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THE TRUE WITNESS AND CATHOLIC CHRONICLE.

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THE TRUE WITNESS AND CATHOLIC CHRONICLE.

MONTREAL, FRIDAY, SEPT. 16, 1853.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The Camp at Chobham is broken up; the Court has broken up, and the Queen is away to Ireland, and thence to the Highlands; Parliament is broken up, and its members dispersed over the face of the globe; and the everlasting Eastern Question seems to be in a fair way of being settled. The last days of the Session were not marked by any very important events. In reply to a question from Mr. Eward, on Maynooth College, Lord John Russell stated that, as all the commissioners had been selected, there would be no farther delay in the appointment of the commission of investigation. The noble Lord also mentioned that, a reply from the Court of Rome, to the repeated applications in behalf of Mr. Edward Murray, had been received to the effect that, "for proceedings far less guilty than those for which Mr. E. Murray had been sentenced to imprisonment for life, the punishment of death had been awarded." At present, continued Lord John, there were no prospects of attaining from the Court of Rome any further remission of sentence.

The ridiculous farce of the meeting of Convocation has again been enacted, much to the amusement of a discerning public, though with little satisfaction to the reverend company of gentlemen performers, who, to say the least, were treated in a very cavalier manner by Dr. Sumner, the president of this farcical body. Convocation had been prorogued in February last to the 18th ult. On that day, at an early hour, the members of the Lower House were punctual in attendance in order to avoid a trick which had been played upon them on a previous occasion—when upon their arrival, full of mighty designs for re-establishing the independence of the State Church, the proctors found to their horror that the Archbishop had been beforehand with them, and put a sudden termination to the session. This time the proctors were determined not to be too late, and so fell into the opposite extreme of being a good deal too early in attendance. The Archbishop came not; he was attending a wedding, and at last a message was sent by a porter that he could not come before three o'clock: at which hour indeed Dr. Sumner made his appearance and dismissed the members from further attendance. The Church-men are in dismay, as well they may be; the Oxford Herald, a leading Anglican organ indulges in the following Jeremiah:—

"The meeting of Convocation was another unhappy instance of the utter prostration of the Church, in so far as her representatives in solemn council is concerned. Not a single member of the Upper House thought proper to be present, and afford an opportunity of promoting its revival. The prorogation was made to the 10th of November; but her Majesty's Proctor gave official intimation, that the meeting "will not call for the attendance of the clergy, nor will business of any kind be transacted." Well might Archdeacon Denison declare, "There is neither right nor reason in these proceedings."

Arrests for Ribbonism have been very frequent of late in Ireland. A man named Garrett Farrell, lately convicted, has turned informer, and through him it is said, the government authorities are in full possession of all the secrets of the society, which they are determined to suppress. Every Catholic, and every friend of Ireland, will rejoice to hear of the total breaking up of these secret, and therefore anti-Catholic, associations. But, whilst the hand of the government is in it, it is strange that it does nothing to put down the equally detestable Orange societies, equally illegal, because, like the Riband societies, their members are bound together by secret oaths and passwords. It should be remembered too, that the cruelties, and brutal excesses of the Orangemen, first called into being the Riband societies; and that to attack the latter, without first suppressing the former, is an evidence of gross partiality, and injustice on the part of the authorities. Ribbonism and Orangeism should alike, and simultaneously, be the objects of the rigorous proceedings of an equitable and impartial government.

The state of the crops throughout Europe is still attracting a great deal of attention. A partial failure seems to be generally anticipated; and the Governments of the South of Europe are imitating the example of France, and throwing open their ports to the free importation of grain. The advances of the cholera are also creating a little alarm. One or two cases of decided Asiatic cholera have occurred in London; and though sporadic cases of the disease are by no means unfrequent in the fetid courts, and putrid alleys, of the great city, the accounts from the Continent of Europe have given additional importance to what, in other circumstances, would hardly have been deemed worthy of notice. At Copenhagen, the epidemic is somewhat subsiding; but it is

raging fearfully at Hamburg, and at Christina in Norway. Though under these circumstances there is nothing to cause alarm, it would be well, if from time to time, the civic authorities were reminded of the importance of cleanliness, and a good system of draining. We have generally a large influx of immigrants in the autumn, and it is as well to be prepared; at all events sanitary precautions can do no harm.

The news from Australia does not hold out strong temptations to emigrate, to persons who can manage to obtain a living at home. The yield in the gold-fields is falling off; and many who arrived in the colony a few months ago, are glad to earn their bread by the most painful occupations. The strop-backed, unskilled laborer does well; but for the scholar, the mechanic, or the merchant's clerk, there is no demand, no opening, whatsoever.

The most important piece of intelligence by the *Franklin* steamer is, that the Russian troops are to evacuate the Principalities during the month of September; and, that simultaneously, the combined French and British squadrons will withdraw from their present position. The Queen had been rapturously received at Dublin.

