



CATHOLIC CHRONICLE.

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IRISH AFFAIRS.

THE CONSTABULARY VOTE.

Further Disturbances Apprehended.

THE REJECTED DISTURBANCE BILL.

LONDON, August 24.—Mr. F. H. O'Donnell, Home Ruler, and Catholic member for Dun...

Mr. Gladstone will embark to-morrow on the mail steamer Grantley Castle for the purpose of making a series of short trips around the north of Ireland and Scottish coasts.

LONDON, August 24.—In the House of Lords to-night, Earl Granville, the Foreign Secretary, read a telegram confirming the news of a sortie by the garrison of Candahar.

LONDON, August 25.—Hon. P. J. Smyth, Member of Parliament for Tipperary, strongly urges the farmers of Ireland to recognize Hon. Mr. Forster's honest intentions by giving their evidence before the Land Commission.

LONDON, August 25.—In the House of Commons last night, Mr. Parnell drew attention to the rejection by the House of Lords of the Compensation bill as adding to the overwhelming proofs in favour of home rule.

LONDON, August 25.—The farmers of Limerick, against the advice of the Land League, have decided to appear and give their evidence before the land commission.

LONDON, August 26.—From day to day comment has been made by the press throughout the country regarding the throwing out of the Irish Disturbance Bill by the peers.

LONDON, August 26.—A Dublin despatch says preparations to meet disturbance apprehended in the West of Ireland are continued.

LONDON, August 26.—In the House of Commons, this evening, Mr. Churchill demanded that Mr. Forster explain the Government's Irish policy.

DUBLIN, August 28.—The Cork Constitution says the Government has received trustworthy information of a projected Fenian raid on Ballincollig powder mills.

CORK, August 26.—Mr. Lane, a member of the Cork Land League, having offered to give evidence before the Land Commission, has been expelled from the League.

DUBLIN, August 29.—A land meeting was held at Gagne Mookler, Sligo county, to-day, O'Connor Power was vehemently denounced for not supporting Mr. Dillon in the House of Commons.

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LONDON, August 27, 6 a.m.—The House of Commons is still discussing the constabulary estimates, on which no progress has been made.

LONDON, August 28.—The interest in Irish politics has been transferred to Westminster. The all-night debate on Thursday was not pre-arranged and was developed by an impromptu observation from the Government bench.

LONDON, August 26.—From day to day comment has been made by the press throughout the country regarding the throwing out of the Irish Disturbance Bill by the peers.

The English Liberals and Radicals blame the Irish for refusing the olive branch. In its ultimate effect the twenty-one hours sitting may be disastrous to the Irish party.

MESMERIC SEANCE.

And How it Afflicted a 'Frisco Barkeeper.

(San Francisco Post.)

The other morning, while the swell barkeeper at Baldwin's was putting an extra polish on some pony glasses, a couple of strangers entered, and, as they ordered drinks, one of them a long haired, cadaverous person, in a faded ulster, said:

'Ob, it's very easily done, I assure you.' 'Easy!' exclaimed his companion, with much animation; 'why it is the most remarkable—the most astonishing thing I ever saw. What did you say you called it?'

'But you don't mean to say,' interrupted the other, who was making a formidable demonstration on the free lunch, 'you don't mean to say, Professor, that the person subjected to the influence hasn't the faintest idea of what's going on?'

'Exactly,' said the professor. 'The person under the influence of mesmerism has no more self-consciousness than a cane bottom chair. For illustration, do you see that man at the corner over there? He is evidently waiting for a car—big hurry to go somewhere—and yet I could bring him into this saloon in a perfectly unconscious state in less than two minutes.'

'Bet you five dollars you can't do it,' said the other man producing a somewhat dubious looking V.

'Ya-a-s,' added the bar-keeper, arranging his diamond in the glass, 'and I'll go him twenty better he can't do it.'

'Well—er—hem—gentlemen I don't want to rob you—and—ahem—I'm not sure I have that much with me,' faltered the professor.

'Oh! you haven't eh?' said the cocktail mixer, winking at the bystanders, who were, also, fumbling out their coin. 'Well, well, trust you. Just fire away, and if you will, you can take the pot.'

