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AND CATHOLIC CHRONICLE.

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WEDNESDAY,.....NOVEMBER 18, 1891

MERCIERISM.

During the past week another scandal in connection with the Mercier Government was exposed in the columns of the Toronto Empire. All the city papers in Montreal have commented most scathingly on the conduct of the party that victimized a public contractor, Mr. J. P. Whelan, to the tune of $115,000 within a few years. The Montreal Herald is the only newspaper that has undertaken a defence of the Mercier clique. That defence consists in the grossest abuse of Mr. Whelan. When a public journal, in the face of the grossest accusation against its political leaders, can find no other palliation than to hurl the vilest epithets at the men who denounce the iniquity of which he has been the victim, the public will not be slow to draw its own conclusions. A general demand has been made for an investigation into the charges by a Royal Commission. Mr. Beausoleil, M.P., partner of Mr. Mercier, objects strongly to any such course. That is not surprising. Mr. James McShane, M.P.P., who was not charged with anything personal, but merely with having received political subscriptions, has taken an action against The Empire for libel. Should Mr. McShane carry on his suit to proof and merits, then some of the ways of the Mercierites may be ventilated. At all events there is a certain manliness in facing the music before a court of justice instead of adopting the tactics of Mr. Mercier, who simply declines to have anything to do with Mr. Whelan. It is rather late in the day to make such an assertion: but the local Premier no doubt feels that with impending ruin over him in the Baie des Chaleurs matter it would not be wise to borrow more trouble, so he contents himself with despising Mr. Whelan, who no doubt returns the compliment. More than likely, however, a new Government in the Province will ere long make a general investigation into the way the Province has been plundered for the past four years.

A WILD FANATIC.

Mr. Benjamin Butterworth is one of those gentlemen who take upon themselves the task of championing that trade policy, in connection with Canada's relations to the United States, which, as has been more than once pointed out, would certainly lead to the ruin of our country. He has, however, another feeling burning in his bosom and that is that the annexation of Canada to the United States would bring about the suppression of that liberty which the Catholic Church enjoys in our borders. He has a special dislike for the position of the Church in the Province of Quebec. But his hatred for all things Catholic has just caused him to figuatively speaking, "put his foot into it" to an extent probably not equalled since Burchards "rum, romanism and rebellion" brought about the defeat of Blaine. Last week this fanatic delivered one of his wild orations on trade and took advantage of the opportunity to describe at some length his recent experiences in Europe. Of course such a man could not fail to fly off at a tangent and abuse the Church. Italy, according to Mr. Butterworth, is one of the most unfortunate countries in Europe, and, in in his opinion, her position is due to the Church! This is the elegant manner in which the political firebrand expressed himself on the subject: "What the "church leaves the army takes. If I "owned Italy I'd hold an auction and "invite all America and I'd sell 10,000 "crucifixes and 10,000 madonnas and a "thousand churches, and I'd establish "schools in their stead. The power of "the weak old man—I speak it as reverently as I can—is waning." It is perhaps necessary to say that the term "weak old man" was meant to describe His Holiness. It is not necessary for us to enter into any discussion of the merits, or rather demerits, of Mr. Butterworth's atrocious statements. All Catholics are sufficiently well aware of the true position of affairs in Rome. But the circumstance is instructive as showing the tendency of a man who, as is notorious, has, in company with the Cartwright-Wiman clique of politicans, thought proper to intrude his opinions into Canadian affairs. It will be seen that he is dangerous, and that underlying his generous advocacy of trade facilities is his true motive, namely, to injure the Church and impair the liberty and undermine the position she happily occupies in Canada. So far as the scurrilous ravings of Mr. Butterworth are concerned, it is perhaps worthy of notice that the Catholics of the United States do not intend to let them pass in silence. Protests have been very freely telegraphed from all parts of the Union, and the reference to the Pope denounced as an outrage and an insult. One result of this speech may be the removal of Mr. Butterworth from the secretaryship of the World's Fair Commission. Another will be the harmful consequences to his party when it offers itself for the approval of the electors. The millions of influential Catholics in the United States will not allow the principles advocated by Mr. Butterworth to go unchecked. Under all the circumstances surrounding Mr. Butterworth's position, it is as well that his views and exposition of them should also receive some attention in Canada.

