

OPENING NOTES OF PROTEST

(Continued from first page.)

Mr. R. J. ANDERSON, of the firm of Doyle and Anderson, wholesale tea importers, when interviewed, said:—"From what I interpret by the TRUE WITNESS Mr. Hart has been replaced on the Catholic School Commission by Doctor Brennan. Knowing Mr. Hart for a number of years, recognizing his ability as a commercial man, ranking as he does among the highest and acknowledged by the position he has attained as a member of the Board of Trade, I fail to understand the reason of a change. I could easily do so if Mr. Hart had been for a number of years the recipient of the honor that the position gave him, but such is not the case and the replacement of such a man at such short notice leads me to imagine one or two causes, inability or—I do not like to express the other word. The former cause cannot be credited to him; perhaps his forcible way of expressing his objection to unbusiness-like proceedings may be the cause. We want men like Mr. Hart on the Board of School Commissioners, then perhaps the rumours of the past would not be again circulated in the future. I desire to emphasize very strongly my belief in Mr. Hart's integrity and ability and I think it very necessary that we should have him to represent us on the board."

Mr. P. McCORRY said that some explanation should be demanded from the Government immediately. The Irish Catholics are unanimous in their resolve to see justice done to Mr. Hart, who is the fittest man to represent our interests.

Mr. POWER says that every effort should be made to have Mr. Hart reinstated, as no one but an Irish Catholic in sympathies and education is capable of satisfactorily representing Irish Catholics. He fully endorses the stand taken by THE TRUE WITNESS in the matter.

Mr. W. KEYS, Secretary of Dominion Assembly K. of L., said: "The articles in THE TRUE WITNESS on the school question are excellent, but they are not half strong enough; the indignation of the Irish Catholics is indeed too strong for words. The time has come when the school commissioners should be elected by the people and not by political hacks. The people will not be slow on this occasion to let Taillon know what they think of his action."

MR. SLATTERY believes that THE TRUE WITNESS represented the feelings of the Irish Catholics very faithfully in its strong editorial of the 11th of July. Mr. Slattery says that Mr. Hart's qualities of mind and independent social position, as well as his thorough Irish Catholic sympathies, make him the best man that could be selected to represent Irish Catholics on the school commissioners.

A prominent member of the Trades and Labor Council, Mr. P. Flynn, when interviewed, said: "Yes, we heartily approve of the action taken by the Catholic paper in reference to the dismissal of Mr. Hart from the school commissioners, and we consider Mr. Hart to be a man who would represent the interests of the working classes much better than Dr. Brennan. It was through Mr. Hart's instrumentality that the Trades and Labor Council, when endeavouring to found a night school, were successful in their object, and we are sure that until he is reinstated we shall not be represented so well again. When speaking on the matter it seems to me that efforts should be made to retain a special representative on the Catholic school commissioners who would guard the interests of the working people of the city."

A DISASTROUS FIRE IN MONTREAL.

THIRTY-TWO HOUSES BURNED AND 1,500,000 FEET OF LUMBER CONSUMED.

There was a very serious fire in this city early yesterday morning, which at one time threatened to destroy the northern section of Montreal. The fire started on Arcade street, in Messrs. Grothe Bros., saw mill, which was reduced to ashes together with 1,500,000 feet of assorted lumber. All the houses facing the mill and situated on Arcade street, from No. 75 to 99, and on St. Emile street from No. 33 to 57, were wiped out of existence, together with the rear portions of the houses situated on St. Outhbert street and bearing Nos. 10 to

36. Altogether 32 houses, with their contents, were totally destroyed. The origin of the fire is unknown. The properties destroyed were owned by Messrs. Grothe Bros., builders, and were insured. They were known as the Grothe block. The total damage is about \$75,000. There is very little insurance on furniture. This is the most disastrous fire in Montreal since 1882.

CORRESPONDENCE.

HISTORICAL ERRORS.

To the Editor of THE TRUE WITNESS:

DEAR SIR,—On the 8th May last, I addressed the original of the subjoined letter to the Editor of The Canadian Magazine, touching a slanderous reference to Ireland and the Irish people, contained in a contributed article in his May number.

The June and July numbers of the Magazine have since appeared, and yet no attempt to correct the false statements to which I have referred by either the editor or his contributor. I, therefore, think it well to direct your attention to the matter so that it may be dealt with by the press.

BRANNAGH.

Ottawa, 20th July, 1894.

