

OUR PARAGRAPHER'S PLEA

FOR YOUNG IRISHMEN AS REPRESENTATIVES IN PUBLIC OFFICES.

THE DEPLORABLE LACK OF A SPIRIT OF UNITY AMONGST IRISHMEN DWELT UPON—A LAW AGAINST THE PRACTICE OF "TREATING"—THE CAPITALIZATION OF THIS—THEIR FINANCIAL VALUE.

Every day the lamentable lack of unity amongst our people in Montreal is being more and more impressed upon us. How long is this state of affairs to exist? If the Irish people continue to be steadily overlooked in public affairs, they have no one to blame for it but themselves. Who are we anyway? A scattered lot of individuals, with diverse varying ends and ambitions, rarely coming together, hardly ever agreeing upon what is beneficial for our people, and never acting in harmony for the purpose of attaining a single object. The present humiliating state of affairs must be put an end to and at once.

The suggestion of H. L. O'N., that THE TRUE WITNESS should take the initiative in the Unity movement, is a good one, and should be acted upon forthwith. This is no time for false modesty or mistaken consideration for personal feelings, but the time for prompt and vigorous action. Let a young Irishman of push and industry be named as the suggested initiative, and I think we can depend upon their ambition, patriotism and pride to develop and spread the desired principles amongst our people.

This is the age of young and vigorous men, the older generation cannot or will not keep pace with the times. Let us push our young men forward and encourage them in their advance, for on them depends the future greatness of our race. Let us unite and bring forward young men to represent us in all positions of public importance—young men of studious habits, young men with reasonable ambition, and young men who can stand up and speak for our race and defend in a manner that will reflect credit upon us.

A bill which has been introduced into the New York Legislature to make the act of "treating" illegal, should be made law, if only as an experiment. If it should pass the legislature its workings will be watched with great interest by every section of the country, for the "treating" habit, if not exactly pernicious in all its bearings, is without doubt productive of many lamentable results. The habit of "treating" our friends and being daily "treated" by them in return is widespread throughout this country and results in the consumption of a considerably larger quantity of intoxicating liquors than either party to the arrangement figures on in advance.

Were every man by law compelled to pay out of his own pocket for every glass of whiskey which is handed to him over a bar, the drinks wouldn't come nearly so fast and fewer men would become victims to the alcoholic habit. The experiment is worth trying, as everything which tends to discourage unnecessary consumption of spirits and decrease the number of physical and mental wrecks resulting from over-indulgence is most commendable and worthy of the support of all true lovers of mankind.

Amongst pen pictures of prominent citizens there appears in a recent issue of the Toronto Mail and Empire a highly interesting sketch of the career of Mr. J. J. Foy, Q.C., of that city.

Mr. Foy is one of the Queen City's foremost lawyers, a gentleman of broad views, sound opinions, and sterling character, who has won the universal respect of his fellow citizens. Mr. Foy, who is a Roman Catholic, was educated at St. Michael's College, Toronto, and is a strict adherent to the faith of his fathers.

A New York paper tells of a head porter in one of the big hotels of that city who pays \$5 000 per annum for the privilege of holding his position. He has a staff of assistants, whom he pays, and is said to be rapidly growing wealthy. His sole revenue is derived from "tips" received from the travelling public.

This gives one an idea of the extent to which the tipping habit is carried in this country. It has reached such a stage that barbers, waiters, porters, etc., consider that they are being defrauded if one neglects to "tip" them for every service rendered. In fact, the "tip" is depended upon and reckoned as an essential part of their revenue. With some of them the salary received from their employer is looked upon as a nominal allowance which comes in handy as pocket money.

Without discussing the right of man to inflict capital punishment, or the merits of any particular case, I cannot refrain from commenting on a statement which I read in a paper not very long ago, to the effect that a death sentence had been commuted, owing to the murderer's ill-health.

When a man who has been sentenced to suffer the extreme penalty of the law becomes ill in the interval, is that any reason why the hanging should not go on? Is it more cruel to execute a man suffering from bodily ailments than it is to legally take the life of one who is physically perfect? To my mind the reverse is the case.

I would roughly estimate that the sumptuous banquet tendered by the Mayor last week in the St. James Club, when eloquence and wine flowed serenely and in peaceful plenty, must have cost His Worship not less than \$2 500. Times are hard with most people, and this

amount of money would feed a lot of hungry people, but we should not begrudge the Mayor his widespread glory and prestige nor his guests their pleasure, for His Worship is never backward in assisting any really creditable undertaking.

