

## THE TRUE WITNESS

AND CATHOLIC CHRONICLE

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WEDNESDAY.....MARCH 26, 1890

COMPLAINT is made that the English-speaking boys of St. Mary's College are not given equal chances with the French boys of showing their capabilities before the public. In the arrangement of entertainments it is said the French section is allowed to come before the public while the English section is confined to appearances before the College only. A more serious complaint is that French is made the language of the English classes, and the classics taught through the medium of French, while even English subjects are taught by French professors. The result is that the sons of English-speaking parents are educated as aliens to their own families and their own people. So deeply is this felt, especially among Irish people, that their is a strong sentiment in favor of having another college in the city where a system consonant with their desires regarding education will be carried out.

THE Congress of Panama, held in the year 1826, laid down the principle on which the head of the republic of Brazil now defies the autocracies of Europe. It was intended as a counterpoise to the Congress of Verona. Its purpose was to elevate the protest of the American republics to the dignity of a universal policy for America. It aspired to unite in one unbroken front the republics of these continents for the conservation of liberty in its last asylum against those who, having strangled the energies of freedom within their own borders, sought to lay bloody hands on her offspring beyond the ocean. Senhor Barboza has not gone, like the son of Jesse, to the field of battle laden with parched corn and cheeses for his elder and more heroic brethren, and he mistakes the spirit of America who supposes that its people can calmly listen to the Goliath of despotism defying the hosts of Israel without taking up that challenge and testing in arms the might of the unconquered Philistine.

If the object be to spend their surplus, building a navy is about as good a way as our neighbors can take to effect that purpose. Three hundred and fifty million dollars is the modest little sum which is proposed to be spent on war ships. It is difficult to see, supposing a practical object to be in contemplation, what use they have for a large fleet of war ships. The expenditure of so large a sum of money would doubtless stimulate industry, but would it be a permanent benefit? All expenditures on war material when there is no likelihood of war, at a time, too, when the whole system of warfare is constantly changing, are likely to be so much money thrown away. If the object be to rival the military nations of Europe, a standing army is as much needed as a powerful fleet. The foreign commerce of the United States is not controlled by Americans, nor carried in American ships. No European power dreams of attacking the Republic, so that this oras for an ironclad navy appears more like a scheme concocted by contractors than by sober-minded statesmen.

EX-PRESIDENT CLEVELAND has the happy faculty of never speaking without saying something. A good instance in point was his speech at the Boston merchants' banquet. When the theory is adopted that political action may be used solely for private gain and advantage, and when conscience is quelled by the argument that such gain and advantage are identical with the public welfare, then a class arises who look to the government or the legislature to give relief from difficulties growing out of natural causes and affecting only individual interests. The members of this class may not think it, but they are really advancing the idea of State Socialism. The jealousy with which Englishmen resisted Government interference in private affairs appears to have passed away from among the people of that country as well as from a large section in the United States. Advocates of Socialism see in this an evolution of their theory, but sounder thinkers regard it as a retrogression. Manifestly, as Mr. Cleveland said, if the motives of all citizens were unselfish and patriotic, and if they sought in political action only their share of the advantages accruing from the advance of the country at all points, there would be no place or occasion for the perversion of their suffrage.

In view of the disturbing rumors afloat in Europe, it may not be uninteresting to glance at the physical condition of the several crowned heads. According to a recent medical report the Emperor of Russia is a confirmed hypochondriac haunted by an ever present fear of assassination. The Czarina is sub-

ject to intense nervous prostration. Francis Joseph, of Austria, is a melancholy, heart-broken man. His Empress is doubly afflicted with isolation and melancholia, which recent family troubles have intensified. She belongs to the same family as the crazy Kings of Bavaria, and is said to share their affliction. Young William of Germany has suffered all his life from serious physical defects for which there is no remedy. The King of Holland is floundering out the socket of a mispent life. The Sultan of Turkey is a monomaniac. The King of Italy is a martyr to chronic gastric derangement. The King of Wurtemberg is more than half a lunatic. The King of Belgium has a painful limp. The Infant King of Spain inherits the constitutional defects of his father, and has but a slender hold on life. Roumania's Queen is afflicted with hallucinations. Queen Victoria is the healthiest of European sovereigns, but she suffers occasionally with rheumatism. This is a very sad showing for the great ones of the earth and gives emphasis to the saying—"unusually like the head that wears a crown."

