

The Catholic Record.

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REV. GEORGE R. NORTHGRAVES, Author of "Mistakes of Modern Infidels."

THOMAS COFFEY, Publisher and Proprietor, Thomas Coffey.

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London, Saturday, December 18, 1897

THE WESTMINSTER CONFES- SION.

Throughout the Christian world the two hundred and fifth anniversary of the completion of the Westminster Confession of Faith was celebrated by the Presbyterian denomination on the 8th inst."

This is the manner in which the celebration of the anniversary of the Westminster Confession of Faith has been announced by the press generally. The writer of the announcement appears to have lost sight of the fact that the Westminster Confession is purely a local matter. That Confession is accepted only by the Presbyterians of Great Britain, and those subdivisions of Presbyterianism which are the offspring of Scotch or English Presbyterianism.

A RUMORED CONFESSION.

A Toronto paper announced last week that the Galt boy murderer Allison had made been induced to make a confession of his guilt to a Methodist minister, the Rev. Mr. Atkinson, and that the minister was thus enabled to inform the public of Allison's guilt, and thus to reassure the jurors that they had brought in a just verdict.

SEPARATE AND PUBLIC SCHOOL TAXES.

It frequently occurs that Separate school supporters in rural sections get hold of the notion that their school taxes are higher than the taxes levied on supporters of Public schools, when this is really not the case.

In consideration of the fact that in some sections the land is less valuable than the average value through the township, and is therefore assessed at a lower rate, a law was enacted some years ago, ordering that each township should levy a rate for the payment of \$100 to schools where there was only one teacher, and \$50 more for

each assistant teacher. This sum has been raised by recent legislation to \$150 for one teacher and proportionately for each assistant, so that each Public school in the township is made to receive at least \$150 from this general tax. From this levy, Separate school supporters are exempt, as this provision for teachers is not made in favor of Separate schools. When the two levies are added together, it will be generally, and we might say universally, found that the Separate school tax, which is always levied as one sum, does not exceed the Public school tax; but as the latter is divided into two separate sums, it sometimes appears to those who do not think of the actual state of the case that the Separate school tax is higher than the Public school rate; the Separate school tax being compared only with the Public school trustees' levy, instead of the sum of the two levies which are paid by Public school supporters, which is the correct basis for comparison.

"KIT'S" JUBILEE LETTERS.

Announcement appears in another column of the publication of a work entitled "Kit's Jubilee Letters." This work will shortly be issued from the publishing house of George N. Moran, 63 Yonge street, Toronto. Those who read "Kit's" letters from week to week in the Toronto Mail and Empire need not be told what an entertaining and valuable contribution they were to the literature of the Jubilee. There are but few Canadians who have not heard of "Kit," and those who have read anything coming from her pen are anxious to read more.

The reference made to her work at the World's Fair is but the simple truth, and we are not a little surprised that her letters from Chicago in 1893 have not long since appeared in book-form. This would be the case, we have no doubt, were some enterprising American publisher made aware of their value. Her description of the great Fair, the different characters seen therein, and the whole surrounding would make a volume that would be treasured by thousands of readers, more especially by the people of Chicago. The World's Fair at this day seems to us like a great and lovely dream of the long ago, and the beautiful word-painting of "Kit," in her description of it as she passed from building to building and up and down the Midway, would to many a reader be the bringing back to memory the scenes of that enchanting time.

We sincerely hope this her first venture in book-publishing will be attended with abundant success. Canadians, more especially Irish Canadians, have reason to feel proud of "Kit." Her writings are rich, racy and brainy, and we will be excused for having a warm place in our hearts for this great writer, for, whenever she makes reference to the land of her birth—the Emerald Isle—her soul seems to take possession of her pen, and kindly, tender, loving sentiments are expressed with all the warmth and sincerity of a loving child for a loving mother.

THAT BIGOT AGAIN.

