

The True Witness

CATHOLIC CHRONICLE

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MONTREAL, FRIDAY, OCT. 11, 1861.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

OUR latest intelligence from Europe is by the Norwegian, from Liverpool on the 26th ult. The Italian question apparently makes no progress towards a solution; the Neapolitans still hold out, and maintain a desultory and often successful warfare against the Piedmontese; and until Rome be handed over to Victor Emmanuel, the conquest of the South of Italy must be—so writes the correspondent of the Times—impossible. Rumors of the serious indisposition of the Sovereign Pontiff are again in circulation, but, considering the source from whence they emanate, they are entitled to but little credit. The Catholic press represents the Pope's health as excellent, and as calculated to inspire confidence for the future. The report that Garibaldi is to come to this Continent, to take the command of the Northern army, is not confirmed. Should that filibuster, however, accept the invitation which it seems has been extended to him, it will be curious to note the effect upon the Irish Catholics of whom a great, indeed morally, the best part of the Northern force is composed. It can hardly be supposed that any considerations will prevail upon Papists to serve under the orders of a Garibaldi.

The most important piece of news brought to us by the last arrival, and one which would seem to be the precursor of threatening communications betwixt the United States, and the French, Spanish, and British Governments, is the announcement of the conclusion of a treaty betwixt the three Powers above named, having for its object a joint action with regard to Mexico, and to compel the payment of debts due by the latter to French, Spanish, and British subjects, respectively. Such interference by European Powers with the affairs of Mexico, will be in flagrant violation of the Monroe doctrine, and may therefore be expected to provoke the hostile comments of the press of the neighboring Republic, and the remonstrances of the authorities at Washington.

In other respects, the political news from the Continent presents but little of interest to the general reader. An interruption of diplomatic intercourse betwixt the Government of Victor Emmanuel, and that of Madrid is spoken of as imminent, should the latter refuse to give up the archives of the Neapolitan Consulate. The Moniteur announces an approaching interview at Compiegne of the Kings of Holland and Prussia with Louis Napoleon.

The Great Eastern was to have her damages—which are less than it was first anticipated they would be—made good at Milford, after which she will proceed on her voyage to New York. Though she has suffered much during the heavy gale to which she was exposed, yet it would be premature to set her down as a failure. Any vessel under similar circumstances—the loss of rudder—would have become unmanageable, and would have fallen off into the trough of the sea; not every vessel, however, would have been found strong enough to resist the combined action of the winds and waves under such circumstances, and to escape with such trifling loss as that which the Great Eastern has encountered.

The anticipated deficiency in the supply of cotton has induced the Lancashire mill-owners to adopt "short time" and to curtail their operations. There is, of course, a general feeling of uneasiness as to the effects of these measures upon the operatives of the North of England; and to this feeling the Times attributes the decline in the Funds which for some time past has continued to make itself felt.

In the United States they are still, as they always are, on the eve of great and stirring events, but nothing decisive has occurred since our last publication. The steamer Bermuda had succeeded in evading the blockade, and had landed large supplies of ammunition, military and hospital stores, for the use of the Southerners, of which the latter were greatly in need. In the North the cry is daily becoming louder and more general, to make the war, a war of principles, by proclaiming the abolition of negro-slavery. To this it will probably come at last, for all men, all combatants especially, must have a "cry," and the cry of "No-Slavery" would

be as serviceable at the present juncture to the Northerners, as the cry of "No-Papery" is to the evangelical world at all seasons. We cannot, however, pretend to entertain any very profound respect for the motives by which Northern abolitionists are actuated. Their philanthropy, their zeal for liberty, is but an affair of dollars and cents. Slave labor, it was found out long ago, did not pay in the Northern States, and was of little value in the cultivation of cereals, therefore the Northerners sent their niggers South, and sold them for a good round sum to the cotton planters; but having pocketed the money, they immediately discovered that the buying, selling, and holding to compulsory labor of their black brethren, was a very nefarious transaction, which provoked the anger of the Lord. Hence, amidst much snuffing, arose the cry of "No-Slavery," which upon investigation means simply this—That Slave labor is less lucrative than free labor at a certain distance from the tropic of Cancer.

