

TEMPERANCE

ADDRESS OF THE MANAGING COMMITTEE OF THE CATHOLIC TOTAL ABSTINENCE SOCIETY OF TORONTO, TO THE REV. FATHER CHINQUI.

Toronto, June 18th, 1850.

Rev. Sir, We, the Managing Committee of the Catholic Total Abstinence Society of Toronto, having heard of your arrival in this city, hasten to present to you our congratulations on the success which has crowned your labours, for the extension of temperance in the eastern division of this Province.

We know well how numerous the obstacles, and how almost insurmountable the barriers to the progress of this reformation, particularly in Canada. We, therefore, the more highly value your exertions, and the more heartily rejoice at your success.

We should be disposed to envy our more fortunate neighbours, whose district is the happy theatre of your philanthropic and truly Christian labours, did we not confidently hope, that God, in his merciful providence, will, ere long, send an Angel of Peace through this western country, to awake the torpid sensibilities of those who, long dead alike to the calls of religion and the appeals of their unfortunate offspring, still continue to outrage the laws of God, and bring disgrace and scandal on the name and character of Christian and of Catholic.

Proceed, Reverend Father, in your work of mercy. You are aided even here below by the prayers, the hopes, the fondest wishes of every feeling heart; and may you long witness, in the improved social position of your people, a bright foredawn of their happiness in the life to come.

Signed on behalf of Committee,

JOHN HAYES, President.

REPLY.

GENTLEMEN,—It is with deep and unfeigned gratitude, I receive the expression of your sentiments regarding the blessings which it hath pleased Heaven to pour upon my humble labours.

It is true, gentlemen, that the Almighty has, through the instrumentality of the Temperance Society, shed His divine mercies on your brethren of French origin, who inhabit Canada East. But you will readily understand that I have less merit than you are kindly disposed to ascribe to me, in this work of social regeneration, when I inform you, that the Canadian Catholic Clergy, in a body, have offered on the altar of their country and their religion, the sacrifice of all intoxicating liquor, in order to obtain from heaven the conversion of the intemperate. The admirable spectacle of upwards of 300 priests, united to their venerable Bishops, making publicly the sacrifice demanded by the Temperance Society, has, you may well conceive, done much more than all my feeble though zealous appeals could do, towards inviting the good people of Canada to rally themselves under the holy banner of Temperance.

Besides, whilst I was labouring in the midst of my fellow-countrymen, a voice arose to Heaven, from the bosom of Ireland, to give me that strength of which I was deficient, and without which it would have been impossible to overthrow the innumerable obstacles which Satan every where threw in the way, to retard and arrest the progress of Temperance. This voice sprung from the modern Moses of Ireland, the Rev. Father Mathew, who, eight years ago, promised me that he would offer up to God the homage of his daily fervent prayers, in my behalf.

Irish Catholics! since three hundred years you have nobly fought the good fight of the Lord. Never did the sun shine on a people more generous and devoted amidst trials, or more faithful to their God, than the Irish people. Since three hundred years the axe and the scourge of your persecutors have smote you, but never have they been able for an instant, to weaken your Faith. You have astonished the impious, as much as you have comforted the Church. You have wearied, exhausted, nay, almost disarmed your tyrants, by your invincible constancy. But if ever your hearts have been beaten with a holy joy, if ever you could yield to sentiments of a noble pride, it is especially since your brows, already crowned by the Angel of Martyrdom, have been also crowned by the Angel of Temperance.

Heaven had made use of the children of St. Patrick, to show how the enemies of our Faith were to be combated and conquered. It was but just it should also resort to you, to teach the world how to overthrow the hydra of intemperance.

I will, therefore, tell you with sincerity and gratitude, that the five millions of Irishmen who have pledged themselves to Temperance, and whose sublime effort has wrung from the whole world a prolonged shout of admiration, and made Heaven re-echo with canticles of joy—have done more than any thing else in this world, for the advancement of the great and holy work of Temperance.

You tell me, that you hope that Heaven will send you one of his Angels to help you to struggle against the Demon of Drunkenness, the ravages of which make the catholic religion blush and weep, in this district.

