



CATHOLIC CHRONICLE.

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CALENDAR—MARCH, 1877.

16th—Precious Blood of Our Lord. St. Julian, Martyr. This Saint was a Cilician, of a senatorial family in Anazarbus, and a minister of the Gospel. In the persecution of Diocletian he fell into the hands of a judge, who, by his brutal behaviour, resembled more a wild beast than a man. For a whole year he suffered every kind of torture. Scourge, fire and the sword, were employed to torment him with the utmost cruelty to shake his constancy to the true Faith but without avail, and the judge had to acknowledge himself conquered by condemning the Saint to death. He caused the martyr to be sewed up in a sack with scorpions, serpents and vipers, and so thrown into the sea.

17th—St. Patrick, Apostle of Ireland. If the virtue of children reflects an honour on parents, much more justly is the name of St. Patrick rendered illustrious by the innumerable lights of sanctity with which the Church of Ireland planted by his labours in the most remote corner of the then known world, shone during many ages; and by the colonies of saints with which she peopled many foreign countries. St. Patrick was born in Britanny in the year 386. In his sixteenth year he was carried into captivity into Ireland. After six years he regained his release. While at home with his parents, God manifested to him by divers visions, that he had elected him to the great work of the conversion of Ireland. After forty years spent in the work of the Lord during which time he converted the whole country so as to render Ireland a most flourishing garden in the Church of God, and a country of saints, he died in the year 464.

18th—Passion Sunday. St. Cyril, Bishop of Jerusalem. Cyril was born at or near, the city of Jerusalem, about the year 235. He succeeded Maximus in the See of Jerusalem about the end of the year 350. St. Cyril passed to a better life, after many persecutions from the Arians, in the seventieth year of his age, in the year 381.

King John granted a charter to Dublin, 1207

19th—St. Joseph, Confessor, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and Patron of the Universal Church. The glorious St. Joseph was lineally descended from the greatest kings of the tribe of Juda, and from the most illustrious of the ancient patriarchs; but his true glory consisted in his humility and virtue. God entrusted him with the education of his divine Son, manifested in the flesh. How great was the purity and sanctity of him, who was chosen by God himself to be the guardian of the most spotless Virgin. It is more than probable that St. Joseph died before our Blessed Saviour entered on his mission. But what a death! with Jesus and Mary by his bedside! How little are we surprised that the faithful in every age, have particularly invoked St. Joseph, for the great grace of a happy death, and the spiritual presence of Jesus in that tremendous hour.

20th—St. Gabriel Archangel (Mar. 18). St. Cuthbert, bishop of Lindisfarne. St. Cuthbert was born not very far from Melrose, and in his youth attended his father's sheep in the mountains near the Abbey of Melrose, which had been founded by King Oswald. Edited by the piety and humility of the monks, he sought to be admitted amongst them, and put on the monastic habit whilst he was about. After many years spent at Melrose, St. Cuthbert was made prior of the larger monastery of Lindisfarne, or Holy Island. He was subsequently raised to the episcopal see of Lindisfarne. After several years spent in the practice of piety he sweetly slept in Christ in the year 687.

21st—St. Benedict, Abbot, Patriarch of the Western Monks. St. Benedict, or Bennet, was a native of Nursia, in Umbria, and was born about the year 480. At a very early age he renounced the world and retired into solitude away from the haunts of men. In after years he founded the celebrated Abbey of Mount Cassino. His monastic Rule was preferred by St. Gregory to all other Rules, and is generally followed by the monks in the Western Church. After receiving the holy sacraments, he calmly expired on the 21st March, probably in the year 543.

First newspaper published in Dublin, 1685.

22nd—Peria. St. Basil of Ancyra, Priest and Martyr. When Julian the Apostate re-established idolatry, Basil ran through the whole city exhorting the Christians to continue steadfast and not pollute themselves with the profane sacrifices of the heathens. For this he was arrested and stretched upon the rack. When Julian arrived at Ancyra, to prepare for his Persian expedition, Basil was presented before him. The crafty emperor seemed to treat him with compassion, and wished to convince him that Christ was still among the dead. The saint reproached him for his apostacy, whereupon the emperor ordered that his skin should be torn off him in seven different places every day until he had known left. His countenance enraged his tormentors and his sides were pierced with red hot spikes under which the martyr expired, on the 29th June, in 362.

George Washington, born, 1732.

The Recollets arrive in Canada, 1615.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

In consequence of the lecture which we publish in our leading columns, we are forced to hold over several communications, reviews, &c., &c., for next week.

THE MISSION.

