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The True Witness AND CATHOLIC CHRONICLE

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MONTREAL, WEDNESDAY, NOV. 2.

CATHOLIC CALENDAR

For November, 1881. THURSDAY, 3.—Of the Octave of All Saints. FRIDAY, 4.—St. Charles Borromeo, Bishop and Confessor.

TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS.

We do not like being obliged to call so frequently upon our subscribers to pay up their subscriptions, but we sometimes find it necessary. Hence it is not our fault, but the forgetfulness or the neglect of those of our friends and patrons who do not seem to realize what a number of names the True Witness bears on its subscription rolls.

Anonymous McOane has, says the New York Herald correspondent, kindly furnished me with an extract from his pastoral in advance.

The New York Sun furnishes statistics showing that England during the past decade has been living on her capital, which she is consuming at the rate of five hundred million pounds sterling a year.

Our class in the United Kingdom has apparently gained by the land agitation. The Catholic hierarchy and clergy, for whom formerly the expression "surprised ruffians" was not thought too nice, are now lauded to the skies, and nothing is too good for them.

In England for the Catholic Church does not prevent them keeping Catholics from Parliament. It is notorious that not one Catholic member has been returned from any of the five hundred and fifty constituencies of Great Britain, although the Catholic population is something like three millions.

The Land League is dead and buried again this morning for the hundredth time. It takes an awful lot of killing, does this unfortunate Land League, but we much fear it has gone this time, slain in cold blood by the kindness of Messrs. Bright and Gladstone, the great English Liberals.

According to the despatches received the last few days, the Land Court is thronged with farmers seeking a reduction of rent. It appears Sergeant O'Hagan is dead on the landlords, and the tenants have everything their own way, so much so, that, although four hundred landlords have offered to sell, the farmers will not buy.

Mr. Jermingham, Liberal, has been elected to the great British Parliament for Berwick-on-Tweed, and we are told that the Irish supported him, which, of course, means that they approve of the rabid policy of the Gladstone Government.

The British Government, finding themselves without a decent excuse for imprisoning Irishmen, suspending the habeas corpus act, dispersing public meetings, seizing newspapers and establishing "order in the streets" generally, have resorted to the miserable invention of outrages in which no one believes.

The ever heroic and invincible Achilles of the British army—Prince Teck—let his name be immortalized—was lately entertained in Dublin by the Tory Lord Mayor of that city. The eloquence of the Prince is only little inferior to his courage, and he made a speech. Got in Himmel such a speech as it was, of the true donor and blitzen pattern, as becomes a German Prince and Colonel of ever so many British regiments.

Bismarck and the Junker party in Germany have met with a crushing defeat at the general elections. All the bitterest enemies of the man of blood and iron have been returned; all his chiefest friends have been defeated.

For an amount of truth we can obtain through the Atlantic cables, which are completely in the hands of Englishmen, relative to matters in which imperial interests are in danger, we might as well be without them.

Von Arnim, who was persecuted to death by Bismarck, has defeated a Conservative in Brandenburg, the headquarters of Junkerism. The Social Democrats have made gains all along the line, and finally the Bismarckians have been as badly beaten and as unexpectedly as their counter-part, the English Jingo in England last year.

For an amount of truth we can obtain through the Atlantic cables, which are completely in the hands of Englishmen, relative to matters in which imperial interests are in danger, we might as well be without them. Any one can see the way in which news is manufactured about Ireland and the Land League, but that is not enough, it is but negative news and might just as well be kept in England.

PAINE AND VOLTAIRE.

Among the newspapers of Ontario, and indeed the whole country, a fierce war is raging, and all over the action of Mr. Patton, Collector of Customs at Toronto, in regard to his seizure of the works of Paine and Voltaire coming from the States to Canada, under the act, it is to be presumed, which prohibits the importation of obscene and blasphemous literature.

North America contained an article of eighty pages from the pen of Colonel Robert Ingersoll, which, for pure infidelity and blasphemy, throws Paine and Voltaire far in the shade. And so with the others we have named. They are freely taken advantage of by the agnostics of England and the States for the dissemination of their opinions, and they are more dangerous because more insidious than the authors so cordially detested by Mr. Patton.

WHY THOSE TEARS?

The Right Honourable Mr. Chamberlain, a member of the present Whig Cabinet of England, a Radical and a Republican, spoke at Liverpool on Wednesday and was loudly cheered. All Cabinet members have to do now-a-days to extract uproarious cheering from an Anglo-Saxon audience is to hit about Ireland or hint that England is able to whip the Boers, and Mr. Chamberlain did both of these things.

