

THE TRUE WITNESS

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The Post Printing & Publishing Company, MONTREAL, CANADA.

WEDNESDAY... SEPT. 12, 1883.

CATHOLIC CALENDAR.

THURSDAY, 13—Of the Octave, Ep. Fenwick, Cincinnati, died, 1832. Cons. Ep. Hogan, Kansas City, 1863.

FRIDAY, 14—Exaltation of the Holy Cross. Cons. Ep. Verite, Marquette, 1870.

SATURDAY, 15—Octave of the Nativity. St. Nicodemus, Martyr.

SUNDAY, 16—Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost. Seven Dolours of the B.V.M. Lees, Ludthick, 23-25; Geop. John. 23-27; Just Gorp. 1st. 1-8.

MONDAY, 17—Stigmata of St. Francis of Assisi.

TUESDAY, 18—St. Joseph of Cupertino, Confessor. Ep. Young, Erie, died, 1866.

WEDNESDAY, 19—SS. Januarius and others, Martyrs. Ember Day. Fast.

To our Subscribers.

We are now mailing the accounts due for subscriptions to THE POST and TRUE WITNESS to our subscribers, and wish particularly to draw their attention to an announcement made a few months ago, in which we stated that all privileges, such as clubs, &c., were abolished; and that all who wished to get the TRUE WITNESS for \$1.00 per annum could do so, provided they paid that amount strictly in advance each year, otherwise they would be charged at the usual rate of \$1.50 per annum.

Our subscribers in Quebec city who are in arrears for subscription to THE POST and TRUE WITNESS can settle the same by calling on our agent, Mr. James Murray, at the Court House from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. or at his residence, No. 101 Olivier street.

The Jacques Cartier election contest will at last soon be settled. The writs have been issued, the nomination day being fixed for the 19th of the present month, and the polling day for the 26th.

A perusal of Michael Davitt's letter to THE POST and TRUE WITNESS, which will be found in another column, will give our readers a fair insight into the disparity of the English and Irish laws. The difference between the two is all in favor of England. For no constitutional reason Ireland always gets the worst of them.

A rumor having gone abroad that some understanding had been concluded between the Government and the Home Rule party, Mr. Parnell has authorized a contradiction of the statement. There can be no permanent alliance with either Whig or Tory, unless one or the other is ready to concede the whole of the national demands. Then, and then only, will such an alliance between the Irish Nationalists and one of the English parties be found acceptable to Irish constituents.

It appears that the new Duke of Marlborough, who has, by his wicked conduct earned the reputation of being the biggest blackguard in the British aristocracy, has been officially disgraced by the Queen. Her Majesty refused to admit him to her presence to deliver up the insignia of the garter which his father wore, and which the heir of the title, according to custom, delivers to the sovereign. He was told that he might leave the things with Her Majesty's porter.

An extraordinary charge has been brought against King Humbert, of Italy, by a Paris Journal. His majesty is accused of having pocketed money subscribed by the French for the Ischia sufferers. The charge naturally aroused great indignation throughout Italy. A committee of the Ischia survivors have resolved to refuse all further offers of aid on the ground that, when charity is extended to them to serve as a pretext for insulting thievery, they feel it to be their duty to reject such aid, not only from France, but from the whole world.

The National Committee of the Parnell Testimonial Fund in Dublin are in receipt of cheering news and handsome subscriptions from Irishmen in Australia, India, the United States; and now the latest to be heard from is the Argentine Republic, which, according to a special cablegram, has sent a large subscription to the Parnell Fund, through that patriotic dignitary of the Church, Monsignor Dillon, with a flattering letter promising future help.

CLIFFORD LLOYD, the most detested of the special magistrates during Chief Secretary Forster's rule in Ireland, has been rewarded for his zeal and devotion by a fitting appointment in connection with the English administration of affairs in Egypt. He has just been made Inspector of Reforms. Mr. Lloyd held a subordinate post in the police service in Ulster, a few years ago; but by an unscrupulous use of power against the people and by anticipating the wishes of his masters in trampling upon the rights of individuals and public bodies, he rapidly rose in the favor of Forster and Trevelyan. There is deep indignation over his promotion among the regular magistracy of the country. They complain that Clifford, being a comparatively young man of short service, has been run into high office over the heads of his seniors in ability and merit. They should, however, remember that the new Inspector of Egyptian Reforms put more buckshot and powder into his rifle, and more ferocious energy into his efforts to stamp out the people, than the ordinary policeman or magistrate, and as a consequence war, in the eyes of his masters, more worthy of promotion.

