



CATHOLIC CHRONICLE.

OL. XXVII.

MONTREAL, FRIDAY, JANUARY 26, 1877.

NO. 24.

Old Catholicism.

The failure of the "Old Catholic" movement is almost complete. In a short time it will have run the length of its tether.

"The Rev. Leonard Woolsey Bacon, a son of Dr. Leonard Bacon, writes from Geneva that the Old Catholic Church has no seed not even life in it self."

German Persecution of the Church.

The ecclesiastical authority of priests in Prussia is confined to their own parishes. Neither can they celebrate the holy sacrifice of the mass, hear confession, nor do any other act of love or duty.

Moscow, December, 20.—Yesterday afternoon a funeral procession was seen leaving this place. Instead of betaking itself to the cemetery as usual, it took the direction of Koblenz.

We have heard of the boundary between two German States passing through a baker's oven, so that his bread was kneaded in one State and baked in the other.

Three Centenaries.

The Unita Cattolica states that during the course of the present year, the Italian Catholics will celebrate three Centenaries:

One is the eighth Centenary of the Pacification of Canossa, when the Emperor Henry IV. was reconciled to Gregory VII.—a peaceful triumph, says the German historian Gregorovius, "of an unarmed monk which has a greater title to the admiration of the world than any possessed by all the victories of Alexander, Caesar, and Napoleon."

Our Own Fault.

The Boston Pilot says that out of 40 Senators in Massachusetts only two are Irish; and out of 240 members of the House only 13 are Irish.

"St. John city and county have six representatives in the Local Legislature and three in Parliament, and of the nine not one is a Catholic, although the Catholics are two-fifths of the whole population."

We cannot help thinking that much of this is the fault of Catholics and Irishmen themselves. We will always be treated in the same way until we learn to regard each others opinions with less hostility than we do at present.

Heartless Swindle

The following paragraph is worth remembering. We publish it in order to put our friends in general on their guard. It is not the nuns; but the poor, the wretched and the orphan that are robbed when Catholic institutions are thus swindled:

A few days ago, says the Baltimore Catholic Mirror, a respectable-looking man, with a German accent, succeeded in defrauding the Oblate Sisters of Providence out of \$15,84, by means of the telegraph swindle.

Place, and handed the Sister Superior a telegram from New York, which stated that a quantity of tamarinds for the convent had been received at the Custom House.

The O'Connell Statue in Melbourne.

The Melbourne Advocate informs us that our countrymen in that now beautiful city are making progress in their efforts to erect there a statue to O'Connell.

"With much satisfaction we learn that the O'Connell Statue Fund Committee are making fair progress with the national work they have in hand.

They are carrying it out not impulsively or spasmodically, but steadily and surely, and this truly business-like management of the affair is the best assurance they could give of their own sincerity and ultimate success.

The Church in Switzerland.

Switzerland is making a Bismarckian reputation for itself, in matters pertaining to the Catholic Church. We cannot however be surprised—after the expulsion of Bishop Mermillod from Geneva—we are prepared for anything.

"Investigation has been made in the Catholic part of the Bernese Jura, and the commissioners have shown that everywhere the barns in which the Catholics, who are hunted from their churches, celebrate their religious exercises are crowded with the faithful, while the service celebrated by the intruders in the parish churches brings together only a handful of poor wretches who are paid to play this sacrilegious comedy.

A Protestant Tribute to the Catholic Clergy.

A distinguished Protestant Minister recently speaking in Germany, eulogizes the clergy of the Catholic Church in the following flattering terms:

"Gregory VII. knew well what he was doing when, with inexorable severity he enforced the law of celibacy among the clergy. The very life of the Roman Church is a continual struggle, and it is but natural that the priests have to bear the brunt of the battle.

Christianity in Turkey.

When Mohammed founded the belief of Islam, in the sixth century, nation after nation, fell beneath its sway.

Christ, if his teachings debased the mind, ematiated the body, and destroyed the soul, still he respected Christian rights; and the Koran is full of exhortations to the "faithful" to guard Christian interests.

"It is not without importance, in the present crisis of affairs in Turkey, to remember that the Catholic Church, partly as the Latin Church and partly as United Greek, is alone to be found in every part of the vast Ottoman Empire.

