

The True Witness

AND
CATHOLIC CHRONICLE,
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MONTREAL, FRIDAY, June, 23 1876.

ECCLESIASTICAL CALENDAR.

JUNE, 1876.

Friday, 23—*Vigil.* Sacred Heart of Jesus.
Saturday, 24—NATIVITY OF ST. JOHN BAPTIST.
Sunday, 25—THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. St.
William, Abbot.
Monday, 26—SS. John and Paul, Martyrs.
Tuesday, 27—St. Barnabas, Apostle (June 11).
Wednesday, 28—*Vigil.* Past. St. Leon IX., Pope.
Thursday, 29—SS. PETER AND PAUL, APOSTLES.—
HOLIDAY OF OBLIGATION.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The Turkish Ministers are at variance on the proposed National Assembly; the promised constitution, and possibly other reforms, will be indefinitely postponed.

A day or two since a Circassian officer in the Turkish army who had been reduced, assassinated two of the Sultan's Ministers and severely wounded a third. This has been the cause of considerable excitement. It is probable that all danger of European conflicts arising out of Turkish affairs has meantime disappeared. The only trouble that has to be feared for the present being Turkey's own troubles with her rebels, who will get no direct countenance from the powers.

A crisis is impending in the Spanish Cabinet in consequence of the disagreement between Salaverria and the Budget Committee on the land tax question.

A fire in Moscow, Russia, has burned down fifty houses; the damage is stated to be enormous. Kadischory, a town on the Caucasus, has been three fourths destroyed by fire.

There are now signs of material advancement in many of the South American Republics, which have at length had somewhat of a respite from dissensions, and even seek to promote public undertakings.

A disgraceful and much to be regretted riot took place on Monday at Thorold, between the Irish and Italian laborers on No. 12 section of the Welland Canal improvements. The Italians were armed with revolvers. One man was killed.

The Governor General passed through Montreal a day or two ago for Quebec, where he is now the recipient of viceregal honors.

That dirty election expenses squabble between Mr. Workman and the *Herald* has been completed so far as the evidence is concerned. We give no opinion in regard to it except to say that the developments have shown that in order to secure the election, the parties were not particular as to what means they used. A judgment in the case is expected towards the end of the month.

A tremendous number of failures have been reported during the week from England, Ireland and Scotland.

The Sioux Indians are again giving our American neighbors considerable trouble.

The black cholera has broken out in Koordistan.

A proposal has come into existence—on paper—to construct a waterway, navigable by vessels of 300 tons, from one of the Western ports right through the length of France to the Rhone, and thence to the Mediterranean.

France is to have a compulsory education law, and universities at Paris, Lyons, Bordeaux and Nancy.

The Canadian yacht *Countess of Dufferin*, which is to sail against the Americans at Philadelphia, arrived in Montreal on Saturday, and left on Tuesday for the scene of the contest.

The report of the British Royal Commission on the Fugitive Slave question, arising from the admiralty circulars, has been presented to Parliament. It recommends that while the commanders of men-of-war should abstain from and active interference with slavery in a country where it is a legal institution, yet they should not be altogether prohibited from exercising their discretion as to retaining fugitive slaves on board their vessels. The enactment of strict rule is inexpedient, and their observance would be impossible, because in a variety of cases the officers should be free to consider what course would be best for the interest of the slave and should not compel him to quit their ships.

On Monday afternoon a procession of upwards of 225 loads of stone, intended to aid in the construction of St. Peter's Cathedral on Dorchester street, passed through the city. The stone is a donation, and the quarrying of it was performed free of all charges. The erection of the Cathedral, it is believed, will be pushed on briskly this summer.

TO INSTINCT TRUE.

The Liberals of Europe, in the present day, seem determined not to appear degenerate in the eyes of the world. Grand and pompous as their doctrine of toleration sounds, if "the proof of the pudding be the eating thereof," these tolerant gentlemen cut a very poor figure in the test of practical demonstration. To-day, as in the past, their deeds belie their words, and instead of granting to others the liberty they so loudly proclaim, instead of bowing to the will of that majority which it is their cardinal principle should rule, it would appear that liberty, to their minds, conveys no other idea than that of forcing their opinions down the throats of their opponents, and toleration is all very well for those who agree with them.

