

THE TRUE WITNESS

IS PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY

The Post Printing & Publishing Co.,

AT THEIR OFFICES:

761 CRAIG ST., Montreal, Canada.

Subscription, per annum, \$1.50 if paid strictly in advance.

TO ADVERTISERS.

A limited number of advertisements of approved character will be inserted in 'THE TRUE WITNESS' at 10c per line (single) first insertion.

The large and increasing circulation of 'THE TRUE WITNESS' makes it the very best advertising medium in Canada.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.

Subscribers in the country should always give the name of their Post Office. Those who remove should give the name of the old as well as the new Post Office.

Remittances can be safely made by Registered Letter or Post Office Order. All remittances will be acknowledged by changing the date on the address label attached to paper.

Sample copies sent free on application. Parties wishing to become subscribers can do so through any responsible news agent, when there is none of our agents in their locality.

The Post Printing & Publishing Co.

NO DISCOUNT FROM THE REGULAR SUBSCRIPTION PRICE OF \$1.50 PER ANNUM WILL BE ALLOWED IN ANY CASE EXCEPT WHEN PAYMENT IS MADE ABSOLUTELY IN ADVANCE, OR WITHIN 30 DAYS OF COMMENCEMENT OF SUBSCRIPTION.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12, 1887

'THE MAIL' says:—"In France the idea as to the sacredness of the French language is apparently undergoing a revolution. English is now taught in the French schools, and public money is even appropriated for the purpose of sending classes of young men into England to learn the language."

They are sorely distressed because, as they allege, the Liberal party of the Dominion is held in friendly regard by the Catholic Church. The denunciations of what they are pleased to style "the alliance of Liberalism with a regression" are something fearful. But it is not very singular that these same organs never say anything wrong when confessions are made and support the Tory party.

'The Mail' indulges in this confession:—"The sharp curves which the political newspaper, if it is an organ, is frequently compelled to traverse are not its own contrivance; as an organ it must watch the party leader or his chosen agents, and follow where they show the way."

The Nation objects to the official recognition of diplomatic relations between the English Government and the Holy See. It states that it has always been the object of no Irish episcopate and people alike to frustrate any scheme having for its object the accomplishment of the desire, on the ground that the sole motive of the proposition is to hamper the priests and people of Ireland in their political action.

THE FEDERAL ELECTIONS.

From all trustworthy sources there comes information which leaves no doubt that it is the intention of the Government to immediately dissolve Parliament, and the proclamation of His Excellency declaring it at an early date

looked for at any moment. The Government apparently has the hope that by suddenly springing the elections on the people it may steal a verdict. However convinced we may be that it will find itself seriously in error, still we must urge on the electors in every direction to choose their candidates without delay.

THE PROTESTANT CRY.

Gradually the Tory press is falling into line with the Tory press in advocacy of the No Popery programme. The Hamilton Spectator, London Free Press and other lesser organs of the party have already accepted it, and now comes the Pembroke Standard. That paper is published in a region where the Catholic vote is a considerable power, and is known as the personal organ of Mr. Peter White, M. P.

Be that as it may, it is plain that the Tories of Renfrew would never have permitted their home organ to publish the unexcused article were they not determined to defy the Catholics of the county and run the Dominion election on the Protestant cry. The article is as follows:—

The Mail's policy, judged by its immediate results, may seem naive, but it is honestly adopted by the Conservative party, and finally adhered to, it will in the end give them victory; and the success so won would be permanent. A nation and a dividing policy, one section of the party warring the other, a Roman Catholic vote, the other riding the Protestant horse and denouncing the encroachments of Rome, can lead to no other result than disaster and defeat.

SIR J. P. HENNESSY.

The exact reason for the suspension of Sir John Pope Hennessy is not clear. But it may safely be inferred that it has been for championing some who have been wronged and for taking the part of the weak against the strong. That has been one of his chief characteristics in the many posts of trust that he has held in various parts of the world.

