The twenty-four classifications of Catholics in the Dominion—Irish, Scotch, English, Protestants, Reformed Presbyterians, and other Presbyterians, Baptists, Free Will Baptists, Methodists, Primitive Methodists, and other Methodists. Some of these denominations number 100-400-500 in the whole Dominion. Yet, the English-speaking Catholics, who number considerably more than half a million can only be ascertained by taking the Catholic population of each province, and deducting from it the French-speaking population, and then make a guess at the number of French-speaking Protestants of the various denominations. The result is a very uncertain estimate of the number of the English-speaking Catholics of the Dominion, which affects materially their social and political strength. Our non-Catholic fellow-citizens retain their representation in the different branches of government and public affairs, because they can force their rights by pointing to their numerical strength in the Dominion in each province, and in every city and town. It is not necessary to go into details. Let us take the Province of Quebec as an example. Our non-Catholic fellow-citizens very properly exact at least their one-seventh in Parliament, the Legislature, the Municipal Councils, on the Bench and in all leading public positions. Can we?

By all means let us have at least one column in the census report devoted to English-speaking Catholics.

## HON. DR. GUERIN.

Yes, I am strongly in favor of the proposal of the "True Witness" for a separate classification of English-speaking Catholics in the census. The matter should be pushed forward as quickly as possible. I am of opinion that a public meeting should be held for the purpose of appointing a delegation to go to Ottawa and interview the proper authorities in relation to the matter. The proposal is one of very great importance in many ways. Our classification in the census record should be on a basis similar to other sections. We should be able to see at a glance what our numerical strength is.

## MR. F. J. HART.

Dear Sir:—In reference to our conversation re census, I am strongly of the opinion that we should have a better classification. The one I feel most interested in is to know exactly how many English-speaking Roman Catholics there are in Canada, and particularly in Montreal. I have been often asked the question but could not give an answer, because in previous census this was not given, simply stating so many Roman Catholics, including French and English. By saying so many French and so many English Roman Catholics would entail no extra expense, and would give the desired information. I would strongly urge you to use your best endeavors to have this information attended to when the next census is issued.

Yours respectfully,  
FRANK J. HART.  
Montreal, Dec. 12, 1898.

## DR. E. J. C. KENNEDY,

President St. Patrick's Society.  
Of course I am warmly in favor of having a separate classification in the census. We should have had it long ago. We have as much right to a separate classification as the members of any other religion.

## MR. HENRY J. KAVANAGH, Q. C.

I warmly approve the present course taken by the "True Witness" to secure a separate classification of English-speaking Catholics. Other religions have shown their wisdom in asking and obtaining such classification for themselves. It is a most important matter. The English-speaking Catholics should have the same privilege, in order to meet emergencies that may arise respecting representation and educational matters. I hope we shall have our own classification in the next census.

## ALDERMAN DANIEL GALLERY.

I heartily endorse the stand taken by the "True Witness" in order to secure a better and more satisfactory classification of English-speaking Catholics in the census. I do not think

all heartily endorsing the proposal to have taken with regard to a separate classification of Irish, Scotch and English Catholics in the census. It is one of great importance to English-speaking Catholics.

## HON. JAMES McSHANE.

When Mr. McShane was asked by a "True Witness" reporter to give his view regarding the proposal to have separate classification for English-speaking Catholics in the census, he said, that he was strongly in favor of it and would do all in his power to see that the proposal was carried out.

## MR. WILLIAM RAWLEY.

County President, A. O. H.  
The attitude taken by the "True Witness" on this question of a separate classification of Irish Catholics has my hearty approval.

## MR. P. F. McCAFFREY.

Provincial Vice-Pres., C.M.B.A. of Que.  
The question of the standing of the English-speaking Catholics in Canada, has often been raised, but there has been no means of ascertaining the exact facts. It is desirable in the interests of the whole community that the next Dominion Census should contain a classification of the English-speaking Catholics throughout the Dominion.

## MR. J. F. FOSBRE,

Chief Ranger, St. Patrick's Court, C. O. F.

There is no valid reason why the English-speaking Catholics through-

The following statement, showing the number of French Canadian and other Catholics in the City of Montreal in 1891, was received with the letter from Mr. George Johnson, the Dominion Statistician:—

	ROMAN CATHOLICS.	FRENCH-CANADIAN CATHOLICS.	PER CENT.	OTHER CATHOLICS.	PER CENT.
Centre.....	551	406	73.6	145	26.4
East.....	3,273	3,045	93.0	228	7.0
St. Anne's.....	16,428	5,928	36.0	10,500	64.0
St. Antoine.....	21,568	11,267	52.0	10,301	47.8
St. James.....	31,348	28,884	92.0	2,464	8.0
St. Lawrence.....	9,249	4,386	47.4	4,863	52.6
St. Louis.....	19,467	17,084	87.7	2,383	12.3
St. Mary.....	31,686	28,882	90.8	2,804	9.2
West.....	622	578	93.0	44	7.0
St. Michel.....	8,018	7,554	94.1	464	5.9
St. Gabriel.....	6,311	4,679	74.1	1,632	25.9
St. Jean Baptiste.....	14,518	13,949	96.1	569	3.9
Total.....	162,984	126,162	77.4	36,822	22.6

## AN APPEAL TO THE LADIES.

The joyfulness of the Christmas season finds its chief secular expression in the bestowal of gifts upon relations and friends.

In the buying of these gifts, which of course is done, as a rule, and should be left to be done, as a matter of right, by the mother-families, there is room for the exercise of good judgment. The purchase of useless and expensive gifts should be avoided, and care should be taken to make the presents as appropriate as may be possible.

Much depends, both as to price and value and variety of Christmas presents, upon the store in which they are bought. Our advertising columns show at a glance where every conceivable sort of Christmas gift may be purchased at as low a price as it is possible to sell them with the smallest margin of profit. We ask our lady readers to patronize those establishments who advertise with us, and to make a point of mentioning, when they are making their purchases, the fact that they saw the advertisements in the "True Witness." By so doing they will lose nothing themselves, and will confer a great benefit upon us, by securing for us such an advertising patronage as may soon enable us to publish the "True Witness" daily instead of weekly, or at least increasing its size, making it sixteen pages as has been done this week.

This is the form of Christmas "goodwill" which we solicit from our readers.

In the list of promotions and increases of salaries of our civic employees, which were made a few days ago, the name of one Irish Catholic, Mr. Michael Downes, appeared. His salary was increased from \$1,000 to \$1,200. Mr. Downes has a record of thirty years of faithful service in the City Hall.

# HOLIDAY SUGGESTIONS.

Cut Glass Salver Boxes, with Sterling Silver Covers, good sizes, 95c.  
Puff Boxes \$2.00  
Tea Caddies 2.25  
Cigar Jars 4.00  
Onyx Tables from \$12.00 up

BEST ELECTRO PLATED WARE.

Butter Dishes, Cake Baskets, Berry Dishes, Tea Sets, Etc.  
FROM \$1.00 UP.

## TRADE MARK FOR



KNIVES, FORKS, SPOONS.

Wm. Rogers' Knives, Forks, and Spoons:

	Per Dozen.
Teaspoons	\$3.75
Dessert Spoons and Forks	5.00
Tablespoons and Forks,	6.00

The above goods are of genuine manufacture, each piece bearing the maker's trademark.

Our stock of Sterling Silver and Electro Platedware is larger than that of all other dealers combined.

Christmas presents, suitable for young and old, at prices 25 per cent less than other dealers.

Call respectfully solicited. Special orders taken for all kinds of Silver Goods.

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