

THE TRUE WITNESS

ND CATHOLIC CHRONICLE

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WEDNESDAY.....APRIL 9, 1890

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

WEDNESDAY, April 9, St. Mary Claspic.
THURSDAY, April 10, St. Paternus.
FRIDAY, April 11, St. Leo the Great.
SATURDAY, April 12, St. Julius.
SUNDAY, April 13, LOW Sunday.
MONDAY, April 14, St. Justus.
TUESDAY, April 15, St. Basilissa and Anastasia.

Anti-Catholic Politicians—Their Characters, Methods and Objects.

The growth of Catholicity in countries governed under free institutions is a great fact often commented on. Although certain fanatics assert that the Church is opposed to freedom, they are compelled to admit that wherever the people are free there the Church flourishes in a way that amazes them. They profess to be at a loss to account for this crushing practical contradiction to their pet theory. They could see the true reason, if they would only open their eyes; perhaps they do see it, but are too fixed in their bigotry to acknowledge so plain a fact.

The Church flourishes, humanly speaking, because she meets the wants of the people. High and low, rich and poor, proud and humble, wise and otherwise, can all find refuge and spiritual help within her all-embracing arms. Divinely speaking, the Church flourishes because she is the pillar and ground of truth, and free people left to themselves find this out for themselves and voluntarily enter her fold. While those born to her increase and multiply in all good things, on account of her absolute freedom in all blessings to them.

Protestants do not understand this, hence their mistake.

In this Dominion of Canada, as elsewhere, the Church has prospered exceedingly and the number of her children have gone on increasing till they have become a power in the State to which all governments must give attention.

This great fact of Catholic growth has alarmed the fanatics and all along the line a movement has been started with the avowed purpose of curtailing Catholic rights, depriving Catholics of their privileges, and, if possible, reducing legitimate Catholic influence in public life.

In Ontario and Manitoba particularly, an organized effort has been made to interfere with the privileges guaranteed to Catholics by the constitution. In Manitoba, Separate Schools have been abolished by Act of the Provincial Legislature, and in Ontario the Conservative Opposition, under the leadership of Mr. Meredith, has practically taken the same ground, although under specious pretences they only at present propose to cripple the Separate Schools.

Mr. Meredith is too clear-headed a man of the world to be a bigot, but he thinks that by arousing Protestant fears he will be able to out Mr. Mowat, who is accused of being friendly to the Catholics. Therefore, if ever a man and a party deserved to be ignominiously defeated, he and his party are so deserving.

But, whatever may be the local aspect of the movement against Catholics and the Catholic Church, it is plain to everybody that a great conflict is impending. We would rather it were not complicated by the question of nationality, but we must look the facts of the situation straight in the face.

Thus regarded they reveal a plain duty incumbent on all Catholics. It is to re-organize themselves on the side of their French co-religionists in resisting the efforts now being made to deprive them of their educational rights. The Church is struck at over the shoulders of the French, and Catholics of all nationalities are assailed in the same manner, by the same weapons, and by the same hands, that are now engaged in the movement to Angloise the French Canadians.

In Manitoba it was a so-called 'Liberal' Government that worked the No Popery cry to its advantage, and the inherent meanness of the scheme is apparent in the conduct of the man mainly responsible for it. Mr. Joseph Martin, for a young man, is a very astute personage. By raising the cry of abolishing Separate Schools and the French language he diverted attention from his real object. What that was is shown by the fact that two years ago he entered the Greenway ministry a penniless attorney who had just emerged from the position of a common school teacher in a village adjacent to Ottawa. A few days ago he retired from that government 'in the front rank of provincial capitalists.'

He made hay while the sun shone. While he set the people by the ears quarrelling over questions of religion and nationality, he, who was the glimmer of the eye nor a trace

of the other, filled his pockets by the most judicious methods he could devise, and retired in a blaze of gold and glory!

In Ontario the situation is much the same, but the men who have started the religious and nationality cry, care no more for either than they do for a situation with much work and no pay.

The real object of their crusade is to get hold of the revenues and resources of Ontario on the strength of Protestant prejudices. They think there is a chance of riding into power on the Protestant horse and they have taken the risk of a fall for the chance of success.

