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THURSDAY, MARCH 7, 1901.

THE KING'S OATH.

The Mail and Empire does not think that the introduction of Mr. John Costigan's motion into the Ottawa House, with regard to the Coronation Oath, should have been made. After stating the reasons for introducing the obnox ous portion of the oath into the main body, it goss on to say edi-

"It is offensive to the Roman Catholics whose dootrines are specially condemned. There are plenty of Protestants who agree that for this-reason 's ought to go. On the other hand, we are so clees to the events which produced the oath that it is regretted in many quarters as an expedient that ought not to be done away with as yet. There can be little doubt, however, that ynder a universally accepted modern under anding of the relations of the Church to its own sphere, the one spiritual and the other civil, the argument for the oath will pleas away. "It is offensive to the Roman Catholics

pass away.
"The Parliament which prescribed the "The Parliament which prescribed the cath is the only Parliament that can abolish it. Our Parliament can do nothing but express an opinion upon it; and its opinion is not the opinion which governs or influences the Imperial House in its dealings with the matter. The introduction of the question at Ottawa, therefore, while not calculated to produce results in England, may tend to arouse a heated discussion here, and surely we have had quarrels snough over questions on which we are legislate without searching for conflicts of opinion upon issues in respect of which we are powerless."

We are fully aware that our Cauadian Parliament cannot do away with this offensive oath; we are also fully aware that Canadians are just as much subjects of British rule as are English men; that King Edward VII. is also sovereign over Canada: that she Cath--olics id Canada pay him honor and allegiance. We are Canadians, and at such have a right to protest against gratuitous insult. It is quite true that the British Parliament alone bas the power to do away with any portion of this oath, but it is quite as well that they abould be made to under-stand over there that there are about two millions and a half of Cathol'es in Canada who protest against their religion being insulted, and protest vigorously. There are thousands of Protestants in this country who are one with us in condemning this cath. We think that the opinion of the House at O tawa will influence the Imperial House in its dealings with the matter, The Mail and Empire to the contrary, notwithstanding. All agree that, whatever may have been the state of affairs at the time of the introduction of this part of the declarits existence now. Why then, in the face of this almost universal belief, should not the Canadian House perition for the removal of an oath whose alauses are a standing insult to two of every five of the inhabitants of this land, and which four of every five deelare to he utterly uncelled for 9. The eath eff-ois the people of Canada, and our representatives are well within their rights in petitioning the authorities " at home " to remove the clauses complained of. All honor to Mr. John Costigan for his timely action in this

THE OATH AT OTTAWA.

The discussion upon Mr. John Castigan's motion on the King's Oath in the Dominiou Parliament was as calm and dignified as became such an accombly. Whil there was little in the notion that could gave rice to any religious animosity, still the question was a religious one and, as such, might have given occasion to many intolerant persons to get a chance at Roma. We, as Catholice, thank tuck of our Protectant representatives at Ottawa as voted for the recoluter for the

with her husband in New York without violating any law. She could bear and raise children by each husband and both ofts of offspring would be legitimate by the States where the living together of their parents was lawful.

assistance they gave us in this agita

tion for justice. It is a matter for

congratulation that the vast majority

of the members in the House can so

rise above and beyond the narrow

bounds of bigotry and intolerance as

to place themselves on record as peti-

tioners for the abolition of a declara

tion that is off insive to a large vortion

of their fellow countrymen. It is a sign

of the times that the Canadian Parlia-

ment should, with an almost unani

mous voice, ask for the suppression of

on oath that is anti-Catholic. The

question was discussed, as it should

lines. Each member was left to him-

salf to speak and vote as he wished

without being brought into line by a

party whip. The fact that all but

nincteen out of a total of one hundred

and forty-four voted for the resolution

indicates a decidedly satisfactory state

of affairs. It shows that the spirit of

intolerance is capidly dying away in

Canada. While most of those who are

placed on record as being opposed to

sending the resolution to the Home

Authorities defended their stand on

the ground that it was out of place for

the Canadian Parliament to interfere

in business over which they had no

control, still we rather prefer the stand

taken by Clarke Wallace-we know

where to place such as he. There was

no question of non-interference raised

on the Transvaal resolution when it

was up in the Canadian Parliament,

nor would there be any now if Cath-

olicism were not mixed up in the

affair. Canada has as much right to

forward a resolution in the latter as in

the former case, but the cry of " Mind

your own business" found a happy

loop-hole for such as either feared to

face their bigoted constituents with a

record of having voted to do Catholics

instice, or whose own intolerant and

antiquated spirit balked at the men-

tion of Catholicism. And they ask

us why Catholics are so largely Liberal

in this couniry! out of a total of about

seventy five Conservative members we

find eighteen on record as bigots as

against one narrow-minded Liberal.

