

# CATHOLIC CHRONICLE.

# VOL. XXVI.

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#### JUST RECEIVED, SEBMONS BY THE LATE

REVEREND J. J. MURPHY. who lost his life at the fire at Back River on the

night of December 4th, 1875. We have just received from our Agents in England a consignment of SERMONS on VARIOUS SUB-

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### Written for the TBUE WITNESS.

from

SHADE AND SUNSHINE. I said to sorrow "why lament? What fearful stroke of fate Has crushed thy heart so utterly And left thee desolate ?" And sorrow said with pitcous tears, " My dearest hopes are fled. They led me on for years and years, Now all are lost and dead."

him he spat upon his coat. A great many persons, among them some of the foremost citizens of Tours, witnessed the scene. Veronin de Precy staggered

back, deadly pale, under the degrading insult. "That is for the cur that has been lying about my sister," hissed out Martin Louis de Montbaisson, with flashing eyes.

"By my patron saint, cowardly Montbaisson!" cried Precy, drawing his sword, "I will take your worthless life for this outrage."

Monthaisson, though somewhat younger than his antagonist, was a much stronger man. He seemed to have expected that Precy would draw his sword on him. Quick as lightning he drew from his bosom a small whip. Seizing Precy's collar he struck him repeatedly in the face with the whip before Precy was able to use his sword. Then he wrested the weapon from Precy's hand and broke it to pieces.

At this moment two policemen appeared and put an end to the scene. As they were holding the two infuriated adversaries, they hurled all sorts of invectives at one

another. "Ab! Monsieur de Precy, my whip has marked you for life. The house of Precy has forgotten how to make a sword !" cried Montbaisson. "Hal" replied Precy, foaming with rage. "You shall pay for this, brother of a wanton and uncle of

a pessant's brat !" The officers took them before the Lieutezant of Police, but that dignitary did not venture even to censure the young noblemen. He exacted of them only the promise not to commit any more violence on the territory of the city.

They then returned to their homes.

At Castle Precy the old Baron and his sons concurred in Veronin's determination to send a challenge to mortal combat to Martin Louis de Montbaisson.

At the castle of the latter's father there was great rejoicing because of the punishment Martin Louis had administered to Precy. His mother and sister embraced him. " Martin Louis," sobbed the fair Mathilda, as she was hanging on his neck, "you have avenged me

upon my cowardly slanderer-you, the noblest of my brothers." The family was still assembled in the large sitting-room at Castle Montbaisson, when the Marquis de Cauchet, a young nobleman living in the neighborhood, was ushered in. His face was very grave

as he bowed and said: "I desire to have a private interview with Mar-

tin Louis de Montbaisson." "Do you wish to see me on your own behalf, Monsieur Cauchet ?" demanded Martin Louis.

"No, Monsieur," replied the Marquis; "I come to you as a bearer of a message from Veronin de Precy."

"Ah! ah !" exclaimed Martin Louis, while the other members of his family bent glances of intense suspense upon the visitor. "Monsieur de Cauchet, vor can deliver vour message here. I am desirous that my family should hear it." The Marquis hesitated.

ebbing awey; two or three minutes afterward he was also a corpse.

MONTREAL, FRIDAY, AUGUST 4, 1876.

An hour later Baron de Precy found his son's cold and stiff remains in the walnut-tree grove. For a moment even the thought that with his first-born had fallen the hated first-born of Montbaisson was unable to assuage his grief. But, when he turned round and met the glance of deadly batred which

the father of the slain Martin Louis de Monthaisson who had likewise come to look after his son, bent upon him, he said : "Ah, Monthaisson ! the sons have fought. It is

now the turn of the fathers !" "Be it so," replied the count haughtily. "I shall

wait for you to morrow morning at this hour, with. out witnesses, with my brace of pistols. It shall be death for either or both of us."

The challenge was communicated to the anxiously waiting families of the two old men at the same time at which the gory remains of the two slain young men were taken home. So terrible was the thirst for revenge at both castles, that hardly a tear was shed for the dead.

The duel next morning resulted in a similar fatal manner. Baron de Precy's first shot severely wounded the Count de Montbaisson. The latter, however, had strength and firmness enough left to send a bullet through the Baron's breast.

There was a gnashing of teeth at Castle Precy when the Baron's remains arrived there, and they heard that Count Montbaisson was likely to recover from his wound. Such, however, did not prove to be the case. Three weeks later he died in the greatest agony; causing on his deathbed his remaining two sons, Bernardin and Charles, to repeat their oath of vengeance against the Precys

Of the latter two were left-Victor and Lucrece. Victor and Barnardin also fought a duel. They only inflicted painful wounds upon each other.