The West Briton capitalists who own the railways in Ireland care very little for the progress and prosperity of the country. In fact their management of Irish railways is looked upon as producing decidedly injurious effects on the industry of the country. As an instance of the stupid or unparliamentary policy of the directors of Irish companies, we have only to quote the arrangements made for the accommodation of the public in connection with the Cork Exhibition. In Manchester and other towns in the West of England large placards announce that any one desiring to visit Cork during the exhibition may have a ticket clearing him all the way by rail and steamboat for 10s., while the Irish companies exact a fare of 12s. 6d. for the journey from Dublin which is three or four times shorter than from the towns and cities in England. To any ordinary person it will seem a monstrous absurdity that the cost of traveling from Manchester to Cork should be twenty-five per cent. less than the charge from Dublin to Cork; but what do the landlord owners of Irish railways care? Thousands will be prevented from paying a visit to this Cosmopolitan School of Industry and Art for the want of a reduction in the railway fares; but these railway directors are not the men to do away with the obstacle and facilitate the acquisition of useful and interesting knowledge by the masses.

The Pall Mall Gazette, of London, which is one of the soundest and most liberal organs of public opinion in England, joins issue with the London Times on the latter's truculent threat that "the day of remedial legislation for Ireland is over." Commenting on this utterance of the Times, the Pall Mall Gazette says: "One more thing is also certain—namely, that if the day of remedial legislation for Ireland is over, the replies by dynamite will not slacken. Everybody has seen this in the case of Russia. When dynamite first was set to work in that country the English press warned the Czar to meet the plotters by granting legislative reforms. He was urged not to suffer himself to be scared into the ways of reaction, but to apply himself steadily to removing grievances. English writers who were so prone in such counsels ought now to follow their own principles in their own difficulties. As for the proposal which is just reported that the European powers should establish a force of detective police to cope with secret organizations of all kinds, including Anarchists, Nihilists and Fenians, that will not help us, for this reason, if for no other, that the United States will certainly have nothing to say to any such project."

This expression of opinion coming from an English journal is highly significant, and should furnish to English statesmen plenty of food for deep reflection.

PRESIDENT GREEN, of the Western Union Telegraph Company, who has for the past few weeks been enlightening the United States Senate Investigating Committee upon the workings of the institution over which he presides, made strenuous efforts to have the public believe that his telegraph concern was nothing but a fountain of benevolence and beneficence to all those who came in contact with it. The fact that the net profits of the Western Union last year were \$8,000,000, and that it paid a dividend of 7 per cent. on its \$81,000,000 of watered stock, and set aside 3 per cent. to be divided hereafter, was not considered by Dr. Green to be any proof of greed or exactness on the part of the company. He was, however, pushed into a corner by a question concerning the pay of the operator, when he made the significant admission that "corporations are organized to make money, and there are few that exist pro bono publico." This is the explanatory note of the whole situation

It wipes out all the platitudes and cant that have been vented relatively to the company's zeal to promote the public welfare. Now we hold that any corporation receiving its charter from the people owes an obligation to them as well as to its stockholders, and consequently that the bonum publicum should not be totally lost sight of by corporations that owe their existence to the good will of the public.

The Hon. David Mills, the editor of the London Advertiser, in a leading article on Canadian "Toadyism" makes some opportune remarks relative to the growth of the Independence movement. He says: "We do not think that a Canadian has less capacity for governing himself than a native of the United Kingdom, and when an offensive view is taken of the relations which subsist between that country and our own that we are called upon to acquiesce in it. A little more reserve, a little more self-respect, would not be to our disadvantage, and we are glad to believe that the young men of this country irrespective of party divisions, are prepared to take that common sense view of things, and insist that the interests of Canada shall be the first consideration. In our opinion, the man is not a loyal man who would subordinate the well-being of the people of this country to any real or fancied advantage to imperial interests. If it should be to our interest to continue the connection, we trust this will be done, and when it becomes our interest to take charge wholly of our own affairs, and to direct them on our own account, we trust our public men will have the courage to do so, and no nonsense about the last man and the last dollar will be found to intervene." This expression of opinion is all the more remarkable and significant, coming as it does from an ex-Minister of the Crown and a co-laborer of the Hon. Alexander Mackenzie, who "got off" the loyal nonsense about the last man and the last dollar before a Scotch meeting in Glasgow.

