

The Montreal Witness

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A HOT TIME IN IRELAND.

The following account, from late Irish papers, of the suppression by the government of a meeting of the United Irish League at Barnardrigg, county Wicklow, reminds one of the old Land League days when "Buckshot" Forster attempted to prevent the holding of any Nationalist meeting in Ireland.

It was a peculiar coincidence that on the very day that the new chief secretary for Ireland, Mr. George Wyndham, assumed the reins of office. The proclamation, however, had been issued just before the departure of the retiring chief secretary, Mr. Gerald Balfour, although it was not until Mr. Redmond, Mr. Dillon and the other speakers had arrived at the railroad station in Wicklow for the purpose of addressing the meeting that they were notified of the proclamation, and informed that they would not be allowed to speak.

From that time on throughout the day the events were exciting enough to satisfy anybody. It is a striking fact, and one which might interest the student of heresy, that the chief secretary whose first day of office was thus signalized by trampling on the rights of the people, Mr. George Wyndham, is himself the grandson of Lord Edward Fitzgerald, the chief of the provincial directory for Leinster of the United Irishmen of 1798, whose life-blood ebbed away in Newgate prison for Ireland a century ago.

The Wicklow meeting was proclaimed by Mr. Meldon, the stipendiary magistrate of the district. Messrs. Redmond, Dillon and Cogan, M.P.'s, were served with copies of the proclamation immediately on their arrival in Wicklow. Accompanied by Father Dunphy, pastor of Arklow, Father O'Byrne, pastor of Avoca; Father Monahan, and representatives of various public bodies, the members proceeded to the hotel, where addresses were presented by the Wicklow branch of the United Irish League and the Nationalist members of the Wicklow County Council to Mr. Redmond, congratulating him on his unanimous election to the chairmanship of the Irish Party.

Meanwhile the police, who were guarding the entrance to the hotel to prevent the speakers from leaving the place of meeting, were hoodwinked. Mr. Dillon left by a rear exit, and proceeded, unknown to the police, to Ballynacarrig, a mile distant from the announced place of meeting, and addressed an immense gathering of people. He was not molested until the proceedings were just about to close.

Mr. Redmond, accompanied by several clergymen and a number of prominent local Nationalists, left the hotel shortly afterward for the scene of the proclaimed meeting. They were surrounded by a strong cordon of police, and they were soon in conflict with them. The scene which followed is thus described in the press reports:

On arrival at Ballard, the brake containing Mr. John Redmond and others was stopped by a dozen policemen, who were ready with batons at hand. Mr. Redmond asked why the brake was stopped, and Sergeant Jones said the meeting was proclaimed. Mr. Redmond—Show us your order to prevent us passing on the high road. Sergeant Jones—I cannot allow you to pass unless you are on business. Mr. Redmond—We are on business, and we have a right to pass. Sergeant—You cannot be allowed to pass here. At this point Mr. Meldon, the resident magistrate from Bray, came down the road from the Barnardrigg direction, accompanied by the county inspector, Mr. Williamson, District Inspector O'Hara and about 100 police, who all drew up in front of the brake and across the road.

Mr. Meldon, in a very excited state and apparently out of breath, said: "Look here, you cannot hold the meeting; the district is proclaimed." Mr. Redmond—I am responsible for anything that occurs; I have come down here to address a meeting on the question of compulsory purchase of land for Ireland, and was served at 11 o'clock this morning at the hotel with a proclamation. Although that proclamation was dated the 9th inst., it was not served until this morning. Mr. Meldon—Quite so. Mr. Redmond—I had no idea that the meeting was proclaimed, and I desire to protest against any interference with my right to address a meeting on the land purchase project. Certainly, if you desire to prohibit this meeting you will have to take the responsibility of doing so, but I will insist on my constitutional rights. (Loud cheers.) Mr. J. J. Cogan—Gentlemen, as member for this constituency, I advise you to hold the meeting until prevented by force.

Mr. Meldon—If you advise the people to hold the meeting, you will have to take the responsibility on yourself, as it will have to be dispersed by force.

