

The True Witness

AND
CATHOLIC CHRONICLE.

VOL. XXXVII.—NO. 27.

MONTREAL, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1887.

PRICE - - FIVE CENTS

THE RAILWAY WRECK.

LIST OF KILLED AND WOUNDED.

A Montreal Lady's Marvellous Escape.

Some of the Heartrending Scenes of the Wreck—Some of the Survivors Narrate their Experience—Montrealers All Safe.

SPRINGFIELD, Mass., February 5.—The night express to Montreal, which left here at 8.15 o'clock last night, ran off the bridge at Woodstock, Vt., two miles north of White River Junction. The sleepers and passenger cars and bridge were entirely burned. It is reported that there are a large number of people injured and the number killed and burned is also reported to be large. Conductor Sturtevant was fatally burned. The accident occurred probably between one and two o'clock this morning on the Central Vermont railroad.

NEW YORK, Feb. 6.—A despatch from White River Junction received early this morning gives these additional particulars of yesterday's terrible wreck: One of the wrecked cars on the ice has not yet been hauled, and it is thought at least twenty bodies are in the debris. Should this prove so, it will run the list of killed up to over sixty. This will not include those which may have been carried into the river through the ice. The latest computation as to the number of persons on the train places it at over 100. When the last car on the ice is hauled and further identification takes place a more complete list of the killed will be obtainable, although it is thought a score of the bodies already recovered are so disfigured by being crushed and burned as to preclude any possibility of being identified. Many of the survivors will probably die of their wounds. Considering the height from which the cars fell and the speed at which the train was running it is regarded as miraculous that anyone on board escaped.

A BOY'S HEROIC DEED.

One of the first passengers to escape from the burning wreck was Jos. Maignet, a French-Canadian boy, living in Shawinigan, Canada. He was with his father, David Maignet, on three seats behind his father in the third car from the rear. He was dozing in his seat when he felt the car shiver. This motion kept up a few seconds, and then the car dashed over the bridge upon the ice. By hard work the boy succeeded in getting out of one of the car windows which still held its shape. Joseph at once went in search of his father, and discovered him just above him, pinned down by a part of the top of the car which had fallen across his chest and legs. Joseph, who said he was the only one who escaped from the car, rushed to his father's assistance and spoke words of encouragement to him. His father was very cool under the circumstances and told his son to help him as soon as possible. The boy seized his father and struggled with all his strength to extricate him, but in vain. The flames were approaching rapidly. "Joseph," said the father, "run and get me an axe or a saw," but the boy could not find either. "Pull me out, then," said the father. "I even if you have to break my legs to do it." Joseph then engaged with all his might, but could not get his father an inch. With a cry of despair the father gave himself up to his fate. "It is no use, my boy," he said. "There is no hope for me. Leave me and save yourself. But remember the dying words of your father: Always be a good boy; farewell, my son. I will meet you in the other world." The flames were then so close at hand that the boy could remain no longer. He left his father and got out of reach of the flames and watched his parent slowly burn to death. The first to go to

THE RESCUE OF THE PASSENGERS

were engineer Pierce and his fireman. By the time they reached the imprisoned passengers the wreck was all on fire. They hurried to the first coach, and there discovered Conductor Sturtevant pinned down under a weight of timber. They sprang to his rescue and sought to extricate him. They broke the car window to get at him, but in vain. They tried another with the same result. Then they hammered away at the frame of a third, and this time they got at him. Each got hold of an arm and pulled and hauled until at last they got him out, but not before his legs and body were fearfully burned. His ribs and thigh bones were broken. He was laid out upon the ice and rescuers hastened to extricate the other unfortunates. They next came to Maria Sadler, of Orleans, Que. She was pinned down by the legs by heavy broken timbers, and was unable to move. The men got hold of her and pulled with all their strength. At last they got her free, but they broke her ankles in doing so.

SEARCHING THE WRECK.

