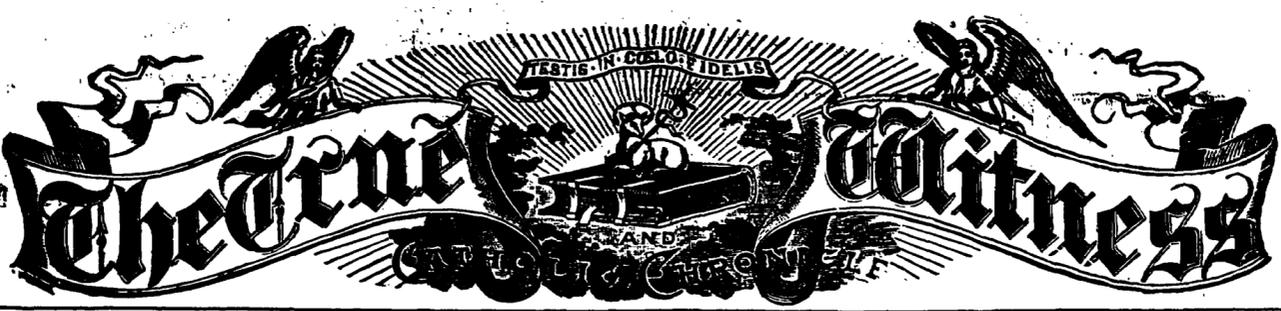


Advertisement for 'The Oxford Movement' with subscription rates for various regions.



Advertisement for 'The Witness' newspaper, listing the office address at 253 St. James St. and subscription information.

THE OXFORD MOVEMENT

The Subject of an Eloquent Lecture by Henry Austin Adams, M.A. The Reformation Characterized as the Outcome of Religious Apathy and Moral Decrepitude. The Great Revival Which Preceded the Dawn of the Spiritual Upheaval Vividly Pictured.

Main article text for 'The Oxford Movement' starting with 'new French and German philosophy and becoming theistic instead of Christian...' and ending with 'demand was made for redress, and Kettle'.

was restored and took up his sermon again at the very sentence where he had been stopped, and completed it. The lecturer then gave a graphic description of Newman's character and work. It was impossible to do justice to the indescribably beautiful character of John Henry Newman. Convictions rally round ideas and enthusiasm rallies round personalities. Newman was a man who stood face to face with his God. He was a man who said: Show me the truth and I will go to it even through death. He was the living incarnation of the prayer, "lead kindly light." When he was about to take the fatal step, the bitterness of the struggle increased tenfold. Pusey said to him: For God's sake you will not leave us now? We now have five bishops on our side, the whole of England is listening, you told us yourself you had 20,000 penitents at your confessional last year, surely you will not now give reason to the sneer and reproach that we are Jesuits in disguise. Newman did the most righteous and courageous thing a man can do. He admitted publicly he was wrong. Either the Church of England had been wrong for 1500 years and right for 300 years, or the reverse. There could be no via media, and Newman made his choice. Unlike Cardinal Manning who was active in public life, Newman became a recluse but in his great retreat he exercised a greater influence on English thought and sentiment than the most active public man in the country. This reminded the lecturer of a painting in which a young woman was depicted, floating across the Campagna, her face expressive of doubt, disquiet and dismay, suddenly arrested in her flight by the sound of a violin played by an old monk in the shadow of the monastery wall, unobserving and deeming himself unobserved. As the soft strains of the Audante Consolante caught her ear, they seemed to bring a message of peace to the doubting soul and compel it to pause. Mr. Adams resumed his seat amidst great applause, after which the Chairman, in a neat speech, moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Adams for his magnificent effort.

Religious News Items.

