

Masons, and their entire nobility with them, the Church would not hesitate to issue her "fulminations." She denounces that society as anti-Christian, and King Edward's being a member can make not a particle of difference to her. The policy of the Church is not framed by temporal rulers.

We take the following from last week's Orange Sentinel:—

"A correspondent . . . makes the statement, upon the authority of several of his friends, that patients are better treated in Roman Catholic than in Protestant hospitals. It is his belief that it is not only discreditable to the hospital management, but it is a condemnation of the Orange Association. . . . Although my correspondent does not say so, I infer from his letter that some of those who have spoken to him in the subject are Orangemen and that they have had personal experience of the difference they speak of. . . . At all events this reproach should be wiped out by the taking of such steps as will effectually prevent such a state of things."

On the one hand we are very glad that our good Sisters' efforts are being appreciated, but on the other we fail to see the boasted toleration of our Orange friends in this matter. Surely it is a matter for congratulation here in Canada that Orangemen are given careful attention by Catholic Sisters. We fail to see where the reproach comes in. The Sisters in charge of our Catholic hospitals are not hirelings; they do their work, not for salary, but for the love of God. There is a work of charity, and it matters not whom they care for so long as they bring relief to their patients.

The address of the President, Hon. Geo. A. Cox, delivered at the annual meeting of the Crow's Nest Coal Company, Limited, on the 1st inst., outlines a stupendous enterprise in Western Canada which, when fully developed, will result in the building of new towns and cities in the region in question, thereby creating new markets for the produce of the western farmers, ranchers and others. In order to complete arrangements for the establishment of industrial centres in this great coal district, a railway connecting with other systems south of the boundary is necessary; therefore the Company is asking the Canadian Parliament for a charter under which a road may be constructed without loss of time. A great deal has been written about the aims and objects of the Crow's Nest Coal Company, and it has been sneeringly hinted that the proposed new road is to connect with "Jim Bi's System." Well, what of it? All the railways operating in Canada connect with the different American lines, and the greater the international traffic the better for all concerned. This Company is not after financial aid from our Government, but only permission to build the road.

IRISH WIT AND HUMOR.

Now An Irishman Floored An Irritable But Famous Doctor.

In discussing a subject so universally admitted as is the proverbial wit and keen repartee of the Irish race, it is scarcely necessary to emphasize or urge the fact which is so freely accepted in all lands. There are, however, circumstances in which the sons and daughters of Erin are placed in trying positions and which test severely their genuine and ever-ready wit and remarkable facility of repartee.

The simple narrative, as related below, will serve as an illustration of what is claimed for the witty race. The two conspicuous figures in the story were very different in character and position. He of the first part was an humble day laborer, who toiled hard and unsparingly for his living and that of his little family. He of the second part was an eminent physician and surgeon. I think it was the famous Doctor Abernethy, or some other equally celebrated practitioner, and his high attainments in his profession had made him vain, harsh, overbearing and irritable, and he was sometimes given to the use of profane language. He lived in London "town" and reckoned among his list of patients one of the foremost aristocratic families of that great city. On the particular occasion in question he had been making his professional rounds, and on his return to his office was horrified to see a big pile of stones located near his door, and looking into the huge drain below he saw a man working at the excavation. The same happened to be a genuine son of the "Green Isle," and the enraged doctor charged him with being the author of the ugly obstruction in front of his office door. The fact could not be denied, but the poor workman had a good case inasmuch as he had municipal authority on his side for the work he was engaged in, and it was an absolute necessity that the objectionable pile of stones should be cleared away, and this was peculiarly his race; yet the irritable and offended doctor could not be pacified. Finally the Irishman asked him "Where would he have him to put the stones?" and the wrathful doctor answered: "You may put them in— if you like." Quick as a flash, the answer came, and in this form: "Please, your honor, if I put them in Heaven I think they will be more out of your way." The great doctor's frenzy cooled in a moment, and he instantly collapsed, and had not another word to say. He realized that in the words he had uttered he had met more than his match, and he was, besides, ashamed of his rude manners toward the poor laborer who was doing his duty in obeying his municipal masters who had given him the job to do. The doctory doctor could not help the tribute he afterwards paid to the keen wit of the poor Irish laborer who had so neatly rebuked him, and he related the incident to his assembled guests afterwards. I think it is alleged that the Doctor was civil in his manners ever afterwards, and that he never quite forgot the well-meant "cut" he had received from the simple Irishman.

