

# The Truth AND Witness

CATHOLIC CHRONICLE.

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## VICAR-GENERAL MACDONELL.

Celebration of the 25th Anniversary of his Priesthood—At St. Finian's Church, Alexandria, Ont.

[The *Glengarryman*, Dec. 23rd, 1887.]

On Tuesday, Dec. 20th, the Catholic people of Alexandria celebrated the 25th anniversary of Vicar-General Macdonell's priesthood.

At ten o'clock High Mass was celebrated by Very Rev. Alex. Macdonell. Within the sanctuary were the Very Rev. D. O'Connor, Perth; Rev. John Brown, Pictou, Ont.; Rev. John Twomey, Leibel; Rev. Geo. Cyrbe, St. Andrews; Rev. W. A. McDonald, Glen Nevis; Rev. Thomas Carey, St. Raphael; Rev. Donald McNeil, Glen Nevis; and the Rev. B. Higgins, Alexandria.

After the reading of the first Gospel, the Very Rev. D. O'Connor ascended the pulpit and remarked that it afforded him great pleasure to be with his old parishioners on that occasion to assist in celebrating the twenty-fifth anniversary of the ordination to the priesthood of their pastor, the Very Rev. Vicar-General Macdonell.

When he received a letter a few days before from the Chairman of the committee, inviting him to be present with them, his heart leaped with joy at the anticipated pleasure. But the day before, at the very moment of his departure, he had received word from the wives that he would be expected to deliver an address. Owing, however, to the shortness of the notice, he regretted his inability to do so satisfactorily. The rev. speaker then referred to the many good qualities of his pastor, which were met to honor, the great length of his acquaintance with Father Macdonell, extending as it did over twenty-one years, and his rare characteristics as a priest, whose superior was not to be found.

"As a gentleman and a citizen," said Don O'Connor, "your pastor stands in the front ranks—kind, genial and charitable to all; in his dealings with the world equally attentive to the poor as to the rich." The rev. gentleman, who spoke with much feeling, then read the following address:

To the Very Reverend Alexander Macdonell, V.G., Alexandria:

VERY REVEREND VICAR.—We claim the privilege, as brother priests and co-laborers, to participate with your parishioners in their rejoicing on this anniversary, and to unite our voices with theirs in giving expression to the heartfelt sentiments of esteem, admiration and love entertained for you by priests as well as people. We are not ignorant that your humility shrinks from the acknowledgment of your merits; and that this anniversary would pass by unnoticed, were your inclinations consulted. It is not difficult to comprehend the motive of your repugnance to addresses and testimonials. You must often have been impressed with the evident hollow and insincerity of such performances. Your experience has taught you that a distinctive feature of our day is extravagant meanness, public characters the most commonplace, through interest or influence, extolled to the highest heavens. A chorus of fulsome adulation swells through every walk of life. But, Very Rev. Vicar, are we to be deterred from expressing our honest sentiments because the medium we would use has been sometimes prostituted by the unprincipled? Do we hesitate to use the coin of the realm because it has been at times counterfeited?

Your aim, Very Rev. Vicar, has been to do good by stealth. Press notices and public demonstrations, which others court with so much ardor, you have shunned with singular persistence; but the eloquent voice of your manifold works you have not been able to silence. The edifices which have sprung up, or perfected themselves under your guiding hand—notably, this noble temple where we stand, which lifts its majestic proportions heavenwards—proclaim in unequivocal language your correct taste, your untiring vigor, the adornment of God's dwelling place. "The zeal of the glory of Thy house, O Lord, hath consumed me." The schools which you have fostered and watched over declare that you are of one mind with your Divine Master in your care for the little ones; while your fatherly counsel, your encouragement to the care-laden and sin-burdened, your words of consolation "fasten in the minds and hearts, and speak from the lips of your devoted people assembled around you here. To-day, Very Rev. Vicar, as you look through the vista of the past quarter of a century, the prospect must be to you a pleasing one. True, you must have seen moments of gloom, moments inseparable from the priest's life, when his heart is saddened by the waywardness of the erring; but how such shadows fade away in the brightness of a long career of earnest endeavor to do God's work—a career revealing striking instances of God's grace working through your instrumentality. Truly may you say "I have planted, and God has given the increase."

