

The Catholic Record

Published weekly at 48 Richmond Street, London, Ontario.

REV. JOHN F. COFFEY, Editor. THOMAS COFFEY, Proprietor.

OTAWA AGENCY: P. J. COFFEY, Gen'l Agent, 74 George St.

RATES PER ANNUM: One Copy, \$2.00; Three Copies, \$5.25; Five Copies, \$7.50; Ten Copies, \$12.50.

Advertising rates made known on application. Approved by the Bishop of London, and recommended by the Bishops of Ottawa, Kingston, and Peterboro.

Catholic Record.

LONDON, SATURDAY, FEB. 16, 1884.

OUR INDIANS.

The Indian report for the year 1883 laid on the Commons' table this session, contains the assurance that the relations between the Indians and the government continue to be satisfactory, and that if no very rapid strides towards civilization have been made by the aborigines in the outlying districts and territories, a gradual movement towards civilization is noticeable amongst them.

The number of pupils in Indian schools is as follows:—Ontario, 1,219; Quebec, 462; Nova Scotia, 79; New Brunswick, 71; Prince Edward Island, 11; Manitoba and North-West, 1,180; British Columbia, 672—a total of 4,394. The total Indian population of the Dominion is 131,137, of whom 36,483 are in British Columbia, 34,520 in the North-West, 18,121 in Ontario, 11,930 in Quebec, and 15,000 in the Attabaska and Mackenzie districts.

We hope to be able next year to chronicle a decisive stride in advance in the Indian policy of the government. We are not, we must confess, satisfied with the present working of the department, especially in so far as the interests of the Catholic Indians are concerned.

So loud an outcry is always raised when it is proposed to appoint a Catholic to any important place of trust that we deem it a duty to call attention to a fact of importance and significance, in connection with this matter. There are sixty-one registrars in Ontario, and how many Catholics do our readers think there are in enjoyment of these coveted places?

Just six, as the following list will show:—

- Counties, etc. Registrars. Algoma Dis. C. J. Rampion, Sault Ste Marie...

Ontario. H. W. McCrear, Whitby. J. Ham Perry, Whitby. Alex Burritt, Ottawa. J. Ingersoll, Woodstock.

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No one can pretend that Messrs. Waller, Whelan, Askin, Doran, McCrear or Morrow are inferior to the other gentlemen above named. All of the six Catholic registrars are gentlemen fully competent to discharge the duties of their office; some of them are men of superior talent and very rare attainments.

The report gives some interesting information concerning the St. Regis tribe: The population of the band is 1,119; they own 141 dwellings, and the quantity of land cultivated was 2,282 acres.

The report also represents the Coughnawaga band as making a very decided progress. There are many good houses on the reserve and others building. The school is in a satisfactory condition and

the best of order maintained on the reserve.

The population of the band is 1,485. They own 301 houses and 215 barns and stables; they have 4,800 acres of land under cultivation, 69 acres of which were newly broken last Spring; they own 1,350 farming implements and 985 head of live stock; they raised 10,700 bushels of produce last year, and cut 1,000 tons of hay.

The report shows that the amount at the credit of the Indian fund, consisting of all moneys held in trust for the benefit of Indian tribes or bands, was on June 30th, 1883, \$3,150,525, an increase of \$3,257 over that amount for 1882.

The expenditure amounted to \$278,571 being \$21,293 more than the figures of 1882. The following was the expenditure an account of Parliamentary appropriations during the year 1883:

- Manitoba and North-West, \$1,027,216. Nova Scotia, 4,627. British Columbia, 4,017.

The following are the figures given by the report in the matter of education: The number of pupils in Indian schools is as follows:—Ontario, 1,219; Quebec, 462; Nova Scotia, 79; New Brunswick, 71; Prince Edward Island, 11; Manitoba and North-West, 1,180; British Columbia, 672—a total of 4,394.

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THE REGISTRARS OF ONTARIO.

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ing them and relieving us from the inequality we now labor under. Let us show a true spirit of manhood and patriotic purpose of insisting upon equality with our non-Catholic fellow citizens and we cannot be refused justice in the distribution of the public patronage.

SEPARATE SCHOOLS.

We learn with pleasure that our friend Mr. C. Donovan, of Hamilton, has returned from the West very much improved in health. Mr. Donovan, is one of the most able and most deserving of Catholic educationists in this Province.

The Superior Court Judges of Ontario are the following:—Hon. John Godfrey Spragg, President of the Court of Judicature and Chief Justice of Ontario.

THE JUDGESHIP AND SHRIEVALTIES OF ONTARIO.

The Superior Court Judges of Ontario are the following:

- Hon. John Godfrey Spragg, President of the Court of Judicature and Chief Justice of Ontario. Hon. John Hawkins Hagarty, Chief Justice of the Queen's Bench and President of the High Court of Justice for Ontario.

In all thirteen judges, of whom there are Catholics—how many, reader, do you think? Well, not one. There are not indeed many Catholic lawyers in Ontario.

Moved by Ald. G. B. Smith, Toronto, James Gordon, of Ottawa, seconded by the Legislative Assembly of Ontario, be petitioned to amend the Assessment Act: That all exemptions from assessment regarding real property in the Assessment Act, or in any Act amending the same or other Act, be abolished, except as to church buildings, not including grounds on which they stand, and public and high schools and collegiate institutes and grounds connected therewith not exceeding half an acre, and except universities and colleges, free public libraries, and grounds not exceeding four acres, and public hospitals, and grounds not exceeding five acres, orphan, poor and lunatic asylums with grounds not exceeding one acre, cemeteries and municipal property and property vested in or held by Her Majesty as exempted in section 6; subsection 1 and 2.