'Well, gentlemen, I suppose I'll have to try anyway,' and amid a variety of significant winks from the gathering crowd of bystanders, he walked to the window and began making a series of mysterious passes in the air, with his eyes fixed on the party at the corner.

'Did you ever see such a blamed idiot?' said the barkeeper. 'Looks like a Santa Clara windmill, doesn't—hello! by Jove, the fellow's coming!'

The man on the corner had slowly faced the window passed his hands across his eyes in a bewildered manner and then began walking in an uncertain way across the street. 'It will have more effect on him when he gets closer,' said the professor.

The man entered the saloon and stood still, looking straight ahead with a vacant expression.

'I'll make him ask for a drink,' whispered the disciple of Mesmer. 'Just stand back, gentlemen, and sure enough, the subject walked mechanically up to the counter, and asked in a hollow voice for a little old rye.'

'Give it to him—humor him in everything,' whispered the professor, and the victim solemnly swallowed the drink and then stood motionless as before.

'Now I'll make him think he's an actor,' said the instructor of will power, and immediately the other began to strut about and repeat Shakespeare in a tragic voice.

'Make him bark like a dog,' suggested the man who had bet the five dollars. Whereupon the man began to imitate a terrier, and tried to bite a spectator, to the immense amusement of everybody. After that he was caused to do several things, such as crawling like a rooster, catching a fly and pocketing the 'pool' money, which lay on the counter.

AFGHANISTAN.

Gloomy Prospects.

Candahar Surrounded by 100,000 Afghans.

PITCHED BATTLE AT GUNDIJAR.

GENERAL STEWART ORDERED TO REMAIN AT JELLALABAD.

LONDON, August 24.—A despatch from Bombay says that intelligence has been received there of the sortie made on the 16th by the British of Candahar against the gate on the east side of the city, which was secured by General St. John from further molestation on that side. Casualties reported to have been frightfully large, consisting of eight British officers killed and five wounded, and one hundred and eighty men killed and wounded.

LONDON, August 25.—The latest advices from Calcutta report that large bodies of Marris are raiding the country between Jacobabad and Sibi.

LONDON, August 26.—The news from Afghanistan is creating a fresh and profound sensation. Private telegrams received from Quetta and Bombay being intelligence which more than justifies the worst interpretations put upon the mixed and contradictory despatches received through official sources.

It now appears that Ayob Khan's forces have been tremendously strengthened, and the valleys around the besieged city of Candahar are teeming with warriors. It is estimated that Ayob has assembled not less than 100,000 followers, most of whom are well armed. The appearance of this host is as though the whole country had risen at a signal and gathered to make certain the overthrow of Candahar and its native allies.

A later despatch says the Pathans at Kurrahoe have been disarmed.

Ayob's withdrawal to San Jairi does not mean that he is raising the siege of Candahar, for which sufficient hillmen and villagers remain. Ayob has simply gone to the line of the Tarnak and Argundal valleys bifurcate, so as to be able to protect his forces from an attack in the rear by Gen. Roberts.

Ayob Khan has 5,000 capital soldiers, and counting troops from the Ghuzis tribe and irregulars, has in all probably 15,000 men. The official declarations about Afghanistan during the past week confirm the expectation that both the Kuram Valley and Khyber Pass will be given up. The question is now whether the Khyber Pass and Candahar are to be retained.

England's policy toward Persia suggests an understanding with Russia, not only on the Central Asian questions. If the English Government had anxiety about the Russian designs in Central Asia, Lord Granville would not have snubbed Persia's recent offer to England.

Should England surrender Candahar, retreating behind the old frontier, Russia will retire from the Turcoman expedition. Though few Englishmen credit her intention to forgo an ultimate advance on Herat, the hostility of the Tekkes would easily give an excuse for a forward movement after the British withdrawal.

THE HOT GOSPELLERS IN NAMUR.

A Priest Who Has the Bad Taste to Discourage Their Doling—A Mother Who Bestows Bags of Flour on Souls—And a Son Who Has Stones to Throw at Bodies, &c.