Mr. Redmond—Your duty, gentlemen, is to hold the meeting. (Cheers.)

Mr. Meldon—Draw up your men, inspector.

District Inspector O'Hara—Line up, men, and draw your batons. Here all the police, between 80 and 100 drew their batons and lined up alongside the brake.

Father Dunphy, P.P., who had accompanied the speakers along the way, came to Mr. Meldon and asked him could not the brake pass along to his house to have some refreshments, as Mr. Redmond and others had been asked to go up.

Mr. Meldon—We should be most happy to permit you, but, you see, this meeting is proclaimed, and we cannot permit you to pass. But if you give an undertaking that no meeting will be held, we can allow you.

Mr. Redmond—On the contrary, we will give no such undertaking, but will take every available opportunity of addressing a meeting, and I shall no doubt—

Father Dunphy to Mr. Meldon—Allow these people to come to my house.

Mr. Meldon—Will you give an undertaking that there will be no meeting?

Mr. Redmond—I will give no undertaking. You will have to keep us here, or disperse us by force. I don't care if you keep us all night. The people began to gather round the brake again, and it was found that Mr. Farrell, a tenant farmer of Ballyvonnor, was very severely battered about the head and face, and was bleeding profusely.

After some altercation between Father Dunphy and Mr. Meldon, who would not permit the cars to pass the place, Mr. Redmond decided to walk along to Father Dunphy's house, about a mile along the road.

The police drew up in force, a company of them going in front and behind the party, who proceeded along the road.

When the party was on the road Mr. Mooney, Blackrock, crossed, with some more, the field in the direction of where the meeting was being held.

Mr. O'Hara, police inspector—Come back here. If you don't choose the high road you won't go at all. Mr. Mooney—No, I won't; I have a right to go across these fields.

Mr. O'Hara—If you don't you will be put back by force. Mr. Mooney—Come on, then, with all your minions; you won't put me back by force.

Inspector—Come on, men, put him out. Catch him by the coattail, drag him back, but don't use violence. Mr. Mooney—I refuse to leave the field. You will have to carry me.

District Inspector—Well, carry him. Here the policemen went in hard to lift him bodily, and put him across the wall.

District Inspector O'Hara, hearing the cheering, looked across and saw the crowd. The entrance to the field in which the platform was erected was guarded by a few dozen police, with batons drawn. He ordered the police to charge, repeating the cry again, "And give it to them."

All the while a large body of the people were going in the direction of the meeting, singing "The Boys of Wexford."

The police charged with great fury up to the wall, but the crowd had retreated to a wall farther up the road where another meeting was held. In an attempt to strike one man at the wall a policeman broke his baton in pieces by striking it against a stone.

Meanwhile the people at the other meeting in Ballynacarrig were also having some excitement. Mr. Dillon has spoken at length in protest against the proclamation, Rev. Father Monahan addressed the meeting. Just as Father Monahan had finished his speech—he had delivered all but the last two or three sentences—three or four carloads of police were seen arriving in hot haste from the direction of Arklow.

District Inspector Hughes (who was dreadfully puffed) said: "Father Monahan, you must stop. This meeting is proclaimed, and I won't allow it to be held." (Laughter, and a voice—"Why, it's over, man.")

Mr. Dillon—This is a perfectly peaceful meeting, and there is no conceivable reason for this interference. Inspector—You will have all to get away from this.

The police then hustled the people up and down the road. A sergeant and two men got in front of Mr. Dillon, and one of them shoved him a couple of times, shouting, "Get away out of this." Mr. Dillon—Where am I to get to? Sergeant—Get anywhere. Mr. Dillon—But I am anywhere. There was great laughter at this, and there being possibly no instructions on the code to define "anywhere" the sergeant merely looked indignantly at his officer, his expression being by no means improved by an old woman crying out, "Down with the traitors, anyway."

Mr. Redmond and Dillon afterwards addressed an immense meeting.

ing in the United Irish League rooms at Barnardrigg, while the police were compelled to remain helpless on the outskirts.

The incident, unqualified in recent years in Ireland, means the revival of coercive methods against the national movement.

