

THE TRUE WITNESS

AND CATHOLIC CHRONICLE
IS PRINTED AND PUBLISHED
AT 761 CRAIG ST., MONTREAL, CANADA.

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The Vacant Senatorship.

The death of the Hon. Thos. Ryan, to which we have referred elsewhere in this issue, leaves vacant the seat in the Senate for the District of Victoria. This was the one Senatorial District in the Province of Quebec represented by an Irish Catholic, and to say that the Senator to be appointed should be of that Faith and Nationality is merely stating the existence of a right which no one will think of disputing.

This being the case the Government should have no difficulty in settling on the obolus. The name of Mr. Edward Murphy must occur to everyone, as that of a man eminently qualified in every respect for the position. As an Irishman and a Catholic, he enjoys the respect and esteem of his fellow-countrymen and co-religionists, and has identified himself with and taken a prominent part in every movement, religious and national, which more particularly interested them. As a Canadian he has won for himself a foremost place in the ranks of the successful commercial men of this country, and yet, amid the engrossing cares of business, has known how to find time to devote to the public interests. In politics he has always been a staunch Conservative, but one who has not sunk the citizen in the partisan, and while true to his convictions, has nevertheless earned and received the respect of those who differed from him politically, not less than that of those of the same political creed.

Among the citizens of Montreal, there is none who stands higher, none better qualified to fill with honor to himself and advantage to the country a seat in the Senate Chamber. It is indeed but seldom the good fortune of a Government to be able, in filling an important public post, to at once recognize the services of the party friend, and reward the patriotic services of the good citizen, as perfectly as the Ottawa Government has in this instance the opportunity of doing. In appointing Mr. Murphy, the Government will render a service to the public, bestow an honor on a trusted supporter, and recognize the right to representation of an important section of the community. His nomination will meet, we are assured, with universal approbation. Under these circumstances we cannot doubt that it will be made, and hope by our next issue to be able to congratulate the Government on having made it.

Dissatisfied Secretaries.

Everything does not seem to run so smoothly with Secretary J.G. Blaine as he probably anticipated. President Harrison has a very big say, and big "Jim" is gradually finding out that the Chief Magistrate of the great American republic is not a man to be "bulldozed" into making appointments which he does not consider good ones. Dissatisfaction over this straightforward conduct of the President is not confined to Mr. Blaine either, it seems, as it has spread also to Secretaries Proctor and Windom, and this great trio threaten, so rumor has it, to resign unless their favorites secure the appointments they desire.

Italy and Ireland.

The interest attaching to the Irish cause has been spreading so constantly that an early settlement of it by the English government is looked forward to by all civilized countries. Even the Italian press has shown their solicitude for its welfare and other European news papers are in the habit of discussing it in a friendly spirit. In a recent issue of the Tribuna of Rome appears an article referring to the late bye-elections in England and the more recent retirement of Lord Londonderry from the vice-royalty, which says that "it is a great check for Tory politics, the retirement of the noble lord, who for a long time has been tired of the thoughts and bitterness occasioned him by the acts of Secretary Balfour. Evidently the edifice of coercion is trembling from top to bottom, and the Gladstonian idea of Home Rule has become so familiar to English people that it no longer inspires horror or fear in the Commons or Lords."

Another Blow at Lansdowne.

Fearless William O'Brien is at the victor of Luggacurran again with renewed energy. On the floor of the English House of Commons last Monday night he levelled serious charges against Lansdowne and his son-in-law with crime. This he was in a position to do, owing to his late historical visits to Canada. He did not mince matters in the least and Goldwin Smith did not escape his invective. He said:—"If anyone wants to follow me in this subject he has only to give us a tribunal of three judges to proceed to Canada to enquire into Lansdowne and crime. (Irish cheers.) I will undertake to give murderous speeches, murderous insinuations, and plenty of murderous deeds that make the speeches of Sorab Nally harmless indeed we can do that without forty letters out of the speeches of Lansdowne, Goldwin Smith, and a great many other highly sensitive moralists. (Laughter and cheers.) The only argument Lansdowne offered for himself to my visit to Canada was the argument of the revolver shot, and paving stones fired in the dark." (Cheers.) The speaker here intervened and said O'Brien exceeded the scope of the matter. The only friend of the chief of Irish evictors to come to his rescue was a man of his same stripe in the person of Balfour who made but a feeble defense to the overwhelming charges of the outrageous editor of United Ireland.

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The Toronto Globe, which since its conversion to the anti-programme, has been among the most pronounced opponents of Mr. Mercier's Act, takes the same view as that expressed by the Week. It says "the citizens' committee have committed a tactical blunder, which bids fair to make shipwreck of the cause they have undertaken to champion," and goes on to express its astonishment still more forcibly. "The bare statement," says the Globe, "that a body of men who profess 'to be upholding the cause of civil liberty' have invited the people to petition the Governor-General, first, to set at defiance 'the will of Parliament almost unanimously expressed, or second, to take the matter 'into his own hands and dissolve the House 'in spite of his constitutional advisers, is so 'incredible that it would hardly be believed 'were not the fact so patent." It therefore appears to the leading Liberal organ that the petitions will be signed "only by those who 'do not stop to consider the consequences of 'what they are petitioning for, while the 'great body of thinking men will refuse to 'commit themselves to an attempt to overturn our system of constitutional government, and petitions so signed can neither 'be hoped to be successful nor to have any 'effect on public opinion."

