

The True Witness.

CATHOLIC CHRONICLE.
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We beg to remind our Correspondents that no letters will be taken out of the Post-Office, unless prepaid.

MONTREAL, FRIDAY, AUGUST 26.

ECCLIASTICAL CALENDAR.
AUGUST, 1864.

- 26, Friday—St. Jeanne de Chantal, V. a. (21) d.
 - 27, Saturday—St. Joseph of Calzante, C. D.
 - 28, Sunday—15th after Pentecost, Sacred Heart of Mary, d. m.
 - 29, Monday—Decollation of St. John the Baptist, d. m.
 - 30, Tuesday—St. Rose of Lima, V. d.
- SEPTEMBER, 1864.
- 1, Thursday—St. Augustin, E. D.
- The "Forty Hours' Adoration" of the Blessed Sacrament will commence as follows:—
- 27, Saturday—St. Vincent, Montreal.
 - 29, Monday—St. Jeanne F. F. de Chantal of L'Isle Perrot.
 - 31, Wednesday—St. Louis of Terrebonne.

NEWS OF THE WEEK

Of Denmark it may be said that she was, or in the words of the great Roman orator when announcing the consummation of the Cataline tragedy "she has lived." Peace is concluded—and by it Denmark surrenders Schleswig, and Holstein and Lauenburg. What then is left of the ancient kingdom? A few worthless islands, and some thousands of acres, more or less, of barren heath, with a population less than a million and a-half. Under such circumstances it is impossible for Denmark long to maintain the name and state of a European Kingdom, and it will, it is to be supposed, be finally incorporated with either its Germanic or Scandinavian neighbors. We may be thankful, however, that for the time the prospects of a European war have been averted; though it appears that already the Germans are falling out amongst themselves, and much animosity is displayed by the smaller States towards Prussia. It is also rumored that France has entered a protest against any extension of Prussian territory, without the consent of the Great Powers by which its boundaries were originally traced.

The laying of the first stone of the great O'Connell memorial took place in Dublin the 8th inst., the Lord Mayor officiating. The proceedings were imposing, and were attended by the chief dignitaries and clergy of the Catholic Church. In the evening there was a grand banquet at the Rotundo, at which again the Lord Mayor presided—and at which most of the Prelates of the Church were present. The toast of the Hierarchy and Clergy of Ireland was responded to by His Grace the Archbishop of Cashel in a magnificent discourse. Every thing passed off in the most orderly manner in Dublin, but we see that at Belfast, the Orangemen attempted a counter-demonstration—and endeavored to create a riot by burning O'Connell in effigy. The Dublin Celebration however was most successful, not only because of the thousands who took part therein, but because of their exemplary conduct. So long was the Procession that it took two hours to pass a given point: "but," says the Times' correspondent, by no means a partial critic "their conduct was marked with good order and good humor throughout. The police had little else to do beyond sending vehicles in the right direction." On the whole sums up the same writer, "Those who got up the demonstration had every reason to congratulate themselves with the result. It was undoubtedly a magnificent display, and none of O'Connell's monster meetings was more orderly or peaceably disposed. There was no manifestation of sectarian feeling on the part of the most ignorant—no disposition to molest any one on account of his religion or politics."—Times' Correspondent.

This is a flattering testimony from such a quarter to the love of fairplay inherent in the Irish Catholic breast. Could as much be said, even by a Protestant witness, of one of those displays by which the Orangemen celebrate the pious and immortal memory of the butcher of Glencoe?

The Galway Steamship Line is compelled to wind up its affairs, and the Postmaster General has cancelled the contract with the Company, whose accounts are now in the hands of appointed liquidators.

With the most diligent gleaning of Yankee telegrams it is almost impossible to obtain a gram of truth from amongst the heaps of indigestible rubbish daily issued. On the whole it

would appear that the siege of Petersburg is virtually suspended; that the Confederates are in force in the Shenandoah Valley; that Atlanta still bravely holds out, that it is defended by 85,000 troops, and is covered by formidable works against which General Sherman has made several desperate but ineffectual efforts; that Admiral Farragut continues his attack upon Mobile, with no decisive results hitherto; and finally that the Atlantic ports of the Northern States are partially in a state of blockade by the Confederate man-of-war Tallahassee, which vessel it is expected will soon be joined by several consorts.