By this time the royal government had heard of the murderous sentiments entertained by the two families towards each other. King Louis XVI, in order to prevent further bloodshed, had the two wounded youths conveyed to the Bastile, where Precy died soon after his arrival, while Bernardin de Montbaisson remained a prisoner for three years, when he also expired. Thus, in the year 1782, but one male member of

each family survived-Charles de Montbaisson and

Lucrece de Precy. They were at that time little more than boys, and dissimilar in character as possible.

Lucrece de Precy, than fifteen years old, was a sombre and almost misanthropic person. Of slend. er build, he had never manifested much liking for the pursuits of the young scions of noble houses. He disliked fighting and sport, was passionately fond of books, and, above all things, an enthusiastic student of astronomy. His favorite resort was an old tower on a wooded hill in the neighborhood, which, in mediaval times, had been used as a lookout by the knightly noblemen of Toursine. From the top off the tower Lucrece de Precy often made

me what the stars, in which you read so often, prophesied you to-night?"

"Get away from here, you impudent fellow! cried Precy, now fairly beside himself.

"Ah, then, I will predict your fate to you," repli-ed Montbaisson, "and you will find that I am a splendid prophet."

Precy, struck by the sinister tone of his unwelcome visitor, listened in silence to him.

"Now," continued Charles de Montbaisson, "I predict to you, Lucrece de Precy, that this very night you will be slowly burnt to death in this tower. Unless the smoke smothers you before the flames begin to burn your flesh, you will be slowly roasted. You might throw yourself from the top of the tower, but you would break every bone in your body by the fall."

"What do you mean !" cried Precy, now seriously alarmed.

" I mean to build a fire under this dry old wooden staircase," shouted Montbaisson back. "I have all the dry wood I need for it here, and-

He was interrupted by a piercing cry for help which young Precy uttered.

"Oh, you need not hope for any assistance from without. No one can hear you, even though you

shout at the top of your voice." " Oh, you cannot intend to murder me in so cruel

a manner?" cried Precy, in an imploring tone.

"Don't look for mercy on my part, replied Mont-baisson. "I shall put you to death exactly as I said. But listen to me; I have something to say to you first."

Precy, wringing his hands in mute despair, bent forward to catch every word from his infamous adversary.

"You see, Monsieur de Precy," proceeded the latter, " what I am going to do is perfectly safe for me. When they find your charred remains here to mor-row, they will think that you yourself incautiously set the wooden staircase on fire.

Now I will tell you what I shall do when you are dead. My lawyer has told me that I am your next of kin. So, by your death, the Precy estate will become mine, and, in order to kill sympathy for you, I shall circulate the report that you are not your father's son at all, but a bastard borne by your mother to a valet of your father's. I have had a docu-ment drawn up to that effect. The world will point its fingers at your mother, and your memory will be cursed. Ah, Monsieur de Preuy, your brother Ve-ronin one day called my sister Mathilde a voluptuous creature; now I shall make everybody believe that your own mother is a wanton."

At first Lucrece was prefectly dazed as these cruel words fell upon his cars; but suddenly an idea struck him. He looked up to the flagstaff that was dimly

rising into the air. The top of that flagstaff was supported by three strong wires fastened to blocks of wood in the ground below.

Knowing full well that Monthaisson was in dead earnest, he conceived the perilous plan of climbing up the flagstaff to the top, and then lower himself on one of the wires supporting it to the ground. But would the flagstaff bear his weight? Would the wire hold him, if he should reach the top of the flagstaff?

of obtaining for Ireland the right of self-government by means of a National Parliament.

NO. 51

"II.—It is hereby declared, as the essential prin-ciple of this association, that the objects, and the ONLY OBJECTS, COntemplated by its; Sorganization are :-

"To obtain for our country the right and pri-vilege of managing our own affairs, by a parliament assembled in Ireland, composed of her Majesty the Sovereign and her successors, and the Lords and Commons of Ireland.

- "To secure for that parliament, under a Federal arrangement, the right of legislat-ing for and regulating all matters relating to the internal affairs of Ireland, and control over Irish resources and revenues, subject to the obligation of contributing our just proportion of the
- Imperial expenditure. "To leave to an Imperial Parliament the pow-er of dealing with all questions affecting the Imperial Crown and Government, legislation regarding the Colonies and other dependencies of the Crown, the relations of the United Empire with foreign states, and all matters appertaining to the defence and the stability of the Empire at large. "To attain such an adjustment of the relations
- between the two countries, without any interference with the prerogatives of the Crown, or any disturbance of the principles of the Constitution

" III .- The association invites the co-operation of all Irishmen who are willing to join in seeking for Ireland a federal arrangement based upon these general principles.