It appears that Flaneur, the anti-Catholic variety editor of the Mail and Empire, cannot allow any opportunity, however slight, to pass without having a fling at Catholics. In the issue of the 14th inst. he has occasion to give some advice to a correspondent who writes under the non de plume "Daisy," and he says: "Do not indulge, Daisy, in any Jesuitical juggling." The advice given to Daisy is on some trivial matter in which it would seem almost impossible to manifest an anti-Catholic bias, but Popery and the Jesuits have so strong an influence on Flaneur's brain that he cannot answer without connecting the Jesuits with juggling. In what evil doings has Flaneur detected the Jesuits that he should thus insult a learned and pious community of priests?

About ten years ago the Hon. C. F. Fraser said there was a brawling brood of bribers hatched under the eaves of the Mail office. We would not like to be compelled to write that there is now a brawling brood of bigots being hatched in the same place—but things are moving along in that direction.

In the Mail and Empire of last Saturday "Flaneur" paid his respects in the following fashion to Hon. Edward Blake:

"Mr. Edward Blake is an unfortunate politician; he failed in Dominion politics only a little less badly than he has failed in Irish affairs. His pessimistic speech at the National Club dinner on Wednesday evening will hurt no one but himself; I do not know if

the latter be possible, in a political sense. Mr. Edward Blake goes back to Ireland, where he is not wanted, and to London to attend to his Parliamentary law business, in which I am told he is doing very well indeed. Mr. Blake understands how to combine patriotism and business, while he certainly makes the latter pay. Well, if the people can stand him in the Old Country we can certainly do without him here."

And in the same paper the writer refers in this way to a Texas editor who wrote in terms of a most uncompromising character of Bishop Doane, of Albany:

"To the contemptible knave who wrote the above paragraph, and the equally contemptible knave who printed it, the only argument would be cowhide."

For having written as he did of Hon. Edward Blake, we think most Canadians will agree with us when we say that "Flaneur" should be accorded a liberal share of the treatment which he has recommended for the Texas editor.

POLYGAMY AND DIVORCE.

After a warm discussion, the Northwest Legislature last week passed the third reading of a bill to incorporate the President and High Council of the "Alberta State of Zion," which is a regular organization of the Mormon Church.

Mr. Hillyard Mitchell protested against the bill, stating that the petitioners for it are Mormons, and practitioners of polygamy, and that the petition for incorporation is the getting in of the thin edge of the wedge. Dr. Brett also opposed the bill on similar grounds. He objected to polygamy and hoped the Council would not give practical recognition to Mormonism by passing the bill. "The Mormons," he said, "are endeavoring to establish themselves in the North-West, in a small way, just as they had done in the United States. The indignation of the people of the States where they first established themselves was so much aroused by their immoralities that the Mormons were driven from State to State until at last they found a foothold in Utah, where they for some time defied the whole power of the Government, but at last their favorite institution of polygamy was made illegal by the laws of the country, and their Church was practically disorganized. He believed they would take the same advantages of their power here if the Government recognized them by granting them incorporation."

It was in consequence of the prohibition of polygamy that many of the Mormons left Utah and came to Canada, settling in the North-West, where it is said they are secretly practicing polygamy. It is much to be desired that this Bill will not be permitted to pass into law. Canada, is so far, comparatively free from the divorce evil which threatens to destroy utterly the sanctity of the marriage tie in the United States, owing to the slight grounds on which divorces are granted there, and we trust to the good sense of the North-West council that it will not permit the organization of an association which under the deceptive guise of religion attacks the moral foundation on which society rests, which is the indissolubility of marriage, and adherence to the fundamental law that no man or woman be permitted to have more than one husband or wife. If it be true, as is reported on good authority, that the Mormons in the North-West Territory are violating the law in this respect, the Government should take steps to bring the offenders to justice, that the evil may be checked in the germ, before it attains the gigantic proportions which it reached in Utah, when it will be very difficult or next to impossible to suppress it.

