THE CATHOLIC REC RECORD

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Catholic Record. LONDON, SATURDAY, DEC. 18, 1886. FOR GOD. THE COUNTRY AND THE CONSTITUTION.

We are face to face with a crisis of unexampled severity and of imperious exigency, a crisis to test men's hearts and try their very souls. We have reached a turning point in our history whose determination will decide forever the failure or the success of our political experiment as a Contederacy of self-governing Provinces on this great half continent of North America. The claims let them all set aside party feeling of partisanship are silent and speech less, the calls of patriotism loud, emphatic, irresistible in the presence of our country's peril and our constitution's jeopardy. Our history has been till now one of freedom's growth and autonomy's development; in 1791 representative institutions; in 1841 responsible government: in 1867 the foundations laid of an united British America with selfgovernment guaranteed to every Province entering the Confederacy Such the epochs in our country' constitutional progress. The constitution given us, in the last montioned year, is based upon the solemn obligation of interna tional treaties, the paramount authority of British practice and British procedent, the exacting necessities of our own situation, condition and surroundings. That constitution has been now in force for well nigh twenty years, and under its beneficent operation Canada has acquired a growth and a strength, and achieved a progress and a development that should promise a happy and a glorious future. But a danger has arisen that it were idle to belittle and criminal to overlook. Acrimony has raised its ensanguined standard in our midst, and racial antipathy cast its dark shadow over a happy land and a peaceful population. For twelve months and more the Toronto Mail, a journal of wide circulation and unquestioned influchce, has striven to inaugurate in this country, so long blessed with freedom trom religious broils and racial animosities, a reign of disorder, disruption and demoralization. The Mail has advocated the making of political lines dividing our people coincident with the cleavage of our population into Protestant and Catholic, or into British, on the one hand, and French on the other. It calls for the abrogation of the Treaty of Paris of 1763, a pact solemnly entered into and formally ratified by the kingdoms of Britain and France; it advocates the effacement of the rights, privileges and immunities thereby granted to the French people and their Church; it opposes French settlement in Upper Canada; denounces what it terms Catholic aggression and Catholic aggrandize. ment in Ontario, though the official figures show that the Catholic population in this Province, though now giving better promise, has, perchance, with the sole exception of the Anglican body, made less progress in the last twenty years than any other religions denomination of prominence; but above all, the Mail insists and daily reiterates its school system reorganized and re-established at thetime of confederation, to remove all jealousies, disarm all prejudices and efface every semblance of injustice. The people of old Canada had experienced the evil effects

They longed for peace, for a peace supporters of neither should be lasting and conclusive. Unprin-cipled agitators had striven to rend the country in twain, to set Protestant against Catholic, and Upper against Lower Canada. No man more eagerly, vigorously and decisively protested against this species of

"I believe also that the maintenance of political warfare, than the present Premier of the Dominion, the Right religious equality in all things is abso-lutely essential to the well-being of our Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald. We titutions. We have here three false assump question not his motives at the time:

tions, veiled and veneered indeed, but we deal only with his utterances. Speaking in 1859 in this good city of London, he declared : "God and clear to any man blessed with the slightest mental or moral perspicacity: (1) that the establishment of Sepnature have joined the two Canadas, and no factious politician should be regrettable; (2) that there is unjust allowed to sever them. The same interference by Separate School supgreat waters flow past them, the porters in the management and conmighty St. Lawrence connects them, their interests are the same. OUR trol of the Public schools; (3) that the principle of religious equality i COUNTRY IS ONE." Again, at St. Thomas, "I am heart and soul a unionviolated in favor of some one church

ist. The government with which I and this the Catholic Church. act is Unionist in heart and soul. assumptions unsupported by even the We go for union with England and shadow of an argument. That the Mail and Mr. Meredith underunion with Lower Canada." Lastly, stand each other, that Mr. Meredith speaking in the Legislative Assemis in accord with the Mail and the bly of United Canada in 1861. Sir

