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London, Saturday, April 29, 1893.

EFFORTS TO NULLIFY HOME RULE.

The Methodist ministers of Ireland are now engaged in making desperate efforts to defeat the Home Rule Bill, and a recent despatch is to the effect that more than two hundred have signed an appeal to Methodist ministers in England to oppose it on religious and commercial grounds.

The total number of Methodist ministers in Ireland does not exceed two hundred and fifty, so that if the report be true we may presume that there is a practical unanimity on this subject; but with all their congregations the Methodists do not amount to more than about fifty thousand throughout Ireland, and they are, of course, among the favored minority who are satisfied with the old condition of things, whereby all offices and places of emolument under the Government are monopolized by that minority.

It is not very much a matter of surprise that the Methodists should wish this condition of things to be perpetuated on religious grounds, for a pampered and favored class are nearly always selfish, wishing their privileges to remain intact; but it would be the old story of the tail wagging the dog if their opinions were to prevail.

No one presumes to deny now that the immense majority of the people of Ireland want Home Rule. The wishes of a considerable minority deserve to be treated with due respect, if they are reasonable, and it must be acknowledged that the Irish Nationalists have agreed to deal with the Protestant minority with the greatest consideration. They have been willing to accept the proposed Home Rule Bill now before Parliament, with all the guarantees against Catholic ascendancy in matters of religion and education which could be devised by a thoroughly Protestant Cabinet; and what more could a Protestant minority reasonably desire? Yet the Methodist ministers actually demand something more than this, and that something is that an unjust condition of Protestant ascendancy and monopoly of offices shall be maintained, besides retaining all the inequities of the present land laws. We venture to say that the Nationalists will not calmly accept such a solution, the Methodist ministers to the contrary notwithstanding.

A new solution to the Ulster difficulty is also said to be under consideration. Some of the Liberal members, it is said, will support an amendment to the Home Rule Bill by which Londonderry, Antrim, Down and Armagh shall have the option between Government and the Irish or the Imperial Parliament.

We cannot credit that Mr. Gladstone's Government will permit such an amendment as this. These very counties of Ulster are the localities where the tyranny of Orange domination has hitherto run riot, for the reason that the other counties are almost thoroughly Catholic. In fact, Ulster is by no means represented to be, inasmuch as it has a Catholic majority if Belfast be taken from it. It would be supremely ridiculous to institute a special form of Government for four counties which form as much a part of Ireland as any county in the country. It would be just as reasonable to make Belfast an autonomous city, or to institute it under a special form of Government; and we are convinced that neither one nor the other of these things will be done.

If it be so necessary to invent such guarantees as these which are being suggested for the protection of the Protestant minority in Ireland, which never suffered at the hands of Catholics, what justice would there be in leaving the Catholic minority of the four counties at the tender mercy of the Orangemen, who have always used their power, and use it still, for oppression?

The Catholic cities and counties of

Ireland have not used their majorities for the purpose of excluding Protestants from employment, or from Parliament, as the Protestant majorities in the four counties have done toward the Catholics. We say, therefore, that if the Protestants of Ulster want guarantees, the Catholics of that Province, and especially of the four counties named, are still more in need of them.

Unnecessary as guarantees are for the Protestants of Ireland, the Catholic Nationalists have never said a word against granting them, and under the Home Rule Bill as now proposed, the Protestant minority will be, as Mr. Blake has already expressed, "the spoiled children" of the country. It would be supremely preposterous to exempt half of Ulster from being subject to the same Government as the rest of the country, the political interests of the province being the same with that of the rest of Ireland.

We must say we are pleased to see it stated that Mr. Gladstone will not permit his bill to be smirched with any such clause as this. If Ireland is to be self-governed the wisdom and influence of the whole people is needed for its satisfactory government. Indeed we are very doubtful that even the people of the four counties would accept such a clause, cutting them off from their influence in the Government. If guarantees are so necessary for them as it seems to be imagined they are, surely they should have patriotically and loyally enough for their co-religionists in the Catholic counties, to use the influence they would exert in an Irish Parliament for their protection.

When the practicability of giving Ulster a separate autonomy was mooted on a former occasion, the idea of attempting such a thing was scouted by Mr. Parnell, and the same objection holds in reference to the present scheme, which, however, we think can scarcely be seriously contemplated by any section of the Liberal or any other party in the House of Commons.

BEAUPORT ASYLUM.

The Toronto Mail is very much exercised over the fact that the Beauport Lunatic Asylum has been placed by the Quebec Government in the hands of the Sisters of Charity. It assumes that the Church is essentially adverse to permitting any State inspection or control over the care of the insane, and it foretells most dire misfortune as the result of placing the asylum under the charge of a Catholic religious order because of the aversion of the Sisters to adopting "modern methods."

