

THE TRUE WITNESS
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WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 1888.
TO-MORROW the election for President of the United States takes place, and the world will not be sorry for that fact, however the result may be regarded.

IRISH AMERICANS are just now much sought after by both parties in the States. The appeals made to them embrace all possible references to the history and conduct of both parties in relation to Irish questions.

A TERRIBLE LESSON has been given in the trial and condemnation of John Kehoe, who is sentenced to suffer the extreme penalty of the law on the 14th of next month.

presented when we look about us in the world, especially when we are brought into contact with the young, remembering that a word may give a bent for good or evil for all time and eternity to characters in process of formation within the sphere of our influence.

IN HEAVEN.

There was considerable amusement, enjoyment and satisfaction in the meetings of the Evangelical Alliance at this city lately. But not half the fun that there was at New York when various clergymen gave a forecast of heaven to a reporter.

Dr. Talmage is not a philosopher. His heaven would satisfy curiosity, and that satisfied, there would be no more heaven.

FRANCE.

For the past half-dozen years, the opposition in France has assailed the government with demands for a revision of the Constitution.

Without, however, comparing the merits of constitutions, the fact remains that "revision" is constantly the cry in France.

At the very outset of the present session of the French Assembly, M. Floquet moved for a revision and gave the main points of his plan.

This is a decided drift away from the English to the American system. In England, a Ministry resigns the moment there is an adverse majority to it in Parliament.

M. Floquet's revision is the most conservative that has yet been suggested, and yet it is not at all sure that it will be adopted.

Blaine" threw out the hat that a conservative republic in France would be best assured by a system closely approximating to that in the United States.

AN AMERICAN CATHOLIC CONGRESS.

The example of Germany, Belgium, Spain and other countries in holding Catholic Congresses has given rise to the question why a Catholic Congress should not be held in America.

1st. A better union of the Catholics of the different nationalities can be brought about.

2d. The advancement of the union amongst the Catholics has been the sincere desire of our bishops, and many will not in favor of separate or national conventions.

3d. Many of the laity look with suspicion on these separate conventions, by nationalities, because only separate interests are aimed at.

4th. A general American Catholic Congress would beget a consciousness amongst us of our strength and power and enable us to defend our political and religious rights by united action.

5th. A general Catholic Congress would be an effective means for the more zealous and better elements to strengthen the less good and lukewarm, to make them energetic, real Catholics—ready for some sacrifice for the sake of God and religion.

6th. The variety of nationalities and languages to be represented at the proposed Catholic Congress would not be any objection, but rather be an expression of the true Catholicity of the Catholics and would be an imposing spectacle.

WILL IT BE A REVOLUTION?

Profoundly interesting is the situation in the States—now on the eve of a contest which is to decide the great issue between two distinctly opposite lines of policy.

Of late years the income derived from customs has brought in money to the treasury beyond its wants, and the Government are at their wits' end to know what to do with the taxes they have raised.

The kings of Europe have no dread of surpluses; they are familiar with deficits and with loans; they have never suffered from the embarrassment of an overfilling treasury.

The London Despatch, an English Radical Journal, sees great things in a victory for Cleveland. It observes that "the Democratic party, which up till 1864 was conservative in the worst sense, has now become the party of progress; and its triumph will mark the greatest advance that the world has yet seen.

This is going much further in anticipation than many Democrats would admit, but it shows how Radicals count on the election of Mr. Cleveland opening the way for profound political and social changes.

will lead in America, to the total abolition of all customs. The principle enunciated by President Cleveland in his letter accepting the Democratic candidature, the principle of abolishing taxes on raw material in order to stimulate industrial enterprise, will lead him much further than he thinks.

We are on the eve of a great social and economic struggle, which, in its final issues, will be more memorable even than the abolition of slavery.

"AN IRISH EVOLUTION."

A pamphlet, bearing the title "An Irish Evolution," by Mr. Watson Griffie, of this city, has reached our table.

Instead of being actuated entirely by sentiment as before, he began to reason. He saw Irishmen in America living in friendly relations with other nationalities, retaining their religion and intermarrying only with those of their own church.

He saw that the world is larger than Ireland. Instead of being actuated entirely by sentiment as before, he began to reason.

CRIME IN LONDON.

We have heard about crime in Ireland till we are sick. If a boy throws a stone at a cat in Tipperary the Tory journals are out at once with the wildest expressions of holy horror at the outrage.

Accepting this as a tolerably accurate sketch of the motives of Mr. McGee's conversation, we may observe that the disfavor into which he fell was the natural outcome of the intense feeling created in this country by the Fenian raids and the inability of the mass of Irishmen to accept his teachings.

Leaving that branch of the subject, the author of the pamphlet is of opinion that if the Irish question is settled in the light of American experience, the Irish representatives will certainly remain in the British Parliament.

The writer then goes on to describe what he calls the "Bandit gangs of London." "Within the past year," he tells us, "there have from time to time been brought before the knowledge of the public the existence of gangs, always ruffianly and sometimes predatory, which are composed of young fellows who are distinctly not of the domesticated variety of the genus homo.

exist as long as the empire itself. Thus Home Rule for Ireland involves Home Rule on federal lines for England, Scotland and Wales as well.

From this view the pamphlet goes on to discuss federation in the United States and Canada. Contrary to the Tory idea of centralization, in pursuance of which Sir John Macdonald has risked the disruption of this confederation, it advocates still greater subdivisions.

IRISH TENANT LAND PURCHASE.

The advice which John Dillon and Michael Davitt are now giving the Irish tenantry, whom they counsel to make no land purchases while the coercion act is in force, is not only patriotic but also sound.

It is patriotic advice, in the second place, because the land purchase question is just now a knotty one for the Government, which is divided on the issue, and which would only be too glad to find itself extricated from its difficulties by the Irish tenants.

If the Irish tenants should show themselves eager to purchase, especially if purchasers should come forward in great numbers, this split between the "Unionists" and the Tories might be healed.

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MILITARISM IN EUROPE.

Is Europe in a state of decadence? asks the Liverpool Catholic Times. "This is the question which most perforce suggest itself to a thoughtful mind in considering the attention paid to the tour of the Emperor William.

So they grow up like wild asses' colts, and are the despair of the custodians of law and order. Such, at least, is the explanation of one set of sociologists. But we have nothing to do with the causes. What we are concerned with are the facts.

The conduct of the Italian Liberals during the Emperor's stay in the Eternal City is a proof that they, at least, are only too ready to aid in the abasement of the people.

have now ceased to exist. Others are still in full activity. They are of very low type of organization—without discipline, recognized leaders, or definite objects.

"There is much said about the terrorism of the National League, and London Tory M.P.'s, from Mr. W. H. Smith downward, have wept copious tears over the sad fate of the terrorized and boycotted witness in remote wilds of Ireland.

"A poor woman was walking along the Lower Marsh, Lambeth, one night in company with another woman, when she was pounced upon by one of a gang of ruffians that infest the neighborhood of the New Cut, and she was dragged or pushed into Grove-place.

"If this had been in Ireland, how the walkin would have rung with execration! A woman nearly outraged, and all but stabbed to death, who dared not prosecute lest she should be murdered; her companion, rather than bear witness against her assailants; preferring to seek safety in flight.

As Artemus Ward observed, with classic meditativeness, "Nuff Sed."

The conduct of the Italian Liberals during the Emperor's stay in the Eternal City is a proof that they, at least, are only too ready to aid in the abasement of the people. Instead of receiving William II. with dignified courtesy...