RECORD OF HEROIC NUNS.

In one of our English exchanges we find the following correspondence. It is well worthy of entire reproduction, so deeply does its subject matter affect the Catholic heart throughout the world. It is a tribute rare but merited, and we are proud to add our mite thereto by giving it all the publication within our sphere. It runs thus:—

During the last twelve months the heroic deeds of our nuns have made a record in the annals of the Church. There may be aptly quoted here from Newman's sermon on the "Apostolical Christian" a passage preached, he it remembered, before he became a Catholic, and, therefore, by reason of its subject, as remarkable as it is beautiful. Having given at great length what Scripture demands from a Christian, he proceeds:—

And next ask yourselves this question, and be honest in your answer: "This model of a Christian, though not commanding your literal imitation, still is it not the very model which has been fulfilled in others in every age since the New Testament was written? You will ask me in whom? I am loth to say; I have reason to ask you to be honest and candid; for so it is, as if from consciousness of the fact, and dislike to have it urged upon us, and our forefathers have been accustomed to scorn and ridicule these faithful, obedient persons, and, in our Saviour's words, to 'cast out their name as evil for the Son of Man's sake.'" But, if the truth must be spoken, what are the humble monk and the holy nun and other regulars, as they are called, but Christians after the very pattern given us in Scripture? What have they done but this—perpetuate in the world the Christianity of the Bible? Did our Saviour come on earth suddenly, as He will one day visit it, in whom would He see the features of the Christians whom He and His Apostles led behind them but in them? Who but these give up home and friends, wealth and ease, good name and liberty of will, for the kingdom of heaven? Where shall we find the image of St. Paul, or St. Peter, or St. John, or St. James, or St. Mark, or St. Philip's daughters but in those who, whether they remain in seclusion or are sent over the earth, have calm faces and sweet plaintive voices and spare frames and gentle manners, and hearts uncreased from the world and wills subdued, and for their meekness meet with insult, and for their purity with slander, and for their gravity with suspicion, and for their courage with cruelty; yet meet with Christ everywhere—Christ that all sufficient, everlasting portion, to make up to them, both here and hereafter, all they suffer all they dare, for His Name's sake?

Am I not right in calling this an apt quotation? It is also a proud thing to be able to say that each of the three sisterhoods which I have mentioned is represented among the Catholic activities of London. The Sisters of Mercy and of Nazareth House are old friends. Like the poor to whom they minister, they have been with us always. The Franciscan Missionary Sisters are but recent comers, for it is only four years since they settled in Canning Town, where they live and move and have their being in the very centre of that poor district. The spirit of this sisterhood will be readily gathered from the statement that its members are in sole charge of the Leper Colony in Japan and Burma, that they volunteer by hundreds for the mission fields of China, East Central Africa, and other such territories, that they have charge of the hospital at Colombo (Ceylon), and teach the children of British subjects in Canada and India. Martyrdom has already set its seal upon their institute. During the recent Chinese troubles, seven of these Sisters were arraigned before a Chinese Court and called upon to renounce Christianity. They refused like Cecilia and Agnes of old. Then they received their horrible sentence which was carried out to the letter. They were beheaded, and while their souls were being numbered with the Saints in Paradise, their bodies were mangled to pieces. Their names in the French record are given thus:—Mere Marie Hermine, Mere Marie De La Paix, Soeur Marie de Saint Nathalin, Soeur Marie Amandine, Mere Marie Chiara, Soeur Marie de Saint Just, Soeur Marie Adolphine.

In reference thereto the Very Rev. Mother General has received the following letter from Propaganda: Sacred Congregation of Propaganda, Rome, 27th Sept., 1900.

In reply to the letter which your maternity addressed on the 23rd inst. to His Eminence the Cardinal Prefect of this Sacred Congregation,

I have to express to you my feelings of profound regret for the recent massacre of seven nuns of your institute in the vicariate of Northern Chan-shi, in China. With my most lively felicitations upon the glory which has been shed on this institute by the massacre of these heroines, slain as they were out of hatred of that faith to which they had entirely consecrated themselves for the salvation of souls. The Holy Father, having been informed of the sad event, sends to the entire institute, which you govern so wisely, a very special benediction.—Wishing you every blessing in our Lord, I am, Very Rev. Mother, your devoted servant,

LOUIS VECICIA, Secretary.