Should they unfortunately succeed, what a glorious old time they will have dispensing among themselves the spoils of the richest and heretofore best governed province in the Dominion!

It would not be long after they get there before Ontario would lose her proud distinction of being the only country in the world that has no public debt, whose resources are untouched and whose government is the most honest and economical that was ever known.

The men who are leading the assault on Catholicity are all Martins, and will do precisely as he has done if they can only succeed in fooling the Protestants into a belief that the Catholics should be checked because they are becoming strong by natural increase.

If ever common sense was needed by a people it is needed by the people of Ontario in the crisis created by designing and wholly unprincipled demagogues.

But, if the Liberal party will only stand true to themselves, they can prevent a change of government in Ontario, which, under the circumstances at hand, would be nothing short of a national calamity.

"Let Us Be Practical."

Some time ago, when Mr. Dalton McCarthy brought forward his anti-dual language resolution in the House of Commons, providing that English should alone prevail in the North-West Territories, and prefacing his little bill by a preamble calculated to insult and arouse the French Canadians of the Dominion, we ventured to predict that his course would more than likely produce results the very opposite of what he was seeking. We have not had to wait long to see our prophecy verified. Had the fanatical member for Simcoe allowed events to take their course it is quite possible that within a few years owing to the overwhelming English speaking population of the Territories the French language would have fallen into disuse not only in the legislature, but in the Courts of Justice as well. The process adopted by Mr. McCarthy has provoked, as we anticipated, the deepest feelings in the breasts of French Canada, and as a result, we have the press of our compatriots sounding the note of alarm, and calling upon all true patriots not to allow the North-West to pass into the hands of the English-speaking section of the community. Under the heading given above, "Let us be practical," *La Mitre* speaks in effect as follows: Certain agitators are waging war on our race in Ontario, Manitoba and the North-West. They are supported by the Greenway Government, that has not feared to lay sacrilegious hands upon our institutions, our schools and our language. They are aided and abetted by the North-West Council, where a resolution has been passed, praying for the suppression of the French language. This agitation has been nowhere sanctioned, by the people of the localities referred to. Had they been consulted at the last question, on those subjects, they might have had the wisdom to choose other representatives, more anxious to ensure public interests. The North-West has just been the scene of a disastrous civil war. Those who live there will be careful not to revive the smouldering embers. For a long time to come, the Territories will need the helping hand of the federal authorities, and the French Canadian vote in the Commons, has its say vetting the subsidies. Will the people of the North-West defy them? That is a question worthy of their serious meditation. Let things go as they may, our duty is clear. While acting with due deliberation, giving no pretext, whatever, to justify the fanatic, we cannot back down before menaces. We have not wounded the dearest sensibilities of any section of the community. We are on the defensive.

The resistance movement has already been inaugurated. The unanimity of the French vote at Ottawa, is a remarkable proof of it. In Manitoba *Rouges* and *Bleues* coalesced against the government that seeks to oppress our race. What is the principal reason alleged for the prosecution of our people? They say we are not numerous enough in Manitoba or the Territories, to justify our claim for maintaining the French language on a footing with the English. That is not only a poor, but a brutal reason, what would these francophobes say, were we to invoke the same reason, in the Province of Quebec. No doubt, it would be a crime to avenge our injustice by another. Our generosity shall always be a most noble revenge, as well as a lesson for the other Province. Whatever way may think of the argument, let us destroy its force with the least possible delay. Instead of emigrating to the United States let us go to the North West and fortify the branches of the National tree there. We need not fear to depopulate the Province of Quebec; French-Canadians will continue to increase and multiply here. We made a great mistake in not having directed our people earlier to those territories. Thirty years ago the far-seeing Mr. Rameau urged us to organize a regular current of emigration to the Red River territory, and to settle there every year a fixed number of families. His appeal ought to have been heeded. It is not too late. Here follows an account of what is now being done by L'Abbe Beaudry, and *La Mitre* concludes its able article in these

words—"We have always entertained these ideas and the time has now come to express them more vigorously than ever. To-day we publish the circular letter of the Bishops of this province, dated 22 October, 1871. Let us hope that these authorized voices may find an echo in every patriotic heart.

