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Matter inlended for the Militor should be so ad-tered, and must arrive not later than Monday of the week to Insure publishing. The publishers must be notified pleased when a subscriber which his paper stopped, larerast must be paid.

**Ligents — It, Hongonan and L. O'Brane.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY, 27 1896.

Calendar for the Week.

Feb. 27—St. Margaret of Cortona.
28—Ember Day. Lance and Nails of our Lord. Fast.
28—Ember Day. S. Peter Damian.
Bp. C. and D. Fast
Mar. 1—Second Sunday of Lent.
2—S. Simplicius, P.
3—Of the Feria,
4—S. Lucius I., P.

Sir Donald Smith has returned from Sir Donald Smith has required non-winnipeg where he has carried on unofficial negotiations with Mr. Green-way looking to a settlement of the achool trouble. The resolution introduced into the Legislature at Winnipeg by Mr. Sifton does not appear to justify the opinion that Sir Donald has had very much success with his

The British Government has appa rently decided to arbitrate the Vene-rently decided to arbitrate the Vene-suelan question; but according to the extract from The Standard editorial cabled on Monday, the announcement of the decision will be delayed a little while yet. The Standard says there is no hurry for a settlement of the question. English and American Catholic opinion has been influentially exerted, it would seem, to bring about arbitration. The Tablet says:

arbitration. The Tablet says:

"Or Cardinal Vaughan's views there has never been any secret, and we are glad to be able to say that Cardinal Gibbons is of the same mind. Indeed the American Cardinal has long been known in the United States as a public advocate of the application of the principle of arbitration of international quarrels. The two cardinals have coemity been in communication with one another, and the world would welcome some sublic and common uterance which should another, and the world would welcome som public and common utterance which should mark the solidarity of Catholic feeling of this shuject on both sides of the Atlantic.

this sbuject on both sides of the Atlantic."

The following letter appeared in The Globe on Tuesday:

Str.,—You give prominence in your issue of Saturday to a letter from the pen of Rev. Dr. Dewart upon remedial legislation. Will you allow me to ask the reverend gentleman a question or two?

(1) Bid the Privy Council of Englandind that the Roman Catholic minority Manthoba had a "grievance"?

(2) Did the said court give its reasons, or was it a more guess?

(3) Weald you redress "the grievance" socordingly or would you set the

(3) would you set the court finding of the said at naught if a "compalization" happened to find that there was no" grievance"?

(4) Is it "coercion" to ask to have the

should be submitted to Sir Richard Cartwright and Hon, David Mills On wright and from the fitting to answer the questions put directly, we have not the slightest doubt they would say that the Parliament of Canada has a constitutional duty to perform and cannot arede it.

The quality of charity, like mercy, is not strained. It is not charity unless it be impartial. One thing that can be said for Catholic charity is that it is not confined exclusivel is that it is not confined exclusively to Catholic objects. This is true of the great majority of private bequests by Catholics, and the same admirable spirit is almost invariably displayed in the distribution of charity in the rarer instances by Catholic trustees. A case in point is the Toronto Savings Bank Charitable Trust, the annual preceedings of which we publish to day. The House of Industry receives the mane treatment as the House of Providence. We do not presend to say that this rule of impartiality is protised only by Catholies, for to our knowledge very many Protestante here in Toronto conscientiously follow it. But it would be better still if it were the universal rule.

Captain E. L. Poe of the Orniser lenbeim, the man-of-war that brought the remains of the late Sir John

Thompson home to Halifax, and more recently the remains of Prince Honry of Battenberg to England, is a gallant Irishman. In Halifax a year ago the Irishman. In Hallax a year ago the good people of that city got into the habit of calling him by the name of P.y., the fashion having been set by a certain eminent Ontariopolitican, who, being used to the atmosphere of Ottawa. and unaccustomed to the French language thought the name was French. The Poes come from Riverston pear Nempol. Timprary. Captain Poe near Nenagh, Tipperary. Captain Poe is known to possess all the daring for is known to possess all the daring for which Tipperary is famous. He has had an exciting and eventful career. He was on the Bombay when that vessel was burned to the water's edge. Twice he has saved hie and heen rowarded by the medal of the Royal Humane Society. In mid-Atlantic he sprang from the hammonk nettings of the Newcastle and saved an able bodied seaman who had fallen overboard. In the Woosung river he jumped from the Immortalite and saved a stoker from drowning. He saved a stoker from drowning. He saved a stoker from drowning. He has just been presented to the Queen on account of the service performed by his ship in bringing home the remains of Prince Henry of Battenberg. He is a frank, kindly, modest gentleman