There is no need of comment on that

showing. A member of Parliament

who cannot raise himself above such

narrowness and smallness as these

ninetean showed, evidences a marked

incapacity. He has not advanced

with the country, but is living in the

days when Orangeism ran riot and

THE DIVORCE QUESTION.

While certain persons in Canada are

advocating easier methods of securing

divorce in this country, the politicians

in the United States are seeking to

cut down the possibilities over the

line. The divorce laws in the United

States have been, and are notorious

the world over for their laxity. As a

result of this terrible state of affairs.

divorces have been granted by the

score for the most trivial reasons. The

evil has gone so far as to threaten

society, and now those who have the

good of the country at heart feel

obliged to do something to curtail the

wholesale granting of divorces. That

a movement is being made to make

the securing of divorces in the United

States more difficult, is a sufficient

recognition of the necessity of such a

movement. We in Canada should

profit by the experience of our Amer-

like seige. Representative Taylor of

Ohio has investigated the subject of

marriage and divorce laws in the vari-

our States, and the results of his work

merit careful perasal. Mr. Taylor

"Under the laws as they now exist it is

not an infrequent occurrence for a man t die leaving more than one lawful wife, wit

die leaving more than one lawful wife, with two or more sets of lawful children. But these lawful wives may not be wives at all if they move into some other State.

"In a case which has actually occurred a man having divorced his two former wives died in the State of Indiana, leav-ing a wife and a child in New York, a wife in Indiana, a wife and children in Califor-nia, and leaving real estate in each of these States. Each wife took dower in the State of her residence.

"It would be an interesting work to dis-cover the law that would have presented.

States. Each wife took dower in the State of her residence.

"It would be an interesting work to discover the law that would have provented that husband from maintaining polygamous relations with all of those wives, provided he only visited them in the States of their domicils. And what would have been the legal attest of the children born of the California wife if he had moved to New York and there made his home?"

"Let me give you one or two illustrations of the frightful possibilities of our present system," he said.

"A marriage occurred in New York, The

mays:

The state of the s

on consider without going through a

Archbishops were stoned.

ave been, without appealing to party

States where the living together of their parents was lawful.

"Of course the forms and extent of p 'y gamy which can thus be practiced are almost as numerous as there are States in the Union. There is absolutely no legal obstacle preventing a man's having a lawful wife and a lawful brood of children in every State where the doctrine of the New York Court prevalls.

"Instances might be indefinitely multimod of the frightful and demoralizing results of our divorce laws.

"The sanctity and universality of the marriage tie are the corner stone of our civilization, and their preservation is as necessary as any other moral force.

necessary as any other moral force.

'The relation of husband and wife, un 'The relation of hosband and wire, un-like property relations, subsist wherever the husband and wife may go. A man is none the less a married man if he chances to be in New York and his wife in Cali-fornia than if both are at the place of their domicile"

It is scarcely necessary to make any comment on this. After a trial of Divorce Made Easy," the United States is struggling to bring order out of chaos. Their experience should be sufficient for us. As Catholics, we are opposed to granting divorces for any cause; but, if they are to be granted, let our efforts rather be to rendering the securing of them more difficult rather than in the other direction.

THE EX-PRIEST.

