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CATHOLIC CHRONICLE, DUTTER CATED AND PUBLISHED RYERY PRIDAY BY J. GILLIES FOR GEORGE E. CLERK, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR, At the Office, No. 4, Place &Armes.

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The True Witness.

MONTREAL, FRIDAY, DEC. 4, 1857.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

THE America, from Liverpool the 21st ult., was telegraphed at Halifax on Tuesday morning; she brings us however but little important intelligence. The pressure in the commercial world still continued without any signs of an abatement; breadstuffs were falling in price, and several additional heavy failures had occurred. From India we have nothing new; only it seems certain that Lucknow is still menaced by a large force, that the city is in the bands of the mutineers, and that our troops are masters of the castle only.-This place however had been victualled, and an addition to its garrison had been received; while General Havelock is still encamped a short distance from the citadel, although he is kept in check by a large body of mutineers, said to amount to 20,000 men. We may however expect soon to hear of the arrival of the reinforcements from England, and, we trust, of the final deliverance of the brave garrison of Lucknow, and the women and children there shut up, from the hands of their enemies.

Here, as at home, the general topic of conversation is the coming election. In Montreal, the Irish Catholic electors have determined upon bringing forward one of their own countrymen, T. D'Arcy M'Gee, to represent them in Parliament. M. Dorion has also taken the field, and has published his address to the electors of Montreal in the city papers. Messrs. Bowes and Boulton are the candidates for Toronto on the Ministerial ticket.

THE MINISTRY AND THE GENERAL ELECTION.

Since our last issue the Cabinet has been patched up, and is now composed as follows:-Attorney-General for Upper

Canada, and Premier, .. Hon. J. A. Macdonald. Inspector-General, Hon. William Cayley. Postmaster-General,.... Hon. Robert Spence.
Attorney-General for Lower

Canada,..... Hon. Geo. E. Cartier. Receiver-General, Hon. J. C. Morrison. President of Council and Minister of Agriculture, Hon. P. M. Vankoughnet

Commissioner of Crown Lands, Hon. Louis V. Sicotte.

Speaker Legislative Coun. Hon. N. F. Belleau. Chief Commissioner Public Works,...... Hon. Charles Alleyn.

Provincial Secretary,.... Hon. T. J. J. Loranger.

The Provincial Parliament has been dissolved, and writs returnable on the 13th prox. issued for a General Election.

Here then are two important facts, which Catholics should deeply ponder; in order that they may take such steps, and so avail themselves of their constitutional rights, as to force upon an unwilling Government the adoption of those measures to which the Irish Catholics of Montreal, by their mouth-piece, the St. Patrick's Society have solemnly and irrevocably pledged themselves and to which it is our interest and our duty to adhere unflinchingly, no matter what the consequences. With consequences we have nothing to do; they are in the hands of Him Who ruleth all things. All that we have to look to, is our duty; and leaving consequences to God, to acquit ourselves therein like men-alike indifferent to the threats of enemies, or the more dangerous blandishments of treacherous friends.

We said an "unwilling" Government, and we said so designedly; because by the avowal of their own organs in Upper Canada the present Ministry are determined-we say it advisedlyare determined, not to make those changes in the tyrannical school laws of the Upper Province, upon which we have pledged ourselves to insist, and without which it is but a solemn mockery to prate about " civil and religious liberty" in Canada. Of this we have abundant proof in the columns of the Toronto Colonist of the 30th ult.; wherein that avowed Ministerial organ discourses as follows upon the "School Question," and the designs of his Ministerial patrons:-

"It is only by the most wilful perversion of facts that the present Government can be held accountable for what are called the sectarian clauses of the School Bill. These clauses are not a thing of yesterday. They were approved by the Government which brought the Globe into being-which nursed it for years, and in return received its most obsequious support. And whatever alterations have since been made, with a view to make the working of the act practicable, have been alterations suggested and approved of by the Globe's own school champion—the Chief Superintendent of Education—the man of all others most obnoxious to Roman Catholics.

