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# POINTERS FOR HISTORIANS

Some Interesting Features of the Boulogne Negotiations.  
 Correspondence Published By William O'Brien, M.P., in an Article in the Contemporary Review.

## A NEW LIGHT THROWN UPON EVENTS LEADING TO THE RETIREMENT OF PARNELL

The November number of the "Contemporary Review" contains an article by Mr. W. O'Brien on the negotiations for Mr. Parnell's retirement conducted by the present leaders of the Redmonite Party with the leaders of the Nationalist Party, which for the first time lets in the full light of publicity on the hitherto much misunderstood transactions of that critical period. Mr. O'Brien presses home his statement that:—

"Mr. John Redmond, who is now the only considerable enemy of reunion, was, while Mr. Parnell was still alive, one of our most earnest auxiliaries in bringing about Mr. Parnell's retirement, and substituting for him the very man who is at this moment Chairman of the Irish Party—Mr. John Dillon.

"It can scarcely be doubted," goes on Mr. O'Brien, "that, as soon as the knowledge begins to permeate the public mind, that Mr. Dillon's policy in the Parnell crisis, whether it was a wise or an unwise one, at all events never changed in the slightest particular from its first enunciation in the Chicago manifesto down to the present hour; that its keynote was a firm insistence upon Mr. Parnell's retirement, combined with a constant warning against too much sympathy with the misfortunes of a great leader; that in the peace proposals framed in that spirit he had not only the assent of Mr. Justin McCarthy, the elected Chairman of the majority of the Irish Party, but the active co-operation of Mr. John Redmond and all his present lieutenants.

Having repeated his absolute denial of Mr. Redmond's statement at Athlone on May 21st, 1895, that Mr. Dillon's personal objection was the sole reason why Mr. O'Brien was not chosen Chairman, for whom Mr. Parnell was prepared to make way, and so the crisis might have been ended, Mr. O'Brien observes:—"In his own Athlone speech, four years after the crisis would have been brought to an end" if one of the most vilely abused of these same "betrayers of Parnell" had been put in Mr. Parnell's place. Mr. John Redmond wrote me on February 7, 1891, when the Boulogne conferences were practically over:

"I am afraid John's interview with P. at Calais had a very bad effect and accounts for much of recent events. Ever since P. has been saying if you were to be the leader, as he originally strongly urged, the difficulties would be very small. I wish to God this could be so. I well know John (Dillon) would not be the one to object."  
 The italics are Mr. Redmond's. He "well knows," now as well as then, that instead of Mr. Dillon grasping at the leadership, it was only when I insisted on his name being substituted for mine in the agreement with Mr. Parnell that any difficulty was raised by Mr. Dillon. He equally well knows that he (Mr. John Redmond) put strong and even extreme pressure on Mr. Parnell to agree to the substitution of Mr. Dillon's name for mine, and to the last moment of the Boulogne negotiations continued to press Mr. Parnell to accept the chairmanship of the present chairman of the Irish Party.

Mr. O'Brien goes on: "I have now to offer proofs of the active exertions of Mr. Redmond and his friends in inducing Mr. Parnell to retire in Mr. Dillon's favor. Let me premise by saying that none of the documents that follow were made public or even alluded to by me until these gentlemen had themselves repeatedly charged, in terms not the less injurious because conveyed by innuendoes and hints, that I had at Boulogne recanted our Chicago declaration insisting on Mr. Parnell's retirement.

On January 2, 1891, I received the following telegram from Mr. Harrington—  
 Long conference with Parnell. Think proposal in his letter going forward more simple and less likely to do harm in England. Certainly offered in best faith. Parnell very desirous to do anything fair.

HARRINGTON.  
 The letter referred to was one suggesting that private assurance should be obtained on two points in the Home Rule arrangement (police and land). Immediately on receipt of the letter I telegraphed to Mr. Harrington, (Paris, January 3, 1891)—

(Confidential). Does new proposal mean withdrawal objection to McCarthy continuing Chairman? Letter not clear on that point. If McCarthy continues Chairman, think new proposal feasible, and would do best to carry out. Wire immediately.