Our Canadian papers of all shades of politics, are full of complaints of the outrages and deceptions perpetrated by Yankee kidnappers upon British subjects, with the view of obtaining recruits. Unfortunately our Government, whether from apathy or from incapacity does nothing, and the evil is assuming gigantic and most menacing dimensions. The law it is to be feared is defective, and does not give the Government means to grapple effectually with the evil, and to this perhaps after all the impunity of these Yankee man-thieves is to be attributed. It is a great pity that the law does not authorise the flogging of crimps. This punishment has been applied with most salutary effects to the "garreters" in England, and might beneficially be extended in Canada to the scoundrels from South of the Lines, engaged in tempting British soldiers to desert, and who shrink not, when the opportunity offers, from employing force to effect their rascally designs. It would do an honest man's heart good to see one of these Yankee crimps tied up to the cart's tail, and to hear the rascal bellowing under the infliction of the cat-o'-nine-tails.

The reports of the state of the crops in Upper Canada is favorable. The yield will, it is expected, be about an average as to quantity, and the quality is good.

The Globe of the 15th calls upon us to show cause, to give reasons, for our repugnance to and hostile attitude towards, the "constitutional changes" which, under the pseudonyme of Federation, have been announced as the Ministerial policy, and which the Globe and the Clear Grits of Upper Canada are seeking to impose upon us. As we are always ready to give every man a reason for the faith that is in us, we will cheerfully comply with the request of the Globe; premising, however, that, within the narrow limits of a newspaper article, it is impossible to do more than to briefly indicate some few of the more prominent motives which induce us to oppose the projected constitutional changes.

But first of all, and as a point of great importance in the actual controversy and which should never be lost sight of, we would observe that, to justify our attitude towards the policy advocated by the Globe we are not, in logic, bound to prove that it will work evil to Lower Canada, destroy her autonomy, or menace her peculiar national and religious institutions; but that, on the contrary, the authors and advocates of that policy are bound to prove that it will not, and that it cannot, in any manner be injurious to our Province, and these interests for which we humbly plead. The *onus probandi* rests, not with the opponents, but with the friends, of the proposed constitutional changes, and that because they are changes, or innovations upon the existing order of things. All organic changes or revolutions are to be deprecated; resource to them can never be justified except in cases of extreme or absolute necessity; and they are therefore always to be presumed bad, until the contrary shall have been proved, and until it shall have been shown also that they afford the only, or best possible remedy for the evil which necessitates them. We cannot therefore, in sound logic, be called upon to desist from, or even to assign any reason for, our hostility to the proposed organic constitutional changes, until it shall have been proved—first that they are absolutely necessary or unavoidable; secondly, that in them, that is to say in the Globe's scheme, is to be found the best possible and only conceivable remedy for existing evils; and above all the best possible or conceivable arrangement for Lower Canadian interests in particular, as it is the interests of Lower Canada alone which at present occupy our attention. If in time of sickness a travelling quack should call upon us, and urge us to take his infallible *nostrum*, we would naturally, first demand proof of its virtues, and should not see ourselves obliged to prove its deleterious qualities before refusing to swallow the proffered dose. We would call for an analysis of the pill; and were this withheld, were we told that in good time its component parts should be revealed to us, but that in the *interim* we must be content to take the vendor's word for its good qualities, our suspicions would be strongly aroused against it; and these suspicions certainly would not be allayed, had we before our eyes the sad spectacle of a neighbor who, having for years been in the habit of taking the great "Federation Pill," was now, in consequence, suffering most severely from severe purging, and bloody cholice, and was thereby re-

duced to the last extremity of prostration. Under such circumstances we should consider the quack very impudent, and very illogical were he to call upon us to give reasons why we declined taking his infallible BROWN PILLS; and we should strongly suspect that the secret of his anxiety to foist upon us his wares was to be found, not in a tender regard for our Constitution, but in his keen apprehension of his own pecuniary interests. We would respectfully entreat the Globe to lay to heart, and to endeavor to apply this little apologue.

