True Winess AND CATHOLIC CH RONICLE

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MONTREAL, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16.

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CATEOLIO CALENDAR

For March, 1881.

THORSDAY, 17 .- St. Patrick, Apostle of Ireland. T. Lalemant put to death, 1649. FRIDAY, 18 .- St. Gabriel, Archangel . SATURDAY, 19 .- St. Joseph, Confessor, Spouse of the B. V. M. and Patron of the Universal Church. Cons. Abp. Henni, Mil-

waukee, 1844; Bp. Twigg, Pittsburgh, SUNDAY, 20 .- Third Sunday in Lent. Epist. Eph. v. 1-9; Gosp. Luke xi. 1-1-28. Monday, 21 .- St. Benedict, Abbot.

TUESDAY, 22.—The Holy Lance and Nails (March 18). WEDNESDAY, 23 .- Ferin.

Mr. Richard Walsh, of Charlottetown, P. E.I. has kindly consented to act as Agent for THE POST and TRUE WITNESS, and is empowered to collect subscriptions and enroll subsectibers.

THE Speaker and Deputy-Speaker of the British House of Commons have significant names. One of them (Mr. Brand) has branded the British Constitution as a humbug and himself as a dictator, while the other, Mr. Playfair, is laughed at by the Home Rulers as about the last man from whom they might expect fairplay.

Many of our readers have written to us. enquiring as to the writter of the excellent article on "Eastern Missions," which appeared in last week's THUE WITNESS. The name of the gentleman is Wm. V. Gray, formerly editor of the Albany Reflector, but now acting as amanuensis in Montreal.

ENGLAND is not to have the use of Delagoa Bay for ten years so easily after all. When the Gladstone Government negotiated the little affair in so pleasant a manner with the Portuguese, her objective point-the Transvaal-was not discovered by the Lusitanians, but now that the plot has become known strenuous opposition is manifested, and not only will England not obtain the concession, but the Portuguese Government will be turned out.

WE have observed with pleasure the burst of just indignation indulged in by the press generally over the proposed abolition of the tartan in Highland regiments. It is true the grievance was one purely of sentiment, but sentiment is more powerful than gold, even in this almighty dollar age. We are happy to learn that the tartan is out of danger. It is to be retained in the British army with all the honors. Our contemporaries may now gracefully expend some of their rage on the Irish Coercion Act, which is not a sentimental grievance, and they might also cry out against the reign of terror and eviction in Ireland without doing violence to what is

Why Russia is allowed to push her way in the East unopposed is a question which only Mr. Gladstone and his colleagues can answer. The latest news says the Muscovite is either in possession of Merv, or, if not, can occupy it any moment he pleases, and now we learn that the British are evacuating Candahar, if they have not left it already. These two facts will produce the belief on the minds of the people of Hindoostan that Russia is advancing while England is retiring, and they will be perfectly right. The result will be a loss of British prestige, and as England rules India by prestige the situation may become dangerous.

It is a curious fact, and one well worth remembering that the chief reason advanced by British politicians in times past, and not so long past either, against conceding political rights to the Irish people was because they, as Catholics, gave allegiance to Rome in preference to England. As a matter of course this charge was absurd, as the Irish people are intelligent enough to recognize and what belongs to God, and are as much disposed to be free from Rome in political as from England in religious matters. But now

moving Heaven and earth to obtain a condemnation of the national movement from Rome-from anywhere provided the source it emanates from is Catholic. They have even informed the Irish people that the Catholic Archbishop of Cologne has condemned the Land League! What a frightful misfortune! The people of Ireland read history, and they gather from it that when England was Catholic sue oppressed their country with as much ferocity, and stole their lands with as much industry, as in after times when the Protestant religion obtained. The land question is not a religious one.

THE Coercion Bill is passed; the Arms Bill passed, and the Land Bill is postponed in-Sefinitely. The Prime Minister has given notice of urgency on the estimates, and the Conservatives are bewildered. They are caught in a trap of their own making, and we shall see how they are to get out of it. The Irish National party will obstruct the estivote urgency when Ireland was only concerned, but now when a great Imperial question arises will the Conservatives stultify themselves by the voting away of the liberties of England. The Land Bill is a question of nothing, but, nevertheless, when the present mists clear away the world will see who has been destroying it.