While on this subject it is proper we should make reference also to the charge of County Judge McDougall to the Grand Jury in Toronto on the 7th inst. The Judge expressed himself in favor of the establishment of a divorce court for the Dominion, "where the humblest citizen of the realm could much less expense than is entailed in going before the Dominion Senate."

This we believe would be a step backward in our civilization. It is true on the one hand that it is a difficult matter to obtain a divorce under the Canadian law as it stands at present, and that owing to the expense of going before the Senate it is practically impossible for a poor man to obtain a divorce. But it is much better that there should be a difficulty in obtaining a divorce than that a door should be opened to facilitate the process, as Canada would then soon become as bad in this respect as the neighboring

State of Michigan, where there is the scandalous condition of things that there is now a divorce granted for every twelve marriages, so that there is not a hamlet in the State where the scandal does not exist of one or more divorced persons, and a family broken up. We hope Canada will never be brought to this condition, and we hope also, as a security against this, that Judge McDougall's desire will not be realized. The Anglican clergy in England have many times expressed their regret at the establishment of divorce courts there, and we hope that Canada will long be spared from the evil consequences which have resulted from such an institution.

THE RIGHTS OF CITIZENSHIP.

CATHOLICS IN THE JUDICIARY.

We intended referring to the now much discussed question of Catholic representation on the Bench of Ontario when the following appeared in the Mail and Empire of the 3rd of Sept., but recognizing that facts and figures are not liable to misconstruction, and that a few lines containing these elements are more potent than several columns of generalities, we postponed doing so until we could be correctly informed as to the Catholic judges on the English Bench, and to procure statistics showing the Catholics appointed to the Bench in Ontario and the Protestants to the Bench in Quebec since the union of the Provinces in 1841. The short article in the Mail emphasizes an important fact as far as the attitude of English statesmen towards Catholics is concerned. Here is what the Mail said:

"When Sir Charles Russell became Lord Chief Justice of England, as Baron Russell of Killowen, it was pointed out that he was the first Roman Catholic to serve the country in that capacity. Another appointment, that of Sir Evelyn Wood to the Adjutant Generalship of the British army, has called forth similar comment, he being the first Roman Catholic to hold that post since the days of the Reformation. Distinction of creed is fast disappearing, and it is well that it should." The population of England is about 30,000,000; of this about one-thirtieth is Catholic, and out of a Bench of thirty Judges of the High Court in England (including the Lord Chancellor) the Catholics hold three places, in the persons of Lord Russell of Killowen, the Lord Chief Justice of England, appointed in 1894; the Hon. Sir James C. Mathews, of the Queen's Bench, appointed in 1881; and the Hon. Sir John C. Day, also of the Queen's Bench, appointed in 1882.

The Catholics have also been accorded a fair representation on the English County Court Bench by both the Conservative and Liberal Governments.

What we have been fighting for since our existence, as an independent journalist, is to put an end to a distinction, which is not only recognized in England, but which not only exists, but continues to be fostered against Catholics in Ontario by the bigots attached to both political parties.

Sir Robert Peel, a statesman of proved pre-eminence, as well as one of the most sagacious and liberal politicians that ever led a party, before retiring from office in 1835, renewed his declaration that there ought to be complete equality in civil and political rights between Great Britain and Ireland, so that no one should be at liberty to say a different rule existed in the two countries. In public employment he was of opinion that the favor of the Crown should be bestowed WITHOUT REFERENCE TO RELIGIOUS DISTINCTIONS. That as the Catholics were fair sharers in defraying the burdens imposed by the Government they should be fair partakers in the offices of its administration. This advice of Peel received practical and wide application by Lord Mulgrave during his administration in Ireland.