Last week the Catholics of the lale of Wight were treated to the anti-Catholic effusions of an ex-priest. His lectures took the usual course -- Confession being the leading topic. The parish priest wrote a pamphlet exposing the fallacies of the maligner, and the Oatholic Truth Society issued a leaflet giving a short sketch of the fel. low's career. The preacher was no other than our old friend Biordan alias Ruthven, who made himself obnoxious some time ago in Buffalo and Detroit. He never was ordained priest, but was expelled from college in Dub. in for drunkenness. He married, and his wife was obliged to leave him on two occasions because of his drunken habits. He was deposed from the ministry of the Presbyterian Church, and was expelled ignominiously from the Baptist communion. He was guilty of many unclerical offences, among them that of jumping a board bill. And it is such men as this that have been taken up by our Protestant friends to expose the "iniquities" of Rome; men who are obliged to assume an alias; men who are a disgrace, not only to Christianity but to civilization. When Catholics undertake to convert Protestants, they at least send men with clean records to co the work.

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS. To-day the Courch celebrates the memory of the greatest of her Doctors - St. Thomas Aquinas. St. Thomas is the soutest thinker the Church has ever produced, and his theological and philosophical works are remarkable evidences of the giant genius that begot them. There is not a question but he has handled, and what he handles he illumes; not's point but he has touched, and what he touches he burnishes. He was indeed a remarkable man. The greatest theologian the world has ever known; the acutest philosophical thinker the world has ever seen, this intellectual giant was of a retiring submissive beture, seeking solitude rather them the appleuse of listening sension. Applying himself with untiring energy and hurning zeal to the task of collecting and enlarging upon the teachings of the Church; concen-trating his penetrating mind upon the philosophical questions that are not of the day but are likever this great type of what a student should be this glorious example of what a priest should be; this leaders of the leaders of men, should be placed upon a pedestal by every sames. Christian as an example to follow, as a type of man that arises but most in an age. St. Thomas Aquinas most always stand in the front rank of what stalleds, but there is another point of view from which Oatholies must we which. He devoted himself in his cathery, in his every thought, word, and notion to his Church and his God, All that he undertook was for the greater honor and glory of Gol. Budy and soul, he submitted to the week of God. It is quite sale to my thin Bi. Thomas Aquinas never lost a single mement of or and ringural possibilities of our present system," he said.
"A marriage occurred in New York. The wife, some time later, went to Ohio and pro-red a divorce. The husband remaining in New York, supposed that the divorce discoved the marriage relations as to him and married again. His new consubtal bliss was disturbed by a proscoution for bigamy. He was convicted, and his conviction sustained by the higher courts.
"It is apparent from the law of that case that the wife would marry in Ohio and alternately live with the husband there and time during all his printity seem and that lime was all devoted to a supernatural cod. St. Thomas Against his been mixed by the Charel or the Patron of Biodonic, and it receives his our students to re apply themselves, it so offer up their work for the greater

to offer up their work for the made honor and glory of God that their in

secure not only the patronage of this holy patron, but also that they may obtain a heavenly reward in return for their efforts in mastering knowledge. St. Thomas was not declared a saint by holy Church because of his intellectual qualities. His was a life of saintliness. Born of noble parents, he submitted himself in the face of the bitterest opposition, to a life of penance and mortification, to a burist of self in a convent cell. His is a noble example for Christians in general, and for students in perticular, to follow.

SACRED THIRST.

To-morrow the Church honors the sacred thirst of our Lord. She, in her wisdom, has placed this feast within the time of Lant-a season of fasting and mortification. We are reminded that Christ in His agony suffered the pangs of thirst, and we are exhorted to mortify ourselves in commemoration of that thirst. Those of us who are not fasting should be on the look out at all times for means of mortifying ourselves. There are hundreds of wave of doing so, but to morrow at least we should do penance by depriving ourselves of the means of quenching our thirst. We should offer up the discomfort we teel in honor of that Divine Thirst of our Lord on the Cross. Those of us who are fasting will not fail to take advantage of offering our sympathy to our dying God in mortifying ourselves by abstaining from the gratification of our senses. We fear that our Catholies do not sufficiently grasp the importance of offering up continually little mortifications and deprivations for the honor of God. If this is so then they fail to enter into the spirit of their holy religion. Let us go thirsty to-morrow in any case, and let us do so from a supernatural motive.

MENIER AND ANTICOSTI.

