

The True Witness AND CATHOLIC CHRONICLE

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MONTREAL, WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 15.

CATHOLIC CALENDAR

For September, 1890. THURSDAY, 16.—St. Cornelius and Cyprian Martyrs. FRIDAY, 17.—The Stigmata of St. Francis of Assisi, Confessor. SATURDAY, 18.—St. Joseph of Cupertino, Confessor. SUNDAY, 19.—Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost. MONDAY, 20.—St. Eustachius and Companions, Martyrs. TUESDAY, 21.—St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist. WEDNESDAY, 22.—St. Thomas of Villanova, Bishop and Confessor.

TO OUR AGENTS.

We take this opportunity of reminding our agents throughout the country that, now that the depression has passed away, and the season of prosperity begun, is the time to make a fresh effort to extend the circulation of the True Witness, and to collect the amounts due, which amounts, though comparatively trifling to the individual debtor, are so large in the aggregate as to make their immediate collection a matter of importance to us, more especially at present, when it is in contemplation, if circumstances favor, to resuscitate the EVENING POST. We would impress upon the minds of our agents that as the subscription to the True Witness is only \$1.50 per annum, which means that it is the cheapest paper of its class on this continent, it should not be difficult to increase the circulation to double its present volume, and also, that as the splendid harvests have been gathered in, it should not be difficult to collect the amounts due this office. We have no doubt that they have only to be reminded to set themselves to work, and that our friends and patrons have only to be asked to pay up their subscriptions promptly and cheerfully. We also take this opportunity of tendering our most sincere thanks to those of our agents who have up to this worked for the True Witness with such success and cheerfulness.

THE VOLUNTEERS OF CANADA.

The short speech of Major-General Luard before the Dominion Rifle Association shows that he knows very little of the spirit of the volunteers of Canada when he recommended more thorough discipline, drill, and more money to train them. The Canadian Commander-in-Chief spoke imperialism all the time, a term which, if the people of this country understand, they do not yet appreciate. What General Luard wants is a small regular army; neither he nor any of his class can appreciate the volunteer system as it is understood on this continent. A standing army means large military estimates, and Canada is heavily involved enough already without having to dedicate some millions annually for a military establishment. Out of every pound sterling of the revenue of England, seven shillings and sixpence, or over one-third, is devoted to war purposes, and this kind of thing we are not prepared to imitate, for in the same ratio we would have to pay every year about ten millions of dollars. The General is pleased with the physique of the Canadian volunteers, at which we feel gratified. But it does not take a military eye to discover that the citizen volunteers of Canada are a fine body of men, far superior to the general run of the Imperial regular soldiers. Take either the Prince of Wales, or the Victoria Rifle Battalion and they will compare favorably, in so far as physique and appearance are concerned, with perhaps any of Her Majesty's line regiment, from the First to the Hundred and Ninth. And they can also