Mail in accord with Mr. Meredith John A. Macdonald made earnest in working on the principle of "one appeals in favor of union. Said he, with all the impressiveness at his section fighting and striving against and seeking to annihilate the other," command, in dealing with the subwill be plain to any man not blinded ject of representation by population : by partisanship or crazed by fanati-"Let each go home and imbue his cism, from the Mail's endorsation neighbor as far as he could with his particular views on the matter, but of Mr. Meredith's platform in its

nools was, in the first instance.

issue of Saturday, Nov. 27th : in a matter of such vital consequence "Mr. Meredith then deals with what may be termed the burning issue in the as this, and work together for the present contest, and handles it in a mancommon good on the principle of ner at once statesmanlike and satisfactory ubion, AND NOT ON THE PRINCIPLE OF He does not perhaps go quite as far as this ONE SECTION FIGHTING AND STRIVING journal-probably because he is not so familiar with Archbishop Lynch and his AGAINST AND SEEKING TO ANNIHILATE THE OTHER." The Mail forgets, or works as are the residents within his treats with contempt, the lessons Grace's diocese. Mr. Meredith's utterthe principles and the traditions of ances, however, leave no doubt that he is its chieftain, for with every energy thoroughly determined that in the task of restoring to government in this proat its command, with every faculty within its intellectual domain, it is vince the principle of religious equality before the law, without which there can working on the principle of "ONE be no peace or safety in the community. SECTION FIGHTING AND STRIVING He would place all religious communic AGAINST AND SEEKING TO ANNIHILATE upon an equal footing as regards the dis-THE OTHER." Surely the tongue of tribution of patronage; he would cancel the law which compels Protestants to conthe aged chieftain must have lost its charm, and his right hand its cuntribute to Separate Schools; he would not compel the Roman Catholic parent to ning, when he cannot longer control support Separate Schools, but would leave the journalistic mouthpiece of his him his free choice between the two kinds party in this Province. He has. of schools, as before; and he would sum. however, pronounced a form of remarily stop the interference of the Pelace nunciation and repudiation of the with the Public school text books. Every-Mail. No so with his pupil and one, Catholic or Protestant, Reformer or lieutenant, William Ralph Meredith, Conservative, who values the well-being leader of the Conservative opposition of the country and the freedom of the subject, must approve of Mr. Meredith's in the Provincial politics of Ontario. Of Mr. Meredith the people of Ontaweighty and vigorous pronouncement on these subjects." rio, Catholic and Protestant, had