The diseatisfaction felt in certain

quarters at the time of the Fox Bay

settlers agitation is again coming to

the front; but in a more subtle and therefore, more dangerous form. The religious ory was raised at the bagin" ning of the trouble. The idea of good Methodist settlers being ousted by a Frenchman and, we suppose, a Catholic, was thought to be sufficient grounds for cancelling the same that had already been made. The Methodist minusters raised a hue and cry against the eviction of their co-reli gionists, and appeal was made to the Government after the country had, in their opinion, been heated to the proper degree. The settlers were assisted by the Government, and were located upon land that is at once productive and free. After its settlement of the difficulty, another ory was raised that these people were in want. An investigation made by The Toronto News exposed the utter felsity of this fabrication. All alse failing these over-zealous meddlers, the country is now thought to be sufficiently caught by the war fever to make the cry of Patriotism" effective. The plan now seems to be appeal to the Governments-both Caudian and Imperialto cancel the sale and disposeess Mr. Menier on the grounds that he being a Frenchman, his possession of Auticosti might menace the safety of this France and England. They advocate the fortification of this island by the Government, and a repatriation of the Fox Bay settlers. The latter portion of the plan contains the kernel of the nut. The Fox Bay people are far better off where they are, from any and every standpoint, whether financial or religious. They Shave good! productive land, in a bealthy climate and unless they are too lasy to work their grants to advantage, it is for the welfare of the country that they should stay where they are. If they are too laxy, then they have no right to recognition from anybody. They were simply existing in Anticosti. There was no chance of their improving their position in life. As far as Mr. Menier's pensezano at itsositor le moissesson there is absolutely no danger to Canada from that. In the first place' there seems no immediate depres of a was between France and England: in the second, the possesson of Anticosti by France, in case of war, would prove of but small advantage to that sountry from any point of view. Canada can handle all the Frenchmen that

one land here with or without the

not the real cause of the agitation. As we said before, the Methodistica stripe of the dispossessed settlers is reason for it. We do not doubt for a moment but that the Canadian Government sees through the little scheme. as has the Hon. Mr. Chamberlain, evidently. It is a peculiar state of affairs toat Canada should raise any objection to Mr. Menier or to anybody else who is prepared to spend a large amount of money in beautifying a barren, and at present useless, and desert portion of this land, simply to gratify the maudin sentiment of a few fanatics who are moved to action through hate for Rome. Canada needs thousands of such men as Mr. Menier. and should encourage such as he as much as possible. We do not know whether the gentleman in question is a Catholic at all, but he is a Frenchman, and the presumption is that he is not a Protestant. This cry for the repatriation of the Foz Bay settlers. on behalf of a people who are far better off where they are, is but a sample of the bigotry that is still rampant in sections of this island. May all such evidences of narrow-mindedness and religious animosity get the same treatment in this great land of ours as this is receiving.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

There is a movement on foot in Prescott County to form a new military corps to be known as the Royal Irish-Canadian Dragoons. The formation of this corps is being advocated hy members of the Canadian South African contingents. Trooper Shea is at the head of it. The Minister of Militia will be approached at an early date. The Irish-Os adian has as good a right to a recognition of his blood as has the Highland Scotchman.

The Irish party in the British House of Commons te complaining of a lack of monetary support from America. For years America and Australia were even liberal in financing the Home Rule movement, and the falling off lies entirely at the doors of the Irish members themselves. The eternal biskering and quarreling among the eaders at home could not but disgus t the most ardent of Home Rulers on 1this side of the water. Mr. John Redmond is about to visit America again in the near future with a view to collecting money to enable him and his, colleagues to carry on the good work of Ireland's redemption. Now that the Irish members have buried the hatchet, and are presenting a united tront to Ireland's foes in the British House, Mr. Redmond is sure of a grand reception on this side.

From investigation, the Provincial Health authorities have become convince? that smallpox has existed in a malignant form in several of the northern lumber camps all winter. Over seventy cases of the disease have been already located. It is claimed that the disease was imported from Mishigan. Wherever it came from it is here, and its prevalence is not greatly to the credit of the provincial authorities. It is quite true that the plague has arisen in unorganized and widely separated districts. It is equally erq of nesset termseem ent tach ours went the arising and spread of disease in lumber camps are notoriously rees. The Health authorities know the terribly unsanitary methods under which lumber camps are conducted, but they have evidently paid no attention to them. One would think too that a man of ordinary intelligence would seek to gvoid contact with his fellow-man when he knows that he is stricken with so dangerous a disease. and yet we find a commercial traveller knowing himself to be afficted with smallpox to some to Toronto and wander at will about this great eity. A medical practitioner who is so lax as to allow a man known to have smallpox to roam at large should be deprived of his gown.

