

HIS GRACE AT DIXIE:

Thursday last was a bright day in the calendar of the parishioners of Dixie. On that day some eighty or more of the little ones of the parish made their First Communion, and received at the same time the Sacrament of Confirmation at the hands of His Grace the Archbishop of Toronto. His Grace was accompanied by the Rev. Fathers McCann, V.G., and Walsh of Our Lady of Lourdes. Amongst the other clergymen present in the Sanctuary we noticed Rev. Fathers Cassidy, Hand, Kelly and Treney, who were invited by the Rev. Pastor, Father Trayling, to meet the Archbishop on the occasion.

At the close of the 9 o'clock Mass, which was celebrated by the Rev. Pastor, the children received the Bread of Life for the first time. We could not help admiring the little ones as they thronged the altar railings with holy eagerness to partake of the Celestial Food. The little boys, with white rosettes, and the little maidens with wreaths and veils and flowers, seemed the very picture of virginal youth and purity as they proceeded slowly up the middle aisle, gravely conscious of that great act which they were, for the first time, about to perform.

Such scenes are for us all living sermons; much more impressive than the most vigorous oratory which human lips can utter. They remind us of our First Communion; of that day when, years ago, we knelt at the altar railings of the village church, along with so many others, and received from the palsied hand of the aged Pastor the Flesh of Him whose sweetest words were spoken of children: "Suffer the little ones to come to Me."

Afterwards his Grace examined the children preparatory to administering the Sacrament of Confirmation. The intelligent answers which he received elicited the approval of his Grace, who warmly complimented the parents on the knowledge of the little ones, and the Pastor on the earnest labors which produced such good results.

At 11 o'clock High Mass, *coram Pontifice*, was chanted by Rev. Father Treacy, the organ being presided over by the Rev. Pastor himself. After Mass the Archbishop, in an impressive discourse, spoke of the great necessity of the Sacrament in the life of the Christian, and more particularly of the one he was about to administer—the Sacrament of confirmation. He spoke with energy of the grave duties of Catholic parents towards themselves, their children and Almighty God, and finally closed his instructions by alluding to the fact that during his Episcopal career he has administered the Total Abstinence pledge to over 60,000 boys whom he had previously confirmed. He asked the boys present to do likewise—to pledge themselves to abstain from all intoxicating liquors until they shall have arrived at the age of twenty-one. This they did, and with uplifted hands promised as their Archbishop had commanded. The large congregation then received the Apostolical Benediction, after which the services were brought to a close.

We may remark, in conclusion, that to our reporter everything in the parish church of Dixie in the presbytery betokens the clergyman of refined and cultured taste, and it must have been highly flattering to the Rev. Father Trayling when from the Archbishop, words of cordial and sincere approval of the manner in which were conducted the various services that attended his Grace's visit to Dixie.

Happy days and restful nights result from using Ayer's Sarsaparilla. It so regulates all the bodily functions and strengthens the nervous system that worry and fatigue are comparatively unknown and life is truly enjoyed. It is certainly a most wonderful medicine.

Irish Women of Note.