If, as Mr. L. O. David alleges, harsh, unequal laws are a great cause of the immigration from this province to the United States, the Premier, who may be credited with a sincere desire to keep his people at home, should lose no time in reforming those laws. Farmers and workmen are undoubtedly in a worse position as debtors than men engaged in trade. This distinction has arisen from natural causes, but that is no justification for its continuance. A poor man becomes a debtor through his poverty, and the law which breaks up his home to satisfy the creditor and the bill of costs practically exiles him. He thus becomes a disinherited man, disinherited in a double sense. For a country that does not protect the home must cease in time to be a country of homes. The man who is despoiled of the one soon escapes from the other. There is nothing in the demand for more equitable laws that can be twisted into an interference in the sacred rights of property. The State is bound to protect the honest poor by just laws. To leave them at the mercy of the sharks is to protect those who fatten on the misfortunes of the poor. It is in fact extending protection to the sharks. In this respect, as in some other things, we might with wisdom follow the example of Ontario. But nothing is more difficult of accomplishment in Quebec than reform of the laws. They seem to be regarded with a superstitious reverence akin to that with which the Medes and Persians regarded their laws. Witness our atrocious libel law. The code is a good thing for the lawyers, which is probably the chief difficulty in getting it amended, but amended it must be, if Quebec is to hold her place as a part of the new world.

## De Maisonneuve.

Last week Mr. Curran, M.P., laid before Parliament a petition from the City Council of Montreal, the Board of Trade and Chambre de Commerce, asking for aid towards the contemplated monument to be erected in Montreal to the memory of its founder. At a later period, when the discussion came on, relation to the erection of a monument to the heroes of Lundy's Lane, the hon. member again directed the attention of the Commons to the claims of the illustrious founder of this city, and pointed out that our fellow citizens were not appealing for a grant to an object to which they were unwilling to contribute their own private funds. He urged that men of all races and creeds were generously subscribing their money to this worthy object, and solicited the government to ask Parliament for a sum to aid in establishing the De Maisonneuve memorial. Sir Adolphe Caron, Minister of Militia, gave it to be understood that the government had in contemplation to ask Parliament for aid to the extent of a thousand dollars each towards several monuments throughout the country, commemorating the glories of Canadian history, and that of De Maisonneuve was amongst these, also would not be forgotten.

## Dominion Parliament.

The events of the week in the Dominion Parliament have not been altogether devoid of interest. Sir John Thompson's bill for the codification and amendment of the laws relating to bills of exchange and promissory notes has undergone its third reading. Our legislation on this important branch of commercial law is now almost identical with that of the mother country, with the exception of certain special clauses, wherein the long usages, prevailing in Canada, have been respected, as no good result could flow from changing what had prevailed, for many years, as the fixed custom of our business men.

The Rykert matter, which has been pending for some time, came before the House in the early part of the week. Mr. Rykert finds himself in a rather awkward predicament. The charges preferred against him by Sir Richard Cartwright are, for the greater part, founded on letters in the handwriting of the accused. In these letters he incriminates Ministers of the Crown and their relatives to the extent of alleging that for money considerations he was enabled to obtain from the Executive favors, in the shape of land grants, which had been refused to less fortunate applicants. Those letters, addressed to the parties for whom he was negotiating, enabled the member for Lincoln, it is alleged, to pocket several thousands of dollars for the benefit of his wife. When the telltale documents were laid before the House, Mr. Rykert immediately made the declaration that all his statements concerning the members of the Government were utterly without foundation, thus exculpating those whom he had placed in a most delicate position before the country. He sought also to make it appear that his own conduct had been above reproach. Sir Richard Cartwright, in presenting the case, made a most crushing speech against the hon. member. He pointed out that he could not avoid the inevitable verdict that must result from his own written statements. Mr. Rykert's reply cannot be considered, in any way, as an answer to the charges brought against himself;

he wound up his speech, however, by stating that he could furnish evidence that would place matters in a different light were he afforded an opportunity of appearing either before a special committee, or the ordinary committee of parliament on privileges and elections. Sir John Thompson made a most guarded speech in moving the adjournment of the debate. The request of Mr. Rykert to be allowed to appear before the committee can hardly be refused. In all probability, however, the finding of the committee will be in the sense indicated by the motion of Sir Richard Cartwright—that verdict will be confirmed by the Commons, and in such an event Mr. Rykert must retire from public life, where for so long a period he has been a central figure, at least in his own section of the country.