We have deemed it important to give, nearly in full, the remarkable article of our influential contemporary. That appeal has the sound of the bugle note, and we are very much mistaken if it be not taken up all along the line. Should twenty or thirty thousands of French Canadians move from this Province into Manitoba and the Territories within the next couple of years, the effort of such a migration would be insuperable. One thing is certain that the Angloification of the country could not be effected, for when the French Canadian takes root, with his habits of industry, his sobriety and his tenacity for his institutions and his language he is there to stay and makes his influence felt.

The Provincial General Election.

Within a few weeks the Provincial Assembly at Quebec will be dissolved and an appeal made to the electorate. The dissolution is not, as some of our contemporaries assert, a mere party move. It has been necessitated by the Act of Redistribution. New electoral divisions having been created, it is legally required that a new Assembly should be elected.

In the present House there are 65 members; in the new House there will be 73. The new constituencies are: Rimouski, Saguenay, St. Saver, Richmond, Arthabaska, and three additional members for Montreal.

The present division of the Assembly on party lines is given by districts for convenience in future reference:—

District of Quebec—Ministerial: Rimouski, Kamouraska, L'Isle, Montmorency, Chateauguay and Saguenay, Charlevoix, Quebec West, East and Centre, Dorchester, Lovin, Les Etieres, Portneuf, Megantic, Drummond and Arthabaska. 15. Opposition: Gaspe, Bonaventure, Tancouate, Bellechasse, Montmorency, Quebec County and Beauve. 7.

District of Three Rivers—Ministerial: Champlain, Three Rivers and Maskinonge. 3. Opposition: Nicolet and St. Maurice. 2.

District of Richelieu—Ministerial: Richelieu, Berthier, L'Assomption, Joliette and Yamaska. 5. Opposition, none.

District of Montreal—Ministerial: Montreal Centre, Montreal East, L'Assomption, Chambly, Vercheres, Soulanges, Ottawa (vaux), Huntingdon, Chateauguay, Beauharnois, Jacques Cartier and Hochelaga. 12. Opposition: Montreal West, Laval, Vaudreuil, Argenteuil, Two Mountains, Pontiac, Terrebonne and Montreal. 8.

District of St. Johns—Ministerial: St. Johns, Iberville and Naperville. 3. Opposition, none.

District of St. Hyacinthe—Ministerial: Rouville, St. Hyacinthe, Bsgot, Shefford. 4. Opposition, none.

District of St. Francis—Ministerial, none. Opposition: Sherbrooke, Compton, Stanstead, Richmond and Wolfe, Missisquoi and Brome. 6.

Total—Ministerial, 42; Opposition, 23—a majority of 19 for the Government, all told.

There can be very little doubt as to the result of the elections. Mr. Merolier goes to the country with a record that may well challenge criticism. But good as his record is its effect on the people has been enormously enhanced by the astonishing blunders of his opponents, their feebleness, want of brains, deficiency of tact, incapable leadership and inability to promulgate anything in the shape of a policy save a miserable record of exploded slanders.

A strong, vigorous, capable, watchful Opposition is the most desirable element in government by party, and this the Conservatives can secure by putting their best available men in the field in the coming contest. They have no lack of material of the right sort, if the right candidates can only be induced to run. More than such an Opposition they cannot hope to be under existing conditions. Our reasons for this opinion are simple and will occur to every one acquainted with Quebec politics. They are

- The Anti-Jesuit crusade, The Anti-French movement, The Equal Rights demands, The Separate School cry, Orange Incorporation.

In all these departments from the ordinary course of political action, Mr. Merolier, his government and his party have been made the targets for unmitigated abuse, the only effect of which in this province has been to elevate him to the position of champion, defender and upholder of French Canadian and Catholic rights. All the political artillery the Opposition can bring to bear against him on account of alleged faults of administration will fall harmless before these defences which his enemies themselves have erected around him.

On the other hand, Mr. Merolier's generous attention to, and compliance with, the reasonable desires of the Protestant minority has gone very far to soften the asperities indignantly created by the Equal Righters. Not only have the Protestants no reason to find fault with him, but they are honestly bound to admit that he has placed them under many obligations. While zealously upholding the interests of his own nationality and religion, he has been careful to guard the rights of the minority. This statesmanlike course has obtained for him friends and supporters where his opponents hoped to deprive him of all sympathy.

