

February 9, 1901
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The True Witness

The Senate 1903

Vol. L, No. 32 MONTREAL, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1901. PRICE FIVE CENTS

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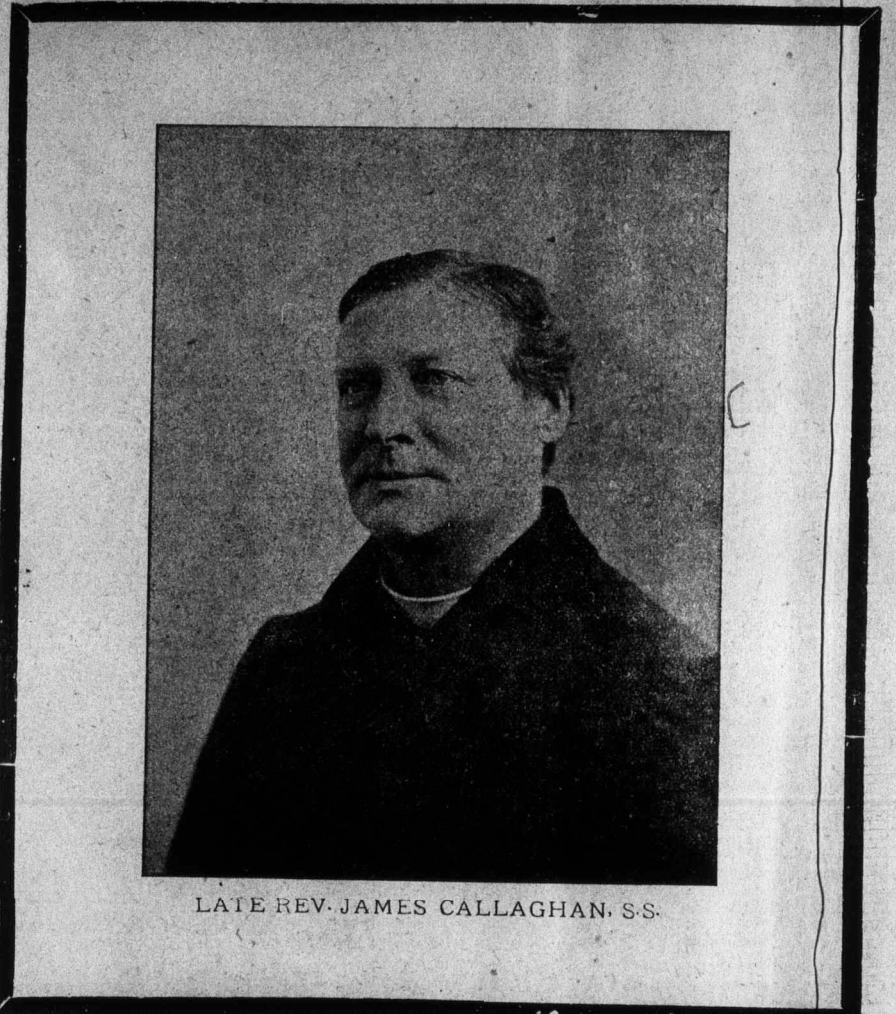
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FUNERAL OF REV. JAMES CALLAGHAN, S. S.



LATE REV. JAMES CALLAGHAN, S.S.

"Ashes to ashes and dust to dust;
 He died as becometh the faithful and just.
 Placing in God his reliance and trust"

It was meet that the last sermon
 preached by the late lamented "Fath-
 er James," as he was lovingly
 called, should have been in St. Pat-
 rick's Church and upon the sublime
 subject of "Heaven." The Church in
 which so many times, during so
 many years of a faithful and active
 ministry, his eloquent voice was
 heard, in which he offered up such a
 vast number of Masses, in which he
 was so assiduous in the confessional,
 held the congregation that had the
 privilege of listening to his last pub-
 lic utterances. And the subject was
 one most fitting that memorable oc-
 casion; for his beautifully drawn pic-
 ture of the eternal delights of Heav-
 en, the unending glories of the just
 beneath the inexpressible majesty of
 God's presence and the unutterable
 splendors of the Beatific Vision, now
 seems to have been a description be-
 fore hand of the reward he was
 about to enter upon and which he
 enjoys to-day in all its plenitude.