We will give all particulars about the Mission next week.

CITY AGENTS.

Messrs. Battle Bros. and Shell, News Agents, Bluary st., W. P. McNally and Michael Murphy.

THE CATHOLICS OF CANADA AND THE POPE.

As the time for the departure of the pilgrimage approaches the preparations are being pushed forward to make it a success. The casket which is to contain the donations from the Catholics of Canada, has been finished. It is a beautiful work of art. Different kinds of Canadian woods have been used in its construction. It is mounted on silver legs and a beautiful picture of La Barque de St. Pierre, stand out in relief upon one side. Father Dowd, will we believe present the Casket and the contents to the Pope.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY.

In another column we publish the route which has been decided to take by the delegates of the various Irish societies upon St. Patrick's Day. In the evening there is to be a concert in the Mechanics' Hall, by the St. Patrick's Society, and the day will thus be fittingly celebrated from morn till night. It is not necessary for us to exhort our countrymen to preserve decorum throughout this anniversary. O'Connell used to say that the man who was guilty of a crime strengthened the enemy, and the force of this precept is as strong here in Montreal in 1877 as it was in Dublin in 1843. Whether it be prudent or not to march in processional array once a year we shall not now discuss—the day is upon us, and it behoves us all to take our place in line, and swell the multitude. It is no time to falter when action has been decided upon, and if there are Irishmen in Montreal who do not approve of this annual parade, yet, the question is an open one, still next Saturday should see all lovers of the old land at their post.

PICTURES IN GERMANY.

M. Gehlsen, a German journalist, conductor of a paper he called the Clock, was exiled by Bismarck for sounding his organ too unpleasantly. He went to Swiss territory, where he revived it as the Clock in Exile. He happens to be one of the most powerful writers on the European Press. The Liberte, to find anything comparable to his writings, goes back to the satires of Juvenal and the brightest pages of Tacitus. Louis Vuillot is the only contemporary rival. We have pleasure, therefore in giving a couple of M. Gehlsen's pictures of Germany:—

“Political servitude, social misery, and moral degradation—holy trinity, thy name is Bismarck! Oh, German people! The rights of the weak have been bartered in the public market by the representatives as they might traffic in horses; the rights are saved, but to the profit of the strong. Come out from darkness and confusion, rise above the swamps of corruption, shake off the chains of political servitude. Here is a portrait of Prussianised Germany:—Political indifference, a system of espionage and denunciation in all its ramifications, fabulous luxury, basest flattery, adulation of the rich and fashionable; narrowness in the relations, fetishism, distrust. Servile fear, consciences dull and debased, the dignity of the citizens a toy in the hands of despotism. These are the particularities that thou hast appropriated to thyself, poor people, as the result of long acquiescence in thy own wrongs. In lieu of bread they have given them a stone; thou hast forgotten thy liberties in the sound of empty phrases about thy grandeur.” The Liberte comments:—Who will fail to discover in this image the pagan society when the people groaned under the heels of the Cæsars? It is perfectly true that he who would be divorced from God becomes the slave of man. To be proud and haughty before the church, but grovelling before Bismarck, is the highest role of the whole Liberal pack.

THE IRISH ADDRESS TO AMERICA.

U. S. Grant did not attempt to conciliate the Irish element in America during his term of office. He invariably treated the Irish with haughty reserve, now and again, breaking out into positive evidences of dislike. The rejection of the congratulatory address sent out by the Irish people, to the United States was the last offence that Mr. Grant committed against the Irish people, and he has altogether left behind him a record which is not likely to evoke pangs in his praise. However the address is not to be rejected after all. Messrs Power and Parnell are not to have their labours in vain. Just before the House of Representatives closed the address was accepted “with profound gratitude and grateful recognition.” We believe if the address had been accepted by the President it would be hung up in the White House—now however that it has been accepted

by the House of Representatives—it will be hung up in the Capitol. Know-nothingism and all kindred societies receive a haughty rebuke by this act of the House of Representatives, and the recognition of Ireland as a “Nation” is a decided triumph for our diplomatic strategists. The occurrence scores another triumph to our account, and as big events are built up from small undertakings—as polyps build submarine mountains, so shall we by degrees progress in building up the structure of the future of the old land.

SPANISH AMNESTY.

Spain follows France in her noble resolve to amnesty her political offenders. This is another example for the British Government to follow in the matter of amnesty to the Irish State prisoners. The Official Gazette, of Madrid, says a recent telegram, publishes a royal decree granting amnesty to Carlist refugees abroad, and authorising them to return to Spain. The decree adds that none will be prosecuted except such as have been guilty of offences against the common law.

