

WHAT IS MEANT BY HOME RULE?

The defence and stability of the Empire at large, as well as the power of granting and providing the supplies necessary for Imperial purposes.

To Canadians it is barely necessary to explain what is meant by a federal arrangement. Our own constitution furnishes an example of a federal arrangement, which, if not perfect, gives pretty general satisfaction to the parties to it.

To the Irish Parliament, under the federal arrangement sought for, is to be allotted the right of legislating for and regulating all the internal affairs of Ireland.

To us, who are familiar with the manner in which our own constitution was adopted, and know how the powers of the different legislative bodies it established are defined, the question should not be difficult to answer.

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With an Irish Parliament possessing the powers above named, and with their representatives in the Imperial House, as at present, to protect their interests in Imperial matters, I believe the Irish people would have what they have long hoped for—Home Rule; and I believe its possession would be a matter of its advantages, but to tell you merely what is meant by it.

I have done so now—how imperfectly I am well aware—and may consider my task accomplished. I do not pretend to have provided for every detail, and to have given a scheme which every Home Ruler would adopt as perfect in every particular.

Before laying down my pen I will take occasion to answer one or two particular queries put me in a conversation on this subject by the Editor. He asked me, firstly, how under the system I have outlined it would be possible to protect the interests of the minority, composed of landlords? In answer to this, it seems to me they would find ample protection in the Irish House of Lords, and in the assent which it would be necessary the Sovereign should give in any measure the Commons might adopt.

without the concurrence of the Imperial Parliament. In the second place, I was asked how are the Protestant minority to be protected against the Catholic majority? In reply to this I have only to say, they have nothing to fear, but should any one think they have, let the Imperial Parliament put in the Constitutional Act any proviso they may deem necessary to protect the religious liberty of Protestants in Ireland, and I am quite confident that no Irish Catholic will object to it.

C. J. DOHERTY.

The True Witness AND CATHOLIC CHRONICLE

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MONTREAL, WEDNESDAY, MAY 24.

CATHOLIC CALENDAR

THURSDAY, 25.—Octave of the Ascension. First Ordination in the United States, 1793. Abp. Olin, New Orleans, died, 1870. FRIDAY, 26.—St. Philip Neri, Confessor. SATURDAY, 27.—Vigil of Pentecost. EAST. SUNDAY, 28.—Pentecost, or Whit-Sunday. Less. Acts II. 1-11; Gosp. John XIV. 23-31.

MONDAY, 29.—Whit-Monday. TUESDAY, 30.—Whit-Tuesday. Cons. Bp. Seldenbush, St. Cloud, 1875. WEDNESDAY, 31.—Of the Octave. Ember Day. Fast.

We have mailed to such of our subscribers as are in arrears direct, or to our agents where there are a good many subscribers in one locality, the statement of their indebtedness to THE TRUE WITNESS. We request them to forward to this office the amount of such indebtedness, as besides requiring it in the ordinary way of business, we have to prepare for an extra expenditure to defend the heavy suit which is pending against us in the law courts, and will come on at the June term of Queen's Bench.

MR. SPENCER announces that his Irish policy will be vigorous. This would be startling did we not know that a vigorous policy has been pursued in Ireland since the time of the much esteemed Oliver Cromwell.

A CABLE despatch says Cardinal McCabe is guarded by the police. We should be very cautious of receiving such reports, except for what they are worth. It is something new in Ireland for a dignitary of the Catholic Church to be in want of police protection.

We call the attention of our readers to the discourse of the Reverend Dr. O'Connell. We make no comment on the splendid deliverance further than to say that if all clergymen expressed themselves in the same broad and truly Christian spirit, we would have more of peace and less of strife in our midst.

The Irish Repression bill of the British Government has been read the second time, 383 for and 45 against. According to the proportion of numbers the Irish members must have voted pretty unanimously against the bill. It is expected there will be a dissolution, and it is this expectation which regulates the conduct of the "nominal Home Rulers."

