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VOL. XIII., No. 48

TORONTO, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 1905

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#### TOPICS OF AN OLD-TIMER

But Home Rule Not Favored.

I have received from the publishers. Morang & Co., Toronto., a new volume entitled "Irish History and the Irish Question," by Goldwin Smith, the veteran author and publicist. I am glad Mr. Smith has turned his pen in this direction, because his views will be looked upon with deference and treated with respect.

I have known Prof. Smith by reputation for a very long time-since he commenced to write his views on colonial questions back in the early In fact it was my lot to in those days. His sympathies were ment then, as they are or partly are, with Ireland as shown by this volume, now. Mr. Smith has general views of his own, some of which are in accord with Irish views, and some In the work before me he ment of Ireland by England in the past, but being a free-thinker and ity offers. And although liberal otherwise to Irish demands, he is hosdence in fact rather than the pos-Irish party as a party is deceiving No doubt there may be individuals with a good deal of plausability too. best efforts. Nothing produces prosworthy of their freedom. had comparative freedom in her union with Sweeden, yet she was not satisned. Had Ireland but half of the thought so too. advantages that Norway possessed.

she would be politically happy. a position to do best her own be- Republic. hests for her own behoof. Whatever dream but an absurdity. Irishmen now do in a governmental England's glory, and this is a huhowever, that has to look facts in the face, cannot and must-not be moved by such considerations in wisely shaping its destinies, and the Irish leaders are not fools nor the Irish people mere dupes. Government all the world over is a creation of compromises. And in dealing with a near and superior, and I might say; an overshadowing nation, the Irish must be content to submit to many things she does not like for sake of great law of the universe and those who are unable to adjust themselves to it are unfit to govern or be wisely governed. The spirit of revenge is an unholy spirit and while it rankles has to be subdued.

The Irish nation has been the worst governed nation in the world. people has ever suffered so much or so long, or so hopelessly. The English Government reduced them to savagery and then blamed them for being dom.

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savage. They are an old race of people, with virtues and faults of their own. But when given a chance, no people ever more quickly adopted new or better conditions. The Irish, while division among them is a grie-Review of a New Work by Goldwin vous fault, have always moved en Smith, Entitled "Irish History and masse. Witness the rapidity and unanimity with which they abandoned the Irish Question"-Some of His heathenism and embraced the Chris-Criticisms of the Irish Answered tian faith at the behest of St. Pat-Past Wrongs Condemned by Him- rick; witness the enthusiasm they throughout the world. Witness with what readiness the whole nation it may be said, abandoned the use intoxicating liquors at the call of Fa-ther Mathew. When Daniel O'Connell called for their presence at the monster meetings to prove that they favored a repeal of the accursed union, they presented themselves in uncountable thousands. Their emigration to America was in multitudes. Apathy and indifference are not Irish faults. They have other traits of character that mark them as a sucommit some of those views to type proved false to the service in which educated themselves, preserved the with the colonies in their ill-treat- are a people that ought to be pre- civilization among the people. served; but in place of preserving their celibacy they had a great them England has sought their des- advantage for such work." But even this does not truction. justify a desire for revenge, but a of which are hostile to Irish inclina- terference in some instances in Irish suppressed. Its place was partly taaffairs is to an extent justifiable, for unequivocally condemns the govern- the priest in the days of oppression the inlets of the Irish coast afforded was the peasants' best friend. Mr. anti-Catholic in his religious unbe- have contended for religious instead his hostility breaks out ever of non-religious education in Irish educational, social and commercial, and anon to the Catholic clergy and schools. He condemns Daniel O'Con-Catholic religion wherever opportun- nell for relying on their support in seeking Catholic Emancipation and Repeal of the Union. He would be a tile to the demand for Home Rule. fool not to bring to his aid the best This is comewhat strange, too, com- educated and the most popular body ing, as it does, from an avowed anti- in the country. He would make out imperialist. But he misleads him- Daniel O'Connell a selfish agitator inself when he asserts that the aim of stead of a true benefactor to his the Irish party is national indepen- country, and accuses him of appropriating the repeal rent that his assosession of a local parliament as ciation gathered, all to his own persought for. I do not think that the sonal use, instead of the uses of the Association of which he was the life. itself or anybody else in this way. And he blames him for using his powers of invective on his enemies. Mr. who maintain such a preference and Smith forgets how necessary that invective was to be used against a because no nation can be too indepen- class who were simply brutal in their dent of any other nation to arouse treatment of him, and met his just latent energies, and put forth her demands with disdain and derision, would refer Mr. Smith for whom perity like the liberty to prosper, and I have the greatest respect, to Mr. it is those nations that have been Wendell Philipps' estimate of him, most free that have proved most and he considered him unselfish, and Norway generous, and he was not the only great American who did so. there were many just Englishmen who