These remarks are called forth by the recent advices received from Belgium, where, it appears, the party known as the Clericals have been success-

ful in electing their candidates. We give here the press despatch, and our readers may rest assured the facts are not distorted:—

"BRUSSELS, June 14, Evening.—Great agitation still prevails, but there has been less disturbance to-day than yesterday. Bands of rioters continue to hoot and hiss in front of the Catholic institutions. Some windows had been broken and a few arrests made. A Cabinet Council has been called for to-morrow. At Antwerp the disturbances were renewed to-day; many thousands marched through the streets, shouting 'down with the Ministers!' They attacked and wrecked the Catholic institutes. The *gens d'armes* charged upon the rioters, and several persons were wounded. A number of arrests have been made."

What a beautiful picture modern Liberalism presents in the above. Imagine for a moment the noble sentiments that swelled the breasts of these regenerators of the race, who would emancipate their fellow-men from the tyranny of the Church, as they stood there, in the words of the despatch, "hooting and hissing in front of the Catholic institutions!" This was at Brussels. At Antwerp, however, the hooting and hissing was too mild and constitutional for the apostles of liberty. That form of persuasion was not sufficiently vigorous, so they marched through the streets shouting, "down with the Ministers," and the institutes of the unfortunate Catholics were attacked and wrecked with a Vandalism worthy of the progressive ideas of the nineteenth century. We merely call attention to these facts, for the purpose of reminding our readers of what might be expected if the pernicious principles, which are sought to be inculcated here by some of those who profess to lead public opinion, and who lose no opportunity of instilling a hatred of Catholicity into the minds of their followers, were allowed to prevail. The liberal journalists of the Continent do not advise their friends to hoot religious institutions, or to wreck them, but they do what professedly evangelical journals do every day in our midst, they influence the popular mind by their lies and their slanders against the Church and the clergy, and in the natural course of things, as like causes produce similar results, we have no reason to suppose that the consequences of pernicious teachings here would be anything different from what our experience shows us to be their results in other quarters, and at all times.

LEGISLATIVE UNION.

It is well known that at the time of the carrying of the great confederation scheme the leading spirit of the movement, Sir John A. MacDonald, favored the idea of a Legislative Union of the Provinces. The late Sir George Cartier, as the representative of this province, opposed this view and the result was that our present system was adopted. For some time past Journals in various parts of the Dominion have been reviving the question of a Legislative Union, putting forward various reasons why such a measure should be consummated and the federal plan abandoned. It is not likely that the question will be mooted in the Legislative Halls of the Dominion for some time to come. Yet it is impossible, in the present state of affairs, to prognosticate on the subject with certainty. To be forewarned is to be forearmed however, and the people of the Province of Quebec, will do well to keep a watchful eye on the progress of the discussion. It requires no political foresight to foretell that a Legislative Union of the Province would be disastrous to the best interests of Quebec. The reasons for this are manifest, they were urged at the time of confederation and so forcibly that the rights of the Provinces were secured by the British American Act. It behoves our public men to be watchful. Once lost the provincial rights could never be regained and with the example of Ireland before the eyes of the people of this Province they will guard the priceless boon they now possess with a patriotism we have no doubt that will overshadow all party considerations.

ABOUT IRELAND.