make a good record in front of the targets, for their eyes are as keen and their nerves are as true. But as soldiering pure and simple is not their trade, the chances are that they cannot wheel into line from open column or break into column from line with the mechanical precision of a regular British regiment. Indeed, it is not necessary. Military experts, European and American, are now willing to admit, and a painful admission it is, that this methodical precision takes from the spirit of the soldiers. "Feel your right and look to your left when wheeling to the right," is one of the inspired commands of the drill book, but the drill book is not like the Gospel according to St. John, not subject to change. Some few years ago if a line, or brigade, or division was commanded to change front to the rear a lot of complicated and tedious evolutions were necessary; but the American volunteer army which fought as well as the legions of Napoleon, taught the disciplinarians that the same movement could be accomplished almost in the twinkling of an eye by merely putting the line to the right about. The regulars have a ridiculous way of putting the short men in the rear rank and the tall men in the front rank, and it would never do for the sake of appearance, to reverse the order of things, although it would be the more sensible. This discipline, hair-splitting, pipe-clay business, dear General, may be carried too far, and after all we see very little of it in actual service. When a British line is advanced to the attack in actual warfare there is very little time "to feel your right and look to your left." This fine theory is only for parade purposes, just to please the ladies and the royal field marshals. There are different kinds of discipline, but in our humble opinion the man that can march thirty miles a day, make a bulls eye at two or three hundred yards, obey his superior officers and carry a stout heart within, is the beau ideal of a soldier. Where were the United States regular army during the war? No one knows; it was lost in the volunteers, and certainly did not distinguish itself. During the New Zealand war there were ten regular infantry battalions in the field, a number of batteries of artillery, a regiment of cavalry, and some militia and native auxiliaries, but after all it was the volunteers who put down the rebellion when the imperial forces had been recalled. A volunteer who is intelligent learns his drill in a year, or at least all the drill necessary to defend Canada against invasion, if he had around him a ton of pipe-clay he could do no more. The genius of people of Canada is opposed to a standing army, and if the gallant General Luard only heard the growl which arose at the Kingston Military College cadets, when it was lately announced a certain number of them were eligible for commands in the regular army, he would not be so severe in his strictures on the lack of drill and discipline, and money. But it is not altogether the fault of the General who come out here to command if he is disappointed at not seeing an immense amount of military white heat. The English Government and people are taught to believe by press despatches that Canada is a nation of warriors, that she could furnish 600,000 soldiers if necessary, for that every man from 18 to 45 is a volunteer. The dear Beaconsfield is responsible for a good deal of this buncombe, Sir John A. Macdonald for some, and a few unattached colonels whom no one would follow a hundred yards, for the balance. For those colonels (no one knows exactly who they are) are accustomed whenever talk of war prevails, to offer thousands of Canadian volunteers for the protection of the Empire, though if some credulous war Minister placed any faith in the offer, he would find himself egregiously mistaken. Is there a battalion in all Canada which would volunteer to fight in Afghanistan? If there is there are more fools in this free country than we gave it credit for. We have, then, drill enough, discipline enough, money enough, and volunteers enough for service in Canada, but none for Afghanistan, or even Russia. We shall allow Beaconsfield's Sepoys to strike terror into the breast of the Muscovite at Malta, but we shall keep our volunteers to strike terror into the enemies of industry, some of whom are potatoe bugs. Millions for defence, but never a cent for England's unjust and aggressive wars.

THE PROVINCIAL SYNOD.

As a general rule the True Witness does not notice an unfriendly spirit the numerous conferences, Synods and conventions held by the different Protestant sects in Canada. It would be out of its way, and perhaps it would be impertinent if it noticed them only to criticise. The proceedings of the Provincial (Anglican) Synod held last Thursday in Montreal, were, however, of so unusual a nature that a few words regarding them may not be entirely out of place, but more particularly the speech of the Revd. Mr. Bell of Kells, Ireland, which created no small excitement even in such a dignified meeting as the Provincial Synod. The Revd. Mr. Bell was introduced by the Revd. Dr. Sullivan, who requested for him a seat on the platform and the privilege of making a speech, which request was granted. Dr. Bell was not long on his feet when he became warm, and thinking perhaps that as an Irishman he was bound to sustain the reputation of his country, he also became witty. He expatiated upon the disestablishment of the Irish church, which he represented as the National Church and condemned the robbery by which the act was consummated. This act of robbery, said the Revd. gentleman from Kells, was a means of giving people loose views as regarded the rights of property, and as an illustra-