These particulars were ascertained at Rome, where the chief house of the institute is established, by your correspondent, during the recent pilgrimage, There is room for a sisterhood of this spirit in wealth-seeking, ease-loving, worldly London. At any rate, it is here; and if the good sisters of Canning Town (address, 124, Barking Road, E) should knock at the doors of the wealthy and ask for an alms and receive the cold shoulder, they will console themselves with the knowledge that they have taken just one more step in the path of that Master whose life was sealed by the tears less than by the blood of martyrdom.

JOTTINGS FROM ROME.

THE URSULINE NUNS.—The Superiors of the Ursuline convents from all parts of the world are holding a meeting in the Eternal City, having been summoned by the Holy Father, who desires to unite all the convents of this Order under one General Superior, with the mother-house in Rome. The meetings are held in the large new Ursuline Convent outside Porta Pia.

CARDINAL LOGUE IN ROME.—His Eminence Cardinal Logue celebrated Mass in the chapel of the convent of the Cenacolo on Saturday morning, and administered First Communion to a number of poor children who were prepared by the Sisters of the convent. His Eminence has been given several private receptions.

ROMAN APPOINTMENTS.—Signor Puccinelli, master of the Household of the Apostolic Palace, has been named Chamberlain of the Sword and Cape. With letters of the Secretary of State, the Holy Father has nominated His Eminence Cardinal Steinhuber protector of the Institute of Our Lady, called the English Ladies, in Maganza, and also of the Sisters of Our Lady of Loreto. His Eminence Cardinal Perard, Bishop of Autun has been appointed by the Holy Father a member of the Sacred Congregation of Rites. The Rev. Father Mancini, O.P., has been nominated Consul of the Congregation of Indulgences and Sacred Relics.

THE CONGREGATION OF RITES.—On Tuesday, of the week before last, the meeting of the Congregation of Sacred Rites, took place in the presence of their Eminences the Cardinals of this congregation. The subjects considered were the cause of the beatification and canonization of the servant of God, Anna de Xainctonge, foundress of the Sisters of St. Ursula of Dola, of the diocese of St. Claude, 2. Confirmation of the devotion to the Blessed Agostino Centesini, Bartholomew Donati, and John Petrucci, Laurence Nernes, and seventy other members of the Servite Order martyred by the heretics. Concession and approval of the Mass and Office in honor of St. Rita of Cascia, and the same of the Blessed Martyrs John Gabriel Taurini Dufresne, bishop; Peter Dumoniola Borie, bishop-elect; and companions of the Foreign Missions, priests of the Dominican Order, priests of the mission and others, Minor Friars. Also the approval of the Mass and Office of the Blessed Mary Magdalen Martinnengo, of the Capuchin Order.

Papal Receptions.

THE POPE'S ACTIVITY.—We have been reading of late a great deal about the Pope's falling health; we have been informed even that he was dead; we have been entertained with a hundred and one forecasts of his imminent collapse; of course, all this is "news"; but it is so very much "news" that no person of sense places any faith in it. The best evidence of any man's actual condition is the amount and nature of the work that he performs. Considering the Pope's great age, and his fearful responsibilities, as well as the fatigue necessarily attached to all manner of public functions, it seems to us that the following statement of the official receptions accorded by the Holy Father, in one week, should constitute a pretty fair barometer of his physical powers of endurance. We commence with the RECEPTION IN ST. PETER'S.—On Wednesday the Holy Father en-

tered St. Peter's and received the pilgrims from the Abruzzi, Carpignano, the children of Mary from Turin, and other pilgrims. His Holiness was accompanied by Their Eminences Cardinals Logue and Mathieu. The usual ceremonies were observed. The Holy Father looked very well, and was greeted with great enthusiasm. There were a great number of bishops present, among whom were Their Graces the Bishops of Millmore, Derry, and Killala.

