

The True Witness

AND
CATHOLIC CHRONICLE,
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AT
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M. W. KIRWAN—EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.
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MONTREAL, WEDNESDAY, JAN. 23.

CALENDAR—JANUARY, 1878.

WEDNESDAY, 23—Espousal of the Blessed Virgin and St. Joseph. St. Emerentiana, Virgin and Martyr.
THURSDAY, 24—St. Timothy, Bishop and Martyr. Miles Byrne, a '98 man, died at Paris, 1862.
FRIDAY, 25—Conversion of St. Paul. Daniel MacIsaac, the Painter, born at Cork, 1811.
SATURDAY, 26—St. Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr. Tenant League meeting and banquet at Mallow, 1858.
SUNDAY, 27—THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY. St. John Chrysostom, Bishop, Confessor and Doctor of the Church. Paris capitulated to the Germans, 1871.
MONDAY, 28—St. Raymond of Beniamort, Confessor. St. Agnes, *Secundo*. Lord Clare, (the Fitzgibbon '98) died, 1802.
TUESDAY, 29—St. Francis de Sales, Bishop and Confessor.
The Northern Star, the organ of the United Irishmen, suppressed, 1797.

LECTURE.

"IRISH SOLDIERS IN FOREIGN LANDS."
(SPAIN, ITALY, FRANCE, GERMANY, &c., &c.)

A LECTURE

WILL BE GIVEN ON THE ABOVE SUBJECT

BY
M. W. KIRWAN,
IN THE
MECHANICS' HALL,
ON
Tuesday Evening, 29th Jan., '78.

Proceeds to be devoted to patriotic objects.
TICKETS—25cts; RESERVED SEATS, 50cts.
TO BE HAD AT THIS OFFICE.

THE VOLUNTEERS.

ST. JEAN BAPTISTE VILLAGE INFANTRY COMPANY.
The members of the above Company will assemble at the QUEBEC GATE BARRACKS, Dalhousie Square, To-morrow, (THURSDAY) EVENING, at 7.30.
The band of the Company will attend.
M. W. KIRWAN,
Captain Commanding.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"H. M."—We recommend you to write to the Secretary.
"XMAS IN NEW YORK."—Interesting but too long.
"J. R."—If there are any secret signs or tokens—yes.
"GABRIEL."—Your communication has been mislaid. Could you send us a copy of it?
"F. K."—Our correspondents at Ottawa, Quebec and Toronto have been instructed to give an epitome of the doings of the Legislatures and Parliament during their sessions.
"STUDENT."—A Student wants to know the best authorities on Universal History, Mental Philosophy and Metaphysics. For Universal History, Smith's 3 vols., or Taylors Manual. For Mental Philosophy, Bain, for Metaphysics, Hamilton.

NEW CHURCH.

The Catholics of Montreal will rejoice to hear, that the Rev. Father Salmon is about to erect a New Church at Point St. Charles, the present edifice being too small for his increasing congregation. We are sure that Father Salmon will receive that cordial assistance from the Catholics of the city, which his enterprise, and his zeal, so well deserve at their hands.

THRICE DEFEATED.

Within a short time, three Cabinet Ministers have been defeated by the opposition. Peltier at Kamouraska, Laurier at Arthabaska, and now Val at Digby, have been sent by the board. There is a good deal of significance in these events, and while we are not over troubled about the circumstance, yet there appears to be a Conservative re-action in many parts of the country.

PROTECTION.

Last week a mistake occurred in our article "Is the Catholic Church opposed to Progress." In comparing the condition of Ontario and Quebec, we said that "Protection is good for Ontario, it is ruinous for Quebec," it should have been "Want of Protection may not injure Ontario, but it is ruinous to Quebec." We are satisfied that without more protection than we have at present, Quebec can never successfully compete with the manufacturing industries of the United States.

HORSE-WHIPPING.