The *Transcript* of the 10th instant, having impugned the truth of the statements of this journal, and called upon Mr. Devlin as a witness to the falsity of our allegations, refused to give insertion to the following letter. Comments upon such conduct are unnecessary:—

To the Editor of the Transcript.

Montreal, 11th Sept., 1853.

Sir—As you have appealed to me individually in the *Transcript* of the 10th instant for a contradiction of a statement put forth in the *True Witness* of the day previous, in which Mr. Morison is represented as having said, "that he would shoot the two first Papists he met," I deem it my duty to answer "that I cannot accede to your request;" the reason being that he did make use of the language imputed to him. And, furthermore, it was not, as you have stated, spoken in "unsuspected confidence to a brother practitioner, nor in a private room, nor in a jocular manner, after his case was closed," but in a public court, in the presence, and hearing of, at least, 20 persons, the majority of whom were, what Mr. Morison designated, "Papists," and before his case was closed; and with a degree of earnestness which might induce one, who did not know Mr. Morison, to believe that he would embrace the first opportunity to accomplish his sanguinary threat.

It is, however, but justice to observe, that, when using this language, he was laboring under very great excitement, so much so, that he said more than once, "thank God, this thing (*the arrest*) is bringing us to a crisis, and will place us, thank God, under another flag;" upon which Colonel Ermatinger administered a gentle reprimand, and informed Mr. Morison that he could not tolerate such language in his presence; and that a repetition of it might expose him to a charge for which bail could not be taken. Such, Sir, are the facts; and I am perfectly satisfied, that if you interrogate Colonel Ermatinger, Mr. Brehault, Mr. Duvernay, Mr. Morin, and Mr. Isaacson, who were amongst the number present, they will return you an answer similar to this which I now make to your request. Upon these facts, however, I shall offer no comment; but, while regretting the necessity of their publication, leave you to say whether Mr. Morison was represented, or misrepresented by the *True Witness*.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

B. DEVLIN.

The following communication was elicited by the falsehoods of the *Montreal Gazette*, against the German Catholics of Montreal. It was presented to the *Gazette*, which, with its usual love of fair play, refused insertion to the counter-statements of those whom he had calumniated. We have not ventured to correct the language of our correspondents, because we know that our readers will make great allowance for the grammatical errors of men writing in a foreign tongue:—

To the Editor of the Montreal Gazette.

Sir.—We, the undersigned Germans, converts from Protestantism to the ancient Faith of our fathers, and now members of the German Catholic Congregation of Montreal, to the care of R. P. Durthaler, of the Society of Jesus, have heard it reported that you accuse us in your journal of having changed our former religion for a few pieces of gold offered to us by our respectable pastor. According to you, "we are bought and sold at three dollars a head."

Sir, when this strange news came to our ears, we did not know what to do, whether we ought to write to you, or address ourselves to you in a more sensible manner. But the precepts of our holy religion, and the exhortations of our Pastor, whom you also calumniate, forbid us to inflict on you the only punishment that a fellow like you would deserve. It is useless to repeat and proclaim to the whole world that you are a slanderer; for you have often been told so before, and probably you will often be told so again; and you will have to make up your mind, and suffer with patience to be called so, because you are known; and all who know you, know that you well deserve the appellation.

But it may happen that some of the readers of your journal, do not know you well enough; and your assertions against us, if they are not contradicted, might perhaps have in their mind a worth which they have certainly not. It is for this reason, that we request you to retract in a positive manner in your journal the calumnies you have written against us and our Pastor. He has never offered, and we have never received, money, or any other earthly inducement to embrace the Catholic Faith.

We are not numerous. Our German Catholic

congregation does not amount to more than 70 members, and among these 20 only are converts. If your assertions be true, why do you not ask and give the names of those who have been bribed and bought to attend Mass, at three dollars a head? If you did not know your statements to be false, it would have been for you also a very easy thing to obtain. Sir, we are poor, and but few in number. We are in a strange country, and have consequently few friends to take our part. It is probably on this account that you think you may insult us with impunity. For men like you are still cowards; they are careful to strike when the blow is not likely to be returned, and this is the reason why you have marked out the German Catholics of Montreal as the victims of your falsehoods. Continue then, Sir, in the noble career you have entered; we will not trouble you any more about it, nor seek henceforth to defend ourselves from your calumnies. Far from it; if we knew what was for our good, we should be thankful to God for them, and look upon the same as the only service which you can render us, or which we would consent to accept from you. We do not dread your censures, but your praises, and shall then only have reason to fear not to be acceptable with God, when we find favor in the eyes of the editor of the *Montreal Gazette*. No—the unconscious journalist who can descend to become, by his agency, the propagator of obscene and lascivious books, shall never hurt the undersigned German Catholics of Montreal:—

O. Laughof, I. Ongel,  
M. Laughof, L. Bessher,  
F. Thayer, Ernst Steinberg,  
C. Otto, A. Rill,  
A. Herbst, F. Keeller,  
H. Rehland, Wm. Bettenhauss,  
A. Beckler, Anna Sieg.

