

The True Witness

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MONTREAL, WEDNESDAY, OCT. 26.

CATHOLIC CALENDAR

For October, 1881. THURSDAY, 27.—S. Simon and Jude. FRIDAY, 28.—S. Simon and Jude Apostles. SATURDAY, 29.—Office of the Immaculate Conception. SUNDAY, 30.—Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost. Epist. Eph. vi. 10-17; Gosp. Matt. xviii. 23-35. Cons. Eps. Loughlin and De Goebriand 1853. MONDAY, 31.—Vigil of All Saints. TUESDAY, 1.—Feast of All Saints. Less. Apoc. vii. 2-12; Gosp. Matt. v. 1-12. WEDNESDAY, 2.—All Souls.

TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS.

We do not like being obliged to call so frequently upon our subscribers to pay up their subscriptions, but we sometimes find it necessary. Hence it is not our fault, but the forgetfulness or the neglect of those of our friends and patrons who do not seem to realize what a number of names the TRUE WITNESS bears on its subscription rolls; what an immense sum they owe us in the aggregate, though small to each individual, and what good its possession would enable the proprietors to do in the field of Catholic journalism if it were placed at their disposal at once, promptly and cheerfully. To our agents we would offer our heartfelt thanks for their past co-operation and valuable assistance, which to most of them has been a labor of love. We would also suggest to them that now is an excellent time to collect, especially in the rural districts, when the harvests are gathered in and money is plenty. We would also urge upon them to explain that all the new subscribers they obtain who shall pay in advance will receive the TRUE WITNESS from now until the 1st of January, 1883, for one year's subscription, which is giving the remainder of this year's issues gratis. We want another strong pull to add one-third to the circulation of the TRUE WITNESS for the current year. Those of our readers who are in arrears will find on the labels attached to their papers to what date they have paid. We would remind them also that the TRUE WITNESS gives facilities to which few other journals can afford; that in regard to its news and literature it is second to none on the Continent, and in cheapness stands alone. There is no other Catholic paper in America with half the pretensions of the TRUE WITNESS which sells for \$1.50 a year. In order to still further compete with the trashy and soul-destroying weeklies which compete with the TRUE WITNESS, we give Catholic clubs of five or ten the advantage of the paper for one dollar a year, and all we can say is, that the Catholic who cannot pay two cents a week for such a paper is not worthy of the glorious name. It shall be our ambition to see it in every Catholic family in the Dominion.

As a justification of Mr. Forster for striking Mr. Parnell's name off the roll of Justices of the Peace for the County of Wicklow, the cablegrams say, clipping from the English newspapers, that there must be something more than Land Leaguism in it, and speak of treason. But it is not necessary to substitute treason for legal agitation in order to arrive at a reason for striking the name of an Irish gentleman off the list of J. P.'s. The O'Donoghue was treated in a similar manner by Sir Robert Peel in 1863, but no one accused him of treason.

Our readers will regret to learn of the death of Mr. Thomas Tiffin, one of Montreal's merchant princes, at the comparatively early age of fifty-seven. Mr. Tiffin was one of Montreal's most prominent citizens, and though he took no active part in politics, he was always active in furthering local interests and the commercial status of Montreal, and was, besides, a leading, though unostentatious, patron of its charitable institutions, and its industrial enterprises. Mr. Tiffin leaves a widow to mourn his untimely loss (sister of Mr. B. J. Devins), but no children. Requiescat in Pace.

The Halifax Chronicle severely condemns the paragraphs of American papers for the habit they have lately contracted of inventing funny stories about clergymen out west and the eccentricities of them and their congregations. The Chronicle is perfectly right. There is nothing to be gained by bringing religion into contempt; even the rough unpolished churches of Leadville are better than none at all. Let the paragraphs fall back upon male stories until some subject less sacred than comical clergymen presents itself.

It is sincerely to be hoped that the weather will prove favorable to the Shamrocks during their stay in the United States so that the champions may enjoy themselves and the Americans may see the noble game of lacrosse as it has never been played before in the Republic. There is a treat in store for the lovers of our national game on the other side which they will appreciate, and if the Shamrocks return without being delighted with the reception they will have received from their thousands of friends and admirers in New York and Baltimore it will certainly not be the fault of the Americans. The Shamrocks really deserve their holiday trip, if such it can be called, and we hope that next year they may be enabled to exhibit their powers at lacrosse in England, Ireland and Scotland.