Cardinal Vaughan estimates the number of conversions to the faith in England at 15,000 during a period of fifteen months. The patronal feast of Rev. Father Lefebvre was celebrated by the pupils of the juniorate in connection with Ottawa College, with becoming honors. An English Jesuit, Rev. Edward Purbrick has been appointed by the General of the Order, Provincial of the New York-Maryland Province. He succeeds the Very Rev. William O'Brien Pardow, who has held the office since 1893. Sister Mary St. Charles of the "Sours de la Misericorde," of Hotel Dieu Hospital at Montbrison, has a wonderful record of devotion to the poor and afflicted covering six decades. She was recently deersly recognized by the French Republic, who bestowed on her the Cross of the Legion of Honor. The venerable nun, who during the war of 1870 gained distinction for her indefatigable labor to the sick and wounded, is now considerably over eighty years of age, and is held in much reverence by the French People. The biggest Catholic priest in this country—and there are many tall men who wear the Roman collar in the United States—is probably Rev. Frank Lowenze, who arrived the other day at New York from Germany and proceeded westward to Minnesota, where he is to do duty. He measures no less than 6 feet 9 1/2 inches and has jet black hair that falls on his shoulders. It will not pay, says an exchange, for any A.P.A. pigmy to tackle Rev. Father Lowenze for a physical contest. On the Feast of the Epiphany, the Fathers of the Holy Ghost in Zanzibar, laid the foundations of a new Cathedral Church which will be dedicated to St. Joseph. On Christmas Day 1860 the mission was established, and the first Mass said, the present Bishop of Grenoble, then Abbe Fava being the founder. In 1862 Zanzibar was erected into an Apostolical Prefecture, and the Fathers of the Holy Ghost placed in charge, and in 1884 it was still further elevated to the dignity of an Apostolical Vicariate, and Monsignor de Courmont appointed First Bishop of Zanzibar. The Solomon Islands are about to be invaded by a little band of Marist Missionaries, who have obtained permission from the Holy See to attempt the conversion of these cannibals. In 1845 Marist Fathers under the direction of Mgr. Epalle entered the Islands, and received in brief time the crown of martyrdom from the hostile savages, who not only killed the devoted priests, but roasted and ate their flesh. It is to be hoped that the zeal of these new volunteers in Christ's service, who are not deterred by the possible horrors that await them, may succeed in planting the precious seed that they carry over the ocean in the hearts of these brutal pagans. The Fair Artist—Oh, Mr. Bluntly, some one told me that you were looking at my miniature work just now and said it was rare. Is that so? Mr. Bluntly—No; I said it was raw.—Cincinnati Commercial Tribune

Our Irish Letter.

PREPARATIONS FOR THE CELEBRATION OF THE CENTENARY OF '98.

An Enthusiastic Meeting Held in the City Hall, Dublin—The Professes of Proselytizers Severely Condemned—Monaghan's Splendid Record—St. Patrick's Bell—The Awards of Prizes by the Musical Festival Committee—Dullness at Emigration at Queenstown, and Other Matters.

Ever since the news was flashed across the Atlantic from the United States, that it was the intention of Irish Americans to organize a monster pilgrimage to this country in commemoration of the centenary of '98, there has been great enthusiasm manifested in many centers and meetings have been held to consider the ways and means of fittingly celebrating such an important event. Here in Dublin the Nationalists held an enthusiastic meeting in the City Hall on Thursday, March 11, the anniversary of Robert Emmet's birth, and Dublin's most prominent citizens attended to assist in the arrangements proposed for a fitting celebration of the centenary. Mr. John L. Wary was chosen chairman, and forcibly expressed the opinion that the project should above all things be free from anything savouring of exclusiveness or intolerance, and the aid of any and all Irishmen, who by practical adhesion proclaimed their faith in the honor and truth of the brave and noble men who fought and fell in '98 for what they believed to be the cause of their native land, should be willingly and eagerly received. The Mirror of Cork, was also present and was the proposer of the first resolution. "That this meeting of Irishmen recognize in Theobald Wolfe Tone, the United Irishmen, and the men of '98, patriots of the purest and noblest type that Ireland has ever produced; that their memory should be revered and cherished by their countrymen as apostles of Irish union and champions of the noble cause of liberty; in which Washington succeeded and Kosciuszko failed; and we appeal to all true Irishmen to join in celebrating the coming centenary of their gallant stand for freedom." He said it was peculiarly appropriate that Dublin should take the lead on that occasion, because Dublin was naturally the pulse and the heart of Irish national feeling, and it was peculiarly associated with the leading men of the '98 movement. It should be their duty to exclude no Irishman from this movement on personal or sectional grounds. The men of '98 sought to obliterate class and sectarian prejudices, and they at the present day could not do better than follow their example (applause.) He thought he could answer for Cork that it would loyally co-operate with the rest of Ireland. Alderman John O'Reilly seconded the resolution, and agreed with all the Mayor of Cork had expressed. On motion of Mr. P. N. Fitzgerald, seconded by Mr. Joseph Hatch, T. C., it was resolved that they form themselves into "a '98 Centenary Committee," irrespective of sectional politics or divers religious views as the best means of setting on foot the preliminaries of a celebration that must be in keeping with the spirit that animated the men of '98.