Not is it alone in your character of priest that you have drawn our hearts to you; as a man you have equally compelled the homage of our affections. We have ever found a hearty welcome around your hospitable board. Your courteous, kind manner, your cheerful, equable temperament, your eminent, honest and unselfish disposition, have rendered intercourse with you delightful, and parting difficult. Your qualities of mind and heart could not fail to attract the keen perception of your ecclesiastical superior. In consequence, merited honors came unsought and undesired; but they produced no change in you. "The rank is but the guinea stamp; the man's the gold for all that." The gold was there before; nothing was added but the stamp.

We would ask you Very Rev. Vicar, to accept this special memento from us as a souvenir of this auspicious anniversary; and as a slight token of our sentiments towards you. We pray that the quarter of a century of priesthood just elapsed be, but the jubilee

## BISHOP BONACUM.

The Newly Appointed Bishop of Lincoln, Neb.

[From the *Lincoln Neb., State Journal*, Dec. 21.]

The creation of the new see of Lincoln is an important event in the history of the Catholic church in Nebraska. It is a recognition from the church at large of the growth of this state in population and wealth, and in spiritual needs. The division of the state into two jurisdictions was accomplished several months ago, and as was most appropriate, the seat of government of the southern section was located in Lincoln, the chief city of the district, and the political capital of the entire country. Lincoln has more than central railway and geographical position to attract the ecclesiastical capital of the South Platte region. It is the heart of the Irish National League of America and the home of a number of the leading Irishmen and Catholics of the entire country—men who led in intelligence and wealth, and who wield a great influence in the affairs of the National League.

The Rev. Father Macdonell, who was present at the ceremony, accompanied by the priests in attendance, when an address was read to him in Gaelic, by the Hon. Donald McMillan.

Then came Dr. D. L. McMillan, who read a touching address from the friends of the rev. gentleman now residing in Colorado. As the last words were spoken and Dr. McMillan retired, Mr. Angus McDonald, chairman of the committee, stepped into his place and handed the rev. gentleman a purse of \$600.

In responding Father Macdonell said:—My dear friends. You gentlemen of the committee, and those whom you represent, the good people of this and the adjoining parishes in the county, have placed me under such an obligation that no words of mine can convey, in my reply to your very kind addresses, a response adequate in any degree to the sentiments of Christian charity, love and good feeling which they contain. You have thought fit to celebrate the anniversary of my twenty-fifth year in the priesthood in this manner. It is this well-merited praise I heartily thank you. It is gratifying to me to find that I am so much esteemed by you, and knowing you as well as I do I feel that your words are not of the lips, but that they are real and well meant. To me this anniversary brings to mind very many recollections, and though it is not necessary that I should dwell long upon them to you, I may say that I might ask myself if I have fulfilled my part in doing my duty as a preacher of God's holy word, and by my advice and good example done that which I pledged myself to do twenty-five years ago to-day, or how much more I ought to have done which I have not. During that period God has blessed me with good health, which I am thankful for. A period of twenty-five years in the history of a nation or of an established constitution is but a brief space, but in the life of an individual it means much, and the opportunities that are vouchsafed to us during that period should never be lost. In analyzing and replying to the different passages in the addresses, the rev. gentlemen spoke feelingly and in unmistakable language, referring to the benefits of a good education based upon a sound Christian foundation, showing the benefits thus secured to the individual, to society and to the State. He thanked the Protestants for their generous contribution, and he hoped that, though differing in religion, the good feeling that had hitherto prevailed between them and their Catholic fellow-citizens would long be preserved in Glengarry. The rev. gentleman, after making some touching allusions to the late founder of the parish, the Very Rev. John McDonald, closed with an interesting reference to the Gaelic address, dwelling at length upon the antiquity and expressiveness of the mother language and the attachment which the people of this county still have for it. He thanked his young friends from Leavelle, Col., for their address, and for the sentiments of affection and attachment to him therein contained, as well as for their liberal offering on the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of his ordination.

## RECEPTION BY THE POPE.

EXHIBITION OF THE JUBILEE PRESENTS.

