

The True Witness

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AN ELOQUENT SERMON.

BY THE REV. CANON BRUCHESI.

Delivered in the Cathedral Church at Valleyfield, the 9th June, 1892, at the consecration of Bishop Emard.

Feed my lambs, feed my sheep. (St. John, ch. xiv. v. 17.)

My Lords—In the midst of the August ceremonies that surround your new episcopal brother, I come to tender my humble tribute of veneration for your sacred character and of sincerest affection for the one who, from our ranks, is about to step into a place at your sides amongst the princes of the Church. Does not all that is now taking place remind you of that touching and sublime scene, when Jesus Christ created one of His apostles first pastor of the Universal Church?

It was on the shores of the lake of Tiberias. For the third time since His resurrection the Saviour appeared to His disciples. He questioned Peter: Simon, son of John, dost thou love me more than these? Answer, dost thou love me? Dost thou love me? To that question three times repeated, Peter replied from the bottom of his heart: "Yes, Lord, I love you; you know all things; you know that I love you." Jesus continued: "Feed my lambs, feed my sheep." Those lambs and those sheep, the entire flock whose Shepherd He is, and whom He redeemed at the cost of His precious blood; that beloved flock He is about to leave. Assuredly, from His celestial home He will watch over, protect and shower blessings upon that flock; and why not? Did He not in the institution of the Holy Eucharist find a means whereby He could remain their perpetual food? But that was not all. Knowing their weaknesses and wants He left them a visible guide, a head to protect and defend them in His place; thus He acted. Thus He took a humble fisherman, who but a short time before, seated in his boat, thought only of his fishing and his nets, and into his heart Christ transmitted from His own all the devotedness, and, at the same moment, conferred upon him His own sovereign power. "I leave you my flock," said Christ, "be their shepherd, oh! my apostle; lambs and sheep, that is to say, all men shall pass beneath your shepherd's crook; work for them in fatigue and even unto death if necessary; instruct, direct, cheer, console, fortify them; feed my lambs and feed my sheep." Thus was the first pastor appointed as the earthly representative of Him who said: "I am the Good Shepherd, the Good Shepherd should give his life for his sheep." (St. John, ch. xiv. v. 2.)

But Peter was not left alone in charge of Christ's flock; others must participate in his anxieties and his labors; others likewise were invested with a divine mission, to whom Christ said: "Go, teach, carry the good tidings into all lands, baptize and preach." (St. Mat. ch. xxviii. 19.) You are the light of the world. (St. Mat. ch. v. 14.) As my Father sent me, so I send you. (St. John, ch. xx. 21.) I have spoken of the Apostles; in the same breath, my Lords, I referred to you, our shepherds and our fathers, for to you one day were the words said: "Feed my lambs and feed my sheep."

Full well I know that your reply, like that of St. Augustine, was, "under Peter, like you and with you, we are of the flock; under that infallible master, like you and with you, we are disciples."

My Lords, through God you are shepherds and teachers; under Peter, but ever with Peter, you constitute the Church that teaches, commands, interprets and judges. Such the hierarchy as established by Jesus Christ, and no human power can shatter it. "Simon may die," said Pius IX., "but Peter lives for ever!" Let me add: An apostle may die, a bishop may die; Titus, Timothy and all the first pastors of the young Church have died; the Chrysostomes, the Ambrosios and the Augustines are now no more, yet the episcopacy is imperishable; in defiance of the headman's axe and the shafts of heresy, it has marched securely adown the ages, until it has reached our day, as strong and as imposing as it was in the first ages.

What Christ established was so established for all time. Since the Church is to last until the end of time, pastors must ever be found to carry on the work. How so? Listen: His Apostles heirs to His sovereign power, must choose disciples, even as they themselves were chosen; they will speak to their disciples as Christ spoke to themselves; on them will they impose their consecrated and power-imparting hands, and thus will they create pastors, who, in their turn will transmit their august prerogatives to their successor, and so on till the end of ages.

