

THE TRUE WITNESS

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slight beneath the sea, if only the submission of their serfs in other parts of the empire were assured. But they dare not concede an inch lest the whole structure of the aristocracy totter and fall. The lines are now sharply drawn, and the Irish cannot but make substantial progress, since the thinking working people of England see the scope of the contest. Home Rule is wanted, but no particular form of government is insisted on, only that the people shall have homes, not hovels; comfort in old age, not the poorhouse; that the deer pasture shall feed cattle, and that the emigrant ship shall no more yearly bear away the best of Ireland's youth and manhood.

MR. WHEELER, Congressman from Alabama, has introduced a peculiar bill. It proposes to impose an unaccustomed duty upon the Superintendent of the census. The bill provides for ascertaining the physical effect upon offspring resulting from amalgamation of the human species. The bill directs the superintendent of the next census to "ascertain and report the birth rate and death rate among pure whites, negroes, Chinese, Indians, half-breeds and hybrids of any description of the human race."

SENATOR SHERMAN, in his remarkably able speech on the Fisheries Treaty in the United States Senate, denied Mr. Chamberlain's assertion to the effect that all leading men of America were opposed to Home Rule for Ireland. If a poll of the Senate were taken, he said, on that subject there was hardly a Senator who would not give a hearty "yes" to the proposition to give to the Irish people Home Rule as it is understood in the United States. Similar sentiments were expressed by Mr. Blaine. But this merely goes to prove what everyone now believes, namely, that Chamberlain is only an ordinary, not a plausible, liar.

LETTERS published by Mr. Kane and Mr. Hooper substantiate the charge of systematic cruelty against the Balfour administration practised on Irish political prisoners. Dr. Ridley now appears, in the light cast by these letters, to have been placed in a most trying position for a humane man and a physician to occupy. Ordered by the Government to act contrary to his knowledge and judgment, as a medical man, he appears to have yielded, through fear of losing his situation, to the brutal commands of Balfour. When one of the victims, Mr. Mandeville, died from the effects of violence and starvation, Dr. Ridley had no courage to face the popular wrath and cut his throat to escape it. A more hideous exposure of the horrors of Balfourian government could hardly be made. Humanity stands aghast at it.

CONCERNING the author of the *Times* forgeries the London *Univers* says: We shall soon be able to nail to the wall the wretched creature at whom the hand of suspicion already points as the principal. While it is yet time, he would do well to spirit himself away to some foreign land, although, indeed, he will be hard pushed to find a territory so remote that the curses and contempt of the Irish race will not pursue him there. By his act, whether instigated by spite or cupidity, he has covered an honest name with everlasting infamy, and thrown a shadow over the lives of all who bear it. It should not be impossible among the small ring of ex-Irish members to fix upon the person whose need or motives of vindictiveness would urge to the awful course. It should be the duty of all to clear themselves; but all cannot.

THE attempt to get up a cry against Canada on account of the enterprising action of the Canadian Pacific Railway by certain American newspapers is derided by the *New York Post*. It says:—

The Canadian Pacific Railway, we are told, is now carrying 42 per cent of the tea that we consume. Well, what of that? If they are doing so, they must be doing it as a loss, because they have a more difficult and expensive line to operate than ours. If they are doing it as a loss, they are giving us some of their money, which senators ought not to object to except upon strictly political grounds. If they are doing it at a profit, then our own railroads are to blame for allowing the Canadians to pick up business under their noses. So as to business taken from American ports on the Pacific to American ports east of the mountains. We venture to say that every pound of freight so carried has been carried at a loss, or at least without profit, the interstate commerce law being non-operative as to that traffic. It will probably be found that not more than 5 per cent, of the traffic naturally belonging to American lines has been taken by the Canadian Pacific, and that upon this 5 per cent, the Canadians have no reason to congratulate themselves. But there can be no objection to the investigation except that it involves a certain amount of useless bickering, and plays into the hands of those who seek to multiply difficulties with foreign countries in order to help the "home market."