"Could anything prove better than this simple fact, that's moderate Government which works out a policy equally opposed to the extremes of parties. is the only Government equal to the task of ruling at such a crisis as the present. What, for example, would be the effect of conceding a single point either to the Roman Catholics or the Clear Grit fanatics at this moment? Why, simply, as every one knows, a war from two distinct quarters on the whole school system—and war which would end in much more are we, Catholics of Canada, in duty

seek to determine. Four-fifths of the people of Upper Canada at least believe that no greater evil could be fall us. "But what is worth noticing is, that what is called the anti-sectarian war is waged by a class who profess the strongest regard for the maintenance of public education. And yet they invite an attack on the whole system from Roman Catholics and malcontents generally. A concession to either side, by a moderate government, would effectually destroy the character which ministers are ambitious to maintain—that of being able to judge between extremes, and protect well-tried institutions from the assaults

Now, we entreat our readers to mark well the tone of this " Government hack;" to read carefully, and inwardly digest this semi-official announcement of Ministerial intentions towards the unfortunate Catholic minority of the Upper Province. It begins with an apology for the existence of "separate schools;" it carefully disclaims on the part of the Ministry any sanction of, or responsibility for, those clauses of the law which give after all but a scant measure of justice to the Catholic minority; and so far from boldly avowing the principle for which we contendthat it is unjust to tax any man for the support of a school, or of a church, to which he is conscientiously opposed"—its authors are evidently anxious to have it supposed that they, at least, hold no such principle; and that they look upon the existence of "separate schools" for Catholics as an evil, but one for which they are not justly responsible. We admit this fact freely. They are not responsible for the paltry concessions that have been made to our just demands; and they have not therefore the shadow of a claim upon the gratitude of Catholics, or the slightest right to ask us for our support. They have done nothing for us; we owe them nothing except scorn and hatred; and we do trust that the coming election may have the effect of convincing them that even in these " hard times" we are willing and able to pay all our debts, with twenty shillings in the pound.

And mark what follows. The Colonist, speaking in the name of his employers, plainly gives us to understand that the Ministry will not concede " a single point" to the Catholic remonstrances against the present School system of Upper Canada. This we admit, is fair and open dealing, and it should be met in a similar spirit. We too, should be frank and open; and therefore, we should remind the Ministry, and all candidates who may ask us for our votes, that we have solemnly, and in the face of God and man, irrevocably pledged ourselves to oppose by every constitutional means every Ministry that will not make concession to our demands a part of its programme; and to withhold our votes from every candidate who will not explicitly and, above all, publicly, pledge himself to adopt in Parliament the line of policy indicated by the Resolutions of the St. Patrick's Society.

The Colonist tells us too, frankly enough, that the effect of conceding a single point either to the Roman Catholics or the Glear Crit fanatics at the present moment," would be a war on the whole common school system, "which would end in its complete and final overthrow." Well! and what then? Why should we not seek its overthrow?-why should we not give our aid to any body of politicians that would help to accomplish so desirable an end? We like plain speaking; we are accustomed to call a spade, a spade; and we hesitate not to say that our object is, that the object of every man who sincerely desires the establishment of the Denominational or Separate School system must be, " the complete and final overthrow" of the " common school" system. You cannot-as we have before remarked-you cannot have at once, and in the same community, both systems, for they are mutually destructive and therefore cannot exist side by side. "Separate" is the contradictory of "Common;" and the essential condition for the existence of the former is "the complete and final overthrow" of the other .-This every man, not altogether a fool, must see; and this every honest man, who dares to speak the truth and shame the devil, will admit.