It is said that, before going to the people, the cabinet will be reorganized and that in such reorganization the claims of the Irish Catholics to obtain representation will be complied with. On this point nothing is, as yet, positively announced, but there appears good foundation for the statement. At present Mr. Fitzpatrick, of Quebec, is mentioned as the most available representative. There are others, of course, but it matters little who the individual may be so long as the principle is recognized and acted on.

Thus taking a broad view of the situation,

we look to the results of the general election to give us a more acceptable cabinet, a stronger Opposition and better Assembly, but no change of government.

The Late Sheriff Alroy.

By the death Sheriff Alroy of Quebec a remarkable Irish-Canadian public character has been removed from the scene. Although for many years past he has not taken an active part in political affairs, there was a time when he held a foremost place in the public life of Canada.

Deceased was in his 73rd year when he passed away. He had long been in failing health and for the last two years was confined to his bed. Death was therefore, not unexpected. It came in the fullness of time to one who had borne the heat and burden of the day in the old stormy times of Quebec.

Sheriff Alroy, who was an Irish Catholic and the son of a captain in the Royal Navy, was in former years a prominent member of the Quebec Bar, and one of the Parliamentary representatives of Quebec City in the Old Parliament of Canada before Confederation, being regarded as a special representative of the Irish Catholic element before the appearance of D'Arroy McGee on the scene. Some of the most terrible and bloody election contests ever fought in Quebec occurred during his candidature, especially with Simard and Dabord against Plamondon, Hout and Evanturel, when two men named Wallace and Newman were killed by a French-Canadian mob. Subsequently to this contest he entered and held a portfolio for a number of years in one of Sir John Macdonald's early Governments as Commissioner of Public Works, finally being appointed sheriff of Quebec on the death of the late Sheriff Sewell. He held this office singly for over twenty years, and jointly with the Hon. E. T. Paquet for some eight or nine years. In this time also he was a leading member of the Quebec City Council and of St. Patrick's Church, and president of St. Patrick's and other societies. He leaves a large family of grown-up sons and daughters. His wife, who was a Miss De Gaspe, died a few years since.

The funeral took place last Monday and was largely attended by the citizens of Quebec of all creeds and nationalities.

A Good Record.

The late session of the Quebec Legislature was fruitful of many beneficial measures carried through by the government. Among them we may mention the following:—

1. Abolition of the taxes on municipalities for the main tenance of the insane.
2. The grant of 100 acres of land to the parents of twelve children.
3. Aggrandizement of the provincial territory by the addition of several millions of arable land to the provincial domain.
4. Jury reform by increase of remuneration for jurors, and improvement as regards the lodging and food of petit juries at the expense of the crown.
5. Reform in the support of the insane, permitting in the future to place these unfortunate in houses of refuge or of health in their locality near their families, and permitting at the same time the government thus to give a small subsidy to various benevolent institutions scattered throughout the province.
6. A guarantee of six years interest on one million dollars in order to assure the construction of the bridge from Quebec to Lewis—one of the most colossal enterprises of the day.
7. Establishment of night schools which are at present affording instruction to 20,000 working people.
8. Redistribution of seats in the Legislative Assembly by which several counties obtain more just representation.
9. Another blow which has been struck at the oppressive restraint that had been weighing upon colonization, and preventing the settlers from cutting wood on their own lands.
10. Appropriation of \$100,000 to aid municipalities to build iron bridges to replace wooden ones.
11. Increase of the franchise, giving the right to vote to students, sons of farmers and others.
12. Aid to the extent of \$50,000 to increase the development of colonization in the Province of Quebec.

Balfour Belabored.

The Colonist Government are not enjoying a pleasant time just now. Their *quondam* ally, Lord Randolph Charhill, has, metaphorically speaking, taken off his coat the more effectually to demolish their land bill which appears to please nobody.

The erratic lord seems more in earnest in his present attack than on any former occasion. His first letter in which he pointed out to his opinions on the subject were not new to him and that he had notified the government long ago of his views, caused some excitement. Now he is out with another letter, in which he asserts that the present measure, if carried, will lead to jealousy and repudiation of rent among tenants when landlords refuse to sell. He gives the measure just five years to produce the worst results, throwing Ireland into anarchy. On the other hand the Nationalists are tearing the bill to pieces. Columns of amendments are to be proposed, and by the time the proposal has come out of committee, its author will not be able to recognize it. Verily the way of the transgressor is hard.