CUBA.

The news from Cuba continues favourable to the insurgents. The Spanish troops are demoralized; the climate is continuing to work havoc in their ranks, and it is rumoured that the commander-in-chief is depressed and disheartened. The climate and the natural difficulties of the country are the allies of the insurgent forces. They cannot be followed into their retreats, and they hold their own with persistent and resolute command. When the Carlist war was over we were promised an immediate termination of the Cuban insurrection, but we find we have not yet even approached the beginning of the end.

THE NEW ENGLISH CARDINAL.

Archbishop Howard was to be elevated to the Sacred College this month. Mgr. Howard was born on the 13th of Feb. 1829. He is a cousin to the present Duke of York. In early life Mgr. Howard became an officer in the 2nd Life Guards, but he left the army in 1853 and was ordained by Cardinal Patrizi in 1855. He has been much in the East, lived for a considerable time in Rome. He is a good linguist speaking fluently French, Italian, Russian, Arabic, and kindred languages. In all there are to be eleven new Cardinals created and this will still leave a vacancy of five in the Sacred College.

THE IRISH ASSIZES—FREEDOM FROM CRIME.

Six or seven years ago—when it was thought needful in the interests of the Government to coerce Ireland—the country was excited and goaded by local satraps, and threatening letters, written by the enemies of the people, were scattered broadcast by every post. When the Curfew laws were passed, the carrion birds were satisfied, and the ghouls of the Castle press ceased to yell. Then a dead calm followed, the peasantry being permitted to pursue their normal inclinations for a quiet, peaceful life. Let anyone look back at the calendars for the past five years. They are almost a clean record. The greatest crime committed during that time was the police assault on offending women and children innocently enjoying themselves in the Phoenix Park. So far as the judges have gone through the present Assizes in Ireland, the congratulations on the absence of crime amongst the people are general.

AMNESTY.

From Paris we learn that pardon or commutations of sentence have been granted to 224 Communist convicts. This clemency does the French Government honour. Bad—nay vile—as the Communists were, still the masses were misled by the accomplished ruffianism of the few. Most of the leaders of the Commune have already atoned for their crimes, and the butts at Satary were the just decrees of offended and outraged society. But many of the Communists were themselves the victims of deceit, and this release from im-

prisonment is only a generous act of the French Government. America set a noble example to the world. France—always chivalrous—is graciously pardoning more heinous crimes, and England might well cry “enough” to the few political prisoners who are still in the keeping of the gaoler. Clemency is a royal virtue, and it would, we are sure, be loyally received by her Majesty's subjects at home and abroad.

AN ANOMALY.

There is one feature in the recent Presidential election which bears an analogy to the late general elections in Great Britain and Ireland, which took place in Jan. and Feb. '73. In the American elections, it is generally admitted that over the country at large, Tilden had a considerable majority. The estimates as to numbers are various, but all accounts agree in giving him a larger collective vote, than that given to Hayes. It is somewhat remarkable that a similar occurrence took place at the Imperial elections in Great Britain and Ireland. Over the country it was estimated that the Liberals had 180,000 more votes than the Conservatives, yet the Conservatives had a good working majority returned. The cause of this anomaly was that the Liberal constituencies gave in many cases, overwhelming returns in favour of their candidates, while the Conservative majority was always narrow. The anomaly however remained, and how to find a remedy for it must seriously engage the attention of Statesmen, both in the United States and in Great Britain.

THE O'CONNELL MONUMENT.

Many years ago the Irish people subscribed a considerable sum of money for a monument to O'Connell. Mr. Foley was entrusted with its execution. The chisel which produced the best of the groups which surround the Albert memorial in Hyde Park, and under whose touch the graceful outlines of Burke, Goldsmith, and Grattan were produced, would, it was hoped, mould the great form of the Liberator. But Mr. Foley died in 1874. The O'Connell Committee had advanced £2,000, while Mr. Foley's estimate was £12,500. The work was not finished, lawsuits between the Committee and Mr. Foley's executors ensued, the Committee was relieved from any responsibility to complete the work, the executors refunded the £2,000, and so the whole business stands as it was ten years ago. New engagements are spoken about, but it is likely that many more years will pass away before the statue of O'Connell graces the foot of Sackville street.

HOME RULE VICTORY IN ENGLAND.