Having described St. Paul perpetuating the Church at Ephesus and Crete; St. Peter doing likewise at Antioch and in Rome; having spoken of the Church as governed during fifteen centuries by that hierarchy, and the world, during fifteen centuries, instructed and blessed by that episcopacy; having referred to the voice of insubordination then raised and the

anathema of the Council of Trent upon all who disputed the authority of the hierarchy of the Church, the Rev. preacher entered upon the subject as applied to the solemn occasion of those ceremonies.

To-day, God takes one of His children, a priest and pastor, and raises him to the dignity of a perfected priest and pastor in His Church. What child has He chosen? Need I mention his name to you, my brethren? Born of Christian parents, whose many children given to the sanctuary and to the cloister, merited for them the high honors now showered upon their son, he was instructed in sciences, both sacred and profane, in two seminaries that may justly be proud of the men that they gave to the Church and to the State. When invested with sacerdotal powers, he became the object of a great favor and grace from heaven; it was the privilege of living during a few years, in the City of Rome, in the companionship of the most illustrious masters, and amidst the relics and memories of a thousands saints. There, unknown to himself, in study and prayer, he prepared himself for his future career. Back to his native diocese he came, bearing the doctor's palm. What he afterwards performed, in the holy ministry and in the administration of diocesan affairs, you all know full well; His Grace the Archbishop of Montreal has himself told you it, in terms that I shall cite for you at once, for the new prelate, the most honorable and the most consoling of testimonials. "It is with regret that we behold the departure of the zealous priest, who, during the eleven years spent with us gave constant evidence of his indefatigable devotedness."

It is out of that house, where during so many years, he beheld that beautiful motto of pastoral government, "In Faith and in Mildness," that he came to become your father. Forget not, my Brethren, that in this Jesus Christ is acting; He it is that speaks and acts; He it is that says to His elect, "Do you love me, my son? I have a flock that I will confide to your keeping; feed my lambs, feed my sheep."

The flock, beloved of God, consists of you, the faithful of the new diocese of Valleyfield; of you, zealous priests, whom your archbishop, in his tender farewell, has styled his consolation and his glory; of you, masters and pupils of Rigaud College, who ever recall a name dear to our hearts; of you, Virgins of the Lord, consecrated to the instruction of youth and the care of the indigent and sick; of you all, great and little, rich and poor; the poor and humble above all; of you, the master spoke when he said, "feed my lambs, feed my sheep."

I behold you now, every class fully represented, and soon your Pastor will pass amongst you and bless you. The first blessing, from his heart, he owes to the venerable father and mother whose pride he is, and whom faith will cause to bend before him, even as Jacob of old, bowed before the dignity of Joseph, his son; he owes it to all his family, united at the foot of the altar, to witness his consecration; then in turn, you, my Brethren, shall receive, at his hands, the heavenly blessing. St. Jerome tells us that at times the people were wont to greet their bishops with Hosannas such as were chanted when Jesus entered Jerusalem in triumph. You, my Brethren, should entone a hymn of veneration and joy: "Hosanna! Hosanna! the representative of the Lord approaches!" Today he is a Pastor; he carries the golden crozier, emblematic of his authority, and of the devotedness that should sway his soul. He is a spouse, uniting his future to that of your young church; on his finger sparkles the ring symbolic of a mystic and abiding love. He is a Doctor; the Gospels were opened and placed on his head and shoulders, and, as they were handed to him, he heard these words: "Go and preach to the people conformed to you." He is a Priest, in the fulness of sacerdotal majesty; the consecrating Prelate asked of God the completion of his power and glory. He is an athlete, a knight, the first guardian of the truth, and the protector of virtue; behold all these things in the gloves that cover his hands and in the mitre, "helmet of defence and safety," that adorns his head. Behold a Bishop! "To him be ongs the power to judge, to interpret, to consecrate, to ordain, to baptize, to confirm." Oh! how powerful he is, and how sublime his mission! Let us shout again "Hosanna! Hosanna! Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord!"