In the Witness of the 12th of August, a letter appeared in the French column headed 'M. Le Cure de Hartwell a Namur,' and here it may be remarked that the only religious daily reserves most of its sanctity for that particular column so sincerely does it love the French.

Those choice morceaux about Oka, the Jesuits and their dark doings, and other atrocities of the Catholic appear in all their wickedness in the French column. But to come to the letter of the 12th of August. It was dated Namur, 3rd August, and was signed H. E. F. It appears from the communication that a lady the correspondent calls Madame G.—takes an intense interest in the Presbyterian Church at Namur, (30 miles from Papineauville), although residing herself in Montreal. Charity, however, ignores space, and most of us remember the lady depicted by Dickens in 'Bleak House,' who, while the hair of her own children was growing straight up through holes in their caps, was engaged sewing articles of dress for those of the natives in the interior of Africa.

Madame G.—is something like that excellent lady as we shall see anon. The Presbyterian mission at Namur, says the correspondent, is poor, but it has true friends and sympathizers at a distance. One of these is a matter of course, Madame G.—who visited the place a few weeks ago, spoke to the good

LONDON, August 31.—A despatch from Quetta says the Cabul troops have prevented Ayob Khan from retiring on Gerezik. The enemy held Takeriput Pass on the line of General Phayre's advance. General Phayro has occupied Gatal.

LONDON, August 25.—A despatch from Bombay states that news has been received from the front that two officers, most unmistakably Russian, have been taken prisoners by a picket of light cavalry. One, however, made his escape as he was being brought into the English lines. Backsheesh is said to have had something to do with this, but this statement is indignantly and positively repudiated as a fabrication even in Bombay.

A despatch from Bombay complains sadly of the apparent apathy and indifference of the home authorities in not expediting the despatch of troops more rapidly than they have done. It states that the negligence exhibited fully confirms the common belief in India that those at home are utterly inadequate to the exigency of affairs as they are and bespeaks an absolute want of knowledge of the country as it exists at the present moment.

LONDON, August 30.—In the House of Commons this evening Lord Hartington announced that he had received telegraphic advices from General Roberts dated Khelat Ghilzai, 23rd inst, giving a very satisfactory account of the progress of General Roberts' movements towards the relief of the imprisoned garrison at Candahar. General Roberts states that he expected to be in direct telegraphic communication with the garrison at Candahar by the 29th instant (Sunday); further that he had made ample and perfect arrangements for supplies, reports to the contrary notwithstanding, and had complete confidence as to the result of the expedition.

Despatches recite further that Gen. Roberts has reason to believe that many reports forwarded concerning the expedition have been highly colored, and that in point of fact there has been wilful misrepresentation. The casualties have been trifling, when there is taken into consideration the number of men engaged in the expedition and the difficulties under which they labor.

LONDON, August 30.—A despatch from Bombay says Ayob Khan has abandoned Mordhissar and all of the country southeast and northeast of Candahar, besides the Khojuk line. The Tabelaht mutineers are looting the villages. There are serious apprehensions of a rising of the Pathan settlers in Kurrahoe, and the Government is taking extraordinary precautions to prevent it. Reinforcements have been sent from Bombay by special steamer. The Beloochees are also restless, and trouble is anticipated on the Scinde frontier. Gen. Roberts, having ordered the evacuation of Khelat-Ghilzai, took the garrison with him. All his animals are on half rations of forage. The drivers are deserting en masse, and soldiers are being detailed to replace them. Nearly all of the soldiers are worn out.

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people then, (ces brave gens) without distinction of creed, and distributed presents amongst them, but chiefly children's clothes. But all this was insufficient in the mind of the lady from St. Lawrence Main street, and so she concluded to have a picnic. The picnic was held on the 29th July, and the correspondents description of it is touching and eloquent in the extreme.

