



Why an Irishman Should be Mayor Next Term.

This is a struggle for principle, not merely a contest between individuals. As it was ably explained a couple of weeks ago, by Sir William Hingston, the general consensus of all right-thinking citizens, is favorable to that tacit agreement, whereby the three leading elements of our population, should have, each in turn, a term of the Mayoralty. Mr. Prefontaine himself, when elected by acclamation; two years ago, admitted this tacit compact, and even went so far as to declare that he would never seek a second term, because it would then be the turn of an Irish-Catholic. How has this understanding been adhered to by the different sections of the community? Not to load our article with lengthy statistics or data, we will take merely the past seven years. Here is the Mayoralty record:

- 1893—Desjardins, French Canadian.
- 1894—Villeneuve, French Canadian.
- 1895—Villeneuve, French Canadian.
- 1896—R. Wilson-Smith, Eng.-speaking Protestant.
- 1897—R. Wilson-Smith, Eng.-speaking Protestant.
- 1898—R. Prefontaine, French Canadian.
- 1899—R. Prefontaine, French Canadian.

Now if in 1900 and 1901, we are to have a French Canadian, we simply ask this plain question: "Where or when do the Irish Catholics come in?"

On our first page will be found a translation of an article from "La Patrie." We agree almost entirely with the editorial. On the question of the absolute necessity of Mr. Prefontaine's presence, as Mayor, on the Harbor Board, while the improvements are going on. "La Patrie," plainly and curtly says "No," and

then proceeds to justify that negative. We say "No" and we say so on the same grounds as does "La Patrie." As to the right of French Canadians, on account of their numbers having more terms than the other elements, we also agree with "La Patrie." We would not exactly divide the terms of national representation as does Mr. Prefontaine; but we are perfectly satisfied that our French-Canadian fellow-citizens should have representation in accord with their numbers. It is not a question of race with us; we have no prejudices, nor are we antagonistic to any section of our citizens—least of all the French Canadians.

Give the French-Canadians a term alternately with English-speaking Catholics and English-speaking Protestants, so that a French term will come sandwiched, as it were, with either, so that every second term will be occupied by a gentleman chosen from amongst the French. To this arrangement there could not, there should be no objection. But that is different to one person—no matter who he may be—occupying two terms in succession. Fix it any way, that it may be thoroughly satisfactory to all parties. This is not an opportune moment to create any departure from the present tacit compact which has worked so well. This is not the year for any such change or innovation.

We are fully aware that our French-Canadian fellow-citizens would be sorry to make use of their numbers to inflict political, or civic ostracism on the Irish-Catholic race in this Province. We have too many interests in common, too many mutual sentiments, too many principles, to permit of such a thing. But, we repeat, this is a crisis in municipal

affairs in this city. We must learn this year whether or not we have any civic rights in Montreal. If our term should be taken from us, on this special occasion, we could have no future prospect of again taking a principal part in municipal matters. Our French-Canadian friends fully appreciate the circumstances and we have confidence in them, even to the extent of believing that they would do us full justice despite the ambitions or aspirations of Mr. Prefontaine. The Irish race of Montreal are interested in this matter and they look with confidence to the fairness and even the generosity of the chivalric French-Canadian citizens.

"La Patrie" on the Mayoralty.

The following article which appeared in "La Patrie," of last Wednesday, is about the plainest statement of the Mayoralty issue, from the French-Canadian standpoint, that has yet appeared. "La Patrie" is certainly one of the leading newspapers in the French language, and while it is a pronouncedly political organ, it laid down some weeks ago, the broad principle that municipal and political matters should not be mixed, or confounded, and it declared that during the present civic contest it would deal with men and issues in an entirely non-political manner. It would be well for the Irish-Catholics of Montreal, in view of the important Mayoralty election campaign now commencing, were they to read and ponder over this clear statement of their attitude. While it is certainly non-political, it is decidedly national. "La Patrie's" article runs thus:

"Mr. Doran an Irish-Catholic has accepted the candidature against Mr. Prefontaine. Mr. Doran's programme is that it is the turn of the Irish-Catholics to have one of their people in the civic chair.

"Mr. Prefontaine's answer is that the French-Canadians, constituting three-fourths of the population of Montreal, cannot accept the principle that our English and Irish fellow-citizens should have two terms to the one for French-Canadians.

"Mr. Prefontaine claims that the population of all origins, speaking English, has a right to one term, and that the French-Canadians have a right to the two other terms.