But, my brethren, the higher the dignity, the greater the responsibility and duties. St. Paul has embodied those duties in epistles that form the very code of bishops. The Church recalls them to the newly consecrated prelate and the history of the hierarchy, from its very origin, unfolds for us their wonderful fulfillment. The apostle says: "The bishop must be blameless, his reputation must be stainless; he must be a model for the faithful in his words, his life, his charity, his faith and his chastity." "Oh! my son," wrote he to Timothy, "Be diligent in reading the Sacred Epistles; keep the deposit, do the work of an evangelist, fight the good fight." "For you," he said to Titus, "teach what is in conformity with the holy doctrine; teach the aged and the young; be in everything, a model of good works." Jesus Christ said: "much shall be re-

quired of the one who has received much." But, thanks be to God, these solemn admonitions were not given in vain, and we can, to-day, pay a tribute to the bishops of every age, that even our adversaries cannot dispute; the first in the fields of labor and suffering, and by the thousands the Church has inscribed their names upon the calendar of her saints.

After tracing in graphic language the history of the episcopacy; after telling of Ignatius before the Cæsars, of Basiliosome in presence of heresy, of Basile preaching in exile, of Gregory dying in banishment, of Augustin in the rough path of apostleship, of Charles Borromeo, who said "when it is a question of death, the bishop should remember that he is the leader;" after pointing out the virtues and glories of that bright galaxy of saintly bishops, the preacher turned to the newly consecrated prelate and continued in the following touching strain.

Behold your masters and your models, oh, youthful bishop! But why go back so far, and ascend so high? Recall the story of our Church; contemplate the noble and saintly figures in our own episcopacy; Francois de Montmorency Laval, whose virtues Rome has solemnly recognized; Plessis, the intrepid defender of our liberties; Bourget, the strong and zealous man, charitable and powerful in his works; I mention but a few and I speak only of the dead.—you may in future look upon them as your illustrious ancestors.

My Lord, if I am permitted to address this venerable assembly upon this solemn occasion, I owe it to a friendship that extends over twenty-five years. Others might have spoken with more authority; I have done so with happiness, blessing the Most High who exalted my brother, by raising him to a palace amongst the chiefs of his people. Do you remember, my Lord, those bright years we spent together in the Eternal City; our pilgrimages to the tombs of the martyrs and to the apartments inhabited by the saints, our walks amongst the old and still mighty ruins of the Forum, our studies, so often kept up beneath the large trees of the Roman villas? Do you remember those happy, never-to-be-forgotten days? For my part, one memory towers away above all other memories!

After the deep mourning that followed the death of Pius IX., a joyful cry was heard to reverberate from end to end of the city: "Glory to God! The Pope is elected; we have a Pope!" In crowds the people swarmed to the Vatican Basilica; and we two anxiously entered, with the rest, in the hope of beholding the elect of the Lord. The hours flew past, and we patiently waited. At last he appeared, to give, from Rome, his first blessing to the world. "Long live Leo XIII.! Long live the Pope! Long live the successor of St. Peter!" What transports of joy! What an enthusiasm in the breasts of the thirty thousand men that crowded the temple! What tears flowed then from our eyes! With what holy pulsations our hearts beat! Who would have then thought, my Lord, as you applauded him, that the same Pontiff would one day turn his eyes upon you, and confide to your care this splendid portion of his immense flock? Yes, he has spoken; he has made you a shepherd in these fertile fields and quiet valleys; he has called you "his dearly beloved son," and I am aware, that, through the hands of the one who held so large a place in your young life, that this very day he will send you his paternal benediction.

May you be blessed, our dear and venerated Bishop; blessed by the Pope, blessed by God, for you are about to scatter endless blessings and graces around you! May you long live, surrounded by that affection of which you have just received so many and such touching evidences! May Mary, the Queen of the Apostles, watch over you, protect you, guide you; and may the Lord give you strength to carry, without wavering, your great honors and your heavy burdens!

Help for Ireland.

His Grace the Archbishop of Toronto, kindly consented, some time ago, to take charge of a fund for the purpose of aiding in the coming struggle for Home Rule in the Old Land. We trust all our fellow countrymen, who feel able to add their subscriptions to Archbishop Walsh. The fund is actually opened and His Grace will be happy to receive any contribution, big or small, that will help to swell the amount. The *Catholic Weekly Review*, in announcing the sums already received, says:

"English papers to hand are unanimous in the opinion that the cause of Irish Home Rule will depend in the next general election very largely on American subscriptions. What are you going to do to help?"

