



EDITORIAL NOTES.

OWING to the amount of important and interesting matter that we must find room for this week, we are obliged to curtail our editorials and to leave till next week the splendid ceremonies and addresses on the occasion of Monday's event at St. Peter's Church.

ON THE first of May, amidst a down-pour of rain, the great Exhibition of Chicago was officially declared open. It was the most important event—of the kind—in the history of America. The ninth wonder of the world is positively in existence, and the representatives of all nations will congregate to witness it in all its details. We trust that success will crown the wonderful efforts of all who took part in the organization.

WE LEARN that William Townsend, the character who has been suspected of making an attempt upon the life of Prime Minister Gladstone, has been declared a lunatic by the physicians who examined him. "The police, however, attach importance to the arrest, and hope to be able to discover that some one was behind Townsend inciting him to the assassination of Mr. Gladstone"—so says a despatch from London. The fact is we have had too many of such supposed cranks and lunatics, and the sooner they are locked up the better. It is not safe for any good or prominent man to stand forth in defense of popular rights. The Guiteaus and Booths, and individuals of their stamp, are more to be guarded against than the plague.

IT IS FALSE that all the Protestants of Ulster are against Home Rule. There still are to be found inheritors of the spirit of John Mitchell and the patriotism of John Martin. As an evidence of this we find a London despatch telling us the story of how the Presbyterian and Unitarian people of the North have repudiated Salisbury's resolution—

"A number of residents of Ulster, belonging to the Presbyterian and Unitarian denominations, repudiate the resolution in opposition to Irish Home Rule which was sent to Lord Salisbury in the name of and as representing the opinions of the Protestants of Ulster. These Home Rule Protestants have therefore caused a communication to be sent to Prime Minister Gladstone expressing confidence in Mr. Gladstone and his policy in regard to Ireland. Mr. Gladstone has sent a reply to the communication, in which he states that he is pleased to observe the existence of such an enlightened opinion as that held by his correspondents amid the sea of violence and intolerance at Belfast."

FOR NEARLY a century the cry has been that the Irish Catholics are revolutionists, insurrectionists, disloyal subjects, enemies of the British Empire; to-day there is a change on the scene and not cries but facts speak and tell to the world that the really disloyal, the truly revolutionary people, are the Orange rioters of the North. As long as they were the dominant party, that they could dictate to the majority of their

fellow-countrymen, that they had the law to back them in all the injustices that they perpetrated, so long were they staunch supporters of the British Government, but the moment that a chance of a long wanted justice to the overburdened and overpersecuted mass of their fellow-subjects arises, they are the first to talk of armed opposition to the authority that they have so often invoked. Witness the riots of last week; there we have a fair sample of what might be expected were these fanatics to have the legalized power to act. Well did Charles Phillips express himself when he said, "were I of the bigots of my sect perchance on some Orange anniversary an Orange corporation might give me the pleasure of toasting the good and immortal memory of King William; yes, I might have the privilege of getting drunk in gratitude to the man who colonized ignorance in my native land."

THERE ARE some strange characters in the world; there is a shining light among the A. P. A. fraternity in Michigan, his name is Professor Walter Sims. He delivered a lecture at Ypsilanti recently and one of Michigan organs gives the following notice of the affair:

"A lunatic, doubtless escaped from some mad-house, and heralding himself as Prof. Walter Sims, of Bay City, held forth in Light Guard hall, Monday and Tuesday evenings, on the malignant and treasonable signs of the Roman Catholic Church. He told us that the Pope's adherents were going to seize this country on the 4th of next September, and that every Catholic church is an arsenal with arms and drilled bodies of men in preparation for the event!"

The following letter gives a pretty fair idea of the estimation in which Mr. Sims is held.

Walter Sims, West Bay City, Mich.: SIR—Your favor postmarked yesterday was delivered in this morning's mail.

Permit me to say I have never stated my willingness to discuss 'Catholicism vs. Americanism.' There is such no issue or question, and the statement in your circular is a deliberate misrepresentation upon your part. I am discussing Proscription vs. Americanism, and the sole question involved upon is one of American citizenship. This question I will gladly discuss with any reputable gentleman. You do not meet the requirements of my offer.

1. Because you are a willful, deliberate assassin of character, to whom the truth is an unknown quantity.
2. You cannot discuss the question involved with me without committing perjury, and I decline being a party to your crime.
3. "He that lieth down with dogs getteth up with fleas." I have no desire to become contaminated by your loathsome presence.

I remain yours truly,
TIMOTHY E. TARSNEY.
Saginaw, E. S., March 31.

ONE WOULD imagine from the bluster of the Ulster unionists that the northern Province was exclusively Protestant. The Republic gives us some statistics from the official reports of the census bureau which help considerably to dispel any such illusion. We could not do better than simply reproduce the article in

full. Many people, who happen to have but hazy ideas on the subject, think that the whole of Ulster is Protestant and that the granting of Home Rule would be a fearful injustice towards the noisy opponents of that measure. Please read the following:—

"The total population of Ireland is 4,714,750. Of this number 3,547,807 are Catholics, and 1,167,443 are Protestants of the various hues and shades. The total population of Ulster, comprising the counties of Donegal, Antrim, Londonderry, Armagh, Down, Tyrone, Fermanagh, Cavan and Monaghan, aggregates 1,619,813. Of this number 744,859 are Protestants and 874,955 are Catholics. There is an actual majority of Catholics, therefore, in Ulster of 130,096.