It is not often in these sober times that we hear of the good old sport of one man horse-whipping another, because of some real or fancied grievance. Kingston, Ont., however, furnished us with the last fracas of this kind, the assailant being a Mr. Birmingham, and the assailed no less a person than the Collector of Customs, the gentleman who sent the notorious Tom Robinson to declaim "Woe to Montreal." It is said that "they jest at wounds who never felt a scar," and we must mercifully hope that the Collector of Customs, having never experienced the cuts of the rawhide, will be careful of letting slip his dogs of war—Tom Robinson and others—to lash the Catholic people of this city. If "a fellow feeling makes us wondrous kind" the Collector of Customs at Kingston, can now extend to us his sympathy, and can realize how we poor "Papists" would groan under the heroic horse-whipping of the gallant Tom. It is bad enough to have our souls sent to hell, but these gentry might, in sheer mercy, save our bodies. We suppose, however, that Tom is more familiar with a paint brush, than with a horse-whip, although if he got his deserts, one should be applied to his mouth, and the other to his pants.

HOME RULE.

The Home Rule Parliamentary party has inaugurated the session by moving an amendment to the Queen's Speech. The amendment was moved by Mr. Mitchell Henry, M.P. for Galway County, and it prayed for an examination into Irish grievances. Of course the amendment was defeated by an overwhelming majority. This was expected, yet the action of the Home Rulers is significant. It shows that the party is resolved to work, and while its members may not "obstruct" business in the sense generally understood, yet that Irish interests will be attended to, and that Irish M.P.'s will no longer be permitted by the people to make the House of Commons a convenient club, and nothing more. We expect the present session will be a busy one for the Home Rule party. At the recent conference resolutions of a firm and patriotic character were carried and we trust to see the firmness and patriotism of the people put into full play by their representatives. Home Rule has failed, completely failed, upon the old lines of attack, and some new constitutional means must be adopted if the Home Rule party ever hope to see a Parliament in College Green.

THE WAR.

Erzorum surrounded, the Balkans cleared of the Turkish troops, Adrianople in the hands of the Russians, and the only army in the field, belonging to Turkey, driven into the Rhodope Mountains, Turkey is chased into the last ditch—Constantinople. In this condition she may be said to have been beaten to her knees. The Queen has pleaded for the prostrate Mussulman, and the cable tells us, has asked Russia to spare the sick or dying man. Peace is, of course, much talked about, yet Russia appears slow to accept it. Servia, Roumania and Montenegro, will be free; Bulgaria will, in some way, be detached from Turkey, and a slice of Asia Minor with Kars and Erzorum will, with an indemnity, be exacted as Russian part of the spoil. The Black Sea will, perhaps, be opened to the Russian fleet, and the power of Turkey will be crippled for ever. The Crescent will have paled, and let us hope the Cross will benefit. But the policy Russia has pursued towards her Catholic subjects leaves little to hope for. Brutal as the Turk, Russia has treated her Catholic subjects even worse than the Porte, and we fear the strength she will acquire by these conquests, do not predict any good to the Catholic subjects who come under her sway.

THE COMING ELECTIONS.

In a few weeks the Municipal Elections will be upon us. Already some of the candidates for the various wards are before the public and the tocsin of preparation is sounding along some portion of the line. The contest is one likely to be more than usually exciting, for we fear that party feeling is running higher than it has done for some time past. It is a pity that it should be so, but if it is so, it must be encountered with cool determination. There is, however, one question that we would like to see brought prominently before the electors in these contests, and that is the STATUTE LABOUR TAX. The Catholics of Montreal are deprived of many hundred votes by this optional tax. It is simply a municipal conspiracy to keep the Catholic people from exercising their due influence in municipal affairs. So long as it exists, in its present form, the Catholics of Montreal will never wield that power which their numbers entitle them to. Look at the present state of affairs. The French Canadians have only 11, the Protestants have 12, while the Irish Catholics are only 4 representatives in the