But waiving this objection, we will condescend to give our contemporary some of our reasons for refusing to purchase his great "Constitutional Remedy" at any price; and the first reason that we will assign, is that it is a patent imposition; that it is offered to us under a false name, and is therefore justly obnoxious to suspicion.

The Globe calls the remedy 'Federation'; and for the present carefully abstaining from hazarding any opinion on the merits or demerits of "Federation"—we oppose the measure announced to us as that which the Ministry intend to give us, because it is not Federation at all, and indeed differs essentially therefrom. It is in short supremely ridiculous to apply the term "Federation" to the new relations which, by the proposed constitutional changes, it is intended to establish betwixt Upper and Lower Canada. Let us at least endeavor to understand what we are talking about; let us for once endeavor to ascertain the meaning of the words which we employ; let us not for ever present to the world the humiliating spectacle of bearded men talking arrant nonsense for which boys at school would deserve to be whipped.

What is Federation? In what does it essentially consist?

(1.) Federation, as every school-boy knows, is derived from the Latin word *Fœdus*, and signifies a league or compact, in which it essentially consists.

(2.) But to every conceivable league or compact there must be two distinct or separate parties. A cannot make a compact with A, nor contract a league or Federation with himself—because he is one. A man who should talk even about making a league with himself, would very properly be set down as a "man beside himself"—*Anglice*, a fool.

(3.) But Upper and Lower Canada are politically One, one Province; and therefore as a political unit, Canada is morally as well as legally incapable of contracting a league, or Federation with itself—because it is ONE not TWO, and because there can be no league, compact, or *foedus* to which there are not two distinct and independent parties. To apply the term "Federation" to the constitutional changes which it is proposed to make by means of the common legislature of the political unit Canada, is what in Ireland would be called a *bull*—a *bull* as monstrous or grotesque as any that ever fell from the lips of Sir Boyle Roche. Our existing united legislature is morally and legally incompetent to give us a "Federation," or Government based upon Federal principles.

It may indeed give us, or with the help of Anglo-Saxon votes may impose upon us, a new constitutional system, and to that system so imposed it may, if it so pleases, apply the term "Federation;" but for all that it will not be a Federation, or anything bearing the most remote resemblance to a Government based upon Federal principles. So in a fit of facetiousness, Mr. George Brown, if he so pleases, may call his hat, a diadem; but after all, it will still be a hat, and it would be just as well to call it so at once, instead of calling it a diadem.

No Federation in short, betwixt Upper and Lower Canada is possible, or even conceivable, until Upper and Lower Canada shall again have become Two; and until, to each, its separate legislature or distinct organisation as a body politic shall have been restored. Repeal of the Union, therefore, *per se* and simple, is the one essential, indispensable preliminary to a Federation of the Canadas; and he who talks of "Federation" without this essential preliminary, betrays, either his gross ignorance of the meaning of the words he uses, or his intent to cheat us and to wrest from us our assent to organic constitutional changes upon false pretences. On either hypothesis, the man is a quack, a palpable political quack.

What then do the constitutional changes advocated by the Globe, but opposed by the TRUE WITNESS, imply? seeing that they do not, and cannot imply Federation—that is to say, league or compact betwixt Two distinct and independent political entities.

They imply simply Unification and Centralisation—always and everywhere, in Canada as in Italy, the last words of Democracy and the Revolution, which every true Conservative and Catholic should hate as he hates their father the devil. The policy which for the nonce, and at the bidding of the Clear-Grit chief, our Minis-

*Failing in obtaining this Repeal, we should insist upon the "Double Majority" to every measure that may be laid before our Legislature, affecting the relations of Upper and Lower Canada—as thereby a quasi dualism would be established.