Mr. J. F. Hogan, M.P., writes to the Dublin Nation to say that there is no foundation whatever for the suggestion on the first page of the issue of that journal in which it is stated that he was in receipt of payment for his Parliamentary services. Speaking of the attitude of the Nation he proceeds to say: As one who regretted the merging of the separate identity of the Nation for a time in the Irish Catholic, and who rejoiced at the announcement of its revival, I am exceedingly sorry to notice the bitter personalities and the gross misrepresentations of which it is now made the vehicle. Surely, as we are all agreed upon the main principles of National policy, we ought to be able to discuss our differences upon minor points in a gentlemanly and mutually tolerant spirit. There is no newspaper in the world with such a high and honourable record and such noble and aspiring traditions as the Nation of Thomas Davis, Gavan Duffy, and A. M. Sullivan; and if I may say so without offence, I earnestly hope that its present conductors will have a greater regard for the glorious memories of the past than the feeble animosities of the present. The Nation will then resume the unique position it once held in the esteem and affection of Irishmen, not only at home, but all over the Globe.

Rev. T. Wheeler, S.J., recently delivered an eloquent sermon in the Church of St. Saviour, Lower Donmill street, on behalf of the funds of the Sacred Heart Home in Drumcondra. There was a very large congregation present. The reverend preacher spoke earnestly in support of the claims of the charity, which is devoted to the rescue of young children from the hands of the pro-

lytisers. He said he did not wish to use words of exaggeration, or to do anything that would arouse angry feelings, but it was a fact that the same spirit as of old was abroad amongst those who desired to win the children of the poor from the priceless treasure of their holy Faith, though in the present day the methods used were most subtle and insidious, but not the less dangerous on that account. Surely it was the duty of the Catholics of the city to assist the noble band of women who were endeavoring to snatch the little children from the hands of the proselytisers?

Emigration from Queenstown to America, which usually opens at this season of the year, when hundreds of muscular young men and healthy young women start out on their journey across the ocean to the New Ireland is not as brisk as in previous years. In consequence the steamship companies have made considerable reduction in the steerage rates of passage.

A peculiar accident and one which might have resulted in the sad loss of many lives, occurred on the South Clare Railway recently. The ordinary passenger train, which leaves Kiltross in the morning when approaching Quilty Station during a storm which was raging furiously, four of the carriages with the girders were blown clean off the track. The carriages toppled over and slipped a distance of ten or fifteen feet down the embankment. There were between twenty and thirty passengers in the train at the time, who were considerably alarmed, but no one was seriously injured. The engine retained its hold of the rails. One man who was slightly bruised and some of the other passengers, as well as the mail for Limerick, were placed on the engine and proceeded to Milltown Malbay.

Through the Society for the Preservation of the Irish Language, the Countess Plunkett has offered a prize for the best rendering of a song in the Irish language at our coming Irish Fair.

Athlone held a public meeting lately to make arrangements for a soliciting aid for the Parnell Family Fund. The lack of means in the Parnell family is due entirely to the generosity and complete absorption of Charles Stuart Parnell in the cause for which he so bravely struggled, as well as to the operation of the laws he himself framed for the tenantry of Ireland, and it should not be considered anything but a just tribute for the men of our land to replenish the coffers depleted in their behalf.

Justice Gibson, addressing the Grand Jury in Monahan on Tuesday, March 9th, said he was glad to announce that the Crown book was blank, there being not a single case for investigation. In his nine years service on the Bench he had never before had a similar experience. This was the first occasion of an Irish County presenting him with the white gloves.

Another of Father Mathew's staunch adherents has passed away by the death of Edward Walsh, of Kiblin, Thomastown, in the County Kilkenny. For 60 years he had preserved unbroken the pledge and treasured the famous medal he had received from the hands of Ireland's apostle of temperance.

A cowardly outrage has been perpetrated near Inniskeen, County Monaghan. The Roman Catholic school at Magoney was wrecked in a most wanton fashion by some unknown ruffians. All the respectable inhabitants of the district are roused into indignation, and express their sympathy with the pastor of the district, Rev. Father Maguire.

Among the treasures of antiquity still possessed by our little Green Isle is the Finn Pateach or "sweet sounding" bell, which St. Patrick is believed to have carried about with him to call his people to prayer. It is curiously shaped—of a quadrangular form with a loop handle, and its material is sheet iron. It is at present preserved in the Royal Irish Academy. For seven hundred years it was carefully guarded by a family named Mulholland, who were the hereditary custodians of the relic, until 90 years ago when the last of their number died. After passing through several hands it became the property of the Academy, having been purchased from its last possessor for the sum of £500.