"We believe that, in such matters, a too strict rule should not be established. But, all the same, it is certain, it is incontestable, that in the distribution of political and municipal honors, the French-Canadians, have not, heretofore, had that share to which their numbers entitle them. In the Senate, in the House of Commons, in the English Provinces, we are not represented as our English friends would insist upon being, were they numerically situated as we are.

"Take a census of our fellow-countrymen in Ontario, in New Brunswick, in Nova Scotia, in Prince Edward Island, in Manitoba, and tell us if the same broad courtesy, the same liberality is practised in our regard, that we, in the Province of Quebec, have evidenced towards our English fellow-citizens.

"We, therefore, think that Mr. Prefontaine takes a reasonable stand when he says that his candidature does not constitute an injustice, for a lack of liberality, towards our English-speaking fellow-citizens.

"We beg of the latter to not forget that we cannot consent to place ourselves under all circumstances.

"Mr. Prefontaine offers a less serious agreement when he says that his presence on the Harbor Board, in his quality of Mayor of Montreal, is necessary for the continuation of the Harbor improvements.

"No! The Mayor of Montreal, no matter who he may be, is not an essential factor in that business—no more in the future than he has been so in the past. The importance of the port

of Montreal is now recognized by the great majority of this country."

The article closes with advice to the effect that instead of getting up opposition to Mr. Prefontaine, the citizens, of all origins, should combine to draft a programme worthy their interests and the future of Montreal—and when they shall have such a programme, to oblige whosoever seeks their suffrages to accept the same.

The Mayoralty Election in Toronto

Mr. Clarke a great leader in civic affairs, in Toronto, was defeated in the recent Mayoralty contest. The Globe refers to the result as follows:

"It now appears that Mr. Macdonald has been swept into the Mayoralty by a genuine wave of public opinion. There were several forces at work. As to Mr. Clarke, there was a general feeling that he had already received from the hands of the citizens a large share of positions carrying with them honor and prestige, and in some cases considerable emoluments. None of these were sincere, and we have no sympathy with the feeling that grudges the public servant a fair remuneration for his work. Still, we have in Canada, a good deal of the democratic sentiment that officers with emolument should "go round," and the citizens seemed to have applied this sentiment to the Mayoralty."

"No saying has been more common among the supporters of Mr. Macdonald than "Give him a chance; let us see what he will do," and now the experiment is to be tried. But mere curiosity or admiration for perseverance would not have availed if it had not been for a strong feeling of discontent with the great private corporations which have dealings with the city. It is sometimes said that grumbling at the corporations is a mere public habit, like grumbling at the weather, and that some of the grumbling is unjust and absurd. This may be, but the corporations have themselves largely to blame. They encourage the grumbling habit of resisting attempts at reform until the pressure of competition or public opinion becomes too strong. Then we find that the thing that was declared to be utterly absurd and impossible is done; and the public naturally come to the conclusion that other things which the practical men of the corporation scoff at as the suggestions of ignorance and unreason may also be done if a sufficiently vigorous "kick" is made.

"The election of Mr. Macdonald is the Nemesis of that policy. The street railway service is in many respects a good service, but there are matters which unquestionably call for amendment, such as the overcrowding of cars about 6 o'clock in the evening, and the excessive speed at which the cars are run on certain lines. In these cases the remedy indicated is a large supply of cars and of men, and it is short-sighted, economy to refuse to apply the remedy."

This year an Irish Catholic must occupy the Mayor's chair—and that Irish Catholic will be W. E. Doran. Let our people stereotype on their minds the fact that they are called upon to fight for an important principle, that the eyes of all their fellow-citizens are centred upon them, and that they will for all time, be judged by their words and deeds under present circumstances. While it is our duty, and the duty of each particular Irish Catholic, to lend all the weight and influence possible to Mr. Doran, on a triumphal issue, still we must not forget that this is a fight for the preservation of a strict right, and that the individuality of the candidate is merely secondary to the national interests at stake. Let us but unite for this one experiment, and as sure as the sun of February shall rise in the East, so surely shall Mr. Doran be the next Mayor of Montreal.

ECHOES FROM ROME.

The following is the translation of an address, which will be presented, on 20th March next, by the Nonnogenarians of the Catholic world to the Holy Father. On that day Leo XIII., will be ninety years of age, and a priest of Turin, in Switzerland has conceived the idea of this singularly touching and appropriate method of celebrating the event. The address runs thus:

"Having arrived at an age when the soul feels itself free from influences which, at other stages of life, often mislead or smother its nobler impulses the undersigned are able to understand better than ever before those great truths of which your Holiness has never wearied of reminding the world, and which the latter, to its own misfortune, obstinately ignores. The remembrance of the great part of your Holiness' life must fill your soul with gratitude to God, for all that he has accomplished through you. And to this consciousness your Holiness must certainly be indebted for the flourishing health, the ever youthful strength which are the wonder of the world and the joy of the universal Church."