The English associated press has been very busy of late with Mr. Parnell. We are informed that he demanded and obtained police protection from the Government, but this announcement is modified by the news that it was not he but one of his party who asked protection for him, a protection which he has refused. We are further informed that he has lost his influence with the masses and that he is undergoing a process of badgering at the hands of the extremists. More attention might be due to these reports were it not known that their source is the landlord organ, the Dublin Express, whose editor is the Dublin correspondent of the London Times.

they have not yet seen the land of promise, it will not be the fault of the Irish leader if it is not reached before long. This retirement of Parnell from the leadership would mean retrogression, divisions and calamities.

The Egyptian crisis is so far from being over that it has not well begun. There will soon be a large fleet, covered by the flags of most of the European nations, in Egyptian waters. Even the Greeks have sent ironclads to the scene of commotion, and the Russian bear shows signs of putting forth a paw. The National party, headed by Arabi Bey, is not abating one iota of its pretensions, and the party seems to have Turkish support; indeed it looks as if there is an understanding between Arabi Bey and the Sultan. The national party is making an effort to increase the army, but rather unsuccessfully, if we are to believe the dispatch which says recruits are brought to Cairo in chains. But then there is nothing but chains in Egypt, which is the sick child of the "sick man."

We have lately been informed that besides the gratuity granted Mr. Matthew Ryan upon his retirement from office in the North-West, the Government have lately indemnified him for certain losses incurred while on one of his hard circuits, and more, have actually paid his expenses in attending the Commission to enquire into the administration of his office. All this looks as if much wrong was not proven against him, and as if the Government were now disposed to admit it. Indeed, such must have been their impression, for we understand that pending the decision in his case—which was not arrived at before fifteen months after the enquiry—he was offered with sufficient directness, a retiring pension, which he somewhat petulantly declined, preferring, as we believe he always has preferred, his personal independence. We are glad to hear that Mr. Ryan has so far benefited by the "boom" in the West as to have secured more for his old age than a Government pension would amount to, and that he is as active as ever in mind and body.

It would almost seem as if there is an epidemic of bigamy raging in Canada and the United States; within the past few weeks no less than fifty have been reported, of which Canada has had more than her quota. It is the opinion of a good many that the punishment meted out for this crime is not sufficient. Young men—and sometimes comparatively old men—such are the facilities for travel, now-a-days, roam from place to place with the greatest ease, and settle down, perhaps for a few years, and get married. Depression in trade or other causes oblige them to depart and leave their families behind them. They come across some other "affinities," forget they have been married, or treat the matter lightly, and victimize respectable women. They are sometimes found out, but in the majority of cases they are not, and many are the poor women who are to-day mourning about husbands they believe to be dead, but who in reality are living with partners who fondly imagine they are their lawful wives. If bigamists were, when convicted, sent to the penitentiary for life instead of for a few years, it would have a wholesome and a restraining effect.

We regret very much the appearance in our issue of Monday last, of an article concerning an action instituted by Miss Leete against Mr. Alpheus Keroack. The article was inserted in the absence of the manager, and without the knowledge of the editor-in-chief, who would certainly, had either of them been aware of it, have prevented its publication, the latter having actually forbidden any mention of the case. Since its appearance it has been represented to us that the whole proceedings are an attempt at levying blackmail upon Mr. Keroack, and that upon the face of the proceedings the presumptions were so strongly against the plaintiff that two Judges refused to sign an order for the issue of the writ. Mr. Keroack is a gentleman well known in this city, concerning whom the most reliable proof would be necessary to justify belief in such serious accusations as are made against him by Miss Leete, and we regret that our reporter should have been misled into giving publicity to them. We write these lines as an endeavor to remedy any injury that may have been caused him, and we ask the public to suspend their judgments in the matter until he shall have had an opportunity of being heard, and of establishing, as we are assured he can, that the charges made are unfounded.