AT OTTAWA.

Under the above title Le Canadien, Mr. Tarte's paper, presents the following:—

"The Abbott-Chapleau arrangement is commented upon in divers ways. Some people say that Mr. Abbott has been obliged to surrender, whilst others contend that the difficulty will break out anew. Let things be as they may it is beyond doubt that the bodyguard of the Prime Minister—the Empire, the Gazette, and the Citizen—did their best to crush Mr. Chapleau. They will try their hand again on the first opportunity. Mr. Chapleau is under the ban; he must feel it himself. He will never have in the Cabinet the influence a Provincial chief has a right to exercise. He will be shadowed, as he has been for the past year, more particularly. Thanks to the investigation into the National Printing bureau, Mr. Abbott and his inspirers thought there was no danger in throwing Mr. Chapleau overboard. The Empire and the Gazette undertook the task of keeping him under water. The plan did not succeed. We regret that Mr. Chapleau should find himself in the position he is in. He knows that the Tories of Ontario hate him, and that nothing but the fear of loss of power prevents them from giving louder utterance to their wrath."

The Secretary of State is not in the most enviable position, if his friend of Le Canadien has properly guessed the situation. He may perhaps have reason to exclaim, "Save me from my friends." Le Canadien seems to forget that if the Empire and other Conservative papers did not approve of Mr. Chapleau's removal to the Department of Railways, the Globe, voicing the sentiments of the Liberals, declared they would not have him at any price in any department of a government they might form. Overzealous friends are liable to do a public man great harm. The same *entourage* that are waking up public opinion to the effect that an estrangement exists between Mr. Chapleau and Premier Abbott are zealously circulating the statement that the Secretary of State has vowed that Mr. Curran, M.P., shall not get a seat in the Cabinet. Mr. Chapleau needs all the good friends he can secure, and to array the Irish Catholics against him is rather a dangerous game for a man of his ambitious aspirations.

THE MINISTERIAL MONSTER.

In the TRUE WITNESS of last week a paragraph appeared with reference to one Cotten, "Rector" of a parish in Ireland. The fact that the offender was a protestant minister was so self evident that it was not considered necessary to state the fact. Some have been misled by accounts of the event in other papers and the following letter appears in the Toronto Mail, in consequence, from Mr. P. de Gruchy of the Catholic Review.—

In the issue of the Mail of Monday last, 2nd ult., there appears amongst the cable news what purports to be a despatch from Dublin, dated November 1, a portion of which reads as follows: "Since the arrest of the Rev. Samuel Cotten, charged with criminal ill-treatment of the children in the Carmagh Orphanage, the local excitement has been increased by further sensational developments. Rev. Mr. Cotten is the *Roman Catholic rector* of Carmagh, Co. Kildare," etc., etc. (The italics are mine.) This paragraph, in so far as it calls the Rev. Samuel Cotten a Roman Catholic, is a most despicable falsehood, its manifest object being to make capital against the Catholic church. The person in question, who, with his wife, Elizabeth S. Cotten, was arraigned at the Petty Sessions Court at Robertstown, county Kildare, on Tuesday, October 27, before a bench of magistrates, and committed for trial, is an *Anglican* and not a *Roman Catholic* minister. This fact must have been known to your correspondent, the more especially as the trial, with all its horrible disclosures of brutality and negligence, took place on October 27, whilst the Mail's Dublin despatch was dated November 1, or nearly a week later. Reports of Mr. Cotten's arrest appeared amongst the cable news of the other city dailies of October 30, in none of which, however, was he cited as a Roman Catholic rector. I would not wish to infer from this that the despatch was "cooked" by the Mail before publication, but the above-mentioned facts are significant. The Catholic church has repeatedly been falsely accused and assailed upon charges with as little groundwork of truth as the foregoing. In this her life has been the counterpart of that of her Divine founder, a life of trials, persecutions and vilifications, but also a life of triumphs and victories—and if the misstatements in the Mail's presumed despatch were allowed to go un-contradicted, another item would be added to the stock-in-trade of every anti-Catholic fanatic. As this item from the Mail has been commented upon by several, and republished in other journals, I would ask you in fairness to give to this statement of fact the same prominence as was accorded to the slanderous misstatements in the despatch of your correspondent of November 1."

