

CONGRESSMAN BOURKE COCKRAN.

When the unexpected and melancholy news was flashed over this continent in August last, and the sad intelligence conveyed that Daniel W. Dougherty was no more, it was admitted universally that literature suffered and that a bright star had gone out in the heavens of oratory. The silver-tongued orator had shed a bright lustre on the epoch and stirring scenes in which his brilliant but all too short span of life was run. Irishmen were proud to be able to point to him as a speaker of superior excellence, upholding as he did the national prestige for eloquence, and Catholics rejoiced that an exponent of their claims was so universally popular, so eagerly welcomed in every circle, and so earnest in his advocacy of their just and inalienable rights as American citizens. Many hearts were grieved at the gloomy tidings of his almost sudden departure from this life, and to many lips came the words of Shakespeare—"his like we ne'er shall look upon again."

These sad thoughts were suggested to us during Easter week by the very great pleasure we experienced in the perusal of two magnificent efforts of oratorical power delivered lately in New York and Baltimore by Congressman Bourke Cockran. No doubt the name of Mr. Cockran was familiar to the people who elected him to Congress, but his fame as an orator had not, so far, penetrated our lakeside towns and forest cities here in Ontario and we venture to say that our Catholic people in this Province are not yet familiar with the name of Hon. Bourke Cockran. But a few more speeches of that honourable Irish Catholic representative, such as he gave to delighted audiences two weeks ago in New York and Baltimore, must necessarily secure him a world-wide reputation in every manner equal to the glory so justly accorded to the late lamented Daniel W. Dougherty.

Hon. Mr. Cockran was the chief orator at an assemblage of 4,000 Irish men, who met a short time ago in the New York Academy of Music for the purpose of raising contributions in aid of the men now struggling against wealthy and unscrupulous enemies of the freedom of Ireland. Mr. Cockran proved that England has much interest in granting Home Rule to Ireland. Besides the untold and unappreciable boon of Ireland's attachment and gratitude, England's pecuniary gain will be enormous. He said:

"Under the operations of this measure an independent Government will go into existence in College Green. In the success of that government England will have the deepest interest. The contributions which will be paid by the Irish people into the English exchequer, whatever they may be, will become an important feature of England's financial system. Ireland will exchange in English markets the product of her soil for the fruits of English industry. Crude, ill-considered, restrictive laws may embarrass the march of progress for a while. They can never permanently restrict it. Against this solid bond of mutual interest the clamors of Orangemen and the hostility of the House of Lords will spend themselves in vain. The hostility of Ireland's foes will serve to discover the obstacles in the pathway of Irish independence and by discovering, cure them."

In reply to the croakers who predict financial ruin for Ireland if Home Rule is granted Mr. Cockran said:

"But it has been said that if the Irish people regain control of their own affairs the security of property will be endangered and the position of Ulster is held up by her enemies to show that the intelligence, the industry, and the property of Ireland are opposed to the granting of Irish independence. We call history to witness that this statement is untrue, and that these prophecies of disaster are unfounded. We point back to the period between 1782 and 1800, when Ireland, under an independent government, achieved a material prosperity so marvellous that the greatest of her statesmen were able to say with truth to her English critics, 'We have accomplished in eighteen years that which it cost you three hundred years to achieve.' (Applause.) Never in the history of the world have free institutions been

followed by such beneficent results. Never did the sun of liberty bring such prosperity to life. As the brown grass in yonder square will turn to verdant green, as the bare trees will become covered with foliage at the first breath of spring, so will the stagnant, decaying, moribund institutions of Ireland leap into life and vigor at the first recognition of her independence. (Applause.) The liberty which she won was never abused. The proceedings of her Government were not disfigured by barbaric vengeance. Her Parliament was ever controlled by moderation. No eloquence ever charmed the ears of men to a greater degree, nor reared more stately monuments to the beauty of the language than that which flows through the speeches of her orators. (Applause.) No country was more prosperous, no people more peaceful, until the imaginations of English statesmen fomented abuse and rebellion and made confusion and disaster accomplish the overthrow of the Government that had shed such blessings upon the people. And as those lights in this hall would become extinguished at the turn of the switchboard that controls the electric wires, and plunge the room in darkness, as a blow upon the brain would strike a man unconscious, so was the glory of Irish prosperity extinguished in an instant in the gloom of depression and poverty. The activity of her industries sank into torpidity and stagnation when, in 1800, the Act of Union was accomplished and Irish independence was smothered beneath the hand of perjury."

The following eloquent peroration is equal to the best efforts of Gladstone and Blake in their most happy moments:

"The wrongs which we have borne were not inflicted by the masses of the English people. (Applause.) The aristocrats who profited by our injuries no longer control the destinies of England. The injustice of the classes has been repaired by the justice of the masses. (Applause.) The resentment which has been provoked by the oppressions of her enemies is forgotten in the gratitude which we freely bestow upon her delivery. Standing to-night upon the threshold of independence, Ireland has no vengeance to be avenged in blood. She looks forward to a future radiant with glorious promise, a future of peace, of prosperity, of intellectual and commercial development, a future wherein decaying cities will spring into new life, wherein deserted harbors will become crowded with the argosies of a prosperous commerce, wherein the rivers by whose waters the shamrock spread its verdant leaves (applause) will sweep by prosperous fields and thriving villages, wherein the smoke rising from happy and contented homes will be incense borne to the throne of a beneficent God, whose justice will never be invoked by the shedding of innocent blood. Let us turn our backs upon the unhappy past as we turn our faces to the smiling future. Irishmen and the sons of Irishmen will ever cherish in their bosoms the memory of the illustrious statesman who stands to-day before the eyes of the world crowned with imperishable glory, under whose heel we see the extinguished torch, the broken fetters of coercion, in whose hand we see the charter of liberty, on whose head descend the blessings of two nations. His enduring memory will be in the hearts of the people who have learned to forget that England was the home of Cromwell because England is the home of Gladstone."