It now transpires that the secret of Lord Coleridge's refusal to visit Canada is because he and his party would not be allowed to travel "dead-head" over Canadian roads. A reporter waited upon several Grand Trunk officials to ascertain if the "legal junketing party" had applied for passes and had been refused. Mr. Sergeant, the Traffic Manager of the Grand Trunk Railway, said that the matter was one Mr. Hickson had taken in hand; but that for his own part as an officer of the company, he could not see why Lord Coleridge should have a free pass over the road. Mr. Sergeant further added that "if the Chief Justice were in England, he would vouch for it that his Lordship would get no passes." The Grand Trunk is right. If a line is to be drawn anywhere against "free trips," it is surely when gentlemen of large fortunes and officials with immense salaries want to travel "dead head" in the best cars at the command of the company and at the highest rate of speed. It was decidedly unbecoming on the part of Lord Coleridge to abandon his visit to Canada, which had been thoroughly arranged and marked out on his programme, because he or his party had been refused free passes. Canada and Canadian hospitality must be pretty low down in the estimation of His Lordship when they are considered not worth the purchase of a railway ticket. We are of the opinion, however, that the country will survive the incident, and that more good than harm will come of it by teaching our flunkies and toadies not to be so "premature" in the future.

IMMIGRATION RETURNS.

We were promised a large increase in the number of immigrants to the Dominion during the summer months, but the results have not been fully up to the anticipations of the Immigration Department. There certainly has been an increase, but not so large as was expected. Over one-third of the immigrants who land on our shores do not remain in Canadian territory; they pass over the line to Uncle Sam. During the month of August last 17,369 immigrants arrived in Canada, as follows:—Via Halifax, 518; Quebec, 5,116; Montreal, via United States ports, 255; Montreal, via Antwerp, 4; Suspension Bridge, 957; Emerson, from United States, 1,007; agencies, 4; Customs, 3,408. From 1st of January to 31st August, 1883, the total number of arrivals reported is put down at 138,381. Of this number 56,024 declined to remain in Canada and went to the United States, leaving the number of persons who settled here during the past eight months of the present year, 82,356. For the same period last year the total number of arrivals was 129,910 of which 61,497 left Canada for the United States. This gave for the corresponding period of 1882, a total of 68,413 actual settlers on Canadian territory, so that the total increase in immigration of the present year over that of last year scarcely reaches 14,000. There is a little encouragement in these figures, but not so much as the country had a right to expect from all the loud talk and promises of our agents on either side of the water about the overwhelming tide of immigration that would flow into the fertile acres of the Dominion.

THE CURSE OF STANDING ARMIES.

The standing armies of Europe are a veritable curse to the nations who have to support them. They are an intolerable incubus upon industry, and they detract incalculably from the general peace and harmony. Their cost would be sufficient to educate every child in Europe. Every workingman in Europe is literally obliged to carry a soldier on his back. The German Empire has a standing

army of 450,000 men, with an enrolled and trained reserve of over a million, besides a further reserve to be used for defense in case of invasion. This army is admitted to be the best trained and armed in the world. It is a standing menace to the peace of Europe, as it has already enabled Bismarck to wage three destructive wars, and is likely to bring on another before the "man of blood and iron" is satisfied that it can crush any power that stands in its way. It forces every other nation to maintain a powerful standing army in time of peace. For instance, Russia is constrained to keep up a military establishment of over 1,100,000, besides a reserve of over 1,000,000, because at any moment Bismarck may precipitate war. France supports a standing army of 525,000, backed by two reserves, which together include every able-bodied man in the Republic, and amount to over 1,750,000. Italy has an army which, on a peace basis, numbers 325,000, with another 325,000 in active training, and a third body of militia amounting to over 275,000, and the reserve, which includes everybody else capable of bearing arms; that little Kingdom has an army all told of over a million and a half of men. Austro-Hungary has an army of 260,000, with a reserve of 900,000, because Bismarck constantly threatens the peace of Europe and would take instant advantage of any nation not prepared to fight. The same crushing army system prevails in Spain, in Belgium, in Turkey, and, to a less extent, in Great Britain. To equip these armies and to fill their ranks the most burdensome taxes are imposed, and the country is deprived of the use of its most valuable bone and sinew. The people are unable to stand it, and thousands are daily obliged to abandon their native homes and seek shelter and work in foreign lands.

