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THE TRUE WITNESS  
AND  
CATHOLIC CHRONICLE.

MONTREAL, FRIDAY, SEPT. 9, 1853.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The Session of the Imperial Parliament was closed on the 20th ult. by commission; the following are the most important items in the speech from the Throne upon the occasion:

"My lords and gentlemen—We are commanded by her Majesty to release you from your attendance in Parliament, and at the same time to express her Majesty's cordial approbation of the zeal and assiduity with which, during a protracted and laborious session, you have applied yourselves to the consideration of many subjects of great importance to the public welfare."

"Her Majesty has seen with much satisfaction that, by the remission and reduction of taxes which tended to cramp operations of trade and industry, you have given fresh extension to a system of beneficent legislation, and have largely increased the means of obtaining the necessities of life."

"The provision which you have made for meeting the demands of the public service, not only in the present, but also in future years, is of a nature to give permanent stability to our finances, and thereby to aid in consolidating the strength and resources of the empire."

"The buoyant state of the revenue, and the steady progress of our foreign trade, are proof of the wisdom of the commercial policy now firmly established;—while the prosperity which pervades the great trading and producing classes, happily without even a partial exception, affords continued and increasing evidence of the enlarged comforts of the people."

"Her Majesty regards with peculiar satisfaction the provision you have made for the better administration of the charity trusts. The obstacles which existed to the just and beneficial use of property set apart for the purpose of charity and education, have been a serious public evil, to which her Majesty is persuaded that, in your wisdom, you have now applied an efficient remedy."

"Gentlemen of the House of Commons—We are commanded by her Majesty to thank you for the supplies which you have granted for the service of the present year, and for the provision which you have made for the defence of the country, both by sea and land. Her Majesty will apply them with a due regard to economy, and consistently with that spirit which has at all times made our national security the chief object of her care."

"My lords and gentlemen—Her Majesty commands us to inform you that she continues to receive from her allies, the assurance of their unabated desire to cultivate most friendly relations with this country."

"It is with deep interest and concern that her Majesty has viewed the serious misunderstanding which has recently arisen between Russia and the Ottoman Porte."

"The Emperor of the French has united with her Majesty in earnest endeavors to reconcile differences, the continuance of which might involve Europe in war."

"Acting in concert with her allies, and relying on the exertions of the Conference now assembled at Vienna, her Majesty has good reason to hope that an honorable arrangement will speedily be accomplished."

"Her Majesty rejoices in being able to announce to you the termination of the war on the frontiers of the settlement of the Cape of Good Hope, and she trusts that the establishment of representative Government in that colony may lead to the development of its resources, and enable it to make efficient provision for its future defence."

"We are also commanded to congratulate you, that, by the united exertions of the naval and military force of her Majesty and of the East India Company, the war in Burmah has been brought to an honorable and successful issue. The objects of the war having been fully attained, and due submission made by the Burmese Government, peace has been proclaimed."

Parliament was then prorogued until the 27th of October. A convention took place in the House of Commons betwixt Mr. M. Milner and Lord Palmerston, in the course of which his Lordship declared his firm belief in the honorable intentions of Russia, and that there was no doubt but that her troops would, at the earliest opportunity, be withdrawn from the Principalities. From the Continent of Europe we have nothing new. It is asserted that the Hospodar of Moldavia has been superseded by the Sultan on account of his subservience to Russian influence. The Hospodar is refractory, refuses to retire, and, in consequence, the British and French Consuls have withdrawn.

In anticipation of a considerable failure of the crops throughout Europe, the French government has greatly reduced the duties upon breadstuffs in order to encourage an extensive importation.

MORE GAVAZZI-JSM

The exhortations of the renegade friar, and the invectives of the *Montreal Gazette*, have not been altogether barren of results. On Thursday evening of last week, some scoundrel or scoundrels, proceeded to

carry into practice the precepts which the above mentioned pair of worthies have for some time industriously inculcated. Perhaps the friends of the *Gazette* find it safer, and a more prudent course, to attack nuns, and their orphan charges, than to assault the soldiers, from whom reprisals may be expected. At all events, the champions of "civil and religious liberty" have desisted from their outrages upon the latter; and, in the true spirit of modern chivalry, have betaken themselves to insulting, and beating women and children.