Mr. Meredith's Catholic friends long formed high expectations, and and supporters were, to employ the of him we now desire to say naught in malice or ill-will. We speak as very mildest form of expression, conscience dictates and duty com- struck dumb by the Mail's explanaek of tion and endorsation of the local of the Last Supper; a portion of the ale His unskiltulness and conservative leader's platform, a platsuccess were in the public eye form at variance with constitutional largely redeemed by his long adendurance, legislative enactment, mitted candor and accepted patriand plighted public faith. Even otism. Many Catholic elec thoughtful Protestants in Lower tors of Ontario were among Canada have been filled with alarm, his warmest admirers and most not alone at the course of the Mail, ardent supporters. But now even he, but at the surrender of Mr. Meredith the young Canadian leader of a few to the Mail's dictation. This alarm years ago, is working, whether he of the Protestant minority in Lower really so wills it or not, with the Canada found lucid expression in Mail on the principle of one section the bones of several hundred saints and the Montreal Herald of November fighting and striping against and seekmartyrs whose names are duly given." the 29th, when that journal thus ing to annihilate the other. We have The same hand that penned this bravely spoke out its honest feare. before us his manifesto to the people blasphemous distribe had, in the its patriotic sentiments : of Ontario, in the shape of an address Mail of Oct. 29, 1886, in an article on "The Toronto Mail and Sir Juhn Macto the electors of the city of London. "The English Minority in Quebec," donald's 'Lieutenant' in Ontario have The perusal of this document, not framed the following : taken up a position on the Separate "The French and Irish Catholics in alone, it is clear, the product of Mr. School question which is of the deepest Meredith's brain, but the work of Canada and the United States, like the interest to Roman Catholics and Protes Nationalists in Ireland, take naturally to more than one mind, recalls the tants in Quebec. The Mail of Saturday, the solid column, the clan instinct being telling lines of Aubrey de Vere : as the leading organ of the Conservative still strong in them, and the Church The statesmen of this day I deem a tribe That dwarf-like strut, a pageant on a stage Theirs but in pomp and outward equipper, RULED ONLY BY THE HERD, OR HIRELING SCRIPE. party, in the course of its daily denuncia encouraging that formation for purposes tion of the Roman Catholic church, of her own. SCRIBE. They have this skill, the dreaded Power to bribe : 88.Y8 :--"An Irish Catholic population occupy-'We say, too, that for the same and for ing the position of the Protestant settlers This courage, WAR UPON THE WEAK TO WAGE: other obvious reasons, she has no right in in Quebec would have placed their votes ; m self a Nation's ignorant rage. To turn this Province to a law compelling her own at the disposal of their Church, and fought On the school question Mr. Merepeople and Protestant taxpayers as well. as a unit for the side that paid her the dith writes : whether they desire it or not, to support largest blood money. her Separate schools, which are as much a "The maintenance of the Separate "If we may reason from analogy once school system of the Province is guaranpart of her ecclesiastical organization as again, an Irish Catholic population placed the confessional; that she has no right to teed to our Roman Catholic fellow-citimutatis mutandis in the situation of these zens under the Constitution. Some may draw money from the public chest for the Protestant settlers, would in all probabilseventy so-called public schools in Presregret that the necessity for its introducity have resorted to moonlighting." cott and Russell in which she is teaching tion existed, but it is nevertheless the duty Is this true freedom of speech? an alien languege,' etc., etc. of the Government honestly to administer it, and to make it as efficient as possible Is it enlightened journalism or is it "At other dates and in other lauguage to the end that it may properly perform not rather mockery, and ribald blasthe Mail has advocated the abolition of insistance upon the effacement of that the functions for which it was designed. Separate schools in that Province. phemy? Yet for the journal that The principle upon which it was based was "Reviewing Mr. Meredith's address to the electors of London, the Mail approves the voluntary one of free choice, and that principle ought not to be lost sight of or of it thoroughly. It declares that 'Mr. Meredith deals with what may be termed leparted from . "The Public schools should be mainthe turning issue in the present contest, tained, as far as they are to be supported by local rates, out of the taxes contributed and handles it in a manner at once statesmanlike and satisfactory.' The burning of prolonged agitation on just such by the Public school supporters, and, in issue, according to the Mail, is the abolitlines as those now maintained and promoted by the Mail newspaper. contributions of their supporters; and the ion of Separate Schools. "Now, as a matter of fact, the Separate seeking to annihilate the other." Of a but to Canadians, of every class, of tant, the man of British and the man

chools of Ontario and Quebec are guaran tribute to the support of the other. teed to the minority in each province by the British North America Act. The Pro-testant schools of Quebec rest upon pre-Any interference with the management or control of the Public schools by Seps-ate school supporters is opposed to the principle upon which our Provincial syscisely the same authority as the Roman Catholic schools in Ontario If the Onta em of education was founded and is no rio Legislature can abolish the one, the Quebec Legislature can abolish the other.

This is the exact situation. Yet we have This is the exact situation. Yet we have English-speaking Conservatives in this province praying for the success of their party friends in Ontario, knowing only too well that if they can succeed in up-rooting the Separate School system in Ontario, the same law will demolish the

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Protestant schools of Quebec ! And the Government journals are waiting with feverish anxiety for any indication that will point to the success of their party in the religious crusade in which they were engaged in Ontario !"

