

The True Witness

AND CATHOLIC CHRONICLE, PRINTED AND PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY BY THE PROPRIETOR, JOHN GILLES, AT NO. 195 FORTIFICATION LANE.

TERMS YEARLY IN ADVANCE: To all country Subscribers, Two Dollars. To all City Subscribers whose papers are delivered by carriers, Two Dollars and a half.

MONTREAL, FRIDAY, June 30, 1876.

ECCLESIASTICAL CALENDAR.

JUNE, 1876. Friday, 30—Commemoration of St. Paul. JULY, 1876. Saturday, 1.—Octavo of St. John Baptist. Sunday, 2.—FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. VISITATION OF THE B. V. M. Monday, 3.—MOST PAINFUL BLOOD OF OUR LORD (July 2). Tuesday, 4.—St. Francis Caracciolo, Confessor (June 4). Wednesday, 5.—St. Boniface, Apostle of Germany (June 5). Thursday, 6.—Octavo of SS. Peter and Paul.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Serious differences of opinion are said to prevail in the British Cabinet as to the measure of aid that England should afford to the Porte, in case of a crisis.

The Commander-in-Chief of the Turkish forces has been ordered to proceed to Nitsche and prepare for immediate hostilities with Servia.

The Porte intends to invite qualified British officials to enter the Turkish service, in connection with the establishment of a financial administration for the country.

Russia is reported to sustain Servia in her warlike movements against Turkey.

Austria will preserve a strict neutrality in the event of war between Servia and Turkey.

M. Rouher, a staunch Bonapartist, has been elected a member of the Council General from the Department of Puy de Dome.

The bill authorizing the municipality of Paris to raise a twenty-four million loan for public works in that city, has passed the French Senate.

Egypt's reply to the announcement of Murad Effendi's succession to the Turkish Throne, has been despatched.

The Russian Telegraph Agency endeavors to attach the blame—should impending hostilities between Turkey and Servia take definite shape—to England's support of the former.

Kingston, profiting by the lesson inculcated by a recent fire, has ordered the removal of all wood-buildings within the fire limits.

Jean Baptiste day was celebrated on Monday various towns of the Dominion with the usual pomp and circumstance. In Ottawa the celebration was especially brilliant. Part of the programme was the laying of the cornerstone of the new French Catholic institute, by Bishop Duhamel.

THIRTY YEARS OF THE PAPACY.

The month of June 1876, has come and gone, and it is memorable for more reasons than one. But the reason why it will not be forgotten in Catholic hearts, and that is, it brought around the Thirtieth anniversary of the coronation of Pius IX. It may be regarded as thirty years an Emperor. But to be thirty years a Pope, is an event which never before occurred in all the cycles of the existence of mankind. No generation of the races of our species has ever before beheld it, and it surpasses all the calculations of the generations of the race that preceded ours. It is a miracle done before our eyes, done with the wordless thought of God. Ever in the ears of the Popes rang one admonition from the ages. "The y ears of Peter thou shalt never behold!" A miracle has reversed the awful decree and we ought to stand amazed and reverent before it!

In all the history of the Church for eight thousand years such a thing has not been.

We can trace all that long line of Pontiffs who have ruled the Church, from these modern days with their whirl of giddy excitement down to the Middle Ages when the clang of the mailed heel of the armoured Baron rang in the Cathedrals and the Courts, down still further to the time of the rush of the Alarics and Attilas upon Rome, further still to the age of the Constantines, and further still until our minds pause before the gates of the Catacombs, or at the feet of the Emperors throned in the Coliseum to witness the slaughter of the Christians flung to the lions, and there is no other amongst all these hierarchs to whom such a special honor has been vouchsafed by heaven.

And this Pontiff specially selected out of so many for this singular prerogative, in its possession appears only to be assigned a special agony, and a special sorrow. A prisoner in the Vatican, plundered, discredited as far as human hands could disgrace him, insulted by a brutal Government in these his days of age, his existence is simply a prolonged martyrdom. If he turn his gaze upon the seven hilled City, once the seat of his temporal throne and rule, he beholds what must embitter his soul. The Convents, the Monasteries, the holy places familiar to his youth and manhood are desecrated and despoiled. Their inmates are driven away homeless and penniless, without power to resist; whilst the Scoffer and the Infidel are thrust into their inheritances and hold within them the Sabbaths of the Devil, as threats ring loud from their ranks that the reign of the Vicar of Christ is over for ever in the ancient Capital of the Faith, and that his Kingdom has passed away to his enemies and the enemies of the Cross.