## The Fall of Bismarck.

No political event has occurred for a long time so profoundly interesting as the resignation of the Chancellorship of the German Empire by Prince Bismarck.

Whatever may have been the causes which led to this step, it will be regarded by the world as a declaration by the Emperor and an admission by himself that his ideas of government are no longer practicable, and that his work, as a constructive agency, in the consolidation of the empire, is finished.

Bismarck has so long been regarded as a controlling influence in European politics, that his retirement must have a disturbing effect. His policy, his methods, and his purposes had all come to be pretty well understood by the statesmen of other countries. His action under any given circumstances could always be calculated with certainty, and for this reason he was a conservative force of no small magnitude.

But it has been evident for some time past that the new conditions which have arisen, the new forces which have come into play, were such as he, from his nature, habits of thought, and his very success under other conditions, was unfitted to deal.

His first great mistake and the one which ultimately brought about his downfall was his attempt to crush the Catholic Church in Germany. He pitted himself against the Rock of Ages, assumed the rôle of a religious persecutor, boastfully declared that he would "never go to Canossa," and from that day his power began to decline, till now he steps down and out, and the world accepts his dismissal as a matter of course.

He did, however, "go to Canossa" before he retired, but as in many a former instance, repentance came too late. It was his first great failure and broke the spell of his influence. It was a contest in which his policy of blood and iron was ineffectual. But that he believed and persisted in his opposition to the Catholic Church to the last, is shown by the fact that his refusal to yield to the demands of Herr Windthorst, the Catholic leader, was one of the immediate causes of his retirement.

Other forces, however, combined to make his retirement a necessity.

One of his great aims was to destroy constitutionalism, for he always cherished a supreme contempt for representative institutions. He regarded them as a makeshift adopted by the British nobility to curb the pretensions of the Crown, and a school for teaching the people how to rebel without breaking the law. He knew that an educated democracy would not rest contented with them, and did not deceive himself with the hope that aggregated ignorance could ever produce a reign of perfect government on lines of justice and righteousness. He fulfilled to admiration Carlyle's idea of "A Strong Man," and lived to demonstrate the inherent error of Carlyle's philosophy.

A system which will work well at one period of a nation's development will be found utterly impracticable at another period. Times change and men's ideas change with them. There is but one institution on earth which universal experience has demonstrated to be adequate to the wants and aspirations of mankind in all conditions, in all nations and in all ages.

Bismarck sought to destroy constitutional government and establish absolute Imperialism, with an hereditary line of Hoenzollerns on the throne and an hereditary line of Bismarcks as the power behind it.

If mankind would be content to travel on from generation to generation in the old ruts, his dream would be possible of fulfillment, perhaps. If Germans would have been content to till the soil, serve in the army, pay taxes, raise families and be gathered to their fathers to the tune of "Long live the Emperor and Bismarck," his ideal state might have materialized.

But mankind was not content to travel in the old ruts, but to travel out of them, and the old Chancellor became like a child playing on a railway track who could not understand the rumblings of the coming locomotive.

And the German democracy, inspired by a newer and loftier aspiration than constitutional or representative government, let him contend with the spectre of an impractical radicalism while they thought, labored and combined for the realization of a State wherein conscience, religion and industry would be freely established, and wherein neither Hoenzollerns nor Bismarcks would have places either on the throne or behind it.

The wisdom of the young Emperor has been doubted, but the fact that his rescripts on the labor question were close copies of the Pope's allocutions on the same subject shows that he knew the right place to go to for inspiration as to how he should deal with the great problem of the age. The suggestions of a power which has always known how to meet and satisfy the legitimate aspirations of humanity, he adopted for imitation. Unlike Bismarck, who would bend all things to his iron will or crush them, he has known enough to wisely yield, and this in itself, when regarded as a sign of stubborn self-will, is, in reality, a proof that the young Emperor has a juster conception of the situation and a more tractable temper in the face of great exigencies than the old Chancellor.

Thus the retirement of Bismarck indicates the beginning of a new epoch in European history, and we may look forward hopefully to the time when the Vicar of Christ will be the acknowledged arbitrator in peace over the re-generated, industrial United States of Europe.