WESTER RIVER JUNCTION, Vt., Feb. 6.—Probably 8,000 persons visited the scene of the accident to-day. Seven or eight bodies were to-day identified by friends, and many heartrending scenes were witnessed. It is utterly impossible to identify more than ten or twelve of those recovered, the clothing being entirely gone and the bodies burned to a crisp. Conductor Sturtevant died to-day. The work of recovering the wreckage and bodies has been pushed vigorously all day. The ruins have been minutely searched, and probably all the bodies recovered that could be. The ironwork of the cars has been pulled over and cleared away. The total number of bodies recovered to-day is five—one woman

and four men. Doctors have thoroughly examined the charred remains of the victims thus far recovered for the purpose of ascertaining the number. They report it to be up to this morning twenty-one, which with the five found to-day makes thirty-two thus far. All communications regarding passengers should be addressed to Henry E. Tinker, station agent, White River Junction, Vermont. From all information obtainable at this time from consulting roads, ticket agents and survivors, it is believed the total number of souls on board of the ill-fated train, including the train men, was eighty-one. Of these thirty-two are accounted for as above, thirty-five are in the care of surgeons, one died to-day and nine left on the same train with the uninjured.

LEAVING ONLY FOUR UNACCOUNTED FOR.

It is understood there were some children without tickets, so the above figures may be slightly changed. Every article of clothing, scrap of paper, or other thing found, is being carefully saved for the purpose of identification. Little idea can be formed of the difficulties in the way of obtaining a report of the accident that would give the public a correct idea of the condition of things. At the time of the accident, and ever since, the thermometer has registered from five to fifteen degrees below zero. The suffering from cold was intense. There are only two or three farm houses within two miles of the wreck and these are filled with wounded. Others are scattered along for three or four miles with no means of communication except by train. Everything possible is being done for the wounded and dead. Hundreds of people are searching for friends. Work was suspended at dark last night, owing to the severity of the weather, but resumed this morning. The water in the river is not more than five or six feet deep, but the ice is fourteen inches thick. The falling of the cars upon and the heat of the fire melted the ice clear through, and but little of the personal effects of the passengers is left to reveal the identity of their owners. A comparison of the tickets taken up by the incoming and connecting trains

LADIES REDUCES THE NUMBER OF PERSONS ON THE TRAIN.

Conductor Bean, of the Boston & Lowell railway, gives the exact number of tickets taken for points beyond where the accident occurred at thirty-six, of which sixteen were collected in the car "Pilgrim," from Boston. Conductor Barrett, of the Connecticut River railway, counts his at thirty, twelve of these in the car "St. Albans," from Springfield. This leaves only the very few who probably came over the Passumpsic and those starting from here. Chas. H. Pierce, of this place, engineer on the wrecked train, has been employed on the road as an engine for fourteen years, and was considered one of the most faithful employees. He says he had slowed up to about fifteen or twenty miles an hour, as is the custom in crossing long bridges. No blame whatever is attached to him, and after the accident both he and fireman Treacher rendered heroic and efficient aid in rescuing the passengers.

SURVIVORS TELL HEARTRENDING STORIES

of the agonizing deaths of friends and acquaintances. An old man and wife were seen to kiss each other just as a sheet of flame hid them from view. The death of young Dillon was peculiarly distressing. He was pinned down by car wheels and other debris, and calmly talked to friends who had gathered around him until the flames claimed him as their prey. Fully a score of powerful men watched him close his eyes with a despairing cry as the flames reached him and soon all was over. The five bodies recovered are those of the colored porter and a woman supposed to be Miss Boudard of Nashua, N. H., of Mr. D. D. Woodard, of Waterbury, Vt., and a man of large size wearing a Prince Albert black coat, black trousers and red flannel underclothing. In the pocket of the drawers was found a roll of bills amounting to \$27. He wore a double tuss. A ticket found on him was from Boston to Montreal and return via Worcester. The fifth body was apparently that of a woman, but it was so badly charred that it was difficult to determine anything about it. Above were all taken from the water beneath the ruins of the cars.

Continued on eighth page.

HOME RULE FOR SCOTLAND.