WHILE the Land League is gaining ground every day in Ireland, and particularly in Ulster, and while we see no exodus, no stampede, no paying of rents, no flight of Parnell, while, in fact, we see none of the English aspirations gratified, the Irish national movement has altogether captured America. It is marching on with gigantic strides, there is not a town but has its branch, not even a village, and the men and journals who threw cold water on it when it was first started now give in their adhesion. Archbishop Wood, of Philadelphia. certainly not remarkable for his Irish sympathies, subscribed \$25 to a local branch last week, and we learn from the Rochester Express that the Catholic Bishop of that diocese spoke from the platform in favor of the League and Parnell on Monday night. The light is spreading.

So long as urgency was called with the view of coercing Ireland all went smoothly as a marriage bell, for Ireland is accustomed to that kind of thing, and, indeed, the English majority thought it was a great shame for the Irish members to obstruct, but when it comes to the estimates it is altogether different. Britons never shall be slaves, etc. and the English constitution was brought to its present state of absolute perfection by the Commons having the possession of the public purse. Hence Gladstone's resolution of urgency was kicked out of the Commons last night by a large majority, the vote standing 212 for the Government and 296 against Gladstone took his defeat like Uriah Heap; he is 'umble. He will not appeal to the country until he is defeated on the milk and water Land Bill, and defeated he will be as sure as that the Czar Alexander the Second is dead.

bour-Londo :- for supremacy. The causes difficulties standing in their way to eminence Stanley, and if it succeeds then indeed may London acknowledge itself vanquished, for Port Stanley is destined to future prosperity. two daily papers, one Conservative and one Liberal, for until it does so neither its happiness nor its status as a city will be perfect. What says the St. Thomas Times?

Mr. Childens, the Secretary of War, among his other army reforms, or, more correctly speaking, innovations, wants to do away with the Scottish tartan. This intended step has awakened a storm of indignation in the breasts of Scotchmen all over, and no wonder. It is a national costume; it is the picturesque dress of a free and warlike people who have never been conquered. In this tartan dress the sons of Scotia have marched in the van of the British army to death and to victory, whenever and wherever the flag of Britain was to le upheld and the enemies of Britain struck down, and now a civilian, a utilitarian of the last quarter of the nineteenth century, is inclined to sholish the tartan. Verily John Bull has no respect but for money, and the plaid and the tartan increase the estimates by a pitifully small sum. We hope the indignant gatherings which are taking place will have the effect of convincing Mr. Childers that the customs of a brave people are not to be lightly interfered with. Long may the tartan wave, and long may the motto of auld Scotia be respected nemo me impune lacessit.

Ar the meeting of the Junior Conservative Club on Monday night week, Mr. J. J. Curran, Q.C., the President, baving had occasion the difference between what belongs to Casar | during a speech, remarkable for its force and fire, to refer to emigration matters, said :-" Let me say here, en passant, that I have no the case is different, and English Catho- "the miseries of Ireland. That remedy is as reason that it is a bore if elected, and if de- up to the eyes to support its party right or of defence did not prevent the blowing up of

" blood letting, formerly a cure-all in the quished, not on their merits, but because they Mail goes out of its path to attack " trade and commerce, there will always be a " zost of bold adventurous spirits, in Ireland " and in every other Transatiantic country, " who will seek in the New World a wider " sphere of action, and it is the manifest duty " of every lover of this land to secure that " stream of hardy, vigorous and intelligent " manhood. Yet, in pursuance of the un-" patristic policy that has all along characterized the Reform party, their chief tells these people that if they come here they are only exchanging tyrannies; they have the rod where they are, they may expect the scorpion

'IT must be confessed by her bitterest enemies that England is a great and glorious country. She shoves opium down the throats of the Chinese at the bayonet's point. mates,-of that there can be no doubt,-and She floods the world with Bibles, and she so the plot thickens. It was all very well to supplies all the conspirators and regicides with their infernal machines. It is now known that the glass bombs filled with dynamite and nitro glycerine were manufactured in Birmingham, as were the Orsini bombs used against the French Emperor in 1857. no importance, it is lost sight of; Ireland is There is a story told of a good, intelligent boy, athurst for information, who went into a book store and demanded "Bunyan's Pilgrims been supporting the constitution and who has | Progress." "We have not got it," said the clerk." Then, please let me have the "Life and Adventures of Jack Sheppard," said the good boy. Such a want would never have to be confessed by the British merchants or manufacturers who have always on hand the latest thing in Testaments or bombs.