It is a bitter trial indeed to a soul like that of Pius IX. Thirty years ago the applause of Europe followed him to his throne, and he was hailed as "the Great

Reformer of the Age." Italy worshipped him for his sagacity, his generosity, his mental grasp. He desired to rule as a constitutional monarch, or at least he would give his people a constitution, and instructed his Prime Minister, one of the ablest men in Europe, Count Rossi, to prepare it. He was indefatigable. The old world beheld in him a regenerator of its political condition, and men felt as if he brought the breath of liberty nearer to the exhausted and worn out peoples. He swept time-honored abuses away with unsparing hand in his own dominions. Where the shadow of his sceptre fell, it withered every hoary old wrong. No department of his Government was free from his inspection. The Princes began to feel that there was an embodiment of Royalty and liberty in the world, of which their dynasties never dreamed. Pius IX thought for himself, and he determined that his people should be happy. The nations divided his thought, and not long had he won the Tiara, not long were his edicts promulgated from the steps of the Castle of St. Angelo until from every lip arose the cry "This is a great man." Ireland trembled with a gush of affection for him as her dying leader the immortal O'Connell turned as if he beheld a new light giving glory to his fading vision of the world. Hungary, Poland, all oppressed nations saw in him the exemplar of justice amidst the monarchs who were oppressors. They palpitated with a hope that was born of his presence, of his energy, of his great spirit of justice. Charles Albert, the brave father of a degenerate son, Victor Emmanuel, proclaimed to Europe from his palace at Piedmont, that liberty had descended upon Italy in the person of Pius IX. "Let us have a confederated Italy," he said, "and place Pius IX. as President of the Confederate States at its head." There was not a dissentient voice of any note in Europe to the proposition except one, and that was one memorable; it was the voice of Pius himself! He had "only to guard the patrimony of St. Peter, and beyond that he had nothing to do with temporal rule."

These things are history. Then came the change, the turn of events. The revolution appeared on the scene. Mazzini and Garibaldi, like stormy petrels, above a sea of disturbance, shot into light. No other monarch imitated, Pius IX and insurrection seized on their capitals. France was up and Louis Philippe fled from Paris. Hungary with Bein and Kossuth and Georjey was in arms, Venice flung herself on the brutal Austrian Poland panted for a blow, and Ireland in the grips of famine, reeking with blood from her memories of the penal laws, O'Connell dead, and William Smith O'Brien leading her, pale, attenuated and gory from every pore, tottered drunken with staggering agony to strike at England with naked and unchained hands.

There was danger to the most absolute of Governments, even that of Berlin. How could the wily statesman of the day best oppress the peoples, how could they have their revenge?

It was by striking at the Pope. To do this was to let the Revolution loose. Some of the Royal freebooters could profit by that, whilst they could never gain by the existence of the Moral law amongst Governments and Nations. Savour, whilst head of modern times in whose hands if he lived Bismarck would have been a puppet, caught up the idea. There were bigots in England, Lord Palmerston was there, the bigots and Lord Palmerston might be fooled and the Revolution let loose; did the Kingdom of Sardinia follow it there might be a Kingdom of Italy!

If ever in future years the State papers of the Cabinets of Europe come to light, a conspiracy was entered into beyond question at that time, as they will prove, to attack the Papacy, as the friend of the national freedom of Europe, and the advocate of justice to the oppressed.

Mazzini was in England, he was harboured, he was cherished, he was lauded and upheld in that country. Of course he was carried off. He was told to go and do the work of liberty, and here one cannot help exclaiming with Charlotte Corday, "Alas liberty how many crimes are committed in thy name." "Stop Pius the Ninth and Charles Albert," was the injunction, and Mazzini supplied with money began his work. He hired assassins, one Signor Gallenga, afterwards Roman Correspondent of the London Times who purchased a lapis lazuli dagger to kill Charles Albert, and another assassin was engaged for Count Rossi or the Pope. Charles Albert escaped, but Count Rossi was slain, foully murdered, dying with a dagger in his throat, and a schedule of proposed reforms of the Government in his hand as he was passing from the apartments of the Holy Father.