SECRET SOCIETIES.

So long as secret societies were useful to make war on the Pope, their doings and principles were loudly applauded in certain quarters. The Church condemned them because they sapped the foundations of morality and of true liberty, but its teachings were scouted. Now, the effects of secret societies are being felt in the Protestant churches, and a correspondent of the Daily Witness, that uncompromising enemy of all Catholic teaching, writes as follows:

Secret societies disintegrate the church. Instead of being "handmaids," they are rivals. Nearly all of them have religions of their own devising. The late Gen. Albert Pike, Grand Commander of the Supreme Council, Sovereign Grand Inspector-General, one of the most famous of Masonic writers, says: "Though Masonry is identical with the ancient mysteries, it is so in this qualified sense, that it presents but an imperfect image of their brilliancy." (Morals and Dogma, p. 624.) Mackey, the Masonic historian, says: "The religion of Masonry is pure theism, on which its different members engraft their own peculiar opinion, but are not permitted to introduce them into the lodge." (Lex., art. Religion, p. 402). The name of Christ is is excluded from its authorized prayers. Oddfellowship, which took its rise during the great upheaval against Freemasonry following the murder of Morgan in 1826, not a whit better. The action of the Grand Lodge of Oddfellows, in session at Newport, N. H., Oct. 14th ult., was reported in the Boston Journal, from which I make the following extract: "Vigorous resolutions were adopted petitioning the Sovereign Grand Lodge to reverse its action and the decision of the Grand Sire, that the name of Christ cannot properly be used in the lodge rooms." What do you, as a professed Christian and Sunday school teacher, think of that, "Baltimore"? What are lodge prayers but horrible mockeries? Do you still want your boys to go to a place where Christ's name cannot be properly used?

There is no reason to expect that the "Grand Sire," and "Sovereign Grand Lodge," will recede from their position. Their motive is evident. As in Masonry, it is to make the order as comprehensive as possible. The only requisite is belief in a Supreme Being. No one, in fact, is excluded on religious grounds, infidel, Mohammedan, skeptic or Indian, no one, —save a "conscientious atheist." Lodge-bound Christians, how do you interpret the command, "Be not unequally yoked with unbelievers"?

THE latest rumor connecting the name of the Hon. Lt. Governor Angers with a seat in the New Cabinet at Ottawa, as Minister of Public Works, also refers to Sir A. P. Caron, Minister of Militia, as about to take possession of Spencerwood. This would be a great honor conferred on the Minister of Militia, who is quite a young man. The office of Lt. Governor has not been a sinecure in the Province and it is the highest distinction that a Lower Canadian can aspire to.

THE Grand Jury of Montreal has made a presentment in favor of its own maintenance. Upon this subject there are of course many opinions, though the weight of the best seems in favor of the retention of the system. But that there is room for reform in the Grand Jury system goes without saying, and it is the defects rather than the uselessness of it which have caused so many to advocate its abolition. There is another point which requires attention, and that is the careless manner in which trivial cases are frequently sent for Grand Juries to consider—cases which the subordinate magistrates ought to have settled in five minutes.

THE Church has always prospered under persecution, and the French clergy have therefore no cause for anxiety in consequence of the action of the Minister of Public Worship in prosecuting certain prelates for exercising their rights as bishops. The pretext is that these dignitaries have not properly replied to the recent circular issued by the government with reference to the bishops leaving their dioceses without permission. This is certainly an extraordinary statement, and indicates very clearly, that, so far as freedom for the Church is concerned, France is not a whit better than Italy. Things have come a pretty pass when the movements of the clergy are made subject to the commands of a political functionary. The land which once proudly boasted that it was deserving of the title "eldest daughter of the Church," has fallen from its high estate. But dragging venerable bishops into the criminal courts will hardly strengthen the republic or promote its best interests. Of late the Church has exhibited a tendency to give the government every support. Its present course is only calculated to bring upon it the condemnation of the spiritual powers, and in a contest between the Church and the State the end is not difficult to foresee. We have had a recent example before us, in Germany, when Bismarck and his master had, figuratively, to make a pilgrimage to Canossa.