A FEW FACTS CONCERNING THE CONQUEST OF NAPLES.—We have had occasional controversies with the Montreal Witness, with regard to the conquest of the Kingdom of Naples by the Piedmontese—the agencies by which it was effected—and the value of the vote, or plebiscite, in virtue of which Victor Emmanuel assumes the title of King of Italy. We have asserted that Francis II., King of Naples, was driven from his throne, neither by the insurrection of his own subjects, nor yet by the filibusters under Garibaldi, but by the "foreign mercenaries" of Piedmont, whom, without provocation, without declaration of war, without the pretence even of a casus belli, or any legitimate excuse, the unprincipled King of Sardinia hurled upon the provinces of his weaker neighbor. We have asserted that this outrage upon national law, and upon natural justice, was and has been actively encouraged by the naval forces of the British Empire; whose rulers, with the boast of "non-intervention" on their lips, have actively and effectually interposed to deprive Francis II. of his crown, and to place it upon the brows of Victor Emmanuel. And lastly, we have asserted that the popular vote, or plebiscite, in virtue of which the latter assumes the title of King of Italy, was by no means a fair index to the real feelings of the Neapolitan people. These assertions, could they be proved, would conclusively dispose of the Neapolitan question, and would convict the enemies of Francis II., and their supporters in the British press, of injustice, falsehood, and abominable oppression; and for this reason we respectfully submit to the calm consideration of the friends of Italian Revolution, and of those who treat the Neapolitans now fighting for their lawful king, and their country's independence, as "brigands"—the following statements, or rather admissions, made by the London Times and its Naples correspondent—both warm partisans of Victor Emmanuel.

1. With regard to the process by which Francis II. was deprived of his crown, the Times of the 18th ult. admits that:—

"Except for Cialdini's artillery, Francis II. would probably have kept a footing in his own kingdom to this day."

In other words, it was not by Neapolitans, nor yet by Garibaldi and the filibusters, but by the large and powerful army of Piedmontese foreigners, under the command of Cialdini, that Francis II. was driven from his kingdom.

2. So conscious are the Piedmontese invaders of Naples of the fact of British intervention in their behalf, and of the advantages which they have derived from that intervention, that, on a late occasion, an address was presented to the British Admiral "expressive of their"—the Piedmontese and their friends—"thanks to the British fleet and nation for the great moral support which they have given to the Italian (Revolutionary) cause." For this statement, we are again indebted to the Times' Neapolitan correspondent.

3. Of the value of the plebiscite, or popular vote, which transferred to the brows of Victor Emmanuel, the crown of the kingdom from which his troops had previously driven Francis II., we have a fair recognition also from the same pen—that is to say, from the Naples correspondent of the Times, who writing under date 12th ult., and speaking of the plebiscite in question, thus expresses himself concerning it:—

"Be it said, without any prejudice to the Italian cause—was a humbug, as all plebiscites must be, and as was the first born of that precious family."—Times Correspondent.

The above testimony is valuable, and conclusive as to the men and means by which, for the time, the conquest of Naples has been effected, and the cause of Italian Revolution promoted.—How men who sympathise with that cause, and with the "foreign mercenaries" the oppressors of Naples, can have the impudence to expect to be looked upon and treated as honest men, and friends of civil liberty, is a problem which we are utterly unable to solve.

We learn with much regret, that L'Universel of Brussels, has ceased to appear. This was a most excellent Catholic journal and its place it will be difficult to fill.

THE COLLING TRIAL.—This atrocious case was before the Court of Queen's Bench from Wednesday of last week, to Saturday the 5th inst. The prisoner was skillfully defended by his legal advisers, Messrs. Drummond and Devlin; and through a legal technicality was so lucky as to obtain a verdict of "Not Guilty," which, upon Judge Aylwin's instruction to that effect, was brought in by the jury. It was not legally established that the accused was personally present, or assisting, whilst the principal murderer, Patterson, was practicing his brutal and beastly arts upon the unhappy victim Olive Savariat; and by the Court it was ruled "that, it was essential that the presence of the prisoner at the time that violence was used should be established. It was necessary that it should be proved that he was present in the house, or outside of the house ready to give assistance, or in some other way abetting the deed." This was the law as laid down by the learned and upright Judge before whom the prisoner was tried; and as the essential proof, or link in the chain of evidence, was wanting, the jury were compelled to bring in a verdict of "Not Guilty," upon the particular count, on which they were summoned to decide. The Crown Prosecutor, however, notified his intention to follow up the horrid case, and to have the prisoner arraigned upon the charge of "accessory before the fact." On this charge Collins will be tried next term.