Irish Catholic Representation.

The Quebec *Telegraph* agrees with the TRUE WITNESS that an Irish Catholic representative in the Quebec Cabinet is a necessity. Our contemporary says:—"Sacrifices will have to be made somewhere,

It is not for us to say where, but *Quotidian* hints to a rumor in circulation that Mr. Merolier would be prepared to accept a young Irish Catholic in the person of Mr. O. Fitzpatrick, Q. O. He has proved himself to be a man of ability and is well up in the French, as well as in his own language. He is a good debater, and as an Irish Catholic he would be acceptable to his people. The *Quotidian* goes further by saying that Mr. Merolier would willingly give way to such an arrangement. As other divisions in the Province would gladly give way for the return of an Irish Catholic minister, we think Mr. Merolier would experience no difficulty in Quebec west.

Hon. Christopher F. Frazer.

The great debate in the province assembly at Toronto has revealed the pleasing fact that the Hon. Christopher Frazer has lost none of his old-time vigor and alighting eloquence. For nine years past the hon. gentleman, through ill-health, has refrained from taking a very active part in the debate, but in this momentous crisis in the affairs of the sister Province he has again come to the front, and displayed the ability which gave him such prominence in former years. Irish Catholic representation in the Ontario Cabinet is something to be proud of.

The projected bridge to connect this city with the south shore by way of Isle Ronde is an undertaking that will, when completed, confer immense advantages on both city and country. It suggests some reflections, however, which are worthy the consideration of those whose interests are centered in the progress of Montreal. The bridge is intended in the first place to give easy access to the city. But it will also enable its inhabitants to live more economically beyond its borders. Yet there is within the city limits ample room for ten times its present population. Why is it, then, that the suburbs are growing up all around at the expense of the city? Is it not because the business men and workmen of the city are forced to live at a distance from their work because of the stretch of waste land held by speculators and which make this a city of magnificent distances? But the trouble does not originate with the speculators in real estate or the holders of unimproved city lots. The value of this sort of property is based on speculative price, not upon its productive capacity. An unimproved city lot is practically worthless and would be abandoned by its owner were it not for the labor and enterprise of those who improve the lots in his neighborhood and by their industry bring business to the city. As has been frequently shown, speculation in city lots is reactionary and effects the value of farm property at first adversely and afterwards adversely. A rise in city property advances the price of adjoining farm lands, and generally results in increased mortgages. This at all events has been the experience gained at Montreal. A collapse of inflated prices lowers the mortgages and their interest bearing demands, but lowers the markets and decreases ability to pay interest. Then the farms come to be divided up into suburban lots, sold by the fact, and we must build railways and bridges to go to and from our places of business and bring people to the city who would never have left it if we managed our civic affairs on a common sense basis.

OBITUARY.

THE LATE MR. JAMES J. WALSH.

Another grand old citizen has passed to the reward he has earned by a noble life. Peacefully and painlessly, at the advanced age of 80 years, Mr. James J. Walsh, one of Canada's pioneer lumbermen, rendered up his soul to God on last Thursday evening at 9 o'clock, surrounded by his sorrowing family. Mr. Walsh was born in Thomastown, County Kilkenny, Ireland, in 1810, and came to Canada in 1827, settling in Quebec, where he entered Gilmore's lumbering firm, and gained such proficiency in this business that he rapidly rose to the position of manager, which post he held with credit to himself and satisfaction to his employers for the long term of 35 years. In 1870 he entered into business on his own account in Port Hope, and after seven years—during which he was wonderfully lucky in several Grand Trunk contracts and other matters—retired to private life and came to live in Kingston in 1881, taking a house on Gore street, where he resided until his death. Mr. Walsh married, in 1852, Miss Mary Ann O'Neil, daughter of Mr. James O'Neil, a well known Kingston citizen. He leaves a family of two sons and four daughters, all grown up. His second daughter is married to Mr. F. Cicouari, one of the proprietors of the *Canadian Freeman*.

Mr. Walsh was a brother of the late Rev. Father Walsh, a clergyman well remembered in Kingston, and whose remains lie in the vaults under St. Mary's Cathedral.