As showing the determination not to be influenced by considerations of creed, or to be dictated to by religious fanatics, the Government of Lord Salisbury in 1886 administered a stinging and effective rebuke—a crushing snub—to the bigots and intolerant composing the Scottish Protestant Alliance of Glasgow who sent a letter to Lord Randolph Churchill protesting "against the elevation of Roman Catholics to positions of power and trust in the British Empire." The protest was directed against the Right Honorable Henry Matthews, then Home Secretary, now Lord Llandoff. Lord Randolph Churchill sent this curt and incisive reply:

Treasury Chambers, Whitehall, Sept. 9, 1886.

James Kerr, Esq.: Sir—I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter enclosing a copy of the resolution passed by the Scottish Protestant Alliance, and in reply beg to remark that I observe with astonishment and regret that in this age of enlightenment and general toleration persons professing to be educated and intelligent can arrive at conclusions so senseless

and intolerant as those which are set forth in the resolution. I am, sir, Yours faithfully, Randolph H. Churchill.

No wonder in this nineteenth century that a man of the world and in its highest ranks should be "astonished" at the "senseless and intolerant" spirit be found emanating from such a source. Yet such is the spirit the Catholics of Ontario have to encounter and are experiencing the effects of every day. And what Canada wants are outspoken and fearless public leaders like Lord Randolph Churchill to defy and put down the intolerant whose sole object is the perpetuation of religious hate. It has been truly said of such, "they live by this; it is their very existence, and without it they would have no vitality."

Why does the Globe decry the urging of appointments because of the suggested appointee's creed? It is merely putting up a figure of straw to knock it down. No one ever urged or suggested that a person should be appointed to the public services merely because he was a Catholic, and none know this better than the editor of the Globe. What we have fought against, and what we intend making a determined resistance to, is the barriers raised and the ostracism of Catholics simply and solely because of their creed.

No matter what services he may have performed, or what benefits have accrued to the party he has been supporting, his claims to recognition are passed over and he is often ostentatiously ignored by preference being given to the last recruit who had theretofore been opposing the party with might and main. If the Globe is solicitous for instances in which Catholics have thus been treated we will give them, but numerous examples of this can be furnished at its own door in Centre Toronto, where an unholy alliance was entered into between some assumed leaders of the Liberal party and renegade Tories of the worst stripe by which the latter are controlling the patronage to the exclusion of Catholics who have not only been Liberal in sentiment but active supporters of Liberalism in times of adversity. It was this unholy alliance which restrained a large number of Catholics from voting at the last election. This is not the attitude to assume. They should, with all their power, have resisted, and this we advise their doing in the future under similar circumstances. Has a vacancy ever been created for a Catholic? No! But superannuations in a number of instances have been made of Catholics to enable their places to be filled by Protestants. This matter we may have occasion to refer to again in a short time.

But to return to the question of Catholic representation on the Bench. In Ontario, where the Catholics are one-fifth of the population, not one of their number received a judicial appointment during the union of Quebec and Upper Canada from 1841 to 1867. Since Confederation these appointments have been made:

- IN THE SUPERIOR COURT. Hon. John O'Connor, appointed 1881, died 1887. Hon. Hugh Macmahon, appointed 1887. COUNTY COURT JUDGES. Prince Edward County. Richard J. Fitzgerald, appointed August, 1871, died February, 1872. Daniel Macarow, appointed July, 1872, died December, 1872. (So these two Catholics between them filled the office of County Judge for one year.) County of Waterloo. A. Lacourse, Junior Judge from 1873 to 1888. A. Lacourse, Senior Judge from 1888 to his death, in 1894. County of Bruce. A. B. Klein, Junior Judge from 1893. County of Huron. R. L. Doyle, Junior Judge, appointed 1883. Counties of Prescott and Russell. Louis A. Olivier, appointed April, 1888, died October, 1889. County of Essex. M. A. McHugh, Junior Judge, appointed 1891. District of Algoma. Edward J. O'Connor, Junior Judge, appointed 1893. District of Nipissing. Joseph A. Valin, Senior Judge, appointed 1895. Protestant Judges in Lower Canada since 1841, where the Protestants form only one-seventh of the population: CHIEF JUSTICES. Hon. James Raed, to 10th February, 1841. Hon. James Stuart, Bart., 1841. Hon. Edward Bowan, 1859; Puisné Judge from 1841 to 1859. Hon. Wm. C. Meredith, 1886; Puisné Judge from 1859 to 1886. Hon. Andrew Stuart, Kt., 1885; Puisné Judge from 1869 to 1885. Hon. Francis J. Johnson, Kt., 1889; Puisné Judge from 1865 to 1889. Hon. Sir M. M. Tait, Kt., 1896; Puisné Judge from 1887 to 1896. PUISNÉ JUDGES—SUPERIOR COURT. Hon. George Pyke, 1841. Hon. Samuel Gale, 1841. Hon. J. Fletcher, 1841. Hon. J. G. Thompson, 1841. Hon. C. D. Day, 1842. Hon. R. H. Gardner, 1844. Hon. James Smith, 1847. Hon. E. H. Bowan, 1847. Hon. Thomas Cushing Aylwin, 1848. Hon. George Vanelsan, 1850. Hon. E. Short, 1852.

- Hon. W. Badgley, 1855. Hon. J. S. McCord, 1857. Hon. W. K. McCord, 1857. Hon. P. Hunter, 1858. Hon. Samuel C. Monk, 1859. Hon. Robert Mackay, 1860. Hon. F. W. Torrance, 1868. Hon. C. Cross, 1870. Hon. Thomas K. Ramsay, 1870. Hon. Christopher Dunkin, 1871. Hon. J. Sewell Sanborn, 1872. Hon. Thomas McCord, 1873. Hon. William McDougall, 1880. Hon. George C. V. Buchanan, 1881. Hon. Edward T. Brooks, 1882. Hon. Frederick W. Andrews, 1885. Hon. J. Saxon C. Wirtle, 1886. Hon. Charles P. Davidson, 1887. Hon. Benjamin Globensky, 1887. Hon. William Warren Lynch, 1889. Hon. John S. Archibald, 1893. Hon. William White, 1895.

\* Judge Monk became a Catholic several years after being on the Bench. COURT OF VICE ADMIRALTY (QUEBEC). Hon. H. Black, C. B., appointed 1841, died August, 1873. Hon. George O. Kell Stuart, appointed 1873, died March, 1884. Hon. George Irvine, appointed June 1884.

Look at this picture of the Catholic appointments in fifty-six years—two appointments to the Superior Court, and five County Court Judgeships—the tenure of office of three of these aggregating a little over three years, and four junior Judgeships. Then look at the other picture of Catholic Quebec, where the Protestants since 1841 have had seven Chief Justiceships, and thirty-four Puisné Judgeships bestowed upon them, besides the three Judgeships of the Vice Admiralty Court.

The minority in Quebec are treated with open-handed liberality, while the treatment of the minority in Ontario is the reverse of all that, being characterized by a bigotry and intolerance for which there is no accounting, as the Catholics have been faithful in their allegiance to any party with which they have identified themselves unless the conduct of the candidate has left them no other alternative. And some of those who through the influence of the Catholic vote have been raised to honor and position have almost kicked the ladder upon which they climbed to position from under their feet, having proved themselves to be actuated by the "most illiberal scrupulosity" where Catholics or their interests are concerned. Is it through the conduct of such leaders that the Catholics are to be retained as allies? We shall have no hesitation in fearlessly denouncing either the individual or the party exhibiting an unwillingness to treat the Catholics of this Province fairly. Give us anything like the measure of justice meted out to the Protestants of Quebec, and there will be no grumbling, no dissatisfaction such as now exists amongst our people, who will most assuredly, unless a remedy is applied, revolt against those guilty of perpetuating the injustice from which we have in the past and are now suffering.