Something of a kindred nature happened not long since in New York. The scene was in a street car, in which some ladies (ladies only by courtesy) were travelling. The season for making a selection of seaside resorts was at hand, and two females, of the supposed "Upper Ten" grade, were making plans for the pleasure of the approaching time. They evidently wanted a change from last year's location, and the immediate question in hand was to select a new quarter. Number one proposed a choice seaside resort, but it was overruled by number two, who, on the ground that "it was too much frequented by the Irish and Irish-Americans," another place was mentioned as an eligible location, but this also was ruled out of order by the lady of exclusive and aristocratic pretensions. An Irish-woman was a passenger of the same car, and she had overheard the dialogue, which grated harshly upon her ears. She strove, however, to control her rising temper at the indignity offered to her race and nation; to her it was an insult pure and simple, and, despite her efforts at restraint, she could stand it no longer, and, with a withering look of scorn and vengeance in her eye, she spoke up from the far end of the car in these terms: "My two fine ladies, I would advise you to go to—, for you'll find no Irish there." The quick reply caused some emotion and laughter in that crowded car, and as the rebuke was well-timed, as it was well deserved, it threw the two "ladies" of Upper-tendom proflivities into confusion, and the subject was quickly changed, as they gladly made their exit at the first crossing.

To be obliged, in public conveyances which carry all creeds and nationalities to hear ill-lured persons speak of any particular creed or race, it is very galling, and it is well that condign punishment should be visited upon the malicious or thoughtless offenders. The kind of snobbery, whether it be male or female, hinted at above, looks sadly out of place in the American Republic, wherein there are no aristocratic circles, so-called. In the boasted land of "liberty, equality and fraternity" it sounds badly to hear any section of the community speaking scornfully of any other section, simply because fortune has not equally divided her gifts, and one or the other class has an advantage in the possession of worldly goods. As proving the Irishman's faculty of instant and witty repartee, a once celebrated Irish wit's answer may be here quoted. As may be well imagined, he was not the sort of man to run after the getting of "filthy lucre," and as a consequence sometimes "hard up"; still, his word was considered as good as his bond, and an urgent creditor was persistently after him for a settlement. The ready cash was hardly to be expected, and in default of that, the next best thing was to get the humorous debtor to name the day when payment would be made, remarking that "any day" would do. "Oh, then," said the ready wit, "let us name the day after the Day of Judgment." It was never definitely known whether he meant the day after the Division Court judgment, or that of the great reckoning day at the consummation of the world, but it was probably the latter, for he would want the longest credit he could obtain.

It was a smart answer that the learned professor got from an individual, who was supposed to be weak in his intellect. The latter, in case I think was a Scotchman. At any rate, he was digging a grave, when some hum-bones came to the surface, and the professor asked the reputed simpleton, "How long can a man live without brains, do you suppose?" The grave-digger could not tell, but with a knowing twinkle in his eye, he asked the professor, "How old are you, yourself?" For once in his life that professor was made a victim of his own humor, for he fell into the snare he had set for another.

WILLIAM ELLISON.

MONTREAL.

A Presentation made to a regular Sloger.

One of the most interesting features of St. Patrick's annual charity concert given in the Windsor Hall on Friday evening last was the presentation, on behalf of Prof. Fowler, the director, and the chorus, of a handsome gold-headed walking stick to Mrs. William Ludwig, the Irish baritone, by Rev. Father Quinlivan. The reverend father, in an appropriate speech, made the presentation, which was intended as a small token of appreciation of Mr. Ludwig, as an eminent singer and a whole-souled Irish gentleman. The presentation was exceedingly popular, and was greeted with loud applause by the audience. The concert as a whole was a great success. Mr. Ludwig contributed Guonod's "Nazareth," "Molly Bawn," and "Davis' Lament for Gwen Roe O'Neill," in fine style, and was repeatedly encored. The work of the chorus showed careful training. Among the others contributing to the program were Miss Frieda Gortz, Mrs. Frank Duckett, Miss Katharine Greany, of St. John, N.B., Mr. N. F. Daignault, and Mr. J. J. Rowan. Rev. Abbe Larose, rector of Notre-Dame parish, in Odessa, has been appointed Vicar General of the diocese by his Lordship, Bishop Gabriels. The new vicar general is a brother of Rev. Alfred Larose, parish priest of Laprairie, and is well known among the clergy of Montreal.

ONTARIO FINANCES.

Premier Ross Lays the Budget before the House—Where We Stand.