The three graces, "Speranza," "Mary" and "Eva," who penned such exquisite poetry for the *Nation* of the Young Ireland era, might not be appropriately ranked, perhaps, among the Irishwomen of to-day, but as two of the three are still alive, they may merit a passing notice in these pages. It was, we believe, the late Colonel Michael Doherty who bestowed the complimentary title on this trio of Irish Sapphos, whose names were Lady Wilde, Mary Downing and Mrs. Kevin Izod O'Doherty. These three singers were, so to speak, children of that intellectual revolution started in 1843 through the combined efforts of Thomas Davis and Charles Gavan Duffy, which created an Irish literature racy of the soil, or in other words, intensely national. Lady Wilde's maiden name was Jane Francesca Elgee. She was the daughter of a Wexford Anglican clergyman, but had passed most of her girlhood's years in Dublin, where she contributed stirring articles in prose and stanzas of eloquent poetry to the pages of the *Nation* under the pseudonym of John Fanshawe Ellis. The style of these effusions was so thoroughly masculine that Duffy, the editor, had an idea that the author was a broad-shouldered, stalwart athlete, the strength of whose arm was on a par with that of his pen. Imagine his surprise, therefore, when on being introduced to his hitherto personally unknown contributor, he saw before him a tall, graceful, sylph-like figure, and a lovely face, whose sweet violet eyes looked into his with all that native shyness peculiar to the well-bred Irish girl. She was barely nineteen at the time, and yet she was not only an accomplished writer, but an apt linguist, whose knowledge extended over most Continental languages. Thenceforward Miss Elgee contributed some stirring national lyrics to the *Nation* over the pen-name of "Speranza." In addition to this work, she used to contribute editorials to that journal, one of which, entitled "The Die is Cast," written in the hot, fiery atmosphere of '48, when the air was rife with rebellion, caused the arrest and imprisonment of Duffy and the suppression of the *Nation*. When the incriminated article was produced against the editor in the Green street court house, "Speranza" stood up behind the bar and heroically avowed its authorship. Duffy was released from prison after three trials—none of the juries having agreed to convict him. In the early fifties Miss Elgee married the famous Irish optician, Dr., afterward Sir William Wilde, who was also a Gaelic scholar and a distinguished antiquarian. Lady Wilde's present home is in London, where the artistic and literary elite of the big city assemble at her weekly receptions. She is, as our readers are probably aware, the mother of Oscar O'Flaherty Wilde, the well known esthete and dramatist.

"Mary," of the *Nation*, was Mary Downing, a native of Cork, who in 1848 wrote so energetically of the "pathos of a pike head and the logic of a blow" in the pages of that newspaper. She was a fiery patriot in the early years of her life. Jilted—so the story goes—by another of the *Nation's* poets, she retired from the world after the cataclysm of Ballinacorney to a convent, where she devoted herself to the composition of religious verse, a collection of which was published some years ago under the auspices of the late Dr. Leahy, Bishop of Dromore. Sister Mary passed away in the order of sanctity from this life towards the close of the sixties.

More fortunate in her choice of a lover, Miss Kelly, the "Eva" of the *Nation*, became, in 1848, the fiancée of a medical student, Kevin Izod O'Doherty, one of the Young Irelanders who was sentenced in that year to a long term of penal servitude on the charge

of high treason. O'Doherty, before entering his convict's cell, wished to release the poetess from her promise, but she refused exclaiming, "I would wait an eternity for you, Kevin!" Miss Kelly was true to her word. On his release, several years afterward, they were quietly married and proceeded to Australia, where she has since resided with her husband, who enjoys an extensive medical practice in that colony. "Eva's" poetry was rather of an effective and active than of a contemplative order—her mission in '48 being to arouse her fellow countrymen by song to a knowledge of their national rights and privileges.—*The Citizen*.

Sketch of Hon. Wm. Harty.

Hon. Wm. Harty was born on March 8th, 1847, in the Township of Biddulph, in the county of Middlesex. He is the son of John Harty and Elizabeth Heenan, both natives of the County of Tipperary and pioneers of the Township of Biddulph. The Commissioner of Public Works (Wm. Harty) received his primary education at the Christian Brothers' School in Kingston, and completed his studies at Regiopolis College when that once famous institution was under the directorship of the late lamented Rev. Father Stafford, of Lindsay, and Right Rev. John O'Brien, afterwards Bishop of Kingston. Mr. Harty has always been an active member of the Board of Trade since he joined it in 1870. He was President of the Board during 1872 and 1874, and a delegate to the Dominion Board of Trade during the same years. He attended the summer session of the latter board when held in August, 1874, in St. John N. B., to consider the basis of the reciprocity negotiated by the Hon. George Brown with the United States Commission appointed for the purpose. He was a partner in the wholesale grocery firm of James Harty & Co. for a time, and upon the death of the senior member in November, 1868, he succeeded to the complete control of the business and carried on the same alone until January, 1878, when he retired selling out to his brother-in-law, O. Birmingham. Mr. Harty was a director of the K. & P. R. and a member of the executive committee of the Board from the date of its reorganization in January 1875, until 1879, when he retired. In politics, too, Mr. Harty has taken an active part. He has been a member of the Reform Association since 1872 was President of that body during the years 1879, 1880 and 1881, and upon his retirement was elected an Honorary President, which position he still holds. In January, 1879, he was elected an Alderman to represent Sydenham ward in the City Council; was re-elected in 1880 by acclamation, but retired in 1881. He was presented with a requisition in 1885, from the ratopayers of the same ward, asking that he would represent them again; and according to the request he was elected to the head of the poll, and was in 1886 re-elected by acclamation. He served several other terms. In religion Mr. Harty is a Catholic, having been born in that faith. He is a most liberal and generous adherent. He married on the 4th October, 1870, Catharine Mary, daughter of James Birmingham, of Ottawa who died in 1889. His family comprises two sons and one daughter. Mr. Harty took an active interest in organizing the company who are present owners of the Canadian Locomotive and Engine Works, over which he was manager for several years.