"IV.-The association will endeavor to forward the object it has in view, by using all legitimate means of influencing public sentiment, both in Ireland and Great Britain, by taking all opportunities of instructing and informing public opinion, and by seeking to unite Irishmen of all creeds and classes in one national movement, in support of the great national object hereby contemplated.

" V .- It is declared to be an essential principle of the association that, while every member is understood by joining it to concur in its general object and plan of action, no person so joining is committed to any political opinion, except the advisibility of seeking for Ireland the amount of self-government contemplated in the objects of the association."

Though rather diffidently and unostentationaly projected, the new movement was hailed with general approbation. Yet it had for some time hanging on either flank very bitter though not very nu-merous assailants. The ultra-Tories, led by the Dublin Daily Express, shricked fiercely at the Protestant Conservatives that they had entered the camp of Fenlanism and Romanism ; the ultra-Whigs, led by the Dublin Evening Post, howled wildly at the Catholics that they were the tools of Orangemen who shammed Home Rule merely to spite Mr. Gladstone for disestablishing the Protestant Church. There can be no doubt this latter idea had long a deterrant effect on the Catholic bishops and clergy; they thought the new move-ment too like a Protestant revenge on an English minister whom they regarded as a henefactor. "The newly-born patriotism of these Tory-nationalists will soon vanish," they said (not without show of reason); " wait until they have driven Mr. Gladstone from office, and got Disraeli back again -they will then draw off quick enough from Home Rule." "Very likely," answered the Catholic Home Rulers ; "we are quite prepared to find a large per-centage of these men fail off, but enough of them will remain faithful and frue to make the movementa success; and especially the Protestant youth of the country henceforth will be ours."

Of everlasting joy I said to toil "why wear that frown

" O foolish sorrow ! lift thy head.

Raise but one thought on high,

How canst thon sit in gloom and know

Of anger and despair ?" And labor answered bitterly, "Beneath the sultry glare Of summer noons, and in the chill Of wintry snows, 'tis mine To strain and sweat, and groan, and still In poverty to pine." "O labor, there is yet a balm For thy o'erburden'd breast : Who labors only can attain

The everlasting rest."

I said to passion's wasted prey, "Why languish thus, and sigh ?" And thus humanity replied, " My heart must love or die."

Love, human love, dishonor'd flame Of a celestial fire ; A phantom guide to bliss or blame, A ne'er fulfill'd desire.

"O cast away the mockery, Exalt thy heart above,

And seek, O seek forever more God's everlasting love."

D. C. DEANE. Lowe, PQ.

THREE FATAL DUELS.

The Fathers with their Son's Corpses.

How the deadly feuds between the Counts de Monthaisson and the Barons de Precy had originated, not even those who were well acquainted with the history of these two noble French honses were able to tell. From time immemoral they had inhabited neighboring castles, and they had always displayed the most intense hostility toward each other

In the politics of the country they had always esponsed different causes. During the times of Richelieu the Monthaissons had been on the side of the Cardinal, while the Precys had as eagerly taken the part of the nobility hostile to him. At a later period the former had been partisans of Regent Philippe d'Orleans, while the Precys had been foremost among the adherents of the Cpposi-

King Louis the Sixteenth had conferred the order of St. Louis upon Jannoy of Monthaisson, for gallantry on the field of battle, and the Precys had instantly declared their dissatisfaction with the conduct of the royal court, and manifested democratio sentiments. One of them, Veronin de, Precy, the eldest of the three sons of Baron de Precy, had soon afterwards said at a ball of the nobility at Tours, near which magnificent old city the castles of the two hostile families were situated, that Mathilda de Montbaisson, the only daughter of Count Monthaisson, and a very charming girl, was a dissolute woman, and that a few weeks ago she had given birth to an illegitimate child, whose father was a peasant lad.

When this assertion, which appears to have been a waaton calumny, reached the ears of the Montbaissons, the eldest son of Count Jannoy, Martin Louis, waylaid the hated slanderer, on the public Promenade of Tours, and, when face to face with was mortally wounded. His life blood was fast ingly. "What a terrible boy you are ! But tell

"My message," he said at last, " is one hardly fit spot grew stronger and stronger. To show for the ears of tender ladies."

"We are ready for it," said the old countess, haughtily.

"Speak !" said the count and his eldest son with house. one accord.