Montreal, Sept. 12, 1853.

VISIT OF HIS EXCELLENCY, DR. BEDINI, ARCHBISHOP OF THEBES, TO BYTOWN AND AYLMEY.

On Saturday afternoon last, the inhabitants of this place learned that this most distinguished Prelate was to visit Bytown next day, for the purpose of consecrating the Catholic Cathedral there. Upon receipt of this intelligence, a large number of the Catholic inhabitants of Bytown, Aylmer, and the adjacent Ottawa districts, proceeded to the steamboat landing at Bytown, where an immense concourse of people had assembled to welcome His Excellency. Upon the arrival of the Phoenix Steamer a splendid procession was formed, and accompanied His Excellency to the Episcopal Palace, where he remained over night.

The Services on Sunday were very protracted and discourses were delivered by the Archbishop of Thebes the Bishop of Bytown and the Rev. Mr. McDonagh of Bytown.

It was the intention of His Excellency to return to Montreal immediately, but upon the urgent solicitation of His Lordship, the Bishop of Bytown, and the Rev. Mr. Hughes of Aylmer, he consented to protract his visit one day longer, and visit this place, only nine miles distant from Bytown, and which places are connected by a splendid Turnpike Road. The scenery along this route is unsurpassed in this Province; the Chaudiere Falls is next to Niagara on the continent, the beautiful Suspension Bridge across the Ottawa, is only inferior to the Menai Bridge; besides, the improved system of cultivation of the intervening territory, all unite to render this one of the most beautiful prospects in the Province.

Although the notice was so brief, a large number of the inhabitants of Aylmer turned out to honor His Excellency—the streets were lined with evergreens, and flags were floating in the breeze. At about 2 o'clock, His Excellency arrived, being accompanied by their Lordships, the Bishop of Bytown, and the Coadjutor Bishop of Montreal, His Excellency's Secretary, the Rev. John Virtue of London, besides a number of the Clergy of the Diocese, the Mayor of Bytown, and several distinguished visitors from Montreal, and a large cavalcade who had accompanied His Excellency from Bytown. The party afterwards proceeded to the Catholic Church, where His Excellency gave his solemn benediction, and addressed the assembled multitude in a very eloquent and impressive manner, in the French language, after which his Lordship the Bishop of Bytown addressed the congregation, and also the Rev. James Hughes of Aylmer. Immediately after these solemn services, the entire congregation proceeded outside the Church to the door, where the following address was presented to His Excellency on behalf of the congregation, by Aimé Lafontaine, Esq., in French, and J. J. Roney, Esq., in English, to both of which addresses His Excellency responded. The party then retired to the Presbytery, and after partaking of refreshments, returned to Bytown, escorted by a large cavalcade, where they arrived shortly after sunset.

The distinguished party visited minutely the Suspension Bridge and the Falls of the Chaudiere, and expressed themselves highly delighted with the scene.

Too much praise cannot be awarded to his Lordship the Bishop of Bytown, for inviting such a distinguished Foreign guest to the waters of the Ottawa, and the inhabitants of this place are also under great obligations to his Lordship, and the Rev. Jas. Hughes of Aylmer, through whose solicitations His Excellency visited the metropolis of the district of the Ottawa. And all are satisfied that nothing was left undone that could have been performed in such a brief notice.

I cannot conclude this hasty sketch without paying a tribute of respect to several ladies of the Catholic congregation of Aylmer, who made themselves active in procuring adornments for the occasion, the activity and zeal in this matter, of Madames Woods, Doyle and Hughes, are particularly to be commended.

A Layman.

Aylmer, Sept. 6th, 1853.

To His Excellency, the Most Reverend Dr. Bedini, Archbishop of Thebes, and Apostolic Nuncio from His Holiness, Pope Pius the Ninth, to the Court of Brazil, &c., &c.

THE ADDRESS OF THE UNDERSIGNED, THE CLERGY AND LAITY OF THE PARISH OF ST. PAUL, AYLMEY, IN THE COUNTY OF OTTAWA.

We most respectfully beg to approach your Excellency, to welcome you on your visit to this continent, and particularly to the Episcopal city of Bytown, on the important occasion of the consecration of the Ca-

thedral of our venerated Prelate, his Lordship the Bishop of Bytown.

The occasion of a visit to this remote part of North America from so distinguished a personage as a Nuncio of our Most Holy Father Pius the Ninth, cannot but be gratifying to every Catholic and forms an important epoch in the History of Catholicism in the Diocese of Bytown.