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MUNICIPAL REFORM.

There was lately held in Toronto a meeting of a few civic officials from certain towns and cities of Ontario. This meeting, which has been dignified by the title of municipal convention, adopted a series of resolutions pointing to municipal reforms of more or less importance.

The convention then dealt with the various reforms proposed. Resolutions were passed declaring the expediency of assessing the incomes of banks and insurance companies; of gas, water, pipe, mail, and telephone companies; and the property owned by incorporated companies and not required or used for the purposes of their business.

Among other resolutions adopted by the convention was the following:— Moved by Ald. G. B. Smith, Toronto, James Gordon, of Ottawa, seconded by the Legislative Assembly of Ontario, be petitioned to amend the Assessment Act: That all exemptions from assessment regarding real property in the Assessment Act, or in any Act amending the same or other Act, be abolished, except as to church buildings, not including grounds on which they stand, and public and high schools and collegiate institutes and grounds connected therewith not exceeding half an acre, and except universities and colleges, free public libraries, and grounds not exceeding four acres, and public hospitals, and grounds not exceeding five acres, orphan, poor and lunatic asylums with grounds not exceeding one acre, cemeteries and municipal property and property vested in or held by Her Majesty as exempted in section 6; subsection 1 and 2.

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individuals to be permitted to go free of taxation. In the matter of taxation we are in favor of placing the burden on the shoulders of rich corporations and monopolists and relieving the already overburdened farmer, mechanic, and laborer.

AN ORANGE CONCERT.

The Orangemen of the Dominion Capital and its vicinity are a very noisy, if very insignificant body. There was a concert given in that city on the evening of the 1st inst., under the auspices of one of their lodges, and the occasion seized on to present one Brother Clarke, a local "big chief," who, like all Orange chieftains, big and little, is noted for tall sayings and small doings, with some sort of a testimonial. An address was read to Mr. Clarke, who, on rising to respond, was, we are informed, rousing with loud and long continued cheers "intermingled with Kentish fire."

Mr. Frank M. McDougall being again called upon sang "If I do any deeds" which was received with even more enthusiasm than the first selection he gave, and being loudly encored Mr. McDougall appeared, and explained that he felt fatigued, having already sung three songs besides having taken part in another entertainment during the evening; he would, therefore, request the audience to kindly excuse him from any further effort, but there was such a shout went up from the audience for "Love in the Kitchen," that Frank was obliged to yield, which he did to the great delight of the large audience.

Mr. Macdougall is the youth who, last winter, ran as a Protestant candidate for the local legislature, hoping to secure an election between Messrs. Baskerville and O'Keefe, both Irish gentlemen, who had secured the Conservative and Liberal nominations respectively. Though supported by the extreme Orange and Calvinist elements of the population, Mr. Macdougall did not poll even half as many votes as did Mr. Baskerville, and fell fully two hundred, if not more, behind Mr. O'Keefe's tally.

The chairman then called upon Brother John White, M. P., the champion of civil and religious liberty in the Canadian House of Commons. Mr. White stated that he had no expectation whatever that he would be called upon to make a speech nor would he attempt to do so. He was glad to be present at the meeting, and glad to see the honor that had been done to his trusty and well beloved Brother Clarke.

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THE PARLIAMENTARY WEEK.

Last week was the first decidedly lively one of this session of the Dominion Parliament. The Pacific Railway resolutions were introduced by Sir Charles Tupper in a long, well-received and attentively listened to discourse. He was followed by Mr. Blake, whose speech also won the plaudits of his friends. The debate was continued by Mr. Ives, Sir Richard Cartwright, Mr. White, Caldwell, and others.

In the Ontario House the first division resulted in a majority of twelve for the government. Mr. Neelon (Lincoln) was absent, while Muskoka is legally, and South Oxford, practically vacant. If both of these constituencies should return supporters of Mr. Mowat that gentleman's majority in the present Parliament will be—not including Mr. Speaker—fifteen.

We said a word or two a short time ago in reference to secret societies, and recited the condemnation of them by the fathers of the late Provincial Council of New York, in their joint pastoral letter issued at the close of the Council.

SECRET SOCIETIES.

The number of Irish Catholics who join secret societies is comparatively very small. But these societies often acquire an influence over the public mind entirely out of proportion with their numbers and real power. By these means Irishmen, who are not part of them, are often led into deeds of a deplorable character, and the Irish people made responsible for crimes of a most shocking description.

Amid the many evils that endanger our salvation and threaten our holy religion the principal one is that spirit of infidelity and revolution now so openly promulgated by men who call themselves different names—such as "Socialists," "Communists," "Nihilists" and other plausible patriotic names—and who, though spread over many countries, are closely banded among themselves to overturn religion and civil society.

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The Most Rev. Dr. McCormack, Bishop of Achonry, was not less explicit and decided in his condemnation of these pernicious and pestilential societies. "We consider it our duty at the present time to repeat our warning to the faithful of the diocese about the danger of being led away in the paths of folly and wickedness by the snares of secret associations, so mischievous at all times,