BOYCOTTING, when practised by the Irish, is a great crime demanding no less than censure by the Pope himself. Yet the Irish are not the only people who show their feelings in that way, for it appears that English Catholics, who were most active in scouring the rescript against boycotting, practice it themselves in a most offensive manner. Bishop Beagshaw of Nottingham, having shown his sympathy for Ireland, has actually been reduced to want by his English Tory flock. "A lover of Ireland" writes to the *Liverpool Catholic Times*:

A few weeks ago I noticed a report of a generous donation to the Very Rev. Canon Monahan to show esteem for him and the reverend Bishop of Nottingham. I was indeed glad to see it; but my venture to suggest that anyone wishing to show their esteem and appreciation for the Bishop of Nottingham for his manly and courageous sympathies to a poor and unjustly treated nation, should send donations to himself personally. Very few people are aware of the real and hard fact that the Bishop has had to bear because of his sympathy; a few realize that he has been practically boycotted by the rich and unsympathetic of England in their to-be expected assistance in the general work of religion in the diocese and its institutions. The Bishop is too noble, too manly, and too humble ever to make allusion to

it, but there are some few at least who cannot but feel that, like poor Ireland, he would be more largely helped and liberally dealt with if only he was less Irish. Lovers of Ireland, do not forget that his love for your country has not been merely expressed in words, but, to use a vulgar phrase "he is heavily paying the piper."

We think this is a case which calls for a letter from Rome on the sin of boycotting a Bishop by English Catholics. Surely if it is a crime against morals to boycott a rack-renting Irish landlord, how much more heinous is it to boycott a bishop of the Catholic Church?

THE venerable string of chestnuts presented to the meeting at Joliette yesterday as a platform for the Bleu party of Quebec is more suggestive of merriment than of serious consideration. Its authors described it as a "progressive" policy, and therefore they are "Progressives," after the style of the orab who progresses backward. As the institutions of the country are in no particular danger the declaration of Tory fidelity to them is vastly reassuring. It is also gratifying to have their assurance that they will maintain respect for authority, property, law and social order. Judging them by their record, we would not have believed it, if they had not said so. But when the Tories find it necessary to insert a plank to that effect in their platform, they must have felt the necessity of reassuring the public mind regarding their intentions, feeling, no doubt, that their past conduct had laid them open to suspicion on this vital point. They also declared their faith in "a wise administration of the public domain and public funds." Noble sentiment! But why did they not practice when in power what they now preach in Opposition. Their wisdom was demonstrated in twenty years of government, at the end of which they left the Province bankrupt, its most valuable assets sold and the money dissipated, the public domain wasted, the revenues squandered, the treasury empty and the Province over twenty millions in debt! With a record like that, the Tories reach the sublimity of impudence when they prate about "wise administration." As a policy, the Joliette platform is the veriest floundering, and is fittingly topped off with fulsome adulation of "the talents, the energy and patriotism of the chiefs, and the discipline of the Tory party." But, we suppose, they would have done better if they could, and if they knew how. Having thus got their planks and nailed them together, the best thing they can do is to make a raft of their platform for the trip they are about to take up Salt Creek.

TO OUR friends at the seaside we would commend an article in the last *Medical Record* which is well worth their attention:

At almost any of the seaside resorts numbers of children, usually little girls, may be seen, with their clothes tucked up around their hips, wading out as far as their little legs will permit. It is a pastime in which they take great delight, and it seems really cruel to attempt to deprive them of it. Dr. Raven, however, has no such compassion for them, and writes pointing out the danger to health in this sport. The water around the legs is cold, and the sun beating upon the head and trunk is hot, and the common result, writes this states, is a condition resembling heatstroke. The victim is feverish and restless, complaining of headache and nausea. The head is hot while the extremities are cold. Jaundition of the limbs is commonly seen, and vomiting is a frequent symptom. The conjunctivae are congested, and there is intolerance of light and sound. Twice he has seen peritonitis brought about by this practice, and in several cases the symptoms attributed to "padding" have been sufficiently serious to cause anxiety. It is surprising that, among so many offenders, there should be so few sufferers; but the symptoms in many cases, he suggests, may not be sufficiently severe to render the attendance of a medical man necessary. If the children must wade, as probably they will, Dr. Raven says that a degree of safety is insured by making the child leave the water frequently, and run about on the shore. The limbs thus become warm again, and some danger is avoided at the expense of the skin, which is apt to become inflamed and blistered by the sun. This, however, is a minor evil. The treatment which he employs in cases of heatstroke from "padding" is to make the patient paddle, as it were, at the other end. That is, to immerse the extremities in hot mustard and water, while douches and lead water are applied to the head. To relieve congestion of the internal organs, a brisk purge is generally needed.