Now no conceivable evil can possibly befall us so great as the continuance of the present iniquitous school system of Upper Canada. Compared with it, the Protestant Church Establishment of Ireland is a blessing; for whilst there is certainly no more injustice in taxing the Irish Catholic farmer for the support of a church to which he is conscientiously opposed, than there is in taxing the Catholic settler in Upper Canada for the support of a school towards which he spiritually injurious to the people of that coun- mere piece of idle bluster. try—that it has tended to give them a good opi-If then the Catholics of Ireland are justified in seeking the "complete and final overthrow" of the Irish Protestant Church Establishment, from Orangemen."—New Era, 7th Nov.

its complete and final overthrow. Whether such an bound to seek by every constitutional means in issue would be a national calamity, we shall not our power, the complete and final overthrow? of our power, the "complete and final overthrow" of servilely copied from our Yankee neighbors.

But it is not only as Catholics, but as freemen, that we are bound to pursue this policy. Abstraction made of the religious element altogether, we contend that no man, that no number of men, has, or have, any the slightest right to tax us for school purposes; and that any law conferring any power so to tax us, is an injustice, and an infraction of our individual liberty. We deny altogether the right of the State, in any of its departments, to interfere either with our religion or the education of our children, with our schools or our churches. We are fully competent to provide for both if left to our own resources; and the argument which the "Voluntary" in religion urges against State-Churchism, is equally applicable when urged by us against State-

We have therefore no hesitation in admitting that our object, the object from which we will never desist, is the total overthrow of the "common school" system: in order that we may build upon the ruins thereof a just and efficacious Separate or Denominational school system, if possible; and if that be impossible, in order that we may fall back upon the equitable and reasonable system of "Voluntaryism" in education, as in religion.

And now to sum up.

The Ministry tell us that they will not concede a single point to our demands as Catholics for a modification of the School laws. We in Montreal have pledged ourselves not to support any Ministry that will not do us justice. It would seem therefore-unless we mean to make ourselves the laughing stock of the whole community, and the scorn of every honest man-that our course towards the different candidates who may solicit our suffrages at the coming election is clear before us; and it is to be hoped that no Irish Catholic will vote for any man who does not present himself on the hustings as publicly pledged to oppose, heart and soul, the present Ministry. We must be careful to exact this pledge from every one for whom we vote; this pledge too must be given openly, publicly; we must have no "hole and corner" work, no secret promises, or confidential communications. The man who refuses to take the pledge, is most likely an honest man, though an opponent. The candidate who professes his willingness to pledge himself in secret to one or two, evidently intends to deceive somebody, and therefore must be a knave.

And not in Montreal only, but in Toronto as well, if the Irish Catholics of that city have any regard for their own honor, or any respect for the most sacred pledges, are our co-religionists bound to oppose every Ministerial candidate, who may present himself before them. They have not, we hope, forgotten the following "Resolution" of the "Catholic Institute of Toronto," which sanctioned by the Bishop of the Diocess, was tion :published approvingly both in the Mirror and Catholic Citizen, and was generally accepted by the other Catholic Institutes throughout the Province :-

" Resolved-That the Catholic Institute of Toronto PLEDGES ITSELF TO GPFOSE, BY ALL CONSTITUTIONAL MEANS, THE re-electson of the present Ministry, and of any of their supporters, iv, at the next session of the Provincial Parliament, vull justice is not done to the Catholics of Western Canada with regard to the free working of their separate schools; and that this Institute invokes the sympathy and assistance of their fellow-Uatholics in Eastern Canada to promote their

Now that "sympathy and assistance" which the Catholics of Upper Canada have invoked, we of Lower Canada have, as the action of the Montreal St. Patrick's Society proves-cheerfully offered. It remains only to be seen if the former will avail themselves thereof; if they also will take a similar bold and honest action; and if they also will make some sacrifices to carry out our common object, to redeem their solemn pledges, and to show the world that their stout words and bold "Resolutions" are something more that mere "blather," and that they themselves are not the servile "lick spittles" the tame spirited drudges which their support of a Ministerial candidate at the coming election would infallibly prove them to be. Oh! would we say to the Catholic voters who have so repeatedly and solemnly pledged themselves-if you are men, if you desire the esteem of your friends, and deprecate the scorn of your enemies -the enemies of your race and of your religion -prove for once that you can act as well as entertains a similar objection—it cannot be said talk, that you are as bold in deed as in word,