J. J. Curran, Q.C.	320
Jos. Bondfield	5
A Toronto Priest	5

Forty Hours.

Yesterday the Forty Hours devotions began at Ste. Philomena; to-morrow they commence at Ste. Polycarpe; and on Saturday, at Notre Dame de Grace.

JOHN E. REDMOND SPEAKS.

GREAT MEETING IN NEW YORK.

He Believes, if there were Union, Home Rule would be Assured.

(New York Herald Report.)

"The only men who stand between Ireland and peace are Mr. Healy and his friends. We believe, if a truce could be established in Ireland, that the Home Rule bill of Mr. Gladstone would afford an admirable basis for union. It is to the interest of every Irishman that Mr. Gladstone should return to power, and that as soon as possible."

That was the keynote of the address on the Irish question which John E. Redmond, M.P., delivered last Wednesday evening at the Academy of Music before an assemblage of Irishmen and women which crowded the building to the doors.

Mr. Redmond was escorted to the Academy from the Hoffman House by a committee of representative Irishmen and the band of the Sixty-ninth regiment.

Judge Lynn walked on the stage with Mr. Redmond. Chauncey M. D. Dew entered one of the stage boxes, accompanied by General O'Connell. Mr. Redmond was greeted with applause.

FOR PRINCIPLES.

Judge Lynn made the speech of introduction. He said that Mr. Redmond came to speak not for men but for principles—(applause)—not for a faction, but for a great cause. (Applause.) He sought the meeting to listen attentively to Mr. Redmond's appeal.

When Mr. Redmond rose he was greeted with another burst of prolonged and enthusiastic applause and cheering. He began by saying that when he had last stood upon an American platform Ireland was advancing toward her rights. She had got the ear of the civilized world.

"By the strength, the unity, the calmness and the dignity of our national movement," he said, "we had made our national demand admitted by the world. There was not an Irishman in any part of the world who did not feel the stimulus of the movement of the last ten years. All that was the work of one man."

"All that was the work of one calm, far-seeing brain, one dauntless, unpurchasable heart. Mr. Parnell taught Irishmen self-respect and self-reliance. Mr. Parnell taught the doctrine that we Irishmen were the equals of those Englishmen who sought to be our masters. He fought and won. Even when he had a band of only a score by his side he defeated both of the great English parties in turn, first the Tories, then the Liberals. Finally he brought one of those parties to admit Ireland's claim to home rule. (Loud applause.)

"What is the position of our cause now? The Irish national party is rent under, the national hope is destroyed, the national life is jeopardized, the national leader is dead. The man who made Ireland respected and feared is gone—rudely torn away in the prime of his life. We look around for a man fitted to take that place. Ireland maddened by sorrow and remorse, torn by warring factions, is in danger of losing the respect of the world and the fruition of her hopes. (Applause and cheers for Healy.) But the opportunity afforded by this meeting to-night may help to hasten the day when the national unity may be restored to us."

IRISHMEN WERE UNITED.

"It is our political opponents and not Mr. Parnell's followers who are responsible for the breaking up of that movement. In November, 1890, Ireland's people at home and abroad were united under the leadership of Mr. Parnell. Who broke it? It has been said that it was broken by the proceedings in a London divorce court. That is untrue. The whole Irish people at home and abroad, clergy and laity, declared with one voice that in their opinion the continuance of Mr. Parnell's leadership was necessary for the welfare of Ireland. (Loud applause.)

"This public opinion was not a mere chance expression. Great conventions of the people were held in half a dozen counties of Ireland. A meeting of the Irish members of Parliament was held and the whole eighty-six members unanimously re-elected Mr. Parnell their leader."

Mr. Redmond went on in detail to show how he and his friends had made repeated efforts to bring about harmony and union. He recounted the overtures that had been made by his side, and how Healy and his followers had rejected everything while professing a desire for peace. He said:

"We don't even ask that that man (Healy) shall be driven out of public life who publicly boasted that he would drive Parnell into the grave or into a lunatic asylum. But we ask the same measure of forbearance on their side. Peace may be restored if Healy is not permitted to rule the destinies of his party. If a policy of conciliation all around is adopted, then we are ready to ground our arms. But if there is to be a policy of vengeance then we shall fight it out."