At the banquet loyal and witty things were said in a patriotic and happy manner, by clever and eloquent men, who enjoyed a well-deserved relaxation. Besides, the occasion must have proved of great practical benefit to a number of people whose names did not appear on the list of guests.

The snow was slow in coming, but when it did come there was lots of it. The clerk of the weather had evidently been storing a stock of the beautiful up for our special benefit, as he sent us a large consignment to lighten the hearts and gladden the eyes of everyone who does not own Street Railway stock.

The average Montrealer is not happy during the winter months unless he has plenty of snow to gaze at and wade through, and the sound of merry sleigh bells jingle in his ears.

That a goodly portion of this fair Dominion is undeveloped and remote is forcibly recalled to our minds when we read in the daily papers of a dog-train starting from Winnipeg to carry the mail to our isolated brethren in frigid Northern Canada.

Early in July next a hundred years shall have elapsed since the death of Edmund Burke.

The centenary celebration of the departure of this great Irishman, orator, statesman and author, from the terrestrial sphere will, from all accounts, be duly honored by an appreciative and edified posterity.

Edmund Burke was a man of surpassing ability and irreproachable character. His orations and writings have left an indelible impression on the world for the world's good, while his private life is unmarked by a single blemish or weakness.

Particularly it is meet that the people of the United States should do honor to the memory of this great Irishman, who so eloquently and fearlessly espoused the cause of their fathers in the British Parliament during the historic days of the American Revolution.

Canada is showing the proper spirit in liberally subscribing towards the relief of the plague-stricken people of India. God forbid that they will ever be called upon to return the charity.

During the past year Colorado produced over \$17,000,000 worth of gold. Colorado being such a strong "silver" state, some people believe that the white metal is the principal product of the mines. This is a mistake.

WALTER R.

Note and Comment.

In spite of her being a descendant of those Princes of Orange who were among the foremost champions of the so-called Reformation, the young Queen of Holland is showing an immense amount of consideration to the Catholic element in her dominions, and has just conferred the Cross of the Lion of the Netherlands upon the Mother Superior of the Sisters of Mercy at Tilburg, this being the first occasion on which this decoration has been conferred upon a woman.

Insolvency legislation presents much difficulty to law makers in England as well as in Canada. Our Canadian legislators wiped the insolvency laws from the books completely some years since, owing to the many abuses which crept into its administration, thus leaving the distribution of bankrupt estates to provincial officers under provincial enactments which entailed lack of uniformity. Our wholesalers soon found the inconvenience, not to speak of the loss to creditors, and in consequence boards of trade have been agitating the placing of a Dominion insolvency act in force again, but without avail in so far as the late government was concerned. However, the Montreal Board of Trade have recently addressed a memorial to the Hon. Premier to the same effect, which, it is to be hoped, may have some result. At present the law provides no machinery for the discharge of honest debtors and it is time that the want should be filled.

Rev. M. J. Lavelle, of New York, has been named as successor of Rev. Dr. Conaty to the presidency of the Catholic Summer School. Rev. Father Lavelle is one of the best-known clergymen in the country. He is a present the rector of St. Patrick's Cathedral, New York.

It is not often, says the Boston Republic, that a priest who says Mass is served as altar boy by his own son; but that event took place down at New Orleans when Rev. Nelson Ayres, lately ordained, celebrated his first Mass. Father Ayres was formerly an Episcopal minister, and as such married. His first sermon, by the way, which was listened to by a crowded audience, was practically the story of his conversion, and, according to the New Orleans papers, it made a profound impression on those who listened to it.

Besides a Postmistress, a woman physician and a woman stage driver, the town of Lowell, Me., rejoices in a woman Justice of the Peace. Mrs. Louisa J. Cabell, who, "at the residence of S. M. Cabell," lately joined in matrimony Flora Horton of that place and Gilbert S. Perry of Winn. It is stated that this was the first marriage ceremony performed by a woman in Penobscot county.

"Last Saturday," says the Rev. Dr. Henry M. Field in "The Evangelist" (Presbyterian), "Dr. Cuyler celebrated his seventy-fifth birthday, and he told me that of all the friends that came to give him their congratulations the very first was Father Sylvester Malone, who has been a priest and pastor in Brooklyn for more than fifty years. Our readers

may remember the honors that were paid to him by Protestants as well as Catholics at the completion of that long career of usefulness. Brooklyn is the city of churches, and famed for its eloquent preachers and devoted pastors, but he would be a bold man who should set him up as either in his faithful ness or in public respect, above Father Malone." This appreciation of a Catholic clergyman, coming from a Protestant minister, is a lesson which some people—pro-fessed Catholics—in the Province of Quebec might learn with great benefit to themselves.