Among those who are to be included in the class we have attempted to describe is not Arthur H. Murphy, the present member for Quebec West, and who is again a candidate for Parliamentary honors. Mr. Murphy is a bona fide Irish representative. He has identified himself with the interests of his people; his purse, and he was once wealthy, has been always at their disposal; he has never been absent when required.

hence those gushes and attempts at reconciliation. Mr. Parnell you, are, greatly, to blame, it was you who caused England to edit at Yorktown, and Gladstone is not half avenged in putting you into prison. Rest satisfied Parnell, there is a law on the statute books of civilized England by which a judge can sentence you to be hanged, drawn and quartered, and, most certainly, such a statute would not be idle if it were not for the fifty millions of Americans, Irish Americans and Irish who constitute the population of the great Republic.

QUEBEC WEST.

The general elections for this Province are rapidly approaching; the issue of the writs is only a question of a few weeks, and we shall be in the midst of the contest. With the general character of this contest we shall say nothing at present, but of one particular constituency we may be permitted to speak a few words. It is well known that there are but two constituencies in the Province of Quebec which, by tacit agreement, are left to be contested by Irish Catholics.

As regards the stand he has taken in affairs political, it must be admitted by his bitterest enemies that he acted for the general good of the Province. He was elected as a Liberal, but he is not that kind of a Liberal who could long submit to the Lieut.-Governor displace a Ministry having a majority, and select one in a minority, who could day after day see, without pain, a great Province governed by the casting vote of a purchased Speaker, until at length, thinking the farce had proceeded far enough, he, with other honest and able men, consented to a condition which rendered possible the government of the Province of Quebec by the majority of its electors.

As regards the reduction in the number of Ministers it may, or it may not, be feasible. We doubt if the country is prepared to see members of the Government living in the example of the Calif Al Eschid of Bagdad, disguise himself, throw himself in contact with men in different walks of life, and he will be surprised to learn that loyalty to Canada and a yearning for independence are not a sentiment, but a principle.

It was he who prevented while acting with the Liberals—the leasing of the North Shore Railroad to a political clique for the nominal sum of \$200,000 per annum for ten years! And he might have been one of the clique or Syndicate, which was to fatten on the already impoverished Province of Quebec if his principles permitted him to stoop to such baseness. Indeed, we may add, that it is this clique, or Syndicate, then baffled by the refusal of Mr. Murphy, which is now spreading abroad such malignant reports to defeat him at the coming elections. We hope the constituency of Quebec West will re-elect Mr. Murphy for the reasons we have advanced.

The Trades Union of New York, a powerful body which includes the longshoremen have intimated their intention of holding a mass meeting, in which they will make the cause of Ireland their own. They are beginning to realize—all America is beginning to realize—that the British Government are aiming a blow at universal liberty, in their rule of Ireland, by bayonet and backshot. Sympathy for Ireland is spreading, and will continue to spread as the justice of the cause, advocated by the Irish people, comes more fully into view; it is at present obscured by clouds of London editorials, but as the mists clear off and the great democracies of the world see more clearly, they will perceive that Ireland's cause is their own.

MR. TODD ON INDEPENDENCE.

A reporter of the Ottawa Free Press interviewed Mr. Todd, Parliamentary Librarian, lately, with the view of obtaining his opinion regarding the constitutional way of applying for independence from the mother country, and Mr. Todd, who, by a singular coincidence, has just written an article for the Canadian Monthly in favor of connection, replied that it was perfectly constitutional for the Canadian Parliament to petition for independence, but demanded through a public meeting "it would be highly objectionable." Mr. Todd does not, however, say it would be illegal, and the two words are not nearly synonymous. We are informed that what impelled the Free Press reporter to ask Mr. Todd for an expression of opinion on this important question was the rumors flying round so plentifully, and emanating no one knows whence, to the effect that a move towards Canadian independence would be made in Parliament next session—not independence pure and simple, but strongly in its direction. It is desirable, for instance, says the rumor, that we should elect our own Chief Magistrate; that the number of Ministers be reduced from fourteen to seven, and that their salaries be reduced to \$5,000 a year.

As regards the reduction in the number of Ministers it may, or it may not, be feasible. We doubt if the country is prepared to see members of the Government living in the example of the Calif Al Eschid of Bagdad, disguise himself, throw himself in contact with men in different walks of life, and he will be surprised to learn that loyalty to Canada and a yearning for independence are not a sentiment, but a principle.