## Isolation or Reciprocity—Which?

In this issue we give a complete synopsis of the United States tariff bill. Should the proposed changes pass into law the effect will be to prohibit the importation of Canadian farm products

into the United States. It is impossible to estimate the extent of the misfortune this policy must inflict on our agricultural interests, nor sufficiently depressed. It will be simply ruinous. At the same time the American Senate Committee on Foreign Affairs has unanimously adopted a resolution authorizing the President of the United States to enter into negotiations for Unrestricted Reciprocity with Canada, whenever the Government of the Dominion shall express a willingness to adopt that policy.

These measures give a new turn to the relations between the two countries, and the leaders of the Democracy have declared that they will support the Reciprocity movement because it is acceptable to the Liberal party of Canada.

The situation is, therefore, clearly defined. Democrats in the States and Liberals in the Dominion are agreed on a policy of continental free trade, while Republicans in the States and Conservatives in the Dominion are for retaining the war of tariffs.

There can be no question as to which is the best policy for the farmers and the masses of the people generally in this country. Free trade with the continent is the one thing needed by all Canadians except a few manufacturers and "combiners" in the cities who desire to perpetuate protection simply because it enables them to regulate prices to their own advantage and regulate wages to suit themselves.

From the tone of the Conservative press we should judge that the Conservative Government at Ottawa will not respond to the Reciprocity invitation, and the question will have to go to the people for a decision at the next Dominion general elections. In that event it will be in the plain interest of the farmers and workmen everywhere to vote for candidates pledged to Unrestricted Reciprocity.

## "Thou Shalt Not Bear False Witness."

With characteristic aliveness, "the only religious daily," for revenue, makes an attempt to stab the reputation of one of Montreal's most honorable and respected citizens. In its issue of last Wednesday, giving and alleged report of the valuation of Judge Barry's property on Notre Dame street for expropriation purposes, it headed the article with an infamous and libelous falsehood. This property is occupied by three millinery shops and a restaurant, and the violator of the commandment from which it hypocritically takes its name, like a corsair sailing under an honest flag, heads the statement of valuations—"The Magistrate's Room." If Judge Barry were not an Irish Catholic this insult and lie would not have appeared in the *Witness*. As in the case of its bed-fellows in bigotry, who draw revenue from the whiskey trade on the sly, it would have forgotten or never alluded to the business of the persons occupying the property. For many years the late Senator Ferrier owned a property occupied by a saloon. He was a great temperance man, but the *Witness* never alluded to his "Rumshop." But he was a Puritan after Douglass' own heart and the organ of righteousness never discovered anything wrong in his owning a saloon. In the case of the unfortunate "Papist," however, the innate malignancy of the bigot finds vent, and it conveys an impression to the public that Judge Barry keeps a "Rumshop." If the judge does not compel the *Witness* to retract the libel and pay for it, it will be because of his contempt for his slanderer and the knowledge that anything it can say against a Catholic only demonstrates its ingrained fanaticism. It almost defied the late William Gooderham who made his millions out of whiskey and never alluded to the source of his wealth. The whiskey maker had happily been converted and learned to roll up his eyes. That made him a white-robed argal in the estimation of the *Witness*.

If we were inclined to adopt the tactics of that paper, we could give some names and facts about the liquor trade of Montreal that would make some people howl. But that is not our purpose. We merely desire to show up the cowardice, meanness and bigotry of a paper that has stolen the livings of the court of heaven to serve the devil in.

## Hon. Thomas McGreevy.

The policy of the TRUE WITNESS with regard to public men, of the Catholic faith, is to give them all the assistance in its power, to whatever political party they may belong, and to shield them from attack when their public career is one deserving of commendation. Public men must differ, on questions of public interest, and nothing is more to be deprecated than this massing of our people on one side of politics, except in cases of positive danger to our rights as a class. Fortunately, we have good men and true on both sides of the House, Dominion and Provincial, and amongst those who have acquired and held a prominent place, and who wield a powerful influence, is the Hon. Thomas McGreevy, who since Confederation has represented the Irish Division of the old city of Quebec. Mr. McGreevy has rendered great services to our people in many ways. He is not a man of many words, but few Irish Catholics in public life have attained such influence in their party councils. Judging from the statements published in some of our Quebec contemporaries, a movement is on foot to injure Mr. McGreevy, and representations are being made, or to be made, to the Dominion Government to the effect that the member for Quebec West is not a source of strength to his party. It is almost needless to say that such representations have their source, outside of the Irish Catholic element, but an effort is being made to draw some of our people into the wake of those who are planning the destruction of our able representative. The latter class can hardly expect to elect any one but an Irish Catholic for Quebec West at the next general election, but one of less influence and ability, of more limited knowledge of public affairs, would suit them better than the veteran who now occupies the position with so much advantage to the class he specially represents. We sincerely trust that enemies within the ranks of the party Mr. McGreevy has so long been a prominent member of may not be able to accomplish what his political opponents have long sought to achieve in vain. Some of those now joining hands with Mr. McGreevy's enemies will, very probably, regret their action later on, but in the meantime our representation cannot afford to lose even one staunch and able man, capable and determined to see justice done to our people, at the hands of the party