SIR GEORGE CAMPBELL'S AMENDMENT TO THE ADDRESS—HIS MOTION WILL, IT IS EXPECTED, HELP THE IRISH CAUSE.

LONDON, Feb. 7.—The question of home rule is about to be approached from a new side in the House of Commons independent of the Parnellite and Gladstonian movements. Sir George Campbell, Gladstonian member for Kirkcaldy division, Scotland, is going to move an amendment to the address in reply to the speech from the Throne, which will raise the question of home rule for Scotland, without particular reference to the other members of the United Kingdom, or even to the rest of Great Britain. A majority of ten Scotch Liberal members will support him, so that his motion is sure to make a good deal of noise and help the Irish cause more or less, even if it should fall of being carried through the house. Mr. Chamberlain and his party have decided to vote for the Radical motions which usually receive their support, provided the Government will engage themselves not to go on them if they are carried. It is believed that an interview which Mr. Chamberlain had with the Marquis of Salisbury on Thursday has relation to this matter. Lord Salisbury is also anxious to learn how he might be able to rely on the support of Mr. Chamberlain on the Irish question, when the Government make their proposals for an increase of coercive powers against the plan of campaign.

ELECTED BY ACCLAMATION.

DUBLIN, February 7.—Edward Kennedy, of Dublin, was to-day elected by the Irish Nationalists of South Sligo without opposition to the House of Commons.

HON. JAMES McSHANE.

Commissioner of Public Works and Agriculture.

The Hon. James McShane, Commissioner of Public Works and Agriculture for the Province of Quebec, was born in St. Joseph street, Montreal, in 1834. He is the son of the late James McShane and Ellen Quin, who came to this country from the county of Armagh, Ireland. His father was an extensive cattle dealer, packer and exporter, and lived in this city for over 50 years. The son was educated by the late Daniel Mahoney and at the College of Montreal, and in 1863 he married Elizabeth Jane Darragh, of Montreal, who died 29th June, 1867. In January, 1869, he again married his present wife, Miss Josephine Katherine Miron, of Plattsburg, N.Y. Active and enterprising in business, he became the pioneer of live export cattle trade, which he pushed with that vim which has marked all his undertakings in commerce as well as in politics. Always "up to his eyes" in business, yet he found time to devote to municipal and provincial affairs and for nearly 20 years he represented his native ward in the City Council. From the first he was popular with the masses, and the cheerfulness with which "he did a good turn when he could" made him the white-haired boy with all who wanted a friend, and earned for him the well-merited and well-intentioned sobriquet of "the people's Jimmy." He was first elected to the Legislature in 1878 as the representative from Montreal West; he was

HOME RULE.

History of Blake's Motion—The Irish Catholic Tories—A Stab in the Back.

QUEBEC, Feb. 2.
On the 4th May, 1886, a motion was made, in the Dominion House of Commons, to go into "Committee of Supply." This was during the height of the Home Rule agitation in the old country. It was at a time when Gladstone wanted his hands strengthened and when the friends of the Home Rule cause, all over the world, had sent him cheering messages of encouragement and hope. The Canadian Parliament was, however, silent. No one appeared to be willing to move in the matter. Since the Home Rule resolution was passed in 1882 the whole aspect of the question had changed. In 1883 it was not a burning question, in 1884 it was. It had become the question of the hour in the civilized world. Gladstone had staked his political life on the issue. He had become its champion and its friend. The Irish people in the old country had asked the Irish abroad to help them. They wanted their uplifted arms strengthened, like Moses on the rock of Horeb. They appealed to the Irish abroad to use their influence in getting the different Legislatures of the world to pass resolutions supporting Gladstone and Parnell and the Home Rule cause. Several States in the American Union led the way. Expressions of sympathy poured into Gladstone from all quarters. He publicly acknowledged the value the plea had on the support thus given him. But Canada was silent. Parliament was in session, and after waiting for some one else to move, the Hon. Edward Blake determined not to let the session pass without doing his best to seal



HON. JAMES McSHANE.