'THE MAIL' AGAIN.

Shortly before his death the late Hon. George Brown made the remark that he "wished The Mail well," and on being asked why, answered, "because it is doing the Conservative party more harm than The Globe and will do more." Had Mr. Brown lived he would to-day see that he had spoken prophetically.

erect fidelity and zeal which in former times won for that paper the nickname of "ribsticker." It is more than probable that ere long the public will learn a few of the reasons which have prompted the management of The Mail to behave as it has. Those reasons will prove that there certainly is not always the proverbial honor among thieves which, it is said, ought to exist. But The Mail has, we think, overreached itself, and the ridiculous rignarole it published on Saturday is probably the signal for its early dissolution.

DECLINE OF CANADIAN SHIPPING.

The failure of the commercial and fiscal policy of the Federal Government is nowhere more strikingly shown than in the enormous decline of shipping in the Maritime Provinces. According to a Halifax despatch the number of vessels registered to date in Nova Scotia is 2,972, of a total tonnage of 827,037, a decrease compared with December 31st, 1885, of 59 vessels and 13,818 tons.

SIR JOHN'S REVENGE ON HON. PETER MITCHELL.

Having failed signally in Ontario, ministers have turned their attention to the Maritime Provinces, and are now on a stirring campaign tour in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. But their greatest efforts appear to have been devoted to Northumberland, the constituency represented by Hon. Peter Mitchell.

ENGLISH THEORIES AND IRISH LAND.

Several Irish landlords owning large estates have offered to sell out to their tenants on various terms. Thus we read that the Marquis of Bath has agreed to sell his Monaghan estates at 17 1/2 years' purchase on a basis of 17 1/2 per cent. reduction from the judicial rents, or at a reduction of 42 1/2 per cent. from non-judicial rents, provided payment be made in one year.

Ireland by a landlordry which finds its tenure not only unprofitable but precarious. The landlords want to sell because they know they cannot hold the land much longer, and the longer they hold it the less they will get. Doubtless the terms on which they are willing to sell are regulated by the charges for jointures, settlements, etc., put upon the land by the fathers of present holders.

Those who rail against the Irish for attacking the landlords' right to property in land, which they do not cultivate or improve, are probably not aware that the orthodox school of English political economists goes far beyond the Irish in declaring the natural right of ownership in the soil. According to Herbert Spencer the foundation of the right of property rests on the natural right of a man to the free exercise of his faculties, and therefore the results of his labor; but this can clearly give no right to exclude others from the use of the bounties of nature; hence the obvious inference is that the price which, as Ricardo and his disciples teach, is increasingly paid, as society progresses, for the use of the natural and original powers of the soil must belong by natural right to the human community as a whole; it can only be by usurpation that it has fallen into the hands of private individuals.

We make these extracts from Mr. Spencer's "social statics" in order to show how modest were the demands of the Irish tenants in comparison with the latest and most authoritative utterances of the foremost living English political economists. Indeed we might go further and show from the writings of Ricardo that the payment of rent is opposed to natural justice.

CHORUS OF VOICES.

Mr. Meredith—Will you repudiate The Mail? Mr. Meredith—Will you repudiate The Globe? Chorus of voices—No. Mr. Meredith—Well, I'm not bound by statements that are made by any paper.

There was a fair, square opportunity for the leader of the Ontario Tories to repudiate The Mail; but he evaded it, and left his hearers to draw his own conclusion, viz.: that he was willing to accept whatever support he might obtain through the No Popery howl, while afraid to lose anything by a manly, straightforward declaration one way or the other.

Mitchell is a historic figure, and where his talents and influence are acknowledged factors in politics and legislation. In the approaching Dominion elections it is the duty of Catholics everywhere to oppose the candidates of the Macdonaldite party. Not only on account of the deliberate attempt of that party to crush Mr. Mowat because he was friendly to Catholics, but also because of the criminal record of Sir John Macdonald and his followers.