CARDWELL has always been regarded as the safest of safe Tory constituencies, yet the issue of the writ has been delayed for many months, because the Tories of the place are at daggers drawn. They have put two candidates in the field against one Reform, and the chances are that both will be beaten. So far all efforts to heal the split have been in vain, and to Cardwell remains unrepresented. In any case the fate of the county is in the hands of the Catholics, and if they are wise they will teach Sir John Macdonald and his candidate or candidates a lesson they very much need at present.

In the growth of wealth and the power of corporations the Boston *Herald* sees the same forces at work for the ruin of Republican institutions in America that brought about the decline and fall of the Roman empire. Popular subservience to the rich is the chief element of the danger apprehended. "To the superficial student it might seem that the downfall of the Roman republic was due to the hereditary patrician class; but, as both law and custom made it impossible for the latter to engage in business pursuits, their influence, so far as wealth was concerned, was but slight compared with the men of common birth who represented what in our day would be called the great financiers, speculators and manufacturers. These were the men who, individually or in combination, furnished the sinews of war for carrying on the various political insurrections; they were the ones who bribed the people at election times to vote for the candidates who would do as they were told; their interests, as the orations of Cicero prove, were chiefly considered in the carrying on of distant campaigns or in the selection of commanding generals; it was into their hands that the agricultural districts of Italy gradually passed and after they had crushed

public spirits and debauched the political morals of the people, it became easy for them to come and support a strong man, who, while pretending to preserve Republican traditions, should be in reality an irresponsible autocrat."

IN EUROPE the situation has not been improved by the young Emperor's accession and trip to St. Petersburg. The scenes have been shifted—that's all, and the grim play goes on as usual with lots of red fire in reserve. In England the elements of disquiet are brewing and an apprehension has grown up that war is coming and that among its possibilities is an invasion of English soil by continental armies. But this is an old scare which is got up periodically when governments are in need of heavy votes of money. Nevertheless there is every indication that Russia is determined to have her way. Her armies are even now camped within striking distance of Constantinople, and the slightest spark would produce a conflagration which would furnish the needed excuse. Indeed it is now clear that England must either prepare to fight Russia or make terms with her, and just now it is hard to say which alternative is the more disagreeable.

FRENCH AGGRESSIONS IN NEW-FOUNDLAND.

HAS England so loosened her grip of affairs in America that a French naval officer can assume functions of government on British soil, and the poor colonists of Newfoundland, where his action was taken, have no redress? The commander of the French warship *Le Drac* forcibly interfered with two Newfoundlanders, named Murphy and Andrews, to prevent them erecting a lobster house at a place called Hauling Point, White Bay, on their coast. A correspondent signing himself "W" gives the facts in the *St. John's Colonist*. He admits that the French have certain rights, but if they are deprived of any privileges which they are by treaty entitled to, they have their remedy, he holds, in a diplomatic complaint to the British Government—certainly not in taking the law in their own hands; for it would be more reasonable to suppose that the United States has the right to send a ship-of-war into any port of Canada or Newfoundland to forcibly assert her interpretation of the commercial rights which treaties give to fishing vessels in Canadian and Newfoundland waters, as to allow that France can come into our waters and harbors and exercise there a maritime and territorial jurisdiction.