I do not think the Home Rule Parnation is a'ways justified in seeking ty seeks the establishment of an Irish That would be not a forbids union, the ocean separation" capacity is not for freland's but for was the declaration of Henry Grattan; and I believe all level-headed miliation for a proud-spirited peo- Irishmen agree with him. Does any ple hard to brook. And there are sane man suppose that the great Euothers who cannot forget the penal ropean monarchies with England at laws, the famines, and the coercion their head, would allow the existence acts, and are imbued with a spirit of such an anachronism, for a moof revenge and antagonism, hard to ment? While I might personally wish A great national party, it, I am not such a fool as to beat has to look facts in the lieve in the possibility of it. Home Rule is no dream, no absurdity, and however much men like Mr. Smith disbelieve in its possibility, it will It is not only a have to come. strong national Irish desire, but parliamentary necessity. Mr. Smith knows as well as anybody knows that the British Parliament needs another reformation. Legislation is now too tardy, too costly, and too cumber-Look at the sloth with which some. peace and harmony. Harmony is the measures move, the "red tape" of its proceedings and what the expense of private bills come to. As a matter of economy Home Rule to both Ireland and Scotland would be a blessing to England as well. When Ireland had her own parliament, shortlived as it was, imperfect as it was, it gave Ireland a prosperity it never Irish in the United States, and of knew before nor since; and when Irewas robbed of it, there has been poor.

> "Twice," says Mr. Smith, "had an army of Irish-Catholics been raised for the destruction of English liber-I think this is as untrue as it is ungenerous. The Irish Catholies, seeking liberty for themselves, would be the last to endeavor to enslave others, whatever combinations of certain powers may have sought to accomplish. If the Pope once sent aid to Ireland it was not for the purpose of enslaving a nation, but giving freedom to a down-trodden people. The writer, however, relieves people. The writer, howev himself when he remarks:

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policy of the Penal Code ven them by their tact and energy

"In extirpating the Catholic relionly from utter degradation, the people braved the law, celebrated mass in hiding places, furtively ordained, sevperior race. They have at times, to the man ordained might be able to be sure, fought against England, but swear that he did not know who had as enlisted soldiers with an eath ordained him. They taught in hedge binding their consciences, they never schools, and though but coarsely thousands of them died. The Irish scantling there was of knowledge and

Again: The lawful trade of wool plea for harmony. The priestly in- with foreign countries England had ken by a smuggling trade, for which the best of havens, and which had Smith condemns them because they the people everywhere for confederates. Thus, in every line, religious. Park assassinati us; but were they the Irish found the (English) law his London Times to fasten them on the inveterate enemy. Could he fail to Irish leader, Parnell, in which it forbe an inveterate enemy of the law?"

> Mr. Smith, in his book, quotes T. P. O'Connor's description of the Irish in which criminality justly attaches Whigs were in power at this time, gret those deeds of violence as much improving the public highways by, more or less lawlessness, and more making them worse. Lord Russell in England, perhaps, than anywhere said in a speech in Parliament that else. There were the Lord Gordon terfered with by the government in Charles Dickens so graphically deshigher prices, much of the grain in Sheffield; and the trades union Caswall, William Palmer, the relief of the sufferers, which right, as I remember it well; but if there was an Irish Parliament in exstence would not so great a calamity be met in a much more effective way? Certainly it would.

tuencies were mostly political advenrupted as they were.