THE United States government has solved what not long ago was termed the "Mormon puzzle," in a most effectual manner. In spite of threats, in spite of opposition and even a talk of war, the Federal authorities have, so far as the outward semblance of the thing is concerned, suppressed the evil. Not the least sweeping act in connection with the suppression has been the confiscation of the property of the "saints." The right of the state to do this has been questioned, but a decision has been given in the United States Courts upholding the seizure. Some express the fear that the act may be regarded as a dangerous precedent, but there seems a general opinion that what has been done with the property of an illegal society can never be made a precedent to be applied to the property of other corporations, ecclesiastical or other. The Federal government by its act is nine millions the richer. The form of Mormonism being thus suppressed, all to be hoped is that the evil spirit may be crushed also.

THE New Zealand Tablet indicates that the island is suffering from an evil which the recent census shows to exist in Canada, namely, the tendency to crowd into towns and abandon the country. It points out that in Dunedin alone, not a very large place, there are hundreds of people unable to obtain the means of livelihood, and that half the population of the country is concentrated in the city and towns. The evil is a world-wide one and the consequences must ultimately be disastrous. The Tablet, however, seems to think that the remedy for the disease is the establishment of natural works in the country. We do not share this opinion, because in this country there has been rather an excess of paternal government in connection with public works, and still the rush to towns continues. The best solution of the difficulty, in our opinion, would be for farmers and dwellers in rural localities to make their country home more attractive for themselves and their families. A visit to nine out of ten farm houses will show a house in which there are no books or papers or means of providing the least relaxation of a mental or social tone of the family. This naturally makes home unattractive and promotes the exodus to the towns.

THE new Secretary of State for Ireland, Mr. Jackson, a gentleman, by the way who seems but little known, has announced that Lord Salisbury's government has determined to push to its end the policy of "local government" for Ireland. This is a moral victory for the Nationalists of an encouraging order. It is true that the scheme falls far short of the Home Rule which has been the aspiration of all those working for the cause, but it shows that the government finds itself compelled to concede the principle, and its triumph of that principle can only be a question of time. But how far Lord Salisbury will be able to carry his scheme is hard to tell. Already among the ranks of the "Unionists" allies of the government are heard murmurs of dissent and the ministry is blamed for the recent loss of the Devonshire seat on account of its Irish policy. However it may be, the Government has to stand or fall by its policy, and announces its intention of so doing. So far as Ireland is concerned it matters very little, save as regards more or less delay. If the present government passes the local government bill, it will be, as we have said, the concession of a principle which has long been combated by it. If it meets defeat, then that simply means the speedier advent to power of the opposition and the introduction of the practical scheme promised by Mr. Gladstone.

THE TRUE WITNESS was one of the first papers in Canada to tell the farmers of the country, after the passage of the "McKinley Bill," that the British market would take every egg that their hens might lay. We published letters at the time from one of the largest London dealers, and we happen to know that a great many of our farmers profited by the advice given. The English egg market seems to grow by what it feeds on, and we now read in the London correspondence of the Trade Bulletin that—

There was never a better time than now for Canadian eggs in this country (England). The market closes bare of stock after a rise of 6d per long hundred on all descriptions. The 11s limit for very best French having been passed, and arrivals continuing very small from all quarters. I am in receipt of advices this morning from firms interested in the Canadian department of the trade, that the position is just now extremely good for Canadians, and requesting me to inform my Canadian friends to send forward all they can to the English markets, London especially, just now, as all can be disposed of at good prices. In Liverpool small entries from other countries have been beneficial to the Canadians showing which have realised up to 9s, the lowest figure being 8s 6d, a very good price even at bottom. All eggs are advised as cleared, and future arrivals are sold forward at satisfactory rates. One shipper alone on a single consignment from Montreal recently netted £1,000 on the transaction. The Canadian egg has a great future here, and exporters can take heart and laugh at the revilers of the trade in their midst, whose pessimism has been effectually quenched by the fire of success which has attended the enterprise.