> A few days ago it was announced by cable that the Portuguese Government had granted. permission to the British to land troops at Delagon Bay, which would be a point of paramount importance to England in her war against the Boers. Delagoa Bay and the small territory surrounding were a subject of controversy as regards ownership between England and Portugal a few years ago, and the question was submitted to Marshal McMahon, then President of France, for arbitration. The Marshal decided in favor of Portugal, and there the matter rested until the Transvaal war broke out when England requested permission to land troops at Delagoa Bay. After a few months of negotiation the Portuguese Government consented and the Lower House passed a bill to that effect. At this stage, however, the popular excitement rose high, demonstrations were held in the large cities, Ministers were insulted and the country was in a ferment which, increased by the arrival of a British fleet in the Tagus, which looks like a menace. And now it is certain the Upper House will throw out the bill, and that the Portugese Ministry will fall, if indeed a revolution do not take place

CIVIL SERVICE REFORM.

The report of the Commission appointed to enquire into the working of the Civil Service has been laid on the table of the House of Commons. It is an interesting document, and if acted upon by Parliament will produce a beneficial change. It is not perfect, but then what official document is? There are Canada contains one more city to-day than | two classes of people who must rejoice at she did this day week, the latest addition to the the adoption of the report—one is members roll being the enterprising, prosperous city of of Parliament, including Cabinet members St. Thomas, Ontario. A few years ago St. of course and the other is the intelligent Thomas was only a straggling town, to-day | young men of the country who possess it is ambitious of competing with its neigh- ability to fill a good Government situation but have no political influence. There are of its rapid rise are its connection with the two other classes who must grieve over its Canada Southern, Great Western, and London adoption, and they are election bummers, who & Port Stanley Railroads, and with the Credit hope to be rewarded for their exertions with Valley in a few months, the fine country sur- | a fat berth, and those old anti-deluvians of rounding it, but, above all, the public spirit | both political parties, who do not desire any and enterprise of its citizens, who laugh at change at all. We can imagine the agony a member of Parliament must feel on a and then jump over them. St. Thomas is card being presented to him while sitting ambitious of growing in the direction of Port | in his place in the House, bearing the following ominous name: "John B. Smith," when it flashes upon him that the young man is the son of one of his constituents who placed It is now in order for St. Thomas to trot out | his vehicle at his disposal at the last election. The member goes out, shakes John B, cordially by the hand, asks him how he likes Ottawa, and invites him to the Senate saloon to have a drink. What less can he do? Then the son of his enthusiastic supporter informs the hon. member that he has come to the Capital to remind him of that little place in the Customs. "Oh, of course, certainly, I was just talking to the Minister this morning about you; I'll see you again tomorrow." And the heart-broken member goes back to his seat and prepares his speech, the face of John B. in front of him all the time, and John B. goes back to his hotel determined he will hang on like grim death until he is firmly seated in the Customs. The report of the Commission strongly and distinctly recommends that the aspirant for the Civil Service must pass a competitive examination, and as all the sons of energetic constituents who have placed their vehicles at the disposal of successful candidates cannot write beautiful hands, solve questions in algebra, speak French, and are not well educated generally, it will follow that honorable members will have more time to prepare their speeches. But the change will also reduce the estimates. The placing of electioneering agents in positions which their eduwork on those who are capable, and necessitates the employment of extra hands, and, consequently, the laying on of more taxes. It will also conduce to the purity of elections and the return of better members to Parliament. There are in this country men of

practice of medicine. But let legislation would not resort to low electioneering tactics. "do vahat it may to ameliorate the condition It is to be hoped that Parliament will see fit It abuses the plaintiff's atterney instead " of the farmer and the laborer, to build up to adopt the report, and act upon it as soon of sticking to the point and defending the as possible.

> THOUGHTS SUGGESTED BY THE TAR-TAN AGITATION.