The Sisters of Charity have had long experience in conducting the Lunatic Asylums of the Province, and have been able to manage them efficiently at a saving to the province of about 30 per cent., and it is for this reason chiefly that the Quebec Government have decided to place the Beauport Asylum under their care. We have no doubt that the Quebec Government is perfectly satisfied that the Sisters will conduct the asylum efficiently as well as economically.

We are told that the Longue Pointe Asylum, which has been established for many years, under the same order of Sisters, "did not in its early days afford any very flattering testimony to the efficiency or indeed the humanity of management under religious auspices. It was always many years behind the age."

It is well known that the present condition of the Longue Pointe Asylum is admirable, and attests both the zeal of the Sisters in doing their work and the success of their kind methods of dealing with the insane.

Twelve years ago a Medical Commission which examined the Quebec Asylums gave a report adverse to the management of Longue Point, but it is well known that there was much exaggeration in their statements. It is very possible and even probable that the management could be improved, and as a matter of fact it has been very greatly improved since that time. If the Sisters had not shown their ability to manage, the Quebec Government would not be likely now to ask them to take charge of Beauport.

We are told that "the Church resented bitterly the enquiry into its lunatic department, and Premier Ross, who was responsible for the outrage, was defeated in consequence." It was not through any indisposition to admit the right of the civil authorities to require proper care to be given to the patients that the undue interference of the Government in the management of a private asylum was objected to, but to the assumption of excessive authority over an institution which was not in receipt of Government aid. The pres-

ent question, however, is not how the Sisters of Charity managed their asylums in years gone by. The efficiency with which Longue Pointe Asylum is managed at the present time has been frequently attested by physicians and other visitors competent to judge in the matter, and the recent action of the Government is an evidence of the confidence which is placed in the Sisters that they will do their work well.

ABSURD REPORTS.

It was recently stated by one of the speakers at a meeting of the A. P. A. in Boston that underneath the Jesuit college of that city there is a well-equipped armory of guns, the object being of course to kill all the Protestants, and ultimately to conquer the United States, and bring them under Catholic government. The idiotic speaker who made this statement was a woman, Mrs. E. Trask Hill, and it appears that the audience took in the statement as if it were a gospel truth.

It will be remembered that a few weeks ago a similar statement was made in Peoria, with this difference, that the arms were said to be deposited under the cathedral of the city, and so seriously was the report taken that the Bishop of Peoria deemed it advisable to invite the city council to visit the cathedral in order to inspect it. We have not heard that the council deemed it necessary to make the inspection. We mention these reports because we have learned that in some of our Canadian towns similar rumors have been circulated, presumably by members of the P. P. A.

As the Catholics of the United States number less than one sixth of the population, and in Ontario just a little over one sixth, it does not seem a very likely story that in either case they could entertain any hope of effecting such a general massacre, or of taking control of the government of either country. We suppose, however, that as long as there are fools alive such reports as these will continue to be made people will believe them.

MR. DALTON MCCARTHY'S MOTIVES.

A desperate effort is being made by the Toronto Mail and a few other papers, remarkable for their bigotry, to boom Mr. Dalton McCarthy and his new party.

It is, of course, a most damaging fact that Mr. McCarthy himself acknowledged that his reason for going into opposition to the Government was personal spleen and disappointment because he was not consulted in reference to the formation of Sir John Thompson's Cabinet, and the papers which support him are pretending that disappointed ambition has nothing to do with his present course. The Mail of the 26th inst. introduces a quotation from the Ottawa Free Press with the statement that

"Of all the malignant remarks that have been made against Mr. McCarthy by his former friends of the Ministerial press, the statement that he is actuated by disappointment is the least likely to be given credence."

The Free Press (of Ottawa) gives as proof that disappointment was not a factor in inducing him to go into opposition, the statement that "he might have been a Chief Justice or a Minister of Justice in a Conservative Cabinet years ago, had he desired office," and further, that "he is a gentleman of independent means and one of the leaders of his profession."

It is very possible that the reasoning of the Free Press would have considerable weight if we had not Mr. McCarthy's own confession on the subject. He acknowledged in explaining his position to his own constituents that as for the first time in the formation of a Conservative Government he was not consulted, there remained no alternative for him but to go into opposition.