The correspondent of the Independence Belge wrote as follows:—"I hear from all the English with whom I come in contact that the Irish know not what they want. It seems to me that they know perfectly well what they do not want. If the Irish were Presbyterians, Anglicans, Methodists or Unitarians their wrongs would disappear as if by enchantment." The Independence Belge is not quite correct. No matter what religion the Irish professed the English would still covet their lands and their goods and seek to deprive them of their liberties. It is the nature of the beast. The Boers are not Catholics, neither were the American revolutionists whose descendants are to-day celebrating the capture of Yorktown from the soldiers of the most orthodox king, George the Third of unhappy memory.

We are told in the associated press despatches that the English Government is looking anxiously for American public opinion on its raid upon Ireland's liberties. If so, and if it expected endorsement, the English Government must be bitterly disappointed. The arrest of Parnell and other Irish leaders has been universally condemned by the American press in language more or less emphatic. Even the New York Herald which at first attempted to condone the despotic action of Gladstone, has wheeled into line with its contemporaries, not caring to remain in isolation any longer. The Herald, like the London Times, seeks to float with the current; it never swims against it, and hence, in any crisis creating excitement, its columns may be safely relied upon as reflecting the popular mind. America has, therefore, condemned the latest phase of British hatred towards Ireland.

A despatch to hand this morning says the League, in order to frustrate the objects of the Land Act, have prepared as test cases those only which carry fair rents already, and which will surely be rejected by the Land Court. But then it is presumed the Government, working in collusion with the landlords, will cause to be presented in the first instance those cases only which are so outrageous that the Court will find it necessary to decide upon a reduction of rent, so that the Act will not become a laughing stock altogether, and then be in a better position to refuse the vast majority of tenants a reduction. The judges can thus, with some show of delusive logic, or sophism, point to their decision and say, "we have reduced high rents, but cannot touch what are absolutely fair." But this will not blind intelligent people. What the Irish farmers require, in order to live, is that all the rents be reduced, and a great incubus lifted from their shoulders. If Parnell and his friends were at liberty the Land Act would surely obtain a fair trial, but as that is what Mr. Gladstone and his Landlord Cabinet do not want, they were thrown into prison. The only and last resource of the League was, therefore, a pronouncement against rents. Desperate diseases require desperate remedies.

The British Government have now done their worst in Ireland. They have assembled a large army, and are proceeding to break up the Land League by force. We do not speak here of the legality or illegality of the act, people in Ireland have long ceased to be surprised at those trifles, but what does seem astonishing is that having passed a Land Bill, having arrested the leaders of the League, having obtained the approval of Archbishop Croke, having become complete masters of the persons and the affections of the people, having, in a word, obtained complete ascendancy in Ireland, they should still go on proclaiming districts and arresting obscure individuals, as if everything was not lovely. They have proclaimed Derry! Why is it possible that after all the North of Ireland is not content with the beautiful Land Bill; or are all the clippings from the London papers manufactured into cable despatches, so many audacious falsehoods, and is Ireland really united in its determination to pay no rents until Parnell is released? In good sooth, it looks extremely like it.

Yesterday's cable despatches announce Ireland profoundly quiet, all the leagues fled or arrested, all respectable folks exulting over Archbishop Croke's protest, farmers impatiently anxious to pay their rents, the clergy siding with the Government and things in general as beautiful even as Mr. Gladstone could wish. It seems that Parnell was the League and the League was Parnell, and now that the League and Parnell are safe in Kilmalham the island draws a deep breath and turns more affectionately than ever to the sheltering arms of the British Government, which is forcing good things down its throat, including Home. Rule. What a relief all this is, and what a monster Parnell must have been outside prison walls. There is only one positive draw back to this touching picture of complete happiness and profound loyalty. The paternal Govern-

ment is still sending over all the soldiers and bullets and cartridges it can spare and is besides arresting Land Leaguers wholesale, (notwithstanding that they have all fled) and forbidding public meetings all over the island. But these eccentricities and inconsistencies will be excused when it is understood that the despatches are clipped from so many different London papers which do not all draw their inspiration from the same source.