We have hitherto spoken only of "Statenion of Protestantism, or to cool their attach- Schoolism;" but there is another subject-that ment to their ancestral faith. But how is it with of Orangeism-upon which we are deeply interthe "common school" system of the United ested, and upon which we have publicly and irre-States, and of Canada? Who dare deny, who vocably committed ourselves. In the words of can doubt, that it has been, is daily, and so long T. D'Arcy M'Gee in his reply to the Address as it is allowed to poison the moral atmosphere presented to him at the Banquet on the 5th ult., with its postilential breath—will be, the means of it is our duty, and the duty of every Catholic working the moral and spiritual ruin of thousands, throughout the Province to adopt the policy of: "Determined, uncompromising hostility to every Ministry that will not follow the example of the Irish

stastic cheering for several minutes," and may class You have acted in no exclusive spirit, and in therefore be considered as ratified by the assemthat "common school" system which we have bly. But the present Ministry have not withheld "office and emolument from Orangemen;" and if they be not much belied, do actually reckon Orangemen amongst their own number.-Therefore, unless we wish to proclaim ourselves to the world either as noisy fools or unprincipled knaves, it is our duty to offer-in the words of Mr. M'Gee-" a determined and uncompromising hostility" to the present Ministry, and all their Parliamentary friends and supporters .-

> These considerations we respectfully submit to our readers; reminding them that at the present juncture it behaves them above all things to be Honest-United-and Consistent.

GREAT IRISH CATHOLIC MEETING.

We abridge from an extra of the New Era the following report of the proceedings of the great Irish Catholic meeting held at Bonaventure Hall on the evening of Tuesday last, for the purpose of selecting a candidate for the approaching election. This meeting was called by the President of the St. Patrick's Society, was most numerously and respectably attended, and the most perfect unanimity prevailed throughout. Dr. Howard having taken the Chair, and called the meeting to order, proceeded to explain the object which had called them together. He said:--

What they had to consider was the selection of a man to represent the Irish cause in the new Parliament. They all saw the necessity of such a step, and he had no doubt but that they would find the fitting representative before the meeting would conclude.-[Hear, and cheers.]

M. Doherty, Eq., Barrister, next addressed the meeting. He said they all knew the object for which they came together, and he was certain that object would be carried out. [Cheers.] The Irish Catholics of Montreal had never been properly represented in Parliament; but now was the occasion when they might effect this object by their own endeavours .-[Applause.] The gentleman who would come before them to-night was a person well worthy of their sup-port, and one in whom their confidence would not be lost. [Cheers.] To secure their object, all they had to do was to remain together, to fight for a faithful representative, to return him, and then they had accomplished a great aim. [Cheers.] Although he addressed these words to the Catholics of Montreal, he did not mean to be exclusive or one-sided; on the contrary, he would desire that all should co-operate for the purpose of returning a man who would be true to his principles and statements. Mr. Doherty concluded by proposing the following resolutions :-

Resolved,-That the Irish portion of the population of Montreal, reckoning, according to the last Census fully one-third of all its inhabitants, is, on every principle of equity and justice, entitled to name one of the three members, allowed by law, to represent this city in Parliament.

The motion was seconded by Mr. P. Ronzyne, and adopted by acclamation.

Moved by Captain Bartley, seconded by Mr. M'

Resolved,-That the industrial and social interests of the Irish portion of the population, demand their union as one man, in the assertion of their rights, and the support of their own candidate (whoever he may be); and that the decision of this meeting, representing as it does our entire people, shall be considered strictly binding on every Irishman in the city.

Bernard Devlin, Esq., Barrister, here rose, and, in

Resolved,-As the unanimous sense of this Meeting, that Thomas D'Arcy M'Gee, Esq., be requested to allow himself to be put in nomination as our candidate for Montreal in the approaching contest.