Notes once worth \$25,000 were burned recently on the altar of St. Mary Star of the Sea Church, Baltimore, Md., after High Mass, by the pastor, Rev. J. T. Whelan. The fire meant that just that amount of money had been paid on the church debt within the past year, and the notes cancelled by hard cash that had been raised in the parish. As the papers were being reduced to ashes in the center, Father Whelan, in his characteristic manner, said: "If we could only have another fire like this the church would be free from debt."

It is said that Archbishop Hennessy, of Dubuque, has fallen heir to property estimated at \$1,000,000 by the will of the late David J. Hennessy, his brother.

The prelate's brother, whose death occurred a few weeks ago at the archiepiscopal residence in Dubuque, was a native of Ireland and about 51 years old. He came to America when a youth and to Dubuque in 1865, the year of Archbishop Hennessy's consecration. In 1880 he returned to St. Paul, where he acquired extensive interests in real estate, but he visited Dubuque periodically and apparently continued to regard that city as his home.

At last the inevitable has occurred. The "new man" has arrived on the scene. He is Harry Crain, of Lawrence, Ky. On St. Valentine's day the "new man" will give a dinner to the fifty-two widows of his town and this dinner will be prepared by himself, and it is said that at this dinner Crain will close a bride. Two years ago Mr. Crain took the prize at the fair for the best eck and last year got the prize for the best vinegar, and since then he has received 12 offers of marriage from six or eight "new women" in different parts of Kentucky.

United Ireland says:—A distinguished and valued member of the Society of Jesus has been removed by the death of the Rev. Henry Hartford, who died on Sunday week in his sixtieth year, after a long illness. Brought up a Protestant, he was received into the Catholic Church before he was out of his teens, and entered the Society of Jesus in the Belgian province in 1858. After teaching rhetoric and philosophy in Louvain, and other of the society's colleges on the continent, he was for twelve years on the Canadian mission, and returning with impaired health, served missions at Liverpool, Acrrington, and Preston, afterwards teaching ethics at Stonyhurst, and for the last two years acting as second priest at Lowe House, St. Helens. He was a fine linguist, speaking most Continental languages and also Hindustani, with fluency, and he was also an effective preacher.

The Toronto Milk Dealers' Association have presented to the Toronto City Council a resolution passed by their august body, demanding the enactment of a by-law prohibiting the distribution of milk on Sundays. Why not appeal to the cattle to withhold the supply on the Sabbath?

As a means of bringing our people more together it has been suggested that an establishment on the lines of the Y. M. C. A.—an admirable institution by the way—should be founded here, where our young men could profitably spend the leisure hours in reading, study or recreation, and the premises formerly occupied by the Ladies of the Sacred Heart, corner of St. Catherine and Bloor Streets, are admirably suited for the purpose, being so central. Let a joint stock company be formed to run the institution in a business like way. In this company the different I. C. Societies might take stock, and I am sure that the priests would be only too glad to direct the educational and social features. The idea is the one for what it is worth—for the discussion of it.

It has been urged as an argument in favor of higher education for our Irish Catholic youths, that it would enable them to enter the professions. A study of the reports of cases in our courts is not encouraging to prospective lawyers for instance, as our people seem to patronize those of every nationality but their own.

The Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals is doing good work in prosecuting the ruffians who ill-treat horses on our streets, and the Magistrates are strengthening their hands by imposing heavy penalties on the culprits.

Hon. Israel Tarte, the storm petrel—who "loves the storm," according to his own declaration—is seriously ill. Not too ill, however, to figure in all sorts of feasts and functions, possibly wishing to wallow in storms of applause of those who approve of his defiance of the Episcopate in regard to the Manitoba school settlement—so called.

A coal deposit has been discovered by Mr. Joseph Hardy, M.E., in the Railway Belt, about four miles from Wellington, B.C. The outcrop shows a seam about five feet. The discovery is of vast importance to the mining industries of the sister province.

Cardinal Gibbons is sending a copy of his latest book, "The Ambassador of Christ," to the Pope. The volume is bound in white calf, with solid gold edges, and is lined with moire silk. A golden inscription on the front cover announces its donation by its eminent author to Leo XIII., and the book is encased in a white silk case that bears in gold the Pope's coat of arms.