Let the electors of Northumberland teach Sir John Macdonald that they are not to be used as instruments in his hands to chastise a man whose only offence is that he opposed the "No Popery" crusade of the Tory party.

NAME AND NATURE.

Ever since confederation the old Tory party has been looking for a new name. In order not to wound the sensibilities of those Liberal who joined in commencing the Union, Sir Charles Tupper gave it the name of "the Party of Union and Progress," but the abbreviation P.U.P. killed that with a laugh. Other names were tried, but all failed to take. At last it settled down to Liberal-Conservative, as a sort of compromise; a designation that meant anything or nothing.

But under all names and all circumstances it is the same old party, and has finally, by popular consent, secured a title by which it will be known in history—"The Boole's Party." Its conduct has proved that it has no claim to the name Conservative, and the willingness of its leaders to say and do anything from pitch and toss to high treason, in order to obtain votes and secure office, has disgusted respectable Conservatives.

To heal this deadly breach, the energies of the Macdonaldite press are now devoted. The Gazette, the Ottawa Citizen and other organs, which remained silent under the No Popery fire of The Mail in anticipation of the result in Ontario, are now trying with all their might to persuade the public that the chief organ did not and does not represent the views of the party led by Sir John Macdonald.

At Chatham, Sir John was asked, according to the reports, to repudiate the rancor and religion cry of The Mail, but he did not. In his speech on nomination day at London, Mr. Meredith disclaimed any sympathy with the religious cries recently raised, whereupon the following scene occurred:—

But how about the speeches of Messrs. McCarthy, White, Boulton and other Tories in Haldimand? Sir John has never repudiated them. They have never repudiated themselves, and they are still his trusted friends and henchmen. All the arguments in the world cannot alter these facts. They have been burned into the consciousness of the Catholics of Canada, and nothing can erase them.

But how about the speeches of Messrs. McCarthy, White, Boulton and other Tories in Haldimand? Sir John has never repudiated them. They have never repudiated themselves, and they are still his trusted friends and henchmen. All the arguments in the world cannot alter these facts. They have been burned into the consciousness of the Catholics of Canada, and nothing can erase them.

Government. They must come down to the hard pan of political discussion sooner or later, and the sooner the better. They can't avoid it, and the sooner the better. They can't avoid it, and the sooner the better. They can't avoid it, and the sooner the better.

DISSOLUTION.

Whatever may have been the reasons which impelled the Government to dissolve Parliament, the general sentiment of the country approves the step, and it is safe to add that it is the last act of the present ministry which the country ever will approve.

Undoubtedly this is the most momentous contest that has ever taken place, inasmuch as the people are called upon to pronounce condemnation or approval of the conduct of the ministry. Care should be taken by every man not to allow the true issues to be obscured by false cries or appeals to passion.

But the main point involved in the answer to be given by the electorate—the point which the future welfare of the country depends on—is—shall the iniquitous system of Macdonaldite immorality be permitted to continue? Everybody knows what that system is, what it has led to, and what it is likely to end in, if the people should unfortunately stamp it with approval in the coming election.

At Chatham, Sir John was asked, according to the reports, to repudiate the rancor and religion cry of The Mail, but he did not. In his speech on nomination day at London, Mr. Meredith disclaimed any sympathy with the religious cries recently raised, whereupon the following scene occurred:—

But there is a plain business aspect to the contest which every man who holds a share in the country ought to ponder carefully. He casts his vote. We are growing alongside of the greatest, most enterprising nation on the globe. To some extent we compete with its people in the development of independent nationality.

But how about the speeches of Messrs. McCarthy, White, Boulton and other Tories in Haldimand? Sir John has never repudiated them. They have never repudiated themselves, and they are still his trusted friends and henchmen. All the arguments in the world cannot alter these facts. They have been burned into the consciousness of the Catholics of Canada, and nothing can erase them.