He stated that the Irishmen and Catholics of Montreal could have no better representative than Mr. Thomas D'Arcy McGee. [Applause.] When all the other great sections of the community could support representatives, it would be extremely singular if the great Irish population of this city could not return their candidate. This gentleman was not only well known in Montreal, but was known and respected throughout the Provinces. (Cheers.) Some in this city would not be known were they thirty miles from it : but the gentleman of whom he snoke was already a public man in Canada, and when elected would give all his general information and acquaintance to the support of the cause which the Irish Catholics had at heart, and which Mr. McGee would faithfully and honorably represent Mr. Devlin concluded, amid loud applause, by proposing the resolu-

Mr. Lanigan seconded the resolution, and expressed himself delighted at the opportunity now presented to himself, and which would shortly be presented to the Catholics of Montreal. [Cheers.] The proposition was put from the Chair, and carried

with unanimous approbation. Mr. McGee here entered the room with the Committee sent to inform him of his nomination, and his presence was the signal for successive cheers. Hav-

ing taken the stand, the Chairman said-Gentlemen, I have the pleasure of introducing to you our Candidate. (Renewed cheers.) Mr. McGre

then spoke substantially as follows .-Before I say anything on other topics, let me ask here publicly—though I have been personally made aware of it before—is your nomination unanimous? [cries of "yes, yes,"] and do you believe and know that the decision of this meeting is in accordance with the will of the Irish inhabitants of the city at large? [Renewed cries of "yes, yes."] Then I accept your nomination [cheers.] I accept it, and if you stand to me, I will stand to you, and we will fight this battle to a glorious termination. [Renewed cheers.] Gentleman, you have placed me in a proud position tonight, and I should be a very insensible piece of flesh and blood-which I am not - if I did not feel it beyond the power of expression. I will not repeat the hacknied phrases which every public meeting receive from every public man on such occasions; I will only say I deeply, deeply thank you for this extraordinary proof of your confidence, and that I will endeavor to descree it. (Cheers.)

You know that in our community there are several gentlemen far better fitted for the position in which you have placed me than the humble individual who addresses you. But we also know that, from personal or professional reasons, those gentlemen, who have been unable at present to accept it. With an editor, politics is a profession, and I feel that it is more ow-ing to this fortunate accident of my position—of public life being in the line of my daily pursuitsthan to any merits arising in myself that I am indebted for the honor of your nomination. [Apf.esualg

With these few words I might properly bow myself off the stage, but with your permission, gentlemen, I will briefly allude to the general question. And first, let me remark, that the call for this meeting, though This enunciation was received with "enthu-such, to get together, to get the voice of our whole

no exclusive spirit do I accept your nomination. If I am returned to Parliament, through your choice, I must consider myself bound to represent, to the utmost of my ability, the whole city. [Cheers.] The interests of Montreal, the interests of the Province would become my daily care as they have long been my earnest study. [Cheers.]. To obtain for this city the carrying trade of the North Western States—to encourage in Canada manufacturing industry of every description—to systematize and accelerate the settlement of the back country—these will be both from choice and from conviction the object of my efforts. I cherish a high ideal of the office of the Legislator, the desire of which has been called by a great Historian, "the highest earthly ambition of the ripened human intelligence;" I cherish a high ideal of what the Parliament of a young country like this ought to be, ought to do, and to set the example of doing. [Cheers.] This ideal I will resolutely endeavor to approach, and the city of Montreal will find—should your action of to-night come to the fruition you desire for it—that its Irish representation will not be the least anxious, and I hope not the least effective advocate of her general interests, commercial and municipal [cheers.] I may be supposed by those who don't know me to be a very excitable individual especially when I see a yellow color displayed in the dog days [laughter], but I have seen too much of the world, if I were not naturally disposed otherwise, to sacrifice the charities of life, or the dictates of public duty, to any selfish or sectarian views [cheers.] I have been all my life an enemy of intolerance of every description, and I rejoice to-night that you are asserting your dormant rights against the intolerance of party management, which would leave you no figure in the political arithmetic of the city. [Applause.] We will, I trust, show to all parties that we are able to take council and to take care of ourselves; and that our suffrages are in no man's pocket. [Cheers.] I have been shocked by hearing from time to time, that Mr. A. or Mr. B. "is sure of the Irish;" and I pronounce that slavish imputation a foul calumny on our population. [Great applause.] This time we are for ourselves, and it is on record what the Irishmen of Montreal can do, when they put forth all their strength. (Cheers.) After again returning thanks, Mr. McGee sat down

rociferously cheered.