The prizes for the best cantata and orchestral overture have already been awarded by the Committee of the Irish Musical Festival. Signor Esposito, a pianist of the highest order was the winner of the musical laurels in the cantata contest. His ambitious efforts puts him forward as a composer of admirable work. "Deirdre" is the title of his successful composition and the libretto is the able pen of Mr. T. W. Rolleston.

Mr. Onilwick's orchestral overture which received the award in that class was a delightful feast for Irish ears and was performed at the coming festival. Several of our Dublin ladies were nominated recently as candidates for the position of Poor Law Guardians. In the South Dock Ward, in the South Dublin Union, Mrs. Elizabeth Brown is the candidate.

The New Minister—Six hours' sleep is enough for any man. The Absent-minded Deacon—Good gracious! You don't preach as long as that, do you?—Yonkers Statesman.

ENGLISH LETTER

The Methods of Board Schools in Regard to Religious Exercises.

Old-time Dispensations—Orangeism in Scotland—The Papal Delegate for Canada—The Trend of Protestantism—An Amusing Incident at a Recent Meeting of Irish Church Missions.

The Catholic Times, in a recent issue, refers to the manner in which the Board schools in England observe the non-sectarian literature.

When there is so much talk about the unsectarian character of Board schools, and it is so persistently asserted that they are perfectly adapted for the education of all who have to pay for their support, whatever their religious convictions, it would be most instructive to the public could the religion, or the different shades of religion, taught under the Board, be made generally known. From the programme of a Board school recently opened in Moss Side, Manchester, one might be justified in thinking that a collection of such programmes would prove both instructive and amusing, its mixture of the secular and the religious is so remarkable. The opening of this unsectarian school commenced with the singing of a Protestant hymn. This was followed by a reading from Scripture by the Rev. W. J. Cantor. Unfortunately the programme does not state whether the reading was from the Douay or the Revised version, but were any explanation of the text necessary, we are afraid the rev. gentleman's exposition would hardly commend itself to the Catholic priest of the mission. According to the programme, prayer by the Rev. D. Neilson, M.A., B.D., followed, which, no doubt, also had a Protestant flavour, as nothing has yet been said about it, and then, after an address, a distribution of prizes, and a few songs by the children, there was "Benediction." When a Board school is thus opened with Protestant religious exercises, how the School Board party can have the boldness to demand that Catholics shall pay for its support might well pass comprehension, especially when the same party refuse to return to the Catholic ratepayer the smallest pittance out of what he pays, on the ground that their consciences will not allow them to contribute to the support of religion, though in point of fact the money is wanted not for a religious but purely for an educational purpose.

RAMPANT ORANGEISM. Johnstone of Ballykilbeg has been evidently striving to secure more notoriety as the leader of Orangeism by interrogating the Lord Advocate of Scotland and asking him whether playing Protestant tunes in the street was contrary to the law in that country. That functionary saw no reason to call in question the decision of magistrates who convicted and sentenced the men who, in a disorderly manner, paraded the streets for the premeditated purpose of annoying the Roman Catholics. The offenders were the Bellshill flute band, consisting of a baker's dozen of young men, the tunes they played being, "Kick the Pope," "The Protestant Boy," the "Boyne Water," and other such artistic Orange ditties.

THE DELEGATE TO CANADA. The Pope has decided to appoint an Apostolic Delegate to Canada to bring about peace in the matter of the Manitoba School question, now bitterly contested between a section of the Catholic episcopate and the Liberal Government, of which the Premier, Mr. Laurier, is a Catholic. Mgr. Merry Del Val, who has been chosen as Apostolic Delegate to Canada, it is said, will leave for the scene of his mission without delay, and that he will on his return be deputed to convey the Pope's jubilee congratulations to the Queen, as he did in 1887. An English Catholic journal says he is a young diplomatist of whom high hopes are formed, and is a special favorite with His Holiness, and has his residence in the Vatican. His perfect knowledge of English and French implies his special fitness for the mission to Canada. His father is Spanish Ambassador to the Vatican, and resides in the palatial Embassy, after which the Piazza di Spagna is named.

OLD TIME DISPENSATIONS. In his Lenten Pastoral the Bishop of Clifton says:—In our last Lenten Indult we mentioned that there were documents to show that Queen Elizabeth dispensed the Archbishop of Canterbury from fasting. We wrote from memory, and omitted to verify our references, and we take the present opportunity of correcting the mistake. It was not Queen Elizabeth but King Edward VI. who dispensed the Archbishop. The document is a curious illustration of the process by which the Papal authority was usurped by the King of England in the first instance; and as that fiction was too ridiculous to be long maintained, it ceased to exist. [CONTINUED ON FIFTH PAGE.]