ANOTHER ST. BARTHOLOMEW SUGGESTED.

The other day a dynamite meeting was held in New York. At that meeting the notorious so-called Professor Mezzeroth delivered one of his usual nonsensical speeches, in which he gave vent to the following:—"The English Government may prevent the exportation of dynamite, but in a few months I will have 10,000 men educated so thoroughly that they can go to England and manufacture out of old boots, shoes, sugar or anything else they can lay their hands on, explosives that will blow England and her landlords up in a few seconds." Now any person with a scientific turn of mind, or even with only a sane mind, would pass over such pure nonsense with contempt, or at the most would be satisfied with ridiculing it. But not so with the Montreal Herald; it takes Mezzeroth's utterances in all earnestness and seriousness, and in all its majesty and power it wrathfully exclaims:—"If Professor Mezzeroth's threats should be carried out, the Saxon might take the Celt in hand, and St. Bartholomew would not be a circumstance to what would follow." Indeed! But ain't the Herald awfully kind to suggest a general massacre of the Celt, and that to be done by the Saxon. And St. Bartholomew couldn't hold a candle to the butchery! It would be a regular Java slaughter. Very considerate and friendly sentiments to be entertained by a paper that is supposed to belong to the circle of civilization! No one would have suspected there was so much latent barbarity in the Herald's office. Will it not strike our contemporary that it is equally monstrous and absurd to launch such a threat against a whole nation because of the idiotic and ill-tempered sayings of a Russian or even of an Irish crank. We thought Mezzeroth or his like were bad, but the Montreal Herald has eclipsed the trothy dynamiters in idleness and villainess. Our contemporary's threat about having another St. Bartholomew at the expense of the Celt is more puerile than Mezzeroth's threat to manufacture dynamite out of old shoes. In fact, the Russian dynamiter is more gentlemanly and less cruel than the Herald, as the former says he would only blow up the Government and the landlords, but the latter would draw the sword across the neck of every Celt without distinction. We hope that our contemporary will see the folly of its words and the outrageous nature of its suggestion, as well as the idleness of its threat. St. Bartholomew is a game that two can play at. But it will suffice to remember that an internecine conflict is by no means an issue that any sane organ of public opinion would seriously venture to recommend.

THAT THIRTY THOUSAND DOLLAR SCANDAL.

An evening contemporary charges the Quebec Government with having made a gift of \$30,000 to Messrs. Forget & Co, brokers of this city. The charge is made in connection with the recent Provincial loan of three million dollars, authorized by an Act of the Legislature in 1882. The Evening Star thus describes the transaction in the following erroneous and unjust manner. It says: "A million dollars of the bonds were consequently taken up by the well-known firm of brokers in this city, Messrs. L. J. Forget & Co., for sale, the commission on which was to be \$30,000. The firm, however, failed to sell them, and as is known the loan has subsequently been floated by the Bank of Montreal, but it is alleged that the \$30,000 has been paid to the firm above mentioned notwithstanding its failure to float them in Canada." If this were a correct statement of the case, it should certainly bring the condemnation of the people upon the Government. The financial condition of the Province is too weak to permit the Treasurer to donate \$30,000 to any firm of brokers. The scandal of the transaction, however, does not lie in its actuality, but in the false statement of our con-