The site of the Episcopal city and the greater portion of the surrounding country was, little more than a quarter of a century ago, a perfect wilderness, only inhabited by the Aborigine of the forest, it now contains in this Diocese alone, a population approximating to forty thousand Catholic souls. Your Excellency cannot but perceive signs which clearly prove that Catholicism is vigorous and progressive on the river Ottawa, the Cathedral newly erected in the Episcopal city of Bytown, the number of churches erecting yearly, the Scholastic Institutions, all clearly demonstrate the activity and zeal of the clergy, and the liberality of the laity of the Diocese.

It was with pain we learned of the troubles in the dominions of our most Holy Father, troubles instigated and encouraged by malicious and ill-designing men, whose sole aim and object, under the plausible but much abused name of liberty, was to undermine the Catholic Faith and to cause annoyance to that august Pontiff, the visible head of that Church of which it is said that "the gates of Hell shall never prevail against it," and which numbers at least one quarter of the human family.

Trusting that the visit of your Excellency may not only be of the most agreeable kind, but that your mission may be productive of the utmost benefit to our Holy Faith, is the sincere prayer of the Catholics of Aylmer.

Signed on behalf of the Catholics of Aylmer by several of the principal members of the Congregation.

On the 8th instant, St. Hyacinthe was honored with the presence of Mgr. Bedini, the Papal Nuncio, who had kindly undertaken to assist at the ceremony of opening the new college; a large concourse of ecclesiastics was present—amongst them four of the Prelates of Canada. After the benediction of the college, Mons. Dessaulles, the Mayor of St. Hyacinthe, stepped forward, and, in the name of his fellow-citizens, presented an address to His Excellency, assuring him of their respect for himself, and of their fidelity and devoted attachment to the Sovereign Pontiff of that august Church over which he is, by Divine appointment, the visible head upon earth.—The Nuncio replied—congratulating the people on the evidences of prosperity which he saw around him.—This happiness was the fruit of their attachment to their religion, and was of a far higher, and more durable, order than that fictitious prosperity which too many nations sought after in the perishable things of earth. It should be his care, on his return to Europe, to report, that, far in the West, there was a country worthy to surpass Europe, where the people were truly wise, because sincerely Catholic; and truly happy, because faithful to their Church. The ceremony at which he had just assisted was a proof that the Church loved education, and desired to extend its blessings to all her children.

His Excellency, during his stay at St. Hyacinthe, conferred the Order of Priesthood upon three ecclesiastics of the College; two others were also admitted to the Order of Deacon, at the same time, and by the same hands.

The resignation of the Mayor was, we are happy to say, after an animated debate on Monday last, rejected; and Mr. Wilson, in accordance with the wishes of the great body of his constituents, has kindly consented to retain his office until the year of his Mayoralty shall have expired. This is fortunate for the peace of the city; for had the council been rash enough to accept the proffered resignation, Montreal would have found itself in an unpleasant predicament; without a legal Corporation, and in its stead an illegally constituted, and *acephalous* body, whose authority it was the determination of many to treat with the contempt, which it would have deserved, if it had taken upon itself to substitute its creature for the Mayor legally chosen by the citizens. This should be a warning to Mr. Wilson; he has no right to tender his resignation to the City Council. He was made Mayor by the citizens of Montreal, and it is into their hands that he must resign his trust; it is to them, and not to the City Council, that he is responsible for his conduct.

The conversion of Her Grace the Duchess of Hamilton to the Catholic Faith, is fully confirmed. We read in the *Glasgow Free Press* of the 27th ult., that, on the Sunday previous, Her Grace assisted at High Mass in the Hamilton Catholic Church, which had been fitted up in splendid style, "by means of gifts presented by the zealous convert."

GREAT DISCOVERY.—The *Protestant Times*, of Quebec, startles its readers by the novel announcement, that—the "glorious flag of England has—

"Traved a thousand years  
The battle and the breeze."

Our cotemporary thence comes to the conclusion that—"Neither Public Works, or Education, will ever flourish as long as Popery is in power;" and that "A dead set is being made by a set of rascally, poverty-stricken priests, at our property and lives." Sharp fellow that *Protestant Times*, and a strong writer—very.

MORE ARRESTS.—On Tuesday last, Lieutenant-Colonel Hogarth, and Captain C. Cameron, of the 26th regiment, were arrested, at, we believe, the instance of the "Protestant Vigilance Committee," and on the warrant of Colonel Ermatinger. The accused were admitted to bail in the sums of £1,000 each, and securities of £500. Lieutenant Quarty, of the same regiment, was arrested on Wednesday, and immediately admitted to bail.

To CORRESPONDENT.—"No. 50" received; would be glad to have fuller particulars.