The C.P.R. are extending branch lines in all directions in British Columbia—and all their works are of a permanent

nature. Is it not about time that they should replace the wooden trestles approaching the Windsor D. by a permanent "trestle"? The present wooden structure is very ugly, and some suggest perhaps dangerous.

There are now four Irish physicians practicing in Montreal—all graduates of McGill University.

An excellent Irish gentleman named Mahaffy, discussing the taxation of Ireland, has discovered that the duties on the consumption of liquor and tobacco amount to about four millions of pounds every year, and suggests that if Irishmen stop smoking and drinking it will not be necessary for a tax reform, as the amount of the overtaxation will then be more than made up by the loss of revenue to the Government. Commenting on this statement the Manchester Guardian says:—"This is very true, and a counsel of great perfection for Irishmen, but is it the answer that Great Britain would care to give to the present Irish complaint? If so, in Great Britain were ourselves a commonwealth of ascetics, if we did not pay twenty-six millions a year in duties on tobacco, we might possibly have the face to tell Irishmen that they ought to drink no more and smoke no more, and that then they would have nothing to grumble at. As it is, each inhabitant of Great Britain drinks on the average nearly as much spirits, twice as much beer, and one and a half times as much wine as each inhabitant of Ireland, and smokes each tobacco into the bargain. And that is not the only weak point in our position. Our own men are turning towards beer and that of Irishmen towards wine spirits, we have frantically taxed the alcohol in spirits more than five times as heavily as the alcohol in beer. Mr. Mahaffy as an Irishman and as a taxpayer is perfectly right, but he is privileged not to be an Englishman who has the pupil and the teacher in Ireland, and the honesty of the suggestion would hardly be held guilty of error. Among other things in both countries, we have taxes on the importation and interprovincial use of alcohol. Englishmen, having the power, have more those taxes heavier for Irishmen than for themselves, by discriminating in favour of the drink a non-Englishman like most and against the drink a non-Irishman like most. It is not declared by a thoroughly competent body of experts that, taking all taxes together, drink taxes and others, Irishmen are heavily over-taxed. Really, we cannot think so meaningfully of Englishmen as to believe that any large number of them would stand up and tell Irishmen that the only redress for an oppressive system of taxation in Ireland is to be found in the practice by Irishmen of a habit of self-denial which the revenue returns show that Englishmen are unable or unwilling to practice themselves.

C. J. H.

THE BISHOP OF LIMERICK Offers a Suggestion in regard to the Establishment of an Irish Catholic University. The following admirable letter from the Most Reverend the Bishop of Limerick appeared recently in the Times:—"I would if there is any chance that Ministers will advise her most gracious Majesty the Queen to grant next year's celebration of her 'diamond jubilee' in Ireland by combining the work of Catholic emancipation. At the present time, our Irish Catholics suffer a grievous disability in education on account of our religious restrictions. We cannot consistently with our conscientious duty accept the privileges which exist in Ireland, and consequently we have to bear the penalties of an incomplete and inferior education. We regard this state of things as a grievance; nor do we admit, as some persons affirm, that we have only ourselves to blame. The universities that are open to people only on the condition of renouncing their religious faith, and their conscientious convictions are practically closed, and therefore we feel that, as things now stand, we are on a footing lower than that of our fellow countrymen, and are being punished in the severest way for being Catholics, and being true to our principles. Within the past few months you have had two striking declarations upon the subject—one from the Catholic lay, without distinction of political party; the other, last October, from the Catholic Bishops, with the Cardinal Archbishop at their head. I ask you, Sir, is it right to allow these pronouncements to go unheeded? If you look to them you will see the explanation of a good deal of Irish discontent. They are both the renewal of declarations published over 25 years ago, and in reference to a question which was made a Cabinet measure so long ago as the year 1873. In the meantime practically nothing has been done. Generation after generation of young Catholic Irishmen has grown up and gone into the world with all the disadvantages of a half education, which in many respects is worse than ignorance. And in the meantime English statesmen have gone on admitting our grievance, and from year to year promising, or seeming to promise to redress it. If they told us fairly and squarely that we had no grievance, one could understand their position. If they took up the bit of an answer and said you must fit our Protestant boot on your Catholic foot, or go barefooted, we should know where

THE PRESS.

Truth left the starlight for the moon, Man's voice rose to bless; And Liberty and Law were born When came to earth the Press. The ridge from out the shadow grew, And all the world was bright, When dawning Pro-Phet found the true Increase of living light.

THE PRESS.

As armies marching to the noon The moving types rolled on; And left behind one common bond, The light of ages gone.