Our remarks on "Skirmishing," as far as relating to the gigantic fraud lately organized in New York, have displeased a few of our Irish friends who have more faith in the average American Fenian leader than we were disposed to give them credit for. It seems too that some parties who do not feel kindly towards the *True Witness* are trying hard to make people believe that its present writers are *Cavale Catholics*, so *truly-till* as not to tolerate even a suspicion against the sweetness of English rule in Ireland. We protest that we are not so. We believe that England's treatment of Ireland until a few years ago was simply barbarous, and that at present, much as it has improved, it is nothing better than civilized cruelty. We hold moreover that, let her continue to make what reforms she may, saving Home Rule pure and simple, her government of Ireland must ever be unjust, because as she never had a Constitutional right to govern that country she never will. Add to that, *this*—it may perhaps, surprise some to hear it—we are strongly of opinion that Ireland will never obtain the right of self-rule until such time as she will be able to point her guns in the face of the enemy, as she did in the days of the Volunteers, and demand that right or—But that time is not now, although it may be nearer hand than is suspected. A European war in which England, however reluctant, cannot avoid taking part, is threatened, and when begun then will be Ireland's opportunity.

That is our creed as regards this vexed Irish question. Whilst staunchly adhering to its every article we do not consider it inconsistent to give a loyal support to the party of "moral force" principles, now enjoying the confidence and respect of the Irish at home—to the Butts and Sullivans who in Parliament and out of Parliament are struggling for national independence, anxious to get it by moral suasion, but determined to achieve it at any rate. Prominent figures in a prominent legislature they attract the attention of foreign nations to the cause they advocate, and keep alive a healthy agitation that has already more than once unmade Prime Ministers, as a Disraeli and a Gladstone can tell. They do not shun the broad day-light, nor promise things impossible and insane; what they say they do, and do openly. These are the men on whom we rely to restore Ireland to the position on the continent of Europe she was destined by God and nature to occupy, and we ask our Irish friends to

support in these men that dear old cause which the big-talking mercenaries under shelter of the Stars and Stripes are trying to degrade with their Catch-penny schemes of invasion, and general blowing-up policy. Let our patriotism run through a pure channel, and not in the polluted sewer of American Fenianism.

THE LATEST FROM OKA.

The *Witness* is out in favor of the Oka Redmen becoming Orangemen. It says there is no doubt they have been very unjustly treated, and "if they became Orangemen, their grievances would soon become a subject of discussion in every lodge room all over the country, and the agitation would not be confined to lodge rooms. Messrs. Bowell and White, of Hastings, and Wright of Pontiac, would be getting up and making speeches in the House of Commons. They are all members who talk business, and would talk it in a very decided tone indeed, in reference to such a matter as one regarding the oppression of some members of their order. If the Premier had left anything undone, which would have a chance of securing better treatment for the Indians, he would feel remarkably uncomfortable during such a discussion, when he remembered the thousands of Orange voters, who would soon be reading all about the matter. A good North of Ireland Orangeman is generally a Conservative, but there are thousands of Scotch and Canadian members of the order, who generally vote on the Liberal side. Something would have to be done without delay. This would not be of those matters which could be trifled with with impunity. Then if the Conservative party were in power, the three members mentioned all belong to it, and a speech from each of them on such a matter would produce a very immediate effect. It would not take much to satisfy the Oka Indians and if they became Orangemen, their cause might soon be taken up in such a manner that it would be highly convenient for both political parties to have it settled without unnecessary delay."

Whew! "Lo, the poor Indian," is to be made a political cats-paw of. We suspected it would finally come to that, but we did not expect our pious contemporary would so innocently confess it. Well, take the Oka braves as brothers into your lodges, and air their grievances as long as you please,—get Mr. Bowell, and Mr. White, and Mr. Wright of Pontiac,—we fancy Mr. Wright won't enjoy it—to stand up in the House of Commons to fight for their supposed rights,—what then? Will all that decide to whom the Seignory of the Lake of Two Mountains belongs? Since when, pray, has the Orange lodge, the hustings, and the House of Commons been erected tribunals to decide questions relating to the ownership of property? Perhaps it is because we are a benighted Papist that we have always thought there were regular courts of law under the British Crown to adjudicate in such cases. And is it possible we have been dreaming that the Protestant Defence Alliance was formed for this purpose, amongst many others, of raising funds to plead before every Court, from the lowest to the highest, the title of the Indians to their disputed lands? If we have not been dreaming then, has the Alliance abandoned that kind of "skirmishing" as a promising bad job? Or worse still, has it *burst*? Tell us, O *Witness*, do tell!

