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EDITORIAL NOTES.

With this issue we conclude the discussion between Chiniquy and Roussy, or, in other words, the Chiniquy of the past and he of to-day. We regret that the Methodist minister cut the interesting debate so short, by clearing out, otherwise we might have been favored with some more irrefutable evidence of the apostate's present insincerity. As it is we think that the little pamphlet has proved interesting to a great many of our readers. We intend to publish it in full, in pamphlet form, for the edification of all who like to see how powerful a man can be when backed by the truth, and how miserable he appears when advocating error.

The *Boston Republic*, referring to the death of the lamented Cardinal Lavigne and the difficulty Pope Leo XIII. will find in choosing a successor for him, says: "Catholic France is not lacking in zealous and earnest ecclesiastics, but the late Archbishop of Algiers was a man in a million, a providential prelate, and to find a successor who can take up his work where he dropped it, and carry it on as he would have done had his life been spared, is not easy to accomplish. The Sovereign Pontiff can, however, be trusted to find the best man for the vacant place."

On Monday next His Holiness Pope Leo XIII. will celebrate a very interesting anniversary. On the 19th December 1853, he was proclaimed a Cardinal by his illustrious predecessor. He was really a Cardinal before that date, for he had been reserved *in pectore* in the consistory held 10th January 1846; the death of Gregory XVI, who reserved him, delayed his publication to the first given date, when he was proclaimed a Cardinal priest, with the title of St. Chrysogonus. It is to be hoped that on the 19th all Catholics will fervently pray for the intentions of the Holy Father.

The *Daily Witness* of Wednesday, 7th December, presents a very peculiar column of short editorials. It is lucky that the writer had good sense enough to refrain from making them lengthy, even if he were wanting in literary refinement and journalistic judgment in penning such specimens of vulgarity. In the space of twelve lines we find the word "swill" used three times and the word "Pig" (sic) also thrice repeated. A little lower down we find an elegant comparison, in which we discover the "famous nursery piggy, who presumably did not squeal." There is something very refining about such high-toned editorial work as that. It is too bad that prejudice—be it religious, national or political—cannot see those against whom it rears its head and darts its fangs succeed, even in the slightest degree, without going into fits and becoming frantic. The *Witness* is evidently dissatisfied with recent events, which it could not control, and at once its religious antipathies, its national

animosities and its political prejudices are awakened. Under these circumstances some slight excuse may be found for such barn-yard journalism. We know well that in its sober senses, and when undisturbed by religious or political frenzy, the *Witness* is generally courteous, if not always elegant, in its style and tone. It is wonderful how vexed it has become, all on account of these "little back seats" that it seems to despise so heartily. Even these seats are within sight of the stage, while the *Witness* must forego even a glimpse at the performance.

The title of our paper is TRUE WITNESS AND CATHOLIC CHRONICLE. The objects for which the paper was established are the defence of our Faith, the assertion of Catholic rights and privileges, and the propagation of Truth. These naturally include the defence of our clergy and the inculcation of that respect and veneration which all true Catholics should have for every person and everything that may be consecrated to God. For these reasons, obvious to any reasonable mind, we decline publishing communications that reflect upon the Church, its ministers, its servants, its usages, or any of its connections. Our mission is not to attack our religion either as a religion or in any of its accidents. If persons have grievances to ventilate against any members of our clergy, we do not prevent them from giving publicity to their opinions; they have four daily papers, and one of them avowedly anti-Catholic, through the columns of which they can express themselves; but THE TRUE WITNESS positively refuses to publish anything in the nature of personal attacks upon institutions and individuals for whose defence it has received a special mission. Correspondents writing in the tone above indicated need not be surprised to find their letters ignored.

At a meeting of the Catholic School Board, held on Friday evening last, the commissioners gave as a reason for not having established a night school in St. Ann's parish, that no application for one was made. That explanation was accepted as sufficient by the delegates from the K. of L. association who presented a petition or protest asking for a school in that parish. The commissioners have exactly put their foot in it. No division or portion of the city applied, any more than did St. Ann's, for a night-school. They were located by the commissioners and by Mr. Archambault without any application being made. Moreover no man in Montreal should know better than the same Mr. Archambault the needs of each parish, and no one was and is better aware of the necessity of a school in the locality in question. This is one more reason, furnished by the commissioners themselves, why the Irish Catholics should have due representation, both lay and clerical, upon that Board. Had they such representation this transparent veil of a poor excuse could not be hung over the wanton neglect of such an important ele-

ment. What we now want, and what we must have, is representation on that Board according to population and taxation; or else we want a separate Board to which all the Irish Catholic taxes will be paid and that will be independent of the other. We don't *beg* this from the Government's Charity, we *demand* it from its Justice!