A further analysis of the figures will disclose the fact that outside of the nine Ulster counties there are 422,584 Protestants who are not organized into rifle clubs to shoot down the responsible officers created by an Irish Parliament. The whole trouble has been started and is kept up by a small band of bigots in Antrim and Monaghan. The centre of activity is in Belfast. The antics and the vapors of this brutal gang of thugs is no more the expression of Protestant sentiment in Ireland than are the ravings of the Music Hall aggregation of freaks the views of decent Protestants in Boston.

The census statistics prove that Ulster is a Catholic and not a Protestant province. They also prove that the Catholics in the entire island are in a clear majority of 2,879,864. If Ireland is to be governed under the principle of majority rule it is inevitable that the Catholics shall hold sway. But as the Catholics have always shown liberality and tolerance in politics to those who differ with them in religion, there is no reason to fear that the rights of anybody could be infringed."

IT MAY be of interest to our readers to know the relative growth of Roman Catholicism and Protestantism in this Province. Mr. George Johnson, the Dominion statistician, prepared the following interesting statement, which we reproduce:

	French-Canadians	All other nationalities.
1851.....	669,538	220,733
1861.....	847,820	263,344
1871.....	929,817	260,699
1881.....	1,073,820	285,207
1891.....	1,189,229	299,306

The comparative figures of the religious beliefs of the people are as follows:—

	Roman Catholics.	All other bodies.
1851.....	746,866	143,395
1861.....	942,724	167,940
1871.....	1,019,850	171,666
1881.....	1,170,718	188,319
1891.....	1,291,709	196,826

The increase of Roman Catholics in the four decades, 1851-91, was 73 per cent.; of other bodies in the same period, 37 per cent.

Harper's for May contains a beautiful picture of the head of Mr. Daniel C. French's statue of the Republic in the "Pageant of Columbus" at Chicago. Did Mr. French intend to express Lowell's stately lines:—

"O beautiful, my country!
Smoothing thy gold of war dishevelled hair
O'er such sweet brows as never other wore,
And letting thy set lips
Free from war's dread eclipse
The rosy edges of their smile lay bare.
What were our lives without thee?
What all our lives to save thee?"

We do not dare to doubt thee
But ask whatever else and we will dare?"
That is what the lovely face says to every American with a heart."

A NOTABLE MANIFESTO.

Englishmen in Connecticut Endorse Home Rule.

One of the strongest Home Rule declarations ever sent from this side of the Atlantic has come from Meriden, Conn. It comprises a manifesto signed exclusively of Englishmen, in which Mr. Gladstone's Irish policy is unqualifiedly endorsed. The signers are now all residents of Meriden, but hail from different parts of England, including Barnsley, Sheffield, Birmingham, Wolverhampton and Derby. The manifesto is especially significant as coming from Englishmen, and goes to show the rapidly increasing conviction in this country, as well as in Great Britain, that Home Rule for Ireland should be no longer delayed. All the signers are respected residents of Meriden, most of them being owners of considerable property. They are close observers of events across the water, and are gentlemen of broad-minded and progressive ideas. The manifesto is as follows:

To all Englishmen residing in the United States: Fellow countrymen—You have doubtless followed with much interest the great movement now in progress under the auspices of the Liberal party of Great Britain. That movement, fortunate in the able leadership of William Ewart Gladstone, has for its fundamental object the granting of Home Rule to Ireland. No progressive Englishman, acquainted with the trend of events throughout the world, and with the progress of all peoples toward self-government can, it seems to us, consistently withhold moral support for the policy thus advocated by Gladstone, Morley, Harcourt, and so many other distinguished men of our race at home and abroad. The Irish policy of the great Liberal party has received the warm approval of the best thinkers in England and America. That Ireland should have her own Parliament and be allowed to manage her own affairs, as do the American States, is generally conceded. Wishing, therefore, to put ourselves on record, we, the undersigned Englishmen, resident in the city of Meriden, State of Connecticut, hereby express ourselves as in hearty accordance with Mr. Gladstone and wish him and his fellow workers for right, justice and equity, an abundant measure of success. We respectfully urge our fellow countrymen throughout the United States to take action similar to this, to the end that the people of England, Ireland and Scotland may have real union instead of discord, and live together in the bonds of mutual confidence and good will.

Signed by Ernest Swinden, Samuel Cooper, Thomas Cumberland, P. H. Hines, Harvey Hall, and many others.

THE Boston Pilot tells us that:—

Minister Egan is being abused again because he failed to deliver to their enemies two political refugees who had sought the protection of the American Legation. The Washington despatches openly hostile to Mr. Egan, say that the refugees were not political offenders; but that statement may be dismissed at sight as a clumsy calumny. The enemies of the U. S. Minister to Chili have lied so brazenly on every other subject, that it is incredible that they could tell the truth in this case. Mr. Egan, instead of handing the men over to the Chilean authorities, is accused of having warned them to escape, when one of them succeeded in doing. The other fell into the hands of the police and will probably meet with summary punishment, the more summary and sure if he be really a political offender. Mr. Egan gave mortal offence to the anti-American press here and "at home," by his unflinching support of American interests. Happily he does not worry about how he is regarded by that element, and can afford to laugh at their impotent abuse.

According to Rev. Dr. Dawson Burns of London, who is a standard authority on temperance questions, the Irish spend \$1 per capita, the Scotch \$15.14 per capita, and the English \$19.18 per capita for liquors annually. This seems to conflict with a somewhat popular notion as to the bibulous habits of these people.