FETE DIEU.

Never was the devotion of the Catholic population of Montreal to the Most Holy Sacrament of the Eucharist manifested in a more striking manner than by the grand procession of Sunday last.—The fears entertained on the night previous that rainy weather might interfere with the celebration, were dispelled by the glorious sunshine of Sunday morning, and the refreshing breeze that sprang up carried through the air the balmy fragrance of the leaves and flowers that decorated the line of march. At eight o'clock, the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass was offered up in the various churches, and at nine the congregations of the different parishes had assembled beneath the towers of Notre Dame. From this point the procession proceeded down St. James street, and through St. Antoine as far as Mountain, returning by way of St. Joseph. Any attempt to describe the magnificence of the decoration would prove a failure. The arches that abounded in every direction, vied with each other in beauty of design and profusion of ornamentation. The Blessed Sacrament, carried by His Lordship Menseigneur Fabre, beneath a canopy of the richest material, was preceded by the members of various societies, confraternities and religious communities, and the martial strains of ten brass bands alternated with the beautiful voices of men, women and children singing the sacred canticles of the Church. At the corner of St. Joseph and McCord streets a *Reposoir* had been erected where Benediction was offered up, and a more touching scene than that of the thousands who knelt there on bended knee, with uncovered head, in profound adoration of the Godhead, concealed beneath the Sacramental Veil, cannot well be imagined. Low Mass and a grand *Te Deum* at the Parish Church, wound up the proceedings, the most grand and imposing that Montreal has witnessed for many years.

A HEARTLESS HOAX.

In our last issue there appeared the announcement of the marriage of a young lady and gentleman belonging to Almonte, Ont. The notice was sent to us in the usual way, and we believed it to be strictly accurate.

Our mortification, however, can be easily imagined since we have learned from the parties interested that the affair was a fabrication pure and simple. No doubt the perpetrator of this outrage thought it a good joke; we have sent the manuscript to the proper quarter, however, and trust the guilty party may find in his sorrow that certain subjects are not to be treated with levity. We cannot sufficiently express our indignation at such contemptible conduct, and we hope the sufferers by this heartless hoax will accept our humble apology for our having been made the medium of somebody's senseless humor, or may be malice.

His Lordship the Bishop of Kingston confirmed 330 persons on Thursday, 15th inst., in the Parish of St. Mary's, Crystler, Ont. He is to be in Frankfort on Sunday next.

OH! FOR A CHANCE TO PLUNDER.

The *Daily Witness* of the 19th inst., in its French column, longs for the day to come when the Catholic Institutions of the Dominion shall be plundered by the State as follows:—

"At Rome, on the 4th of July next, will be sold by public auction, the Catholic properties which once bore the pompous titles of 'Irish Catholic College,' 'Scotch Catholic College,' 'English Catholic College,' where poisoned arrows were prepared against England, Ireland, and Scotland. To think that such things are being done at Rome, and that we must wait for a considerable time before being able to assist at such a delightful spectacle in Canada: the State grabbing the riches, stolen by the Church so many centuries ago! But one day it shall come. Let us not despair."

We commend the above to the calm consideration of our readers. Now and again that journal lets the cat out of the bag. By the above let them judge of what we might expect if the enraged evangelical clique once obtained power in the land.—On a future occasion we may return to this subject.

THE OTTAWA TIMES.

That perpetual government organ, the *Ottawa Times*, has taken exception to our brief notice of the escape of the Fenian prisoners. Our comments on the subject, which we think were very fair, have aroused the ire of our pap-eating contemporary, and in one of its brief intervals from the hunting of government patronage, it snatches time to say that our observations run counter to *Common sense*. If common sense consists in basking in the sunshine of Ministerial favor, then the *Times* people are the most sensible in the world. On the other hand, if to rejoice that men who had already expiated their offence, have succeeded in gaining their liberty which was insultingly denied, although demanded by the voice of a nation, be contrary to common sense, then we cheerfully plead guilty to the impeachment.

THE CORNER LOAFER NUISANCE.