Now that the year 1892 rapidly draws to a close it is only proper that we should remind the subscribers of the TRUE WITNESS that we would be most happy to receive our New Year's gift from each in the form of the amount of each one's subscription. In our turn we give our readers, each in particular, an extended Christmas box and New Year's gift combined, in the form of a new and attractive paper, and we continue it from one end of the year to the other. Our rates are very low, only one dollar per year for the country districts and one dollar and a half for the city. For such a small amount we furnish one of the best Catholic papers, not only in Canada, but we can say without hesitation, on the continent. We spare no pains to make THE TRUE WITNESS most attractive and to fill its columns with choice and original matter. By a glance at the address slip on your paper you will see the date when your subscription runs out; by sending us the amount you save us the trouble of sending out bills, and yourself the bother of receiving them.

In last night's *Daily Witness*, next to the editorial column, appeared a letter signed "Workman." Its position in the paper and its tone indicate that if it did not directly emanate from the *Witness* sanctum, at least it is in perfect accord with the sentiments of that organ. It is a most unreasonable and most prejudiced appeal to somebody or other, undefined in the communication, to come out and oppose Hon. J. J. Curran, the Solicitor-General, in the division of Montreal Centre. The writer must be very innocent or very simple, for he states that he supposes Mr. Curran will run again. Any child would know that when the acceptance of a seat in the ministry causes a division to be opened for election that the law is so arranged for the special purpose of the ex-member seeking re-election. This "Workman,"—whether he be one or not—is evidently of the bigotted class, but of those bigots who strive to hide the cloven foot under a semblance of "political purity." Had he said that there was a chance of beating Mr. Curran, or even of reducing his last majority, and thereby entering a protest against the policy of the party he supports, we would admire "Workman" for his political earnestness; but, no: he admits that neither of these ends can be attained, still he thinks it well to harass and bother the new minister. We have an idea that "Workman" is not really so mean, so vindictive, so cold-bloodedly vexatious; it seems to us there must be another motive—perhaps he sees his way to making a few dollars if

there should be a contest. Why don't he come out himself? Decidedly he is not an Irish Catholic, that may be his reason for calling upon some one or other to do his mean work for him. The *Witness* and its correspondent would show far more prudence were they to just keep down their untimely eagerness for a more opportune occasion.

Our little monthly publication for children—THE SUNBEAM—is gradually finding its way into all quarters of the country. We are anxious to have it in every Catholic household in the land. At this particular season of the year and as the long winter evenings are approaching, it is a proper time for parents to secure healthy and amusing literature for their little ones. Every SUNBEAM that enters a home will be a ray of light to illumine the family circle and to make good children happy and wayward children good.

The festive season is at hand! This is a period in the year when all should rejoice, and strive to make others happy by kindly actions and good deeds. It is a time when both old and young love to meet at fireside and to enjoy the holiday pleasures of the Christmas and New Year weeks. But while presents are being made, stockings filled, good wishes sent, let us not forget that it is also a holy time and one specially consecrated to adoration and grateful prayer. Therefore do we trust that all the many readers of the TRUE WITNESS will not forget this all important phase of the celebrations. There are graces that flow abundantly at this season that do not fall during the rest of the year. "Christmas comes but once a year,"—let this not be a fruitless one for us!

An interesting, but short correspondence has recently passed between Hon. W. E. Gladstone and Professor Goldwin Smith. They differ somewhat strongly upon the coercion force in Ireland. Needless to say that the G. O. M. clearly and concisely shows that when he, in his recent articles, referred to the union being imposed upon Ireland with an armed force of 130,000 men, that he spoke of the "total force at the disposal of the government, and it is well known to every student of Irish history that the Irish yeomanry were painfully prominent in the cruel proceedings of the period." Equally needless to say that the learned professor excuses himself, and admits more than he ever admitted before, that "Irish history down to the union is a train of cruelty on all sides though how wisdom can be imparted to the present counsels by evoking hateful memories I fail to see." The wily professor does not like to evoke those memories for they would haunt his life like the ghosts of so many victims hovering around the vilifier. The "wisdom" that the evoking of these "hateful memories" may impart is that wisdom which all statesmen draw from the study of history and the principles of cause and effect. The worthy annexationist winds up with a protestation of his "feelings of an Englishman."