tion he told a story of a man tried in one of the London courts for violent assault and robbery who defended himself by stating "that he merely disestablished a man of his legs and disendowed him of the contents of his pocket;" (laughter). Now this was very humorous, but will Dr. Bell, all the way from Kells, permit us to say that we do not believe any man in any London court ever made use of such words, though we will not contend that he might have seen it in Punch. But never mind, we do not quarrel with such Attic salt, but we do with his very original notions of robbery and spoliation. By the disestablishment of the Irish church, the state gave a sanction to robbery, said the eloquent speaker. Did it indeed? And pray most dear and reverend sir, how did the Irish church originally obtain the fat lands, glebes and pastures of which the terrible Bright-Gladstone monster deprived it? Did the reverend clergy assemble one bright moonlight night and pray for them, and did the rightful owners come next morning in answer to the appeal and say "Here ye pious and holy men, we give you those lands, and we ourselves shall either retire to France and Spain, or act as serfs in Ireland to oblige you; it is necessary for parsons to be fat and rich that they may be enabled to pass through the eye of a needle into Heaven, but as for us, well, we perhaps have no souls, and so our bodies deserve to starve." Or on the contrary, do not readers of Irish history remember Elizabeth, Cromwell and William, and swords and gunpowder, and sacks of Drogheda, and slaughters of Wexford, and sieges of Limerick, and murder and rapine, and treaties broken, and penal laws and unheard of atrocities, and the flight and the scaffold, in order to build up a so called Irish church, which, God pardon us, if we are wrong, never performed a good act during the years of its un-blessed existence amidst the groans and tears of a pifered nation? The Reverend gentleman from Kells rambled on, weeping for the suffering Irish church, (see Revd. Mr. Dumoulin's address in the Gazette) and telling of her purity during the first seven centuries of her existence, paid the usual tribute to Rome and "its insidious corruptions," and was only interrupted by the Honorable W. H. Veil of Halifax, when he sailed into politics and condemned the "unwise administration and legislation of the Parliament of England." Mr. Veil is a liberal, and the government which disestablished the "Irish church" was liberal, and he consequently did not like the attack and thought it out of place, as there might be difference of opinion among those present, on matters connected with the Irish church. The Honorable Mr. Veil, evidently, does not believe in the seven century business, or the suffering church, whatever he may have thought of the "insidious corruptions of Rome." Nevertheless a vote of thanks was tendered the gentleman from Kells and everything passed off without further disturbance. Now, we take it for granted that the Rev. Mr. Bell was only joking, but we think jokes of that nature entirely out of place at a religious meeting—Suffering Church! National Church! Seven Centuries of Purity!!!

THE CANADIAN PACIFIC RR.

It would seem that Sir John A. Macdonald has at length succeeded in inducing a syndicate to construct the Canadian Pacific Railroad according to the wishes of his heart, and that the syndicate is composed of firms of the three great nations of England, France, and the United States. The contracting parties will receive from the Canadian Government a certain number of millions sterling in cash, or its equivalent, to be provided for by the issue of Canadian Government bonds, not backed by the Imperial guarantee, and a certain number of million acres of land. In consideration of these grants the contracting parties undertake to form a Company to be called the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, which shall construct and work the line in perpetuity. The Government, furthermore, gives the contracting parties, in addition to the surveys already made, the whole of the line thus far built. The cost of these items is put at five and six millions sterling. It is not as yet known what French financiers have entered into this scheme, but that it is a wealthy firm, commanding almost unlimited resources is the opinion of those in the confidence of the Ottawa Government. Indeed, it is not certain who are the English and American parties in the syndicate, but it is rumored, that Lord Dunmore, who is reported to have already purchased an immense amount of land in the North-west last June, is one of the English firm, and that Brown & Puleston, eminent English bankers, with a number of other wealthy English speculators are others. The American branch is said to be composed of some of the directors of the St. Paul and Minneapolis Railroad, Messrs. George Stephens, R. B. Angus, late manager of the Bank of Montreal, together with a few Canadians among whom is Donald A. Smith. The Earl of Dunraven, the great Railroad magnate and manufacturer, Thomas Brassey, the Baring Brothers, Bankers, and a lot of others are also mentioned, but these names are merely clever guesses, and only go to show that Sir John has been successful beyond his most sanguine expectations, and that there is keen competition for the honor and profit of carrying out one of the greatest enterprises in the world. The news has already caused stocks to boom, and capital to jump from places where it has lain for years, awaiting the trumpet sound of the great Canadian Statesman. Such a syndicate as has been mentioned, comprising, if the news be true, some of the wealthiest houses in the world will prove fully equal to the task, even if the expense reaches beyond eight figures in dollars. It is true Canada is rendering a

MANUFACTURE OF OUTRAGES.