Your prayers shall be granted. The Angel of Peace and Benedictions, whom you exhort, will soon be among you, and with the blessings of God, and the help of the zealous clergy of this vast diocese, he will sustain the weak, encourage the strong, comfort the afflicted, reclaim the sinner, and shed around the balm of sacerdotal virtues, and the light of the true faith.

My Lord de Charbonnel, who was, in the last month, consecrated at Rome, Bishop of Toronto, is, himself, one of the first of the clergy of Montreal, who joined the Temperance Society. He will, I am very sure, be happy to find his good, fine city of Toronto already formed in array of battle, and will fight

at its head against the enemy of all good—intemperance; and under the eye, and with the example, before you of such a chief, there is no doubt but that infamous vice, which has so dishonoured religion in our country, and has retarded its progress, will disappear. Then Temperance, and with it, all the other virtues, will abide with you; then will our holy religion be resplendent with all her glory—it will be respected and beloved—God will be blessed, and reign abundantly in our hearts.

G. CHINQUI, Pte.

FATHER MATHEW.

The Apostle of Temperance has addressed a letter to the New York Truth Teller, from Hot Springs, State of Arkansas, which we subjoin:—

"I find that the number to whom I have administered the total abstinence pledge in America, amounts to over Three Hundred Thousand persons. It was my intention to have visited the Indian Settlements; but I shall be obliged to postpone this gratification, until the ensuing spring, in consequence of the lowness of the river. After remaining a fortnight longer at the Springs, I shall resume my mission, by continuing my course up the Mississippi, visiting Memphis, St. Louis, Louisville, Cincinnati, and the other cities of the Western States, and as it is recommended by my physicians, to pass that season in a mild climate, I propose visiting the other cities in the Southern States, in which I have not had already the happiness to administer the pledge. Next summer, God willing, I promise myself the pleasure of presenting my acknowledgments to you in person, and of concluding my Temperance Mission in New York, where it was commenced so auspiciously."

GATHERINGS.

IRELAND.

THE TENANT LEAGUE IN IRELAND.

(From the News of the World, London, Aug. 18.)

As Parliament was about to close its labors, an unwonted activity was remarkable amongst members of the House of Peers, who happen also to be large landed proprietors in Ireland. The result of that activity was the preparation and the immediate adoption of a number of Bills, having for their object the further protection of landed proprietors' claims in Ireland, and further means of coercing the tenants, if they resisted the demands made upon them by their landlords. In what spirit these Bills were proposed, passed, and sent down to the Commons, it will be sufficient to say of them, "that the estate of no landlord should, no matter how worthless it might be, or how much encumbered by debt, be sold, if there was not eleven years purchase of it." Its nominal rental was to decide its value, not its past liabilities, nor its intrinsic value. Such a Bill as this was most properly scouted out of the House of Commons by the Attorney-General. The second of these landlord Bills would have rendered every tenant in Ireland, if he presumed—no matter what the state of the season, or the peril of his crop—liable to twelve months' imprisonment and hard labor, if he ventured to reap his harvest on a Sunday, or dig out a potato between sun-set and sun-rise; and in the prosecution for such an offence! his judges were to be landlords—perhaps the landlord at whose instance the prosecution had been commenced. The reaping the crop, or the digging potatoes—the doing either of these acts, at either of the above prohibited periods, were to be the proofs from which were to be inferred by the tenant's prosecutor and judge, the landlord's bailiff and the landlord himself, that there was a fraudulent intention to deprive the landlord of the means of distraint. The criminal intention was to be deduced from an act of necessity—not as in other cases, where the criminal act is the proof of the criminal intention! This fitting piece of Irish landlord legislation was defeated by the patriotic opposition it encountered from Irish members, and at length the honor was conceded to the Lord Mayor of Dublin, of being permitted to move that the order for its being proceeded with, should be discharged.

Thus were the Irish landlords employing their time in the latter weeks of July, and the first week of August. Meanwhile the Irish tenants were not idle. One of the most remarkable meetings ever held in that country was taking place. It was what was called a conference of the tenantry, for the purpose of defining their rights, securing their property, and placing the occupation of land on such a basis, as to avoid for the future all disputes between those who pay rent to the owners for occupying and tilling, and making it produce what will pay the owner and themselves, giving to each a profit.