On the evening in question, two Sisters of Charity from the Grey Nunnery, were returning, together with the orphan girls under their charge, from the country, where they had been spending the day. Whilst going along St. Peter Street, they were suddenly assailed by a ruffian, clad in the garb of a working man. The blackguard first threw his arms round one of the girls, and endeavored to force her into one of the adjoining houses. The cries of the poor girl thus brutally treated, attracted the attention of the nuns, who rushed to the rescue. Leaving his hold of the girl, our noble follower of Gavazzi commenced a furious attack upon one of the nuns—the Sister St. Joseph—whilst the other rushed at full speed to a neighboring hotel, kept by Mr. Brennan, and called for assistance. Sister St. Joseph, with great presence of mind, contrived to seize and retain hold of her ruffianly opponent's wrists, and thus, in a great measure, succeeded in warding off his blows, until such time as the noise made by the approaching rescue, warned our hero that it was time for him to consult his safety by flight. This he did, not however before he had half strangled the Sister of Charity, whose pectoral cross, attached by a cord round her neck, he forcibly tore off and carried away, leaving upon the arms and neck of his victim, the marks of his brutality. An English gentleman, and we believe a Protestant, but whose name we do not know, came up, and generously offered his protection to the nuns and their charges, who were thus enabled to continue their homeward course without farther molestation.

We would not be understood to insinuate that such acts are countenanced, or even viewed with indifference, by the great mass of our Protestant fellow-citizens. No, we willingly give them credit for nobler feelings, and feel convinced that they look upon such outrages upon women, whose whole lives are devoted to the relief of the sufferings of their fellow creatures, with disgust and abhorrence: and that they would do their best, not only to protect the nuns from violence, but also to bring their cowardly assailants to justice. But we have in Montreal, as in most great cities, a portion of the population which has been felicitously designated as the "Protestant Scum"; it is to the members of this portion, hounded on, and excited by vile party journals like the *Montreal Gazette*, that the occurrence of outrages, such as we this day record, must be attributed. Constantly appealing to the vilest passions of this "Scum," it is not to be wondered at that their appeals are answered in the manner we have just described.

It is not however creditable to the police of Montreal, that such scenes should be enacted with impunity, in our public thoroughfares. Montreal is earning for itself a bad pre-eminence for acts of rowdy ruffianism; and at times we feel almost inclined to doubt whether we are living in a civilized community. The plain truth of the matter is, that the cause of law and order received a blow, in 1849, from the effects of which it has not recovered. At that melancholy period, we saw Mob Law triumphant; the whole energies of the government seemed to be paralysed; for days, the city and the homes of our wealthiest citizens were handed over to the mercies of a band of lawless vagabonds, whose crimes, from that day to this, to the shame of the administration of justice in Canada be it spoken, have been allowed to go unpunished; as if incendiarism, and burglary, were trifles beneath the attention of the government. It is to this culpable remissness on the part of our rulers, that the present lawlessness of Montreal must be attributed. The ruffians of 1849 inaugurated the reign of Mob Law, exemplifying, by their conduct, and in their persons, that the most scandalous crimes, against persons and property, might be perpetrated, openly, and with impunity. We are now feeling, and we fear, shall long continue to feel, the effects of the example set us at the disastrous epoch to which we allude.

In noticing the arrests of the persons accused of the murder of Walsh, the *Herald* very improperly indulges in a string of quite unnecessary comments, which compel us to abandon our intention of not saying another word upon the subject, until such time as the competent tribunals shall have pronounced their final decision. The *Herald* says:—

"That is this case"—the murder of Walsh—"there can be no such thing as constructive murder."

The *Herald* has no right to prejudice the case in this way. Whether the shooting of Walsh was justifiable, under the circumstances, or brutal murder; whether it be lawful to run after, and shoot down, unarmed men, fleeing for their lives—are questions which a jury will be called upon to decide, and upon which, but for the insidious remarks of the *Herald*, we should not have presumed to offer an opinion. We will content ourselves by quoting the words of a "Protestant Eye-Witness" of the events of the 9th of June, who, it will be seen, differs very materially in opinion from the editor of the *Montreal Herald*:—

"It is a scandalous want of fairness to conceal, or wink at, the guilt of the parties who, after the dispersion of the mob, ran after them down the street, and deliberately took aim upon the fugitives. The act was MEAN and COWARDLY, as well as COLORED and INHUMAN; and every attempt to justify, or palliate its guilt, shows the absence of a true respect for the precious life."

As to the guilt of the accused parties themselves, we offer no opinion; we contend that they have the right to be considered, and treated, as innocent, until proved guilty; and whilst, for our part, we are determined to say nothing calculated to raise a prejudice against them, so also, we have the right to expect that the friends of the accused shall abstain from all such uncalculated, and unfair, remarks, as those which we condemn in the *Montreal Herald*. Let us have a fair and impartial trial; and God defend the right. To the accused we heartily wish a good deliverance from the odious imputations under which they now labor; and of our Irish friends, we would earnestly implore, to abstain, most scrupulously, from every act, or word, calculated to annoy, or injure, men, who may be, and have the right to be considered, and treated as, innocent.