Then came Garibaldi subsidized with English money and Prussian wild and Austrian weakness, and then the flight of the Pope to Gaeta and the bombardment of Rome, and his return under French protection.

It was over, all over, Pius IX was stopped, reform in Europe was stopped but the Revolution was not stopped. The Emperor of the French truckled to it, Charles Albert died and Victor Emmanuel whose life is a continued lust became its tool. Prussia took up its spirit as the only means for building herself up an Empire, and with Italy she constituted herself the foe of every moral right, in order that she might with consistency be guilty of every moral wrong, and call it Statesmanship, Government, Progress. We can wait! These Governments may be done with the Revolution, but the Revolution is not done with them. He who lives by the sword shall perish by it.

The antagonism to Pius IX can be clearly traced through all these events as an antagonism of tyranny against true and rational liberty, organized continued and maintained to this hour. The connection once caught is indubitable to the shallowest mind, but is as clear as light to any which is used to the study of political events. Justice however is not dead. She is to triumph yet.

There was no Te Deum in St. Peters with all the grandeur of the old days on the morning of the 21st the Miraculous Anniversary of the Coronation of Pope Pius IX. A festival which the three hundred millions of Catholics would have observed passed over in mourning rather than in joy for fast as ever Peter was in the Mamertine, Pius was a prisoner

in the Vatican. The silver trumpets were silent through the vast aisles dedicated by Catholic genius to God. The Pontiff was not borne in his sedia through the thronging crowds in the transepts to bless the kneeling multitude. The Guardia Nobile did not spring to arms to salute the rising Host in the Mass coram Pontifice Maximo. But from myriads of altars over all the earth, in great cities, on lofty mountains, and in wildernesses where the savage has his home pealed forth the prayer of the priests according to the order of Melchisedech, "with an Eternal oblation worthy the Lord God of Sabaoth" in an appeal to heaven. "May God bless Pius, IX, may God preserve him, may He give him life, and deliver him from all his enemies." Amen O Lord Amen!

DRUNKENNESS IN ENGLAND.

It is a custom amongst a certain class of Englishmen to decry the Irish as a nation of drunkards. With these gentry Pat and his whiskey are synonyms—Ireland and drunkenness run in couples. It is not difficult to find a reason for all this. Religious bigotry and national superciliousness have no little to do with it. Ireland is Catholic, her accusers Protestant. English superciliousness can see the mote in its neighbor's eye, and cannot discover the beam in its own. For our own part, and speaking from our own experience of England and English habits, if Ireland can beat England in her intoxication, it is a poor look out for humanity. If Ireland is going to the dogs through drunkenness and crime as fast as England, the Progressionist theory is, by no very slow process, being most surely knocked into a cocked hat.

Iron and cotton are undoubtedly two great staples of English commerce. The united capitals of these two great trades at present reach 400 millions of dollars. This is a large amount to be invested in two trades alone; and yet if we throw in the third great staple—wool—and the money invested in its manufacture, and call the whole sum invested in these three great staples 600 million of dollars, we shall not even then have reached the amount invested by English capitalists in the production of intoxicating liquors! 700 million dollars is the sum which represents the Englishman's throat versus 600 millions which represent his back.

And what is the consequence? Drunkenness and crime are largely on the increase. Taking the five years from 1820 to 1834, the police reports show 65,000 cases of crime; take the five years from 1870 to 1874 and there are 406,000 crimes on record.—It is true that during this period of 40 years the population has nearly doubled, but, unfortunately for English national honor, crime has at the same time increased six-fold!

This is indeed a somewhat lively picture for the Progressionists, and an ugly fact for the Darwinites. It is literally going down to the dogs with a vengeance, rather than being improved from the dog upwards.

But this estimate of the increase of crime only comprises convicted crime, and by no means includes those innumerable crimes, including even murder, the perpetrators of which are never found out.