What this Tenant Conference has been doing, and what the reasons for that which they have done, is thus clearly and briefly set forth in the last number of the Nation newspaper. We mark in italics the principles laid down by the tenants; the observations attached belong to the editor of the paper from which the extract is made.

"Rents must be valued. For five famine years the landlords have massacred the people in extorting unjust rents. The savings of years, the necessities of life, were seized and confiscated. No human rights or human feeling stopped their path. There was but one adequate remedy—to have the rent fixed by sworn valuers, and to prevent the recovery by law of any sum higher than the valued rent. It is the practice of honest men at present; it must become the universal practice. The Conference have affirmed the principle, and the League must propagate and enforce it."

"The Tenant must not be disturbed in his possession as long as he pays the valued rent." The workhouses are choked with sweltering human victims. Farney or Kilrush is only a type of what Ireland is

destined to become, if we cannot stop the crowbar and the habere. It is the right of the tenant to take root in the soil as immovably as the landlord. All over Europe this right is in possession. The Conference have affirmed it for Ireland.

"The Tenant's Property in his improvements and his possession must be held sacred. He must be entitled to sell it like any other property. It is more valuable in the mass, and equally sacred with the landlord."

These are the principles on which it is declared by the Irish tenantry the future social system of Ireland must be based. It is on those principles they declare that the occupancy and profitable cultivation of the land should be carried on. Is there anything unreasonable in these demands? Is it improper that the value of the land should be ascertained, so that he who is the proprietor should be paid a good rent for it, and that he who pays the rent should have the means of living, and of deriving a profit from his labor, his time, and the capital which tends to make the soil more productive, and more able to pay rent?

The Irish tenantry, in making these demands, seek for no confiscation of property—they do not desire to deprive the landlords of their titles to their estates, nor of the profits which attach to those titles—they do not ask for that which the tillers of the land have gained by revolution in France, by a sudden change in Prussia, and have possessed from ancient times in most parts of Germany, Holland, Belgium, Norway, Denmark, Switzerland, the Tyrol, and North Italy, and where, to use the words of Mr. Kay, "the greatest part of the land belongs to the farmers and peasants, who cultivate it for themselves," and where "even the laborers in the small towns of these countries often possess, outside the towns, small gardens, or plots of land, to which they resort in the evenings, to cultivate them, or to carry away their produce for the use of their families." The Irish tenant does not ask for this—he merely asks that he shall pay a valued rent to the landlord, that as long as he pays that valued rent he shall not be liable to be removed from his farm, and that when he does remove, that he shall be paid for such improvements as he has effected in his farm; "he asks, in this last particular, for that which is the practice in the North of Ireland, and which has tended to its tranquility, in contradistinction to other parts of the same country."

These are the demands of the Irish tenantry, as enforced by their clergymen—by those who hitherto have been arrayed in hostility against each other—by the Presbyterian clergymen of the North and the Roman Catholic priests of the South. ALL are united in making these demands, and determined upon enforcing them.

MULLINAHONE TENANT PROTECTION SOCIETY.—The usual weekly meeting of this Society was held on Sunday. Mr. P. Mullally, Jamestown, in the chair.—The Rev. Mr. Cahill proposed that five members of the Society be appointed to collect information regarding the relations between the landlord and tenant on each property in the parish. He said they all looked forward with hope and confidence to the working of the Tenant League; but, at the same time, local societies should not neglect to use the weapons within their reach. They had tested the efficacy of localised public opinion in crushing the abominable system of competition, and they should continue to expose to the world the doings of the exterminating gentry who owned land in the parish. He would propose that the members appointed to inquire into the state of the different properties should begin with that worst managed of all, Cloona-goose. (Hear, hear.)—Mr. M. Mullally, Ballycullen, seconded the resolution. The collectors appointed on the last day of meeting gave the most cheering accounts of the willingness of the people to pay the penny in the pound rate for the support of the League.—The Secretary said he had (as directed by Committee) sent the petition against the Lords' Landlord and Tenant Bill to Mr. S. Crawford, M. P., and had requested Mr. Scully, M. P., to support it. He then read the replies of these gentlemen.