Our readers will excuse us for not giving any of the evidence in this case, as, for the most part, it is unfit for publication. That the child of the girl, Olive Savariat, was foully and brutally murdered, and probably burnt by Patterson, for the consideration of \$30; and that to the unmentionable tortures to which by the aforesaid hired child-murderer, the mother was exposed, the death of the latter was directly attributable, were both clearly established during the course of the recent trial; which only brought out in stronger relief the guilt of the previously convicted Patterson, and in the course of which not one extenuating circumstance was elicited or even suggested. Of his guilt, the trial at which he was convicted and sentenced to death, could leave no reasonable doubts on the mind of any unprejudiced person; but the evidence of his brutality and bestiality towards his victim Olive Savariat, adduced upon the trial of his accomplice Collins—who furnished the funds for the murder of her infant—was so clear and overwhelming that no man, however prejudiced in favor of abortion, or child-murder as a useful art in our present state of society—can now plead the semblance even of an excuse for longer defrauding the gallows of its most legitimate prey, in the person of Jesse Patterson, convicted abortionist and murderer.

Indeed the sympathy that has already been expressed for this most atrocious criminal—than whom no greater scoundrel has ever polluted the jail of Montreal, and for whom it would be difficult, if not impossible, to find a counterpart in the annals of European or even of Botany Bay crime during the XIX century—is so unaccountable, that if longer persisted in, we shall be forced to adopt the hypothesis, generally prevalent, that Free-Masonry, or influences still more dangerous to society than those of secret societies, are at work, and have been brought to bear upon the Executive in the convict's behalf. That these influences shall ultimately triumph over the demands of law and justice, of religion and morality, we cannot as yet bring ourselves to believe; or that the Representative of our Queen, in whom we delight to honor the virtues of the wife and of the mother, will so far forget what he owes to her whom he claims to represent, and to the people over whom he bears rule, as to proclaim henceforward a virtual immunity to the many professional abortionists with whom our society is already infested.

A FRANK CONFESSION.—The Montreal Witness of the 4th inst., publishes a report of the proceedings at a late meeting of the Grand Ligne Soupers, which unintentionally, yet all the more forcibly, corroborates the oft-repeated results of experience during the Irish famine—that the road to the convert's heart is through the stomach; and that it is only when the Popish belly begins to pinch, that the arguments of the evangelical swaddler can convince the intellect. Such in substance, is the statement of the interesting converts of the Grand Ligne Mission, as detailed by one of the Missionaries—a M. Laflamme—to the assembled saints, and naively couched in the admission of the Missionaries generally—that though they, the French Canadian converts or Jumpers "had heard evangelical truth at Grand Ligne, yet they said themselves that they required the hard times to open their hearts."—Montreal Witness, 4th inst.

For once we give full credit to what the Swaddlers and their converts say respecting the agencies which led to their conversion. There is little to be done in the way of evangelizing Papists until the times go hard with them, and they are reduced to such abject misery as to be ready to sell their souls to the devil and his agents for a mess of pottage. Unless an empty larder prepares the way, it is vain for the evangelical missionary to rise up early and to lie down late; except the Romish belly is pinched with hunger, their labor is but lost that seek to build up the Protestant faith.

A CORRECTION.—How objectionable in appearance, the terms or wording of the third rule of the society announced by the Toronto Mirror, as about to be organized under the name of The Irish Society of Canada—because furnishing a pretext to the enemies of the Church for insinuating the existence of Catholic "secret societies," i.e., of "secret societies" approved of or tolerated by the Church—we were sure that those terms had not been employed with any evil design; and that if the attention of the originators of the scheme was but called to them, and to the use which might be, nay, which had already, by the Montreal Witness, been made of them, they would be so modified as to give satisfaction to the most sensitive. In this expectation we have not been disappointed; for the Toronto Mirror of the 4th inst informs us "that the terms complained of have been expunged and altered so as to reflect on no religious body;" and according to the Report of a Committee, upon organization, the declaration exacted of members of the newly organized society is simply couched in the following general, but sufficiently expressive form:—

"I (A. B.) do hereby publicly and solemnly declare that I am not a member of any secret politico-religious society of any description."