O'BRIEN.  
 I received the following wire in reply (Dublin, January 8, 1891)—  
 Proposal is subject. Your acceptance chairmanship, and you alone. We are with Chief in that. He would depend

back to the terms of the memo; and, under these circumstances, I have every hope that you may be able to get the changes he suggests made by Gladstone. Gill has both his suggested amendments, and as to the first I understand no difficulty arises. I am sorry to say my power for good, and that of Harrington, Clancy, etc., has been enormously lessened, if not destroyed, by the statements in the Press, especially those made yesterday, by an "Anti-Parnellite Member, who was at Boulogne," that we are determined to join McCarthy, and that you and Dillon have informed G. that you are satisfied with the assurance as already given. As to the matter of the permanent retention of the members, I don't think this will stand in the way. I can't go over to Boulogne, and if I did I could not add anything. I am doing my best, but, as I say, I fear my influence is less than ever. I must return to Ireland, where my poor mother is lying hovering between life and death. God grant you may succeed in your work in the end—Yours ever, J. E. REDMOND.

The ridiculous and, of course, wholly imaginary character of the "new condition" above referred to made it only too clear that Mr. Parnell had made up his mind against retirement. It is not necessary here to reprint the last communications that passed between us on the subject, beyond the closing words of a letter which have since received so melancholy a fulfilment, in which I remarked "how unpeppery sad and tragic it seems to me that you should be gratifying your enemies by throwing away the last chance of saving all of us from the horrible state of things that is before the country."

My last telegram to Mr. Redmond was sent on the following day, in reply to one begging me to postpone any public statement (Boulogne, February 10, 1891). It is addressed to the House of Commons, showing that Mr. Redmond had been under the necessity of returning to Dublin so precipitately as his letter of the 9th indicated:—  
 Will not publish to-night; but unless he can see his way give final answer to-night, accepting assurances as they stand, matter must absolutely close.

O'BRIEN.  
 The next day, accordingly, Mr. Dillon and myself announced that our efforts had failed and left for Folkestone. As I stepped on board the boat at Boulogne I was handed the last letter received from Mr. Parnell; and considering that a few months afterwards I was held up to execration as one of his "murderers" and "betrayers" by the very men whose own judgment agreed with ours and not with Mr. Parnell's in his final decision, it may be useful to place on record Mr. Parnell's own feelings as to the relations between us, when the Boulogne affair was over and there was no longer any reason for disguising his opinion of one whom this letter recognizes as an opponent.

[Private]  
 House of Commons, London,  
 February 11th, 1891.

MY DEAR O'BRIEN—In addition to the longer letter which I send you for publication I desire to write you a few words expressing how deeply I find the kindness and gentleness of spirit which you have shown me throughout these negotiations. I felt all along that I had no right to expect from anybody the constant anxiety to meet my views, the intense desire that all proposals claiming your sanction should be as palatable as possible to me, which have so distinguished your conduct of the communications between us. I know you have forgotten much roughness and asperity upon my part, and have made allowances for some unreasonable conduct from me, which, to anybody but yourself, would have been most difficult. I appreciate intensely the difficulties which have surrounded you in these negotiations, the constant and daily anxiety of which would have been overwhelming to anyone of less courage and devotion than yourself, and I fervently hope and believe that the prospects for Ireland are not so dark as you fear, and that after a little time, having passed through these clouds of darkness we may once again stand upon our former footing when in happier days we were comrades in arms on behalf of a United Ireland.—My dear O'Brien, always yours, CHARLES S. PARNELL.

Is it altogether indelicately to inquire whether any of the gentlemen who now claim to be Mr. Parnell's political heirs and assigns was ever the recipient of a letter from him as strongly marked with confidence and good feeling? Remember always that the proposals to which he pays generous tribute were conditional on the election of the present chairman of the Irish Party in his place. "To read the declarations of friendship and confidence showered upon Mr. Dillon and myself," says Mr. O'Brien, "in the letters above printed, side by side with the impudent misrepresentations and abuse Mr. Redmond has poured upon our heads ever since the only obstacle to our complete working agreement disappeared, forms the most curious study in cynical inconsistency to be found in the history even of an era which is adorned by Mr. Chamberlain.