temporary regarding the affair. It errs when it says that a million dollars of the bonds were taken up by the above mentioned brokers; the amount was a million and a half. It again errs when it says that the commission on the same was to be \$30,000; there was no such commission stipulated for. It finally and grievously errs when it says that \$30,000 had been paid to these brokers, notwithstanding its failure to float them in Canada; the Government paid no such amount to Messrs. Forget & Co. The facts in connection with the transaction are given by the Journal de Quebec. By the terms of their agreement with the Government Messrs. Forget & Co. were obliged to take the aforesaid debentures at par and to pay for them as the Government would require, on giving three months' notice, to meet the railway grants. The Government received a deposit of \$30,000 from Messrs. Forget & Co. as a guarantee, and were to pay 5 per cent. interest on this sum. This sum of \$30,000 on the other hand was to be refunded to Messrs. Forget & Co. on the completion of this contract. But nothing was done with these brokers, because the Government found that it would be more advantageous for it to negotiate with the Bank of Montreal, and the contract with Messrs. Forget & Co. was, with their consent, cancelled, the Government refunding them the \$30,000 without interest. The Bank of Montreal, as well as the firm of brokers, was obliged to take one million and a half of the debentures at par. As can be readily seen, this expose of the affair puts quite a different face on the bogus scandal. To deposit \$30,000 as a guarantee is not exactly the same thing as receiving a similar sum as commission; and neither is the returning of \$30,000 of one's own money to one's own self the same thing as being paid a similar amount by the Government. In fact the only parties at a loss are the brokers who had their money returned to them without the five per cent. interest.

Newspapers fail in their mission when they convey false information to the public. Truth and fairness should not be eliminated from the discussion of questions affecting governments or public administrations. To do so is to injure the usefulness of the paper that commits itself to such unjust and unjustifiable attacks upon reputation and honesty.

FRANCE AND CHINA.

The Government at Peking has evidently for some time past been making naval and military preparations for the maintenance of its claims of suzerainty over its neighbors, the Annamites. In the early part of the year, the French, through a little diplomacy and a liberal use of powder and shot, persuaded Tudu, the King of Annam, to transfer his allegiance from the Chinese Emperor to President Grey. The occupation of Hue by the French and the signing of a treaty of peace by the Annamites led the French Foreign Office to believe that all trouble had been ended and that a French protectorate had been firmly established over Annam. The trouble, however, was not ended and only assumed a more serious aspect when the Government at Peking had thoroughly digested the provisions of the treaty and the occasion made by it to the French. The Chinese now regard this treaty, which was wrong from the Annamese ruler, as incompatible with the feudal duties of the latter to his suzerain, and accordingly have intimated to the Government at Versailles that this compact must be regarded as an act of overt hostility to Chinese interests. To show that she is in earnest and is fully determined to protect her traditional rights, China assumed the offensive without delay, and detaching about 15,000 soldiers from the army of observation, which had been massed on the frontier, sent them into Tonquin. This body of troops have already defeated the Annamites, repulsing them at Haidoung. The Chinese army is being rapidly reinforced on the frontier of Tonquin, while the squadron at Shanghai is receiving large numbers of men and armaments. These warlike preparations have somewhat surprised China, and the evidence that the French Government had embarked upon an adventurous policy that they have set up the tri-color in her neighborhood for no benevolent purpose, concluded to force the issue at once before the enemy had time to effect a permanent lodgment on Asiatic soil, for the longer the contest is postponed the more difficult would it certainly become. The suddenness of the Chinese movement gives the impression of thorough preparation for the attack. It finds the French unprepared for the encounter both in Annam and at home. The Annamites themselves will not be of much assistance to the French, even if they were disposed to resist the Chinese, for they are sorely lacking in discipline and force. Nor are the French over anxious to meet a foe who is so well equipped as the Chinese for fighting in marshy and fever-haunted districts. Nobody has yet questioned the courage of the Chinese soldier, and though of late very little opportunity has been given him to display his efficiency there can be no doubt that the enforcement of discipline and the knowledge of modern military tactics have made him the peer of any oriental troops. It is therefore by no means certain that the subjection of China by force of arms can be as easily accomplished now as in years gone by. In fact, under the present conditions the Celestial Empire is capable of giving a much better account of itself than it did a quarter of a century ago. Already miles of railroad have been built through Chinese territory; the telegraph has been erected between important points; the army has been reorganized; the English ship