The news to-day from several quarters of the globe is not comforting to Mr. Gladstone. A collision is feared between the English forces and the Boers; there is a rebellion in New Zealand; the Russians are about to take possession of Merv, and Spain wants Gibraltar.

A. M. SULLIVAN, M.P. for Meath, is engaged giving comfort to the British Government and damning Parnell with faint praise. Mr. Sullivan thinks the coming winter will bring trouble, but after a year or two prosperity will dawn upon the land, and perhaps A. M. will be the leader of the Irish people instead of Parnell. Mr. Sullivan is a clever speaker, but is deficient in backbone.

FRANCE seems at the present moment to be as completely isolated as England, or as she was herself in the latter days of Louis Quatorze. Spain and Italy watch her aggressions in Tunis with suspicion and distrust, the triple alliance has been formed against her because she is a Republic, Turkey is hostile because of her occupying what the Sultan considers one of his Provinces, and England is jealous over Egypt. Gambetta is not pursuing a safe foreign policy.

The fact that the newspapers are already discussing the Irish national flag is a sign that its early coming to the front is within the probabilities. Even Sir Charles Gavan Duffy, that cautious statesman for whom Gladstone entertains so much respect, does not see why in a few years Ireland may not have an army and navy, and consequently a national flag of her own. The London (Ont.) Free Press asserts that azure should be the national color, as it was the favorite of the ancient Irish chiefs, sometimes called kings but they are all dead and gone and green is now the color next the Irish heart. It would, however, be no harm to dash it with orange. It would not be unpleasant in the eyes of civilization to see an orange and green flag floating over Dublin Castle.

This letter of a correspondent, signing himself "A Fermanagh Protestant and Land Leaguer," which appeared in this morning's Gazette, places the Witness in an awkward predicament, or rather it would do so if our amiable contemporary had not become quite accustomed to that kind of thing. The following is the letter referred to:—

"Sir,—How, in the name of all that is fair and consistent, can the Witness continue its attacks on the gentlemen of the Seminary for doing to the Oka Indians that which it upholds in the case of the Gladstone Government and its present Irish policy. In both cases it is the same as far as evicting is concerned; but here the comparison ceases. Gladstone, unlike the Seminary authorities, offers a beggar's pittance as compensation, but the Witness passes this fact over. The Seminary, on the contrary, are paying a large sum, which legally speaking, they could avoid, but in order to put an end to the affair, forego their rights, and thus show their liberality. The truth of the matter is, the Witness is sorely disappointed at the recent turn affairs have taken in Ireland and that the Protestants are uniting with their Catholic fellow-countrymen in demanding their rights, and the Witness, in its correspondence (half of which I believe is either suppressed, or given to its New York make-up account of the disagreeable truth herein contained). But the day of bigotry and land is past, thank God, and the usefulness of the Witness is fast on its wane as a stirrer up of religious animosity.

We have good grounds for knowing the Fermanagh Protestant is exactly what he represents himself to be and that the letter, unlike a good many which appear in newspapers, is perfectly genuine.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL PENITENTIARY.

A few changes in and removals of officials connected with our penitentiaries, have been lately gazetted, which will please the general public. Mr. MacKay, Deputy warden of St. Vincent de Paul Penitentiary, but who has been acting as warden during the past eighteen months, leaves to-day to take charge of the penitentiary for the Province of Manitoba in Winnipeg and Mr. Bedson, warden of the Manitoba Institution replaces him at St. Vincent de Paul. It is to be hoped that Mr. Bedson will succeed in reducing the prison to something like order from chaos. During Mr. MacKay's administration a frightful state of affairs existed, as was evidenced by the numerous escapes and attempts at escape reported in the public press. St. Vincent de Paul was constructed at enormous expense. It takes one hundred thousand dollars of an expenditure every year to support it, and its object is to reform youth and punish criminals. That it has not of late done those things is quite apparent. Under ordinary discipline and proper management such a state of affairs as has come under the public eye could not have existence, and hence we must infer the penitentiary has been mismanaged and discipline been withdrawn. We have seen prisoners escaping time after time, and we have also seen that one of the prisoners could obtain possession of a sharp knife with which to deliberately murder a fellow convict in cold blood. Those things could not be concealed, and we believe if a proper enquiry had been made into the interior economy of the prison such a terrible state of things would have been revealed as would create surprise and almost