The meeting of prominent Scotchmen, held

yesterday in the Mechanics' Hall, for the patriotic object of protesting against the abolition of the tartau in Highland regiments, should teach a lesson to a certain class of Irishmen. The tartan affair is purely a sentimental grievance, but it is none the less a grievance, and we are glad the storm it has awakened has taught the utilitarian, Mr. Childers, that it is not safe to insult national feeling. But the abolition of the tartan would be a grievance which would sink into utter insignificance beside the land system of Ireland which pauperizes and degrades a whole people. We have Irishmen in our midst whose fathers suffered from this iniquity in their generation-who have suffored, perhaps themselves-and yet they are either ashamed or afraid to take part in the purely constitutional agitation which the Land League is carrying on in Montreal to assist their fellow-countrymen at home. We should like to know what is there to be afraid of. Even in Ireland the Government. although Heaven knows they are not over particular in coercing that country, but even there they have not suppressed the Land League. And if they are not afraid what are they ashamed of? Has Ireland done anything wrong in standing up at last before the world and asserting her claims to national life and happiness? Or is any Irishman in Montreal ashamed to be seen endorsing the action of the Irish National party, the most brilliant body of men, for their numbers, who have ever sat in the British House of Commons. Are our great men here in Montreal any better than Charles Stewart Parnell, or Justin McCarthy, or A. M. Sullivan? If it was a Scottish Land League which was working for the regeneration of Auld Scotia we should see no backsliding; surely not. But when a vacancy for Parliament occurs their patriotism booms, and there is a premium on Irish National stock.

An impression obtains among our promi-

nent men that by endorsing the Land League they will gain the ill-will of their fellow citizens of other pationalities. This feeling did not bowever prevent the Hon. Mr. Beaudry presiding at a Land League meeting, nor did it prevent him being elected Mayor afterwards. The result of this backsliding is that the influence of what the Montreal correspondent of the Globe calls the social and political leaders of the Irish people has passed into the hands of the younger, more capable sincere, and better educated young men. And this in fact is what has taken place in Ireland as well. The National party is composed of young men who are not afraid of their shadows, while the time-servers have fallen to the rear and are engaged in wishing misfortunes to the National movement. So long as Isaac Butt and his tossil following brought up his annual motion for an enquiry into the state of Ireland all went merrily. The motion was kicked contemptuously aside and Mr. Buttand his followers collapsed till the year tollowing, satisfied that they had conscientiously performed a disagreeable duty. The generation that has just risen is made of sterner stuff; the Irishmen all over the world have begun to think that moving mild resolutions and marching in procession once a year are not their sole duties to their native land. They have caught some of the Scotch pertinacity while preserving their Irish fire, and they are more respected for their faith and earnestness by the different elements surrounding them than if they were frightened of their shadows. The truth is, that under the old regime Ireland was not fit for perfect freedom. One hundred and fifty years of

freedom without blinking.

penal laws do not pass over the heads of four

successive generations for nothing. They

were in political darkness too long, and

when they were brought into the light it

dazzled them. But the last generation of

their descendants can now look at the sun of

THAT \$100,000. The Toronto Mail has constituted itself the Canadian organ of the landlord party in Great Britain and Ireland, and this, we imagine, without being asked. About two months' since it discharged from its staff one of its ablest writers for the crime of moving, a king" has been singularly favorable to or seconding, a resolution in favor of the Land League. This was a poor, paltry piece of spite, but we believe Mr. Thompson-the gentleman dismissed-survives the calamity. It would be good for parties, and it would be beneficial to Canada, if we could disassociate ourselves from Imperial politics. We have really nothing to do with it, for our interests are not identical. A man, for instance can be an excellent Conservative in Canada without admiring Lord Beaconsfield's tortuous policy, and a conscientious Liberal without endorsing the Irish Coercion strategy of Mr. Gladstone, or the cloture. The Montreal Gazette recognizes this, but the Toronto Mail does not. It will persist in assuming the responsibilities of the Imperial Jingos. The Canadian House of Commons voted \$100,000 for the relief of the people of Ireland cation does not qualify them for throws extra at the session of last year, and this large sum of money was misapplied through official blundering, if not by design. At all events it did not relieve the people for whom it was intended, and because of this misappropriation of funds, the Hon. Messrs. Anglin and Blake attacked the Government, | enemies; an army of detectives watched over and the Mail files to the rescue. For this we him; a collossal army was ready to defend commanding abilities who do not offer them-"faith in emigration as a means of relieving selves for Parliamentary honors for the simple can hardly blame a journal which is pledged him, but yet all those precautions and means