Another important address, but one which has already been presented, is that, coming from ten young maidens of Aquila, who have decided to offer a not less unique gift, that of a signed address on parchment in which they declare that they each offer a year of their lives for the prolongation of his. They first consulted a Jesuit Father who was preaching in Aquila; having heard his approval, they prepared their address and came to Rome. The Pope was very busy, but learning of their desire from the master of the chamber, he received them and their address.

His Eminence Cardinal Jacobini, has been privately but officially notified of the nomination as Cardinal-Vicar of Rome.

private chamberlain of cups and sword, who is the head of the family of the Blessed John Baptist de la Salle, is in Rome to thank the Pontiff for the title of Duke conferred upon him and his heirs.

The Pope's Allocution on the occasion of the recent Consistory, was certainly most touching and practical.

This important document begins with an allusion to the approaching jubilee year, the Pontiff offering thanks to Heaven for having allowed him to witness the opening of the Anno Santo, thus granting what was more a prayer than a hope on, the aged Pontiff's part.

After alluding to his intended action in ceremonies, which have since taken place and at which the Pope acted as if he were a free man, the Holy Father went on to deplore the change which had taken place in Rome since the last jubilee regretting that pilgrims will hardly recognize the Holy City, and bitterly lamenting the impossibility in which the Pontiff is placed of venturing abroad in his own city, encouraging the piety and devotion of the faithful, as his predecessors were wont to do. Another important passage in the allocution is the allusion to the Peace Conference of the Hague, the Pontiff complaining, in dignified and noble words, of the affront offered the Holy See by the Powers, who did not invite the Vicar of Christ on earth, the Prince of Peace, to raise his voice on that occasion in support of such an eminently Christian cause. This insult, in the Holy Father's opinion, was mainly due to the intrigues of the Italian Government, and the Pontiff very justly argues that, in the face of such persistent and malignant opposition to the interests and dignity of the Holy See, Christ's representative, can hardly feel safe and independent even in Rome, the Eternal City. But, continuing the Pontiff, whatever vexations and persecutions may be there for

the Holy See from that quarter, the usurpers will never find fear or a disposition to bend in their victim. This important allocution chiefly interesting because of its firm and fearless affirmation of the independence and of the rights of the Holy See, is brought to a close by the announcement of Mgr. Paul Emmanuel's appointment to the Patriarchal See of Cilicia, of Armenian rite.

Amongst the Consistory nominations there were a few that may have some special interest for our readers. The Holy Father announced the appointment of thirty prelates to vacant Archiepiscopal and Episcopal Sees and twenty-five nominations by Brief to different churches. Among the appointments and promotions of interest to English-speaking Catholics may be mentioned Mgr. Biomedo Falconio, Apostolic Delegate in Canada, to be Titular Archbishop of Larissa; Mgr. Tobias Mullen, formerly of Erie, to be Titular Bishop of Germanopolis; Father Patrick Feagay MacDray, Vicar-General of Hamilton, to the See of London, in Canada; Rev. T. Casey, Deputy-adjutor to the Bishop of St. John, New Brunswick, to be Titular Bishop of Utina; Rev. T. Berry, Vicar-General of Chatham, Canada, to be Titular Bishop of Tugga; and Father V. Hopkins, S.J., Deputy Vicar-Apostolic for Honduras, to be Titular Bishop of Atrabi. The Holy Father has assigned the following congregations to the newly-created Cardinals: Council, Studies, Index, Ceremonial, Cardinal Nava, and Bishops and Regulars, Sacred Rites, Indulgences and Sacred Rites, and Consistorial to Cardinal Missia. Moreover, after having formally bestowed the ring upon the new Porporati, his Holiness gave them respectively the presbyterial titles of SS. John and Paul and of St. Stephen on Mount Calvus.

AN IMPORTANT DECISION.

I rendering judgment in a case as to separation from bed and board, Mr. Justice Pagnuelo, said: "This matter of separation was an

important one, and the courts could not pronounce upon it lightly."

In view of the alarmingly increasing tendency, to divorce and legal separation of husband and wife, during the past decade, we look upon this opinion of Judge Pagnuelo as of paramount importance. Any check that can be placed upon that unhealthy anti-moral tide, which is rising on all sides, must be hailed as a boon, both socially and religiously. It is true that there is a wide chasm between divorce and mere separation from bed and board; but both are directed by the same spirit, which is an evil one. It creeps gradually into the garden of domestic peace and shatters every prospect of happiness. It haunts the hearts of men and women, even as an envoy of that one whom the Scripture describe as a "roaring lion seeking whom he may devour."