Constantinople is the seat of the Catholic Patriarchate. In Bulgaria, Wallachia, Moldavia, Servia, Macedonia, Albania, Bosnia, and Herzegovina there are eight Bishopsrics and five Apostolic Vicariates."

Good News From Home.

The Dublin Correspondent of the Irish American writing of the Waterford election and the action of the clergy, says:

"The Bishop of the diocese and the whole of his clergy are for the Home Rule candidate. They have behaved most patriotically throughout this affair.

Russia and Poland.

Russia has never had the sympathy of the Irish race. Her brutal treatment of gallant Poland lost her whatever she had of the good wishes of a people ever prone to generous emotions.

"The policy of Russia," says the Catholic Review, "towards the ancient kingdom of Poland is a theme easy to develop and one well calculated to teach a useful lesson.

"The Holy Russia" one can legally be a Catholic only on condition that he acknowledge the Czar as Pope. In short, in Poland Proper, there are only two sees out of nine that are occupied by the legitimate titulars, and the same is the case in Lithuania.

Strong Words from the "Nation."

The Irish people are discontented with some of their Home Rule M. P.'s. They are dissatisfied with the want of vigour which marks their policy in the House of Commons.

"The Irish party in Parliament," says the Dublin Nation, "are bound not merely to keep up, but to increase the pressure which they can put upon that institution. They were not sent from this country to fit themselves smoothly into the legislative machinery of England, and aid in its regular and efficient working."

Our reading of the matter is that they were sent to strive for Ireland and to strike for her; to be a hostile element in the House, a bar to business, and a danger to the empire, until Ireland's claim to a restoration of her plundered rights is conceded by the English Government.

Sir Charles Gavan Duffy on the Irish Abroad.

There is unfortunately some truth in the following remarks recently made by Sir Charles Gavan Duffy in Melbourne. A Rev. gentleman was lecturing on the "Irish Brigade in the Service of France," and traced its brilliant record from "Dunkirk to Belgrade."

"At Versailles there were pictures of memorable battles, and he (Sir Charles) looked for some memorial of the Irish Brigade, but there was not one. He read it was true, amongst a long list of illustrious soldiers, the name of Patrick Sarfield; and that was all.

"We are told to look to Rome to see the state of education there. I quote an authority which is above suspicion that of Kay, the travelling Bachelor of Cambridge. Anybody can get his works and read what he wrote.

A Prudent Policy.

The "Church of England Missionary Society" is not in a flourishing condition in Montreal. Indeed it is admitted to be a failure in this locality.

"He could not say that in the management of their finances they were doing better than they were here, and he felt positive that they had not solved the problem of how to get money for their mission work."

But if the "Church of England Missionary Society" is not in a flourishing financial condition, the fault is not theirs. If to the Metropolitan and the Bishop of New Hampshire and the Rev. Dr. Sullivan admitted that their labours had not been successful, still they obtained a victory at the meeting at which they were forced to announce their discomfiture.

A Tale of Ruin. We hear a good deal about the "prosperity" of Ireland. No doubt Ireland is prosperous in a way, but no country blessed with such a climate and such a soil as Ireland is, can be "prosperous" so long as there is such a fearful decadence in her population as Ireland has had.

"Very well," said John Mitchell, speaking of a "prosperity" speech once delivered at Oxford by Mr. Cardwell, Chief Secretary for Ireland; "it is the gentleman's trade. If he is not ready to say and to swear that Ireland is not prosperous and improving, he is not fit for his situation."

There has been an increase of shipping in the thirty-one years from 3,903,482 to 10,002,147 tons; that our profits, as demonstrated by the income tax assessments increased from £1,550,479 in April 1844, to £9,777,598 in 1874. But that is only one side of the account.

Interesting Figures.

Figures are not generally interesting reading, but they are sometimes necessary to sustain assertion. We Catholics who are the victims of the "Dark Ages—the enemies of education—the opponents of scientific research," &c., &c., may, however, point to the following address of Bishop Moran, of Dunedin, New Zealand, and which has been summarized from the Times of Otago:

"We are told to look to Rome to see the state of education there. I quote an authority which is above suspicion that of Kay, the travelling Bachelor of Cambridge. Anybody can get his works and read what he wrote. Mr. Kay is a man above falsehood, and above an untrue insinuation, and he puts with impartiality precisely what he has seen.