terror. It appears that under the regime of Mr. MacKay St. Paul's Penitentiary was turned into a not uncomfortable kind of boarding house whose inmates were permitted every liberty and granted every indulgence except their discharge. And yet the reports received in the departments at Ottawa from St. Vincent de Paul were pronounced excellent. Their grammar, diction, eloquence of phraseology and their literary merits generally were loudly praised, and Mr. MacKay was considered the prince of wardens. It was even wondered at that in such a short space of time he should have mastered the routine of the prison and become so thoroughly acquainted with its working and its history, the more especially as he had not been known as a man of great ability. But it seems it was not necessary that he should have capacity. There is a convict confined in St. Vincent de Paul who is blessed with a good education, a literary turn of mind, and when living as a prominent citizen of Montreal, was reckoned a man of affairs. He it was who made out the reports, and he it was who, in a marvellously short space of time took all trouble off the hands of the acting Warden, except that of affixing his signature. The accomplished convict we refer to became Mayor of the Palace. In short, nothing was done except through him and the subaltern officers became his subordinates. It was but natural his fellow prisoners should partake of some of his privileges and they did so in a generous measure. Punishment of convicts was discontinued, they roamed at will from place to place, escape followed escape and at length a murder startled the country and compelled the Government to interfere. It is now, perhaps, too late to speak of those things, or to ask why it is the Government did not remove Mr. Mackay before affairs assumed such a serious aspect. The inaction of the Minister of Justice caused the under officers to rest under censure which they do not deserve; their hands were tied while a convict issued orders in St. Vincent de Paul Penitentiary.

YORKTOWN.

The Americans have celebrated the surrender of Yorktown, and, by consequence, their real birth as an independent Republic. It is true they had proclaimed their independence five years before, but as proclaiming and achieving are quite different things, they had to wait until the British lion from being rampant became crouching on the 19th of October, 1781, when Cornwallis surrendered his sword to Washington, or when his deputy did it for him to Washington's lieutenant. The fall of Yorktown taught the world a lesson which it will never forget so long as there are Kings who tyrannize and people who resist. George the Third and his minions protested many and many a time, as emphatically as the English language permitted, that the rebels should be put down at any cost, but it was of no avail; force met force, and the greater force conquered. George's graceless son, the fourth of that vile name and dynasty, swore also that Irish Catholics should not be emancipated, but like his venerable father he had to swallow the leek with the grace becoming "the first gentleman in Europe." Perhaps this eating of words on the part of monarchs may give the declaration of the London Times more sound and fury than prophecy when it tells the Irish they cannot have political independence. Circumstances may arise which will make the Times forget what it said in the heat of passion.

A significant fact connected with the Yorktown celebration is the part the Catholic Church has taken in it. The religious ceremony which opened the proceedings on the 16th instant was conducted with great solemnity by the Right Reverend Dr. Keane, Catholic Bishop of Virginia, assisted by His Grace Archbishop Gibbons, of Maryland. It was eminently befitting that the Catholic Church should take a leading part in the religious ceremonial, for two-thirds of the forces which encompassed Yorktown and wrought its destruction were of the universal religion, the great majority belonging to the gallant French nation, but many also being Irish Catholics, who fled from persecution at home. The fall of Yorktown must surely have been ineffably sweet to those men.

Bishop Keane closed his magnificent sermon with the following political defence of the Church and a tribute to the fair land of France, which rendered such splendid assistance to America, to republicanism and to liberty by the action of its children at Yorktown:—"Perhaps some one may be tempted to wonder that I have thus far said nothing distinctive as a minister of the Catholic Church. Not so, friends and brethren. Every sentiment that I have uttered I have uttered not only as an American citizen and as a Christian in the vague sense sometimes given to the name, but in my character as a Roman Catholic. Here before God and my country I profess my soul's inmost conviction that every word that I have said is in harmony with God's truth with the principles which Jesus Christ gave the world, with the spirit and teaching of the Catholic Church, with all that is symbolized by the vestments just now worn at this altar and with the robes in which I am clad as a Roman Catholic Bishop. As such we have offered up the sacrifice of the eucharist, the highest thanksgiving as the name signifies, to thank the Almighty not only for the victory of Yorktown, but also for all the moulding of our country's form and all the shaping of her life which have followed on the consequences of that victory, and we have offered it in supplication, too, that He would render her social principles everlasting;