Of all the most precious and sacred gifts of God to man—in the form of sacramental aid—(if we except the sublimity of Holy Orders), none surpass the nuptial contract. In the language of a gifted Irish Protestant orator, "It is the gift of heaven, the charm of earth, the joy of the present, the promise of the future, the innocence of enjoyment, the sanctity of passion, the sacrament of love. The slender curtain that shades its sanctuary has for its purity the whiteness of the mountain snow, and for its protection the hardness of the mountain adamant. Whenever that sacred bond is broken, religion defiled, morals violated, and the canons of the living God fairly spurned, appeal to the higher sentiments of men to prevent or to rectify the wrong." We can well congratulate Judge Pagnuelo, not only on his legal decision, but upon the motives which actuated him in preparing his judgment, for he has struck an effective blow at the moral monster that has so long been ravaging the fields of domestic happiness.

CONSOLIDATION OF LIBRARIES.—A movement has been started in New York, by which all the libraries which receive city aid will be consolidated. It is the opinion of Controller Coley, that the city should have direct control over them all, because the taxpayers granted amount to over \$200,000.00.

NOTES OF THE WAR.

THE OBLATE FATHERS

THE OBLATE FATHERS are in the thick of the fight says the Liverpool Catholic Times. They have missions in most of the towns and districts where hostilities are proceeding, as well as in adjoining territories. There are Oblate Fathers at Durban, Pietermaritzburg, Eastcourt, Ladysmith, Newcastle, Oakford, Koksstad, and Umtata. Two of the Fathers at Pietermaritzburg and Ladysmith have charge of about a thousand Catholic soldiers. Bishop Goughran, O.M.I., who has jurisdiction over the Orange Free State Vicariate, is, speaking from the point of view of episcopal duty, in a curious position. His Vicariate extends not only over the Free State but likewise over British possessions, so that his spiritual subjects are in one place loyal to Great Britain and in another loyal to its enemies. Indeed, the Oblate Fathers are to be found as chaplains in the opposing camps. Whilst Fathers Murray, and O'Donnell are with the British forces in Natal, Fathers Hammer and Leon Marshall are with a portion of the Transvaal army. Father Oglo is shut up in Mafeking, and Bishop Goughran and others in Kimberley with Mr. Cecil Rhodes. It is to be feared that many of the missions especially those at Kimberley, Mafeking, and Ladysmith, will suffer severely.

WAR'S HAVOC.

It is easy to understand that war cannot be carried on without havoc and fearful hardships, but few perhaps can realize all this until some vivid account of what actually takes place comes to them from the battlefield. Of such missives there is no lack in these days. In a letter to his sister, a Blackpool lady, Mr. H. H. Bradshaw describes the sights he beheld after the battle of Dundee. He was guarding the battlefield, which was sprinkled with dead Boers. The bodies of the unfortunate sufferers were mangled most horribly. A drummer boy sixteen years old was hit by a piece of shell and his head was tak-

en clean off. Mr. Bradshaw's own trials may be inferred from the statement that he had had no sleep for six days and six nights, and nearly fell off his horse several times, and that he had seen an officer who had been riding near him fall very often. War is assuredly a trying game.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS.

In the Transvaal Vicariate, which is under the charge of Father De Lacy, O.M.I., there are about fifteen Oblate Fathers, with some Trappist and Marist Brothers, Sisters of Loretto, Sisters of the Holy Family, Dominican nuns, and Ursulines. The Catholic population numbers over six thousand. Just half of them live, or we should rather say used to live, at Johannesburg, which possesses a fine church, a Marist boys' school, and a girls' school, taught by the Holy Family Nuns, both these institutions training eight hundred pupils. The Sisters of the Holy Family, who are affiliated to the Oblate Congregation, have been placed in charge of the Government Hospital, where the average number of patients is 250. The Boers preserve a great deal of the Calvinistic spirit of their forefathers. Still, thanks to the free and unrestricted immigration of representatives of other nationalities their exclusiveness in religious matters is rapidly diminishing. There often exists real sympathy for the Catholic priest, where a few years ago hatred and distrust were strongly felt. The change is, in a great measure due to the influence of the Catholic schools. The Boers, knowing the excellence of these schools, send their children to them, and the pupils, owing to contact with Catholic teachers, are able to remove many ridiculous notions respecting the Church, from the minds of their parents.

SAD RELICS.

Over every hard-fought battlefield are strewn relics of the terrible struggle. The correspondent of the "Morning Leader" having obtained permission to visit

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