council, and yet the French Catholic are considerably more than one half of the population, the Irish Catholic came next, and the Protestants are last. Now we do not desire to base representation on the score of religion, but yet the difference in the figures we have quoted are such as to force us to ask the reason why this is so? To this we find a ready answer. It is all owing to the STATUTE LABOUR TAX, and the friends of fair representation in this city should make that question a TEST QUESTION at the coming elections. It is the most subtle fraud upon representation that we ever heard of. It was formed for the purpose of keeping the poor people from voting, and it has been retained for the same purpose. Men openly admit that this is the object of the tax, and they will tell you, that it has succeeded to the letter. Well if our people will not open their eyes to the importance of the tax it will be their own fault to find themselves for years deprived of the right of using the municipal franchise.

In Montreal they are strong enough, and wealthy enough to win a better representation than they have if they only labour for it. The Irish people in this city have acquired a great deal of real estate. Considering the circumstances under which they came to this country their commercial prosperity is in many instances all that they could have expected. They have wealth, power, and numbers. They are unanimous upon all questions affecting Faith or Fatherland, and yet they do not hold the position they are entitled to. They are neither fairly represented in the Corporation, in the police, in the fire brigade, nor in the volunteers. Whatever the cause may be, there is the fact, and if they wish to remedy the present state of affairs they should vote for no man who did not either promise to vote for the abolition or the enforcement of the STATUTE LABOURS TAX. And it would be well to decide which—abolition or enforcement was desirable, in order that there would be a clear ticket and no division. It is a most important circumstance, and if the Catholics of Montreal are wise, they will see to it at once.

A CHAPTER OF INSULTS.

One of the peculiarities of our social system is that there is a class of men who think it no harm whatever to insult a Catholic, and who express amazement at the idea of a Catholic minding such insult at all. A short time ago a vulgar attack appeared in the *Ottawa Citizen* upon the Irish in Quebec. "Fiske," and "Paddy" and "Murther" were freely interspersed, and all the hackneyed vulgarism of abuse were liberally indulged in by the then anonymous writer. The editor of the *Citizen* appears to have regretted that he allowed the coarse attack to be made, and he forced the writer—a gentleman from Montreal—to come out above his name and admit that he was the libeller of our people. But the amusing part of the business is that this gentleman denies all intention of insulting the Irish people, and jokingly parries the question as merely a squib that meant nothing, and of course—yes of course—did not mean to offend. That is we are called perjurers, drunkards, ignoramuses, &c. &c., and yet no insult intended gentlemen, no insult. We Irish should not be so thin skinned. Lord bless you it is all in jest, of course it is. We are beasts and blackguards, drunkards and boobies but "no insult intended gentlemen—no insult." Some people evidently think that we should be accustomed to abuse and should take our punishment smiling, or we should lick the hand that smites us. Then again we have a choice selection from the London, Ont., *Herald*, where our people are called "pug-nosed ruffians," and we are certain that the writer would tell us "no insult was intended"—no more than if "a gentleman of color" was called "a blackman." We should be used to it. And it is not in Conservative papers alone, for both *Citizen* and *Herald* are Conservative, but in Reform papers as well, and this peculiarity is noticeable. They all appear to think that we should be satisfied with what some one called "monkeys allowance"—"more kicks than half-pence," and that we should meekly accept the situation as our unfortunate lot. All this is odd, but there are people who seriously think that if we are not destitute of feeling, we ought to be. It was only the other day we had to notice the *Star* "going for us" by sneeringly writing of the "ragged countrymen" of O'Connell, and later still, on Saturday last, the *Witness* in publishing its version of the Oka business gave what purported to be, the likenesses of "Father Lacan," "Brother Philippe" and "Joseph Perrillard." These "likenesses" were hideous caricatures. Father Lacan was brought out with shrivelled and distorted features. He was made as ugly as it was possible without destroying all traces of resemblance. "Brother Philippe" was even worse. He was made to appear lustful and beastly, and the "likeness" succeeded in creating a feeling of disgust. Joseph Perrillard, a witness for the crown, had a murderous counte-