The Catholics revolted at the treatment of John Sandfield McDonald, whose insufferable vanity led him to suppose he was the only Catholic in Ontario competent to be the member of a government, and whose egregious egotism led him to ask the rest of his co-religionists: "Where are your men?" He found out when the struggle ended where the men were, and it was demonstrated even to his satisfaction that amongst them there were those who were so far superior to him as his own conception of himself was above his actual merits.

Many Catholics revolted against the Mackenzie Government, which in its prosperity was guilty of treason to liberal principles, and wholly regardless of its liberal promises made when seeking support.

The Globe harks back to the cry raised during the late election that the Ontario Government had to meet, the accusation of the Opposition that Catholics were unduly favored in many departments of the Government; but as it knows the accusation was foundationless, it is a poor makeshift with which to meet an argument. "Facts for Catholic Electors," issued by the Ontario Opposition, told about the truth and furnished that which the Globe is most anxious to be possessed of, viz., the statistics concerning the charges made, that the Catholics were most unfairly discriminated against, and that such offices as they held in the departments in Ontario were minor ones. We admit that since "The Facts" were published—and partly by reason of their publication—our position has somewhat improved, but to such a slight extent that it is barely appreciable; and if the Globe desires to be satisfied on the subject and put an end to all controversy on the matter, let it procure from its correspondents in the cities and county towns, full statistics as to Government officials, both Federal and Provincial, and publish such for the information of the country. Where are the postmasters,

or assistant postmasters, office inspectors, the officers of customs, the assistant surveyors, etc.; where collectors and deputy collectors revenue; the inspectors of and measures and other offices that have been bestowed on Catholics in Ontario?

So that the Globe editor profess to remain in Egyptian as to such matters we will give attention on them shortly.

Some members of the Federation have been coquetting with members of an Association of gation is not only a reproach to common Christianity but was subversive of all government proscribing of the whole Catholic who form nearly one-half of the population of the Dominion the antithesis of Liberalism what we imagined were the of the Liberal party. If the allies the party is seeking concern. But they need respect the Catholics will expect themselves under that standard never had but one man of accomplishing such a feat MAN IS DEAD.

The support which gave opportunity of displaying gratitude may be wanting soliciting the suffrages of as they may rest assured that a strong reputation of the trine of eternal submission tice.

THE MANITOBA SCHOOL QUESTION.

It is again rumored that Delegate will be sent to Ottawa permanently in Ottawa a cable message was sent to The rumor is not credited, but the hierarchy have received that such is the intention of Father. Should it prove to the Catholics of the Dominion tend to the representation of Supreme Head of the Church as cordial as was given to del Val, whose mission was for purpose, to enquire into the stances of the so called set the Manitoba school question.

The Pope's decision on this has not yet been published, but rumors to the effect that some further concessions by toba Government so as to Catholics of that Province. say whether or not there is in these reports, but it is desired that there be an present unsatisfactory st fairs.

Among the divers rum have been circulated in re matter it was said that pre been made by Sir Wilfred L an arrangement will be ma Government of Manitoba concessions of an important will be made to the Catholic and that on this understand Adolphe Chapleau, the Lieut ernor of Quebec, will en Dominion Cabinet.

Sir Adolphe has been a servative, and his retirement late Conservative Governm to their original unwillingness the just demands of the Manitoba. When afterwar ernment agreed to bring remedial measure, Sir Ado not re-enter the Cabinet, peared to put little confidence sincerity of the promises it be true that advances made to him now to enter ment, some color would the rumors which are in th there is no certainty that tents are well founded.

That the visit of the Hon. son, Lieutenant Governor to Quebec, had also some on the school question, ind alliances on the part of ment, but this statement is denied by the Hon. Mr. Pe self, who has said "my political significance," and question has not been men since I crossed the bound Manitoba on my way east.

The statement has also that it is in consequence tions which are in prog the Dominion and the P ernments that the Pope his pronouncement which expected on this question. is most probably without also, and it may be taken that it was originated to false assertions which hav from time to time that it mulgated immediately.