

MORE MONEY FOR IRELAND.

HON. EDWARD BLAKE OPENS A NEW CANADIAN SUBSCRIPTION.

Finances of Home Rule Fully Explained in a Letter by Mr. Blake by Extracts From a Confidential Report.

Hon. Edward Blake has inaugurated another Canadian subscription for the friends of home rule. The Globe published a letter from Mr. Blake fully explaining the financial situation of the cause and to-day the new subscription was inaugurated. Hon. Frank Smith and Hon. S. H. Blake are treasurers. The list has been opened with the following subscriptions: Frank Smith, \$1,000; Geo. W. Kiely, \$1,000; Edward Blake, \$1,000; Thos. Long, \$500; Hugh Ryan, \$1,000.

Mr. Blake's letter reads:

With your permission I proceed to fulfill my promise of indicating the financial requirements of the Irish Parliamentary party for this year. They exceed \$240,000; and perhaps I can best show my disposition to deal frankly by quoting, in explanation of this estimate, extracts from a confidential report which I made on the 14th November last. It is substantially as follows:—

"I have personally looked into the condition of the finances of the Irish Parliamentary party, with a view to calculating the sums required to carry on the movement for next year, including the general election, which many expect to take place about the end of 1894.

"I give you my estimates, with some of the data on which they proceed:

1—PAYMENT TO MEMBERS.

"The amount disbursed by the treasurer this year reaches £8,575, which, however, included a small sum for arrears. The members of the Irish Parliamentary party do not, as a rule, grow richer as the Parliament grows older, but the reverse; and therefore we may look rather for an increase than a diminution in this item. I conjecture that for 1894 we may require £9,000, or \$45,000.

2—REGISTRATION EXPENSES.

"The elections will probably be held on the next register. The Unionist Peers and landlords have unlimited resources, and it is absolutely necessary to make a good fight against them, as well as against Redmonite opposition, in order to show a continuing and overwhelming Irish majority for the bill, and, indeed, in order to secure votes enough to pass it into law. A large part of the national expense is borne by the localities or individuals, and the effort has been always to stimulate, as far as possible, local exertions. But in poor and exceptional districts aid must be given from central funds. Part of this aid has been provided by the Irish National federation, but we have been obliged this year to supplement its funds by £1,450; and it remains, notwithstanding, in debt in this connection to a large amount, the payment of which will so far encroach on its receipts for next year that we shall require, to provide for this purpose, over £2,000, or \$10,000.

3—BYE-ELECTIONS.

"These cost little as a rule, there being few contests. But there are occasionally large expenses, beyond those which can be locally provided; and there is always the chance of a severe contest somewhere. It would not be safe to estimate on this head less than £500, or \$2,500.

4—GENERAL ELECTION FUND.

"Here, as elsewhere, the effort has been to promote, as far as possible, local or individual subscriptions. But, as you know, the expenses, which include the large charges of the returning officers, are very heavy, and it is absolutely necessary in the majority of contests to aid from a central fund. The Unionists, in order to embarrass our resources, contest even utterly hopeless seats. The last general election cost this fund £8,938 10s 7d. I cannot estimate the cost this time at less than £9,000, or \$45,000.

5—BRITISH PROPAGANDA.

"Home Rule is to be won in the British constituencies by the work to be done between now and the general election. Perhaps the most effective instrument of the great Liberal electoral suc-

cesses between 1886 and 1890 was the Irish propaganda. Pamphlets and leaflets were most extensively distributed, and Irish speakers were constantly at work on the platform. This work, which cost in some years £4,000, has been, since the split, almost abandoned for want of funds.

"Meantime the Irish and other Unionists have raised enormous sums for political effort. They have been systematically deluging the doubtful British constituencies with Irish newspapers, leaflets, pamphlets, letters, canvassers and speakers from Ulster and elsewhere. They claim to have affected more than one bye-election. We must meet them at bye-elections in Britain, and counterwork them in the preparations for the general election. For this purpose we require £4,000 or \$20,000, and I believe no expenditure would make a better return.