We can well understand the feeling that has been aroused by the tone of the protests against the action of the French commander. The correspondent alluded to describes the act as "an outrage that nothing can justify, and as destructive of every principle of law and order that a foreign nation (first assuming as valid her own construction of privileges granted her in British territory) should thus proceed forcibly to enforce it. The position cannot be sanctioned, and can only end in a deadly resistance."

It would be well for the Canadian government, which is about entering into negotiations with the government of Newfoundland for the admission of the colony into the Dominion, to insist that this French shore difficulty shall be settled before the union, if union be agreed upon. Meantime the determined attitude assumed by the Newfoundlanders and the trenchant terms in which their feelings are expressed demand closer attention on the part of British and Canadian statesmen.

Those feelings are set forth by the correspondent already quoted in unmistakable terms. "On the very face of the treaties," he writes, "under which the French exercise a right of fishing, nothing seems plainer than that a limited codfishery alone was the intended concession, and in analyzing the wording of the treaties and contemporary conditions, this comes out with overwhelming strength. But through the criminal supineness of the British Government and the persistently aggressive spirit of the French, admissions have been made from time to time which have not only surrounded the treaties with a fog of misconception, but have entrenched the French in a favorable position to make the most extravagant demands of a territorial jurisdiction."

"The ground which Newfoundland should take in this matter is clear, and she should hold it unflinchingly. First,—That the territory from Cape Ray to Cape John, with adjacent waters, is wholly hers—hers, of course, first through Great Britain, by discovery, by conquest, but more, above all other conditions, by actual possession and occupation for a century."

"Second,—That the laws, all and singular, which govern the rest of the Island, are applicable to that part of the coast to foreigners as well as British, and that processes of law against violence should be issuable against French as well as native law-breakers."

"Thirdly,—That nothing shall force her to give up one jot of her land or water privileges. That she who owns them will use them despite all opposition, whether British or French, not minding threats or commands so long as they do not come within the sanction of her own laws. Yielding, if needs be, but only for a moment, and leaving the responsibility of consequences with those who use the force."

"Fourthly,—As regards the French privileges that they have a boundary right of codfishery, involving, of course, the taking of bait-fish, and the right to dry (an important word) their fish on shore, and that in this right (while they can never be allowed to molest) they shall not be interrupted or molested."

"The future has in store, can have in store but one settlement of this question of French claims, and it is not in the direction of concession to France. An increasing resident population cannot be deprived of the means of existence with which nature has doomed them. To attempt to do so is high treason against humanity, and neither ships nor soldiers will be much longer allowed the

ignoble task of depriving men of that which is to them as the breath of life. It is the first note of the modern social philosophy that "every man that is willing to work is entitled to eat," and we see how the force of the axiom is being recognized by the Government, e.g., by the British Government in the Irish land question, in the case of the Scotch crofters, in state colonization schemes, and though the treaty privileges of the French were five times as conclusive, five times as extensive as they are, yet would this right of our people to live in their own land overstep them all. How hard, then, how monstrous, that it should be held in abeyance or sacrificed on account of concessions with which it need have no conflict. For a just and exact reading of the treaties can give the French no liberties that are inconsistent with this primary right of our own people."

"In order to precipitate matters it might be well for any one aggrieved by this forcible interference of the French to apply to our Newfoundland Supreme Court for a warrant of arrest, or possibly for a warrant of ejectment against the offender. I do not think it would be refused. But I strongly urge resistance to every encroachment, whether in the shape of directions hostile to our own laws, given by British warships, (as e.g. removal of cod-traps, which are made valid by our law), or personal interference of the French. Nothing worth while has ever been gained by supineness on lethargic protest. Resistance, stern and uncompromising, has given us our modern civilization. There is no need to point to examples, history is its record."

In conclusion the principle is laid down and insisted on that there is no desire on the part of the Colonists to molest or interrupt the French in their codfishery, so long as they exercise it in places where British fishermen have not prior possession. Anything beyond this, we are told, shall be resisted to the very utmost.

JOURNALIST'S WORK.