The recent declaration of the Court of King's Beach of Manitoba that the Manitoba Prchibition Act is uncon stitutional is nothing more than what was expected throughout the country. As a result of this judgment, cases have nome up in Nova Scotia contest ing the constitutionality of the Nova Spotia Liquor License Act which prohibits the sale of liquors by either wholesale or retail wherever the said not is in force. Judgment was rererved until the opinion of the Privy and times of Auticosti. But that is Council might be obtained on the

Manitoba reference. It is about time that the temperance people should come to a realization of the fact that they were duped in Manitoba. Whe ther Hugh John af acdonald knew that he was bringing forward an act that was unconstitutional or not can, of course, never be known, but it looks to us extremely like an election dodge, and even though it did not work. mevertheless the attempt was there. The complaint made by Rugh John af er his defeat by the Hon. Mr. Sifto, that the temperance people did not support him, rather gives color to the surmise. Even in view of this, we find the temperance people sending a deputation to the Ontario Government. They evidently like being fooled. Mr. Ross, however, dea't fairly with them, and told them exactly where he stood in view of the decision of the King's Bench on the Manitoba

Inspector Archibald sounds a death-

call to child flirtations in Toronto.

While we are in hearty accord with the Inspector in this matter, we are of opinion that it should have been done some long time ago. Girls from twelve years of age up might be seen any evening roaming the streets in search of "mashes," and they made them too. It would be a highly amusing state of affairs if it were not for the inevitably evil consequences that must result from such conduct. If the Inspector can put his foot down successfully on this sort of thing he will do the morals of the city untold good Notwithstanding the statement of the authorities some time ago, in which they attributed the downfall of girls to factories and to loneliness, this child flirtation game is one of the very roots of the social evil in this and every other city. We cannot but remark that the heads of the homes to which these hundreds of child coquettes belong must have peculiar ideas of their responsibility. The idea of any father permitting his child to roam abroad at ten and sleven o'clonk at night; the idea of a mother who will suffer her children to go and come at will without any thought of where they may have been, shows the utter lack of parental control that is so rampant in these modern days. If the Inspector could go a step further and prosecute the parents who are thus proving their utter unfitness to rule a family, the effect might be more satisfactory. The eyes of the inspector might be opened somewhat if he were to follow to the end one of the hundreds of " mashes " that are made in this city every ever ing. Child firtations are not the onl ones that must be suppressed if we a to have a clean city. Without pa ental assistance and control, however Inspector Archibald can do little.

Says a contemporary : " The Boo are a pugnacious, stubborn race, b they are beaten by a more pugnacio and more stubborn race—the Angl Saxon." The Anglo-Saxons did n defeat the Boars, and we doubt ve much whether they could or not. Th "Anglo-Saxon" of te-day is a much mixed individual. There is so little Saxon in him that it seems a travesty on names to saddle him with it. He is a composite individual with a very widespread ancestry. A little bit of Saxon combined with British on Celt, Danish, Norman, French, Datch, Flemish, and a half dozen other strains make up the modern English man who lays claim to being Anglo-Saxon. Granting the Englishmen to be Saxons, which they are not, we still say that the Saxons did not conquer the Boers. The Irish and the Scotch are Celts, and they certainly did much of the conquering; the Australians. Canadians and Newfoundlanders are more Celtie than Saxon. All in all the Saxon was but a part of the conquaring force.

The Orange Sentinel says: "It is about time that Rome needed another fulmination against Free Masonry. Perhaps, however, after refusing to take part in inemorial services for our late beloved Hovereign, she is shrewd enough to see the hubbub which would be raised if she denounced a society of which King Edward was long the presiding officer, and is now the Protector, whilst his brother has taken the office of Grand Master." The fact that the King is a member of the Masons does not change the policy of that order one 10t, and councemently the opposition of the Church to it remains as strong as ever. If all the crewned heads of Europe were