Mr. Walsh had few equals while at the lumbering business. By looking at a felling raft he could tell, within a few feet, the measurement of it. His ability was so recognized by the Government that his services were required by them on all surveys.

WILLIAM PLAYS DEMOCRAT.

The attendance was large and representative, embracing citizens of all classes and creeds. At the Cathedral the funeral service was read by Rev. Father Murtagh, and the solemn *Liberia* chanted by the choir, after which the cortege left for St. Mary's cemetery, the procession being led by His Grace Archbishop O'Leary.

By the demise of Mr. Walsh the busy reaper death has robbed Canada of one of its oldest and best citizens, one of its kindest husbands, and one of its most loving fathers, but the glorious realm of immortality has gained an honest and pure soul for whom it is nearly superfluous to say—*Requiescat in pace.*—*Kingston Freeman.*

A New Idea For The Solution of The French Shore Question.

LONDON, April 5.—The *Chronicle's* Paris correspondent says—The French Government is considering the advisability of despatching, after the recess, to settle in Newfoundland dispute by arbitration.

admitted to him, with the names of officers who do not conform to the rule prescribing a simpler mode of life. He declares that habits of luxury must be seriously and firmly opposed and intends to a large extent to reduce the capacity of the officers by this standard. The decree has made a great impression, especially as the wording conveys and apparent intention to exclude Jews.

According to the *National Zeitung* the new military bill provides for a permanent increase of eighteen million marks in the annual expenditure.

EXIT MR. MARTIN.

A Liberal Paper's Compliments to the Attorney-General.

(Winnipeg Free Press and Sun.)

He tells the public that he is resigning because of the demands of his own private business. No doubt these are great; but he is going out because his party would not stand him any longer. There have been revolts time and again, but it was always represented as necessary that he should be retained in the Cabinet, and the rebellious ones had to submit. A more formidable revolt than usual broke out just on the eve of the present session. It was not Mr. Martin's well known dishonesty that they objected to. In that respect he was no better than Mr. Greenway, and the Government followers had become reconciled to mere ministerial recalcitancy. But they thought Mr. Martin was making too much of his opportunistic. He went into the Government two years ago, a better fixed man than himself, and now he was "in the front rank of provincial capitalists." He had got above his supporters, and they were jealous of him; he was driving them too hard and they resented it. Their endurance had reached its extreme limit, and something was bound to give. Mr. Martin had made all that was possible out of his opportunistic, and he was ready to step out. This was whispered into the ears of two or three of the leading rebels, and instantly the tumult ceased. Recognizing the danger of swapping horses while crossing the stream, it was resolved to allow the session to go on to the close. In anticipation of the coming change two of the next ablest of the Government followers in the House have been industriously qualifying for the position about to become vacant. And now that the session is at an end, the understanding is carried out, and Mr. Martin retires to look after his investments.

This may be said to be the close of the first chapter of "Liberal" administration in Manitoba. That it has been in every sense a disastrous one we all know. A man who, two years ago, was a struggling country attorney goes out of office to-day "in the front rank of provincial capitalists." How he was enabled to do this has been patent to everyone. Yet he has been supported and his colleagues have been supported, by those members who were elected as Liberals. His disappearance does not cleanse the Cabinet. He was the most dangerous man in it, because the ablest and most reckless; but he was not the most corrupt or the most dishonest, and those same members, who have done so much to bring Liberalism into disrepute, will go on supporting it. But it will be the same old Cabinet, with corruption and immorality as the foundation on which it is based.

Mr. Martin, although driven out, was quite prepared for it. He had accomplished his purpose; he had made out of his official position and the opportunities it gave him all that there was to make. A thoroughly uncorrupt man, he has done much to corrupt the public sentiment and destroy the party with which he was connected. The harm he has done, the people of this province will feel for many years to come. But we are now rid of him, and for that let us give thanks. The lesson of the past two months would make it impossible that a Joseph Martin, with all his vulgarity, his greed, his selfishness and his utter lack of principle, can ever again be a controlling influence in a Manitoba Government. The Rump that is left, however, is not satisfactory, and will never commend itself to the confidence and respect of the honest men of the province. There must be further purging before the country will be at rest.

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