We find in an English paper a review of an essay in "one of the magazines" on journalism. We wish the reviewer had been accurate and stated what magazine and who was the essayist. There are many persons who imagine themselves journalists, yet who fail to give authority when they quote that the true journalist experiences a feeling akin to exasperation when he finds loose references like the above. However, there is so much truth in the article that we are glad to extend its influence. The writer is described as "a veteran member of the profession of letters," and his article gives some useful hints to the tyro who is embarking in the same trade. He quotes a striking passage from Cardinal Newman on the work of the journalist, in which the greatest living master of English expresses his keen sympathy for men who he describes as being "under the rod of a cruel slavery." Most men who have had to do with composition must know the stress which at times it occasions them to have to write—a distress sometimes so keen and so specific that it resembles nothing else than bodily pain. "That pain," says Dr. Newman, "is the token of the wear and tear of the mind, and if work done comparatively at leisure involve such mental fatigue and exhaustion, what must be the toil of those whose intellects are to be flung daily before the public in full dress, and that dress ever new and varied, and span, like the silk-worms, out of themselves." These words were written by Cardinal Newman in 1852; but if they were true five-and-thirty years ago, think how terrible must be their truth now, when the demand for this periodical form of literature has increased a thousandfold, and the supply naturally in proportion. The writer of the essay expresses the belief that there are probably hundreds of men whom necessity has compelled to shatter their brains upon the cruel stones of Fleet Street who might in happier conditions have done honor to literature and to themselves. "It would ill become me," he adds, "to take up my pen to write a newspaper. They served me well at the time when such service was of inestimable value to me. When I think of the talents I have seen wasted and the lives wrecked on such hopeless and unending drudgery, I cannot but own there is some truth in the saying that journalism is the curse of literature."

INDUSTRIAL EMANCIPATION.

It is now evident, in spite of the efforts of politicians, who wish to conceal, if they understand, the real issue, that a new "Irrepressible Conflict" has begun on this continent. As Lincoln represented the forces that were gathering for the destruction of slavery, Cleveland represents the forces now gathering for the emancipation of labor. As "the thoughts of men are widened by the process of the sun," it is a natural evolution that freedom of the laborer should be followed by the freedom of the labor itself. Canada having adopted by stress of circumstances, the system which grew out of the exigencies of the civil war will be compelled in like manner to adopt whatever policy may be the result of the coming presidential election in the United States. But it will be more than a policy, for it comes from the slowly maturing conviction of the people that the prevailing system is wrong and must be changed.

The spirit of the movement finds expression in the declaration that government shall no longer rob the people by means of taxation. The system of industrial slavery styled Protection, is now beginning to be understood by the masses, whose labor is the source of all wealth. Its nature is seen in its results. The wealth created by labor has become through it concentrated in the hands of a few who do not labor, and who take advantage of it to get aside the economic laws and force the wealth producers into the position of mendicants. Consequently we see men who

reckon their dollars by hundreds of millions, while millions of men are in want, although they toil hard and constantly. Among those whose thought gives direction to the movement for the destruction of this system there is no idea of taking away from any man the wealth of which he is possessed. The desire is to change the conditions, so that this manifestly unjust and dangerous distribution of the fruits of labor shall cease. For should it continue and the wealth of the nation continue to pour into the pockets of a few, a social and political conflagration must ensue. To prevent that catastrophe, the system which is the primary cause of the wrong must be abolished.

In order to make this clearly understood it is necessary to insist on first principles, foremost among which is the fundamental doctrine that the power of the Government to tax the people is limited strictly by its needs of revenue, these needs being limited in turn by the necessities of national defence and the administration of justice. No government can be permitted to tax the people for any other purpose whatever. This is the true Liberal, the true democratic, the true constitutional idea. By its rigid enforcement all men can labor be emancipated and all men placed on the only plane of equality possible in relation to government.

Here we have the proclamation of the new conflict which must be fought to a conclusion in Canada as well as in the United States. It will take some time to bring it into effect, but it is bound to continue till the last vestiges of industrial slavery are destroyed and the emancipated worker will be as free to exchange the