

THE TRUE WITNESS

AND CATHOLIC CHRONICLE

IS PRINTED AND PUBLISHED

At 761 CRAIG ST., Montreal, Canada.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

One Year \$1.50 If paid strictly in advance.

All Business letters, and Communications intended for publication, should be addressed to J. P. WHELAN, Proprietor of THE TRUE WITNESS, No. 761 Craig street, Montreal, P.Q.

DECISIONS REGARDING NEWSPAPERS

1. Any person who takes a paper regularly from the post-office, whether directed in his name or another's or whether he has subscribed or not, is responsible for payment.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 16, 1898

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

THURSDAY, Jan. 10, St. William. FRIDAY, Jan. 11, St. Hortense. SATURDAY, Jan. 12, St. Arcadius. SUNDAY, Jan. 13, First Sunday after Epiphany.

MR. WIMAN ON CANADA.

We devote considerable space in this issue to the article by Erastus Wiman on this Canada of ours. We do so in the interests of education, for there are many grown people among our readers who never before, we think, had the actual case of Canada, its extent, resources, climate and capabilities, so well laid before them.

While these are the main reasons for the backwardness of Canada in the race of progress with the republic to the south, they are all points of the first magnitude, which Mr. Wiman has been careful to avoid discussing.

We cannot believe that this country, which, to many of us, is home and native land, should continue to remain in a state of arrested colonial development.

A LESSON FROM OTTAWA.

The Ottawa mayoralty contest was made a direct issue on the race and religious question by the Protestant Electoral Association.

the Tory party at the Capital. It has had a good effect, however, in teaching both French and Irish Catholics that no reliance is to be placed on Protestant Conservatives, who regard them as useful only to vote as they are told, but they must not presume to seek election for one of themselves.

When will Catholics of every nationality in Canada learn that in sustaining the party led by Sir John Macdonald they are simply voting to preserve a bloodthirsty and implacable enemy in power over them?

"ROBERT ELSMERE."

A very good idea of the sea of doubt on which the Protestant ship is sailing all over the world has been given by the furore created by the novel "Robert Elsmere."

Protestant pulpits everywhere are ringing with denunciations of it, from which we take it, that the story struck right into the sorest spot in the Protestant body.

Mr. Gladstone in a long article of great acuteness combated those arguments from an Anglican's point of view, and exposed more thoroughly, perhaps, than he was himself aware, the fundamental errors of the Anglican conception of the Christian faith.

By thus admitting the authority of the Catholic Church in fixing, at the beginning, the true teaching of Christianity, the Protestant writer places himself in a strange position.

For if the authority of the Church is unquestionable with reference to two great doctrines concerning which, he says, there is "an historical gap," by what right can he question the same authority with reference to matters of far less importance?

In the manner Mr. Gladstone agrees with Mr. Hale in accepting Cardinal Newman's statement that the doctrine of the Catholic Church "must be accepted if we are to have a good working religion."

testant error—error all the more lamentable since the motive of the book was to cast doubt on the fundamental doctrines of Protestantism taken on Catholic authority with a view to clearing the ground for an attack still more radical on the Catholic Church itself.

Such being their true character and history, can we wonder that adversaries so nimble and unscrupulous should be sought to be got rid of by those whose real object is to overthrow the citadel of Christianity within the Catholic Church?

THE EVANGELICAL ALLIANCE AND THE JESUITS' ESTATES ACT.

In this issue we reproduce the petition of the Dominion Evangelical Alliance to the Governor-General praying for the disallowance of the Act passed last session of the Quebec Legislature respecting the Jesuits' Estates. The Daily Witness, from which we copy the document, styles it "a carefully worded petition."

By reference to the Lt.-Governor's speech at the opening of the Quebec Legislature, it will be seen that allusion was made to this subject. His Honor was made to say that, the Ottawa authorities having intimated that the question of disallowing the Act was under consideration, it would not be put in force until the full time allowed by law for the exercise of the veto had elapsed and the legality of the settlement under the Act placed beyond question.

Taking the petition with the circumstances now recited, it would seem that the Evangelical Alliance has undertaken to force Sir John Macdonald's hand. We all know with what alacrity the Dominion Premier can put his foot down on any Act of the Provincial Legislatures which might run counter to his policy or political interests.

But the petition, carefully worded though it may be, leaves out altogether the main reason for the passage of the Act. Justice, public policy—dare we say political necessity?—require that all questions of a disturbing nature should be settled on the broadest principles of equity for one object, namely the general good.

STATISTICS OF CATHOLICITY.

The Catholic Directory, Register and Almanac for 1889, recently issued, contains a mass of valuable information concerning the progress of the Church in Great Britain and elsewhere.

third ecclesiastics, and many exiled clergy from foreign parts. The directory gives the Catholic Archbishops of Ireland as 4, with 28 Bishops under them; and the grand total of Archbishops and Bishops of Catholic sees in colonies and dependencies throughout the four quarters of the world as 94, besides 5 Vicars Apostolic and Prefects Apostolic who are not Bishops.