The life of Father James was one
 of the most touching we have had to
 trace in many years. His whole
 career, so edifying and so useful, is
 knitted into the history of this city
 for a generation. He was compara-
 tively young in years—only fifty-one
 when the Angel of God came to
 him with the mandate which closed
 his earthly mission and summoned
 his priestly soul to a well-earned re-
 pose and a well-merited reward. But
 during those fifty-one years—espe-
 cially during the period of his sacer-
 dotal life—what a mass of good
 deeds, of meritorious actions, of sub-
 lime sacrifices; of zealous endeav-
 ors did he not succeed in heaping up
 as a treasure-store for eternity.

We might almost apply to Father
 James the well-known line of Gold-
 smith—

"Even his failings leant to virtue's
 side."

Had he a failing it was that of
 unbounded generosity; generosity in
 the fullest acceptation of the term;
 generosity, not only in deeds, but
 in thoughts, in sentiments, in spirit.
 Of worldly riches he had none; at
 the very threshold of his career he
 made the voluntary sacrifice of all
 wealth, of all prospects, all ambitions,
 and for the service of God. But what he
 possessed, of energies, of time, of
 talents, he bestowed unsparingly and
 unflinchingly upon the needy, the un-
 fortunate, the poor, the sorrowing,
 the afflicted of all classes.

Hence it is that his name is re-
 vered in all the city, but especially in
 St. Ann's parish, where he acted for
 a time as curate, and in St. Pat-
 rick's parish, where sixteen years of
 his laborious life were spent. Apart

from these characteristics of meek-
 ness, of child-like confidence, and of
 priestly devotedness, Father James
 possessed eminent talents, and his
 choice gifts of mind and brain were
 developed by serious and constant
 study. He was a worker, in the real
 sense of the term. And, possibly, it
 was this very application, this pain-
 taking exactness, which imparted to
 his sermons that noble and brain-
 ingly eloquent and important to his
 eloquent and impressive sermons.

A master of both languages, he had
 the gift of natural oratory. In
 him it was natural. There was no
 affectation, no straining after effect,
 no merging of the great truths which
 he preached in any vain attempts to
 catch the popular fancy. Priestly
 ease and apostolic, he was an orator
 of a high class. Sincerely and con-
 viction were stamped upon his every
 sermon, and his wide range of ac-
 quired knowledge, his deep philoso-
 phical and theological studies, his
 extensive experience of life in its
 many phases, as well as his fund of
 information gleaned at the most
 complete shrines of learning in Eu-
 rope, all combined to make him a
 power for good and an effective
 mouth-piece of Holy Church and of
 the inflexible teachings of Christ.

Another characteristic of Father
 James was his gratitude. Born in
 Montreal, in 1850, he commenced his
 schooling under the Christian Broth-
 ers, and all through his life that
 noble order of teachers held in him a
 devoted friend, a constant advoca-
 te and an intense admirer. After his
 brilliant course of studies at the Grand
 Seminary of Montreal, and his still
 more remarkable theological course
 at St. Sulpice in Paris, it was given
 for a first time the Divine Sacrifice
 of the Mass, until the day upon
 which he performed, for a last time
 the dread and sublime act of conse-
 cration, his whole life was that of a
 priest—"sacerdos in aeternum," a
 priest for all time.

His well-known ability had inspired
 his superiors with the idea of
 having him occupy a professor's
 chair in some large seminary; but
 the keen and appreciative eye of Fa-
 ther Dowd was upon him, and when
 at the great pastor of St. Patrick's was
 in Europe, with the Montreal pil-
 grimage, he decided to bring Father
 James back to Montreal. If we ex-
 cept a year of professorship in Bal-
 timore, we might say that the late
 lamented priest spent his whole sacer-
 dotal life ministering to the faithful
 of this city.

It would be no easy task to relate
 all that Father James has done for
 the Irish Catholics, in particular, of
 this city. While at St. Ann's he won
 his way to the hearts and confi-
 dence of all. And at good old St.

Patrick's, while he was at the ser-
 vice of all the parishioners, it may
 be said that the young men were the
 special objects of his solicitude and
 care.