"Well, then," replied the Marquis, "I come here to challenge you, Martin Louis, to fight a mortal duel with Veronin de Precy, without any witnesses, and the combat not to cease until one or the other is dead. Do you accept the challenge ?"

"I do !" exclaimed Martin Louis, unhesitatingly. "When will you meet Monsieur Precy ?" demanded the Marquis.

"To morrow—at daybreak." "And where? Will the grove of walnut trees on the highway to Tours, which is well known to you, be convenient ?"

"Perfectly so."

"What arms do you chose ?"

Martin Louis reflected a moment. Then he said disdainfully "I should like best to meet your friend with the

same weapon with which I punished him this morning. But be it swords." The Marquis de Cauchet bowed stifly and with-

drew

Strangely enough the dangerous challenge made no impression upon the assembled Monthaisson family. They all of them were animated by too bitter a hatred of the Precys not to almost welcome an event by which they might gratify it in a bloody manner.

"My sons," said the old count at last, gravely, "let us take, in the presence of your mother and sister, a solemn oath to avenge your brother's death in case he should fall in his combat with our common, vile enemy."

And the two younger sons, Bernardin and Charles, repeated an awful oath which their father uttered. The remainder of the day passed as if they were not

on the eve of the terrible tragedy. The 27th of July, 1779, dawned. No more glorious morning could be imagined; but, when the first rays of the sun dispelled the lingering mists of the night, two human tigers rushed at each other in the above mentioned grove of walnut trees. Both Martin Louis and Veronin, like most of the young noblemen of that period, were skilled swordsmen. The first few rounds were bloodless. Suddenly Veronin uttered a cry. His shoulder had been pierced, and the blood began to stream from his wound. He turned very pale, but with a desperate effort he rushed again upon his antagouist.

Martin Louis smiled disdainfully. He easily warded off the stroke. But the next effort of Veronin was more successful. His blade pierced Martin Louis' breast. A groan of pain escaped him.

He staggered as if ready to sink down. Veronin uttered a triumphant yell.

"You will die, dog "he cried, as he gloated upon the countenance of his wounded adversary.

"Nol no! you shall die!" roared Martin Louis baok.

He gathered all his strength, and attacked Veronin with a fury, which the other was unable to withstand. A moment later Veronin's heart was pierced by Martin Louis sword ... With a yell of pain he fell and expired. But Martin Louis, too,

astronomical observations, in which he spent there occasionally whole days.

As time wore on his pridelections for this lonely an appreciation of his attachment to it, he had which thenceforth floated the banner of his noble a tall flag-staff erected on the top of the tower, over

Young Charles de Monthaisson was a widely different character. His tastes were singularly gross He was cruel to animals, and had on one occasion beaten a servant so severely that the latter had died in consequence. The noble young mur-

derer had not even been arrested for this shocking crime, so great were the privileges of the aristocracy yet. It remained for the revolution to avenge the crimes it had committed so long, with such reckless-ness and impunity. Of his hatred of young M. de Precy, Charles de Montbaisson had made no secret. "I shall kill the young rascal one day," he had

repeatedly said. People who heard him utter these words believed that, when grown up, he would challenge young

Precy ; but they had no idea that he intended to put him to death in a widely different manner.

One day in 1785, Charles de Montbaisson returned from a journey to Italy, where he had been for over a year. On the same evening he secretly repaired to the tower, where he ascertained that Lucrece de Precywas still watching the silent stars. When near the tower, Charles stood still. A glance at the top window of the tower, which was lighted, showed him that the last scien of the house so hat d by the Montbaissons was there. With a chuckle Charles said to himself :

" I have got him as a rat in a trap. This time no Monthaisson will fall in the combat, but Precy will die—and die how!"

His savage expression, as he uttered these words, show d that he had conceived a terrible scheme for the slaying of his unsuspecting adversary.

Lucrece de Precy was on that evening in better spirits than usual. The night was clear and the stars unusually bright. He had for hours been watching through his telescope various constellations particularly interesting to him, when he suddenly heard a noise in the tower.

It was close to the entrance. The tower contained an old stair case which led to the platform on its top. Young Precy listened a moment, and then he heard the noise again. "Who is there ?" he should down.

" Is that you, Lucrece de Precy ?" asked a threat-

ening voice below. "Yes."

"I am glad to know you are there-very glad, I assure you."

" But who are you ?"

"I am your friend, Charles de Montbaisson !" Young Precy was silent for a few moments. Then he said :

"Of course you are not my friend, Monsieur de Montbaisson. But will you tell me what you want in this tower? You know it is my property, and I have a notion to have you punished for intruding here."