Broken.

The big bell in the eastern tower of Notre Dame church, which weighs 3,700 pounds, and has been used for sounding fire alarms, has been cracked. It will be taken down and recast.

National Finances.

The unrevised statement of Inland Revence account during month of August shows a total amount of $769,475, being an increase of $101,020 over the same month last year. The principal increases are spirits, $56,405; malt, $41,284, and tobacco, $43,207. Some minor items show trifling decreases.

Drowned in the River.

About eight o'clock on Saturday evening a man named John Collins, of 22 Cathedral street, while trying to board a steamship lying at the Island wharf slipped and fell into the river. A rush was made to rescue him, but with no success, as he was drawn under the wharf by the eddy and drowned. The body was recovered, and the coroner notified.

Sad Accident.

A serious and probably fatal accident occurred on Saturday morning in Lorne avenue, St. Lambert. Mr. Nichols, of Nichols and Marler, is building a house on Lorne avenue, Prudent Senecal, of 191 Murray street being the contractor. On Saturday morning Mr. Senecal and two workmen, Francois Lecompte and John Morin, were on the scaffold near the roof of the building, when one of the supporters gave way, precipitating them to the ground, a distance of some twenty-five feet. All three were picked up insensible. Senecal's and Morin's injuries, though serious, were not dangerous; but Lecompte had his skull split open and his shoulder broken. On Sunday his life was despaired of, but he rallied.

Election Trials.

The protest against the return of P. H. Spohn, elected in East Simcoe, was heard before Justices Rose and McMahon, C. T. Blackstock, representing the petitioner and J. K. Kerr the respondent, at Barrie on the 12th. The respondent was first called and examined generally, but particularly as to the payment of $2, ostensibly for the use of the poll, to the Indian chief on Christian islands. In this case, involving personal disqualification, judgment was reserved. The next charge was one of bribing a voter named Huston, in the town of Midland, by endorsement of a promissory note for $20 by one George Chaw, an agent of the respondent. The judges held the charges clearly proven and unseated the respondent with costs. The question of personal disqualification stands for judgment at Toronto.

Frank G. Forbes, M.P. for Queen's, N.S., against whose return a petition was filed for corrupt practices, resigned his seat, admitting bribery by agents.

The Longue Pointe Asylum

The grand jury, on Friday, under the guidance of Deputy Sheriff J. Arthur Franchere, visited the Longue Pointe asylum. This was the first visit made by a grand jury since the new buildings have been erected and occupied. The buildings consist of fourteen houses, each two storeys in height—seven for the males and seven for the females. They are neatly furnished. Bathrooms are on each flat, while the beds for all, Government as well as private, are iron, with comfortable hair mattresses on springs. In the asylum there are 1,300 Government and 91 private patients. The laundry is run by a 72 horse power engine, while the tailoring department would remind the visitors of a wholesale clothing concern. The buildings are heated by steam, supplied by a boiler situated in a fire proof building. The fire appliances are excellent, and should a fire unfortunately break out it would be impossible for a disaster similar to the last to occur.

The Pestilence Abroad.

A St. Petersburg despatch says that hundreds of persons are dying daily from influenza in the famine-stricken districts and in the large towns in the south of Russia. The Provincial governors complain of the insufficiency of troops in the south-west in the event of a popular rising. It is reported that the Czar is displeased at Minister Vischnegradiski's financial report. The minister offered to resign, but the Czar replied "You must eat what you have cooked."

Obituary.