In reference to the letter from Mrs. Parnell, which appeared in yesterday's issue of THE POST, we may state that the report of her speech at the meeting in the Cooper Institute came through Associated Press telegrams, which telegrams are for the most part, based on reports in the New York papers, just as cable despatches are based chiefly on reports in the Times and other London papers. No one would suppose that such a distinguished and humane lady as Mrs. Parnell would utter the words attributed to her in a garbled despatch dish up for the Canadian press. Mrs. Parnell will remember that when President Garfield was shot the Associated Press informed us at first blithely that the name of the assassin was Dolan; that when McLean attempted to assassinate the Queen the Scotch papers put his name as Patrick McLean, and is aware we have to take despatches as they come. "The hand that rocks the cradle" saith the poet "is the hand that rules the world," and so in like manner the hand that pens the Associated Press despatches, is the hand that gives news to the world—and lies. Nevertheless, the owner of the hand that rocked the cradle of the infant Charles Stewart Parnell will be recognized by future generations of Irishmen

as one of the heroines of their cause, and as one of the most illustrious women who have ever had to do with the chequered history of Ireland.

The Chinese are crowding into British Columbia so rapidly, that if not checked, they will soon outnumber the whites, and before many years, swamp them altogether. It is all very well for Mr. Mackenzie, who is a philanthropist, to view the advent of the Chinese with complacency, if not with favor, and to call Messrs. Bünster and De Coëmes narrow-minded, but if he lived on the Pacific slope and had to compete with John Chinaman for a living he would be of a different opinion. The Chinaman has no family to support, he can live on fifty cents a day in great luxury and save money, which he takes back with him to the Flowery Land. He has had enough as a sojourner come to spoil the Egyptians, but if he settled in the country permanently and brought his wife along with him and raised a family matters would be still worse, except the settlement of British Columbia by the Chinese would be considered advantageous. Few, however, will so consider it. The Chinese are well enough in China, but they are hardly the race one would like to see spreading themselves over this continent. And spread themselves they undoubtedly will if some stop is not put to their immigration. China can spare a few millions of her people to British Columbia and not miss them. Capitalists are partial to Chinese cheap labor, which helps to make the [white] rich richer and the poor, poorer, but it is not to the advantage of the country that this state of things should obtain for a moment.

Mr. G. J. DOHERTY has written a letter, or, perhaps, article would be the better word, to the Canadian Spectator on "Home Rule." He has sought to define Home Rule and has succeeded very fairly, though the definition is most difficult, in our opinion. When one speaks of the status quo ante union, his task is simple in the extreme, he has history to help him, but Home Rule is quite different. No one seems to understand it. The greatest concession in that direction a Liberal administration is inclined to grant is county government, and the smallest the Irish are inclined to accept is repeal of the Union. Home Rule is a compromise and an honorable one, but we repeat, the difficulty is to define it. If the land question were settled the concentrated genius of Ireland could easily settle down and sketch a modus vivendi, but at present there is no chance of an agreement. Healy and T. P. O'Connor and a few others of the more advanced of the Irish party would like to go further in their demands than Parnell and Justin McCarthy, but as we have said if the agrarian troubles were settled an agreement, at least among the Irish, might easily be arrived at. Mr. Doherty gives about as intelligent a view of what Home Rule means as we have seen on a small space. The great difficulty would be the customs question. It should not be forgotten that in 1784 Ireland was upon the point of declaring war against Portugal on a commercial question. And then why should not Ireland discriminate against England as Canada does, if her interests would thereby be benefited. But we must not go any deeper into Home Rule or we shall never stop. We recommend the article to the perusal of our readers. Too many such articles cannot be written at this time and brought under the notice of our friends who are not Irish, nor sympathizers with Home Rule.

THE SENATE. It has often been remarked in these columns that the English speaking Catholics of Canada are not treated fairly in any possible way by the Government. When a Senator for a Quebec district dies it would never do to ask that one of the prescribed be given the vacant position. It would be monstrous, it would interfere with the status quo, it would not be in accordance with the tacit understanding, it would be all wrong. All we can say to this is that, if the Government wishes to continue the perpetration of such gross injustice, it should so contrive that the census returns should fall into the hands of Protestants only. For look at the glaring anomaly as shown by the census. In this Province there are 198,000 Protestants, or at all events, of people who are non-Catholics, as the Irish Canadian expresses it. Well, this number has seven representatives in the Senate, and they are the Hon. Messrs. Chaffers, Cochrane, Ferris, Stevens, Hamilton, Price and Ogilvie. The English-speaking Catholics of this Province number about 120,000 and this number has one Senator—the Honorable Thomas Ryan! But let us turn to Ontario; perhaps things are better there? In that Province there are 370,000 Catholics, who, if they were treated as well as the Protestants of Quebec, would have thirteen representatives in the Senate. But they have not quite that number; they have, in fact, only two, and they are Honorable Messrs. Frank Smith and B. W. Scott. But, perhaps, as no Government, be it ever so skillful, can make arbitrary rules and districts where Catholics may or may not receive dignities, perhaps we say the Catholics in Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick, may have more than their share, so that compensation is obtained in some quarters, and that the whole the Catholics of the Dominion are well represented in the Senate, if not in the popular House. For after all a Government cannot be blamed for the prejudice of the electors. A Government cannot say to its followers "you must vote for Mr. Blank, though he is a Catholic." A Government cannot do that, but it can do what lies in its province, it