To those who have at heart the good name and reputation of our fair city which has always occupied so enviable a position, for the absence of crime amongst its inhabitants, the columns of our daily contemporaries, which have chronicled of late so many assaults, some of them of a most brutal character, perpetrated in our public thoroughfares, is extremely painful. Montreal is fast becoming a great centre, attracting to it all kinds of people and unfortunately of certain classes which are of no benefit to any community. This is in the natural order of things and cannot be helped. We have however, in our midst one class of the *genus loafer* which is principally a home product—we refer to the street corner loafer—and of this social pest the sooner we get rid the better. Anyone taking a stroll along our principal streets at night, say Craig street, for instance, where from six o'clock in the evening, when the working classes are returning home from their labor, until eleven or twelve at night, there is a continual stream of foot-passengers moving along, will be sure to meet, at almost every leading cross street, a select band of the character we have referred to, principally youths from seventeen years and upwards, who seem to have no other occupation than to lounge about when not peering into the countenances of or making use of some vulgar expression to the passers-by, especially ladies. For this state of things there is no excuse—these young men should be forced to move on. Apart from this, the most flagrant of abuses, it is unfortunately too true that in many parts of the city assaults are of almost daily occurrence, which tend to bring discredit upon us. The usual cry when these things happen, and that the perpetrators escape is, "Where was the police?" Our guardians of the peace are no doubt in some instances to blame, but we think the root of the evil lies in the fact that despite the late meagre addition of twenty or twenty-five men to the force we are yet far from having an organization sufficiently strong to meet the requirements of our population. This city with its, in round numbers, 150,000 inhabitants is no longer the quiet place it was some years ago. Our City Fathers who seem alive to the necessities of great improvements, when the question of increasing the police force is brought forward tighten the purse strings, and on the plea of want of funds leave the citizens comparatively unprotected. We trust that some member of the City Council, anxious to earn for himself the gratitude of his fellow-citizens, will urge the increasing of our present force, and that the Chief of police will take such measures as will make the intolerable nuisance of corner loafers a thing of the past.

THE PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN.

Our friends in the United States have opened the campaign for the next Presidential Election. For several weeks past the names of the candidates for nomination at the Republican Convention, have been before the public, each in time undergoing the process of having his character and record torn to pieces and many were the prophecies of the knowing ones as to the probable chances of success, of the various nominees. At one time Conkling, the favorite of President Grant, stood at the top of the list. Then Blaine, no doubt, the strongest man in the Republican ranks but whose chances were nipped in the bud by the withering blast of denunciation. He battled bravely against the storm but he had to succumb. Then came Bristow, and others less noted but all have had to give way, and the Republicans in Convention assembled after adopting a platform in which they claim every political virtue for themselves and attribute to the Democrat, every conceivable form of Treason to the Commonwealth, chose as their standard bearers, Governor Hayes of Ohio, as Presidential Candidate, and Mr. Wheeler as candidate for the Vice-Presidency. As both of these gentlemen are absolutely unknown to fame outside of their own State, very little good or evil can be said about them. The organs of public opinion in the United States have spoken of the nominations either in laudatory terms or otherwise, according to political leanings, but there is, no doubt, a general feeling of disappointment in the Republican camp at the result of the ballot. It would seem as if the ablest men are to be forever excluded from the highest position, and some nonentity chosen because his insignificance

has not aroused the jealousy, that merit is sure to conjure up on every side. Mr. Hayes may be a good man, but it is more than likely he will be a mere tool in the hands of the wire-pullers. The public will await with considerable interest the action of the Democratic Convention. If they rally round any one of the great names that have been lately spoken of, it seems probable that success will perch upon their banners. The dreadful corruption that has been brought to light in the Republican ranks has made American politics a by-word amongst foreign nations, and the disgust at home must be very wide-spread. All this will have its effect on the coming contest, and if the Democrats profit by the occasion, and bring forward a man of ability and irreproachable antecedents, it is likely he will rally, not only the party vote, but a large majority of that powerful body who are more anxious for honest government than mere partisan triumphs. Heretofore the Canadian people have had more satisfactory trade relations with the Democratic than with the Republican Party, and on that score our sympathies are with the former. In the meantime, as spectators of the great struggle that is about to take place in the neighboring Republic, we say heartily "may the best man win."