The orators at Massey Hall on Saturday evening were very glib in prating of British freedom. Yet none of them cared to say that the remedial policy after all was but a halting disposition to follow British precedents in protecting the religion of the minority in primary education. Prodents in protecting the religion of the minority in primary education. Protection of minorities your anti-remedialists care little for; what they are looking after is the votes of majorities. When Mr. Clarke Wallace was talking about Catholic education and the State it was a pity he did not refer to the case of the Conservative Government. case of the Conservative Governmen in London and the Irish Christian Brothers. The Standard, speaking for the Government, admits that the only reason that can be offered for refusing the Christian Brothers' claims

whether on or off his ship.

refusing the Unrustate Provided as the resent is:

"The impredicability of making any arrangements which will probably asfeguard the rights of the minority in the matter of religious education in the towns the South and West of Ireland.

This allegation is the merest pre-tence; but the justice of minority rights in education is so unquestion able that it can even be microsed in the way the Conservatives [the Orange brethren of Mr. Clarke Wallace] are misusing it in Ireland. But the man who can talk of British precedents in the same breath in which he declares that the majority alone have rights in educational matters is only to be found in Canada.

What is the Matter With Ontario

We have received fro the Registrar General for Ontario the report of births, marriages and deaths for the year ending December 31, 1894. We are sorry to note that the decrease in births in the province continues. The total births recorded continues. The count pirms recorded in 1894 was 42,051, being a total decrease of 848. In the thirteen cities of Ontario there was a decrease of 480 births, and in the rest of the province the decrease was 568. The ecrease is therefore most marked in

Dr. Bryce, the Deputy Registrar-General, figures out a decrease of 1.4 per 1,000 of the population for the statistical year. This is a deplor-able fact, but it is a fact which has able meet, but it is a lact which has been recorded every year of the past decade. It ought to account for the decrease in the school population of the province which The Redister pointed: out in a series of article some time ago. Dr. Bryce has to the trouble of drawing a compa between the state of affairs existing in Ontario and in other countries, viz.: England, Wales, Scotland, France, Massachussets. The result of the com arison is thus stated by him :

parison is thus stated by him:

"What is at once apparent in these tables, is that the birth-rate of every country of Europe and America, where a system of vital statistics has been established; has seen a decline, more or less marked in each, but nowhere more marked perhaps than in Ontario."

The remark is not entirely accurate Drained by emigration as Ireland is of the flower of her population the Irish statistics for the last quarter show the birth-rate to be 0.8 over the average for ten years.

The most natural cause to which s reasing birth-rate may be attributed ewer marriages. This is not the

the marriage-rate is also very low The marriage in our cities increased during 1894 by 171, and the total decrease was but 184, showing a practically steady rate for the whole of the province, whilst there has been little or no fluctuation in the decennia

Is it possible in a young province like Ontario, with its scattered settle ments, and largely agricultural indutries, that the wear and tear of life can be so serious as to affect the natural growth of the population? It would be absurd to think so, for the struggle for bread cannot be a circumstance in a country like ours when compared with England. Yet, the birth ratio per thousand of the population in Ontario is only 10.2. In France, where the Government has had recourse to legislation on this subject, the rate is 22.1. In England tries, that the wear and tear of life subject, the rate is 22.1. In England

it is 30.8 and in Scotland 31.

Our birth-rate is indeed miserable, and Dr. Bryce in considering it does not overlook the social conspiracy not overlook the social conspiracy against nature and morality to which "attention has been called in some "untries." The facts, in the opinion or Dr. Bryce, "call for the attention of all interested in the moral, social and

all interested in the moral, social and economic welfare of the people." Our Ontariostatisticians give useach year a table showing the marriages by denominations in the Province. Would it be objectionable if they took similar pains with the statistics of births? We only know that our Oatholic school population is rapidly

increasing.

The marriage rate is supposed to be a pretty good barometer of the pros-perity of a people. In a country like Canada, where divorce is practically an insignificant evil, people get mar-ried when they can afford to do so. It is depressing to be informed year after year that the marriage rate is below the average. It is not a sign of

prosperity.

This year Dr. Bryce tells us it is "abnormally low, and that the birthrate in relation to those marriages which take place is proportionately still lower." Worse and worse! Last year witnessed 9,920 Methodist marriages. riages in the province. There are There were 6,193 Presbyterian marriages to a Presbyterian population of 458,000. The marriages among ad-458,000. The marriages among ad-herents of the Church of England came up to 4,666 in a denomination numbering 386,000. Of Roman Cath-olics 4,085 married in a population of 858,000.