comes overwhelming. We all acknowledge that the letter "k" might safely be left out of "know" and "knowledge," but we still persist in inserting it as well as the double "o" in "shall" and "will," and a hundred other words because custom ordains it. The Short-hand Writer of New York, which has just been started, dedicates itself to a sweeping reform in spelling, and it may do some good; at all events, it is to be hoped so. But the reform to be successful, must commence with that part of the rising generation which is at school. A man of generation will hardly be so enthusiastic in the way of phonetic spelling as to write "I wdrite if I cud," although he might not object to seeing his children adopt the system. What is sure is the change will have to begin in America, England is too Conservative, she still keeps to the old way of spelling "theatre" and "defence," while the Americans have advanced to "theater" and "defense" not much of an improvement certainly, but something nevertheless. Time seems to be more precious in America than in England because the rush after the almighty dollar is keener and hence we may expect to see "shall" spelled "shal" and "psalm" spelled "sam" sooner in this country. The new system adopted by the Short-hand Writer is called Takigraphy, and the following is a specimen:—

I began my work in Takigraphy about two years ago, under Mr. W. O. Cooper, after having become disgusted with Fonography; I have used the art ever since. I have been here about a year a half and have never failed to speak a good word for Takigraphy when I had a chance. It is impossible for me to start a class, but I hope to see some other man do so before long. There is a school of Fonography here. I wish everybody could be induced to examine Takigraphy, they had not fall to see its worth.

It must be admitted that though the above is not much of an innovation, it is a step in advance. GOLDWIN SMITH is angry because the Canadian Parliament has forwarded resolutions to the Queen calling for Home Rule for Ireland and the release of the political suspects. He writes a letter to the London Times, a letter of comfort and consolation, telling it not to give much heed to the resolutions, as they were passed immediately before the general elections for political purposes. And then he gets excited and says:—

"However, two morals may be drawn from this proceeding of the Canadian House of Commons. You see the real value of the loyalty of colonial politicians. You also see the effect which the hesitations and divisions of the British Parliament on the Irish question are producing upon minds on the other side of the Atlantic."

Before this last paragraph he informs the Times that the British-Canadians are loyal to the connection (for which small thanks to him), that the French-Canadians are still of the old regime, and that Irish-Canadians are not Fenian sympathizers. This last assertion is the only true one in his whole letter. But why should Goldwin Smith feel surprised, after all, at the idea of a Canadian Parliament passing such resolutions. He has lived long enough in Canada to know that the people are happy and content under home rule, and he knows enough of history to remember that they were unhappy and rebellious when they were governed by an oligarchy sent from England. Evidently Goldwin Smith is looking for a seat in the British Parliament, and it is to be hoped he may get it, if it were only to stop his torrent of writing and hear how great a man he will be as a speaker.