It is not the legitimate function of an exclusively Catholic journal to take any part in a purely secular movement, such as the organization of a political society which admits to its membership Protestants and Catholics indiscriminately, must necessarily be. We have no right to criticize; and though of course, as Catholics we felt our duty to protest against a form of expression which in its strict grammatical sense implied the existence of Catholic "secret societies," we do not feel ourselves competent, or authorized, further to interfere. Only would we respectfully correct an error into which, by a confusion of ideas, the Mirror allows himself to be again betrayed. A Ribbon society is not a Catholic, but essentially an anti-Catholic society, in so much as it is secret, and in as much as all secret societies are anathematised by, and are therefore hostile to, the Catholic Church—no matter whether their members are avowed enemies i.e. Protestants, or false traitorous children, i.e., bad Catholics. Secret societies, composed of these latter, have existed, do probably exist, and will perhaps, never be wholly put down. But the existence of such societies are no argument against our thesis that a Catholic "secret society" is "in rerum natura" impossible; because a Catholic society implies a society not only exclusively composed of Catholics, but one of which the Church approves, or which she tolerates—even as the Orange society is approved of by the Protestant Church of England, and is therefore a "Protestant secret society" to all intents and purposes. The Mirror will therefore perceive that we by no means deny the possibility of secret politico-religious societies amongst bad Catholics, although we do assert the impossibility of any such thing as a Catholic "secret society;" and that therefore we have in no degree been guilty of the error which we complained of in the wording of the rules of the new Irish Society of Canada. Here we are content to let the matter rest, and must decline any further controversy on the subject.

A "CLEAR-GRYT" MANIFESTO.—The Peterboro' Review publishes a copy of a manifesto issued by the "Protestant Reformers" of Upper Canada, addressed to the electors of Trent, and headed—

"VOTE AGAINST SMITH AND POTTERY."

To show what manner of men these "Protestant Reformers" are, and what their sentiments towards Catholics, we make some extracts from this genuine Liberal document:—

"If, therefore, my Protestant brethren, you have yet in your hearts any sentiments of true religion, any feeling of the love of your Country, if you are Christians any more than by profession, if you are Britons any more than by name; if you have the piety as well as reason of Protestants; if you have the virtue as well as rights and privileges of free born men, you will now stand fast in the liberty in which Christ has set you free!

"You will drive from you the yoke of Rome now ready to be once more cast upon your necks. A yoke which your forefathers could not bear, even when use made it habitual, and ignorance hid about them up from the light of truth and liberty. But you who have a clear view, as well as a free choice, of good and evil will doubtless prefer Gospel light to the anti-christian kingdom of darkness. You will doubtless prefer liberty of conscience to blind obedience; you will prefer piety to superstition; virtue to fanaticism, your Bible to the Mass Book, and sense to nonsense."

Here is some more of the stuff, which to make it more effective was printed on Orange coloured paper:—

"TO THE PROTESTANT ELECTORS OF THE COUNTY OF PETERBOROUGH.

The Central Committee in Peterborough, in behalf of Bills Flint, hasten to give you the following information just received by Telegraph from Mr. Flint at Belleville, viz:—

"Roman Catholic Bishop's letter read yesterday in all the Churches ordering the Catholics to vote for Smith. Give this important fact to the Protestants of your county."

In addition to the above we have to say that the Priest of Peterborough, yesterday, gave the same orders from the Altar, and denounced the Protestant population as the Bog Trotters of Upper Canada!

Fellow Electors!—The issue is now raised, and it is to be a contest between Catholic and Protestant. They have thrown down defiance to you. Will you submit to be rode over by this class of our people.—If you do you are not men.

"GOD SAVE THE QUEEN."

Who can doubt that the "Protestant Reformers" are the "natural allies" of Catholics, and that the latter have reason to be proud of the connection!

THE ST. PATRICK'S BAZAAR.—This noble work of charity, having for its object the support of the Orphans of the St. Patrick's Asylum, commenced on Tuesday last, as announced in the True Witness of the 4th, and will be continued throughout the present week. The display of articles is highly creditable to the fine taste, and ardent charity of the ladies of the St. Patrick's congregation; and considering the busy season of the year, and the many and heavy demands made upon our people, the attendance hitherto has been satisfactory. Still we must not relax in our efforts; our Orphans, whom God has entrusted to our keeping, must be fed, and clothed, and suitably lodged during the coming winter; and for this end it is our bounden duty to encourage the St. Patrick's Bazaar.

An esteemed correspondent has kindly favored us with the annexed lines upon this subject:—

TO THE SONS OF SAINT PATRICK.

(Written for the True Witness.)

Have ye heard the glad voices of childhood at play, Like demons of war, who some dark war are waging!