WANTED IT GENERALLY KNOWN—That, as our certificate clearly states, should death take place within a month of the issuing of the certificate and an amount remains due on the certificate, it would only be necessary to pay up the amount due, and we would carry out our agreement.—The Co-Operative Funeral Expense Society, Branch office, 215<sup>1/2</sup> Notre Dame Street, managed by A. Riendeau, late with M. Feron.

# THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE CHARTER OF MONTREAL

Mayor Wilson Smith Expresses an Opinion on the Subject.

His View of the Project. Now Brought Before the Council, to Tax Land Occupied by Churches and Religious Institutions—Interesting Figures in the Matter.

Mayor Wilson Smith is the only member of the City Council who thoroughly understands the condition of our civic finances, and he never speaks upon the subject without throwing an interesting light upon it. Interviewed by a *True Witness* representative as to his views on the proposed amendment to the city charter enabling it to tax the "exempt land now held by religious institutions," he said:—

"Next year, 1897, the limit laid down by the law as to the borrowing power of the city will cease, according to the terms of that law. My opinion is that we should go down to the Legislature and ask for a new charter which would place the city's finances upon a satisfactory basis. Nothing should be done that would break faith, or have the appearance of breaking faith, with the holders of our city bonds. We know that Montreal could borrow largely upon its general credit; but probably this is all the more reason why we should be careful. If unwise legislation were obtained regarding the limit of our borrowing power, the credit not only of the city but of the province, would be injuriously affected. The importance of this point is not usually taken into consideration by those who are not engaged in the financial world.

"That we are placed in a somewhat peculiar position at present, financially speaking, is true. It is equally true a progressive city such as Montreal is cannot afford to remain at a standstill. While we all deprecate what has been done in former years in rushing improvements at lightning speed, we must not therefore come to an absolute stop. We must continue to go on at a limited pace. Our streets must be kept in proper order and repair; drains must be put down; water connections must be made; and other necessary work done.

"I think it is admitted on all hands that the revenue of the city is not sufficient to meet the ordinary expenditure for administrative purposes. The city has to pay, first, \$1,150,000 in interest on its indebtedness. Then it has to pay \$2,200,000 in school taxes. These two items alone absorb more than half of our revenue, which this year is about \$2,800,000. In addition we have what are called fixed charges, such as the lighting of the city, the care of the insane, the maintenance of prisons, the payment of a contribution towards the expenses of the Montreal asylum, the salaries of civic employees, which, with the two items just named, amount to upwards of \$2,000,000, leaving hardly \$800,000 wherewith to administer the Police, Road, Water, Fire, Health and other departments. This sum of \$800,000 is manifestly inadequate to meet the demands made upon it.

"I have often expressed my views as to the step which it is necessary to take in order to increase our revenue. I know that it is unpopular. But if our real estate were to depreciate in value, owing to impassable roadways, defective sidewalks, want of drains and water pipe connections, the general prosperity of this, the metropolitan city of the Dominion, would be injuriously affected to a considerable extent. There is a necessity for retrenchment in our expenditure—and there is an opportunity for it to—but not, in my opinion, to a degree sufficient to meet the present requirements. An increase of taxation of some sort would, therefore, appear to be a necessity. I am in favor of taxing all land, without exception, in the city. I would not be in favor of taxing edifices, such as churches, schools and hospitals. But I appreciate the difficulties which would attend the levying of this tax. I believe that the principle of taxing all land is absolutely fair, and that no one can reasonably object to it. It might be accomplished by an amicable arrangement agreed upon at a meeting of a committee representing the City Council and the clergymen and others interested in the matter. At all events, a meeting of that sort would display courtesy and good faith on our part.