The Home Rule Confederation of Great Britain has once more done good service in the cause. We learn by our exchanges, that Halifax, in Yorkshire, has been fought and won, and that the successful candidate pledged himself to support Mr. Butt's motion in the House of Commons. The Irish voters stood between Liberals and Conservatives, and cried “a plague on both their houses.” This is good news. It proves the power of the Irish in England. Surrounded by political duplicity they no longer accept the vague declaration of candidates who pledge themselves in unmeaning generalities to betray the Irish race. Deeds not words, are now looked for, and we heartily congratulate our countrymen in Halifax upon their triumph. There is another contest to be fought at Newcastle-under-Lyne, in Staffordshire, and we are sanguine that it will result in victory, too.

HOME RULE FOR SCOTLAND.

For some time past there have been indications of a Home Rule agitation being commenced by Scotchmen and for Scotland. Our canny friends North of the Tweed are commencing to find out that their interests are being neglected in the House of Commons; that in fact the Imperial Parliament has not the time to legislate for their requirements. Sir George Campbell, M.P. for Kircaldy, is a strong advocate of some measure of self-government being granted to Scotland, and we notice that his views are becoming contagious. A

few days ago, Sir George Campbell said that “these three countries (meaning England, Scotland, and Ireland) will never be well governed except under a federal system.” He views too “with alarm the centralising policy of the Government.” All this indicates the growth of public opinion, and is but the herald of progress. Whether Scotchmen do or do not desire Home Rule, it is their affair. If they do not desire it, then it would be unjust for outsiders to agitate the question—if they do desire it, they should get it. The will of the people should be the law of the land.

THE EASTERN QUESTION.

Despatches say that the Eastern Question looks as if it was about to be settled at last. Servia is disarming, while Turkey has withdrawn her troops from nearly all the posts taken by her troops during the war. Rumours of Turkish atrocities in Bosnia, however, continue to agitate the public mind, and the Christian population in Armenia, are, it is said, being subjected to ill-doing. The latest despatches say that murders are still frequent, and that anarchy is still the guiding spirit of the times. Withal the prospects of peace are said to be improving. But we hear at the same time that by the middle of this month “Russia will have 1,000,000 of men under arms on the 16th of March,” and that immense armaments was being going on in the interior of the country for some time. It is, however, quite clear that while the chances of peace have improved, yet peace is by no means assumed. The Turkish Government has not yet shown itself capable of grasping the internal difficulties which are consuming it, and Russia stands prepared to take advantage of the inability of the Turkish Government to secure the safety of its Christian subjects.

MR BIGGAR, M. P., AND MR. PARNELL, M. P.

There is trouble in the lobbies of the British House of Commons. Liberals and Conservatives are in arms against the Home Rulers. It has all come about in a very simple way. Ireland sent a majority of its M. P's to England to ask for Home Rule, and it was refused. Ireland sent a majority to ask for a land bill, and it, too, was refused. Ireland sent a majority to ask for a denominational education, and that also was refused. Ireland sent a majority to ask for a grant to the fisheries, and again a refusal. It is Ireland upon one side and England upon the other. At last two terrible Irish M. P's.—Biggar and Parnell—determined to try if they cannot refuse something that the majority of Englishmen want, and so they set to work and are blocking all business in the House by opposing everything introduced by the Government. More power to them, say we. Pay them back measure for measure, gentlemen, there is ample scope within the Constitution to help you in your labours. When Englishmen pay no heed to your demands, as constitutionally expressed through the majority of your nation, then pay little heed to theirs, and make them realize how hard it is for the constitutionally expressed opinion of the majority to be set at defiance.

EMANCIPATION IN BRAZIL.

Slavery is being fast abolished all over the world. The Catholic Church has routed it out wherever it had the power to do so. We learn from a Contemporary that:— “Through the rational process of gradual emancipation, slavery is diminishing every year in the empire of Brazil. By the special law of 1871 bearing on the subject, all the children of negroes are born free. In the province of San Paulo the number of slaves, in three years, declined from 147,746 to less than 130,000. In 111 of the 151 parishes of that province, 13,176 children of slaves, happier than their parents, were born to the “noble heritage of freedom.” In the province of Pernambuco the number of slaves has been reduced from 106,201 to 100,000, and 12,312 slave children were born into freedom. About the same ratio of decrease is visible in other provinces throughout the entire Empire. This was substantially the process by which the distinguished Irish-American patriot, Hon. George Bryan, of Pennsylvania, proposed, ninety years ago, to relieve that State from the blight of negro slavery, which proposition he put into shape, and succeeded in having enacted, under the title of an Act for the Gradual Abolition of Slavery. He thus wiped out the slave system in Pennsylvania, and left the record of his practical conservative philanthropy as the noblest monument in his memory.”