According to these figures Roman Catholics and Anglicans have contri-buted more liberally to the marriage rate than any of the other classes. rate than any of the other classes. Drawing the usual conclusions they ought to be the most progressive elements in the population, and the best settlers. When the inevitable reflections from the statistics in bulk are so uncomplimentary to the character of Ontario it is only fair that the credit which is due to certain classes

A Mandement Scare.

A section of our separated brethren here in Ontario have not, we ventur week since the days of their infancy when they first heard the horrific story of the Three Bears. Their story of the Three Bears. Their waking hours have been disturbed by continuous and increasing fits of editorial hysteria, and their dreams at might filled with vague terrors of mandements, hierarchies and the 1,20

It all began with the unfortunate notion of Father Lacombe, the aged and saintly missionary to the Indians that when he was in the civilized Eas that when he was in the civilized East be could do as other men, priests and ministers included, do. So he wrote a letter to Mr. Laurier in which he said: "I must tell you that we cannot accept your commission of enquiry and we will do the best to fight it."

Eather Lacombe is as we have

and we will do the best to fight it."

Father Liscombe is, as we have said, a saintly man, but he is no politician or he would have known that the conception of true liberty among those who talk the most about liberty in these parts is not that all men are equally free to communicate their opinions to politicians. Especially ministers of religion. The privilege of political letter writing is, or ought to be, exclusively reserved to Prot tant elergymen. They only are clad in the armor of citisenship. When a Catholic pricet writts his clad in the armor of citizenship. When a Catholic priest writes his political energies have a habit of

and that is hitting below the belt. In the language of The Globe, The Hamilton Spectator and other guardians of our free institutions, it is ubversive of

Still it must not be supposed that the opposite view has been entirely abandoned as a matter of safe public opinion. Notwithstanding the com-prehensive arguments of political journals we imagine that priests and journals we imagine that presses aim ministers will go on writing letters to politicans, cabinot ministors, governors general and others, and that our free constitution will be none the worse for it a hundred years hence.

What startled the intelligent press most, however, in connection with Father Lacombe's letter was the fear that it might be a mandement. People are ever prone to terror over anything vague, and this word mandement has such a formidable archaelock, particularly when printed in italics, it is so like mandamus, which is sort of a legal cottein-german to habeas corpus, that it was no wonder it should have fired the imagination of What startled the intelligent press it should have fired the imagination of our secular contemporaries, and made their editors hide their heads under the bed-clothes whenever they sough respite from their arduous efforts

respite from their arduous chorts to save the godess of liberty from the bogey man.

The tension was great up to Saturday night, when soher second-thought set in after Dalton McCarthy's and Clarke Wallace's characteristi oratory had had a sobering effect.
Mr. Willison of The Globe, Mr.
McLean of The World and Mr.
Sheppard of The Star were all on Sheppard of The Star were at on the platform, and they must have come away wiser and sadder men—as least we hope they did. The suffering public have since been led to hope that there has been

no mandement to be scared about. Nor do we believe it is intended to issue one on the school question. Let us assure our separated brethren that the political individuality of Oatholies will not be thus annihilated. Mande will not be thus annihilated. Mande-ments are not such dreadful things. Our Catholic fellow-citizens in Quebec are quite used to them upon a variety of subjects. And they have not suffered effacement as far as we can see. The hierarchy of Quebec do not see. The hierarchy of Quebec do not write letters to their loyal and loving people that interfere with their rightful freedom. It may be difficult to convince a certain section of our separated brethren in Ontario of the fact, but it is true, notwithstanding, that there is a sounder and more robust public opinion in Quebec than there is no notario, where the manithere is in Ontario, where the manipulators of the Orange lodges and their friendly press can play upon the foars of people, who are otherwise intelligent, with the result that we see individual freedom of judgment and public opinion constantly smothered by a ridiculous old bugaboo.

The Case of Father McRae.

The St. John, N.B., papers of November 22 last contained extended reports of the apostacy of Rev. Francis McRae, a priest of the diocese of Autigonish. He had been received into the Church of England at Frederiction on the previous day by Bishop Kingdon. There was a tremendous splash made about it. tremendous splash made about it. Father McRae has since recented, and has been re-admitted to the Catholic Church. The New Brunswick press has, we believe, been silent concerning the recentation. The Antigonish Cesket of the 20th pub-Antigonan Ossae of the 20th pub-lishes an authoritative note concorn-ing Father McRac's return, and our contemporary makes the remark that the grace which has been vouchsafed to the priest is a very extraordinary one. The recantation is in the follow-

one. The recantation is in the following terms:

"I hereby declare that I deeply deplore my defection, which cocurred during a period of insane folly; and I beg pardon for the terrible scandal of which I have been the occasion to the people of the Maritime Provinces, and especially to the people of this discose with whom I have been more familiar. God in his grodness has vouch-asted me the grace to retrace my steps, and I am again, thank God, a child of the Holy Bennan Catholic Church, having been received by the Very Rev. Father Columbs, in the presence of many witnesses at the Trappist Mossatery Tracadie.