We have often remarked in these columns that outrages from Ireland by cable must be received with the very greatest caution, and we have been led to think so by the lack of confirmation of the outrages when the mail arrives. There are still left in Ireland a few tory newspapers, who weep over the departure of the good old times when the tories ruled the roost in Ireland, and who manufacture outrages by the score, with the view to their renewal. It is not long ago since the Orangemen of Ireland had the country by the throat, and we may be certain that those gentry regret having had to let go their hold. There is a paper in the South of Ireland called the Cork Constitution, which goes to bed every night in the belief, if not in the hope, that the country will rise in insurrection every morning, and this old fossil it was which invented the sensational story of the attempted blowing up of Cork Barracks, and spread it through the world. In ordinary times the word of the Constitution would not be taken for anything more important than the weight of a prize pig, but immediately after the capture of the Juno and her arms, the public was prepared for anything and did not stay to enquire whether it came from the old fossil referred to, or from a more reliable source. The seizure of arms on board the Juno was one thing, and the blowing up of the Cork Barracks another. The latter would be an atrocity which we could not believe Irishmen could perform, except as one of the necessities of war. We said so when the cablegram arrived, and we now find we were correct, for the mail brings us the intelligence that it was a transparent piece of fraud manufactured by the tories for coercive purposes. And so in a great many other instances. The Cork Constitution et hoc think that if coercion does not prevail, they are lost, and they are perfectly right. They have no business in Ireland, and they should emigrate at once to a land where they need not tremble every hour for their miserable existence. Let them come to our Northwest and learn what real freedom and security means in presence of a free people, and let them be absorbed and assimilated. Imperialism has ceased to rule, it is now an anachorism of the age, and will shortly be as dead as the men and fashions, who flourished in ancient Assyria. If it were not for this class of miserable, Ireland would be better off, and Englishmen and themselves be on more courteous, and understand one another better. Even now, as the reptiles lose their power for mischief, their fangs having been mostly extracted, a better feeling is arising and statesmen like Bright, Gladstone, Forster and Dilke are masters of the situation. They have made themselves acquainted with the true condition of Ireland and although still hampered by aristocratic influence they are powerful enough and intelligent enough to look with contempt in the tail of the old ascendancy serpent—and to turn a deaf ear to its illimitable lies and traducings of its own countrymen. Some years ago half what occurred in Ireland within the past year, or a tenth part of the reports sent to the castle by the readers of the constitution would have been sufficient to suspend the habeas corpus act. But times have changed and although the class element is strong in the Commons and omnipotent Lords the Government refuse to practice coercive measures further than sending a battalion of marines to Ireland and exchanging buckshot for bullets. These are of course bad enough but they are mild in comparison with the good old ascendancy times when the scaffold threw a shadow over the land. Every year brings improvements and no Irishman should despair of his country. Before another decade rolls over we may witness Home Rule, or perhaps complete independence if it is preferable.

HAVE YOU HEARD THE NEWS FROM MAINE?

According to the latest reports the State of Maine has gone Democratic, much to the genuine and agreeable disappointment of Democrats themselves, and the disgust of the Republicans who anticipated a victory even greater than that of last year. Plaided, the Democratic candidate, has been elected Governor, and at least three Congressmen of that political stripe have been returned—perhaps four. This news is almost startling to those interested in American politics, but it is not the first time the unexpected result of the Maine election has sent a political thrill through the great republic. The green-backers, it is true, carried Maine in 1878 and elected Garcelon governor, but that was but a solitary exception to the general rule which had obtained in the State for years. Our contemporary, the Portland Daily Press, in its ante-election editorials, seemed confident of a large majority against the fusionists, and the New York Star, a Democratic organ, in its issue of the 13th, says:—"Well, we have heard so often from and of that State, that our hopes of a Democratic success to-day are not strong enough to satisfy the anticipation of a favorable answer." The result of the voting will therefore surprise both organs—one disagreeably and the other the reverse. What effect the result will have in the October elections in other States remains to be seen, but it certainly has given the Democratic party great encouragement, and Hancock stock is booming once more with vigor. His chances for the Presidency have increased, for granting him

precious equivalent for the monetary assistance, but it will neither bankrupt nor impoverish her, which is more than could be said of the plan, by which it was proposed to carry out such a colossal undertaking by Canadian taxation.

THE EXHIBITION.

