

The Real Canadians.

A great amount of attention has been paid of late in the daily press to our French Canadian compatriots, and their country and practices. The tone of many of the articles must be strange to French readers. Young ladies give their prattling gossip on the "sweetness" and "niceness" of the country, and visitors of a week propound their deeply-thought schemes for the betterment of the French and all things French.

English irregularity is truly a great and wonderful thing, but one would think that in this new land the exclusiveness of the Briton would be overwhelmed by the continental breadth of Canadian lakes and rivers, forests and prairies, which stretch out for the European of every race and creed. But John Bullishness does not down. The English have imposed their "superior" civilization on every race they have attempted to rule, India being a possible exception—at least since their losses taught them some wisdom. They cannot brook opposition; they have offered to subject races the choice of being Anglicized or exterminated. Two races have successfully resisted these attempts—the Irish, and the French in Canada; and the attitude of the average Briton towards these races is one of superiority mingled with contempt. They are so very un-English, you know.

But to us who do not believe that the sun rises and sets in England, though it may on British possessions, a few grains of golden wheat may be found in the chaff of French and Irish character. As Canadians, we give credit to our compatriots of Quebec as the only real Canadians we have amongst us. All the rest of us—English, Scotch, Irish, Germans—look to some country in Europe as the home of our immediate ancestors. With the French-Canadians it is different. Ten generations of men and the radical change of ideas in the old land divide them from France. They are Canadians first, last and all the time. They aim at building up a nation here; and though their loyalty to England has been proved on many a field, their loyalty to Canada is shown in every action of their lives.

It may be objected that they are building a *French* Canada. The objection may be true, but if the English-speaking Canadians would apply as much energy to increasing the prosperity of this country as they do to criticizing the French, there would be no danger of a French Canada. English-speaking Catholics may think it unwise in the people of Quebec to retain their language wherever they settle, but no person has a right to complain. The French were the first settlers in this country. They conquered it first for civilization, and preserved their conquest for England. Canadians who reap the benefit of their labors and sufferings cannot in justice raise an objection if these people wish to preserve their beautiful language, their holy religion, or their ancient customs in the land of their forefathers. The able correspondent of the *Globe*, Mr. Ewan, acknowledges this fact, saying that questions of

tithes and language can be settled only by the people of Quebec, and carping critics will do nothing towards changing them.

We give all honor to the honest Canadians to the East of us. All that is noble, poetic and inspiring in the history of Canada is theirs. There are our discoverers, our pioneers, our heroes. Call them *French* Canadians if you will; but the people of the United States, with an unprejudiced apprehension of the case, call them *Canadians*, and add the distinguishing adjective to those of English speech. If all Canadians of the other Provinces would look upon the history and achievements of this race; if they would consider all Canada owes to them; if they would study them as they are industrious, thrifty, moral, law-abiding citizens, there would be less of British scorn and prejudice, more pride of country, more union of spirits, and a peaceful and united Canada.

St. Michael's College.

On account of the increasing numbers of the students in the above-named institution, it was found necessary to provide more accommodation for those drawn thither by the low rates and the excellent education given by the Basilian Fathers. The house has been transformed by the energetic Rev. Father Guinane, Treasurer of the College. New dormitories and class-rooms have been added, and the whole house has been thoroughly renovated in an artistic manner. The new class-rooms will be fitted up in first class style, and many improvements made in all parts of the house. If, as is said, the growth of a Catholic diocese can be gauged by the growth of its institutions, the success of our institutions here is a remarkable guarantee of the life of the diocese. St. Michael's College certainly deserves success. It has done a good work among the people of Toronto for more than forty years, and is now no richer on earth than when the work began, though it is rich in good deeds which only heaven knows of. All this has been done by their own exertions, as (and it is a reproach to this city) St. Michael's College has never yet received a money endowment. The good priests educate the youth of that very class from which the Council of Trent desires priests to be drawn, and only one who has lived among these men can have an idea of the number of students they educate free of charge rather than see a vocation lost. This is remarkable on account of the remarkably low rate they charge those who pay. We wish to the energetic Fathers of the College every success in their efforts, and hope that some of our Catholics may follow the example of the late Mr. Kiely, and at least share with them the burden of educating youths for the Sanctuary gratis.

The New York Sunday *World* quotes from our article on the decadence of Protestantism in France. It attributes the authority for the statement to ourselves. We had, however, the very best authority, Rev. M. Hamon, a Calvinist minister of France. Coming from him the note of despair must be real.

Upper Houses' Innings.

After months of debate, of amending and adjusting, the House of Commons approved the Evicted Tenants' Bill, promise of which had kept many disaffected people on the quest of hope drawn near. It went modestly, mildly up to the ether chamber, and lords, squires and their brethren came in from their pleasant country homes to see. My Lord of Salisbury had called them together. Modestly the little bill ventured in. Thirty there were who favored it. But my Lord of Salisbury cried out aloud, "Avaunt, and quit my sight! Thy bones are marrowless; thy flesh is cold." Then two hundred and forty nine echo lords cried out, "Avaunt," and the poor little bill shivers in the cold outside.

