

## The True Witness.

AND CATHOLIC CHRONICLE.

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J. GILLIES.

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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, MAY 5.

## ECCLESIASTICAL CALENDAR.

MAY—1865.

Friday, 5—St. Pius, P. C.  
Saturday, 6—St. John at the Lat. Gate.  
Sunday, 7—Third after Easter, Holy Family.  
Monday, 8—Apparition of St. Michael.  
Tuesday, 9—St. Gregory of Naz. B. D.  
Wednesday, 10—St. Antonin, B. C.  
Thursday, 11—St. Catherine, S. V.

The "Forty Hours" Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will commence as follows:—

Friday, 5—St. Martine.  
Sunday, 7—College of Montreal.  
Tuesday, 9—Convent Point Claire.  
Thursday, 11—Patronage of St. Joseph.

## NEWS OF THE WEEK

Booth the assassin, or at all events the presumed assassin of the late President has been shot by a party of the Federal troops; and one of his supposed accomplices, a man named Harrold has been captured by the same party. "Dead men tell no tales," and so probably we shall never get at the full truth as to the particulars and antecedents of the crime which has rendered the name of Booth for ever execrable. Men will naturally apply the test *cui bono*? to this shooting of Booth. If indeed the Southerners were the instigators of the murder, then evidently it was in their interest that their tool or accomplice should as quickly as possible, be placed beyond the reach of a judicial investigation, in the course of which he might make some disagreeable revelations. But it was by the Northerners that Booth was shot down, when he might easily and without risk have been captured alive. Here are the particulars, as given by the principal actor in the business, the non-commissioned officer who fired the fatal shot: from this narrative men will draw their own inferences.

Lame from the effects of an injury, and unable to walk except upon crutches, Booth and a companion had taken refuge in a barn. Upon information given to the authorities, this barn was surrounded on Wednesday morning the 26th ult., at about 2 a.m. by a party of Federal troops, who summoned those inside to give themselves up. After some delay, Harrold came out and surrendered himself, but Booth remained under cover. Hereupon the barn was fired, when the wretched man inside, made a rush for the door as if to escape. Mark what follows:—

"We could see him plainly," says Sergeant Corbett one of the party, "but could not be seen by him," so that the attacking party were exposed to no manner of danger. Outside the barn all was dark, because it was not yet daylight when the events that we are narrating occurred: but all inside the barn was brilliantly illuminated, and clearly exposed to the view of the party outside, by the flames of the burning building. It is evident therefore that the assailants were exposed to no risk from Booth, since he could not even distinguish them; and as he was lame they could have had no reasons to fear that he would make good his escape. Booth however staggered towards the door, apparently confused says the report: whereupon the narrator Sergt. Corbett took deliberate aim at him and shot him through the head. As a matter of interest to the conventicle, the telegrams inform us, that the Sergeant was "converted" some years ago in Boston, "and was baptized a member of the Methodist Church."

The wounded man lingered a few hours in intense agony, but he spake no word that could throw light on the object of his crime, or on the character of his instigators and accomplices if he had any. With the guilty secret in his heart he has now appeared before the dread tribunal before which all flesh shall stand, there to answer for his crimes, and the blood of his brother man by him wantonly and brutally shed.

As was to have been anticipated, the murder of President Lincoln has provoked the Union men to murder, and to acts differing not one whit in cowardice and brutality from that which they profess to condemn and to avenge. Society is disorganized, and "Lynch Law" is for the moment the only law of the land. The real difficulties of the Northern States are evidently now but commencing. General Johnston has at length capitulated on the same terms as those accorded to General Lee. On this side of the Mississippi therefore the Confederates have no force left:

by some it was thought that President Davis would endeavor to cross the river, and try to make a final stand for freedom and independence in the State of Texas.