ters have adopted, or perhaps have only pretended to adopt, is, in principle, the policy of Cavour, of Mazzini, and of Garibaldi. It is the policy which forcibly annexes Naples to Piedmont, which maintains an army of eighty thousand men to enforce Italian "Unity" upon the unhappy and refractory Neapolitans; and which in the name of the same "Unity," cries out to the Holy Father, to the successor of St. Peter, to come down from his throne, in order that Victor Emmanuel, the tool of the Revolution to-day and its victim to-morrow, may mount thereon. Yes! This is the policy, these the principles which the TRUE WITNESS always faithful to Catholic and Conservative principles, opposes when it opposes a scheme which under the plausible name of Federation, is but an old scheme or policy of the Clear-Grits and Rouges for Canadian Unification revived. Yes! the policy which we condemn, against which with earnest even though feeble voice we would warn our readers, is the policy that has destroyed the liberties of the United States—the policy of the frantic Abolitionists and No-Popery fanatics of the North—and against which, with heroic courage, and at so many sacrifices the brave Southerners have for these three years past gallantly done battle with the sword. The enemy with whom we have to contend with the pen, when we oppose the policy of the Globe, is in fact the enemy against whom since the devil's out-break of '89, the friends of order, of liberty and of religion, have always had to contend, though the cunning fiend well knows how to change his name and his aspect so as almost to deceive the most astute. He is a clever devil, but by one mark may you always detect him, no matter what his disguise. He is always, he cannot help it—it is the nature of the beast—mumbling about Union and Unification. "Republique une et indivisible," he belches forth from the terrible mountain, and in the Jacobin Clubs; "Italian Unity" is his shriek in the clubs of the Freemasons of Turin, and in the dens where Roman Liberals—men after Mr. George Brown's own heart—meet to conspire against the Holy Father and the independence of the Church. On this Continent and in the United States you detect the same nasty democratic devil by his incessant clamors for the preservation of the American Union, by his constant depreciation of "States Rights;" whilst in Canada, when you hear the ominous words "Representation by Population—no dividing lines—one country, one nationality," you may be sure that the archfiend, the demon of democracy and Unification is at your elbow. This, we say, is the shibboleth by which the devil and his servants, *i.e.*, the partizans of the Revolution, may invariably be detected.

But we shall be asked—have not the Conservative party, or a section thereof at least, in Canada adopted the policy of Mr. George Brown? do they not also advocate the scheme which he calls Federation? how then can it be repugnant to Conservative principles? To this question we find it no easy, or pleasant matter to reply; seeing that we eschew personalities, that we would not attribute bad motives to any one, and because, really we do not yet know how far the support given by the Conservative section of the Ministry to the Clear-Grit section, is real, or only apparent. But we will say in the language of Abe Lincoln "that this objection reminds us of a little story."

Some years ago *Punch* wittily but faithfully characterised the relative position of parties in England, during the Corn Law debates, by a Cartoon, wherein were represented the Peelites as naughty boys, stealing the clothes of the Whigs whilst the latter were bathing. This is the story; and does it not strike some of our readers that *Punch's* Cartoon might happily be reproduced here? Would it not most accurately depict the relative attitudes of the so-called Conservative supporters of the Globe's policy, and of their old political opponents, the Rouges? The cast off clothes of the latter have in fact been picked up by their old adversaries; and then, brushed and polished up a little so as to conceal the long accumulated filth; and the ravages of years, these same discarded garments are now held up to us, as new Conservative measures which are just suited to our form and constitution, though, rag for rag, the same as those which but the other day we rejected with nausea.

We would say nothing to offend the most sensitive: but we would defy any one to point out the least substantial difference betwixt the Brown-Cartier policy of to-day (as defined in the Globe), and the Brown-Dorion policy of '58. The name of the thing is altered indeed, and instead of being spoken of as "checks and guarantees" it is called Federation. But, and we are prepared to prove it, in every essential feature the scheme which the Globe tells us the present Ministry have adopted as their own, is identical with that which some years ago, justly provoked the severe criticisms of the entire Conservative press of the Province, when adopted by M. Dorion and the Rouges.

"Federation" in short as defined by the Globe, and as understood by Mr. Geo. Brown,

is simply "Representation by Population" with "checks and guarantees," in the shape of subordinate "local governments," exercising "delegated" functions; "checks and guarantees" in short, worth no more than the parchment upon which they would be engrossed. This also was the Brown-Dorion policy; and as we strenuously opposed the latter, so also in honor and consistency we cannot but oppose as strenuously, the former, even though, to tickle the ears of simpletons without, it is called "Federation."