Even the Mail, while urging the agitation with all its might, confesses its cause can only succeed through constitutional changes that would involve the disruption of Confederation. Referring to the failure of the inimitable Bismarck in his attempt to coerce the Catholic Church in Germany the Mail proceeds to speak of the treaty privileges of the Church in Canada. It says: "These 'privileges have been adroitly placed under 'the shelter of provincial autonomy, and the 'Dominion Parliament could not diminish 'them without shattering the Federal system 'to pieces." It owns that it has no hope of success, and speaking of the weakness "of 'the English population in the matter and 'the strength of the Church," proceeds to remark: "To say that the odds are all 'against us is merely to repeat that she has 'fortified herself at every point and has left 'nothing undone to make her imperium in 'imperio complete." Yet with these opinions and convictions the Mail urges on the agitation from which it anticipates as the inevitable result, "shattering the Federal

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TOPICS OF THE DAY.

As Discussed by the Newspapers.
Reasons for Rejoicing.
"Day and night," says Sir John,
"At no matter what season to try,
To prevent our own dimensions I try,
And that's why I'm giving the Jesuits
reason,
To rejoice on the 12th of July."
—Toronto Globe.

Mr. Gladstone's Greatness.
While paying a warm tribute to the American people at a dinner party Mr. Gladstone is reported to have remarked that he uttered opinions during the late war which had better have been left unsaid. Mr. Gladstone's greatness is never so apparent as when he admits that he has been in error. He has retracted many utterances within the past ten years, and it takes a big man to do that.—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

Food for Election.
President Van Horns took a Railway Commissioner at New York that "the Canadian Pacific Railway was built to make money for its shareholders, and for no other purpose under the sun." Canadians may now spend an interesting hour in trying to discover for what purpose they gave the Company twenty-five million dollars, twenty-five million acres of land, a thousand miles of completed railway, and other benefits. Was it "to make money for the shareholders, and for no other purpose under the sun"?—Toronto Globe.

A Hint for Haggart.
Payment for anything by the levy of rates is never satisfactory, and as a rule is wrong, but wherever it is in operation the tendency should always be to decrease the rate rather than to increase it, so that it will bear lightly on the people. That is good government. Mr. Haggart's administration is not good government.—Toronto Globe.

Better Deal than Borrow?
A Montreal man who borrowed \$35 at the rate of 180 per cent. per annum, was proceeded against and finally imprisoned, his debt, including legal costs, then amounted to \$75, for which he spent 300 days in jail. It is hard to know which is the most condemnable—the law which permits the imprisonment under which such a rate of interest of the law is possible. From a cynical point of view, it would be a great deal more to the interest of the borrower to steal the money in the first place, even though he were afterwards committed for the crime.—London Advertiser.

Farmers and Reciprocity.
We have the promise of a good harvest this year, but more than one good harvest is needed to set the farmers on their feet, and at the best the margin of profits must be low. If it was possible to ship freely into the markets of the United States peas, beans, wool, butter, cheese, horses, cattle, sheep, etc.—the margin of the farmers' profits might be great—at least 10 cents on the dollar of all that they sell. Consider what the effect of such an increase of profits would be on the farmers themselves directly, and indirectly upon man of every occupation. Hard times would disappear, idle men would find employment, industries would flourish, debts and mortgages would be wiped off, and the whole country would bound forward once more. The property of the United States would extend to Canada, and country would greatly benefit by the prosperity of the other. Let every man in his own polling subdivision see to it that not one voter is left off the list who will make his ballot at the next general election to secure the boon of unrestricted trade with the United States for Canada. The standing offer of such trade relations we now have in the resolution of the United States House of Representatives.—London Advertiser.

We Told You So.
"Out in the cold!" said Mr. Cloran as he addressed a reporter on the subject of Irish Catholic representation in the Cabinet. To Mr. Cloran: "Yes, we need a man there." "We have," added Mr. Cloran, "long thought that we should have better representation at Quebec. The fact of the matter is we must have a man before long." Further than this he said Mr. Cloran would not go, but Mr. H. J. Cloran, who walked arm in arm, remarked a few minutes previous: "The Irish people are a few minutes previous satisfied at the manner in which they have been treated. The Premier promised at the Windsor dinner that the Irish and the Protestants would be represented in the Cabinet. Colonel Rhodes is there for the latter, but the Irish are out in the cold, and our people stood for Mr. Mercier in the last contest and they expect justice at his hands. We hold the balance of power in twenty counties and can use it if necessary. The huckster cry of 'elect your man and we will take him in, won't do.'"

Tory Bigotry.
The Port Hope Conservatives seem to have the proper idea of patriotism. At a meeting the other day they indorsed the anti-French school agitation, raised in the Local Legislature, and condemned the anti-Jesuit agitation in the House of Commons. No finer illustration of party bigotry has ever been made.—Kingston Whig.