Francis McRaz.

FRANCIS MCKAE, "Ash Wednesday, 1896,"

The New Leader in Parli

The speech of Mr. John Dillon in the British House of Commons, which we publish in part to day, proves him worthy of the leadership of the party in Parliament. Thes he is a leader

acceptable to the Irish people canno be doubted by any one who ha followed his caroor, or knows any thing of his high character, both as public man and a private citizen That character is at once distinguished

That character is a conce darking under for foarlessnoss and wise restraint.

His attack upon the Government was well directed, and his facts were marshalled with the skill of an experienced debater. He was perfectly candid towards the Liberals and their Non-conformist friends in dealing with the education question, so that both sides of the House could clearly understand that no group of Ireland's representatives are the vassels of an English political party.

The speech must have had a good

effect in Ireland, and, if we judge by effect in Ireland, and, it we judge by the prompt support given in the debate to Mr. Dillon's views by Mr. Healy and Mr. Redmond, perfect co-operation is assured in Parliament between Parnellites and Dillonites. That co-operation should pave the way for further improvement in the situation before the close of the session.

BOOK REVIEW.

BOOK REVIEW.

Letters of St. Alexanosus Main. or Licovern, Decided of the Church, lishing of the Control of the

CHRISTIAN UNITZ. By Rev. Morgan M. Sheedy. New York: The Catholic Book Exchange. 120 West 60th street, Price 50 cents.

A very neat little book on a very big bject—the subject of the age indeed A very nest little book on a very big subject—the subject of the age indeed, and one that is big with the thoughts and ensitiments, and the purest, holiest emotions of the whole Christian body do train that runs through is all, is strictly according to that trues to all the ideas regarding this subject: that the first step towards Christian Unity is a fresh test powards Christian Unity is a fresh good in each other. There is, not a discordant note to be detected in any one of the most beautiful sentiments it expresses. It is, moreover, neither redundant with controversy nor tire-some and offensive with cant. Moderation and conciseness in the expression of his opinions seem to have been kept well in the mind of the author.

A Convert Krom Enlagant and the control of the contro

well in the mind of the author.

A Coavert Erom Episcopalianism.

Porviet

Norwich, Ct., Feb. 21.—Rev. W.
P. Pelly, rector of St. Andrew's Episcopal church, Greenville, since October, 1894, has resigned to enter the Roman Catholic church. Mr. Pelly is one of the most learned elergmen in this diceese. He is an Englishman, and a graduate of Oxford, studied in Edilburgh and Paris, has been prefect of St. John's college in appelie candia, vioar of Bellohamp and a diocesan lecturer on church history. Mr. Pelly drew up a code of examination on a dual basis, while he was in Canada.

Western Assurance Company

Like many other companies, the "Western" has had to pay heavily in losses sustained by the Arres which cocurred here in the early. The control occurred here in the early three wines to Nowithstanding the drain than caused, there were earnings for the area of the early three wars all expenses and they all expenses. Notwithstanding the drain thus caused, there were earnings for the year, over and above all expenses, sufficient to pay dividends on stock to the extent of \$100,000.00. The policy-holders are set aside for that purpose; and this substantial backing, it is but reasonable, to expect, will gather strength during 1806. Fradently managed as the "Western" is, there is little far: that prosperous and profusible to the share-holders and inswerer.

Beath of Pather Hogan,

Rev. James Hogan, P.P., of Unter-Rev. James Hogan, P.P., of Upter-grow. died Tuesday ovening, at 8 p. m. The deceased pricet was a man of sains-ly life and of scholarly attainments. He came into the architecese eight years ago from Now York, and since then had gained the esteem, respect and love of all who had the happiness to be acquainted with him. Deceased was a classmate at the Sominary of his Grace the Archbishop of Toronto. R. I. P.

Forty Hours Devotion at St. Michael's Cathedral.

Forty Hours Devollon at St. Mtchael's Cathedral.