with which he is connected. For these reasons we deem it our duty to express the hope that so long as the electorate of Quebec West think fit to send a Conservative to Ottawa they may not fail to secure the services of one who has proved by his past record able and willing to protect the rights of his race and creed, and secure justice for them whilst earning the confidence of men of other persuasions.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

## Catholic Charity.

To the Editor of THE TRUE WITNESS:

Esquimaux, B.C., March 10, 1890.  
DEAR SIR,—After reading so much about the party trouble in Ottawa, I can't help but mention you this isolated card of thanks. Mrs. Hewlett's husband died about two months ago. He was an officer in the "O" Battery, stationed at Victoria. When the *Daily Colonist*, of Victoria, published his death, it stated that he was very high in the Orange order and the Orange men turned out to a man at his funeral; but you will see by this card of thanks what our good parish priest of Esquimaux, Rev. Father Van Nessel, and the members of the Catholic Young Men's Institute, have done to assist his widow.

JAMES FORTS, Esquimaux.

## CARD OF THANKS.

Mrs. Hewlett desires to acknowledge the receipt of \$200 the proceeds of a concert held on the 15th February, 1890, for her benefit, and to express her heartfelt thanks to the ladies and gentlemen who so kindly took part in it, also to Rev. Father Van Nessel and members of the Catholic Young Men's Institute, to the Rev. Mr. Wallace and Orange societies, to the editors of the *Daily Colonist* and the *Times* for advertising, Mr. Maurice Miller for kindly printing tickets, and to Mr. Austin and the management of the Victoria theatre for the use thereof.

## Opening of a Novitiate of the Ursuline Order in the Diocese of Sherbrooke.

[Special Correspondence of TRUE WITNESS.]

During the last thirty years several religious communities of women have been established in the Eastern Townships, but none of them had opened a Novitiate at this day. In the month of August, 1884, His Lordship Antoine Racine, Bishop of Sherbrooke, had the pleasure to inaugurate a novitiate of the Ursuline Order in the parish of the Sacred Heart of Jesus of Stanstead. This new institution, founded by the venerable Ursuline Mothers of Quebec, at their own expense, was a providential help sent to the Bishop of the diocese, to complete more and more the Christian education of young ladies and to prepare the way to new religious vocations.

According to the statutes of the Ursuline Order, when a new convent is founded, it is always with the view that the new institution will not remain in this day. In the month of the Mother House, it should be managed so that after a certain time, and with God's blessing, it should support itself in every way, and have its own novitiate.

It is with the greatest joy that His Lordship the Bishop of Sherbrooke delegated lately the Rev. Father Dufresne, parish priest of Stanstead, to officiate at the opening of the Ursuline Novitiate of the locality. On the 10th instant, on the Feast of St. Joseph, Miss Marie Alphonsine Drouin, of St. Norbert of Archaie, took the veil of a novice in the Monastery of the Sacred Heart, amidst very impressive ceremonies. Miss Drouin has given up her former name, and now she will be known under the name of Sister Joseph.

The Ursuline Monastery of Stanstead includes ten religious. A great number of young girls, Catholic and Protestant, coming from every direction, attend the institution. The Lord bless it; it prospers more and more every year, and diffuses, in this section of the country, the noble, learned, pious and patriotic traditions of the venerable Ursulines of Quebec.

J. A. D.

Stanstead, March 21st, 1890.

## DAVITT'S NEW WEEKLY PAPER.

He Will Work for the Advancement of Labor and Home Rule.