The Premier, on rising to deliver his budget speech, was received with loud cheers from his supporters. He said: Mr. Speaker,—The first statement I desire to make is as to the financial results for the year that has just closed. From the public accounts it will be seen that our entire receipts for the year amounted to \$1,192,210, and that the expenditure amounted to \$4,003,729, leaving a balance on the year's transactions of \$189,210. This, I think, ought to be satisfactory to the House and to the country. The Government had to deal with various matters, some of them of a new character, which involved a charge upon the revenue, peculiar to the year. Notwithstanding these charges, all of which are set forth in the public accounts, the prosperity of the country was such, and the buoyancy of the revenue was such that we were able to close the year's transactions with a balance to our credit of nearly \$200,000. It is most difficult to restrain an expanding and growing country. It is most difficult to meet the necessities of a growing country without an increased expenditure. This is true of the Government of Ottawa, and was always true of that Government; it is true of the Government of Great Britain; it is true of the Government of the United States; it is true of all municipal governments in this country. I want to call the attention of the hon. gentlemen opposite to the estimate receipts, and the accuracy with which we anticipated the revenue of the country. Our estimated receipts, according to the statement last year, were \$4,183,487, and our actual receipts were \$4,192,240, an excess of \$9,753 over our estimates. So that it will be seen from this statement, that the Treasury Department gave considerable care to the preparation of estimates laid upon the table last year. The estimated expenditure last year was \$3,848,150, and the actual expenditure \$3,748,150, or less by \$99,991. We kept within the estimates by nearly a hundred thousand dollars. With regard to receipts and expenditures for the present year, the table will show what our intentions are. We estimate the receipts for the year at \$3,795,872, and we estimate the expenditure so far at \$3,782,406. We are keeping within our estimates, so far as the demands upon the treasury have gone, by \$13,000. Of course, there will be supplementary estimates later, which will probably call for that margin, and maybe for more, although I may say to the hon. gentlemen that the supplementaries will be smaller than last year, when they were \$106,000.

I hope they will not exceed much more than half that, if they do reach half that amount. In our expenditures for last year, besides the ordinary calls upon the treasury, a considerable amount was paid to meet railway liabilities, amounting to \$249,574. Continuing, the Premier compared in some detail the estimates for the present year with those of the previous year, commencing with the figures relating to the Government. On this item the Government asked \$280,870, as compared with \$269,590. This seeming increase was due rather to a transfer of accounts relating to good roads from miscellaneous to civil government account, the transfer of other small accounts, and some small increases in salaries. In legislation there was a small decrease, the figures being \$132,700, as compared with \$133,600 previously, and the saving, it was hoped, would be largely in the cost of printing. For the administration of justice \$454,099,072 was asked, an increase of \$2,299,75, due to the opening up of new territories, the necessity of appointing officers to enforce the law there, and the increase of crime proportionate to the increase of population.

INCREASED EDUCATION GRANT.

An increased grant of about \$20,000 was asked for education, due chiefly to larger grants for district schools; an increase of \$10,000 for technical education, and an increase for the School of Practical Science. For public institutions maintained an increase of nearly \$9,000 was asked, the total estimate being \$839,256, the increase for the greater part being due to the establishment of an asylum for senile patients at Cobourg. The amount asked for agricultural purposes was \$202,842, a decrease of about \$10,000. For hospitals and charities \$192,531.52 was asked as against \$185,207.85. For maintenance and repairs \$80,945, a decrease of \$3,000, was asked, and for public buildings the estimate was \$240,625, an increase of \$40,000, which included a proposed grant of \$35,100 for enlarging the Agricultural College at Guelph to meet the growing requirements of the farming community. For public works \$48,600 was asked, the total amount voted for 1900 having been \$59,432.71. In the matter of colonization roads there was a slight reduction, the amount asked was \$119,325, the actual expenditure last year having been \$113,028.10. It was imperative that roads should be opened up in new districts, but in time to come the extension of railway lines might obviate to a great extent the grants for colonization roads. The estimates on charges on Crown lands were \$150,073; this year they were increased to \$157,575. In refunds they had reduced the estimates from \$103,252 last year to \$23,422 this year. The reduction was accounted for by the fact that they had a charge of over \$60,000 last year on account of mortgages held by the university which the Province had endorsed and which have been paid off and disposed of. Under miscellaneous the charge last year was \$253,902; this year it was \$223,069, or a falling off of \$30,000.

INCREASED SURPLUS.