that He would guard and shield them against any harm which from any quarter so ever or for any motive so ever might seek to attack them or to change them or misuse them, and that through them He would lead our country to the destiny for which He made her; that she may show to the world the highest manhood enabled by religion, the highest intellect illumined by faith, the highest social progress beautified by the highest physical and scientific progress, giving means to spread that light and beauty and power into every nook and corner where darkness lurks, or misery crouches, or tyrannical clutches victims, or delusive unwisdom would cheat noble aspiration into utopian moccasins or plunge into the abyss of anarchy and despair. Let our final word be for France. May all that is honorable and noble die out of the hearts of men ere the remembrance of this die out of our country's spirit. May this soil, sacred to our country's liberties—more sacred than even old Independence Hall; because while there she made its grand but almost desperate venture, here the wraith of victory was twined around her brow. May it be ever doubly sacred because of the mingled blood that has hallowed it, and may that mingled blood be the covenant of a friendship more lasting than the monumental shaft which is here to tell all future generations of the alliance between France and America." Meanwhile we have as yet heard nothing of the saluting of the English flag and the singing of the National Anthem; the Americans are not fond of mixing the sublime with the ridiculous on such solemn occasions.

STATE RIGHTS.

Rumours have of late been rife regarding a new departure by the politicians of the Province of Quebec. If there is any truth in those rumours—and intelligent observers think there is—the coalition of parties recommended by M. David in the Tribune, is not far off, and the result of it will be an agitation for severer Provincial autonomy, under the leadership of the Hon. Mr. Chapleau, or some other prominent statesman of the Province. It is asserted by those desirous of seeing such a movement succeed that since confederation Ontario has monopolized more than its share of what should belong to the Dominion, and that the Federal Government is gradually encroaching on the rights of this Province and hence there is fear of domination on the one hand and centralization on the other. It is objected that according to the present system Manitoba can furnish a Lieutenant-governor to Quebec, and Ontario to British Columbia, whereas the most fitting way would be that each province should have for Lieutenant-governor one of its own citizens and not only that, but he should be elected by a vote of the people of the Province or by its legislature. And the same as regards Senators and Judges. Each Province should, they say, be divided into senatorial districts from which Senators for the Dominion should be returned for four, six, eight or any number of years which might be defined by legislative enactment. Judges should also be elected from the Benches by a Board of lawyers instead of being appointed by the Crown as a reward for political services rendered. The Province should also have the organization, equipment, and control of its own militia, and in a word—for that is the meaning of the new political programme,—Quebec wants what is known on the other side of the line as State rights, as enjoyed by New York, California or South Carolina. But the programme goes more deeply into affairs purely provincial. The organizers of the new political movement are in favor of the sale or leasing of the Q. M. O. & O. Railroad to the highest bidder, as they think it is an enterprise which entails more troubles and responsibilities on the Provincial Government than they can bear. It is also proposed to convert the municipal loan arrears, amounting to \$5,000,000, into four per cent bonds, the annual interest of which would help to pay the interest of the Provincial debt. While it is hopeless to expect payment of the capital those indebted to the Government would pay the interest willingly. They would establish a Credit Foncier fund of \$2,000,000 which would be dedicated to the drainage of the land and the macadamizing of the roads on postal routes, as is done in Ontario; tolls to be collected, which would keep the roads in repair; municipalities or proprietors to have the money at four per cent. Interest, the capital to be paid in thirty years. This plan would, if carried out, increase traffic, save time, and money and reduce prices. A school of technology is also in the programme, where young men might be taught different branches, a school of Agriculture like that in Guelph, which the Ontario Government so liberally supports, the two at present in existence at St. Ann's and St. Theresa's being, as they consider, useless. They propose to reorganize the Board of Arts and Manufactures as well as the Board of Agriculture on the model of those of Ontario, with the difference that the senatorial districts elect representatives to those Boards instead of having the members appointed as at present. We cannot enter more fully into the details of changes contemplated by the new political departure, but it may be inferred from those given that they will be on a democratic nature, based upon state rights and tending away from centralization. It is intended to have all the national elements obtain full justice under the new system, and it is understood that English-speaking Catholics of the Province will have as full Cabinet representation.—Federal as well as local—as the English-speaking Protestants, according to number

For our own part we see nothing objectionable in the new departure, but quite the contrary. This Province does not at present obtain fair play either internally or externally; there must be something radically wrong in a system which permits so fine a country to be in poverty, with all its great resources, and there unquestionably is too much outside influence at work to its disadvantage. First there is the Imperial pressure, next the Federal, then the shadowing influence of Ontario. If the apostles of the new movement succeed in giving us full State rights they will be deserving of gratitude.