And we can speak of him now, as
 we never could before! We have no
 fear now of shocking his humility by
 a recitation of his many virtues, his
 fine talents, and his noble life. We
 can praise him the more heartily,
 because we know that all we might
 write of good would fall short of the
 whole truth, and that the pen of
 flattery cannot be suspected—for
 the one to whom the praise is given
 is now beyond the reach of its influ-
 ence.

In the natural order of things Fa-
 ther James seemed to be destined to
 carry on his great life-work for many
 long years to come. But the ways
 of God and the ideas of man do not
 always coincide. It was providential
 in a certain way, that his last ap-
 pointment should have been to the
 chaplaincy of the Hotel Dieu. While
 ministering to the spiritual needs of
 that vast and important institu-
 tion, as well as to the Catholic ele-
 ment in the Royal Victoria Hospital,
 he fell a victim to the undermining
 disease which eventually, and almost
 unexpectedly, ended his career. Ill
 and suffering with his usual cheerfulness,
 he was the ultimate of a struggle
 protracted until on the evening of
 Thursday, the 7th February, sur-
 rounded by the consolation of reliant
 and sorrowing relatives, in the arms
 of his brother—Rev. Dr. Luke Calla-
 ghan—his fair spirit fled its
 flight from earth to heaven.

Is there anything grander than the
 death of a true priest? Through the
 clouds of grief, the shadows of
 affliction, flash lightning gleams of
 consolation. And many were the con-
 solations that fell to the share of
 Father James. Amongst them we
 might mention that of having,
 through the considerate action of
 our beloved Archbishop, the privi-
 lege of making the jubilee of the
 Holy Year. The prescribed visits he
 was unable to make to the churches;
 but, throughout his life, so frequent-
 ly had his feet trod their aisles that
 his spirit could walk them, while his
 frail form was stretched upon the
 bed of death. And, above all, was it
 his privilege to visit, at the close,
 a temple of which all those of earth
 are but the shadows—the eternal
 temple of God's glory in heaven.

It would be vain for us to at-
 tempt any description of the scenes
 at the Hotel Dieu, as the dead
 priest was viewed by thousands of
 sorrowing and grateful friends—sur-
 rounding over his early loss, grateful
 for all the blessings he had brought
 them. However, the translation of
 the remains, on last Sunday, from
 the Hotel Dieu to Notre Dame

Church, was the occasion of a silent
 and impressive demonstration
 of universal affection, such as has
 been seldom witnessed in our city.
 Thousands followed that simple
 hearse; and as the body of the dead
 priest was laid in state upon a
 brilliantly lighted catafalque, in the
 central parochial Church, the vast
 edifice was thronged with represen-
 tatives of every institution, every
 every parish, every institution, every
 community, every school.

Rev. Canon Dauth represented His
 Grace the Archbishop, Rev. Father
 O'Reilly and Rev. Father Girard,
 the chaplains of the Hotel Dieu, were
 also present. The chief mourners
 Mr. John Callaghan, sr., Rev. Fa-
 ther Martin Callaghan, and Rev. Dr.
 Luke Callaghan, and Messrs. Thomas
 and John Callaghan, jr. When the
 body reached the church it was plac-
 ed in a catafalque in which the
 office of the dead was recited. The
 immense edifice was nearly filled
 with people, and thousands of the
 faithful from the different parishes of
 the city came throughout the after-
 noon and evening to say a prayer at
 the bier of the dead priest.

The regular meeting of St. Pat-
 rick's T. A. & B. Society was open-
 ed on Sunday afternoon, but was
 adjourned until Tuesday evening out
 of respect to the late Father Calla-
 ghan. A motion was adopted ex-
 pressing the sympathy of the mem-
 bers of the society with the family.

On Monday morning, at half-past
 eight o'clock, the grand and solemn
 service for the dead was chanted in
 Notre Dame Church. It seems to us
 that there is nothing so inspiring
 and so sadly sublime as the requiem
 over a priest. Unlike other men, un-
 like the members of the laity, the
 priest faces the people, his back is
 to the altar, and he wears the
 vestments of the sacred office.