This admission was, of course, a tactical mistake, but as he made it, he cannot now evade it. It is evident that he now sees his mistake, and he would be glad if he had left his unfortunate words unsaid, but it is too late now to make the public believe that he is animated with the honest conviction that the tariff policy of the Government is a wrong one. The very policy which he now condemns had no more ardent supporter than Mr. McCarthy, up to the time when he found a personal grievance against the Government. We are much mistaken if the country will make his personal piques the basis of a policy. The country cares very little whether Mr. McCarthy was consulted or not as regards the formation of the Cabinet.

It is not, however, Mr. McCarthy's Tariff Policy which gains for him a

certain following outside the House of Commons. It is the old Equal Rights movement galvanized into something like a new life. The sudden growth of the Protestant Protective Association was not needed as an evidence of the latent bigotry which exists among a certain class throughout Ontario, and which needs only to be appealed to on a no-Popery cry to be roused to activity. This dark-lantern association is sworn not to tolerate the appointment of Catholics to any office if they can exclude them. On this policy, many Orangemen, the Sons of England and the members of the P. P. A., are at any time ready to unite, and this is the secret of the large demonstration which greeted Mr. McCarthy in the Toronto Auditorium the other day.

It is well understood that it is not Mr. McCarthy's trade policy which secures to him a certain following. Many of those who have ranged themselves under his standard are opposed to this policy, but as a recent issue of the Montreal Witness stated, they are ready "to swallow it for the sake of his politico-religious stand." It was easy to see at the meeting in the Auditorium where the plaudits came in. They were given sparingly enough when he proclaimed himself the champion of the farmers as against the manufacturers, but they were given without stint when he announced his undying hostility to the French language and the Catholic schools of Manitoba.

This anti-Catholic policy has been tried in Canada before, but it proved a failure. It was the policy of abler and more far-seeing politicians than Mr. McCarthy; and if Catholics are true to themselves, as we have no doubt they will be, Mr. McCarthy and his new policy will share the fate of those who preceded him in stirring up the bigotry of the country. We may rely upon it that outside of Ontario he will not have a corporal's guard to sustain him.

There have been Whalleys and Newdegates in the British House of Commons who year after year took occasion to make an exhibition of bigotry by making anti-Catholic motions, but they succeeded only in becoming the laughing-stock of Parliament. Such motions may possibly be supported by a larger contingent in the Canadian House, but there is not the least fear that Mr. McCarthy and Col. O'Brien will succeed where the late Mr. George Brown made himself "a Governmental impossibility."

"CATHOLIC NEW ENGLAND."

The Independent, which is one of the leading Protestant religious journals of this continent, has taken alarm at one of the facts disclosed by the last census of the United States, the cause being the remarkable increase of the Catholic Church in the stronghold of Puritanism, the New England States, and in an article under the heading "Catholic New England" it gives expression to its surprise as follows:

"The Church of Rome is at the front in New England so far as members are concerned. This has been suspected, but not definitely known. The census of 1890 makes it an undeniable fact. The communicants of the Roman Catholic Church exceed in number those of nearly a quarter of a million. The excess is surprisingly large."

The figures revealed by the census are as follows:

	Catholic Communicants.	Protestant Communicants.
Maine	57,548	102,181
New Hampshire	39,920	68,921
Vermont	48,810	68,555
Massachusetts	615,672	257,721
Rhode Island	91,855	51,183
Connecticut	151,935	156,393
	1,065,139	758,987

As the religious census only makes return of the number of communicants, and not of the whole population, these figures include only those who practice their religion, but they reveal the fact that there is a larger number of practical Catholics than of Protestants who practice their religion, though nominally the Protestants are still much more numerous than the Catholics. Children who have not made their first Communion are, of course, not included in this return.

This state of things as exhibiting the substantial progress of the Catholic Church will be highly gratifying to our readers, and though at present it cannot be said that Catholicism actually predominates in New England, yet the Independent concedes that in due time this will be the case. In reference to this prospect it adds that New England "will not be alien because it is Catholic," for though this form of Christianity is taking the place of the Protestant forms in many

districts, yet "no backward step has been taken in any particular."

We commend these views of the Independent to the careful consideration of those of our fellow-citizens of Canada who profess to fear lest the Dominion will be unprogressive unless the Catholic Church be repressed by persecuting measures.

THE HOME RULE BILL.

The debate on the second reading of the Home Rule Bill closed last Friday, and by a majority of forty-three the motion was carried. The opinion was expressed by Tory correspondents of the New York press, such as Smalley, of the Tribune, that there were grave doubts as to the passage of the second reading. Their prophecies, however, have been false, and Mr. Gladstone's following in the Commons is apparently as united as it could well be.

One of the chief difficulties recently raised was the oft-repeated assertion of Mr. Joseph Chamberlain and Mr. Goschen, that if the measure were to pass now it would not be a final settlement, as an Irish Parliament would soon find grievances under its operation which they would desire to see redressed.