The political news from Europe is of little interest. There is still a good deal of anxiety expressed concerning the progress of the epidemic spoken of as the "Siberian Plague"—and of which some cases have declared themselves in Prussia and in Austria, thus showing that, following the regular but mysterious law of all epidemics, the disease is pursuing its course westward. As usual there is considerable discrepancy in the medical world as to the true character of this formidable visitor. The general opinion seems to be that typhoid fever of a highly malignant type—and plague is but typhus raised to its highest power—has been very prevalent during the winter in St. Petersburg, aggravated of course by the dirty habits, and unwholesome diet of the poorer classes of the Russian capital; but there seems as yet to be no reasons for believing that the disease, whatever name doctors may give to it, is of a novel character, or presents any features with which the faculty in Europe are not already familiar. At the same time it would be but prudent to take all possible precautions; and as the best prophylactics are cleanliness, thorough drainage, and the removal of all decaying organic matter from the streets, so our Corporation is bound to take measures for the cleansing and purifying of the filthy alleys and back-slums with which the City abounds, and the stench from which is of itself enough to produce disease at all times, as is evidenced by the fearful rate of mortality which constantly prevails in Montreal.

BOOTH, GARIBALDI, AND MAZZINI.—There is something almost comical in the horror with which some of our Liberal contemporaries affect to regard the brutal crime lately perpetrated at Washington. That men who at all times and on all occasions, have approved themselves the partisans of the Revolution in Europe, the eulogists of a Mazzini and of a Garibaldi, should now cry out against Booth for doing only what Mazzini and Garibaldi have preached and encouraged others to practise, is a moral and intellectual phenomenon well worthy of a passing glance.

That Mazzini is the patron and fautor of assassins; that though too cowardly to expose his own person to danger, by striking the blow himself, he nevertheless stimulates others to kill, and scruples not for this purpose to furnish them with money and with arms, is a fact which no one acquainted with contemporary history will presume to deny. Mazzini himself makes no secret, nay, he boasts of it; for in his own hand writing he has put it upon record that he furnished Antonio Gallenga, the well known Italian correspondent of the London Times, with "a thousand francs" and "a poniard with a lapis lazuli handle" for the purpose of assassinating Charles Albert. And yet by the Liberal press on both sides of the Atlantic, Mazzini is held up to admiration as a true and noble patriot, as one whom they delight to honor.

And Garibaldi!! He too is another object of the idolatry of the Liberal and anti-Catholic party throughout the world: and yet like Mazzini, Garibaldi also is a patron and fautor of assassination, for Garibaldi also has left it on record how, during the term of his dictatorship in Naples, he conferred out of the public funds, an annuity of 30 ducats a month and a dower of 2,000 ducats upon the female relatives of the soldier Agesiolo Milano who attempted to assassinate Ferdinand II., the late King of Naples, and as a reward for the meritorious services of the would-be assassin. And yet with our Liberal press throughout the Province, with the *Globe* in Toronto, the *Witness*, the *Herald*, the *Pays* in Montreal, Garibaldi the revolutionary assassin, is elevated to the skies as a hero and a demi-God; whilst for Booth, the wretched assassin of President Lincoln, no language is deemed too harsh, no punishment too severe. Surely this is nice discrimination with a vengeance.

The interpretation of the matter is this. The professed horror of our Liberal contemporaries for assassins and assassination is rank hypocrisy, sheer humbug. There is a particular class of assassins whom they hold in horror, and there is another class of assassins whom they delight to honor. Not expressed in words indeed, for they would be ashamed to make the public avowal, their sentiments are these: That it is, if not a meritorious, at all events a quite pardonable act, to stab, shoot down or otherwise make away with, a Popish Prince, a Sovereign or Minister hostile to the Liberal and revolutionary tendencies of the age. The end justifies the means employed, in this case; and the murder of a Rossi, the attempted assassination of a Charles Albert, or of a King of Naples, so far from being deeds worthy of extreme reprobation, consigning all the actors therein, or abettors thereof to eternal infamy, must be looked as peccadilloes, to be buried in oblivion as speedily as possible, and which in no wise detract from the glory which surrounds the heads of advanced Liberals like a Mazzini or a Garibaldi. Besides, are not

both these worthies conspicuous for their staunch opposition to Popery? and is not Garibaldi in particular the champion and the prophet of the "Goddess of Reason" whom France of '93 proclaimed to the world; and therefore the delight of all who with him are looking for the downfall of "that hideous immoral monstrosity the Papacy."—*Vide* Address of Garibaldi, *Times*, Oct. 3rd, 1862.