THE LATE MR. A. T. STEWART'S WILL.

If the late Mr. A. T. Stewart were permitted to visit this earth for a brief period of time, and to take a bird's eye view of the army of ladies and gentlemen, who since his demise have claimed relationship with him, we leave it to the imagination of our readers to conceive, what thoughts would crowd themselves upon his mind. We hardly know whether the scene, that now presents itself, of such a host of claimants from every conceivable quarter addressing themselves to the widow at one time and to the executor at the next, some of them giving the most grotesque reasons, for having so long remained in the shade, and stifled the cries of their affectionate hearts, during the lifetime of the deceased gentleman, is better calculated to create amusement or excite disgust. We have said, that advices had been received from every conceivable quarter; but who could have dreamt that even the inhabitants of spirit land should be moved at the sight of the coffers of the late merchant Prince, yet such it would appear is the case and through the agency of the *mediums* the harassed and afflicted widow is sought to be victimised. It is scarcely to be wondered at that the will of one so favoured with this world's goods should be contested. What the result of the pending contestation may be it would be difficult to predict but it is scarcely probable, that a man of so much prudence as the late Mr. Stewart, should neglect a matter of so much importance and leave the instrument, containing his last wishes, in such a shape as to enable sharks an opportunity of devouring his hard earned wealth. From what we notice in the public journals, the allegation of the insanity of deceased, are likely to be disposed of very summarily. But to wealthy men, who see themselves childless, the proceedings now pending contain a valuable lesson. We believe Mr. Stewart was a truly charitable man, and devoted large sums to public institutions. By his will he, no doubt, has made promises for several of his cherished objects; but how much better, if men possessed of wealth which they never can themselves enjoy would during their lifetime and whilst in the full vigor of their administrative faculties, secure that superfluous wealth, to such objects as commend themselves to their judgment. Leaving aside the question of the reward the Christian anticipates in the Institutions of Charity and of learning aided by them, their names would live forever. They would have the pleasure of witnessing, with their own eyes, the grateful results of their timely generosity, and as far as human prudence can, thus forestall all attempts, by greedy fortune hunters, to enrich themselves at the expense of their estates.

WINSLOW AT LIBERTY.

The cable despatches inform us that Winslow, the Bostonian accused of forgery, whose extradition was demanded from the British authorities by the American Government, has been discharged from custody where he was held for a considerable time, and is not to be extradited after all. It was scarcely to be expected that the British Government, after having taken such strong grounds on the subject should acquiesce in the views urged by the United States authorities. The stand taken by the Crown Officer was, that if the prisoner were delivered up he should not be tried in the United States for any other offence than that on which he was extradited. This view seems to be the only reasonable one that could be adopted, if the stipulations of the Treaty mean anything at all. Nevertheless, it has always puzzled us to discern any good reason or sound policy, either public or private, why all crimes, except political offences, should not be extraditable. Most assuredly no country can benefit by becoming a refuge for malefactors from other lands, and the sooner our international Treaties are made so comprehensive as to embrace all offences except those against the State, the better for all. As the matter stands, Winslow has got the benefit of the Treaty, and more particularly of the English interpretation of it, and probably one more rogue goes unwhipped of justice.

THINK WELL ON'T.

"We must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ."—2 Cor. 5. 10, was the text prominently paraded in English and French in the columns of the *Witness* last week. This, we take it, is the first step towards conversion. The next move should be to search the Scriptures, to see what is written about the chances of *false witnesses* in the next world.

QUERY?

As a matter of justice, is the *Witness* going to publish the reply of the Editor of the *Halifax Mercury* to its attacks on his personal character, and if so, when?

Forty thousand dollars worth of building will be done at Arthursville this summer. Sheriff McIntyre has resigned the office of official assignee for the county of Stormont.