The village of Lacolle, P.Q., has lost one of its most promising young ladies by the death of Miss Anna Ellen Lyons, second eldest daughter of Mr. Michael Lyons. The deceased young lady was widely known, and won for herself the esteem of all who knew her by quiet and retiring habits, by the gentleness of her manner and the suavity of her disposition. Seemingly she enjoyed good health until late on Saturday evening, when she complained of being unwell, but her illness did not appear to be serious until a few hours later, when inflammation combined with heart disease set in, resulting in her death. She thus exchanged this earth for a fairer and brighter sky and for a more congenial atmosphere. The funeral cortege of 126 carriages was met at the church by the Rev. J. Charette, and a solemn Mass of Requiem chanted by the Rev. James Lonergan, P.P., of St. Bridget's, Montreal, cousin of the deceased. After Mass and before the funeral cortege had arrived, hundreds of people had surrounded the grave and waited in patience until the celebrant intoned the "Benedictus," and the lovely form of her whom in life they had known so well had been placed in the grave. As the clay hid the casket from mortal gaze, eyes unused to weeping became dimmed with tears. After a moment kneeling in silent prayer, all withdrew, knowing she gladly made God the sacrifice of her life and is reaping the golden reward due to her fidelity in His service.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[The columns of the TRUE WITNESS are open to correspondents writing on subjects of interest. But it must be understood that no letter inserted is to be regarded as representing the opinions of the paper. Anonymous letters will not be noticed, though the names of writers will be held strictly in confidence.]

THE SUBMERGENCE OF IRELAND.

To the Editor of THE TRUE WITNESS:

DEAR SIR,—I send you the subjoined articles, published February and March, 1889, in the Star, as they may be interesting to your readers. Mr Murray, the well informed editor and learned critic, in answer to a question from me, printed the following in his column of "Notes and Queries."

H. KAVANAGH.

"In the Star of January 11, 1888, Mrs. M. J. Vaughan, of Bow River Mines, Alberta, asked me, among other queries, whether it was the Duke of Wellington or Carlyle who had originally proposed the well known supposed cure for the ills of Ireland. Mr. J. A. Staton (Quebec) wrote to me in answer, that in 1829 the Iron Duke had said to George the Fourth: "It would be better for England in the future that the sister island were sunk to the bottom of the sea." But, as I remarked at the time, my correspondent did not forward me any documentary evidence to prove what he stated, or name any particular newspaper in which the report of the Duke's speech occurred, so that I could not guarantee the correctness of Mr. Staton's *ipse dixit*. In a subsequent note, I traced the saying to the poet Spenser's pamphlet entitled "A View of the State of Ireland," which was written in 1596, or nearly three hundred years ago. It was not the poet's own wish that Ireland should be drowned, but he says that he had heard the wish expressed by "some whose great Wisdom in Opinion should seem to judge more soundly of so weighty a consideration." He adds that "this kind of speech is the manner of desperate Men, far driven, to wish the utter Ruine of that which they cannot redress, rather than of grave Counsellors, which ought to think nothing so hard, but that through Wisdom it may be mastered and subdued."

Again, in the Star of March 31, I quoted two passages from the writings of the Rev. Sydney Smith, in which reference is made to the saying. In one of "Peter Plymley's Letters," published in 1808, the Very Reverend Dean, who was the best friend that Ireland ever had, writes: "I agree with you most cordially that, governed as Ireland now is, it would be a vast accession of strength if the waves of the sea were to arise, and engulph her to-morrow." The second quotation that I noted was from an article on "Ireland," published in the Edinburgh Review of 1820, and is as follows: "So great and so long has been the misgovernment of Ireland that we verily believe the Empire would be much stronger if everything was open sea between England and the Atlantic, and if skates and codfish swam over the fair province of Ulster." The fifth paragraph of the Sixth Letter of "Peter Plymley" begins: "You say that Ireland is a millstone about our necks, and that it would be better for us if Ireland were sunk at the bottom of the sea."