THE COMING ELECTION.

Mr. Redmond emphasized what he believed to be the necessity for the continuance in the English Parliament of a

party of Irish politicians absolutely independent of every English political party. He continued:

"We are on the eve of perhaps the most momentous general election held this century in Great Britain. The fortune of Ireland will be in the balance. In every polling booth in England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales we know that the spectacle of a divided Ireland must necessarily have an injurious effect in these British elections. My friends desire—from the bottom of my heart I desire—that now, at the eleventh hour, some means might be found to prevent the scandal of a conflict between nationalistic Irish seats."

He concluded as follows:—
"Lift up your hearts. The road to freedom has always been a rough one in the history of every nation on the earth. Ireland has suffered too much. Ireland has encountered too many defeats and disappointments during the many years that have passed for her to be disheartened now because a few obstacles have arisen in her path just as she thought she stood on the threshold of victory. The troubles of to-day will pass away; aye, the men of to-day will pass away. But the cause of Ireland will remain. Its justice has come to be admitted by the public opinion of the civilized world, and its triumph is as inevitable as the rising of to-morrow's sun."

A basket collection was taken up at the close of Mr. Redmond's address and about \$2,500 was raised.

THE SANSFIELD SCHOOL.

Fine Musical and Dramatic Entertainment.

On Friday evening last, the pupils of the Sansfield School, in the St. Charles Hall, Island street, Point St. Charles, gave a most entertaining and highly enjoyable musical and dramatic soiree. The directors of that splendid establishment deserve every possible merit of praise for the manner in which their pupils acquitted themselves. Let it be here remarked that upon the stage, and in their musical and literary exhibitions, the Sansfield School boys only display one phase of their training. To understand and fully appreciate all the good that is being done in that house of education, one should see them and hear them in the great mental gymnasium of the class room. But of that part of their instruction we shall have occasion to speak at another time; for this week we will confine ourselves to a few remarks upon the entertainment of the 17th instant.

Let us commence with a well deserved compliment—or rather a tribute of justice to the ability and great success of Messrs. Gagnier and Carlier, the professors of piano and violin at the Sansfield School. They may well be proud of their pupils. The first item on the programme was a selection of Irish airs admirably rendered by the Sansfield School Orchestra, under Professor Carlier. During the evening, at different intervals, the Orchestra discoursed some charming music. The members of the Orchestra are Messrs. J. Rogers, H. Doyle, C. Wirth, J. J. McElligott, and O. Lanctot. "The Song of Welcome" and "Birdie's Ball" by the Pupils Primary were very well rendered; the soloists being Messrs. H. Germain, W. Dymont and R. Lussier, in the first piece, and L. Bishop, E. Biron, J. Buisson, W. Hooper, W. McCabe and L. Bourdon, in the second one. "Serenade en Mer" was another beautiful chorus by the pupils, the soloist being Mr. Joseph Daly, who has a sweet and exact voice. There were several admirable piano solos and duets; thanks to Professor Gagnier these were beyond the ordinary. The first duet was "Fire Bell Galop," a spirited piece, by Messrs. Albert and Frank McCabe. The second duet, "Range Blossoms," most elegantly executed by Messrs. Jas. Nolan and J. Dunn. The solos were charming; the first, by Mr. Raoul Germain, "L'Oiseau de Bois" was a lively little piece neatly rendered; the second, by Mr. John Dunn, "Chataqua Lake Waltz," one of W. Baker's fine compositions, was played in good style; the third, by Mr. James Rogers, was a blending of the pathetic and lively, in a feelingly executed arrangement of "Come Back to Erin" and "The Girl I Left Behind Me"; the fourth, by Mr. James Nolan, was a very good rendering of C. Blake's "Chiming Bells." There were four recitations, all of which were very good and gave evidence of fine elocutionary training; they were given by Messrs. Joseph Daly, Charles Dwyer, John McIlwaine and James Kenny. Lover's song of the "Low-backed Car" was admirably sung by Mr. John J. McElligott; and Mr. C. Wirth sang, in fine style, a ringing German song. The same gentleman deserved all the applause that his violin solo called forth, when he played "Kathleen Mavourneen." The principal feature of the evening was a side-splitting French farce, in one act, entitled "L'Avocat Patelin." The dramatic persons were Messrs. Joseph Myre, Raoul Germain, Aldric Bissonnette, George Dubuc, Rodrigue Lussier, Charlemagne Gougeon, Oscar Lanctot, Maurice Mullins, Henri Bourdon and Mauric Foullet.