Moved by Mr. James Sadlier— Resolved,—That a Committee of one from each Ward be appointed to nominate a General Committee for the city, to be constituted as follows-for St. Ann's Ward 9; St. Antoine's 7; St. Lawrence 7; St. Lewis 5; St. James 5; St. Mary's 7; East Ward 3; Centre Ward 3; and West Ward 5 members.-And that this General Committee have power to elect the Executive Committee out of their own members; the proceedings of both to be reported at a Public Meeting called for that purpose.

Mr. Henry Kavanagh seconded the resolution for the appointment of a Committee, and the gentlemen composing it were then named, by Wards, each name being received with a round of applause.

On motion of Mr. Sadleir, Mr. Henry Kavanagh was called to the second Chair, and a vote of thanks was moved to Dr. Howard for his able conduct therein. Mr. McGee seconded the motion, observing that to Dr. Howard they were largely indebted for the gratifying unanimity of their proceedings. (Ap-

The meeting then separated. On reaching the street, they made the welkin ring with "three times three cheers for our candidate!"

"Thus the True Witness of Montreal whose editor has been brought up in Presbyterian Scotland, finds every thing to blame amongst the revolted Hindoos, and every thing to praise when he speaks of the English in India."—Journal de Quebec, 26th ult.

What on earth the Journal de Quebec can have to do with the private affairs of the editor of the TRUE WITNESS, or wherein it can interest or profit the readers of our French cotemporary to learn that we were "brought up in Presbyterian Scotland," we cannot discover; and failing in this, we cannot but conclude that the Journal has been guilty of a piece of unpardonable impertinence towards us, and of idle gossiping as towards his readers. If however he be really anxious for information, we take this opportunity of telling him that the editor of the TRUE WITNESS was not " brought up-elevein Presbyterian Scotland;" and that his ignorance of our domestic affairs is as gross as is his impudence in alluding to them.

That, when speaking of the conduct of our own mutinous soldiers, who have violated their faith, turned without provocation, their arms against their officers, who fed, clothed and paid them, and who, in addition to this, the highest conceivable military offence, have been guilty of the most atrocious crimes on record, we "have found every thing to blame," is true. Because, no matter where "brought up," we have been taught to look with scorn and loathing upon falsehood, breach of faith, and cruelty towards women and children; because, as gentlemen, we have no sympathy with mutineers, cut-throats. and thieves; and because, as Christians, we entertain a lively abhorrence of cold-blooded cruelty towards women and children. Had the mutineers massacred the latter in a moment of violent excitement, whilst their blood was still warm, and their passions roused by the recent conflict, we should certainly have condemned the act; but would have recognised therein the existence of, to a certain extent, mitigating circumstances. But this excuse cannot be pleaded for the Sepoys. Their outrages were not prompted by a sudden fury, but were the result of cool, deliberate reflection, and of a design to bring the Frankish or Feringbi nationality and religion into contempt amongst the inhabitants of the Indian Peninsula. They were perpetrated upon those from whom they had experienced nothing but kindness, and the greatest indulgence; an indulgence indeed which had been carried, as experience now shows, too far, and which we fear had been attended in many regiments with a dangerous relaxation of military discipline. And thus it happened that-relying upon the attachment of their men, which the European officers of our Native Indian Army well knew that they had merited, and relying too upon the promises and prayers of the soldiers whom they had often led to victory, and who earnestly entreated their officers not to put a slight upon them, by appear-

ing to mistrust them-when the mutinies broke