Eloquent was Father James as a
 preacher, magnificent were some of
 the sermons pronounced by him in
 the pulpit of that same church; but
 never, in all his career, did he preach
 such a sermon as that of last Mon-
 day. His eyes were closed to the
 throng that surrounded his bier, but
 every one present felt that their
 eyes were gazing upon a vision of
 glory; beyond the skies; his lips
 moved not, but the very silence of his
 attitude told a story that went to
 the hearts of all present; the still-
 ness of himself, the majesty of the
 life and death—life, with its uncer-
 tainties, death with its certainty.
 And rarely was ever such an audi-
 ence, such a congregation of sympa-
 thetic souls, gathered together in
 that vast temple.

His Grace Archbishop Bruchesi pre-
 sided, and was attended by Rev. Fa-
 ther Charette, of St. Bartholomei,
 and Rev. C. Bernard, of Sorel. Rev.
 Father Leclercq, of St. Patrick's
 Church, was the celebrant, and was
 assisted by Rev. Father Perron, P.
 P. of Westmount, as deacon, and
 Rev. Father Holland, C.S.S.R., of
 St. Ann's, as sub-deacon. The choir
 of Notre Dame and the Scholarians
 of the Grand Seminary, rendered the
 solemn Requiem Mass in a most im-
 pressive manner.

Among the members of the clergy
 present were: Mgr. Racicot, V. G.,
 Very Rev. Father Coia, Superior of
 the Seminary; Rev. John Quinlan,
 S.S., pastor of St. Patrick's; Rev.
 Father Filiatrault, Superior and
 Rev. Father Turgeon, rector of the
 Jesuit Order; Rev. Father Lemieux,
 provincial superior of the Redemptor-
 ists; Rev. Father Archambeau, of
 the Franciscan Order; Rev. Fa-
 ther Meahan, C.S.C. of St. Laurent
 College; Rev. Father Urique, of the
 Seminary of Philosophy, Boston;
 Rev. Father Bernard, St. Mary's
 Seminary, Baltimore; Rev. Father
 Driscoll, P.S.S. of St. Joseph's
 Seminary, Yonkers, N.Y.; Rev. J. C.
 Brophy, St. John's Seminary, Boston;
 Rev. Father Carson, St. John
 V.B. Rev. Father Ernest, Camp-
 bellton, N.B.; Rev. Father Strubbe,
 St. Ann's; Rev. Father McGrath, St.
 Patrick's; Rev. Father Belanger, St.
 Joseph's; Rev. Father Kavanagh,
 St. Vincent de Paul; Rev. Father
 O'Meara, St. Gabriel's; Rev. Fa-
 ther Donnelly, St. Anthony's; Rev. Fa-
 ther Thomas Heffernan, St. Antho-
 ny's; Rev. Father Spellman, St.
 Patrick's; Rev. Father Hebert, St.
 Patrick's; Rev. Father Leonard, Italian
 chapel; Rev. P. A. Brunet, Rev. Bourassa,
 of Laval University; Rev. Canon Ar-
 chambeau, Rev. Father Dozois, O.
 M.I., Rev. Father Lonergan, Rev.
 Father Desnoyers, chaplain of the
 Sisters of Providence; Rev. Father
 Casey, St. Jean Baptiste Church;
 Rev. Alf. Tranchemontagne, chap-
 lain of the Grey Nuns; Rev. J. S.
 Tranchemontagne, of St. James;
 Rev. Father Foucher, chaplain of
 Villa Maria; Rev. Father Pelletier,
 Hospice Gamelin; Rev. P. J. Kier-
 seley, of St. Anne's; Rev. P. J. Kier-
 seley, chaplain of the Female Gael;
 Rev. Payette, St. Eusebe; Rev. Fa-
 ther Proulx, C.S.S.R., Hochelaga;
 Rev. Father Callaghan, St. Laurent
 College; Rev. Father Heffernan, Rev.
 Father Devine, S. J. and others. All the
 religious communities were well re-
 presented by their members and pu-
 pils, the Congregation de Notre
 Dame, Grey Nuns, and Brothers of
 the Christian Schools, while from
 the various Irish parishes of the city
 hundreds of the laity of all classes
 occupied the pews. The singing of
 the Libera was presided over by His
 Grace the Archbishop, after which
 the remains were removed to the
 Grand Seminary, the burial place of
 members of the Sulpician Order. His
 Lordship, Bishop Emard, of Valley-
 field, officiated at the grave, and
 read the last prayers.