ROME, Jan. 6.—The Pope has announced that he will receive the priests of the English and American colleges in Rome and the British pilgrims on the 10th inst. Mgr. Clifford will make the necessary arrangements for the reception. The Jubilee presents were placed on exhibition at the Vatican to-day for the first time. The foreign diplomats, a number of Roman aristocrats and a host of other guests were present. The Pope entered the hall where the presents had been arranged at noon. He was followed by fifty-eight Cardinals and the whole Pontifical Court. His arrival was greeted with great enthusiasm. He took his seat on the throne, and Cardinal Schifano proceeded to read an address. To this the Pope, replying, said his soul was deeply moved by the manifestations of love and veneration which were reaching him from all parts of the world. He regarded them as evidences of the power of the Papacy, which the enemies of the Church had vainly attempted to deny. The share taken by sovereigns of the world in the jubilee proved that they justly appreciated the importance of the Papacy. He concluded by praising the organizers of the exhibition. The Pope afterwards made a prolonged inspection of the presents in company with the Cardinals.

## L. D. SULLIVAN AND WM. O'BRIEN

GREAT PREPARATIONS TO RECEIVE THEM ON THEIR RELEASE.

NEW YORK, Jan. 6.—The *Times'* London despatch says: It seems likely that the progress of T. D. Sullivan and Wm. O'Brien through England and on their way to the opening of Parliament after their release from Tullamore Jail, will be the occasion of a stirring series of demonstrations. The Gladstonians are projecting receptions at every station from Holyhead, culminating in a mass meeting and huge procession in London. It is probable that this will excite counter demonstration.

## FOR IRELAND'S SAKE.

Montreal Citizens Protest Against Irish Evictions.

Over Eleven Hundred Dollars Subscribed in Less Than Thirty Minutes—Large and Representative Meeting of All Grades and Nationalities in the Queen's Hall—St. Thomas Gratton Esmond's Eloquent Lecture on Ireland's Sufferings and Woes—Other Speeches.

Perhaps never before in the history of the building has the Queen's Hall held such an enthusiastic gathering as that which filled the auditorium Wednesday, on the occasion of the meeting held in honor of St. Thomas Gratton Esmond, Bart, M.P. The meeting was not only remarkable for the enthusiasm displayed, but also for its representative character. Irish, English, Scotch and French, Protestant and Catholic, all joined heartily together in cheering to the echo the noble sentiments given utterance to by the distinguished lecturer of the evening.

As at four o'clock for the departure of the train, the members of the congregation gathered in the waiting room of the depot, and had the pleasure of meeting for the first time the head of the new bishopric. The first impression was favorable. Attired in robes befitting his station, the bishop greeted each one as presented with a cordiality and sincerity that came from the heart.

## AN INTRODUCTION TO THE PUBLIC.

Thomas Gratton Esmond was born in County Tipperary, Ireland, in January, 1817. He was brought to America when an infant by his parents, and has since been a resident of St. Louis. His early education was conducted by the Christian Brothers in that city. When fifteen years of age he entered the Catholic university at Milwaukee, where he spent five years, studying the classics, English literature and the sciences. In 1868 he went to Cape Girardeau, the seminary there being one of the oldest and best known Catholic institutions in the country, and spent four years in the study of philosophy and theology. In June, 1870, he was ordained priest by Bishop Mecher, of Green Bay, in St. Mary's church, St. Louis. His first appointment was to Edina, Mo., where he remained as assistant pastor about six months. He was then appointed pastor of Indian Creek, Mo., and built a number of buildings and was very successful in his labors in the vineyard for about three years. His next charge was Kirkwood, Mo. With the consent of the archbishop he then went to continue his studies at the continent.

He attended a course of lectures at one of the famous German universities two years. His studies here made him the recognized leader in canon law and church history, and the archdiocese of St. Louis. His knowledge of German was perfected, and to day he speaks German with the fluency and accuracy of an educated German.

Upon arriving in St. Louis he was assigned to the pastoral charge of Kollo, Mo., whence he was appointed assistant pastor of the church of the Immaculate Conception in St. Louis, and then assigned to the pastorate of the Church of the Holy Name, one of the most populous parishes in the city of St. Louis. There he remained until his consecration to the bishopric of Lincoln.