"Howat Must Go."
Straws tell how the wind blows. This was shown a few evenings ago in Toronto when Mr. Coburn, one of the M.P.'s for that city, presided at a dinner of the Young Conservative Club, before another year rolled around a Tory Government would rule Ontario. This prediction conclusively proves that the Tory party intend to make a determined effort to defeat the Ontario Government, and that Mr. Dalton McCarthy is merely pouring forth his sham indignation against the Jesuits which he may, here and there, see opportunity presents itself, stab Mr. Mowat. This little game however, under the plausible guise of great zeal for Protestantism is too well understood to be productive of much harm to the Ontario Government.—Berlin Telegraph.

A Sweet Question.
The Times has often suggested that the removal of the Canadian sugar duties would be the making of the Canadian fruit-growing and fruit preserving industries. This country can beat Britain out of sight in producing such fruits as apples, pears, plums, peaches, cherries, grapes, currants and berries. All that is needed is an extended market, and cheap sugar would supply the market. Take off the duties intended for the refiners' protection, let the Canadians get sugar at British prices, and within four years there would be ten persons employed in Canadian canning and preserving factories for every one now employed in the sugar refineries. Besides this, the Canadian people would increase in their consumption of fruit if sugar were cheaper, and the effect upon their health would be excellent.—Hamilton Times.

The number of converts to the Catholic Church among literary men in England is remarkable. Mr. Burnand, the editor of Punch, is a Catholic, as are half a dozen other eminent in periodical literature. Mr. Clement Scott, the critic of the Daily Telegraph—one of these has lately inherited a fortune from Miss Drew, a Catholic lady, who greatly admired his criticisms.

EMERALD BENEFICIAL ASSOCIATION.

Canadian and American Brothers Reconcile their Differences.
PETERBORO, Ont., May 23.—The annual convention of the Ontario branch of the Emerald Beneficial Association, which has been in session here since Tuesday, finished their business this afternoon, and the delegates left for their respective homes. The session has been one of the most successful and pleasing that has ever been held. The difficulty which has existed for several years past between the Ontario and the United States branches of the association in regard to the international connection was, after considerable discussion, finally settled, it being decided by the convention to renew their international connection with their brethren in the States. The remainder of the session has been principally taken up in the revision of the constitution. This morning the election of grand officers was proceeded with, and resulted as follows: Grand chaplain, Very Rev. F. J. Rooney, administrator of the arduousness of Toronto; grand president, P. CroTTY, of Hamilton; grand vice-president, W. McClean, of Toronto; grand secretary, W. Lane, of Toronto; grand treasurer, G. Hironax, Peterboro; executive committee, J. McGrath, Peterboro; J. J. McAuley, Toronto; S. J. Salkie, of Merrittville; J. Smith, of Dundas; M. Welch, of Oakville; delegates to international convention, D. O'Leary, of Toronto. The officers were duly installed by Bro. Darry, of Toronto, assisted by Bro. J. F. Smith, of Dundas. It was decided to hold the next convention at Dundas on the first Tuesday in May, and the annual parade on the 6th of August at Merrittville.

To Employ Evicted Tenants.

A number of prominent citizens of Boston, who have for a long time been considering the question of how best to go to work to practically and lastingly benefit the poor evicted tenants in Ireland, have united upon a plan for carrying out their purpose. The full details of it cannot be given out yet, but they will probably be developed in the course of a few weeks. They feel that the hope of accomplishing anything lies in the possibility of getting the farmless people interested in some kind of industrial pursuit. The idea is to establish in one of the poorest districts a factory in which evicted tenants could find employment. It is proposed therefore to incorporate a stock company, selling the shares in all parts of the United States where natives of Ireland or friends of Ireland's cause reside to buy them. The men who are promoting the scheme recognize the fact that the only way for them to attain success in it is to show their personal interest by going across personally and getting it started. There will be no fillibusters in the party. As soon as the plans are perfected, however, they will be submitted to Mr. Parnell, Davitt and O'Brien for approval.

Ireland's Love for Learning.

The Irishman should be proud of the record of his country in the work of education. It is too true that we are tainted with our poverty and our ignorance, and we are told that it is because we are Catholics. It is because our fathers would not give up their Catholic faith that the English robbers, after stealing the land, wanted to steal away the Faith. England, Protestant England, by the most infamous code of penal laws, legislated our people out of learning and held them for centuries in ignorance. We should not let the world forget that there was a time when, as Usher says: "Ireland was the refuge of civilization and literature." We see St. Patrick at Armagh establishing a university which in the ninth century had 7,000 students, representing all the countries of Europe, and St. Finian, at Clonard in 530, "whence issued," says Usher, "a stream of saints and scholars like Greek warriors from the wooden horse at Troy." The Saxon clod was in barbarism when the Irish scholars went to his land to civilize him and teach him his letters. Montalembert says that "in the Irish monastic schools were trained an entire population of philosophers, architects, painters, musicians, poets and historians." Her inspirations arose from the teachings of the Catholic Church.—Rev. D. Conaty.