LONDON, March 22.—Michael Davitt is about to establish a weekly paper here entitled the *Labor World*. It will be the organ of the labor movement in Great Britain and Ireland, and will advocate radical principles of reform in labor, land and questions affecting the social conditions of the masses. The paper will, as a matter of course, give to the cause of Home Rule that strenuous, uncompromising support which is to be expected from the political status of the editor. Davitt has always stood for the cause of the poor, and is a man, and is very popular with the democracy everywhere on this side of the water. The paper will be under the editorial control of the Land League and will render invaluable service to Parnell by its influence among the labor organizations of England Scotland and Wales. Those who know Davitt need not be assured that the paper which he will edit will be fearless, utterly upright and independent, fearless in its teaching and fighting for the cause he has at heart—Home Rule for Ireland and social improvement and elevation of the working masses everywhere.

Davitt who arrived from Dublin to-day, was asked by what he knew about the new Land Purchase bill. He said he could find out anything at all about it. It is more closely guarded than any public document ever printed since the Home Rule agitation began. The report here is that Balfour will introduce the bill on Monday, and that it will be as unpalatable to Irish landlords as to Irish tenants. The bill will propose to give them only Irish security for payment by tenants of the purchase money of their farms, while they want imperial security. This they will not accept. In that event Balfour will drop the bill altogether.

## WHY BISMARCK RESIGNED.

The Kaiser's Absolutism—A Dangerous Element in the Peace of Europe.

BERLIN, March 23.—The *North German Gazette* supplies some much desired light on the causes leading to Prince Bismarck's resignation, seizing the occasion to contradict the statements of the *Hamburg Correspondent* that before the late crisis reached its climax the Chancellor had already made application for leave to resign, and had withdrawn it only and endeavored to reconcile himself to the situation but without success. It says that this, like the reports regarding the Prince's opposition to the labor programme, is entirely erroneous. What has happened is this:—The Chancellor did not wish to depart from the Cabinet order of 1852, relating to the intercourse between the Prussian minister and the Sovereign, but desired to retain his control and rights of co-operation. The intercourse between the Emperor and the Secretary of State is regulated by the law of 1852. It was only within the last few weeks that Bismarck felt it necessary to refer to that regulation. He considered its execution and observance indispensable and did not wish to be a party to its abrogation. The opposition he encountered in this matter finally brought clearly home to him the necessity for his resignation.

## BISMARCKIAN ANGER.

The negotiations between Prince Bismarck and Dr. Windthorst with reference to Guelf fund and the attitude of the Clerical party in the Reichstag were only connected with the crisis so far as that the Chancellor refused to subject his honor with his deputies to any attack. No steps have been taken by the Emperor personally or by the sovereigns of any of the Federal states to induce Bismarck to remain at the head of the ministry of Foreign Affairs. The tone of the *Gazette* only feebly indicates

the sullen smouldering anger which exists in the Bismarckian circles. The papers have hitherto avoided touching the dangerous and delicate question of the Emperor's interference in ministerial responsibility, but the *Gazette's* frankness will lead to a discussion which may awaken the Emperor to the fact that a personal direct system of government has not yet obtained a supreme hold upon the German people.

## WILLIAM A SELF-WILLED AUTOCRAT.

The complaints with which Bismarck's retirement is now generally regarded may soon be replaced with regret that the country is left at the mercy of a self-willed autocrat. The Cabinet order of September 16, 1882, has always been held by Bismarck as an investigation of the constitution to mean that the president of the ministry ought to appoint his own cabinet, choosing men having political opinions and principles in harmony with his own. The Emperor refused this reading, and maintained the right of the monarch to appoint ministers having a direct responsibility, not to the president but to the Crown. The appointment of Baron Von Berlepsch as minister of commerce was the first end of the wedge. The direct instructions to the Emperor gave to Berlepsch affecting the economic policy of the Empire evoked a warm remonstrance from the Chancellor.

## THE MONARCHICAL PRIVILEGES.

The Emperor in a written communication sent by him to Bismarck early last week explained his views of monarchical prerogatives, his conviction that the Chancellor's claims were an encroachment on the rights of the sovereign, and, finally, his determination, to exercise a general and absolute control. About the same time direct overtures to Windthorst and other leading Clericals from persons in the Emperor's entourage, aiming to take the guidance of negotiations out of Bismarck's hands produced the climax of the crisis. On Saturday the Emperor got, as he probably desired and expected, an intimation of Bismarck's resignation, and on Tuesday, in a closely written document of twenty folios, the Emperor received the Chancellor's reasons for resigning.

## THE GREAT MEDIATOR.

Pope Leo Offers to Act as Arbitrator in Disbanding the Armies of Europe.