In our next issue, we shall invite the attention of our readers to Mr. Bourke Cockran's beautiful address in Baltimore on the "Influence of the Catholic Church upon the Progress of the World."

Book Notice.

THE MARRIAGE PROCESS IN THE UNITED STATES.—The Rev. Dr. Smith, from whose pen several excellent works touching upon Ecclesiastical law have issued of late years, has just published, through Benziger Brothers, a large & vo. volume of 460 pages upon "the great Sacrament." The word "process" in the title is taken in its technical meaning, and signifies trial. Thus the book is a treatise on Matrimonial trials—nor must it be understood as touching upon the spiritual trials to which marriage life in general is exposed, but to "the legitimate hearing and decision by a competent judge of a controverted matter or fact concerning a marriage, according to the formalities prescribed by the law of the Church." The book is divided into three parts—the first treating of the nature and essential characteristics of marriage, and of the competent judge in marriage contentions; the second dealing with the diriment or invalidating impediments, and the third is a description of the various

formalities in which the proceedings of a trial of this kind are conducted. It is a learned work from a learned author, and will deservedly hold a high place amongst the standard treatises upon the subject.

"Catholic Conservative Papers."

16th April, 1893.

To the Editor of the Catholic Register.

DEAR SIR—I beg to call your attention to an editorial in *United Canada* of the 8th instant, entitled "Catholic Conservative Papers." I regret that the REGISTER has laid itself open to the charge made therein. Catholics in the West hailed the advent of the REGISTER as a true Catholic paper, that would defend our rights and give credit to our prominent Catholic men who stand up for those rights, irrespective of their political creed. *United Canada* selects the occasion of the Clarke Wallace resolution in the House of Commons to do credit to a great Irishman who, for many years, has fought nobly in defence of faith and fatherland—a man who, when questions affecting the interests of his co-religionists arise, throws politics to the winds and stands up for truth and right—the Hon. J. Costigan. There is no necessity for me to point out what Mr. Costigan has done in the past—the noble fight he made and the sacrifices he willingly endured while contending for the educational rights of Catholics in New Brunswick. His advocacy of Home Rule, which he alone had the courage to introduce, for the first time, into a Canadian Parliament, should recommend him to the undying gratitude of all Irish Catholics in Canada.

The manliness with which he opposed Mr. Foster's dictum in the House and risked his position as a member of the Government by denouncing Clarke Wallace is a strong additional claim to the gratitude of his co-religionists throughout Canada.

United Canada gives Mr. Costigan the high prominence he so richly deserves, while the *Catholic Record* holds up, for reasons best known to itself, Mr. Curran, a young man occupying a minor place in the Government and who has done nothing special and made no sacrifices outside of a local nature to prove that he merits the entire confidence and gratitude of our people.

While on this subject I may add that the political predilections and tendencies of the organ in London, beyond the case already mentioned, are no secret to the great body of its readers.

Mr. Devlin, another prominent Catholic representative in the House of Commons, very properly received credit for his stand on Catholic questions; but his good taste and motives are questionable when he arrais without cause a fellow Catholic member who happens to differ with him in politics. He is young, however, and advancing years and experience must teach him the necessity of respecting the person and motives of others who, though differing politically, are just as sincere as he may be in their attachment and loyalty to religion and country.

Now sir we want an independent Catholic paper which will do full justice at all times and give proper credit to our Irish Catholic representatives. For this reason we here in the West hailed with delight the creation of the REGISTER, hoping that it would fulfill this mission. *United Canada* has drawn our attention to the fact that the REGISTER is not doing its whole duty in this matter, and, although very reluctantly, we feel bound to agree with it.

We want your paper in this part of Western Canada, for there is a wide field for its circulation here; and with such distinguished men on the editorial staff as the Rev. Father Teefy, Father Ryan, and the genial and accomplished Rev. Dr. Flannery of St. Thomas, there is no reason why your paper should not be a messenger of light and gladness and be a welcome guest in every Catholic family in the whole Province.

Respectfully yours, LONDONENSIS

League of the Cross.

A largely attended meeting of the League of the Cross was held in St. Ann's Hall, Power street, on Sunday, the 16th. After the regular business of the Society was disposed of an able address was delivered by Mr. Jas. O'Brien on the influence of the Irish Poets on the national movement in Ireland. Mr. O'Brien handled his subject in a masterly manner, and was listened to with rapt attention by the members. We strongly recommend all young men to become members of this Society, not only as a safeguard against the evils of intemperance, but as affording the means of intellectual improvement by listening to the instructive addresses and essays that are delivered at each meeting.

Three little virtues: gentleness of heart, firmness of mind, and simplicity of life.

On March 25th, the body of a man named Quigley, aged about 50 years, was discovered floating in the Liffey, near the North Wall, Dublin. The deceased was identified as a small farmer from near Maryborough. The body appeared to have been some time in the water.



A Missionary Recommends It.

St. Paul's Mission, Chateau Co. Mont. Dec 12 '92. Pastor Koenig's Nerve Tonic is wonderful in checking asthma, nervous diseases caused by nervous debility or over exertion. Three children of my school had fallen ill. The use of the tonic stopped the paroxysms at once and cured them. In all cases of weakness it strengthens the system without fail. I recommend it most heartily. Rev. Father Koenig.

Sister M. Reine of Castroville Texas writes I used two bottles of Pastor Koenig's Nerve Tonic for nervous debility, which was so intense that the least cause would cause me to scream, and palpitation of the heart would follow for about fifteen minutes. The remedy cured me entirely, and I heartily recommend it to all sufferers.

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