This is one reason why the TRUE WITNESS, ever consistent, incapable of change, indifferent to men and parties, but inflexibly faithful to Conservative and Catholic principles, opposes the policy advocated by the Globe. Other reasons we will assign in another number. Enough thus for the present.

YELLOW FEVER AT QUEBEC.—The Quebec Daily News of the 20th inst. announces the appearance of yellow fever at Quebec, and states that already several deaths have occurred from that epidemic, and that other cases are reported.

Our contemporary attributes the introduction of the disease to the ship *Montgomery* from Nassau. During the voyage to Quebec several deaths from yellow fever occurred on board; but through the neglect of the Health Officers the ship was admitted to *pratique* immediately on her arrival in port at the beginning of this month. In a few days afterwards the stewardess of a vessel lying at the pier next to the *Montgomery* was taken ill, and died in a short time with symptoms very like those of true yellow fever; but it was asserted that drink and ill usage were the causes of her death. Last week, however—a boy named M-Cluskey was taken ill, and died on Friday morning; and in his case there could be no room for doubt. The body was examined by Dr. Wherry and Dr. Roy at the request of the Health Committee, who certified that yellow fever was the cause of death. Since Friday last several other cases have been reported.

The Daily News adds that "there is no cause for needless alarm yet," which is strictly true, since there never can be cause for "needless alarm"; but precautions, and above all attention to cleanliness are called for. As to the story of the importation of the disease we may be permitted to entertain doubts; for we have often heard medical men in the West Indies scout the idea that yellow fever was really infectious. There can be no doubt, however that dirt, the exhalations arising from decaying animal or vegetable matter, as well as drunkenness, and excess in living, are conditions favorable to the propagation of the disease—and unfortunately Montreal is dirty enough and stinking enough for anything.

Yellow Fever is raging at Bermuda, and to supply the gaps caused in the garrison by this dangerous malady, numbers of medical officers have been sent from the regiments stationed in Canada to the plague-stricken islands. We honor the dashing leader of the storming party, or the charge; but the service on which these brave officers have been despatched is one at least as dangerous—and to the full as honorable. Indeed it demands courage of a higher order to face the horrors of the epidemic, than to lead a storming party in the face of a battery vomiting grape and shell. All honor then to these brave men who have rushed to the assistance of their fellow-countrymen and comrades in Bermuda, and whose names we copy from the Montreal Herald:—

Dr. Taylor, Surgeon Major, from the Kingston garrison; Dr. Barrow, Surgeon Major; Moffatt, Surgeon; Miroy, Assistant Surgeon, 30th Regiment; Ferguson, Assistant Surgeon, 30th Regiment; Harrison, Assistant Surgeon, R. A., from Montreal; Dr. Clarke, Surgeon from Quebec; Dr. Mills, Surgeon, from Hamilton; Dr. O'Brien, Assistant Surgeon, Sandwich; Dr. Hinde, Assistant Surgeon, Niagara; Dr. Killery, Assistant Surgeon, St. Johns; and Dr. Meadows, Assistant Surgeon, R.O.R. We are sure that good wishes for the safety of these gentlemen from all who know them, and many who they leave behind will remember the heroism with which they have undertaken a duty so full of danger."

M. RAMEAU ON CANADIAN POLITICS.—We regret that from want of space in this week's issue, we are compelled to hold over for another week, a translation of an article by M. Rameau on the Coalition, and the projected Confederation of the British North American Provinces. M. Rameau has been long favorably known to the Canadian public as a man of letters, and as one who has made the fortunes, and the future of his race on this Continent, the subject of his special studies. Assuredly were we to find ourselves in opposition to one so well qualified by those special studies, and by his complete isolation from all the disturbing influences of party politics, as is M. Rameau to form a correct, unbiased opinion upon those questions which now agitate the public mind—we should suspect that we were in error in some of our calculations; we would carefully examine our position, and would endeavor, at all events, to find out wherein the differences betwixt us and the eminent French writer had their origin, so as to rectify that position.

Fortunately this task is spared us, for we were, we will not say, surprised in the least, but highly flattered at finding that, to the most