Mr. Ross then briefly considered the assets and liabilities of the Province. Our assets in 1899 were \$7,368,917. On December 31st last they were \$7,535,400, or an improvement of \$166,483. (Ministerial applause.) Our bank account at the close of the year was \$1,033,546, compared with \$936,105. It was very gratifying that they should meet the House after so many years of public confidence and show cash assets of over a million dollars. The

liabilities had been increased in one direction during the year, in the matter of railway annuities, by \$82,193, arising out of the certificates issued for forty miles of the Rainy River Railway, and for the construction of a bridge at Cornwall. A year ago the Province's liabilities were \$5,117,985, now they were \$5,554,923. The increase in the annuities during the year was \$329,539. (Ministerial cheers.) The Province therefore started the new century with an actual surplus of \$2,580,471.49, and with a comfortable bank account of \$1,000,000 in cash, speaking in round figures, and \$1,500,000 in good securities.

EDUCATION AND AGRICULTURE.

We had now 5,654 public schools, compared with 4,133 in 1871, we had now 10,097 teachers, compared with 5,300 in 1871. Our high schools had increased from an attendance of 7,190 in 1871 to 22,440 in 1899, and the course of instruction had grown to meet the wants of the people. Our libraries had grown from 13 to 418, and the number of volumes have increased from 30,750 to 418,022, and the volume circulated in 1899 was 2,547,131. Mr. Ross then reviewed the progress in agriculture, where the total expenditure had been \$5,382,608. The attendance at the Agricultural College had increased from 28 in 1871 to 259 last year. As a result of the stimulus to agriculture, the farmers' stipends were more prosperous than ever, and more prosperous than anywhere else on the continent. (Applause.) Special attention had been given the dairy industry. The result was seen in our exports. In 1882 we made 25,502,431 pounds of cheese, and in 1899 123,325,923 pounds. Our exports of bacon, ham and pork increased from \$1,912,062 in 1871 to \$12,935,034 in 1900. Ontario had a population of barely 2,500,000, but had given \$3,500,000 in round figures from the public treasury to hospitals and charities. What had been given privately was not on public record. They had cared for 41,367 persons in those institutions last year. In the administration of justice the expenditure had been great. The total for administration was \$9,693,602.67.

The effect of the Government's expenditure on colonization roads was to secure the construction of 5,302 miles of highways throughout new Ontario for the convenience of the settlers. As a result the population of northern Ontario had increased from 15,728 in 1871 to 81,699 in 1891, and would probably reach 120,000 by the census of the present year. They had settled in northern Ontario since 1871, 30,999 persons and located 4,145,043 acres of land, and sold 124,358 acres, at an equal to eight cents of average price in older Ontario.

Mr. Ross then touched on the Government's record in dealing with the public institutions of the Province. In 1871 there were 1,054 patients; in 1899 there were 5,028. Since 1872 we had admitted to our asylums 18,662 persons. The cost on capital account had been \$4,303,035, and on maintenance \$17,881,619. This was paid out of the revenues of the Province and without charge to the municipalities or direct taxation, which had to be resorted to in many countries. The cost per patient was \$122.19, compared with \$165 in the State of New York.

THE GREAT NORTH LAND.

To explore the north country ten parties had been sent out. Mr. Niven, one of the oldest surveyors in the Province, thus speaks of the land traversed by the boundary line between Algoma and Nipissing:—"From start to finish it runs through as fine a tract of farming land as can be found in Ontario. Where else in Ontario can a tract of land 100 miles square be found alike level and good? Muskegs there are in it, of course, but 75 per cent of the whole country can be cultivated as soon as the moss is burnt off, and of the 25 per cent remaining a considerable portion could be drained and cultivated. We find, therefore, in the district of Algoma north of the height of land a tract of fine agricultural country, covering an area as great as the twenty-three western counties of old Ontario, being all that west of a line drawn north from Niagara and passing through Toronto to Mulden. It has an abundance of good water, and wood for building, fuel, and a climate not more severe and probably more equable than that of Manitoba or some of the settled portions of our own Province."

There was land there capable of sustaining a population of one million. What had they found in regard to the timber resources? It was a lovely million acres, half of it good timber, north of the height of land, and an equal area on this side. In Algoma there was 1,200,000 acres of good land; in Thunder Bay district 2,500,000 acres, and in the Rainy River district 384,000 acres of good land, exclusive of the Rainy River valley, which contained 750,000 acres. In all, 10,000,000 acres, or one and one-half times the whole area of Ontario land under crop. In Nipissing there were 3,000,000 feet of standing pine, which at \$3 for dues a thousand was worth to the Province \$9,000,000.