Editor Canadian Magazine:

SIR:—It must be a matter of unqualified surprise to the great majority of intelligent readers, as it has been to me and to friends to whom I have shown the article, how such an amount of nonsense and ignorance, if not downright, wilful misrepresentation, as is contained in the opening paragraph of The First Plantation in Newfoundland, in the current number of the Canadian Magazine, could have escaped the scrutiny of the editorial eye and gained admission to columns which hitherto, so far as I am able to judge, have been noted for both literary ability and fairness.

But apparently to the writer in question the chance of "turning a phrase" is of more importance than is historical correctness. Passing over his nonsensical assertion that "the history of Canada brings us back into the dim past when men wore plate armor and long hair"; also his assertion that "the history of the Australian Colonies . . . is chiefly of a commercial nature", I come to where he says, speaking of the British Isles, that time was "when England and Scotland were separate kingdoms, and—can it be believed—Ireland a wilderness inhabited by barbarians". That classic land which possessed, away back in the centuries, her world-famed schools of Bangor and Armagh, with their tens of thousands of students from all parts of Europe, including even the Saxon King, "Alfred the Great," a wilderness! The countrymen of a Columbanus, a Scotus Erigenas and thousands of others scholars of the early and middle ages; the countrymen of those almost countless missionaries who carried the light of the Christian religion to the Picts and other northern peoples, to be classed as "barbarians." Could the force of wilful falsehood or invincible ignorance further go? The land which from the earliest times has been known as the "Isle of Scholars and of Saints," to be published to the world of the nineteenth century as the home of "barbarians." Surely it were not too much to, in a manner, paraphrase the first sentence of this writer's own exordium and say:—"It is strange that in these days of general education so many men write about things of which they know absolutely nothing." Get thee, ignoramus.

But surely, Mr. Editor, some amend is due to the readers of your Magazine for this writer's display of ignorance; and in order that Mr. J. F. Morris Fawcett's attention may be directed to the matter, I ask you to give the present few words space in the next number of the Magazine.

BRANNAGH.

Ottawa, 8th May, 1894.

To the Editor of THE TRUE WITNESS:

Mr. Editor,—You have of course followed the Herbert incidents in parliament and out. With what gusto and animus the Ontario Franco-phobes and Pretrophobes have set to work to tear up the valiant General; why should they not? Are they not bound to eat up Catholics, even when it happens to be a British general. And again, fancy an English officer lauding Pontifical

zouaves and praising French soldiers! Oh, outrageous; positively outrageous! And moreover—an Englishman standing up for the French language—oh, oh, shocking!

It was too much for these cannibals, and up went the howls, with the sweet echoes in our midst. How happy certain journals were to trumpet these howlings. As to the suspension of the Adjutant-General, without entering into a discussion of the case, I merely wish to note that had not the General had against him the ill-feelings of that class of haters of all that is Catholic and French, the incident would not have created half the fuss it has excited.

Luckily, the General belongs to that class of generous, noble, high minded English Catholics who preferred torture and death (like Sir Thomas Moore) to forsaking the faith of their forefathers, at the command of the infamous Henry VIII. and his bastard daughter Elizabeth. The General's military career and reputation stand too high to be hurt or affected by the incriminations of his vilifiers.

J. A. J.

THE TRUE WITNESS.

Opinions of Numerous Readers.

Owing to the fact that we publish this week the expressions of different leading citizens upon the subject of our stand regarding the School Board appointments, we thought well to also give our readers an idea of the class of letters that are coming in from all sides and by regular mails. It is not to blow our own horn that we do so, rather is it to convince the public that when we take a question of vital importance in hand we are aware of the fact that we voice the feelings of the Irish Catholic element of our Province.

EXTRACTS FROM LETTERS.

The following is only a sample of dozens in a like strain:—

MONTREAL, May 26th, 1894.

MR. EDITOR,—Although a Protestant, I take the greatest pleasure in addressing you these few short words, in order to let you know plainly and squarely that it is with the greatest reliance that I read your exquisitely written paper. Ever, as it is, the stronghold of the Catholic Press in Lower Canada, still its views are those of the Christian; bigotry being deemed below its notice.

(Signed) J. T. B.

ROXTON POND, P.Q., June 11, '94.

GENTLEMEN,—I am to be canvassing all this summer for the Waterloo publication, and if I had your authorization I might perhaps find you subscribers for your extra good publication, the TRUE WITNESS. I will do it very willingly and with great pleasure on account of what benefit I have had from it before.

(Signed), J. F. R. TETU.

NEW CASTLE, 16th June, 1894.