6—THE EVICTED TENANTS.

"The expenditure, including administration, even after omitting, for just comparison, some special disbursements in the earlier years, was for 1890-1 £40,800. The split, and consequent paralysis, stopped the supplies. The grants have been necessarily cut down almost to starvation point.

"The expenditure was for 1891-2 £21,700, and for 1892-3 £18,300. At least £17,000, or \$85,000, is required for 1894.

7—DEBT.

"But this is not all. We are in debt. The main items are as follows:—

"(1) Old debt, dating from before the split, say, with interest.....£3,680
 "(2) Balance of debt to Mr. T. Curran, M.P., on his loan, made before the general election, say.. 3,100

Total.....£6,780
 Or \$33,900."

The Irish Parliamentary party trust that Irishmen at home and abroad will recognize the reasonableness of their appeal and give to it that hearty response which the interests of the cause demand.
 EDWARD BLAKE.

ALBANY'S BISHOP DEAD.

Rt. Rev. Dr. McNierney Passes Calmly Away After a Brief Illness from Pneumonia.

The Rt. Rev. Francis S. McNierney, Bishop of Albany, died at the episcopal residence in Albany, Tuesday night, Jan. 2, of typhoid pneumonia.

Francis S. McNierney was born in the city of New York on the 21st of April, 1828, and began his studies in the school of Mr. Sparrow, a Catholic teacher. In September, 1841, he was sent to Montreal, and entered the college in that city directed by the priests of the community of St. Sulpice. Here he remained till he terminated the course of philosophy. He then resolved to enter the ecclesiastical state, and pursued his theological studies in the Grand seminary from 1849 to 1854, acting as procurator of the institution for one year, and for two years directing the class of belles-lettres in the college. Returning to New York, he received the tonsure, minor orders, and sub-deaconship at the hands of Archbishop Hughes in St. Patrick's cathedral. He was ordained deacon on the feast of the Assumption, 1854, and priest two days later. The young clergyman was immediately stationed at the cathedral and made chaplain to the Archbishop. His perfect knowledge of the rites and offices of the Church caused Rev. Mr. McNierney to be selected on all solemn occasions as master of ceremonies, and he did much to give dignity to the services of the Church. In 1867 he was made chancellor of the diocese of New York, and from 1859 he was, as secretary to Archbishop Hughes or secretary of the diocese or the council, constantly and intimately connected with the management of affairs. When the health of Bishop Conroy, of Albany, required relief from duty, the Rev. Mr. McNierney was appointed; he was consecrated Bishop of Rhesina and coadjutor of Albany, April 12, 1871. On the 18th of January, 1874, the administration of the diocese was confided to him, and on the resignation of Bishop Conroy, October 16, 1877, he became third Bishop of Albany. Under his careful and prudent administration the diocese has prospered and acquired order and solidity. Although the diocese of Ogdensburg was set off in 1872, the churches and chapels have increased from 170 to 210; the priests from 120 to 197; the parochial schools number twelve thousand pupils, while the religious orders have been increased by the

accession of Brothers of the Good Works, Little Sisters of the Poor, Sisters of Christian Charity, Sisters of St. Dominic and Presentation Nuns. The Jesuit Fathers, Augustinians, and Franciscan Conventuals, have houses in the diocese of Albany, and in it is situated the Provincial seminary at Troy, a large theological institution with an able corps of professors.

A WELCOME LETTER

And An Acknowledgment of the Generous Spirit Displayed By Friends of Catholic Literature.

HELENA, P. Q., Jan. 8, 1894.

To J. K. FORAN, Esq.,
 Editor of THE TRUE WITNESS.

