## The Advertiser

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THE WESTERN ADVERTISER. (OUR WERKLY EDITION.) 

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THE ADVERTISER

Is not and does not propose to be a par tisan paper. It is not an "organ." It opinions are its own. The ABVERTISER alone is responsible for opinions expressed in these columns.

THE ADVERTISER Advocates Free Trade-British free trade, Continental free trade, free trade with the whole world,

THE ADVERTISER

Looks forward with hope to Canada's future as that of an Independent Cana-dian Republic, in equally friendly alliance with the United States and with Great Britain, believing that such a status would be best for Canada, best for Great Britain, and promotive of the best attainable relations with the United States. Meantime, everything is to be gained by cultivating cordial relations between all English speaking peoples. Those who take an opposite course should be regarded as enemies of man-

THE ADVERTISER

Advocates Prohibition of the manufac-Advocates Prohibition of the manufac-ture and sale of intoxicating liquor; and all expedient general legislation and persuasion in the meantime.

THE ADVERTISER

Is an advocate of Equal Rights for women, whether as regards the franchise, or equal wages for equal work.

THE ADVERTISER

Is a believer in Christian Union, and considers the time has come when the various Christian denominations should come closer together. Those bodies which are now nearest should unite first. Under the present system there is an unjustifiable waste of men, means and effort. The differences between most of the existing denominations are no greater than the differences, natural to thinking men and women, to be found in every congregation. Even those Christian bodies supposed to be the farthest apart, the Protestant and the Roman Catholic, have more of belief that is common than of belief that is antagonistic. To the laity the differences between the various Protestant denominations are microscopic. For various reasons the clergy, even when, as is true of the best of them, they favor Christian Union, are not in a position to be as outspoken as the laity

THE ADVERTISER

Advocates Obligatory Voting. Most of the electoral corruption centers around "getting out the vote." Let the duty be laid on every elector of getting out

THE ADVERTISER

Advocates the more general use of the Plebiscite, the Initiative and Referendum, etc., believing that the interest of the needs in could the people in public questions, apart from persons, would be increased, and that something would thereby be done to promote independence of political thought, as opposed to excessive party

All's right with the world. -[BROWNING.

London, Friday, March 3.

THE Christian at-Work, New York, published by J. N. Hallock, is a capital weekly. It is conducted along broad, non-

send for a specimen. MR. THOMAS TAIT, who has been resident at Toronto as superintendent of the Ontario division of the Canadian Pacific Railway, has gone to Montreal to assume the position of assistant general manager

of the system. Mr. Tait is a man of marked ability and energy, and one who possesses the genial qualities necessary the prosperous management of human nature. Mr. J. W. Leonard will succeed

THE PRIEST IN IRISH POLITICS. Much has been made by the English Unionist papers of the judicial decisions invalidating the results of the elections for members of Parliament held last July in the North and South Meath constituencies of Ireland. Mr. Michael Davitt and Mr. Fullam, the candidates of the "Nationalist" or McCarthyite section of the Irish party, were returned over their "Parnellite" opponents. The court held that in these contests the Catholic priests exercised undue influence, amounting to intimidation, in favor of the successful candidates, and unseated Davitt and Fullam on this ground. The decision has naturally been made use of extensively to sustain the anti-home rule claim that the Irish people are priest-ridden in politics, and that legislative independence for Ireland would mean simply clerical control applied to Irish affairs in a large

The Nineteenth Century for January prints an article by Mr. Michael Davitt on the Meath cases, and on the general ques-tion of the attitude and influence of the Catholic clergy in the politics of Ireland. The views of Mr. Davitt, as a beneficiary of such exertions as were made by the priests of Meath, and as one of the most prominent and most earnest of Catholic Irishmen, are naturally very different from those ex-pressed by the English U nionist writers.

Mr. Davitt sharply criticises these writers for inconsistency in denouncing the acts of the Irish priests and at the same time ignoring the corrupt practices used in behalf of Tory candidates in English constituencies. (Two or three English members, it will be recalled, have been unseated by the courts on the ground that they, or their representative, used improper

methods to get votes.)

"Money, beer, free-taps, and PrimroseDame meat-and-drink pienics," Mr. Davitt
sarcastically observes, "are pardonable
imistakes when employed to win contests
against Liberals and Home Rulers. There
is no likeness in this to the abominable
'spiritual intimidation' practiced in Meath.

"In one day's report of the trial of the Rochester election petition the following items of political persuasion were mentioned in evidence: 'Scottish whiskies, lemonade, cake, bread and butter, and sandwiches for 1,000 people; cigars, beer, and whisky consumed; a salmon promised; beef and bread supplied in form of sandwiches; 2,000 sandwiches consumed at a conversazione, with eight dozen bottles of beer; smoking concert with beer; three-penny tickets exchanged for eatables; £45 expended on a fete, the provisions at which were demolished by the first contingent; £100 expended for another fete; refreshments, cakes, hampers, and teas; expenses on the conversaziones, £100. Mr. Conney (for the public prosecutor) in proposing to ask witness a question, observed that, if he converted the whole constituency into registration canvassers and entertained them on the eve of the general election, he brought himself very nearly within the law.

"I think the learned judges who tried the

weekly. 1t is conducted along broad, non-sectarian lines, and numbers among its contributors some of the brightest writers of two continents. Its illustrated articles are alone worth its subscription price. morally as indefensible as for a landlord to demand a vote by the terrorism of an

Dr. Davitt defends Cathelic Ireland against the charge that it is in any sense subservient to such improper priestly in-fluence as was used in Meath. Upon this

nature. Mr. J. W. Leonard will succeed Mr. Tait at Toronto. His many triends extend congratulations and good wishes.