Last Sunday morning the beautiful devotion of the Forty Hours Prayer was begun in the Cathedral The Archibishop presided, assisted by Rev. Father Marijon, Provincial O.S. B. Solomn High Mass Corum Pontifice was colerated by Rev. Father Ryan, assisted by Rev. Fathers Troacy and Small Before the procession the Archbishop preached an olequent and impressive sormon on the great adventages which have accrued to the people from this beautiful devotion. It was as if Josus was again personally in our midst as in the days of old. Our Lord wont around the various city parishes healing all manuer of spiritual diseases, giving sight to those who were deaf to the faith and life to those who were deaf to the faith and life to those who were deaf to the faith and life to those who were deaf to the faith and life to those who were deaf to the faith and life to those who were deaf to the faith and life to those who were deaf to the faith and life to those who were deaf to the faith and life to those who were deaf to the faith and life to those who were deaf to the faith and life to those who were deaf to the faith and life to those who were deaf to the faith and life to those who were deaf to the faith and life to those who were deaf to the faith and life to those who were deaf to the faith and life to those who were present and the young ladies from St. Pather Ryan prached on Monday and Tuesday when the children of the parish schools and the young ladies from St. The devotion closed on Wednesday morning.

morning.
The devotion will be resumed in St.
Paul's church next Sunday.

On the Way to Rome.

On the Way to Rome.

Archbishop O'Brien of Halifax and Bishop Howley sailed by the steamer Vancouver on Sunday morning the 16th a few hours later than announced. The party will be gone for four months. They will spend Holy Week in Jerusalem and Nazareth. It is their intention to visit Ireland and Scotlandon their return. Previoustohis departure his Grace was waited upon by a committee of leading Catholics representing the city parishes and presented with an address and a purse-containing 120 sovereigns.

A Charitable Work.

The annual mosting of the Toronto Savings Bank "Charitable Trust" was hold at St. John's Grove, Sherbourne street, on the 18th inst., his Grace the Archbishop presiding, Hugh T. Kelly, Esq., barrister, was introduced as new member of the board. After general business of the meeting, it was ordered that the sum of eight hundred dollars (\$800.00), be sel aside from the funds of the Trust for distribution among the charitos, and the Treasurer, M. O'Comor, be requested to apportion it as tollows:

Good Shepherds, Parkdale... \$ 150 00 St. Nicholas Home... 150 00 House of Providence... 100 00 Grphanage, Sunnyade... 100 00 Grphanage, Sunnyade... 100 00 Children's Aid Association... 100 00 Children's Aid Association... 100 00

\$800 00

The members of the Trust are: His Grace the Archbishop of Toronto, Thomas Flynn, Charles B. Doherty, Hugh T. Kelly and M. O'Connor.

John Macdonald & Co.

The Spring Announcement of this old and reliable establishment appears in another part of this day's edition of The Resistre. Like all the firm's greetings, there is in this one a brevity and directness in which no words are wasted, as occasionally occurs in einpty statements. The prime business ides crystallized in the question put by the Messrs. Macdoniald & Co., whether theirs is not "The Great Assorting House of the Dominion?" and the Trade has answered in the affirmative, as is shown year by year in steady and increasing sales. The values now offered to the public are recommended as being the best in the market; and buyers are invited to inspect the stock, which is complete in every department. Many who have let I dealings with the house will repret the retirement, on account of ill health, of one of the partners—Mr. Paul Campbell. Thoir sincere wish, we are sure, will be that Mr. Campbell may soon regain his old-time health and vigor.

A. O. H. Ditv. No. 5, Tereste.

At the regular meeting of Div. No. 5. O. H. held on February 12th the follow agresolution was unanimously adopted

A. O. H. held on February 12th the following resolution was unanimously adopted: This, whereas, it has pleased Almighty God in His infinite wiedom and mercy to call to Himself, James Noonas, the brother call to Himself, James Noonas, the brother call to Himself, James Noonas, the Prother Michael Noonas, be it Recoived, that we the officers and members of Div. No. 5, A.O.H. whiles bevings In united submission to the will of Division Providence, who sees and does all things for the best, cannot refraint from expressing to Bro. Noonas, and the members of his family in this the hour of their sad bereavement, our sincere sympastry for the loss family in this the hour of their sad bereavement, our sincere sympastry for the loss and with the control of the same of the same with patience this beavery risk, be if arther.

Recolved that a copy of this recolation be forwarded to Bre. Neonas and spread upon the minutes of this meeting and a copy be sent to The Carnotta Recoverna Recoverd for publication.

Signed on behalf of Div. No. 5.

J. J. McCattar, Micrat. Comment.