HARVEST PROSPECTS.—The alarm created by the reappearance of the potato disease has somewhat subsided, although the accounts from the country, generally speaking, are only a shade less desponding in tone than they were about the commencement of the month. At that period the people of Kerry, Clare, and other districts were under the apprehension the whole crop was attacked with a disease which would utterly destroy it in a couple of weeks. They now find that only particular descriptions are affected, and even these are not so seriously as to be rendered unfit for use. The "lumper," a kind of potato which escaped last year, appears to be now the most generally affected with the disease. Such, at all events, is the case in the metropolitan counties, but then, as it is considered the most prolific and healthy, so is it the favorite description with the humbler classes of cultivators. In all parts of the country the people are digging up the potatoes, and selling them at unprecedentedly low prices. On the whole—bearing in mind the fact that at present the blight has not fallen on probably more than a tenth of the entire crop—there are grounds for expressing a confident hope there will be, with the aid of Divine Providence, food enough in the country for all her inhabitants. Reaping of wheat is very general in the country of Dublin. To a passing observer the crop looks admirably well; but, with hardly an exception, the reapers tell you the crop is blighted to the extent of nearly one half.

THE CROPS—CO. KERRY.—The Rev. John Healy, P. P., Cahirciveen, writes to us regarding the failure of the potato crop in his locality, under date August 5th:—"I perceive by the public papers that very contradictory reports have gone abroad respecting the potato disease. As far as the part of the county of Kerry where I reside is concerned, there cannot be a particle of doubt regarding the failure of the crop; to a great extent. The disease began to develop itself in Cahirciveen parish as early as the 18th of June, and has continued to damage the potato gardens until the present day, when it is notorious to any traveller on the high-road, who does not, for purposes of his own, choose to close his eyes, that there is not left almost the appearance of a stalk on the ridges, that were so green and flourishing before the appearance of blight. In many instances the potatoes are turning black, and emitting, when boiled, an unpleasant steam, that ren-

der them unfit for human food. However, as far as I can judge by my own potatoes, the weather, which has been for the most part drier than last year, has prevented the progress of decay in some degree; though the potato has scarcely, if at all, increased in size after the leaves and stalks fell away. Potatoes, to be sure, are cheap; and the reason is, many (myself included) have commenced to dig them, in order to sow turnips, as, I fear, the former may get black and rot, as they did last year. If you think proper, you can quote me as authority for everything stated in this note, as all I have written is the result of my own observation, and cannot, I think, be contradicted."

COUNTY KILKENNY.—We have nothing new to add, except that considerable rain has fallen within the last week, and that the disease in the potato proceeds slowly, but unrelentingly. The most experienced here have now no hope for the crop. The wheat is fully one-third gone. Barley is good; so is oats; so is bere; and the same may be said of turnips. In a few places oats are being cut.—Kilkenny Journal.

CURIOSITY, IF TRUE.—The following is taken from the Galway Mercury;—A WOMAN BURNED BY THE POTATO BLIGHT.—The following fact, in connection with the potato blight, may throw some light on that mysterious subject. A woman named Mary O'Donoghue, aged 32, and from Oranmore electoral division of this union, was brought a few days ago on a car to the workhouse gate. She appeared to be suffering from acute pain; her hands and face presented the appearance of having been severely burned, as if they had been held over the flame of a strong fire. The skin was off, and the flesh corroded. In reply to questions put to her, she made the following statement:—She was employed by a man of the above-named division to weed potatoes, and was at work about 1 o'clock, p. m., on Friday, the 18th instant, in her perfect health, when a sudden blast of burning air came over her, and she was thrown back. She felt as if a quantity of pungent snuff had entered her nostrils. She recovered in a few minutes, and found her hands and face scorched in the manner described. She also stated that the stalks of the potatoes where she was at work were burned to a cinder, and the tubers made soft and black. It is thought the parts of the poor woman's body which are affected by the blast will mortify.