THE CARPINETO PILGRIMS.—On Thursday, in the Hall of the Maps, the Holy Father received all the pilgrims from Carpineto and Maenza, directed by the archpriest of the former town. Among these pilgrims from the native town of Leo XIII. are the two nephews of His Holiness, the Counts Pecci, and their families. A little grand-nephew and grand-niece of the Holy Father, each made a postcard address, to which His Holiness replied in kind words of praise and encouragement to the little ones. All present were allowed to kiss the hand of the venerable Pontiff, who also spoke a few words to each in his usual kind manner.

THE BENEDETTINE RECEPTION.—On Monday morning the Holy Father received the Most Rev. Abbot Hildabrand de Hemptinne, Primate of the Benedictine Monks, accompanied by the Rev. Abbots and Priors of the various Benedictine congregations, who desired to present their homage and return thanks to His Holiness on the occasion of the consecration of the Church of St. Anselm of the new Benedictine Abbey, erected at the suggestion, and by the assistance of His Holiness, who has taken great interest in the building. The Most Rev. Primate Abbot Hildabrand read an address to the Holy Father, to which His Holiness replied in a brief discourse in Latin, expressing his affection for the Order of the Benedictines, and bestowed on them his heartfelt blessing.

A PUBLISHER'S RECEPTION.—His Holiness lately received in private audience Signor Descles (of the Publishing House), who was accompanied by his four sons, Signor Descles, in the name of the Society of St. John the Evangelist, presented to the Holy Father an edition of the Jubilee Liturgy, bound in morocco, with heavy silver clasps, a Brocade, a new and splendid edition in four volumes. In the name of the Society of St. Augustine Signor Descles humbly presented six volumes of the Encyclical Letters prepared expressly for the Jubilee, and printed on pages enriched with beautiful chromolithograph pictures. His Holiness received the gift with great pleasure, and congratulated Signor Descles on the great improvement of the society, and wished the Apostolic benediction on him, his family, and all the employees.

ROYALTY'S RECEPTION.—On Tuesday His Royal Highness Prince Ferdinand of Orleans, Duke D'Alencon, was received by the Holy Father in special audience with the honor due to his rank. Prince Ferdinand was accompanied by his son, Prince Emanuel, Duke of Vendome, with his wife, Princess Henrietta of Belgium. Their Royal Highnesses were accompanied by the Duke of San Martino, of Montalbo, representative in Rome of His Royal Highness Count of Caserta. On the same day His Grace Monsignor Sambucetti, titular-Archbishop of Corinth, Apostolic Nuncio, and Extraordinary Envoy to Bavaria, was received.

PRIVATE AND SEPARATE RECEPTIONS.—On Wednesday His Holiness in private and separate audience received His Grace Mgr. Goettlieb, Archbishop of Calcutta; Mgr. Pampiro; Archbishop Vercelli; Mgr. Macdonald, Bishop of Kilmore; the Most Rev. Dr. O'Doherty, Bishop of Derry; Mgr. Burke, Bishop of St. Joseph, U.S.A.; Mgr. Jaquet, Bishop of Jassi, Roumania; Mgr. Fallize, titular Bishop of Elusa, Apostolic-Vicar of Norway; Mgr. Martinez, of St. Augustin, Bishop of Oriade; Mgr. Halesra, Bishop of Acqui; Mgr. Morticelli, Bishop of Penne and Atri. On Thursday His Holiness received, with all the honor due to their rank, their Royal Highnesses Prince Gaston d'Orleans, Count d'Eu, and his wife, Princess Isabella, nee Princess of Braganza.

A PROTESTANT'S PROTEST.

The disposal of amputated limbs of pauper patients formed the subject of discussion by the Cardiff Guardians at a recent meeting. Several of these limbs had been buried in the workhouse grounds, interred with bodies of paupers, or sent to the pathological department of Cardiff University College. A guardian said a Protestant complained bitterly on discovering that his amputated arm had been buried with the remains of a young Catholic woman. The Guardians resolved that patients should be consulted in the matter.