There were 20,000,000 cords of pulpwood in Nipissing, in Algoma 100,000,000 cords, in Thunder Bay 150,000,000 cords, and in Rainy River district 18,000,000 cords; in all, 268,000,000 cords. That was scattered all over that vast country.

EPISCOPALIAN INCOMES.

There are two Episcopal churches in New York whose combined annual income is greater than that of all the Bishops of the Philippines, of whose fabulous wealth we have been hearing so much of late. These churches are St. Bartholomew's, whose annual revenue amounts to not less than \$200,000; and Trinity, which enjoys the comfortable income of \$168,000 each year. No one talks of confiscating the estates of these congregations. No one questions their right to hold and dispose of their vast possessions at their good pleasure. Why, then, are we so much scandalized by the wealth of the monks, and so little alarmed by the holdings of the New York congregations? Do the dogmas of the different communions play some part in the formation of opinions so contradictory?

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RELIGION TAXED.

Chicago will Impose Taxes on Religious Institutions.

Millions of dollars will be added to the assessment rolls as the result of a decision just announced by the Supreme Court, which holds that the property of religious and educational institutions is subject to taxation under certain conditions.

The question arose in the case of the McCormick Theological Seminary, of Chicago, against the people. The decision of the County Court in that case held that all property vacant or occupied by tenants' houses was subject to taxation, notwithstanding it was owned by a religious corporation. The Supreme Court affirms this finding, and declares that where such property is not immediately connected with a religious institution, or occupied by educational buildings or professors' houses, it may be taxed.

The property in Chicago affected by the decree is worth many millions, and both city and county will derive benefit from the additional levy in 1902. Some of the institutions will escape through the special charters under which they are incorporated.

A CHARITABLE WILL.

A Protestant Lady Leaves Money to the Church.

The will of the late Mrs. Crawford, of Cobourg, disposes of an estate amounting to over \$60,000. After numerous bequests to relatives and private parties, the will provides that \$2,000 be given to St. Peter's Church; \$1,000 each to the Methodist, Presbyterian, Congregational and Catholic churches in Cobourg; \$500 to the Baptist Church, Cobourg; \$100 to each of the town Sunday schools; \$50 to the Cobourg Public Library; \$1,000 to the Cobourg Home for Aged and Infirm, about \$1,000 more to the missionary societies, superannuated and infirm missionaries; \$250 each to the Methodist, Presbyterian, and Episcopal churches, Grafton; Presbyterian Church, Rosemeath, \$250; Methodist Church, Harwood, \$250. The deceased lady has also created a fund of about \$30,000, which is to be known as the Gilchrist Relief Fund, taking the name of Mrs. Crawford's first husband, the late Dr. James Gilchrist. This fund is to be kept in perpetuity, and the interest disbursed by her executors in the relief of any needy charitable cases in East Northumberland that they consider worthy. At the demise of an executor, provision is made for another to be appointed.

THE APOSTOLIC DELEGATE.

Now the Rumored Appointment is Received in New York.

The New York Herald says:—The Pope has determined to consolidate the Canadian Apostolic delegation with that of Washington. Archbishop Raimondo Falconio, O.S.F., will be Mgr. Martinelli's successor. This move will have the strange effect of placing an American citizen as the chief representative of the Vatican to English-speaking countries of North America. Mgr. Falconio is one of the Pope's special proteges, and his transfer to Washington was said yesterday in ecclesiastical circles to forecast his elevation to the cardinalate, as was the course with his two predecessors in office there.

His appointment as Mgr. Martinelli's successor and the consolidation of the apostolic delegations at Ottawa and Washington are a big surprise in local Catholic circles. The "tip" to the supposed well posted, it is stated, for some time has been that the Pope intended to send to Washington Mgr. Merry Del Val, son of the former Spanish minister at the Vatican. He is a young ecclesiastical diplomat who has been intrusted with many important missions, notably on the commission that passed on the case of the validity of Anglican ordinations. He was educated in England by the Jesuits, and his Spanish connection would, it is thought, be of special benefit in Washington in the settlement of the various church questions concerning Cuba and the Philippines.

THE POPE'S BIRTHDAY.

The Pope, responding on Saturday to the felicitations of the cardinals upon the occasion of his 91st birthday, denounced the sectarian hostility against the Church, now manifest in several countries. He repeated the views he expressed in his recent encyclical on Christian democracy, and expressed confidence that Catholics would take a leading part in the social progress of their respective countries.

The Pope also referred to the Assagations bill now pending in the French Chamber, which is aimed directly at the Jesuits. He also reiterated the claims of the temporal power of the Pope.

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