Rome, March 18.—I have the authority of the Vatican to assure that the *Herald* is right in the Pope would consent to act as the mediator through which the simultaneous disarmament of the European nations might be brought about. The question was put directly by a *Herald* correspondent to-night, and the answer was equally direct.

Leo XIII. has taken a bold stand. He holds that the existing state of things is doing nothing to drain the health of Europe and is doing great suffering upon the tolling masses in anti-Christian. The German Emperor wrote an autograph letter, inviting the Pope to send an ambassador to the Berlin Labor Conference. In reply the Pope sent an autograph letter, saying he could not take part unless his representative was given the same position as the delegates. Then the Emperor wrote another letter urging the Pope in the interests of mankind to take part in the Conference, so far as he could, and at least give it his moral support. To this the Pontiff has warmly responded.

## AN IMPORTANT DOCUMENT.

I am authorized to announce that the Pope has written a document dealing with the entire problem raised at Berlin. This has been diplomatically communicated to the Papal Nuncio in Germany, and will be laid before the International Conference. There is no doubt that a great movement is on foot to give the Pope a leading part in the effort to deal with universal labor troubles. His Holiness recognizes this as a great opportunity for the Church to put itself at the head of the world wide reform demanded by organized labor. He holds that nations must adopt the principles of Christianity, and that the Church is the only power competent to deal with the tremendous issues involved in the social and industrial movement.

The German Emperor has frankly admitted that the governments cannot accomplish much unless organized Christianity comes to their aid. In this crisis the Pope has spoken in no uncertain voice, as will be seen when his address is made public.

## A GENERAL DISARMAMENT.

It is admitted that if the millions of armed men who trample upon the bread trays of the poor were stripped of their uniforms and set to work creating wealth, a great deal of the present distress in Europe would disappear. One nation dare not begin to disarm before another, and the Pope is now in a position to negotiate between the nations for a general disarmament. Up to the present time the Vatican has managed to keep its negotiations with the German Ambassador secret.—*N. Y. Herald.*

## SWEATED TO DEATH.

Bitter Cry of the Oppressed London Tailors.

LONDON, March 23.—The East End tailors held an enormous mass meeting to-day, at which their wretched condition was mournfully discussed. A more hopeless set of men perhaps never existed. All the spirit is crushed out of them by remorseless "sweating" system, into which they are thrown when they are taken from the wild elegance of the Societe Lyons, who have developed much time to the point of organizing and energize these poor creatures, failed to arouse them to any confidence in their own power to escape from starvation or any hope of relief except from what seems to them the all powerful arm of the government class. Accordingly the outcome of the meeting was the adoption of a resolution to

## PETITION THE QUEEN FOR HELP.

and also to send an appeal to the International Labor Conference at Berlin to consider their case and if possible take some action on their behalf. The petition sets forth in vivid and pathetic terms the condition of the tailors, who, since the days when they were taken for their portrayal in "Alton Locke" as types of the industrial misery which led to the Chartists' uprising, have been, if possible, growing more wretched, until now their life is merely a short and bitter struggle with starvation.

They pray the Queen to interfere and save their families, who are dying of consumption and inanition, from the clutches of the sweating system. They pray the Queen to do anything for these unfortunate subjects of hers, as she has but recently received the report of a royal commission on the subject, the gist of which is that nothing can be done but to trust in the operation of the Malthusian laws of population.

The boot and shoe makers are also dissatisfied with their condition, and a strike in that trade is imminent. The employers are trying to conciliate them, but have thus far failed, and a mass meeting of the men will be held to-morrow, at which it will be decided whether or not to quit work.

## The New Bishop of Derry.

The hearty rejoicings of the Catholics of Derry on the consecration of their new Bishop is a proof that Dr. John McCarty O'Donnell is to be a popular phrase "the right man in the right place." Eminently fitted for the post by knowledge and talents, he is in the closest touch with his people, and is most highly esteemed by his priests. He has already shown that he has an abundant fund of energy for religious work and a heart full of sympathy for any good cause, whether it be the relief of the poor or the grand old cause of his Fatherland. The patriotic Bishop of Raphoe declared on Sunday last that an old Irish prophecy stated that when an O'Donnell ruled in Derry, and an O'Donnell in Raphoe, Ireland would be free. Old Irish prophecies have now and again been verified by events, and it seems morally certain that the present worthy prelate of the two dioceses will, to their great joy, see this particular prophecy fulfilled by his consecration to Ireland of the essence of freedom—the right of self-government.