This is indeed sad, but even it is nothing in comparison to the amount of that one unconvicted crime—simple intoxication—which a consideration of the number of taverns licensed and the quantity of intoxicating liquors sold reveals. In the year 1829, there were in England 50,000 places where intoxicating liquors were sold; whereas, 40 years later, there were 185,000, and the probability is that at the present time there are at least 150,000. Nor does this estimate include all, since in it no account is taken of grocers' licenses.

And the strength of liquors consumed has also increased. In 1829 the chief liquor sold was beer. In the five years ending 1824, as compared with those ending 1874 (a period of 50 years), with a population increasing 88 per cent, there was an increase in the consumption of beer 92 per cent; of British spirits, 237 per cent; of foreign spirits, 132 per cent; and of wine, 250 per cent. If Ireland can beat this, she can certainly do great things.

Nor does the 700 million dollars invested in the manufacture of liquors represent the whole. Seven hundred millions invested must give at least 25 per cent interest to pay wear and tear, and a remunerative return on capital invested. This sum (805 millions) must again give at least 25 per cent to the tavern-keeper for wear and tear, and rent and remuneration. Here then we have upwards of one thousand million dollars poured down the enlightened Englishman's throat every year. If Pat can beat this with his whiskey, he is in sooth a brave boy.

PERSECUTION (?)

"L'Aurore has a communication from Otter Lake to the effect that a family named Gravelle, who abjured the Roman Catholic religion a short time ago, was threatened with violence by the Papists, who also threatened to burn their house unless they returned to the Church of Rome. Being obliged to go away for a few days, they found the house in ashes on their return. It was burned on the Queen's Birthday. Will not the Nouveau Monde and the True Witness say something in excuse of their co-religionists?"—Witness, June 19.

The Witness knows that the True Witness during a career of over a quarter of a century has never sought to excuse, palliate, or defend in any way, any violence on the part of "Papists" towards Protestants or converts, no matter how strongly provoked by sanctified vagabonds, and its insinuation in our regard is both malicious and unjust. As to the present case, we decline to believe on the mere statement of L'Aurore, which is over a greater liar than the Witness itself, that our co-religionists at Otter Lake were guilty of such a cruel wanton act as that attributed to them, of which, strange to say, no paper published in that vicinity has so far made report. At the same time we unhesitatingly say that if guilty they deserve to be, as we hope they will be, punished with the utmost rigor of the law. Will the Witness near Otter Lake please communicate with us on the subject?

INCORPORATION.—Application will be made for an Act to incorporate the St. Jean Baptiste Society of the village of Buckingham.

TRUE COLORS.

If there be one thing that gives us more gratification than another, it is to see the so-called Evangelical journals in this Province exhibiting themselves in their true colors. So long as they keep masked under a veil of assumed moderation and carry on an insidious warfare, they are more or less dangerous to the unwary, but when they come out, boldly, and nail their flag to the mast then the most unsophisticated can determine what they are about. In our last issue we referred to a statement that appeared in the French column of the Daily Witness, in which the writer, speaking Editorially, regretted he could not contemplate in this Canada of ours, the glorious scenes (ravissante) that are now being enacted at Rome, where the properties of the Church are being confiscated by the State and put up at public auction, so that the proceeds may be swallowed by the public Treasury. Since the publication of our remarks, anon this effusion, our religious contemporary has not had one word to say in reply; we take it therefore that silence implies consent, and that there is perfect harmony of sentiment in the French and English management of that journal. We are sincerely glad of this. If there ever lurked in the mind of any Catholic a doubt as to the wisdom of our Reverend Prelate, when he forbade his flock to read the poisoned contents of the columns of our contemporary, we have in the article referred to last week, the best indication of that salutary prohibition. We were always aware it was galling to the Witness and his ranting followers to see the Catholic institutions of the land in possession of any privileges. But we did not think that they would so soon come out boldly and hail with delight the prospect of a day dawning when the Government of this Dominion might be induced to take a leaf out of the book of the robber-king and divest our religious communities of their vested rights. We have perfect confidence in the liberality of the overwhelming mass of our fellow-subjects, and we are satisfied that the Witness has but few sympathizers outside of its own Conventicle. Nevertheless, it is a good thing that our religious daily has spoken out so freely, even in its French column. This hoisting of the True Colors shows unmistakably what the ultimate objects of our enemies are.