Sympathetic references were made
 to the death of the beloved priest
 in the various parishes of the city.
 In St. Patrick's, Rev. Father Quin-
 lan alluded to the long years of
 devoted service to the parish which

Father James had rendered, and re-
 quered the parishioners to assist at
 the sad ceremonies on Sunday and
 Monday, and agreed on Wednesday
 morning, on which latter occasion a
 solemn Requiem Mass was offered for
 the repose of his soul. Other refer-
 ences to the dead priest were made
 in the Gesù, St. Ann's, St. Antho-
 ny's, St. Gabriel's and St. Mary's.
 And now it comes our turn to say
 Adieu to Father James. He was a
 true and appreciative friend, and
 the "True Witness" only regrets be-
 ing unable—for want of language—to
 pay that tribute to his memory
 which his grand life deserves and
 which our sentiments of sorrow
 would dictate. While tendering our
 heartfelt sympathy to his aged-fa-
 ther, to his brothers, both in the
 priesthood and in the world, to all
 his bereaved relatives, we feel that
 we are but feebly echoing the senti-
 ments which the tribune would most
 appreciate and desire is one of imi-
 tation and prayer—imitation, as far
 as possible, of the virtues he so
 constantly practised in life, and
 prayer for the eternal repose of his
 soul with God.

NOTES.

Evidences are not wanting to show
 that the saintly priest was esteem-
 ed and appreciated for his great zeal,
 piety and scholarship, far beyond
 the limits of his native city. From
 an old friend we learn that Father
 James had received an invitation to
 go to Victoria, B.C., to assume the
 duties of Rector of the Cathedral of
 that city, with prospects of solici-
 tude wearing the mitre. His affec-
 tion for the Order of St. Sulpice of
 which he was a most devoted mem-
 ber, and his own information, influ-
 enced him to decline the offer.

Forty-seven dollars constituted the
 total sum of the worldly possessions
 of Father James at the time of his
 death, and this amount had been set
 apart for a special charity. What
 an eloquent testimony of the fact
 that he was the sincere friend of the
 poor and distressed?

"In Memoriam" cards for Masses
 were conspicuous in the mortuary
 chamber at the Hotel Dieu. There
 were no flowers, except a bunch of
 Irish heather, (if we may so classily
 a Protestant resident in the
 vicinity of the hospital lovingly
 placed near the coffin.

Rev. Father Martin Callaghan officiated
 at a solemn Requiem Mass in
 the chapel of St. Urban's Academy.
 This institution, which is under the
 direction of the Congregation de
 Notre Dame, is one of the education-
 al establishments in which Father
 James took a great interest.

Letters and telegrams of sympathy
 were received by Rev. Father
 Martin and Rev. Dr. Luke
 from many prelates and a large number
 of priests, in various districts through-
 out Canada and the United States.

One of the mourners, in the long
 procession from the Hotel Dieu to
 the Cathedral on Sunday, was Rev.
 Father McDermott, better known as
 "Walter Lacey," a lifelong friend of
 Father James.

In the funeral cortege were noticed
 many Protestants prominent in
 professional and commercial circles.

The funeral arrangements were
 conducted by Mr. Frank Feron, of
 M. Feron & Son.

ed lasting benefit to Ireland, fol-
 lowed by periods of temporary quiet.
 Catholic Emancipation, the Dis-
 establishment of the Church, and Ten-
 ant Right were all brought about
 by strong agitation. The fact, as he
 said, as Lord Macaulay remarked in
 the House of Commons about the
 Irish demands: "If they are quiet,
 you say they don't want changes;
 if they are agitated they are not fit
 for them." In inference to the de-
 mand for a Catholic University, he
 advised agitation as far as the con-
 stitution allowed.