Thus, from the Canada Presbyterian, must be admitted to be a rather palpable hit: "Prayers are being offered against home rule in the Protestant Episcopal churches in the diocese of Down. It would be interesting to know if any petitions are presented asking relief for the people of Wales, three-fourths of whom are compelled to aupport a church in which they do not believe. Strange, is it not, that the people who are bubbling over with prefessed sympathy for the Protestants of Ulater should at the same time be fighting like Trojans to keep ecclesiastical fetters on the Presbyterians, Baptists and Methodists of England and Wales."

subservient to such improper priestly influence as was used in Meath. Upon this point he speaks very emphatically: "There is not in the whole of Ireland a voter, literate or illiterate, so obtuse as to believe he places his soul in any, the least possible, peril by voting contrary to the thing is too absurd. Fifty thousand Catholies voted in epposition to the side taken by many of their elergy in the 42 contests waged by Parnellite candidates in Nationalist constituencies last july. These voters represented every class of electors in the chieve he places his soul in any, the least possible, peril by voting contrary to the divice, literate or illiterate, so obtuse as to believe he places his soul in any, the least possible, peril by voting contrary to the divice, literate or illiterate, so obtuse as to believe he places his soul in any, the least possible, peril by voting contrary to the divice, literate or illiterate, so obtuse as to believe he places his soul in any, the least voter, literate or illiterate, so obtuse as to believe he places his soul in any, the least voter, literate or illiterate, so obtuse as to believe he places his soul in any, the least voter, literate or illiterate, so obtuse as to believe he places his soul in any, the least voter, literate or il

West Clare a Protestant Parnellite was returned by a large majority over the Catholic Nationalist, who had the active support of the priests of the constituency. South Roscommon, where the Catholics are probably 98 per cent. of the voters, was carried against the candidate of the Irish party, though supported by the local priesthood. In Dublin city and county, within the very heart of the diocese of Archbishop Walsh, not a single Nationalist was elected, though many of them were men of reputation and experience in the popular cause, and had the active, sympathetic support of the distinguished prelate whom it pleases Lord Salisbury to describe as the virtual governor of Ireland sum main support of Mr. Gladstone's Administration."

Mr. Davitt gives various other instances

Mr. Davitt gives various other instance to support his claim that the people of Ireland are with the priests so far as the priests are with them in the cause of home rule, but are resolutely independent of ill-judged but are resolutely independent of ill-judged clerical dictation. He also scouts the accusation that Irish politics is manipulated from Rome. He recalls the fact that when the Vatican disapproved the objects of the National tribute to Mr. Parnell, the people of Irish and Transfer this interference. of Ireland resented this interference, so that the Parnell fund, "which was not expected to reach £20,000, mounted rapidly

that the Parnell fund, "which was not expected to reach £20,000, mounted rapidly to close upon £40,000."

"Anti-home rule politicians may squirm at the face as much as they please, but the power and the prestige of the Irish priest are the creation of those very systems which the Unionists are resolved if possible to perpetuate, in the face of their utter and abysmal failure to serve the purposes for which they were established, or to benefit the people subjected to them. While the law of eviction remains the law of the land, and Dublin Castle supplies the instruments of its execution, the political bond which unites the Irish priest to the Irish peasant will never be broken. As the priest has not been afraid even to go against Rome when Rome went wrong on Irish questions, he is not likely to err on the side of weakness towards eastle rule and landlordism while they are the embodiment of injustice to the people. And the people would be fools to listen to the voices of those who ask them to discard such allies. The church, in a political sense, is the tower of strength to a popular cause when its ministers are heart and soul with the people's aspirations. Churches may be dangerous to liberty when they are rich and are trammeled by State obligations or by class influences. If the Catholic Church had been endowed by the English Government in Ireland, it would have lost every vestige of political power with our people. As it is, it has preserved an influence commensurate with the fidelity of its priests to the people's cause."

its priests to the people's cause. IN MEMORY OF PHILLIPS BROOKS If anything had been needed to show how universally Phillips Brooks was loved, and how great is the grief at his death, that would have been supplied by the great memorial service held in Carnegie Hall, ments, cakes, hampers, and teas; arguments on the conversationes, 1,100; arguments on the conversationes, 1,100; arguments of the public prosecutory of the provided and the provided prosecutory of the provided prosecutory of the provided provided the provided provide New York recently. It was a thoroughly representative assembly. The great auditorium was crowded, and hundreds, and

ook's Gotton Root COMPOUND. ent discovery by ar



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No. 12-Men's Heavy Wool Socks only 10c per pair.

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No. 16-\$7 50 Sealette (Listers) at \$5 yard.

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No. 20-\$1 25 and \$1 50 Ulster Cloth, only 75c yard to-day.

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No. 23-15 Art Table Covers for \$1 95 each, worth \$2 50. No. 24-3 pieces only Lambskin Flannel at 5c yard, usual

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No. 26—Another chance to buy Towels worth 18c and 20c

No. 27—White Toilet Quilts as jollows: \$4 75 for \$3 90. \$2 50 for \$1 95, \$2 for \$1 44, \$1 25 jor 90c, 75 for 65c each.

No. 28—18c Feather Ticking for 12½c yard to-day.

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