As we have often insisted, Protestants keep always on hand two sets of weights and measures. By the one Garibaldi is weighed and tested; by the other, the wretched criminal Booth, now gone to his account before another tribunal. What judgment Garibaldi receives at the hands of Protestants, his ovation in England last year testifies, which testifies also to the hypocrisy of those professions of horror of assassination in general, which Protestants so ostentatiously parade before the world, when the victim is one of themselves; when he belongs, not to the party of the counter-revolution and the Church, but is a foremost champion or representative of Liberalism.

Protestants, such of them at least as have smiled welcome upon Garibaldi, and other Italian revolutionists, have no right to condemn Booth; for though a criminal for whom no honest man can feel any sympathy, Booth is no worse than Garibaldi, not so bad as Mazzini. Booth was at least a brave villain and exposed his own life: but skulking in foreign countries, and carefully avoiding all personal exposure to danger, Mazzini ceases not to stimulate bolder spirits to the crime of assassination, and exhorts others to crimes which he dares not himself perpetrate. Mazzini is therefore infinitely riler than Booth; and yet whilst for the latter there is but execration, there are for Mazzini amongst all classes of Liberals, yes even in the British House of Commons, apologists, and admirers, as for a great and good man.

Catholics, however, do not discriminate. With them the assassin is always an object of detestation, no matter by whom or in whose fancied interests, the crime is committed, whether by a Ravallac or a Booth; for it must not be forgotten that, if by the maligners of the Jesuits, the assassination of Henry IV. in 1610, be attributed to the doctrines taught by Mariana in his famous work, *De Rege et Regis Institutione*, that work itself, or the passage therein which seems to justify tyrannicide, was publicly condemned by the Jesuits themselves in 1606, and formally repudiated in the name of the Society. To Catholics a Booth is no less odious than is a Garibaldi, and his accomplices, than Mazzini and his abettors. We can see no moral difference betwixt the shooting of President Lincoln, and the attempt on the part of Agesiolo Milano to shoot a King of Naples which Garibaldi deemed worthy of a national reward, or the attempt to stab Charles Albert for which Mazzini furnished funds and a dagger "with a lapis lazuli handle." There have been crimes, and great crimes too no doubt, committed by all parties, in the name of religion, as well as in the name of liberty. But no Catholic will ever attempt to justify them, and their perpetrators; and the only avowed apologists for the crime of assassination are at the present day to be found in the ranks of that same Liberal and anti-Catholic party, which now also with rank hypocrisy makes such an outcry against the crime of Booth, whilst it kisses the dust at the feet of the assassin Garibaldi!

ROUGE TARTUFFERIE.—That the political party in Lower Canada known as the *Rouges*, and of which the *Pays* is the organ in chief, were insincere, dishonest, and hypocritical in their opposition to the Brown-Cartier scheme of Union for the B. N. A. Provinces, we have always believed. We have never been disposed to attribute that opposition on their part, to anything but the basest and most mercenary of motives; to party spite, to disappointed ambition, and to a hankering after a share in the spoils of office. Their professions of patriotism we have always looked upon as *humbug*: and remembering their antecedents, their readiness some few years ago to coalesce with Mr. George Brown, and to sacrifice to the insolent demands of Upper Canada Clear-Gritism, the autonomy of Lower Canada, we have always held in contempt their newly discovered and noisily proclaimed attachment "to our laws, our language, and our religion." The *Rouges* were themselves the authors and most active promoters of that very policy which they now condemn.

Nothing could more perfectly justify us in our suspicion of *Rouge* honesty, of *Rouge* patriotism, and *Rouge* attachment to the principle of Lower Canadian autonomy, than the tone which their journals have ever adopted towards the Northern and Southern States, respectively, during the contest that has been raging for the last four years. The principle at issue in that contest was, as every one knows, that of "State Rights" and "State autonomy." Accidentally—but accidentally only, and in no wise affecting its intrinsic merits, the question of negro slavery became complicated therewith: but the essence of the contest was "State Rights" on the one hand,

"Centralisation" on the other. Now these also are the very questions involved in the "sectional difficulties" betwixt British and Protestant U. Canada on the one hand, and French and Catholic Lower Canada on the other hand.