DEAR SIR,—Enclosed find check, \$23, amount of donation and subscription to THE TRUE WITNESS (as per list enclosed). Our donation is not as large as we would have wished it to be, but the amount, though small, has been cheerfully given; we trust what it lacks may be in part made up by the additional new subscribers. And to Mr. John Wassam, of Kensington, by his diligent efforts belongs the credit of securing it. Hoping that some energetic persons in each locality, who have the welfare of THE TRUE WITNESS at heart, may act on our suggestion of two weeks ago, and make a strong effort to have THE TRUE WITNESS in at least every English-speaking Catholic home in our land. Should you desire to insert any part of this letter please sign a friend of THE TRUE WITNESS as heretofore. Please accept my sincere thanks for your very kind notice of my letter of two weeks ago.

"A FRIEND OF THE TRUE WITNESS."

THE LIST OF PRACTICAL FRIENDS.

In thanking the following gentlemen, we regret the writer of the above letter, whose name appears on this list, does not desire it published. We will, however, ask of the donors to permit us to give them credit for their respective amounts on our subscription list:

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Total\$22 00

Carved Out of a Piece of Coal.

In St. Mary's General Hospital, on Dean street and Rockaway avenue, Brooklyn, is a large cross carved out of a solid piece of coal taken from one of the Wilkesbarre coal mines. The cross was presented to the Sisters of the hospital by City Clerk M. J. Cummings, who, through his friend, John J. Hines, brother of Congressman Wm. Hines, of Luzerne County, Pennsylvania, had a good solid chunk of coal dug from the mines, and then engaged a sculptor of Wilkesbarre to fashion it into a cross. The sculptor had as a model a small cedar wood cross, which was made out of cigar boxes by the Sisters of the Wilkesbarre convent.

The form of the cross now in the possession of the Sisters is not unlike that of a Greek cross, but it really corresponds to the forms of the cross from the seventh to the twelfth century designs in Irish Sculpture.

This model was much admired by Mrs. Hugh McLaughlin when she visited the convent on her return trip in the early fall from the World's Fair, and when she bade the Sisters good-bye and left for home, the Sisters, to surprise her, sent the model on to Brooklyn and requested Mrs. McLaughlin to accept it as a present with

their compliments. Mrs. McLaughlin was much pleased with her present and congratulated the Sisters of St. Mary's Hospital on receiving the cross carved in coal. Mrs. McLaughlin was of the opinion that the cross should be placed out on the grounds of the hospital and near the little grotto of Lourdes, which adorns the grounds. The Sisters, however, are afraid that if exposed to the elements the coal will chip and crumble away.—The Catholic News.

SMILES.

Caught.—Stroller: Who is more stupid than a fisherman? Fisherman: Why, the one that's looking at him.

No Blundering.—She: I wonder if Charlie knows I have money? He: Has he proposed? She: He has. He: He knows.

Miggs: I have been told that her first husband was a man of very strong will. Biggs: Yes; he left her more than a hundred thousand.

Case of Loser and Winner.—Edith: Your nice young man, Ethel, is, I think, a regular "muff." Ethel: No, dear, he's a "comforter."

That was A.—Old Lady: Hi, guard, guard! Does this train stop at Glesca? Guard: Weel, mem, if it dinna stop, they'll be a big smash there—that's a'.

It is not always polite to tell a man what you think of him. It is safe to tell it to somebody else, and just as effective in most instances.

Prisoner: But I would rather tell my own story. Don't you think it would be believed? Lawyer: Yes; that's the trouble. It would carry conviction with it.

A Composition.—"Some people find gold in the ground," wrote Sammy; "they're miners, and some people have to work for it, and they're everybody else."

Jack Lover, expecting an outburst of grief: And what would you say if I should take your sister from you? Little Helen quietly and politely: Thank you sir.

A servant writing home to her parents said: "I am sorry I have no money to buy a stamp for this letter; I will put two on the next."

Visitor: So your brother is taking lessons on the violin. Is he making progress? Little Girl: Yes'm; he's got so now we can tell whether he is tuning or playing.

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