OUR COURTS OF LAW.

For some time past the state of the judicature in this Province has been attracting the attention of our contemporaries. The Court of Appeals is now in a satisfactory condition and in effective working order. If unanimity does not always prevail amongst its members in the decisions at which they arrive, that difficulty is perhaps insurmountable owing to the system of appeal on questions of evidence as well as on points of Law. A less satisfactory state of affairs exists in the Superior Court, at all events, for the District of Montreal. The fact is, a glance at the records will show that an immense increase has taken place, as might naturally be expected, in the business brought before the tribunal for adjudication, and the number of Judges is altogether inadequate for the discharge of the duties allotted to them. This is bad enough, but it is a notorious fact, that one of the judges of our Superior Court refuses, on what he styles conscientious grounds, to sit in matters relating to insolvency of which the number is daily increasing at a rapid rate, as well as in petitions under the Dominion Elections Act, claiming that both these laws, are unconstitutional. His Honor Justice Mondelet, for whom we entertain a very high regard, may be right in his view of the law; but if that be the case, then every judge in the Dominion from the Atlantic to the Pacific is wrong, and we must be pardoned if we incline to the opinion of the majority. The fact is there, Mr. Justice Mondelet refuses to sit in these matters, and as a consequence, the work he ought to do is thrown on the already overburdened shoulders of his colleagues. Under these circumstances it would certainly be more delicate, (this is the mildest way we can put it,) on the part of the Hon. Judge, since his conscience will not permit him to discharge the duties for the performance of which he pockets unscrupulously his salary, to retire from the Bench after his long and arduous career, on the pension which we know lies at his disposal. By so doing he would cease to fill the position which if held by a man of vigorous mind and body, would have its duties discharged to the satisfaction of the public. A recent article in the Montreal Gazette, whose views on public matters are usually very sound, is very severe on that branch of our Judicature known as the District Magistrates Courts. This is comparatively a new institution, but it has existed long enough to convince every one that it has totally failed to secure the objects for which it was intended: speedy justice at trifling expense. It will tax the ingenuity and ability of the Attorney-General to devise a plan by which the labor of the Courts will be equalized and the different parts of the Province satisfied with their facilities for the administration of Justice. As the matter now stands, we have not a sufficient number of Judges in the city of Montreal, in many rural Districts the judges have hardly anything to occupy them. The District Magistrates Courts in most instances are a source of extravagant expenditure to the Province without any corresponding benefit—they ought to be abolished altogether—and if such Judges as could be reasonably dispensed with in the rural districts were removed to the City to relieve their overtaxed brethren here and a system of County Courts established, possessing all the powers in criminal matters that the District Magistrates now possess with far more extended civil jurisdiction, that equilibrium might be obtained that has so long been desired by the people of this Province.

THE POLITICAL PRISONERS.

The great rejoicing, occasioned in Ireland, by the fortunate escape of the Fenian prisoners, has not yet subsided. Our exchanges teem with congratulatory articles on the subject. Several journals, and amongst them the Dublin Nation, have strong appeals to the Government, asking that the few men who still remain in custody, be set at liberty. The article in the Nation is very powerful, and after

setting forth all the facts connected with the grand mistake committed by the Government, in refusing to listen to the petition of the whole Irish people through their representatives in Parliament, it concludes in the following language, which we trust may have the desired effect:—

The mistake we have referred to has certainly been committed by the Queen's advisers. But an opportunity of doing a wise and good thing yet remains to them. They have still a few of the political offenders in custody. In the name of humanity, and good feeling and common sense, let them open the prison gates for those men, and so make an end of this disagreeable and dreary business. The act would be well received. It would go very far to remove from the popular mind the bitterness which has been created by the vengeful and unrelenting spirit in which the Government have recently been dealing with this question. Some of the convicted and sentenced men had pardons granted to them several years ago; others, have fulfilled their terms of punishment, have been liberated as a matter of right; death has released others; and now a considerable number, with the aid of some practical sympathisers, have gallantly succeeded in freeing themselves. After the occurrence of these things, to keep the small remainder of the party in jail would be especially cruel and ridiculous. Out with them, Mr. Disraeli; end in this way the amnesty question while the Irish people are in good humor, and thereby come in for a share of the congratulations and the applause which would certainly follow that long desired event!