THE LEINSTER ESTATES.—A report having been circulated through the medium of some of the public journals, to the effect that there were on the property of his Grace the Duke of Leinster 10,000 acres of land unlet, it is conceived that such a report may act to the injury of the agricultural classes. We have, therefore, been requested to state that the above report is altogether erroneous, and that the quantity of land unlet upon his Grace's estates only amounts to the proportion of about one acre for every thirty which are occupied.—Saunders.

THE REVENUE OF IRELAND.—The net produce of the revenue of Ireland, paid into the Exchequer in the year ended the 5th January, 1850, was 4,332,460l.—viz., customs, 1,941,122l.; excise, 1,231,548l.; stamps, 502,073l.; Post Office, 26,000l.; miscellaneous, including repayment of advances, 631,717l. The total expenditure for the same period was 4,071,663l. 6s. 1d. The excise collections in the four principal towns were as follows:—Dublin, 335,733l.; Cork, 204,286l.; Belfast, 192,643l.; Drogheda, 164,618l. The total quantity of wine imported within the year was 554,662 gallons; spirits, 7,228,509; tobacco, 4,737,267 lbs.; tea, 6,383,316 lbs.; coffee, 1,013,390 lbs.; sugar, 465,813 cwt.; flax, 203,832 bushels. The total quantity of butter exported to foreign parts was 22,630 cwt.; spirits (Irish), 58,680; linen, 342,620 yards; and cotton manufactures, 596,082. The exports to England were—oxen, bulls, and cows, 201,811; calves, 9,831; sheep, 241,061; swine, 68,058; wheat and wheaten flour, 249,489 quarters; oats and oatmeal, 1,077,364.

THE VACANT REPRESENTATIVE PEERAGE.—We have authority for stating that Lord Dunsany intends entering himself as a candidate for the Irish representative peerage, vacant by the death of the late Earl of Dunraven.—Dublin Evening Herald.

THE SYNOD OF ROMAN CATHOLIC BISHOPS.—The Tipperary Visitor announces, "on the best authority," that the National Synod has been adjourned from the 15th to the 22nd of August. It is gossiped about that the new Primate comes armed with pontifical powers to re-institute a whole legion of "fasts," which had been dispensed with by former Popes, and that a certain number of holidays are to be added to the long list already observed by the Roman Catholics of this country. These rumored "reforms," do not appear to have been very favorably received.

TRINITY COLLEGE MUSEUM.—A haddock, of the unexampled weight of 17½ lbs., was taken in the bay a few days since. This fine fish was obtained for the collection in the University Museum. The largest recorded haddock in London was only 14 lbs.

ENGLAND.

DEATH OF THE VICE-CHANCELLOR OF ENGLAND.—The Right Hon. Sir Launcelot Shadwell, Vice-Chancellor of England, expired on Sunday morning at his residence, Barn Elms, Putney. The event was hourly expected from Friday afternoon, when the symptoms of the paralytic attack under which he labored for the last month, became painfully alarming. Mr. Page Wood is mentioned as likely to succeed the late Sir Launcelot Shadwell, it being understood that the Attorney-General will not accept the office.—Weekly Chronicle.

END OF THE GORHAM CASE.—On Sunday last the Rev. G. C. Gorham was inducted to the living of Bramford Speke. The Rev. Mr. Howard, of St. Thomas, near this city, officiated on the occasion, in the place of Archdeacon Moore Stevens. The rev. gentleman preached an excellent sermon to a numerous congregation.—Devonshire paper.

A correspondence has passed between the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Committee of "the Metropolitan Church Union," relative to the address drawn up by that body, praying him to institute Mr. Gorham. His Grace declines to receive the address, for the short reason that it calls upon him to disobey a judgment which has the authority of the law of the land. The Committee reply that the judgment is wrong. He rejoins that he is by no means convinced that it is not right.—Guardian.

SUNDAY POSTAGE.—The Commissioners have this day reported in favor of restoring a delivery of letters and newspapers on Sunday, and have offered various suggestions for the mitigation of the slight amount of Sunday labor in the Post-office, so that every opportunity may be afforded post masters and their assistants of attending Divine worship on alternate Sundays.—Globe.