"Since the Chinese trouble there has been a lot of talk about 'the yellow peril,'" remarked the inquisitive boarder. "Now, what is 'the yellow peril?'" "A pumpkin pie," granted the dyspeptic boarder.—Philadelphia Record.

THANKSGIVING DAY AT ST. LAURENT.

Amongst other essential things St. Laurent loves to nurture in the hearts of her youth the seeds of patriotism, and with this view encourages the righteous homage to a gracious Queen, to the memory of a beloved Louis or still an immortal Washington. At present writing we are American, paying due tribute at Heaven's court for the blessings of a dying year.

To the casual onlooker Thanksgiving as observed at St. Laurent is a gala day of decided type. To the participant it is that, and more. It is a day of thanks to the King of Nations; it is a day of joy, of hope for the future; a day when the pent-up feelings of the heart can endure no longer and give full vent to the patriotism within; a day when the true national greatness of the American Republic manifests itself even in its infant sons, celebrating their country's glories in an alien land; it is a day when each gives forth his greatest boast: I am an American citizen.

The nature of the celebration was characteristic of a national feast the college world over, the principal feature of which was contained in the following programme:

PROGRAMME. 1. Dramatic and musical entertainment, by St. Patrick's Literary Association. 2. Overture, orchestra. 3. Oration, National Greatness, John Dwyer.

THE PROSCRIBED HEIR.

Alfred d'Aufreville, the proscribed heir, J. Brewin. Charles d'Aspremont, haughty and proud, P. Murphy. Count d'Orfeuill, M. Reid. Catignac, a roving mountebank, J. Broderick. Justice of the Peace, J. Loughran. Nicholas, an innkeeper, M. O'Brien. Blaise, his son, H. Gelineau. The Sergeant, H. Goodwin. Valet of Count d'Aspremont, W. Gunpon. Recruits, peasants, etc.

Quartette—"My Old Kentucky Home," E. Tierney, E. Carr, J. Kennedy, F. McGarry. Finale, orchestra.

Not a dramatic critic I would not, as it is I must, desist from classifying the individual actors. Each was superb in his respective role, and worked conjointly to preserve unattained the golden diadem of victory of St. Patrick's Society. Withal of the orator of the evening, I must needs make comment. His speech was masterly in its composition, grand in thought, and well delivered. It was, in part, as follows:

"The true greatness of a people is in this, that at all times and in all places it stands for truth, justice and moderation; that it shields the weak against tyranny and offer to the brave and strong a harbor of safety in time of danger and trial. National greatness consists in a nation making itself so highly esteemed that its every citizen, when looking upon the flag of his country, shall not feel one tinge of shame for his nation's honor and glory. But, gentlemen, we are Americans, citizens of a grand confederacy, whose glory is our own, whose history is our dearest heritage, whose rights and liberties are as precious to us as our very life. Can we then, indeed, pride in the greatness of our country? Can we point without a feeling of shame and humiliation to our nation's banner and say, that never since the day of the nation's birth in Independence Hall in Philadelphia that flag has been sullied by a drop of innocent blood, by the tear of a widow or an orphan."

"In the eyes of the world, America has been the champion of the weak; she has stood for truth and justice; she has opened her bosom to the wanderer from a foreign land and received him as her own; she has taken in the exile when there was left to him no place to rest; his weary soul. These are the principles of her constitution—a constitution which has stood firm as a rock amid the storms and blasts of more than a century of time, a constitution which guarantees to every citizen the rights of freemen, such rights as wise Providence could alone inspire and conceive in the heart of man. This is our country's proudest act. These are the principles which Washington, Adams, and Jefferson sowed so deeply in the hearts of their countrymen. Which Lincoln preserved pure and bright, amid the struggle of civil strife."

Year after year I have watched the dawn and setting of a new Thanksgiving which brought with it and left behind a halo always brighter as it came anon. I have seen old faces fade away and met with those supplanting them; but on the eve of this recurring day of thanks, I thought I saw them all again arrayed in the talents and justness of bygone days—and their banner of "Excelsior." B. L.