In stature Bishop Bonacum is below the medium, is quite stout without corpulence and in the picture of health and strength. His face is fresh, his hair turning gray. As an educated clergyman he ranks among the very first. He is a literary man, his education in English literature being exhaustive. For many years he contributed to the magazines and papers of this country. These articles, which he wrote in his leisure hours, gained the author quite a reputation both at home and abroad. He is of a studious turn, and spends many hours each day with his books. His manners are polished; his character, while gentle, is forcible. There is no question but that Bishop Bonacum will in a very short time make his mark in the high rank of the Episcopal hierarchy of the United States. His personal qualities may be judged from his popularity among his college companions. It is recorded that never before was there so large an attendance of priests at a consecration as at his. His old school-day friends and the pastors with whom he has since come in contact flocked in large numbers to the consecration. Over 125 priests gathered to receive the new bishop of the province of St. Louis and four hundred abbots. During the late plenary council at Baltimore he acted in the capacity of theologian to the venerable Archbishop Kendrick of St. Louis. As Bishop Kendrick himself is one of the ablest theologians in the Catholic Church, his selection brought Bishop Bonacum's ability before the attention of the assembled bishops of the United States. During the council his name was sent first on a list from which to select a bishop for Bellevue, Ill. On another occasion the bishop forwarded his name to Rome for the election of a bishop. Bishop Bonacum is an energetic, though going, live man, who is already deeply in love with Lincoln, and is determined to do everything in his power to advance its spiritual and material interests. After his appointment as bishop he stated that he felt doubly honored to be chosen from such a promising and popular group of candidates. He is not only a man of great energy, but also a man of great heart. He is a man who is not only a man of great energy, but also a man of great heart. He is a man who is not only a man of great energy, but also a man of great heart.

## SIR WILFRID BLUNT.

HE SAYS HE HAS NO CONFIDENCE IN THE APPEAL COURT.

LONDON, Jan. 5.—Wilfrid Blunt in a letter to the papers in reference to the hearing of his appeal from the verdict of the court which sentenced him to two months imprisonment for a violation of the Criminal Law Amendment Act, said that the hearing at Woodford, Ireland, was an unfair one and that the court had already decided to uphold the verdict and sentence in his case.

## BRIDES OF THE CHURCH.

Six Candidates Renounce the World and Assume the Sacred Obligations—A Novice Makes Her Profession and Takes the Solemn Vow—Bishop DeGoesbriand's Fatherly Words.

[Dublin, Ir., Daily Herald, Dec. 28th.]

At 2 o'clock yesterday afternoon the religious ceremony of reception and profession was celebrated at the convent of the Sisters of St. Joseph, six novices being received and one making her profession. A *Herald* reporter was courteously granted the privilege of witnessing the ceremony, which was observed in the presence of the near relatives and friends of the young ladies who thus renounced the world and its pleasures.

The services were of a deeply impressive character, in keeping with the more important ceremonies of the Roman Catholic Church, and the solemnity of the occasion was impressed especially upon the observers by the strains of the processional march played forth from the organ and choral choir, the procession entered the pretty little chapel of the convent and proceeded up the altar aisle to the sanctuary. The six candidates were each attired in white satin and silk or tulle, with bridal veils and orange flowers in the corsage, symbolical of taking Christ as their spouse, and each was attended by two bridesmaids in white, with veils, the procession being headed by a young lady in white wearing a floral cross and attended by five little girls bearing a basket containing the familiar black habits of the sisters of the congregation of St. Joseph. The clergy then filed in as follows:—Rev. Fathers McDonald, of Whitehall; Mochau, of Bennington; O'Connell, of Brattleboro; Houlihan, of Mt. Holly; Clark, of Burlington; Glynn, of Dorset; Longman, of Rutland; Barred, of Gaffney; of Rutland; Vicar-General Lynch, of Burlington; and Bishop DeGoesbriand.