EDITOR TRUE WITNESS,—I will send the balance next week, as I would not have my paper stopped for twice the amount, as I wish my home never to be without a Catholic paper, and I anxiously wait for THE TRUE WITNESS every week. I cannot say enough in praise of our Catholic organ—THE TRUE WITNESS. Respectfully yours,

(Signed), MRS. ED. HAMILL.

SHEDIAC, N.B., 1st May, 1894.

Manager TRUE WITNESS,—As I am not at work yet, I would like you to continue my paper for a month or so longer, when I'll send your money. I do not want to have it stopped, as it is too welcome a visitor each week. There are many Irish Catholic families here, and I will try to get them to subscribe to your admirable paper.

(Signed), JAMES A. CROWE.

MR. ALEXANDER CALDWELL, of Carleton County, New Brunswick, writes to say, * * * "I don't know the date when my subscription begins or ends, . . . but I send the dollar," &c. After some complimentary remarks and questions regarding business matters he expresses his great satisfaction of the non-political tone of THE TRUE WITNESS.

MR. JOHN HEARN, of Tilt Cove, says: "I have been borrowing THE TRUE WITNESS from a neighbor of mine for the past twelve months, and have found it to be both instructive and entertaining; and also that it is the most Catholic-

speaking paper I have ever read, and a most useful organ in such a place as this, as we have no priest here, except for about one month in the year. I have been reading it for others, also, during the winter, and some of them have been so much taken with its Christian spirit that they asked me to write for a few copies for them, which I here ask you to kindly send," &c.

MR. WILLIAM DUFFY, of Ottawa, writes: "I am a new subscriber of your very valuable newspaper—the best, the oldest Catholic paper I have ever read, and I have read many of them in my lifetime, and I shall ever remain a subscriber as long as you are the writer of THE TRUE WITNESS. . . . Mr. Howard speaks the truth, the solid truth, when he says your paper is surpassed by none and equalled by few," &c.

From the Mr. Howard referred to above comes the following:—"Notwithstanding the very large circulation of other Catholic papers in this city, owing to the constant and lively canvassing of their agents, I have, during a few days canvassing for THE TRUE WITNESS, succeeded in securing quite a number of subscribers, all of whom, being delighted with your paper and holding it in such high esteem, subscribed most cheerfully. . . . There is no trouble whatsoever in securing subscribers for your valuable paper, it has become so popular since you have taken hold of it—its subscription list should be great.

We could go on with a host of other letters, from priests and from leading citizens in different sections of the Province, but the majority of them contain language so flattering that we might be accused of exceptional egotism in giving them to the public. However, here are sufficient to denote the general feeling in all quarters and the consequent influence for good that a Catholic organ like the TRUE WITNESS must necessarily produce.

PERSONAL.

The Rev. Father Fahey, of St. Patrick's, is visiting at Quebec.

Judge Doherty and Miss L. Doherty are spending a few weeks at St. Lawrence Hall, Cacouna.

Mr. T. J. Quinlan, one of the directors of the TRUE WITNESS, is now spending his vacation at Old Orchard.

The Rev. Father Shea and Father Donnelly are spending their vacation together at Atlantic City, N. J.

The Rev. Father Quinlivan, P. P., of St. Patrick's Church, is spending his vacation at Caledonia Springs.

Amongst the passengers on the Vancouver who have joined the Notre Dame parish pilgrimage to Notre Dame de Lourdes, France, are Mrs. J. J. Curran and her son Louis.

On enquiry at the residence of Mr. Jack Heelan by our reporter, we learn that he is yet in a very critical condition; some hopes are, however, entertained of his recovery. Mr. Heelan is better known as one of the brilliant lacrosse players of the senior team which achieved splendid victories some years ago.

Mr. Michael Kelly, the veteran and skillful culler in the lumber and timber trade at Quebec, is now in this city and busily engaged with all his old-time energy in looking after the culling of several shipments which are being made by a leading firm of Quebec. Mr. Kelly is looking vigorous, and it is not at all improbable that he may be called upon by the Government to take up his quarters permanently in this city, where his family is located.

In our issue last week we announced the success of Mr. Frank Curran, son of the Hon. J. J. Curran, Solicitor-General of Canada, had attained in passing his final examination for admission to the practise of law in this Province; and it is now our very pleasant duty to also announce that Mr. Philip Sheridan, son of the late James Sheridan, contractor, a brilliant young graduate, has also attained the same measure of distinction, and has opened an office in the New York Life building, where he will enter upon his new career and will practise his profession. It is with most sincere pleasure that we notice the manner in which our young Irishmen of this rising generation are rapidly advancing to the front and beginning to occupy the high posts of usefulness so long held by the older generation.