re-elected in 1881; and at the late election in October he was again returned, but this time for Montreal Centre, defeating Mr. Charles C. J. Doherty and Mr. Wm. Keys, labor candidate, by an overwhelming majority. Always a straight Liberal, he has been the consistent champion of economy and retrenchment, and is well known as a pronounced friend of labor and the workmen. He supported the late Hon. Thomas D'Arcy McGee on personal grounds, but on all questions of party allegiance he never wavered from his early principles. Mr. McShane's business capacity and experience will qualify him for the important department over which he presides. He has himself been an extensive Government contractor, as well as having done a large business in the Chicago, New York and Montreal grain, pork and stocks. He is one of the few men in the cattle trade who, in the crisis of some years ago, successfully weathered the storm, and it has been said of him that he owes a great deal of his success to his personal magnetism and bonhomie. In the City Council he has been chairman of the City Hall and Market departments, and his labors on the Police, Road and Finance committees are well known to all the readers of the press. As an Irishman he has been indefatigable in doing good whether in St. Patrick's Society or as director of St. Bridget's Asylum, and distress never appealed to him in vain. The Irish people have no better or no more loyal friend, and as a friend to the poor of all nationalities he is known favorably and well, and his first act this morning was to interest himself in behalf of an unfortunate who was in trouble.

He is a man of broad views, and although a staunch Irishman all nationalities and all creeds will receive fair play at his hands. He is known to be without prejudice, and yet no man fights more loyally for his own people than he does when the occasion demands this. This he proved on the floor of the Legislature during the debate on the Home Rule question and on many other occasions in the City Council as well. He is the only truly representative Irishman we have ever had in the Quebec Ministry, and if there is any opposition to his re-election, the Irishmen of the Centre are sure to resist it as unwarrantable and factious. The Irishmen of Montreal owe it to themselves to return him with an overwhelming majority if opposition is attempted. The chances are, however, that he will be returned by acclamation, a compliment he well deserves from the people whose interests he has now served for nearly two decades.

Secretary of State for the Colonies was commanded to state that Her Majesty will always gladly receive the advice of the Parliament of Canada on all matters relating to the Dominion and the administration of its affairs, but with respect to the questions referred to in the address, Her Majesty, in accordance with the constitution of this country, will have regard to the advice of the Imperial Parliament and Ministry, to which all matters relating to the affairs of the United Kingdom exclusively appertain.

"That this house, having reference to the tenor of such answer, does not deem it expedient again to address Her Majesty on the subject, but earnestly hopes that such a measure, or such measures, may be adopted by the Imperial Parliament as will, while preserving the integrity and well being of the Empire and the rights and status of the minority, be satisfactory to the people of Ireland, and permanently remove the discontent so long unhappily prevailing in that country."

That was a stunner. The friends of Mr. Costigan were astonished. They were dumb-founded. His amendment was a deadly thrust at the Home Rule cause. After Gladstone had thanked the American citizens who sent him resolutions thanking him for the hand he had taken, Mr. Costigan's remark was nowhere. The whole aspect of the question had changed since 1882. It had changed for the better. In May, 1886, Gladstone passively encouraged the different legislatures of the world to help him. And Costigan, above all men living, was one of the last from whom the Irish people expected the blow. Mr. Casey, a Liberal M.P., told him as much, and then Mr. J. J. Curran took up the cudgels, for the Government, of course—for the loves and fishes and against the old land. No mistake about it. He opposed the resolution. He knew that Sir John and his change could not like it. And then Mr. McMillen, M.P., took the floor, and he moved an amendment to the amendment to strike out all words after the word "adhesion" and insert the following:—

"And that this House is confirmed and strengthened by the events which have occurred since the passage of the said address in its condition that the interests, both of Ireland and the rest of the Empire, will be served in the highest degree by this granting of Home Rule to Ireland."