IRISH LANGUAGE.—The move-
 ment for the revival of the Irish
 language is making satisfactory pro-
 gress in nearly all districts in the
 country. On a recent Sunday after
 last Mass in the Catholic Church,
 Inghinnagh, a very large congrega-
 tion being present, Right Rev. Dean
 Byrne, the esteemed pastor of the
 parish, made reference during an edi-
 fying and instructive discourse to
 the commendable aim being made
 through the country for the encour-
 agement and revival of the Irish
 language and industries. In Inghinnagh
 non they had been doing much in
 supporting this movement, and he
 urged the young men of the town to
 devote part of their spare time to
 the study of Gaelic, which they could
 easily do, seeing they had the oppor-
 tunity of attending the local class.
 The national teachers in that parish
 were earnestly working to perfect
 themselves in the language, and in a
 short time he had good hopes that
 it would be taught to the children
 in every school within the radius of
 his parish. The National Commission-
 ers of education did not give
 much encouragement to the study of
 Irish in the past, but now that some
 hope was held out that better condi-
 tions should obtain it would cer-
 tainly be the fault of the people
 themselves and the teachers if the
 study were not taken up and vigor-
 ously pushed forward everywhere.
 By doing this it would not mean that
 Irish alone should be the language
 taught. The two tongues would be
 studied side by side, for it was a
 fact that a bilingual people had
 many considerable advantages over
 those who only spoke and thought in
 the one tongue. The rev. gentleman
 also counselled his hearers on the
 importance of supporting native in-
 dustries, and purchasing Irish-made
 goods as far as they were able. They
 should also take up a firm attitude
 against the reading of the obnoxious
 literature which flooded this coun-
 try from the other side of the chan-
 nel.

THE UNITED IRISH LEAGUE.—
 According to a correspondent this
 splendid organization is growing
 slowly but surely in popularity. The
 Government are doing their share in
 popularising the movement. Prosecu-
 tions and persecutions only help to
 endear the National cause to the
 people. It looks as if we were in
 for a fair share of both. Fourteen
 members of the Glencar (Co. Kerry)
 branch of the United Irish League
 were on Saturday returned for trial
 on a charge of conspiracy. That they
 will be convicted almost goes with-
 out saying. In Ireland "returned for
 trial" means in the case of a political
 prosecution "returned for convic-
 tion." The jury is invariably packed
 and that settles the matter. But in
 their prison cells these United Irish
 Leaguers will be far more powerful
 in the cause they espouse than they
 could ever be on their native hills in
 Kerry.

CLERICAL CHANGES.—On
 extremely short notice a large-
 ly attended meeting of the parish-
 ioners of Kildare and Rathangan,
 was held in the Town Hall, Kildare,
 in connection with the approaching
 transference of the Rt. Rev. Monsi-
 gnor Murphy, D. D., P. P., V. G., to the
 parish of Maryborough, and the
 Leinster "Leader." The parishioners
 having heard with regret that Mon-
 signor Murphy was about to leave
 after being 15 years in the parish
 met with a view to inducing him to
 remain in Kildare. There was an at-
 tendance of over 200 people.

Mr. Bergin, who was elected chair-
 man, said that the departure of Dr.
 Murphy from the parish was a mat-
 ter to be deplored by all, and no
 effort should be spared in
 order to try and induce him to make
 such arrangements as would permit
 him to remain in Kildare. With this
 end in view a deputation was ap-
 pointed to wait on Dr. Murphy.

Monsignor Murphy, as was to be
 expected, explained to the deputa-
 tion that the arrangement already
 made was irrevocable. He felt very
 much his departure from the parish
 where he had spent 15 years, where
 he was thoroughly acquainted with
 every individual in the parish, while
 he was about to go to another where
 he might say he knew no one. He
 deeply regretted that he could not
 now conform with the unanimous
 wish of the people for whom he
 should always entertain the highest
 regard—and respect, but he hoped
 that he would have frequent oppor-
 tunities of coming amongst them.

The deputation then returned to
 the town hall. Communications
 had already passed between the
 committee and the Rt. Rev. Dr. Foley,
 Bishop of the diocese in which
 they sought permission to make
 some suitable presentation to Dr.
 Murphy, but owing to a recent rule
 made in the diocese this was prohib-
 ited, and the only thing left them
 to do was to request Dr. Murphy
 with an address, which it was decid-