VIVE LA CANADIENNE!

Our French Canadian friends in this city celebrated, on Monday last, the festival of their Patron Saint, John the Baptist, with all the usual pomp and patriotic display. To judge from the magnificence of the turn out and the numbers who participated in it, the French Canadian population of Montreal seem to preserve, ever fresh in their memories, the grand old traditions that have been handed down to them from the mere patrie. The mission of their race on this continent is one of which they may well feel proud. Holding the legacy of the true faith they are called upon in a great measure to perpetuate it, to cause it to take root, to flourish and to fructify in this land; and we are happy to acknowledge that up to this time they have shown themselves faithful to the noble cause which it has been their duty to espouse. Few peoples have been more favored than the French Canadian Nationally. They have had their own trials, they were but brief however. They passed from beneath the flag of their ancestors to a new allegiance: their Religion, their language and their laws guaranteed by solemn treaty. Unlike other peoples whose country's claims have been sought to be crushed out by the iron heel of the most cruel oppression—they have, through the inscrutable ways of Divine Providence, had their fondest remembrances fostered and cherished, their religion protected. Under such benign influences they have increased and multiplied, and despite the drain of emigration, the small handful of the descendants of *Le Belle France* who passed under British rule, have now become, and we trust shall long remain, a power in this land. There are dangers ahead nevertheless, against which this people will have to guard—their prosperity is envied, their power is hated, the religion they profess is execrated by many, and as we have seen only lately, some people have already begun to exult over the prospect of the time when they shall be despoiled of their grand Catholic institutions of learning and piety. Missionaries, whose love of the gospel does not take them to foreign lands where the name and the teachings of Christianity are unknown, have been busy seeking to deprive the French Canadian people of the faith of their forefathers, and ranters and sowers have spared no pains to shake their confidence in the truths of Catholicity. So far the proselytisers have had but little success. Those who have flaunted their own apostasy in the faces of their fellow countrymen have had to turn to the enemy for comfort. Let us hope that the power and the prestige of our French Canadian brethren may go on prospering and increasing. Let us hope that amongst them peace and harmony may reign even to a greater degree in the future than in the past, and that as descendants of an old and chivalrous race, they may never prove recreant to the grand trust that has been reposed in them, as the children of the Church in the new Dominion.

MONTREAL, OTTAWA AND WESTERN RAILWAY.

The people of this Province, who have consented to such great sacrifices, for the promotion of what is now known as the Montreal, Ottawa and Western Railway, are waiting anxiously to see the work forwarded with the rapidity which its importance requires. So many promises have been made, on the part of the contractors, that the work is to be pushed forward with vigor, that people are now beginning to doubt their sincerity, and complaints at the delays not loud but deep are the result. It is to be hoped that the Government Railway Commissioners will not allow any valuable time to be trifled away. If the railway were once in working order, it is not difficult to calculate what the revival of business in certain branches of trade must necessarily be. Some days ago, the new engines for the railway were received. One called the "Rev. Cure Labelle," in honor of the indefatigable priest to whose exertions so much is due for the success of the road so far; the other the "De Boucherville," so named after the popular leader of the present Quebec Government. It appears that owing to a dog in the manger policy on the part of the Montreal Harbor Commissioners, the right of laying temporary rails on the wharves has been refused to the railway contractors for the transportation of these locomotives to the main track and thus considerable delay and expense will have to be incurred. It is stated that the work between Montreal and Grenville cannot be proceeded with, without the employment of locomotives and that when they are on the spot over 100 men will be employed on this section alone. The action of the Harbor Commissioner is deeply to be regretted and whoever the prime mover is in thwarting the proceedings of the contractors, is greatly to be blamed. We hope that in our next issue we may be able to inform our readers that all the difficulties, more particularly the wretched bickering, that give rise to so much trouble, have been overcome and that our great provincial railway line is being pushed forward with commendable activity.