The Dominion Exhibition was opened in due form at Montreal yesterday. The weather was as beautiful and the air as bracing as only can be enjoyed in the month of September, and the fates all round were propitious. The opening was a success, and from this we surmise that the whole affair will turn out as well as its warmest friends, who are all the citizens of Montreal, have anticipated. Indeed it will be strange if it does not, for all the circumstances have been eminently favorable, and, in so far as human agency could accomplish, everything has been done that could be done. The press, the Citizens' Committee, the Council, and the people generally, have all united in working for the success of Montreal's exhibition, and it now rests with outside appreciation, and perhaps the clerk of the weather, as to the final result. We would strongly advise those of our readers in the country who have the leisure and the means to dedicate one day at least to the exhibition, if it were only to see Montreal itself, one of the most beautiful cities of this or any other continent. Their money will not have been thrown away if they only visit the magnificent buildings and far-famed charitable institutions of the city of the St. Lawrence for which so grand a future is reserved. There is neither clap-net nor falsehood connected with this Dominion Exhibition. Large sums of money will be given away in premiums, and from the character and standing of the officials in charge a guarantee of honor and good faith may be inferred. A good many people have learned from former experience that all is not gold that glitters, and that exhibitions, when divested of show and newspaper puffing are but poor things after all. This may be applied to country shows, but not to Montreal's grand exhibition, for which such ample preparations have been made. It is solid, and will be conducted throughout in good faith. Nor need our readers be afraid of lack of accommodation during their stay; all this has been provided for, and Montreal has a capacity for housing, boarding, and absorbing visitors that strangers have little conception of. Come on then gentlemen from town and country, the exhibition is open, and Montreal welcomes you with a *Cad mille Faithle*.

The British Parliament was prorogued on the 9th of September, after an arduous session and an eventful one. A number of radical measures were introduced, and if some of them were rejected by the House of Lords, and others pruned down till they were all but useless, their introduction showed the temper of the nation as represented by a large majority. The Lords could furnish an excuse for the rejection and pruning in the late part of the session in which the measures were passed, which did not give an opportunity for discussion, but this excuse, if it is admitted as valid, merely shows how precipitate Mr. Gladstone was in trying to please the country, and does not augur well for the future success either of the House of Lords or the Conservative party. There was, at all events, no excuse for the rejection of the Irish Registration of Voters Bill, and yet the Lords killed it. Its passage would be but a simple act of justice; for, if Ireland is an integral portion of the United Kingdom, why should not the Irish have the same facilities for voting as the English and Scotch. Under the present system, as if the franchise was not narrow enough, an Irishman, especially if he is suspected of national leanings, finds it both annoying and expensive to place his name on the register; all kinds of vexatious obstacles are thrown in his way by the petty local tyrants and minions of the Crown, until, if he has a faint heart or is very poor, he gives up the contest in despair.

Affairs in the East still wear a threatening appearance despite the presence of the allied fleet at Ragusa. The cunning Turk makes any amount of professions, but no concessions, knowing the real jealousy and divisions that exist among the commanders of fleets whose masters have interests in the East diametrically opposite. The Turkish Government makes a pretence of bringing pressure to bear upon the Albanian to make them cede Dulcigno to the Montenegrins, but it is supposed it is secretary intriguing with them to

the solid South with its 138 votes, New York with 35, New Jersey with 7, and Maine with 6, that would make 186 votes in all, give the Democrats a majority and enable them to dispense with Indiana.

The Republican vote and majority and Democratic vote in Maine for Governor at each of the last three September elections preceding the Presidential fight were as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Year, Republican and Democratic votes. 1888: Rep 75,831, Dem 60,421. 1872: Rep 71,917, Dem 54,704. 1876: Rep 75,408, Dem 60,622.

It will be seen from the above that there is a very great decrease in the republican ranks since the last presidential election, when they had more than fourteen thousand of a majority, whereas, it is the democratic, who now have a majority of nearly 3,000. Of course it cannot be deduced from this that the falling off in the other States will be in a like ratio, for there are disturbing elements in Maine absent elsewhere, but, nevertheless, it amounts to something, and at all events, the democrats will probably have the benefit of the electoral vote in the November election for president.

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resist, and this notwithstanding the Prince of Montenegro is willing to abate some of his just demands. If the Sultan saw perfect unanimity among the powers, Dulcigno would have been surrendered long ere this. The Montenegrins themselves are beginning to tire of the virtue of patience, and are massing their troops in the direction of the place in dispute with a view to convince all parties concerned that they at least are in earnest and willing to fight for treaty rights. As regards the session of territory to Greece ordered by the Berlin conference, matters have not progressed more satisfactorily, and the Greeks are also ready to take the field and force the concession with 45,000 men. While the powers are ostensibly acting in concert in this vexed Eastern question, it is evident the Austro-German alliance and Russia have opposite views, that France is indifferent except on the Greek concession, and that it is only England which is anxious for a settlement.