## SIR THOMAS GRATTAN ESMONDE, Bart., M.P.

When Sir Thomas rose to his feet to reply to the address the enthusiasm which greeted him almost beyond description. Cheer after cheer rent the air, and it was some moments before the distinguished guest, after repeatedly bowing his acknowledgments, was allowed to speak. He then said: "I can vouch for it that my colleague, Mr. O'Connor, will regret that he was not here this evening, that he had not the opportunity of seeing this fine meeting. He will also regret that he was not here to be the recipient of this very eloquent and artistic address. The execution of that address carries one back in memory to the time in Ireland when native artists brought forth those wonderful fruits of illumination, some of which have come down to us to this day, as the 'Book of Kells.' The sentiments which are expressed in that address and which are of far greater value than its elaborate ornamentation, are quite worthy of the days when the Irish people made their own laws in their own Senate in College Green (cheers). Yet I ask myself what is the meaning of this address? I take it that it signifies that those present here to-night consider that as a representative of a struggling nationality I am worthy of their welcome, and I recognize that that address does not come by reason of any individual merits of my own but as the representative of a cause sacred to a great many. I can understand to a certain extent there are many here of Irish blood and can understand why those of Irish birth and descent have come to help on the cause, but I do not know how it is that I can explain the presence of so many here who are not Irish by birth or descent. (A voice: "There's five of us here.") except on the supposition that the citizens of Montreal, without distinction of antecedents, are men who know what liberty is and who love it. Not only do they love to be free themselves but they are desirous that the privileges which they enjoy be extended to all the nations of the globe. I thank the societies and the ladies and gentlemen who came here to-night, in the name of the Irish people, for the assistance they are giving Ireland to-night. When the news of our proceedings here is carried back to Ireland, it will bring new strength to the Irish people and nerve them, who, if not free now, will be if by any effort of theirs they can. We want at present all the support that the friends of liberty can give our people at home. At the present moment we are engaged in a terrible struggle against the horrible government of England, upon the issue of which the question depends whether we shall make our own laws or whether we will be prevented from so doing for another generation. (A voice: "Never.") They are able to bring against us influences and to overbear anything that we can bring against them. They have the whole of the lowest policeman in Ireland on their side. I was reading recently about the struggles by the Canada patriots in defense of the rights of Canada in

offering, in the shape of a harp, by Mr. J. McKenna, the well-known artist.

When the applause had ceased, the chairman read letters of regret at their inability to attend from Hon. Mr. Mercer, Sir Donald A. Smith, Mr. J. S. Hall, M.P., Mr. W. Owens, M.P., and ex-Judge Courcel, M.P. After a few introductory remarks, in which he referred to the necessity of encouraging Sir Thomas and his noble colleagues in the great fight they were now engaged in, he read the following address, which was beautifully engrossed:

To Sir Thomas Henry Gratton Esmond, Bart., M.P.:

DEAR SIR.—We, members of the Irish national, literary, temperance, benevolent and athletic societies of Montreal, bid you a most hearty welcome to the metropolis of Canada, and assure you of the profound sympathy felt for the people of Ireland by their fellow-countrymen in the Dominion. As citizens of a free country interested in the maintenance of progress, peace and prosperity in a sister nation, we are convinced that some of these blessings can be firmly secured as long as the people of Ireland are denied the enjoyment of their rights as free citizens of a free country. We feel with regret that the struggle in which you are engaged is against a government which seeks to permanently enslave the Irish nation; at the same time we are persuaded, since the Irish cause has been espoused by the great Liberal party of England, Scotland and Wales, that the time cannot be far distant when a true union based on mutual respect and confidence will take the place of that which was established by fraud and has been continued by coercion.

We also desire to convey through you to the leaders of the Irish Parliamentary and Liberal parties, the Right Hon. William Ewart Gladstone and Charles Stewart Parnell, our admiration for the noble efforts they are making in the cause of justice, liberty and humanity. It is also our desire to assure you of our unflinching determination to do all in our power by honorable means to assist them in a speedy attainment of a glorious victory.

Your arrival among us at this festive season suggests the hope that the year now opening will not close without seeing the end of this historic struggle, and while we deeply mourn for those whose lives have been sacrificed by the minions of a cruel government, and while our hearts are sore at the sufferings and indignities inflicted on the patriots languishing in prison, yet we feel that the tyrant walk forth to liberty it will be to meet the greetings of a united and liberated people.

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## AN IRISH M.P.'S HARSH TREATMENT.

DUBLIN, Dec. 30.—Mr. Sheehy, M.P., who was recently imprisoned in the Orléans cell was forcibly dressed in the prison garb by the wardens, but as soon as they left the cell he discarded the clothes.

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