ance, with somewhat of a fools head. On the other hand "Mr. Duddridge, a juror rejected by the crown" was a model for an artist, handsome, intellectual and calm. "Mr. Duddridge" was given to the public eye, the *beau ideal* of manliness and beauty. The *Herald* alone, of our Montreal papers, denounced this act of the *Witness*, and called it a "mean and despicable one." The *Gazette* and *Star* have been silent. The thing is too filthy to trouble us. It is becoming in the columns of the *Witness*. We are not surprised, but it is odd to hear this same paper advocating "Canadian nationality," and then insulting 1,800,000, or nearly one-half of the population of the Dominion. Honest men of every creed must loath the work of this mischievous *Witness*, and this last evidence of the stupid bigotry with which it assails everything Catholic, will open the eyes of everyone to one of the causes which provoke the indignation of our co-religionists. These are but a few samples of the method of attack which some people take, and all the time smilingly assure us that they had no more intention of insulting us, than they had of making jelly out of a turnip. We are not aware Catholics carry on those "playful" pranks and we fail to remember any instance of a Catholic journal in Canada wilfully insulting their neighbours because of their creed or nationality. But it is well that we can afford to laugh at them, and to wish them better manners.

WERE THEY REFUSED?

Last week we referred to an incident that happened in connection with some young men who presented themselves as recruits for the Garrison Artillery. These young men said they were not accepted because it was suspected that they were Catholics. Their reasons for saying this were: First—when they presented themselves, they were told there were some vacancies—Second, that a non-commissioned officer told them to get rifles and fall in,—Third, that some interfering afterwards took place and they were told that there were no vacancies,—Fourth that a recruit was accepted after they had been refused, and—Fifth, that some of the rank and file "jeered at them" when the officers told them that they could not be accepted. With reference to the first charge, we can offer no opinion, but about the second no non-commissioned officer had a right to tell them to take rifles and fall in, without the previous sanction of the officer in command. It was a breach of discipline and we can well understand the officer in command correcting it as soon as it was discovered. As to the "whispering, &c," we can readily believe that there is an objection, in some corps, to allow Catholics to enter them. That objection does not rest with the officers, but principally with the men. It is said that "no one is asked what is his religion"—perhaps not, but in some corps the men take care that it shall be known, and they take measures to keep the "Papists" out. This it would be useless to deny. They are accustomed to look on most men in uniform as sympathizers with Orangism, and they cannot reconcile themselves to the sight of a "Papist" in uniform. As to the "jeering" we are not at all surprised to hear it, but it is not an evidence of that discipline which we should expect in such a corps as the Garrison Artillery. We do not believe that such an evidence of religious animosity could take place in the presence of an officer. It is however little incidents such as these that create bad feeling. If Catholic recruits were met in a frank and generous spirit, much of the antagonism which now exists, would be removed. We are satisfied that mutual good will and kindly intercourse will be best promoted by a mixed volunteer system, and it is for this reason that we urge Catholics to join, and if commanding officers of battalions and of batteries meet those recruits in the spirit in which they offer their services, much good will be done to the community at large.

ORANGISM.

From Ontario we learn that preparations are already being made by the Orange lodges to "assist" the Orangemen of Montreal if they determine to carry out their intention to walk on the next 12th of July. Young Britons and old Britons pass heroic resolutions intended for the public eye, and no doubt make heroic vows in the secret chamber of their lodges of how "they all trample the papist, every one" in the Commercial capital of the Dominion. No doubt the question will become more serious as the dog days approach, and men's blood will be at fever heat contemplating the dangers with which our city is threatened by the Orangemen from Ontario. That danger is evident. No one will deny that it is possible. Strangers will come here and perhaps carry "woe" along with them. They have no interests to guard in our city and they would rejoice to see it in ashes. They would move no hand to rescue our banks, our commercial buildings, or our public institutions from destruction. They would be glad of it all. Anything that would