Some years ago he accepted the general managership of the Equitable Life Insurance Company and removed to Toronto. On that occasion his Kingston friends presented him with a gold watch. In 1891 he retired and after several months disengagement returned to this city to reside. He was elected to the Ontario Legislature Feb. 23rd, 1892.—*Canadian Freeman*.

Letter From Algoma.

ALGOMA, June 11, 1891.

To the Editor of the *Catholic Register*:

A numerous and influential meeting of the Catholics of Algoma was held on the 9th inst. to discuss the P.P.A. G. Fitzgerald, Esq., was elected chairman. John Tansey was requested to act as secretary. The object of the meeting was explained by Medard Framont in the French language and by John Tansey in English. The following preambles and resolutions were passed unanimously:

1. Whereas, it appears from the printed ritual of the P.P.A. that it is an association, the object of which is, to do all the harm it can to the Roman Catholic Church and its members individually.

2. And, whereas, its members solemnly swear to use their utmost endeavors to exclude all Roman Catholics from any office in the gift of the people, and from all political offices in the government of this Province.

3. And, whereas, such conduct is contrary to the teaching of Christ, who enjoins on us to do as we would be done by, and, therefore, is unchristian.

4. And, whereas, as such course of action tends to deprive the country of the services of able and trustworthy public officers.

5. And, whereas, Catholics as a body have, in the history of this country, shown themselves fair and disinterested in the treatment of their fellow Christians of other forms of belief.

Therefore the following resolutions were unanimously passed:

1. Moved by John Tansey, seconded by F. D. Popin, "That the principles and actions of the P. P. A. are both unchristian and unpatriotic and deserving of the condemnation of all upright and honorable men."

2. Moved by Medard Framont, seconded by Edward Ryan, "That Catholics have ever been ready in defence of their country and in upholding of lawfully established government."

3. Moved by James Jones, seconded by Paul Cote, "That all loyal subjects of her Gracious Majesty the Queen are entitled to treatment on terms of perfect equality in matters affecting their civil and religious rights and liberties."

4. Moved by Alphonse Metivier, seconded by Theodore Routhier, "That the aiders and abettors of the P. P. A. are unworthy of the continuance and support of Catholics."

5. Moved by Oliver Tenville, seconded by Piere Burdeleau, "That in the exercise of our franchise we will refuse our votes to candidates for legislative honors who do not distinctly and unreservedly disown and repudiate all sympathy with that association known as the P. P. A. and we also heartily agree with THE CATHOLIC REGISTER, *Catholic Record*, *North West Review*, *La Verite* of Quebec, *Toronto Globe* and other liberal minded newspapers of this country in the noble stand they have taken in exposing that secret society known as the P. P. A."

The following gentlemen were appointed to act as a committee in forwarding the minutes of this meeting to the press for publication: Garrett Fitzgerald, John Tansey, Frank D. Popin.

Free and easy expectation immediately relieves and frees the throat and lungs from viscid phlegm, and a medicine that promotes this is the best medicine to use for coughs, colds, inflammation of the lungs and all affections of the throat and chest. This is precisely what Bickel's Anti-Consumptive Syrup is a specific for, and whenever used it has given unbounded satisfaction. Children like it because it is pleasant, adults like it because it relieves and cures the disease.

Ambition it is that gives men the energy and the will to accomplish great things. If there is a virtue in the world at which we should always aim, it is cheerfulness.—*Eulwer*.