THE SITUATION.

The British Government has now fully developed its Irish policy. It has arrested the leaders of the Land League, although its Attorney General pronounced the Land League a legal association in his place in Parliament; it has suspended the Habeas Corpus Act in so many districts that it would be difficult to find a spot in Ireland now covered by that wonderful "charter of the people's liberties;" it has organized flying columns and reinforced the army; it has seized newspapers; it has caused hundreds of people to be bayoneted within the past week, and finally it has reverted to the procedure of Oliver Cromwell in order to govern Ireland. The Irish people have plainly signified their unwillingness to be ruled as they have been hitherto ruled, but the Government is in possession of strong battalions, and the voice of the people is drowned by the rumble of the artillery train. The Land League—or the moral government of Ireland—is, on the other hand, acting strictly on the defensive, doing what it can to face the issue. At a meeting of delegates elected by something that looked like universal suffrage, it decided to give the Land Bill a fair trial and to furnish test cases, but as the Government felt its bill would not bear impartial trial it was compelled, in its own defence, to suppress the Land League by brute force. Thus driven to the last ditch—or is it only the last but one?—the imprisoned chiefs issued their famous manifesto, "Pay no rents." We can readily believe that this document carried more terror to the hearts of the oligarchy—English and Irish—than if an appeal to arms was contained in the manifesto, for if the people flew to arms the issue was painfully plain, or joyfully as the case may be, but what can be done if the tenants unanimously obey the order of their natural leaders. It is simply impossible to evict a whole nation. It would be useless to ignore the fact that the manifesto will test the patriotism of the Irish people, as the patriotism of a people has never been tested before. It is extremely difficult to clearly estimate the tremendous strain they will have to endure if they remain faithful, but nothing is impossible to a people who have acted with such matchless moral courage, such fortitude and self-sacrifice under unprecedented trials as have those people since the opening of 1879. Those who endured the trials of last year can endure anything. It must be borne in mind by those who would hastily condemn the manifesto, that it does not command an absolute refusal to pay rent, it merely directs that no rent be paid until the leaders, who have been unconstitutionally incarcerated, are unconditionally released. One thing connected with the question is pretty clear, and that is that the people must be generously assisted if they are to engage in a winning fight. The evictions will be effected by the thousand; the military have their instructions which will be carried out to the letter and the spectacle will therefore be witnessed of a whole district being depopulated in the coldest season of the year. What the Land League did to help the evicted last winter in a comparatively small way, must be done this year on a gigantic scale, and to accomplish it they must have funds in proportion to the number of evictions. These funds must come from this side of the Atlantic for the most part. The manifesto signed by Parnell, Davitt and others, promises that if the people remain faithful, millions will be given where only thousands were given before. And of this we have no doubt. The Irish people on this continent wish to be rid of the Irish question for good and for aye, for selfish as well as for sentimental reasons. While their hearts refuse to allow them to let Ireland suffer alone and unaided, their personal interests incline them the other way, for it is evident a man who has to make his way in the world is somewhat handicapped in the race if he has to devote part of his time, and his means to a far off land. If Ireland were as free and prosperous as she has a right to be the Irish in America could let her glide onward in contentment, and they could mind their own business just as Englishmen, Germans, Italians and Frenchmen mind theirs, without having their blood roused time after time by deeds of foul wrong and oppression practised on their fatherland. It is said by their enemies that the Irish at home and abroad cannot get along well together without a grievance, and that demagogues rise to wealth and position on the wrongs of Ireland. The absurdity of this, however, is so palpable that that it needs no contradiction, but admitting that a few New York politicians do trade on the Irish cry, we have only to point to the hundred million dollars sent through the American Post-office by the Irish to their friends in the old land to prove how unselfish is their love. As regards Canada the Irishman has every thing to lose by any display of love to his motherland. Power and Government are held by the pro-British, and it need not be pointed out that they will not press place or patronage, or opportunity in the way of men