And now I have just met with the words of another Dean, I mean Jonathan Swift, the Dean of St. Patrick's, whose "Drapier's Letters" formed an epoch in constitutional history, and may be said to have begun the struggle for Irish Independence. The following is Swift's account of English notions of Ireland at the time of the publication of the "Letters," 1724: "There is a vein of industry and parsimony, that runs through the whole people of England, which, added to the easiness of their rents, makes them rich and sturdy. As to Ireland, they know little more of it than they do of Mexico; rather than that it is a country subject to the King of England, full of bogs, inhabited by wild Irish Papists, who are kept in awe by mercenary troops sent from thence; and *the opinion is that it were better for England if this whole island were sunk into the sea*; for they have a tradition that every forty years there must be a rebellion in Ireland." I have thus traced this phrase from Spenser in 1596, through Swift in 1724, to Sydney Smith in 1808 and 1820, so that neither the Duke of Wellington nor Thomas Carlyle could have been the originator of the saying. It is hardly probable that it will be found in the writings of any author prior to the time of Spenser."

The Submergence of Ireland.

To the Editor of Notes and Queries.

DEAR SIR,—I feel deeply obliged by the trouble you have so kindly taken to give a synopsis, on 2nd inst., of the remarks, in various numbers of the Star, respecting the diabolical wish attributable to many—that Ireland were sunk beneath the waters of the ocean—and for having defended the Duke of Wellington from the imputation of Mr. Staton, of Quebec, unsupported by any evidence—that that great Irishman once used the inhuman expressions above referred to, and in support of your unwillingness to accept it, I beg to quote from a speech made by the noble duke in the House of Lords in 1829, in defence of his native country and his Catholic countrymen—taken from "History of the Irish Brigade in the Service of France," published in Glasgow by Cameron and Ferguson, 1885. Page 485.

"My Lords, whenever I meet with any of those brave men, who, in common with others, are the object of this bill, and who have so often borne me on the tide of victory, when I see them branded with the imputation of a divided allegiance, I feel almost ashamed of the honors which have been lavished upon me. My Lords, it is a great gratification to me to advocate those principles in conjunction with a distinguished member of my family, so lately at the head of the Government of Ireland, his native country, a country ever dear to me from the recollections of my youth, the memory of her wrongs and the bravery of her people. I glory, my Lords, in the name of Ireland, and it is the highest pleasure I can ambition to be thus united with the rest of my kindred in the grateful task of closing the wounds which seven centuries of misgovernment have inflicted upon that unfortunate land."

I now beg leave to state that the phrase in question did not originate with a recreant Irishmen or a bigoted Briton. It was an avowed enemy, the King of the searovers or Norsemen, who made use of this abominable sentiment, so that those who repeat and circulate the sarcasm had not even the merit of originality, and this further proves how many idiomatic expressions, received as new, are plagiarisms, and may be as old as the hills.

I find in the "Gaelic Journal," vol. 2, p. 135, a literal translation of a tale from the Irish by Prof. O'Curry, of the Dublin University, in which Balar, king or chief of the Fomorians, about to leave a Scandinavian port for a predatory incursion into Erin, and to punish a celebrated general, called the Oldanach (that is, master of all arts,) who had killed several Norse messengers, and sent one home to tell the tale, said to his captains as the fleet raised anchor:

"Go, give battle to the Oldanach and cut off his head, and tie that island, which is called Eire, at the sterns of your ships and your good barques, and let the dense verging water take its place, and bring it to the north side of Lochlain, and not one of the Tuatha De Danan will ever follow it there."

It appears to me that this settles the question, and that it will not be necessary to go further back into the ethnic ages.

H. KAVANAGH.

Montreal, Feb. 16th, 1889.

GRAY HAIRS are the earliest feature to mark the step of time, and hence the general aim to preserve its bright and youthful appearance. Now Luby's Parisian Hair Renewer, used as an ordinary dressing for the hair, is daily gaining in popularity, being a delightfully perfumed preparation, possessing every possible recommendable feature. 1

The deputy Minister of Agriculture says Canada will be properly represented at the World's Fair in Chicago.

IRISH JUBILEE SONGSTER, containing 200 best known Irish songs. Price reduced to 15c, or 17c. mail. W. STREET, 11tf 29 Bleury.