Mr. Meredith having surrendered so much to the Mail, is it not to be apprehended that, if placed in office. his Premiership would be marked by an effort to further follow the Mail's dictation to the bitter end, working on the principle of "one section fighting and striving against and seeking to annihilate the other," for nothing can satisfy the Mail but the utter destruction of Catholic and Christian education in Canada. Thus, with that ribald jest and blasphemous jeer the organ that endorses Mr. Meredith and assails Mr. Mowat, in its issue of Saturday, Nov. 27th, spoke:

memorandum of Dec. 2nd. "In Lower Canada the relic, the miracle and the saint enter largely into all in-'Le Deuxieme Ceptenaire struction. de l'Erection du Diocese de Quebec,' a work published in 1874, and bearing the imprimatur of the Cardinal Archbishop of Quebec, contains an inventory, covering fifteen pages (pp. 86 101), of the relics possessed by the various religious Institutions in the city of Quebec, which bears so close a family resemblance to ome of the books used in the public chools in France whilst the Church controlled them that a few items from it will throw light on the whole subject of clerial teaching alike in France and in Lower Canada. According to this official list, he Sisters of the Hotel-Dieu in Quebec possess, amongst other things, a piece True Cross and of the Virgin's veil; a ribbon which bound the hair of the Holy Virgin: stone from the grotto of the Agony; a piece of the raiment of St. Joseph; a bone of St. Anne, mother of the Holy Virgin; a piece of the rock struck by Moses; a bone of St. Paul; a portion of the filings of the chains of St. Peter; twenty times rather than five." a lock of the hair of Mary Magdalen; a fragment of a stone upon which Our Lord sat and ate with his Apostles; a portion of the earth on which Our Lord knelt and prayed; and, in addition, relics of the bones of about two hundred saints and martyis, whose names are set forth in this

inventory. The Seminary of Quebec contains a piece of the post at which the Saviour was flogged; a piece of the table DEC 18, 1800

truth indeed are false friends of every creed, of every condition. Lat us, in this orisis, endeavor to amalgamate the Catholic, the Episcopal-They too that launch, screened by her shield l'a sheft, some private mark their ian, the Presbyterian, the Methodist. the Baptist and the Quaker, into the bey that make her sacred cause their Canadian, and forgetting every sugsaness or spleen or sheet disgust days ;-all these, the brood of gestion of prejudice, and even the night, Diverse, by one black note detected stand, Their scorn of every barrier raised by Righ To a we self-will. Howe'er by virtue banbed By reason spurid, that act the momen remembrance of individual wrongs, let us call upon Canadians of every needs description to combine in a noble struggle for the natural and inher-The citation above given is but ent rights of our now threatened pecimen of the outrages daily country. Apathy and indifference heaped by the Mail on the Catholic can alone injure a cause sustained by body, its most cherished practices the wants and wishes of a people. and its revered doctrines and prin-Indifference in this case is a crime. ciples. Every issue of that journal apathy a sacrilege. There exists for some months consists simply of abroad a conspiracy against religion calumnies against the Catholic re- and against liberty, treachery withligion, calumnies so virulently obin, hostility without. Our purpose as oxious as, in despite the malice of citizens is a real not a factitions freetheir authors, to render themselves dom-our object not the paltry and ridiculous. The hireling scribe personal emoluments of place and accuses our religion of being an power, but liberty for our country enemy to liberty, of being an encourand our posterity. Dissension, which ager of treason, of instigating to weakens our strength, should augrobbery, and even producing a sysment our zeal and intensify our exertem of assassination. We are accused tions. Wherefore do we now confidin this overwhelmingly Protestant ently call on every man who fears Province of menacing Protestant not to do his duty, and who refuses rights and of seeking the establishentering into a base traffic of his connent of a Catholic ascendancy. No science for place or power or emolbetter answer to this charge, the ment, to come forward in this cause. offspring of a malice so bitter as to the cause of conscience, of country, have lost its curning, can be found and of the constitution. We feel we than Mr. Mowat's statement in his know that throughout the land the voice of thepeople will be heard-the "As a Protestant," says the Premier