"But when all is said and done, such a tax would not bring in such a large revenue as many people seem to anticipate. An exaggerated idea, I am afraid, prevails as to the amount of exempted property owned by religious institutions, etc. For my own information I took the trouble some time ago of having a little table of these properties prepared. The figures may be slightly altered for this year, but not to any appreciable extent:—

The total value of the land exempted from taxes last year was.....	\$21,030,634
Of this the amount credited to religious institutions, etc., was.....	8,692,127
Exempt factories.....	141,520
Government property.....	2,971,902
City property.....	9,225,085

The city property includes, of course, about \$6,000,000 for Mount Royal Park. From this it will be seen that out of

the \$21,000,000 worth of land exempt from taxation only about \$9,000,000 worth is in the care of religious, etc., institutions."

# AMERICAN TEACHERS. BOARD OF EDUCATION IN NEW YORK

MAKE SOME CHANGES IN THE RULES—AN INTERESTING SCALE SHOWING GRADES OF SALARIES PAID.

The Board of Education, says the *New York Herald*, has secretly revised the manual for the public schools. When the Pavey bill was under discussion in the Legislature last winter the teachers were repeatedly assured that they had nothing to fear, that their places were secure. Those who have got a glimpse of the advance sheets of the new manual say that the promises have been broken.

There are some praiseworthy regulations in the new manual, but it is believed that there are others of a contrary character to that of the old one. The power to transfer principals from one school to another is one that will not work, so it is said, to the good of the schools. Certain schools are eminent for their excellence, due to the superior character of the principal. The principal has labored for fourteen years or more to bring the school up to the highest standard of efficiency. In many cases, owing to the fact that the principal has resided in the ward, an intimate knowledge of the residents, acquired by residence, has helped materially in bringing about the discipline of the school, the first requisite of the talions process leading to perfection. Pupils find it impossible to impose upon such a principal.

Under the new rule, a principal with a maximum salary, but with an attendance inferior to that in another school, where the principal is indifferent, may be transferred, and the efficiency of the former school be more or less injured and with no immediate gain in the latter case.

The new rule is held to be discouraging to the faithful and efficient principal, and as there is no certainty of tenure of office in a school built by a principal and with which the principal has become honorably identified in the city, the result will be, it is considered, a weakening all around.

The Board has retained the absurd system of identifying salaries with attendance in regard to principals.

SALARY SCALE DISCOURAGING.  
 The salary scale for teachers is quite remarkable. The primary teachers, of whom the best and hardest work is expected, are the worst paid. A young woman, after studying for four years and passing a severe examination, begins with \$42 a year. A street sweeper receives \$720 a year. After twenty-one years of service the primary teacher receives the minimum salary of \$92—only \$192 more than the street sweeper receives.

The male teacher is only a trifle better off. He begins with \$510. Some time ago Mayor Strong told a committee of teachers that he considered the women ought to get the same salaries as the men for doing the same kind of work. At the time the committee thought he meant it. Here is the new grade of salaries:

Year.	Teachers of primary classes.	Teachers of boys' or girls' schools, or mixed classes.	Teachers of girls' schools.	Male teachers.
1	\$42	\$510	\$414	\$846
2	45	525	429	861
3	48	540	444	876
4	51	555	459	891
5	54	570	474	906
6	57	585	489	921
7	60	600	504	936
8	63	615	519	951
9	66	630	534	966
10	69	645	549	981
11	72	660	564	996
12	75	675	579	1011
13	78	690	594	1026
14	81	705	609	1041
15	84	720	624	1056
16	87	735	639	1071
17	90	750	654	1086
18	93	765	669	1101
19	96	780	684	1116
20	99	795	699	1131
21	102	810	714	1146
22	105	825	729	1161
23	108	840	744	1176
24	111	855	759	1191
25	114	870	774	1206

The initial salary of principals of primary schools is to be for the first ten years of service only \$1,500 and thereafter \$1,800. The vast majority of pupils never get further than the primary school and here the hardest work is done by principals with the lowest salary. In the girls' grammar schools the principal is to receive for the first ten years \$1,752, and thereafter \$2,016 a year. In the boys' or mixed grammar schools the graded salaries for like terms are \$2,400 and \$3,000.