"Hal ha! ha!" laughed Montbaisson. "By the escutcheon of my ancestors," oried Precy, stung by the scornful laughter of the ensmy of his house, "I shall have you floggid by the gamekeeper if you ever show your face here." "Really | really !!! replied Montbaisson, mock-

Would not Montbaisson hear him and mercilessly slaughter him ?

Still, it was the only chance of escape remaining to him, and he had to risk it.

He succeeded. But, in years long afterward, he would tremble and turn pale when thinking of that perilous descent.

When he was out of reach of the murderous young scoundrel, Precy shouted for help; and, an hour later Monthaisson, who had actually set the staircase in the tower on fire, was arrested and taken to the Tours jail

The King banished him from the country ; but he returned in 1792, and professed ultra-democratic principles. This, however, did not save him from suspicion, and in 1794 he was guillotined in Paris.

# HOME RULE.

THE HISTORY AND PERSONNEL OF THE MOVEMENT.

# (Continued from our Last.)

And now what was the scheme or plan, or plat-Clones form " put forward after such deliberation, inquiry, Dunga negotiation, and investigation ? What specifically Galws has been the Irish national demand as put forth to Kings the world in 1870, solemnly ratified in a great Na-Longf tional Conference in 1873, and unmistakably and triumphantly endorsed at the general elections of Nenag New ] February, 1874? Mulli Queen

Substantially the old demand and declaration on the basis of which Ireland has been ready enough Tuam any time for the last two hundred and fifty years to Dubli compromise with the English connection-equality Cork in a copartnership, but no subjugation ; the na-tional autonomy of Ireland secured ; the right of Drogh Galwa Ireland to legislate for and control her own affairs Kilker established. The Irish Confederate government of 1642, the free Irish Parliament of 1690, the free Irish parliament of 1782, and the decres of Limer the Irish millions organized in the Repeal Cork movement of 1843 formulated just that programme -modified somewhat, no doubt, each time, it might be, according to the requirements of the period; but still, as the student of authentic historical documents will discover, was on all these memorable occasions in substance the same. The Catholic Confederation at Kilkenny in the seventeenth century, the Protestant Convention at Dungaunon in the eighteenth, spoke in almost identical tones as to Ireland's position under the triple crown of Scotland, England, and Ireland. It was very much as if Virginia, in 1865, said : "I have fought you long and bravely; recognize and secure to me the fullness of State rights, and I will logally cast in my lot as a member of the United States." How closely the founders of the new Irish movement kept on the old lines may be seen from the subjoined "platform" laid down by the "Home Government Association" in 1870 :---

#### "HOME GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION.

Time-at all events such time as has since elapsed-has quite vindicated this view.

Meantime the country was pronouncing gradually but decisively on the movement. Within the first six months the following corporations, town commissions, and boards of guardians passed formal votes endorsing its principles :---

> (Municipal Council). (Town Commission).

Cork

Limerick

Athlone	(Town Commission).		
Ballinasloe	· 4	**	
Clones	41	EL :	
Dungaryan	**	**	
Galway	**	**	
Kingstown	"	41	
Longford	**	**	
Nenagh	22	61	
New Ross	"	41	
Mullingar	"	· 11	
Queenstown	62	66	
Tuam	u		
Dublin	(Board of Guardians).		
Cork	~	41	,
Drogheda	. "	61	
Galway	66	EL	
Kilkenny		46	
Kilmallock	"	"	•
Millstreet	66	48.1	
Limerick	(Farmers	Club)	
Cork	х u	"	· · · · · ·
Mallow	. 11	"	

This was barely a few months' work as to the pronouncement of popularly-elected public bodies. A number of public meetings in various parts of the country, attended by tens of thousands of the people, gave a further stamp of approval and a cheer of welcome to the movement.

The mode of electing the governing body or council of the association was peculiar. In place of the usual mode-proposing the list at the annual public meeting, and passing, it there and then the members of the council were elected by ballotpapers ; each member of the association, no matter where resident, receiving his paper and exercising his vote as well as if he lived on the spot in Dublin. Much curiosity existed to see the result of this secret ballot-votes in a clarge body so mixed in religious class and (in a sense) political opinions. Two-thirds or three fourths of the voters would be Catholics-was it not a grevious peril that by any chance they might ballot inta nearly exclusively Catholic council; and thus sow, misgiving and mis-"I.-This association is formed for the purpose trust amongst the Protestants ? But never yet 

" GENERAL PRINOIPLES.