It was a grand spectacle to see nearly 300 persons come from afar with the intention of enjoying themselves, writes the enthusiastic correspondent, 'listening to the true words of our venerable pastor in union and peace,' and so on. But, alas! (wo quote) the following days were different. To make a long story short the Rev. Father Brady, Cure of Hartwell, came along to say Mass at Namur, which was in his mission, and of course, peace fell lowly away. It seems Father Brady saw the little proselytizing game being carried and did not like it. He referred to the female missionary from Montreal, and denounced the conduct of those who came to save souls though presents of baby linen and bags of meal, but not only that, he denounced, not in bad French and with a terrific voice, not at all like that of the venerable pastor. He denounced the school, he denounced the picnic, Madam G. and everything. The correspondent winds up his epistle, with the following advice 'listen then to the counsels of a friend, though he is a Protestant—Read the bible instead of creating dissensions among the faithful and in your moments of leisure, do not forget to study your grammar and the manual of good breeding.'

As will be seen from the synopsis we have given of this letter to the Witness the writer is thoroughly vulgar and violent, so much so indeed that we thought, we would enquire into the matter, and find out if he was also untruthful. The following are the facts as we gathered them from reliable sources.

Father Brady's mission includes Namur and Hartwell, Suffolk County, P.Q., and he had undoubtedly as much right to say Mass on the 31st, as had Mrs. G. to picnic and evangelize on the 29th. Nevertheless, there was a trifle of electricity in the air and had been for sometime back, chiefly through the efforts at proselytism of that estimable lady.

It seems, that heretofore, a few converts had been made which was not difficult as a number of French communists from the old county had settled in the district, and as we all are aware it is not hard to convert that kind of gentry.

Mrs. G. had sent round circulars to both Protestants and Catholics, calling for a grand rally to the picnic, and had been busy for some time previous in her distribution of flour and baby linen, indeed a circular had been sent to each Catholic family which somewhat angered them, as they wanted neither her meal nor clothing, however poor they might be, and it is possible they might have resented the zeal of the lady and her emissaries if they had not been cautioned by their pastor to act with Christian forbearance.

Many of the Catholics attended the picnic but refrained from any overt act, although hearing their pastor and their religion harshly abused. At the Mass Father Brady celebrated on the 31st, he naturally enough referred to the attempts at discord and proselytism. Mrs. G.—attended this Mass in company with another young lady and her son, a mere boy. The boy did not, it appears, like the sermon preached by the pastor, and made many wry faces, at one time standing up and looking to his mother for approbation, a course of proceeding very unusual in a Catholic church, however, it may be appreciated among hot GosPELLERS.

It was found out after that the boy had stones in his pocket at the service, but certainly with none of the best known, but certainly with none of the best known. Father Brady warned his congregation not to send their children to the Protestant schools, as the 'Evangelizers' wanted to pervert them. After mass Mrs. G.—who seems to be gifted with very great energy, had a platform put up, and brought the Protestant parson to preach on it. He was put off by the Catholics, but not by the advice of the priest, who did his best to preserve the peace and prevent bloodshed. Considerable excitement followed and threats were freely used against the priest, and he was told there would not be a Catholic in Suffolk county in three years. It may be mentioned that at the present time there are but 41 Protestant families in the mission against more than a hundred Catholic families, and that, notwithstanding all the flour and small parcels, the number of the former is decreasing, while the Catholics are increasing. With reference to the charge of asking for dues preferred against Father Brady, it is utterly untrue. He simply asked, as he had to come from a distance when sent for to administer to the sick or to baptize children, that he might be supplied with conveyance, as he was too poor to keep a horse. As regards his bad French, it may be stated that the Rev. Father is acknowledged to speak the language in its purity. He has been educated at the College of St. Theresa, and received the degree of M. A. from Laval University. Probably his enemies objected, not so much to his elocutionary powers as to the home truths he was telling. In conclusion it may be permitted us to say that we regret the Witness should be so prone to stir up religious feelings and sectionalism. When the Thus Witness gives space at all to religious discussion, it is only in defence, but if we were to be drawn away by the mis-statements and misrepresentations in the French columns of our contemporary, we should never reach the end of it.

LONDON, August 26.—A despatch from Candahar states that Nana Sahib has been captured by native cavalry. As far as is ascertainable, he has been identified by some old Cawnporees, who were well acquainted with him.

LONDON, August 18.—Premier Gladstone will, it is stated, return to London on Saturday next. His health still causes his physicians much anxiety, and they urge him to take a trip by sea to the Madeiras.