The estimated Catholic population of the British Empire is 9,730,000. It is distributed as follows: Ireland, 3,913,000; England and Wales, 1,360,000; Scotland, 327,000; in the colonies and dependencies the numbers are: America, (Canada, Newfoundland, West Indies, &c.), 2,200,000; Australasia (Australia, New Zealand, &c.), 58,000; Asia (British India, Ceylon, &c.), 1,044,000; Africa (South Africa, Gold Coast, Mauritius, &c.), 131,000; European Colonies (Gibraltar, Malta, and Gozo), 175,000.

WHAT THE CATHOLIC CHURCH HAS DONE FOR THE NEGRO.

The universality of the Catholic Church, and the absolute equality of men of all races within her fold, were strikingly shown at the Colored Catholic Congress held at Washington, recently, on which occasion was made a former number of THE TRUE WITNESS.

Remark has frequently been made on the vast growth of Catholicity in the United States, but, perhaps, it will not be denied that nowhere has that growth been more providential than among the negro race.

Perhaps at no other period in the history of the country has the time been so ripe for imparting to the colored people the great principles and truths of the Catholic religion as at present.

Dr. Whitton pointed out that the Catholic Church was the only Church that had received the colored race on equal terms. There was one place where there was no distinction between white and black, and that was when they appeared before the altar of the Catholic Church to receive communion.

LORD LANDDOWN'S New Year's gift to his tenants is the distribution of notices to quit by registered letter, which may have the effect of flinging sixty-four families on the roadside at Laggacourran.

what they had; but the Laggacourran people have joined the "plan of campaign," and profess themselves ready to stand by their guns.

ALESSANDRO GAVAZZI, the noted Italian revolutionist, is dead at the age of 30 years. The mention of his name recalls to mind the stormy scenes of the revolutionary epoch of 1848 and the subsequent events which led to the establishment of the kingdom of Italy.

With the opening of the New Year, when all the world is rejoicing in the renewal of hope and happiness, the devil's work has recommenced in Ireland with redoubled, pitiless fury under the express directions of Balfour the Brutal and Bloody.

THE Parnell Commission is to meet on the 15th inst. It is to be hoped that this astonishing tribunal will make an effort at once to get down to the marrow of the Times charges without further loss of time.

THE announcement is made that Sir John Macdonald has intimated to several friends his intention to go to the country as soon after the close of next session as possible.

THE writ for a new election in Montreal Centre will not be issued till the Legislature acts upon the report of the judges who tried the Laprairie case.

MR. J. F. REDMOND has been nominated by the workmen as their candidate for Montreal Centre, in the Quebec Legislature, should the seat be declared vacant.

SIR JOHN MACDONALD was 74 years of age last Friday, January 11th.

RANDOM TOPICS.

Mr. Tardivel, the talented editor of La Verité of Quebec, is at present travelling in Europe, from whence he is writing a series of letters to that excellent Catholic journal.

Those who passed their examinations on sciences:—Messrs. C. I. Lamontagne, G. Chagnon, F. A. Genuerex, V. Renaud, J. A. Girard, P. Grenier, D. McAvoy, L. Belleau, J. O. U. Lussignan, R. L. De Marigny and Jules Gendron.

ST. PATRICK'S COURT. NO. 95, MONTREAL, ORGANIZED CATHOLIC ORDER OF FORESTERS.

lead men to become apathetic and lukewarm in the cause of religion, it is refreshing to find a militant writer of the force of Mr. Tardivel, whose doctrine leaves nothing to be desired in the way of orthodoxodoxy, for he belongs to that valliant school, which has counted in its ranks Danon Cortes, Yemillot, Cardinal Pitras, Dom Guaranjer, and a host of other luminous minds who have shed unending lustre on our epoch.

His letters from Ireland, which spot formed his first glimpse of Europe, are of exceptional interest, and his comments on the religious, political, and social aspects of the dear old land, are those of a sincere and sympathetic friend, who sees a thousand things to admire in the patient desmeson of the people, and nothing to condemn but the barbarous injustice of their cruel oppressors.

Through all his letters there runs a vein of tender sympathy for the sad condition of the distressed tenants, warm appreciation of the traditional courage of the people, and unstinted admiration for the great zeal, learning and devotion of the Irish priests. He met many of the latter, and records with what warm-hearted kindness and cordial hospitality he was received by them.

At Brussels he had an interview with M. De Rély, formerly a captain in the Pontifical Zouaves, who subsequently founded a flourishing Catholic journal at Brussels named La Croix, which was as remarkable for its ability as for the soundness of its doctrine.

A few years ago a Catholic University was founded at Lille; at the present date it is completely organized, with all the facilities, and is, in the fullest sense, a Catholic institution, where liberalism, no matter how mitigated or distinguished, can find entrance.

MONTREAL BAR EXAMINATION. The Bar examinations at the Court House for the past two days were concluded Friday last.

A new organization was formed in the city Monday evening. It is known as the "Organized Catholic Order of Foresters." This society has a strong membership throughout the United States, particularly in Chicago, and is approved of by all the American clergy.