Then Burns, another Irish Catholic Tory, supported Costigan's amendment, and so did O'Brien, the Orangeman from Muskoka, and Orton, another Tory from Wellington, followed in his footsteps and all went as Wallace, all Tories, sang to the same tune. At last it was Blake's turn. He supported Mr. McMillen's amendment in a magnificent address, which occupied an hour, while the Hon. Mr. Thompson stood by Costigan and the Orange Tories who frowned down Home Rule to a man. The House then divided, the Liberals unanimously for Home Rule, but the Tories were only numbered sixty, while his enemies numbered 118. But all honor to a few Conservative, Peter Mitchell, Wright, Desjardins, Cousin, Dupont, Bergeron, Amyot, Giguault, and Desautels, of Maskinonge, who voted for Blake and Home Rule. Then another vote was taken on the Costigan amendment, which was carried by 117 to 61. The subject matter. But Blake wanted even then to make the best of a bad job and moved "that a copy of the resolution be communicated forthwith to Mr. Gladstone." Sir John at once objected, but Mr. Costigan moved that a copy be sent to Mr. Parnell. Sir Blake then asked that he be allowed to speak, but they refused to let him. Mr. Curran supported Sir John's objection. Then Mr. Mills moved that it be sent to Mr. Parnell and Mr. Gladstone. And this is the motion that Mr. Curran supported. But that, too, was lost and the farce wound up by resolving to send it to the Colonial Secretary. As for the motion now by Mr. Mills, it has never been taken into anything—that it is. In fact it matters little where the half-hearted thing was sent anyhow. It did no good, could do no good, and Home Rule received a knock-down blow on that Thursday, May 6th, 1886.

WORK AND ORGANIZE.

The following from the *Globe* is well worthy the consideration of the electors at the present moment when there seems a tendency abroad to over-confidence:

We acknowledge that all the signs point to Liberal victory on the 22nd of February. The Governments of all the greater Provinces are Liberal, and the bye-elections have all resulted in Liberal victories. But we must impress upon Liberal electors that signs are not to be trusted except by men who work day in and out to make the event correspond to the signs. The energy expended in hallooing before one is out of the woods may seriously detract from the effort needed to reach the open. Brag is a good dog, but Stedfast is a better. The Liberals can beat the Tories, and even beat them handsomely on the 22nd of February, but there is only one way to victory—as to learning, WORK! Any man who wishes Mr. Blake to triumph, and who does not use his energies to bring about that result, may reckon himself among the causes of political disaster. Mind this, that nearly all the work done already will have been wasted unless still more strenuous exertion be made now.

Liberals! You have the outworks! You can go into the citadel!

But if you halt to exult over what you have gained already, you can gain no more, and are quite likely to lose much of what you have carried. Therefore, organize—organize—organize—and don't make the mistake anywhere of supposing that the job is done when the organization to do it is ready. You need to make an absolutely complete canvass; to arrange for bringing voters to the polls; and to watch vigilantly the bribery agents of the Bondlers. This is to be a Boodle Campaign on the part of the Tories—all the signs are that their tactics are those of a 72-great efforts are, therefore, necessary. You therefore—if you do that with all your strength you shall rejoice with all your hearts on the 23rd February.

MORE FANATIC FEARS.

The following despatch from Toronto is published in the American papers:—

TORONTO, Feb. 2nd.—The papers here to-day publish an anonymous letter addressed by it, is said, good French-Canadian, of Montreal, to the Rev. Louis Beaudry, a French-Canadian priest, who has been converted to Protestantism, in which they state they have organized to take his life. They intend to cast lots to see which shall kill him. Mr. Beaudry has recently been preaching against the Roman Catholic faith, holding up its doctrine to ridicule and telling the English-speaking Canadians that French-Canadianism is a few years become completely dominant in the Dominion.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

Important Statement Regarding the Fisheries.

MR. PARNELL ON IRISH AFFAIRS.

LONDON, Feb. 7.—Sir James Ferguson stated in the Commons this evening that the correspondence between Great Britain and the United States relative to the Canadian fisheries question would in a short time be laid before Parliament. The correspondence, he said, contains full information about the history of the whole affair down to a very recent date.

MR. PARNELL'S AMENDMENT.