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can and does appoint Senators. But to return to the Maritime Provinces. In Nova Scotia there are, according to the census, 117,000 Catholics and 323,000 non-Catholics, that is to say, Jews, Presbyterians, Free-thinkers, Methodists, and all sorts. Nova Scotia has ten Senators, of whom two are Catholics, just two. New Brunswick is still worse. The Catholics of this fair Province are 109,000; non-Catholics, 212,000, or less than two against one. New Brunswick has ten representatives in the Senate, and surely three of them are Catholics. Well, no, not even two, and tell it not in Gath, whisper it not in Ascalon, not a solitary one! British Columbia sends four Senators, and although the Catholics comprise half the white population there, the four Senators are Protestants, and so with Manitoba, Prince Edward and with all the Provinces, the Governments which have been in power the past thirty years have all, but prescribed the religion of a large fraction of Canada's population. But, perhaps, it is because of their ignorance. Perhaps they cannot furnish men with the amount of culture necessary to adorn the Senate. In this city of Montreal we could mention a dozen gentlemen who, at the very least, would out as good a figure in the Senate as those seven we have mentioned who represent the Protestants of Quebec in the Upper House, and at the first flash of memory the names of Dr. Hingston, James O'Brien, Edward Murphy, Henry R. Gray, R. J. Devins, M. O. Mullarky, Wm. Wilson, P. J. Coyle, J. E. Mullin, occur to us. But let us not disguise the fact from ourselves that we are prescribed, for by admitting it we may find a remedy.

The same exclusion obtains universally throughout Canada. There is not an English-speaking Catholic at the head of a department as Deputy-Minister. There are 70 judges in Ontario, not one of whom is a Catholic. Who is responsible for this terrible state of affairs, or rather who are responsible? Why the men who have governed Canada during the past thirty years and have acted as if hewing wood and drawing water were good enough for English-speaking Catholics. But a part of the blame rests also with ourselves, who vote as we are told by the machines.

WHIGS AND TORIES.

We hope it is not treason to say that the English governing classes are a singular people. We are told that when Gladstone stood up in the House of Commons to announce the change of policy which led to the fall of Forster and the release of Parnell his face was as white as paper. And we are also told the announcement was received by some of the Whigs with disgust and by the whole of the Tories with rage. And now we learn that this change of policy, but above all this treating with Irish leaders in Kilmalsham, will lead to the downfall of the Gladstone Government and a dissolution of Parliament, if not the advent to power of the Tories. Now all this is very singular when we come to consider that the Tories have actually adopted Davitt's plan for the establishment of a peasant proprietary. It was in fact that stealing of the Land League's policy, as we learn now, which induced Gladstone to open negotiations with Parnell in Kilmalsham, and not, we regret to say through any real good will towards Ireland, though, it must be admitted, he is among the best intentioned of English politicians. English statesmen will do a good deal—just as much as Canadian or American—perhaps, more—to keep their party in power, or to out their opponents from power. Davitt's revolutionary plan was to get the landlords to sell out by snasion if possible, but if they did not consent then by compulsion. This and other things he did sent him back to Portland, for the landlords raised too great a howl for Forster to withstand. Then the no-rent manifesto was issued and the landlords commenced to starve; hungry men are always open to persuasion and they thought Davitt was not such a bad man after all. The English Tories were really glad of this beautiful change of sentiment, as they saw in it a chance of taking the wind out of the Liberal sails, and they immediately formulated a plan—through the Right Hon. Mr. Smith—by which tenants were to receive state aid to enable them to purchase their holdings. This plan, or policy, was neither more nor less than Davitt's, who lay still in Portland, endorsed by Parnell, who lay in Kilmalsham. The tenants were to pay the money in fifty-six years at three per cent, that is to say, three per cent interest, and another per cent for capital, but the two combined were to be less than rent, even according to Griffith's valuation! This surely was an astounding change. But was Gladstone to be outdone in generosity by those dyed-in-the-wool Tories? Not if he knew it. He was not going to be hurried from power by such a stroke of Davittian policy. He accordingly opened negotiations with Parnell and the result was the tenants' three years arrears of rent are to be settled in this fashion: One to be paid by the State out of the Irish Church fund; one year to be remitted by the landlords, and one year to be paid by the tenants. So much for the present. As concerned the future, the Liberals would also take steps for the establishment of a peasant proprietary, would withdraw Forster and Cowper from office, and release the suspects. This programme galvanized the Tories. Like Tanstallus they saw the water flowing up to their chin and the grapes come down near their lips only to fade away at the nod of the Jupiter Gladstone. Hence they howl, hence they hate Gladstone, hence they cry for a dissolution. And no doubt the dissolution will come, but to what purpose? How will it benefit Whigs or