yards have turned out fleet cruisers for coast defense, and heavy ironclads are at present in course of construction for the navy. The result of a conflict with these two Powers can hardly be foreseen. It involves many contingencies. If it shall be merely a contest for the protectorate over Annam, and confined to the territory of that kingdom and no other Powers are drawn into it, the war may be of brief duration and end in compromise. But should it take a broader sweep than this, and become a general war between China and France, other nations will of necessity be drawn into it,—an event which would mean probable defeat and humiliation for the French. China is likely to receive enough of aid and comfort from Germany to encourage the Government at Peking in its policy of active resistance. Then there are the immense commercial interests of England in China which can scarcely be risked without something more effective than verbal remonstrance. It is, in fact, claimed by a portion of the English Press, that in the event of a war, France would have to face the British arms as well as the Chinese. The situation is one surrounded with difficulties on all sides, and the French run a great risk of having yet to deplore their action in forcing the Annamites to accept a treaty derogatory to the honor and interests of China and to its prestige in Asia.

PROSPECT OF HOME RULE.

Indications are not wanting that the Irish people are in a fair way to obtain a measure of legislative control over their own affairs, and to have a part in the manufacture of the laws which shall govern their own country. Mr. Parnell is cheered by the results of the recent elections in Malton, Monaghan, Wexford and Sligo, and he reasonably calculates on a large accession of strength to the fighting power of the National party at the next general election, which, from all appearances, cannot be long retarded; and this accession of strength will, in giving him the balance of power on divisions between contending Whigs and Tories, make the Irish members masters of the situation, and place them in a position to dictate terms to the enemy. The English Radicals have promised to introduce in the House of Commons a measure granting Home Rule. Then it is well known that at least one member of the Cabinet, Mr. Chamberlain, favors self-government for Ireland, and it is not at all improbable that his views in this matter are shared by Mr. Gladstone and other Liberal Ministers. And, above all, the great mass of the people of Ireland, as a whole, are in favor of a constitution which will enable them to manage their own business in their own way; the election of Monaghan has proved the unity of sentiment of the Ulster Orangeman and of the Cork Nationalist in this respect. Mr. Parnell, who is not of an over-sanguine temperament, expects to procure an installment of Home Rule at the next session of Parliament. The Irish leader has always shown himself to be such a cautious speaker that any promise held out by him is more than likely to be fulfilled. It was at the general meeting of the Irish National League held the other day in Dublin that Mr. Parnell propounded his new policy of advance—no longer limiting his views or circumscribing the proposed action within the bounds of the settlement of the land question, but extending his grasp to the main question affecting Irish interests—the making of Irish laws by an Irish parliament for the Irish people, and administered by an Irish Executive. The address delivered by Mr. Parnell on this occasion is considered to be among the most memorable of his pronouncements. It was the first in which he ever essayed any positive forecast in politics. He spoke at greater length and with more animation than at any previous time in Ireland. He said that Ireland appeared to have reached the time when in politics her sons thoroughly appreciated the value and use of patriotic unity. That the united members of the Home Rule party had, by continued unceasing parliamentary action, secured more concessions of great value from the British Government in the past session of Parliament than that Government had ever before given Ireland in any one generation. The force which now lies within the Irishman's grasp was parliamentary strength. It had been persistently and intelligently used by the small number of Irish members during the past session. And the result was that to-day the future of Ireland had already assumed a bright and natural aspect. After alluding to the great work accomplished by the National League in America and to its successful organization, Mr. Parnell concluded by reminding the Irish people that the Home Rulers would undoubtedly be able in the next Parliament to control eighty votes, and said that with such a number it would possess the whole balance of power necessary to secure self-government for Ireland.

The Whigs and Tories express the unanimous belief that the Irish Leader meant far more than he said on this memorable occasion. The Conservative organ, the Standard, says that Mr. Parnell's return to the field of popular agitation is an interesting and significant event, and that he evidently counts upon obtaining such a measure of Home Rule as he desires upon a basis of Legislative Independence. The Daily News, the organ of the Liberal party, also takes a similar moderate and conciliatory view of the situation. It says that it is evident that the key-note of Mr. Parnell's speech is that he expects that some measure of local self-government for Ireland will be passed shortly after the opening of the next Parliament. This language