To compare great things to small, the contest or cause that since the cession of Canada by France, the French race in this part of the world have had to maintain, is identical with that for which the Southerners took up arms, and over which Northern democracy has for the time triumphed. Therefore it is natural, indeed inevitable, that every one who forms his political opinions from logical premises, and who bases his political actions upon principle, not upon sordid motives of personal interest, must sympathise with either North or South, with Upper Canada or with Lower Canada, according as he is in favor of or opposed to, the principles of democratic centralisation. Carrying out his principles logically, the Clear Grit, whose object it is to "swamp the French," and to consolidate the Two Provinces into one Province, must, and for the same reason, sympathise with the North, and rejoice over the defeat of the principle of State Rights. So also he who upon principle defends the autonomy of Lower Canada, and resists its absorption by the other and adjacent British Provinces, must if logical and honest, sympathise with the Southerners, and espouse, heart and soul, the cause of the Confederates as against the centralising North. There is no shadow of difference of principle in the two cases. What the South is to the North in the neighboring republic, that is the Lower Province to Upper Canada, in this part of the American Continent. The cause of the former was—rather we should say, for the cause is not yet lost, is the cause of Lower Canada *ver*. Upper Canada—and its defeat in one quarter must be a severe blow, a source of mourning to its friends in every other quarter. If the Northerners have right on their side as against the South, so also must right be on the side of Upper Canada as against Lower Canada. If the latter does well in resisting a Union which menaces, or even appears to menace its autonomy, and which tends to centralisation, and therefore to a despotism the vilest, the most odious, and the most degrading of all despotisms because a democratic despotism—so also the Southerners did well, and deserved to succeed, in their resistance to the North, and in their assertion of the indefeasible sovereignty and independence of their several States.

Now the *Rouge* press of Lower Canada, like the Montreal *Witness*, the Toronto *Globe* and the entire *Clear Grit* press of the Province is, and always has been enthusiastic on the side of the North as against the South. To justify its inconsistency in the eyes of its readers, it has published a series of filthy and mendacious libels scraped up out of the dirty Protestant gutter against the slave-owners of the Southern States, who are therein presented as cruel libidinous tyrants: though the fact stands out in the face of the world that, though for the last four years the slaves of the Southern States have been constantly excited to rise against the whites; and though their masters, away with the army, had left their homes, their wives and daughters at the mercy of their slaves, not a single case of servile insurrection is on record. This simple fact is of itself a conclusive refutation of the mendacious libels circulated by evangelical ministers in the United States, and by a class of writers who pander to the beastly appetites of the public by publishing, sometimes obscene stories against Nuns and Catholic religious, at other times stories equally obscene and equally mendacious against the planters and gentlemen of the South. With this kind of stuff which no honest man would publish, which nothing but a morbid appetite for impurity would ever prompt any one to peruse, so dreary are its platitudes, has the *Rouge* press endeavored to blind its readers as to the real question at issue, that of State autonomy, in the great American war; and to their own inconsistency and dishonesty in advocating the cause of the North, whilst hypocritically pretending to base their opposition to the lately propounded scheme of Union of all the British North American Provinces, upon patriotic motives, and loyal attachment to the autonomy of Lower Canada.

That autonomy is and must be dear to the Conservative and to the Catholic, because therein is to be found the best defence against democratic aggression upon our civil institutions, against Protestant and infidel aggression upon our religious and educational institutions. But what care the *Rouges*, properly so called, for these? Their avowed political and religious principles are those of '89, of which the first fruits were the abolition of all the Parliaments or local legislatures of France, the spoliation of the Church, and the "Civil Constitution" of the Clergy. How then can we expect that the inheritors of these principles in America should be honest in their professions of patriotic attachment to the liberties and autonomy of Lower Canada; or anything but hypocrites when they raise the cry of "our laws, our language, and our religion?" Bah!

Subscribers who are about to change their place of residence will oblige by leaving their address at this office.