A grand reunion of the children of the lodges was held at Orilla on the 31st of August. The usual speeches were made by the usual speakers, among whom are generally Mr. Merrick, M. F. P., Mr. Parkhill, M. F. P., Maorj Bennett of Toronto, and others whose names are always to be observed at the head and tail of Orange gatherings. The orators dwelt chiefly on the enormity of the giving of such large sums of money by the local government to the Catholic minority, through the influence exercised by the Catholic hierarchy in certain quarters, and one speaker, Mr. Merrick, prophesied that the Orange incorporation bill would receive the same treatment at the hands of the government next session as it did last session, and would in fact, until the Orangemen were united, or in other words, till the Conservatives assumed the reins of government, and Mr. Merrick held a portfolio. We had almost forgotten to state that there was a brass band in attendance.

There is considerable latitude allowed in Canada, as elsewhere, in attacks on political opponents, and the higher the position of the person attacked, the more latitude is tacitly given. But even in the most rabid party journals, if the editors possess the instincts of gentlemen (which is, unfortunately, not always the case) they draw the line between what is political and what is purely of a personal or domestic nature, more especially domestic. We regret to say that the Ottawa Free Press, L'Electeur, and a few other party organs did not think fit to follow the general rule when, on a late occasion, the Hon. F. X. Trudel appeared in Court as defendant in a case where his wife was plaintiff, but, on the contrary, gloated over the domestic trouble, which should only excite sympathy. But, it was sufficient that Senator Trudel was a prominent Conservative, everything atrocious must follow. Now that the case has appeared in the Court, Mr. Trudel has emerged with his honor untarnished, and the blame is placed on the proper shoulders, as the report which appears in another column, taken from the Montreal Herald, Liberal, fully testifies.

Now that the British have won a great and real victory in Afghanistan, the Imperial Government think it is time the evacuation movement, which was interrupted by the defeat of Burrows, be continued, and it is even thought Candahar will be given up against the almost universal protest of military authorities in India. Robert's victory has restored British prestige in the Peninsula of Hindoostan and thoroughly cowed the Mahometans who were beginning to pluck up courage and threaten another revolt. Robert's himself has been rewarded by a grand cross, of the order of the Bath, for his skill and bravery, as well as General Stuart, who planned the campaign, and the former General is to receive the command of the Madras army, while on the other hand the unfortunate Ayob is a fugitive flying towards Herat, which has murdered its governor. Such is life, and such is war.

It was both kind and considerate of the authorities of the Mechanics' Institute to tender the use of their library to strangers visiting Montreal during the time the exhibition is open, and we have no doubt the offer will be gladly accepted. One cannot always be sight-seeing or lounging around one's hotel, and for a change there is nothing so welcome to the intelligent stranger as the use of a splendid library, which the Mechanics' Institute undoubtedly possesses. The reading room is also open to our visitors, and as the politeness and urbanity of the librarian, Mr. Sansum, is well and widely known, it may be taken for granted the visitors will leave Montreal with kindly impressions of one of its centres of intelligence at all events.

The Queen's speech proroguing Parliament referred with pleasure to the bright prospects of Ireland. It must be very easy to please Her Most Gracious Majesty, during whose reign two famines have appeared in Ireland, and three or four millions of her subjects crossed the seas and became her most bitter enemies. If the prospects are bright a more powerful sovereign than the Queen of Great Britain and Ireland and Empress of India may be thanked for them. Earthly kings and queens have done little good for that country, and an infinite amount of evil.

The Irish National Land League, Dominion of Canada Branch, will hold a general meeting on Sunday to which all Irishmen and their descendants are cordially invited. We hope the Irishmen of Montreal will rally to the call and do their best to assist the League in its laudable undertaking. On account of the resignation of the President, M. J. F. Quinn, an election will be held to fill the vacancy. Don't fail to rally.