This objection is one which has often been raised before, but an imaginary difficulty like this will scarcely be allowed to stand in the way of the solemn judgment issued by the country at the general election.

It is barely possible that the present Bill will not be absolutely final, for absolute finality in any Act of Parliament cannot be predicted with certainty; but taking into account all the probabilities there is no more reason for supposing that the present Bill will not be final than for any other legislative Act. From the fact that so much careful thought has been expended on it, there is even more reason to suppose that it will be final than for most other Acts of Parliament, but if in its operation it be really found to be defective in some respects, there is no reason why the defects should not be corrected.

To object against the possibility that it may not be a perfectly satisfactory measure is to throw an obstacle in the way of all legislation. At all events it was before now asserted that no satisfactory measure could be passed, and with this objection fully in view the people rendered their verdict, and the experiment will have to be made.

Mr. Balfour has been delivering a speech in Belfast, and his language in opposition to Home Rule was not that of an honorable opponent arguing on constitutional grounds, but that of a seditious agitator. It was a direct incitement to rebellion, and the wonder is that his language was permitted by the Irish Secretary. Certainly under his own regime the police were instructed to prevent by force many meetings in Ireland at which no such seditious language was spoken.

He told the Orangemen who were listening to him and cheering him on that "so crazy and unjust a measure had exhausted the patience of the Ulster Loyalists, and he was not surprised that their indignation had broken all bounds, and that "they felt ready to resort to extreme measures for the defence of their threatened rights. He told them that the men of Ulster will not be abandoned by Great Britain to the fate which had been planned for them by the men in power. He prayed to God that the Irish loyalists will not be compelled to fight for their rights. He believed that such a calamity will be averted, yet that the tyranny of majorities is as bad as the tyranny of kings, and he could not deny conscientiously that what is justifiable against a tyrannical king is under certain circumstances justifiable against a tyrannical majority."

If the Ulster Orangemen are led by such inflammatory speeches as this one by an ex-Minister of the Crown, to rise to the commission of acts of violence, Mr. Balfour ought to be held strictly to account or his incendiary language, and there is scarcely a doubt that he will be actually held responsible for it. Such language will certainly not prevent the passage of the Home Rule Bill, but it may excite the worst passions of the fanatics he addressed, and it may lead to the shedding of blood. No one but a dishonest demagogue would thus endeavor to make a temporary political gain at the cost of exciting the worst passions of a mob already full of sentiments of hate and the desire of vengeance.

A meeting of the Primrose League was also held last week in the Covent Garden Theatre at which Lord Salisbury was the chief speaker. He was

not so bloodthirsty as his nephew, on this occasion, though it will be remembered that in a former speech he gave utterance to very similar sentiments. He exhorted the House of Lords to pay no attention to discussions which might arise concerning its powers under the constitution. It was the duty of the Lords, he said, to rescue the Empire from its assailant: all of which means that the Lords must oppose the expressed will of the people.

It is a settled fact that Mr. Gladstone will not allow the House of Lords to throw any serious obstacle in the way of carrying out the wish of the electorate, and it may be taken as certain that the Bill will become law in spite of all obstacles.

P. P. A. WORK.

There appeared on the 25th of March in a paper called The Quill, published in Windsor, the following letter concerning the management of the Catholic hospitals at Windsor and Chatham:

To the Editor of the Quill:

DEAR SIR:—I was much pleased with a letter in your last issue respecting the Hotel Dieu, and being in a position to know whereof I speak, I agree with what the writer says on the subject.

The case he mentions is not the only one, for there are several others of a like nature, and for which no excuse can be offered. A young man named Morris, a county charge, while confined there a short time ago was repeatedly urged to become a Roman Catholic, and I have it from the lips of a present inmate herself, Mrs. Presions, that she was compelled to renounce the Protestant religion before she could receive any attention from the Sisters in charge and for the sake of securing peace.

It is unnecessary for me to cite these cases as they must be known by almost every man, woman and child in the city, but I will claim, and that without fear of successful contradiction, that as a hospital the Hotel Dieu does not deserve the name, as every serious case they have had has been the subject of a funeral. How could it be otherwise? They have only one qualified nurse, and she, with the other Sisters, has her devotions to attend to, which appears to take up the greater part of their time; nor have they a resident physician to attend to the severe cases that an institution of that description must necessarily have on hand.

The town of Chatham, for several years, was forced to rely on the St. Joseph's Hospital until patience ceased to be a virtue, and a general hospital was erected, and now the Roman Catholics themselves prefer going there on account of the better medical treatment they receive.