A man named Lovell booked for Johannenberg by the Union steamer Norman, which sailed from Southampton on November 6th, spent the previous evening at a local theatre. He divested himself of his overcoat, in the pocket of which were notes and drafts to the value of £2,986, hanging it over the balcony. He left the circle for a few minutes, and on returning missed the money from the coat. He had incurred a bill at the hotel and was left without a penny. Inquiries failed to trace the property, but the following morning it was handed in at the police station by a working man, who had picked it up in the pit of the theatre. The man was rewarded with £5.

# A BRITISH SPY GIVES EVIDENCE

The Case of Ivory the Alleged Dynamiter.

He is Committed for Trial—Testimony of "Jones," an Informer—His Career in New York.

Edward J. Ivory, alias Edward Bell, the alleged Irish American Dynamiter, who was recently arraigned in the Bow Street Police Court, London, Eng., has been committed for trial.

At the last day's proceedings in the Police Court a witness was called to the stand whose name was withheld from the public, but was written on a piece of paper and handed to the clerk. Before the examination of this witness began newspaper and other artists were warned that if they were detected making sketches of the witness the court room would be cleared.

When the witness was called to the stand Prosecutor Gill said that the Government for obvious reasons declined to disclose the man's name, whereupon the Magistrate, Sir John Bridge, said, "Call him Jones." The witness was sharply cross examined by counsel for the defence, but his direct testimony was not materially altered.

Jones said that he was sent to the United States in 1891 by the British Government. After arriving in New York he obtained employment with a firm of grocers in that city to avoid suspicion. In 1895 he became a shop-owner and got fully into the confidence of the Irish Nationalists. After entering the Shamrock Club, Camp 113, he helped to start a new camp called the Nally Club.

"Early in 1892," the witness said, "I became acquainted with a man named Boland, who introduced me to William Lyman, the owner of a paper called the Irish Republic. Lyman also controlled the United Irishman. He is President of the Irish National Alliance. When the Nally Club was formed Boland became its President, and W. J. Balby, vice-President, succeeded him upon the death of Boland in 1895. I attended all of the meetings of the club, and as Secretary and Treasurer had access to all of the papers of this organization, and also the organization with which the Nally Club was connected.

"I obtain a complete set of documents, covering several years, containing the names of members and changes in the organization, including the details of the Conventions, names of the delegates from the different camps, etc. One Convention was held in 1892 and the next was held in Chicago in September, 1895. Kearney's camp was 152. It has since been disbanded. Kearney is now Vice-President of Camp 81. Tynan's camp is 98, and Lyman's 81.

"In going to the Chicago Convention in 1895 the members had a special car from New York to a place called 'Ferry.' I met Kearney, who introduced me to the prisoner, saying he was a brother." Jones then produced the documents he had mentioned, including the ritual of the Clan-na-Gael, which Prosecutor Gill read, showing that the object of the United Republican Brotherhood was to achieve the complete independence of Ireland by revolution. The witness was extremely nervous. He shifted about constantly, and cast furtive glances in all directions, fearing that he would be sketched. He admitted that he had acted throughout as a British agent, and had copied and preserved the documents submitted at the instance of the British Government.

Jones said that part of the money contributed to the Nally Club was devoted to a revolutionary fund, and money was also called for to pay for celebrations of the death of the "Manchester martyrs" and to assist the convicted dynamiters. While going to Chicago in 1895, he said, Tynan, who was with the party, told him that Ivory was a member of Tynan's camp, and that he had known him in Dublin before 1882.

CONTINUED ON EIGHTH PAGE.

**J-suit Mission.**  
 We learn that during the week beginning Dec. 13th, a mission for men and youths will be held at the Gesù. The name of the preacher will be announced later.

**C. M. B. A.**  
 At a meeting of St. Anthony's Branch, No. 50 C.M.B.A., held last evening, final arrangements were made for the 10th anniversary of the Branch. It was at first intended to hold the celebration on Monday, Nov. 30th, but the date has been changed to Thursday, Nov. 26th, at 8 P.M. The supper and social is to take place in the hall adjoining the establishment of Mr. Dixon, the well known caterer, 2446 St. Catherine Street. Good local talent has been secured for the occasion, and a most enjoyable time is promised to all who may attend.