clear out this "nest of Papists" would bring balm to their feelings. The Orangemen of Montreal are as a class, men of no social standing in our city. They have no social reputation to guard. They are mostly poor, ignorant, and deluded men, who think that despising "Papists" is sufficient to secure for them eternal happiness. To them it would matter little whether one half our city was laid in ruins or not. Some people may think that in saying this we say too much, but we take the public utterances of the Orangemen themselves to support us. They have publicly threatened us with those things, and that public threat is but an index to the far more intense secret vows they make against the church to which we belong. Under such circumstances we have a right to ask the legislature in Quebec, or the Parliament in Ottawa, to grapple with the question. Orangism is already an illegal society in this province. Every member of the order is guilty of a misdemeanor and is liable to imprisonment. Of this we are assured by the best lawyers in the province. But even members of any illegal society can walk the streets. A procession may not be illegal, although the men who form that procession may be members of an illegal society. But yet Orangism is illegal. Some of our Catholic friends may desire to avoid the issue, but it cannot be avoided. It will force itself upon us in spite of all we can do. It must be faced firmly and coolly for if it is not checked in this city it will make Montreal the Belfast of Canada, and do more to retard the commercial prosperity of the people, than years of business depression. It appears to us that either the Local Legislature or the Dominion Parliament must interfere in the interest of peace and order. The *Irish Canadian* suggests that a petition from the Catholics of the Dominion should be sent to Mr. Isaac Butt for presentation to the Queen upon the subject. Our contemporary would find that the result of such a course would be useless. It is here and not in England that the question must be settled. It is in the power of our own Parliament to dispose of the question, and we should oppose any measure which would be calculated to weaken the authority we already possess. If we are true to ourselves, the question can be settled here, and by ourselves, with the assistance of those of our Protestant friends who desire to see us protected from insult, and the city of Montreal saved from "woe." The question should be brought before Parliament. Mr. Devlin has now a brilliant move to make, when the Commons meet. Let him put principle above party, and fight this question on the floor of the House, and he will rally to his side every Catholic in the land. Let no side issue bar the way. We want to be assured of peace, and freedom from insult, and it is in the power of Mr. Devlin to shake the government to its centre upon this very issue. In such a cause he will, we believe, find no divisions of opinion upon the side of the Catholic people, nor will he experience any lukewarmness in sustaining him. It is not a party question with Catholics, and all Catholics will rally to his side. If he exhibit that force and determination of which he is capable, if he put his shoulders to the wheel, Conservatives and Reformers, who are Catholics, will we believe, rally to his side, and every man whose soul is his own, who is not bound up in the harness of party before everything, will wish him God speed. Then there is the question of *Orange Immigration* to which we paid so much attention last session. We proved that Orangemen were encouraged to immigrate to Canada. We proved that exceptional facilities were put in their way to induce them to come to this country. These men add fuel to the flame. They introduce quarrels with which the people of Canada have nothing to do. They have made the North of Ireland a bear garden, and they will do the same with Canada, if a check is not put upon their career. That IMMIGRATION QUESTION we do not intend to drop. It is too important to be allowed to sink into oblivion. The Orange question ought to be made one of the important questions in the next session. The present government cannot afford to offend the unanimous voice of the Catholic people by refusing to entertain it. Perhaps indeed the members of the Government have no wish to do so. We do not believe that the Orange order is a favorite with the Hon. Mr. Mackenzie,—but it becomes Catholics to speak out, and show that they feel the intensity of the insult that Orangism intends, and that they are anxious for a peaceable solution of the difficulty. We repeat that Mr. Devlin has upon this question, and upon the question of the representation of minorities, which he handled so ably last year, a brilliant session before him, if he puts principles above party and fights the battles of the people with that dogged energy and ability which he possesses.

TRAVELLER WANTED
An Experienced TRAVELLER, whose sole occupation it shall be to push the circulation of the "True Witness" To a suitable man a liberal commission will be given.