trimmers, the compromisers and the nave never since Confederation been traitors will sink into insignifipprehensive of unjust encroachment in cauce, and we shall have the glory of Ontario on the institutions which have maintaining our liberties, without the support of Protestants. Compare the relative position of Protestants and Roman shaming the worship of our fathers. Catholics. We have more than five times We have spoken of the constitution. the population ; we have considerably That constitution, the work of men nore than five times the sggregate wealth renowned in Canadian history, it is nore than five times the number of memnow sought to destroy with pers in the Legislature ; more than five the unfeeling heart and untimes the number of municipal councildoubting confidence which Burke ors in the Province; more than five times tells us some consider the sole qualithe number of resident Provincial and Dominion officers ; more than five times fication of a perfect legislator. "Far the number of Public School teachers; different, however," says that great more than five times the lawyers, doctors, statesman,"are my ideas of that high and other professional men; more than office. The true law giver should five times the judges and magistrates; have a heart full of sensibility. He more than five times the students and ought to love and respect his kind. pupils in attendance at the schools and and to fear himself." What politiccolleges of the country ; and more than ians sometimes think the marks of a five times the number of clergymen. bold, hardy genius are only proof of have said more than five times in regard a deplorable want of ability. "By to all these particulars, but as regards their violent haste, and their defisome of them the proportion is ten and ance of the process of nature they Mr. Meredith's duty as the leader are," he adds, "delivered over blindly

of a great political party with which to every projector and adventurer, to the great majority of the Catholics every alchemist and empiric. Their despair of curing common distempers of Ontario were long identified, was, in the face of the Mail's unpatriotic by regular methods arises not from and utterably inexcusable attitude defect of comprehension, but I fear towards the Catholic Church every- from some malignity of disposition." The where, and towards the Catholic peo- Mail is eager and anxious for the deple in Ontario, plain and clear in- struction of the Mowat administradeed. Yet, oblivious of his duty, tion, and to compass that end pro-

DEC. 18, 1886.

of French origin be amalgamated in the Canadian. We appeal to you Canadians, be ye of Irish origin, to let your ballots, on 9 the 28th, fall thick and fast, as the very snowflakes in this wintry season, in condemnation of the Mail and of Mr. Meredith. Be ye of English or of Scottish origin, join hands, say we, with your fellow-citizens of every other origin in working on that same day the doom and the destruction of faction and fanaticism. Your ancestors have left you a glorious name. Prove unsullied by your devotion to freedom and to the constitution. Stand shoulder to shoulder with your brothers of every other race and origin, not in fighting the battles of any one party, but the bat tles of conscience, country and devotion to freedom civil and religious_ Sons of the victors on the historic banks of the lovely Monongahela, and the renowned field of Carillon; stand firm, stand together in defence of faith and of fatherland. In the name of all that you hold dear, of citizenship, of religion, of country, do your duty, your whole duty, on the 28th, that that day may be ever memorable in Canadian annals as seeing, forever and past redemption, condemned the principle of "one section fighting and striving against and seeking to annihilate the other." Do not, freemen and citizens of Ontario, scandalize your own professions, renounce your past achievements and close, a brief but brilliant political life, by one monstrous, self-surrendering, self-debasing act of infamous relinquishment, irretrievable, irrecoverable, flagitious and abominable. Be it said of you, as the great Grattan said of the mother country: "In the arts that graced mankind other nations excelled you, they sang better; they danced better; but in stating courageous truths in breaking political or metaphysi cal chains, here were your robust ac complishments." Let then the tri umph of country over the fanatic and the traitor, on the 28th inst., be com plete, overwhelming and extinguish ing. Let OLIVER MOWAT, re presenting the side of country a against the hireling scribes and th wicked anti-Catholic press, be onc again honored with his country confidence, not because of his part