Mr. Parnell and the Irish people generally. that when Mr. Parnell came to Canada he people, but for political purposes. This no excuse for the misapplication of the \$100,-000. Two wrongs do not make a right; two blacks do not constitute a white. The affair is very simple. Was the money, or was it not, expended in the spirit which dictated the grant? The Mail says it was, and points Marlborough and Sir Michael Hicks Beach tiveness of his father. He would make an promised them a stone-pier. The money was undoubtedly granted by the Deminion Parlia. ment for the immediate relief of the sufferers. Now we may inform the Mail-of what it must know already-that while this pier discussion was being carried on over the Atlantic Mr. Parnell and his friends were distributing provisions for the poor fishermen. But listen

to this logic from the Mail:-"There was no doubt a great deal of poverty and suffering at the time. There must always be want and wretchedness in districts of the country with an overcrowded population without manufacturing industries, or any other means of subsistence for the people but the product of the land, and in vears when there is even a partial failure of the crops the evil must be aggravated to a painful extent. There does not, "however, appear to have been any more destitution in Ireland last year than there was in some of the agricultural districts of England, in respect to which the world heard very little. Compared with such " seasons of real distress as 1846-47, the so-" called famine of last year was not a very " serious affair. When Mr. Parnell came to "this side of the Atlantic, though the dis-"tress must have been at its height, he treated the immediate relief of the sufferers as quite a subordinate thing, and began at once to divert the stream of benevolence into an altogether different channel. The only way that we can account for his conduct in this respect, supposing him to be a real friend of the I lrish people, is on the ground that he knew that the representations of suffering had been exaggerated, and that the sums of money which had been already subscribed

were sufficient for the purpose of its relief." Now, this is a miserable way of defending the misapplication of funds by the Government. If there was no famine why was the money granted? The people of Ireland always want piers; there are poor people in every country who would not refuse assistance in that way, but it does not follow that governments are going to grant them sums of money for improvements. If they acted on that policy they have poor people at home whom it would be well to encourage. No, this sophistry will not answer, and at the risk of being monotonous we assert that the Government did not carry | sale was rendered impossible by the Fenians, out the benevolent intention of Parliament, who broke up the meetings by force, on the

AT LAST.

The news of the death of the Czar at the hands of the Nihilists astonishes the whole world and sends a thrill of fear into the very marrow of the potentates of the earth. As for the victim of Nihilist bate himself it should have been a positive relief, for except life was very dear to him death must have been welcome under the conditions by which he was surrounded. He knew that death hovered about him in a thousand different shapes The roof over his head might fal upon him at any moment, the cur he raised tremblingly to his lips migh contain his doom, the guard at his back might sheath his sword in his body, for al these things have happened to his predecessors. But, still life is sweet, even to a monarch with the sword of Damocles suspended over his head; and we have heard of a Roman who purchased the imperial crown for a fabulous sum, knowing his reign would be of the briefest.

The Czar is dead; the vengeance of the Nihilists, apparently slumbering for fourteen months, has overtaken the most powerful sovereign on earth, and the result is death to the Czar, and terror to the crowned heads of Europe. The "divinity that doth hedge the kings of the earth since Henri Quatre fell beneath the knife of Ravilliere. Since that time hardly a European Sovereign has escaped attempts at assassination. We are well aware that several Emperors of Russia and at least one Sultan of Turkey have fallen victims to Court intrigue, but as the assassinations were of a dynastic character-family quarrels, so to speak-they are not looked upon in the same way as the assassination of the Czar Alexander. Nor is the murder of Gustavus Adolphus of Sweden to be ranked as an assassination in the sense we mark the murder of the Czar, for it is to be considered that when nobles go in for assassination they have the opportunity afforded them as trustworthy gentlemen having access to the person of the Sovereign. But here was a poor man at war with a certain terrible class of his subjects, who proclaimed the vendetta. The extraordinary precautions the case demanded were adopted to shield the Emperor; guards surrounded his person day and night; an enormous police force kept back his he noblemen and the English press are thoroughly exploded in statesmanship as feated they have the shame of being van- wrong, but what we do object to is, that the the Winter Palace, nor the fate of the Uzar at

St. Petersburg on yesterday morning. The Nihiliats have triumphed; their immortal hatred has been gratified; the Czar is dead.