Mr. Parnell moved his amendment to the address in reply to the Queen's speech. The amendment is as follows:—

"The relations between the owners and the occupiers of land in Ireland have not been seriously disturbed in the cases of those who granted to their tenants such abatements as were emanated by the prices of agricultural and pastoral produce. The remedy for the crisis in Irish agrarian affairs will be found, not in an increased stringency of criminal procedure, or the pursuit of such novel, doubtful and unconstitutional measures as were recently taken by Her Majesty's Government, but in such reforms of a land system of government as will satisfy the needs and secure the confidence of the Irish people."

Mr. Parnell maintained that if the bill for the stopping of evictions, which he introduced last session, had been passed the condition of Ireland would have been greatly improved. The operations of the measure would have effectively prevented the present disturbed relations between the landlords and the tenants in Ireland. The blame for the present serious position of Irish domestic affairs rested with the Government. The Government, despite this, seemed about to renew the

MISTAKE OF ATTEMPTING COERCION IN IRELAND.

The speaker solemnly warned the Government that if they again tried coercion they would again fail as they had always failed when trying that policy. Coercion would never bring about a better state of affairs in Ireland or assist in establishing peaceful relations between the two countries. (Cries of "Oh!" "Oh!" and cheers from the Irish members.) If the Government's proposed alteration of the criminal procedure acts meant an attack on the rights of the people, the immediate result would be that Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, chief secretary for Ireland, and the Marquis of Londonderry, the viceroy, would find themselves rapidly descending an inclined plane, and they would soon come to the bottom.

ASKING PARLIAMENT FOR MORE COERCION.

Sir Michael Hicks-Beach wished to attack the authors of the plan of campaign, but thought to crush the plan by mauling his opponents and putting them into jail. All past experience has shown that the work of suppression would only begin when such things were done, for the secret societies would spring up and agrarian and political crimes would revive in the worst forms. The Government had already been guilty of unprecedented action in the manner in which they had conducted the prosecution of Mr. John Dillon. They had been equally arbitrary in the method employed to suppress the Sligo meetings, and in the adoption of a method of striking off juries in such a way as to exclude Catholics. The speaker asked if any government could expect that a nation, three-fourths of whose population were Catholics, would be content to have no representation of their faith in the jury trials of their country.

REFERRING TO THE GLENBLIGH VICTORIES.

Mr. Parnell declared that the landlords gave their tenants a month only in which to find five years' rent arrears and costs. The ultimate offer made by the landlords to take a half year's rent looked generous, but the costs involved amounted to over two years' rent. The National League, Mr. Parnell continued, never interfered until the work of eviction was in full swing. As one who had no responsibility in bringing forward the plan of campaign, he could speak freely upon it. Many tenants who now had a roof over their heads would have been cast out upon the bare hillsides but for the plan. The reduction in the number of evictions for the last quarter was mainly due to the plan, while the Government waited two months before declaring the plan illegal. Was it illegal? That remained to be seen. In the meanwhile he attached no importance to the assertion of illegality. The Government talked of the robbery of landlords, forgetting that almost every title to Irish land was founded upon wholesale robbery and confiscation. The bulk of the improvements made by tenants had been seized by the landlords, who had long been robbing the tenants of the produce of their labor and embezzling their rights. (Irish cheers.) Mr. Parnell

WENT ON TO CONDEMN COERCION

as an incitement to conspiracy. He taunted the Tories with the declaration that if they got powers of oppression equaling those of the Czar they would never be able to administer them under a constitutional government, nor so long as the Irish members had seats in Parliament. (Cheers.) Even now, at the eleventh hour, if the Government refrained from the policy of experimentation and stopped the infliction of injustice by legal enactments and a system of repression which has done more to demoralize Irish tenants than all the Fenian agitators from New York to San Francisco—if they would give Ireland power to do for herself what England seemed to have neither a wish nor power to do, Ireland would show by her tranquility and prosperity how unfairly she had been treated in the past and how unjust was the assertion that the Irish were not a law-abiding people. (Cheers.) P. McDonald, Nationalist member for North Sligo, seconded the amendment.