merits or his party claims, but be cause circumstances identify him with the sacred cause of patriotism and of true liberty in contradisting tion to action on "the principle of on section fighting and striving again and seeking to annihilate the other. Having thus candidly stated our set timents, having done what we hop we may never again, in ou journalistic career be forsed do-made an appeal in the columns to the Canadian people favor of one political chief and i condemnation of another-our dut ceases, and yours, fellow-countryme begins. Our opinions were not co ceived in haste nor are they e pressed in malice. A crisis has come upon the Cath lics of this Province the like of whi has not occurred since Gcor Brown dismounted from the Prote testant horse in 1864. As a Cathol journalist we have studious avoided during our existence all al ance with mere political partie Our journal occupies a higher pla than the platform of any party. is now, however, incumbent upon to speak out plainly and empha cally in defence of our Catho rights which are threatened by t Liberal Conservatives. Without t slightest provocation on our part, any reasonable excuse, they ha declared war upon our most sach rights, and it is our bounden duty men and as Catholics, to uphold a defend those rights against comers. These views then are the n sult of serious deliberation, close servation, and solid good ccuns They come from one who may jus claim to be no tool of power, no f terer of greatness. "They come," may without presumption clare, in the words of a great sta man already particularized, "tl come from one who desires hone distinctions, and emoluments little, and who expects them not all .-- who has no contempt for fa and no tear of obloquy,-who sh

ouse of the Holy Family : relics from the unmindful of the suggestions of grat- jects a war of races and of creeds tomb of the Holy Virgin and from the houses of St. John, St. Joseph, St. James and St. Thomas, the Apostles: bones of St. Andrew, St. Philip, St. James the Less, and St. Bartholomew; a piece of the block on which St. Paul was beheaded, of the a spectacle of such political ineffi- Parliament of old Canada, Hon. mantle of St. Joseph, of the raiment of St. Peter, of the house of Loretto, of the shown to the world? linen which enveloped the head of St. But were the issues involved in John the Beptist, of the manger in which the present electoral struggle, the Our Saviour Jesus Christ was laid : besides

result of which the free action of the minority in Upper Canada : "Aspeople of Ontario will determine on suredly I, for one, have not the Tuesday, the 28th day of December, slightest hesitation in accepting it as inst., one of mere personal merit or a necessary condition of the scheme of demerit, one of mere personal preference or the opposite, between Mr. Mowat and Mr. Meredith, were it a memorable speech said: "Whose even a question of party claims, or of words are these ? 'God hath made of party success, silent would we be as one blood all the nations that dwell we have ever been in all electoral on the face of the earth ?' Is not contests and struggles since the first that the true theory of race? For publication of this journal. The my part, 1 am not afraid of the struggle now pending is not between Messers. Mowat and Meredith-not of future local government doing injus-Conservative against Liberal-but tice, except accidentally. Neither one of country against faction, of patriotism against domestic trea-

son. What Canadian can then hesitate in the face of his duty ? Mr. of an imperative duty. He has been

pronounced wanting. We appeal, then, to every man of thought and can thus outrage the feelings and the heart and soul, to every m n of

belief of two millions of Canadian Catholics Mr. Meredith, who aspires ness, to every man worthy the name to statesmanship, has not a syllable of man and of Canadian, to vote be true to the constitution formed of repudiation, not a word of condemnation. No, he works and labors with it, on the principle of "one sec- Meredith. We address our appeal, partisan must now disappear in the tion fighting and striving against and mark you, reader, not to Catholics- patriot, the Catholic and the Protes-

itude for past services and regard- the violation of the constitution, and less of his own and the country's the dismemberment of the Confedfuture he utters not a word of re- eration. When the Union scheme pudiation of the Mail. Was ever was under discussion in the ciency, ineptitude, and helplessness. George Brown, on the 8th of February, 1865, said of the constitutional arrangement to be made in reference

to Separate Schools for the Catholic union." On the following day the Hon. T. D. McGee, in the course of French Canadian majority in the do I believe that my Protestant compatriots need have any such fear, The French Canadians have never been an intolerant people-" Assur-Meredith has no one but himself to edly were these great statesmen, now blame for the consequences of his gone to join the majority, in accord own lamentable indecision in the face with their colleague, Sir John A. Macdonald, that it was unwise, untried, and by all true citizens, what- patriotic, nay, criminal, for a public ever their religious creed, or their man in a country like this, to work past political affiliations, must be on "the principle of one section fighting and striving against and seeking to annihilate the other."

We appeal, then, to all men of courage, patriotism and disinterested- patriotic instinct-to all men of honor, patriotism, and conscience-to against the candidates supported by by these great statesmen, as lovers the Mail and pledged to follow Mr. of justice, equality, and fraternity. The