And yet this poor Czar was about the best parties who need defence. It says in effect of his race. It was he who freed 23,000,000 of serfs, and it was he also who attempted collected money, not tor the relief of the Irish reforms last year, which the highest class of the nobles prevented being carried out. statement is not true, but even if it were it is The system which was transmitted him by his ancestors was more cruel than he; it was too strong for him, and so oppressed by the system on one side and by the Nihilists on the other, he succumbed to what must he taken as his destiny.

Alexander the Second was born on the 17th to the erection of piers and the purchase of of April, 1818, and succeeded his father gear for the fishermen of the West of Ireland. Nicholas on the 19th of February, 1855. Be They asked for bread and the Duchess of did not inherit either the ferocity or vindicexcellent, though perhaps a weak constitutional Sovereign. There is a story told of the late Czar in his early days which is somewhat illustrative of both his character and that of Nicholas. Alexander, then the Czarewitch, and his younger brother, the Archduke Constantine, were playing at policeman and prisoner in the Palace. Constantine was the policeman, Alexander the prisoner, and in that capacity the younger brother was hauling the Czarewitch to prison with a scarf which he had round his neck. The Czarewitch cried out mercy in such loud tones as to reach the ears of the Caar, who came forward and said "the heir to the Russian Throne should never have the word mercy in his mouth." Some say that Constantine was really trying to shoke his brother. and that the arrival of the Cmar saved his life. The death of the Czar must have some effect upon Russia and upon all Europe. His successor is said to be opposed to concessions. and to be hostile to Germany and Hugland, but, nevertheless, he is more than mortal if the dreadful fate of his father does not modify his policy. The tyranny must be tremendous which gives birth to Nihilism. Nihilism must be condemned as a secret and murderous society, but it is actually no worse than the despotism of Russia. Nihilism has killed a Czar, the Russian system murders its tens of thousands every year. We shall not be astonish dafter this to see a rapprochement among the Sovereigns for self-defence, but what can they do more than was done to shield the dead Alexander from the assassination? The way to prevent assassination is to leave the assassin no cause; the way to kill Nihilisim and Socialism is to give the people what belong to them, and that is a right to live happily in their native country.

WE clip the following from the Clare Examiner:---

It is probable that no two classes of men more thoroughly agree upon any political subject than do the extreme advocates of landlordism and of revolution in deprecating any radical reform of the conditions of Irish land tenure. Mr. E. D. Gray mentioned a suggestive fact in the debate on Wednesday night, which proves that not even the stoutest advocates of the rights of the landlord to inflict wrongs upon the tenant detest the Three F's more than the Fenians. Fenianism, indeed, may be regarded as a fourth F, and the alternative of the other three. Some years ago, said Mr. Gray, the success of an agitation in tavour of fixity of tenure and free ground that such concessions farmers loyal, and dry up the secret sources of the spring of Irish discontent. It is worthy of note that O'Donovan Rossa recently wrote to the United Irishman declaring that as the Parnell movement is swallowing up the revolutionary work and demoralising the revolutionary workers, we are paralyzed and we cannot run on with it." By far the most eloquent denunciation of the Land League is to be found, not in the speeches of Coercionists, but in the Manifesto of the Irish Republican Brotherhood.

TAND TEACHE FUND.

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A VOICE FROM BRITISH COLUMBIA. To the Editor of THE POST and TRUE WITNESS

DEAR SIR :- Enclosed you will please find Post Office order for \$2, handed to me to be forwarded to THE POST Land League Fund:-John Barry, \$1; John Garity, \$1. They can put out Irish members by force, but they cannot erase Irish ideas from Irish hearts.

God Save Ireland DUNCAN G. CUNEING. Fort Yale, Feb. 20th, 1881.