The whole entertainment was a real success and every one was highly satisfied. May the Sansfield School soon give another one.

FOR AND AGAINST.

IRISH PARLIAMENTARY PARTY'S ADDRESS.

Resolutions Passed at the Ulster Convention of Anti-Home Rulers—A Contrast.

FELLOW-COUNTRYMEN—It may now be confidently assumed that the writs for the general election will be issued about three weeks hence. The opportunity to which our people have been anxiously looking forward during the past six years has therefore come. The Irish Parliamentary Party, in consultation with Mr. Davitt, have unanimously appointed an electoral sub-committee to sit from day to day in Dublin, and to advise with the constituencies with a view to making all necessary arrangements for the impending struggle.

The sub-committee possess the confidence of our Party. We bespeak for it the earnest co-operation of our fellow-countrymen. Arrangements will be at once completed for holding the remaining county conventions and enabling every Nationalist constituency to provide itself with a suitable candidate.

But this is not enough. We are threatened with harassing contests in all the Nationalist divisions. The verdict of the electors at the polls is not doubtful, but the determination to give full expression to the will of the Irish people in this supreme hour of our country's destinies will involve heavy election expenses, which the constituencies themselves will have to take immediate steps to provide. We appeal to our friends in the various constituencies to get to work without a day's unnecessary delay to discharge this urgent duty, and organize an active electoral committee in every parish for the purpose of collecting the necessary funds and placing their districts in a state of complete preparedness for a contest.

We are on the eve of the most momentous general election of this century. The policy of desperation to which the enemies of Home Rule are reduced, and the growing friendliness of British public opinion, afford us confident reason to anticipate that a wise, determined and united expression of Irish National opinion at the forthcoming elections will result in the triumph of the cause to which our people have devoted untold labors and sacrifices. Of the patriotic spirit and good sense of the majority of our fellow-countrymen we have received proofs in abundance. All that is necessary to make sure that no Irish constituency, however poor, shall be debared by the expense of vexatious contests from recording its judgment upon the great issue on which the country will be in a few weeks summoned to declare itself.

We appeal to the Irish people to take immediate steps to guard against the possibility of such a calamity. The time is short and the necessity urgent. We feel confident it requires no words of ours to impress upon Irish Nationalists the vital character of the duty that now devolves upon them, or to ensure a prompt and effective response from the country.

ANTI-HOME RULE RESOLUTIONS.

Sir William Quarters Ewart proposed the following resolutions, which were adopted:

1. That we avow our fixed resolve to retain unchanged our present position as an integral portion of the United Kingdom, and to protest in the most unequivocal manner, against the passage of any measure that would

ROB US OF OUR INHERITANCE

in the Imperial Parliament, under the protection of which our capital has been invested and our homes and rights safeguarded.

2. That we record our determination to have nothing to do with a Parliament certain to be controlled by the men responsible for the crime and outrage of the Land League, the dishonesty of the plan of campaign, and the cruelties of boycotting, many of whom have shown themselves the ready instruments of clerical domination.

3. That we declare to the people of Great Britain our conviction that the attempt to set up such a parliament in Ireland will invariably result in disorder, violence and bloodshed such as have not been experienced in this century, and announce our resolve to take no part in the election or the proceedings of such a parliament, the authority of which should it ever become constituted, we shall be forced to repudiate.

4. That we protest against this great question, which involves our lives, property and civil rights, being treated as a mere side-issue in the impending electoral struggle.

5. That we appeal to those of our fellow-countrymen who have hitherto been in favor of a separate parliament to abandon a demand which hopelessly divides Irishmen and to unite with us under the Imperial Legislature in developing the resources and furthering the best interests of our common country.

"The good die young." This is especially said of chickens.