Tapors poured in darkness, crime, and grief, When'er the engine swayed, Fell in their weakness, and the mill Of words bright, proud, scarce made.

The mind stood out as stars that ring In eyelids down the blue; This race for right and wrong, The words that a world to rue.

Palisades of a breathing world, It control'd day by day, A Roman with his gladius pointed, The most honest of all ways.

At last high through its own might, Freedom was over the world, Freedom was over the world, Freedom was over the world, Freedom was over the world.

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we were; or if they said openly that Catholics had no right to equality of treatment with Protestants we could understand that too. But to be told that we are badly treated, that we have no relief, and then, when we appeal to the intellectual and moral and even material loss to our nation which that grievance implies, and its irreparable use for the sake of our experience it one can hardly be expected to expect an ex-quisite courtesy that the Minister who is responsible for his position or later to deal with it.

Now a unanimous petition has gone forth from practically all Ireland, by an clerical, asking that at last justice might be done to us, and the doors of higher knowledge and education open to our people. Would it not be a splendid monument of a nation, the brains and the virtues of which we Irishmen, little as the sun of Royal favor has shone upon our land, are not slow to admire, if while the subjects of the Crown in England and Scotland were commemorating the richness of all prosperity with which it has been associated for them, we in Ireland found its unique and happy prolongation marked by a growing act of justice, which would make all Irishmen, in fact, equal before the law, and open to the rising generation of them the higher ways of life, to which knowledge alone leads?

I will add but one other remark. If this question were left to Irishmen, we would settle it in 18 hours, not by a mere Catholic majority, but with the practically unanimous action of the whole people. A few families might raise their objections, and but for my belief that we should have with us all that was best and most enlightened in Protestantism.

I have the honor to be, Sir, your obedient servant, S. M. O'Connell, Esq., M.P., for the Protestant Church, when I think I may reasonably regard as a representative of the whole people, and they assure me that they would look upon the suggestion of an Irish Catholic University with positive sympathy.

It is not hard, then, that the people of the English Parliament should be unable to feel the pulse of the Irish people, and feeling, perhaps a compassion, which three-fourths of the nation would not have felt, and which, if they were not so good, would not probably have been positively stated.

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25 dozen White Cotton Chemises, trimmed with lace, selling price during January Sale, 12 1/2 each.

25 dozen Ladies' White Cambric Chemises, trimmed with lace, full size, full sleeves, and well made, January Sale price, 12 1/2 each.

Ladies' Cambric Chemises, prettily trimmed, cut and made, and nicely finished, January Sale price, 2 1/2 each.

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AT JANUARY SALE PRICES.

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120 dozen Ladies' Cambric Corset Covers, pointed shape, and trimmed embroidery, January Sale price, 12c each.

25 dozen Ladies' Cambric Corset Covers, prettily trimmed with embroidery, January Sale price, 2 1/2 each.

32 dozen Ladies' Fine Cambric Corset Covers, square cut, back and front, richly trimmed with embroidery, January Cheap Sale price, 4c each.

Ladies' Whitewear

AT JANUARY SALE PRICES.

50 dozen Ladies' White Cotton Drawers, well finished, January Sale price, 12 1/2 pair.

50 dozen Ladies' Cambric Drawers, tucked and trimmed with lace edging, January Sale price, 12c pair.

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200 dozen Ladies' White Cambric Night Dresses, tucked yoke and beautifully trimmed with lace, our January Sale price, 5 1/2.

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AT JANUARY SALE PRICES.

50 dozen Ladies' Wool Hose, good winter weight, all sizes, regular value, 20c pair, January Sale price, 12c pair.

20 dozen Ladies' Black Cotton Hose, regular size, winter weight, good and warm, regular value, 25c pair, our January Sale price, 12c pair.

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Ladies' Winter Underwear, 15c. Ladies' Natural Wool Vests, 20c. Ladies' Colored Wool Vests, 34c. Ladies' Colored Wool Vests, 45c.

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20 only Black Persian Lamb Storm Collars, extra high, fine finish, regular value, \$5; our January Sale price, \$3.30.

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135 pairs Ladies' Fine Kid Boots, soft and flexible Kid, turned soles, plain vamp, buttoned, worth \$2.25 to \$2.50 pair; our January Sale price, \$1.58.

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170 pairs Best Quality Ladies' Rubbers, latest pointed toes, all sizes, worth 45c pair; January Sale price, 25c pair.

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95 pairs Ladies' Cloth Gaiters, reinforced leather understraps, long ankles, regular value, 35c pair; January Sale price, 21c pair.

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