Our remarks are equally applicable to the *Transcript* of Wednesday last—in which the writer seems to think it an unprecedented hardship that the oaths of two Frenchmen, should "outweigh the honor of an English gentleman." This complaint is the more remarkable, as we distinctly remember how, in the case of the officers of the 26th, who denied upon their honor having given orders to the troops to fire, our cotemporary took a very different view of the relative values of an oath and a word of honor, in a Court of Justice; distinctly laying down the proposition that the Court knew nothing of the latter, and could deal only with the former. But now it seems the same principle does not apply; the oaths of Frenchmen, mere French Canadians—fellows who are only fitted to be hewers of wood, and drawers of water to the noble Anglo-Saxons—should be put aside by the magistrate, upon the word of the accused. It was not the learned lawyer—not the high-minded gentleman that we have always considered the editor of the *Transcript* to be—that spoke here; but rather the hired scribe, the unscrupulous partizan. For the honor of our Montreal press, we sincerely trust that we shall not be called upon to notice any more of these dishonest attempts to prejudice a cause now fairly before the Courts.

We disclaim any intention, in the above remarks, of casting the least reflection upon the "word of honor" of the gentleman alluded to. That "word," with us, would be of the greatest weight; all that we contend for is, that, in a Court of Justice, oaths, even of Frenchmen, must be permitted to outweigh the "word" of any gentleman. This was once the doctrine of the *Transcript*.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE PAPAL NUNCIO.

On Friday the 2nd inst., a numerous concourse of the Catholics of this city assembled in the Court of the Montreal College, to present an address to his Excellency the Papal Nuncio. A platform surmounted by a throne, and decorated with the portrait of the Sovereign Pontiff, and the banners of the different Catholic Societies had been erected beforehand. The band of the St. Jean Baptiste Society was in attendance, and performed several pieces of music; the officers of the St. Jean Baptiste and Temperance Societies also attended in their insignia of office. The members of these societies being ranged in order, his Excellency advanced to the estrade, accompanied by the Mayor, the Hon. Charles Wilson, and the Hon. D. B. Viger, and followed by almost the entire clergy of the diocese, then about to commence a retreat at the Seminary. The Hon. Messrs. Wilson and Viger were invited to places on the estrade near his Excellency. The Hon. Judge Mondelet, then came forward, and, after expressing the sentiments of the assembly, read the following address:—

To His Excellency, Ciriaco Deodati, Archbishop of Thebes, Papal Nuncio to the Court of Brazil, Envoy Extraordinary to the United States &c., &c.

(TRANSLATION.)

We are happy to have it in our power to approach your Excellency, to present you our sincere and most respectful homage, and to express our gratitude for the high honor you have conferred upon our city by your visit, previous to your departure on a distant and highly important mission. Sincerely grateful, indeed, did we feel on hearing that a distinguished prelate, the special representative of the Sovereign Pontiff was in our midst, and had come, in the name of the venerable successor of St. Peter, to bless his children in a far distant land. It is the first time that a hand so illustrious has been raised over us in benediction, and to draw down upon our heads the dew of divine grace.

How precious to us is your presence; with what consolation does it not inspire us. Your courteous, cordial, dignified, and imposing demeanor, agreeably reminds us of your pacification of Bologna during one of those terrible political convulsions by which dynasties are overturned. By your sound judgment and firm administration, you restored peace and prosperity, to that distracted city; by your meek and pious deportment, not less than by the brilliancy of your other distinguished qualities, you have secured the love, respect and reverence of the Catholics of Montreal. Long and fondly shall we preserve the remembrance of your visit to Montreal, and we would fain hope that you would remember us, when on your return to the Eternal City, you render an account of your mission to the Father of the Faithful. You may then tell His Holiness that Montreal is, *par excellence*, the city of Mary; that its inhabitants entertain the most profound respect, love and reverence for, and obedience to, the humble but sublime servant of the servants of God. In conclusion, permit us to congratulate your Excellency on your so far agreeable career on this continent; to wish you the greatest success in your important mission, and to pray the Almighty that the consummation of your embassy may redound to the honor of the Church and to your own.

His Excellency replied, that he was fully sensible of the marks of respect and consideration by which he was then surrounded; that every word of the address went directly to his heart, on which it was indelibly impressed; that it was a high consolation to him, when far from his native country to find himself still not in a strange land. His Excellency added that the

Holy Father would learn with pleasure the regard here entertained for his person, and the respect testified for his representative, as expressed in this address, in presence of a host of zealous and enlightened disciples. He would also thank them for their delicate allusion to his administration of the government of Bologna during a very critical period.