IMMIGRATION AND EMIGRATION.—It is a melancholy fact that, whilst we are endeavoring to attract labor to our shores from the overcrowded districts of the Old World where the pressure upon the means of subsistence is greatest, emigration from Canada to the neighboring States is continually on the increase. The people are flying from Canada almost as they are flying from Ireland. Says the Toronto *Leader* on this subject:—

"Our able bodied men are daily leaving in large and increasing numbers for the United States. Upwards of fifty thousand have already gone."

On the other hand Emigration Reports and Sub-Emigration Agents keep on assuring us that the demand for labor is great, for farm servants and mechanics especially; and the Quebec *Daily News* finds it difficult to reconcile these apparently contradictory statements.

The solution seems to us to be this. However great the demand for labor may be in Canada at certain seasons of the year, it is only a temporary demand. During Spring, Summer and Autumn, whilst the navigation is open, and labor of all kind can be carried on in the open air, labor of all kind is in good demand, and is profitably remunerated. But then comes the long dreary winter, when workmen are thrown out of employment, and when labor becomes a drug in the market for which no one cares to bid. The Reports of Emigration Agents are true no doubt, but true only for a particular season of the year. The fact that emigration from Canada is continually increasing cannot be contested, and shows that the demand for labor is not permanent.

That the Government should do something in the premises seems to be the opinion of some writers in the public press—but what can any Government do? It is no more in the power of Government to check the stream of emigration, or to direct that stream from one country with great natural physical advantages, to another less liberally endowed in these respects, than it is in the power of an Act of Parliament to arrest the course of rivers from setting towards the sea, or to compel them to flow up-hill. As water by the necessary law of its being sets from the higher to the lower level, so does the tide of emigration irresistibly flow from the colder to the warmer climates, from the higher latitudes to the lower latitudes, from the ice and snow of the North, to the wheat growing countries of the South. To cry out against the Government of Canada for what is solely the consequence of the climate of Canada is unjust; neither is it reasonable to conclude from the emigration to the United States, that the political and social institutions of that country are in any respect superior to ours.

DESTRUCTION OF BIRDS.—The wanton and brutal destruction of the farmer's and gardener's best friends and allies, by a pack of idle loafing blackguards, who on Sundays especially, and other holidays, turn out armed to the teeth to wage relentless persecution against our Spring visitors, the birds, has often provoked the notice of the press; but alas! hitherto nothing of any consequence has been done by the Legislature or by the City Police to put a stop to a public nuisance, of which one effect is visible in the total destruction of the beautiful orchards with which, a few years ago, the City of Montreal, and the Mountain were surrounded. In France the Legislature interferes to protect the birds, the destroyers of the caterpillars, which pests if left unmolested, destroy our gardens and orchards. In England public attention is aroused to the necessity of putting a stop to the destruction of these same useful creatures the birds; and in Australia, the colonists endowed with better taste than the people of Canada, and better acquainted with what the interests of agriculture and horticulture require, are at a great expence actually importing sparrows from England, to keep down the pest of grubs, caterpillars, and insects which destroy the crops. The following paragraph on this subject is from an English paper, the *Gateshead Observer*; and certainly it treats of a subject not unworthy of the serious attention and vigorous action of our Canadian Legislature:—

BIRD MURDER.—The President of the Naturalists' Field Club [the Rev. G. O. Abbe] stated on Thursday, at the anniversary meeting of the club, that he had been calculating the number of caterpillars which the 6,000 sparrows killed by a member of a 'sparrow club' in Essex, and for which he had actually received a prize of 10s., would have eaten. The amount was 6,307,000,000. While the clover-hoppers of Essex are killing sparrows by the thousand, the Australian colonists are importing them at a considerable expence from England, to act the part of protectors of the crops, and thereby of promoters of the comforts of the people.—*Gateshead Observer*.

LA REVUE CANADIENNE.—The April number of this interesting periodical has come to hand, and contains a continuation of the tale, *Une de Perdue, Deux de Trouves*, followed by articles on the Mexican Question, Our Country Houses, the Events of the Month, *Le Souvenir* (poetry) and a notice of the meeting held by the Protestants in Montreal to discuss the School Question.

The Hamilton *Speciator* reports that General R. E. Lee is about to visit that city, where some of his relatives are residing.