No sensible-minded person will dispute the fact that Windsor will be compelled to do the same thing, but as usual in such cases our Roman Catholic friends will make a great outcry and pronounce it "Religious Persecution," but they must bear in mind that where they use an institution for religious purposes it must be supported by their Church, and they have no right to expect the public at large to contribute to its support.

We will allow a Protestant gentleman, the editor of the Chatham Banner, to answer the letter of "Citizen." The following appeared in its editorial columns on the 19th of the present month:

"Somebody sends us a marked copy of the Windsor Quill, containing a communication from 'Citizen,' criticizing the management of the Hotel Dieu in this city, charging that the Sisters of the Hospital have been attempting to persuade patients to abjure their Protestant faith. As to that we know nothing, but the writer states that:

"The Town of Chatham for several years was forced to rely on the St. Joseph's Hospital until patience ceased to be a virtue, and a general hospital was erected, and now the Roman Catholics themselves prefer going there on account of the better medical treatment they receive."

The absurdity of the above almost robs it of its maliciousness. It is a simple, plain, unvarnished series of straight falsehoods. The General Hospital scheme was really started here before St. Joseph's was opened, and although scores of Protestant patients have been at St. Joseph's the past few years, we have yet to hear the first whisper of complaint, either as to treatment or interference. No such thing has ever been hinted at, and as the public hospital was only opened last evening, the statement that Catholics prefer it is palpably absurd. The malice of the writer is so apparent as to discount his statements respecting the Windsor hospital. It would be a blessing to the community if the writer of the letter had been caught young and taught truthfulness.

We feel firmly convinced that the production signed "Citizen" is the work of some member of the P. P. A. There seems to be a settled purpose on the part of these persons to misrepresent the Catholic Church, its clergy and its institutions. We have never yet heard of a case where the good and self-sacrificing Sisters interfered in any way with the religious convictions of patients in the Catholic hospitals.

The letter of the P. P. A. conspirator bears refutation on its very face, for everybody knows that were the Sisters to have acted in the manner referred to they could not receive aid or recognition from the Government.

It may ere long be worth while considering whether it would not be advisable to arrest and prosecute for criminal libel the writers of such letters as that of "Citizen."

ON THE 25th of March, the feast of the Annunciation, the Princess Beatrice, the Queen's favorite daughter, and her husband, assisted at the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass in the Church of the Annunciation in Florence. They were delighted with Gounod's Mass which was sung, but we have no doubt the intelligence will be very unwelcome to members of the P. P. A. in this country, who would, if they could, prohibit the exercise of the Catholic religion.

"SHOW ME YOUR...

At one of the lectures given by Margaret Essery presented here accompanied by an "eye of a feather," etc., to the fact that they published in Chicago an American, the editor being a Protestant—son of Mr. Wm. J. Berlin, Ont., and no fray, publisher of it. In its issue of March following reference to

"A Canadian note sent me a copy of the day evening Mrs. She was presented with a sympathizer. The presence of Mr. Thompson, Mrs. Shepherd is pulling eyes of Canadians now there they present her with a character. She after a weak attempt Shepherd is not an ex-something else, and has to her credit."

THE RITUAL OF...

We publish in this the P. P. A., support thereto ourselves, without a title, and name of the society, demonstrating the fact short of a conspiracy same fashion as the burglars and the peculiar language such as obtains between another. There is formality about the having been executed amongst compositors shop," the spelling, spacing, press work character to make berg groan in their

It is more than this P. P. A. mo the organization of element—hungry and discredited for a long time like Mr. Micawber, turn up." Place a ence and pelf is the Popery" is painted for the purpose of wary and the un Ontario.

Their efforts vain. Disgrace follow them as long as they, one after know they will be contempt by every community, irrespect race. The time w the members will ever joined such a which is as a no-weed in our fair co-

RELIGION...

In a recent issue Presbyterian Review from the Rev. Al from Venice, Italy makes a savage hierarchy and Spain on account against the open church, in Madrid of the Protestant Lord Plunket.

Archbishop Plunket interest in church with sympathy, etc., and the cost to have been the purpose was a place of worship, lishment, but to s among the Cath was for this that parations were n Now it has been Spain to forbid gandom in the co of Protestant st, interfered with, testaments, who are cted there; but countries of Euro ism was establish was effected by acts of destructio other instituti centuries ago th decided not to al gandom, and a pursued ever sin ing strictness.

It was in pur efforts of a for Episcopal office, church and sel Spaniards was no persecution Rev. Mr. Robe "the priests, b montano press, moment pursu