On Saturday, His Excellency visited Bytown, where he assisted at the consecration of the Cathedral, returning to Montreal on Tuesday. On Wednesday, amidst a large concourse of citizens, and the pealing of all the bells of the Churches in town, he took his final leave of us, and started for St. Hyacinthe.

THE TORONTO LEADER ON PROTESTANT EQUALITY.

"It is obvious that the *Gazette's* motto, 'equality in the eye of the law of all sects and classes' is a principle that the coadjutors of the *Globe* would never sanction. The *Globe's* natural allies in Montreal are the Dougalls and Wilkesses; the gentlemen who a few years ago risked the breaking up of the best literary institution in British America by their intolerance in attempting to expel a religious publication, we forget of what denomination, which did not accord with their peculiar views; while such sectarian publications as they desired were freely admitted! These men, the natural allies of the *Globe*, are the most bigotted and intolerant of any class in the Province."

The journal in question was the *Christian Inquirer*, published as an organ of the Unitarians, and, without exception, the ablest and best conducted of the Protestant journals edited upon this continent. Our cotemporary estimates the *Globe*, the *Montreal Gazette*, and their colleagues, at their proper value. By the cry of "equality," they mean "Protestant ascendancy" in state and church; they mean the spoliation of Catholic endowments; they mean trammels upon the exercise of the Catholic religion, and restraints upon the disposition of property, by which Catholics may be prevented from giving, or bequeathing, of their own, for Catholic religious, charitable and educational purposes; and above all, under the ridiculous misnomer of Free Schools—compulsory support to Protestant education. This is what these fellows mean by their cry for "religious equality," and what, please God, they shall never get, whilst there are Irishmen, and Catholics, in Canada, with hearts and arms to defend their own.

When we see the *Globe*, *Gazette*, and others, stoutly advocating the cause of "voluntarism" in Education, we shall begin to believe them honest in their cry for "voluntarism" in Religion. Till then they will pardon us if we look upon them as the legitimate offspring of their great spiritual father—"qui mendac est," St. John, viii. 44. And that's Scripture, as good as ever was heard from a Protestant pulpit.

"There is a German priest among the flock of Jesuits now in Montreal, who goes about endeavoring to proselytise the Protestant German immigrants; and he pays them from three dollars upwards a-head, for them and their children to attend the Roman Catholic Church. . . . The Jesuits here are turning Soupers; and they are practising first apparently upon scattered Germans."—*Montreal Gazette*.

That there is a "German priest amongst the Jesuits now in Montreal" is true; that many Non-Catholic Germans have been, through his instrumentality, and that of his brethren, reconciled to the Catholic Church is more than probable—but, that he—or any one else, connected directly or indirectly, with the Jesuits, has paid them three dollars, or held out to them any pecuniary, or worldly inducements whatsoever, to join the Church, is a foul calumny, which, we would call upon the editor of the *Gazette* either to prove, or retract, if we believed him to be a gentleman, or entitled to the treatment of a gentleman.

"We observe that the *soi-disant* only independent paper—the only Montreal paper, so independent of every sense of decency and morality as daily to insult its readers with the advertisement of Dr. —'s filthy and felonious advice—and this to our knowledge, after having been both privately and publicly remonstrated with on the subject."—*Montreal Herald*.

The paper here alluded to by the *Herald* is the *Montreal Gazette*, which alone, we believe, of all the press in Canada, pollutes its columns—if anything be filthy enough to pollute the columns of the *Montreal Gazette*—with the advertisements of a low blackguard, who publicly professes to teach the art of procuring abortion, and of practising impurity without risk of detection. The editor of the *Gazette* defends his conduct by assuring his readers, that it is an advertisement—"which we never read, nor do we intend to"—a defense, as remarkable for its grammatical elegance, as for the new moral code, which it lays down for the guidance of the conductors of a daily journal—viz.,—an editor may publish all kinds of impieties, immoralities, and obscenities, provided only, that he "does not read them, nor intend to," truly such a doctrine well becomes the friend of Gavazzi, and the would-be recognised champion of the Holy Protestant Faith. The only wonder is, that any respectable father of a family should allow such a blackguard paper to enter his dwelling, or to come within the reach of his wife, or daughters. A paper, which, like the *Montreal Gazette*, gives insertion to the filthy advertisements alluded to by the *Herald*, is fitted but for the atmosphere of the brothels, and should be seen in the hands only of prostitutes; whilst its unprincipled editor should be hooted, or rather, kicked out of society.

The Rev. P. Dowd begs to acknowledge, with many thanks, the receipt of £21 2s 11d from the Managing Committee of the late pleasure trip to Lavaltrie, for the benefit of the St. Patrick's Orphan Asylum.