Have ye watched the wild gambols of some noble boy, And not felt within you deep pleasure and joy?

Have ye heard the sad moanings of childhood in grief, The low-whispered word, and the faint prayer for relief?

Have you seen little feet totter faint from your door, And felt not within you—may God help the poor?

Sons of Ireland! hark! list with me to that wail! We know it full well—'tis the oft told sad tale, Of little ones who, in their cold want are weeping, And round the dead form of their mother are creeping!

Look out in the night; hear the wind wildly raging, Like demons of war, who some dark war are waging!

Shall we stand idly by, and not stretch forth a hand To succor the orphans of dear Fatherland?

Oh no! friends and brothers! a home you have given; With hearts and with hands ye have all nobly striven, That e'en though dark famine your strong hearts may daunt, The Orphans of Erin shall never know want.

Oh deem them not thankless—there's a fund of deep prayer, That redens you from many a sorrow and care. Would you know whence this gold beam of gratitude starts? Then seek it deep down in those warm little hearts.

Now come let us gather; for to-day they all call, And ask that through love we should seek their gay Hall.

Then come let us gather from near and from far, And speed with glad hearts to the Orphan's Bazaar. MARY.

Montreal, October 8, 1861.

AN AMUSING COMPLAINT.—The Echo, a low-Church Anglican paper, published at Toronto complains bitterly of the itinerant Revival preachers by whom the country is infested. By their violent preaching, they drive weak-minded people to insanity; and by their influence over the crowds who flock to hear them, they deprive the regular ministers of the contributions which, but for these interlopers, would flow into their pockets. The Echo, in short, looks upon these Revivalists as poachers upon the spiritual preserves of the establishment; and like a true sportsman he has no mercy for poachers.

DEATH OF THE REV. THOMAS RIORDAN.—Many of our readers will be sorry to hear of the death of this young and zealous clergyman. The Rev. Thomas Riordan was born on the 9th of February, 1831, in the county of Cork, Ireland; and after studying at Fordham and Montreal, was ordained Priest at Cleveland, Ohio, for the Diocese of Burlington. He departed this life on the 4th of October, at Fairfield, Vt., of which he was the Pastor, after having been duly prepared to appear before his God by a long sickness and the reception of the last Sacraments. His many and devoted friends, of the clergy and laity, are earnestly requested to join with his lamented congregation in offering prayers to Almighty God for the repose of his soul.—Requiescat in pace.

RETURN OF PRINCE ALFRED TO CANADA.—His Royal Highness Prince Alfred, who returned to this country a few weeks ago in the British and North American Royal Mail steamship Arabia, is about to return thither. He is, it is understood to go out as a passenger on board the same company's steamer Canada, Captain Moodle, on Saturday. His Royal Highness is as on his homeward voyage, to be accompanied by Major Cowell.

By a proclamation in the Canada Gazette, Parliament is further prorogued till the 6th of November, not then to meet for the transaction of business.

THE PROVINCIAL LUNATIC ASYLUM.—The St. John's News says:—As many are under the erroneous impression that to obtain admission for the insane into the Lunatic Asylum at this place, it is only necessary to send such persons to Dr. Howard, and as the Superintendent has already had several applications made in this manner.—We are requested to state that parties who are desirous to obtain admission for their friends into this institution must make application to the Governor General through the Provincial Secretary. The forms of application and other necessary particulars can be obtained at the Asylum.

PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS AT OTTAWA.—It has been stated by some of our contemporaries, we believe correctly, that the work on the new Parliament Buildings at Ottawa is, for the present, stopt in consequence of the money appropriated by Parliament for that purpose having been exhausted. The Ministry are, of course, the best judges of their responsibility, and it will be their duty to explain to Parliament the reasons which have moved them. We believe it will be found that they have not wished to spend money, before appropriation by Parliament, in the face of the strong feeling which has been expressed by the public and in Parliament against their doing so, and their own pledges to Parliament.—Montreal Gazette.

Mr. Ronald McDonald, while attempting to get into the train at Cornwall on Friday evening last while it was in motion, in some manner slipped and fell. The wheels of one of the cars passed over his legs, almost cutting them in two, and the bleeding resulting from his injuries, was so profuse that he died in a few moments. The Freeholder says that Mr. McDonald carried on business extensively in Lochiel in partnership with a brother, and was highly esteemed wherever he was known.—Commercial Advertiser.