After months of incessant labor, the American House of Representatives constructed a tariff measure and sent it up for approval. The Senate amended, and altered, and reconstructed the poor thing, and sent it back. Then conferees from both houses got together, and after many meetings accepted the position forced upon the Senate by half a dozen men. There are fallings of idols, breakings of pledges, retractions, surrenders, compromises.

An intermission for refreshments will now follow if Messieurs please. Afterwards the people will have their innings, and Messieurs will see changes in the score.

Ordination at Kingston.

We have noted in another column the ordination to the Holy Priesthood of Rev. W. A. McDonough at Kingston, but this event deserves more than a passing notice. Father McDonough is well known to many of the people in this city as well as in Kingston and in his native town of Perth, and is known to all as the type of young man who will make a zealous priest. He made his studies at St. Michael's College, Toronto, and at the Grand Seminary in Montreal, and in both institutions received honors and commendation as an excellent student and exemplary man. His many friends will be delighted to learn of his elevation to the holy state of priest, and will join in prayers that he may receive grace proportionate to his new burdens, and may display the same prudence and ability as he has in the past.

Editorial Notes.

We quote on another page the opinion of a New Jersey parish priest on mixed marriages. His experience regarding the effects, temporary or eternal, of these ill-starred unions has shown him that they are to be avoided by the faithful and discountenanced by the Church. A few weeks ago we quoted from the police news of the daily press a striking example of the danger of marriages where there does not exist that unity of feeling and belief so necessary even from a merely human stand-point for the happiness of the married couple.

Rev. Mr. Madill declares he will not have a Jesuit or a Papist at the head of affairs in this country. We sympathize deeply with the most

reverend gentleman. He has not yet recovered from the blow his bigotry received in the Provincial Election, and now he has to choose between Sir John Thompson and Hon. Wilfrid Laurier, between the convert and the French Canadian. Verily, his lines have fallen in evil places, and he is surrounded about by his enemies. If he was aware of the fact, this country was better off when he was driving a stage like an honest citizen than it is now when he is trying to wreck the car of State on the rocks of bigotry.

Ontario has the happiness of having in her midst the two able and eloquent leaders of the political parties of the country. Sir John Thompson at Toronto and Mr. Laurier at Brantford made excellent speeches, and both expressed a feeling of true Canadian patriotism far removed from the shallow, blatant professions of loyalty of a certain class of our people. We cannot resist quoting a few gems from these addresses. Sir John says:

"The time has come for the young men, born in the days of Confederation, to take their place in the field of public life in Canada; and those men realize that the first principle of national life, national obligations, and national hope is that they are Canadians above and before everything else."

Mr. Laurier thus states his aspirations for our Canada:

"The task which we have in 1894 is to develop this Canadian Confederation until we have made it one of the great nations of the earth. Is it too sanguine a dream? Is it too lofty an ambition? Gentlemen, I believe not. It is a task that appeals strongly to my heart, and I hope the struggle will not be in vain. I hope it will be successful, and if in the course of my career, whether it be long or short, it should be my good fortune to remove prejudice to some extent, to advance the cause of harmony over the land, to link together into one chain the heterogeneous elements that exist in the different Provinces, when the day comes, as it must, for my eyes to close forever, I shall die with the satisfaction that my life has not been lived in vain."

Bishop Keane, Rector of the Catholic University, is in Rome, where he has laid before the Pope an account of the work done. The Holy Father expressed particular pleasure when told that a hall is in process of construction which will be used for lectures to the people upon subjects connected with the University course.

Retreat at St. Michael's College.

The Fathers and religious of the congregation of St. Basil are holding their annual retreat in St. Michael's College. The retreat is being given by Rev. Father Wisel, of the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer. His Lordship Bishop O'Connor, of London, was present at the opening exercises of the retreat on Monday evening. Next week the retreat for the priests of the Archdiocese begins under the same Redemptorist Father.

Personal.

Mr. A. F. Teely and wife of Chicago are visiting at the home of his father, Richmond Hill.

Mr. Cornelius Coughlin, real estate dealer, New York city, the last surviving male member of the Coughlin family of Westminster township, north of St. Thomas, is dead.

The Rev. M. F. Fallon has completed his theological studies in the Gregorian University, Rome, and passed successfully for the degree of Doctor of Theology. He has been ordained a priest by Cardinal Parrochi, Vicar General of Leo XIII., and will return to Canada as professor in the Catholic University of Ottawa. He is a son of Mr. Dominick Fallon, of Kingston.

Cornwall.

Over 2,500 people of all denominations from Cornwall and vicinity were present at the laying of the corner stone of the new Church of St. Columba, by his Lordship Bishop McDonnell of Alexandria, who was assisted by Rev. Fathers McDonald, St. Andrews; D. R. McDonald, Alexandria; Fitzpatrick, St. Raphaels; Toomey, Williamstown; Corbett, Campbell and Desautels, Cornwall. Rev. Father Dougherty of Montreal preached the sermon. The new church is being built of blue limestone rock, faced with cut stone trimmings.