Mr. Smith dwells a good deal on Price \$1.50. the over-population of the country before the famine. The overpopulation existed because the manufactures of the country, her commerce and her trade had been destroyed by adverse English legislation. He talks about the freedom of trade Ireland enjoys with England; but he must know very well that is only advantageous England whose manufacturers competition, will not allow a solitary ance, with its ethereal effect, is article to be manufactured in Ireland if they can help it.

Mr. Smith gives several digs to the course has a fling at Tammany Hall as an Irish institution. The facts are hardly a happy day in that that the Irish possess the genius for distressed and ill-used king- organizing better than any other peo-

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Ye Olde Firme of Heintz-

ple and are alive to the advantage gifailed. To the faith which was their The Clan-na-Gael comes in for it too, comfort and sole redemption but all Irishmen by no means believe in that mischievous body, which more than ever clung. The priests have heard denounced by men that Mr. Smith, no doubl, would set down as fire-brands and disturbers. eral hands being laid on at once that proportion of that body to the general Irish population in the United States is small indeed and they are therefore, a mere bug-bear. Mr. Smith notices that the Irish in the democratic party were not conspicuous in the last presidential election. That was because the Irish abandoned the Democratic eandidate and voted for the Republican candidate and their friend. Roosevelt, whom they triumphantly

> Space will not permit me to reply to all of Mr. Smith's criticisms on the Irish both at home and in America, which he freely indulges in. refers to the unfortunate Phoenix more vile than the attempt of the tunately badly failed.

There may be a few circumstances famine of 1846-7, which is one of to mistaken and foolish Irishmen. the saddest chapters in human his- but Mr. Smith must know that all Lord John Russell and the good and patriotic Irishmen must rethe course of trade could not be in- riots; against the Catholics that meeting the distress. So the specu- cribes in his story of Barnaby lators had their own way in taking Rudge; the Chartist riots, in which advantage of it; and in holding up for four persons were killed in one night much praise was due to English char- received the recognition of the law by

Irish act of lawlessness cited by Mr. for him Newman may be said to have Smith, he of course knows were the consequences of wrongs perpetrated followed the great Tractarian was by the aggressions on a high-spirited sufficiently large to produce a pro-Mr. Smith comments upon the cor- and oppressed people. The Irish are found sensation. Never before ruption of some Irish members of Par- far from being a lawless people and so large a body of the English clerliament of the Sadlier and ' Keough Mr. Smith fails to recognize that the gy seceded since the "Reformation. He must remember, however, Ireland of to-day is the most crime- No wonder, then, that the 9th of Octhat there was no organized Irish less country in the world. In justice tober is a great day for us; our party in the House of Commons at he should have made this fact an off- thoughts naturally turn with that time, and it must be known that set to the agrarian and political and veneration towards him who, like those who represented Irish consti-crimes that he seems to have plea- ourselves, has gone out "from among sure in mustering up against them. his people," along the narrow pathturers for whom the Irish people were But I for one thank Mr. Smith for way which led him, as it has led not responsible, disorganized and dis-rupted as they were. giving us this work so full of facts us, through "pastures green," by and so useful of reference. Morang & Co. of Toronto are the publishers.

WILLIAM HALLEY.

#### The Music of Palestrina

All lovers of Catholic Church music will note with interest and satisfaction the appearance of the name of Palestrina on the programme of the Mendelssohn Choir during their cycle with their large capital and well-or- of concerts to be held in February ganized system, and their crushing next. The work chosen for performsurpassing beauty.

At a recent rehearsal of this work the conductor, Mr. A. S. Vogt, commented: "After listening to composition of the great Palestrina one can sympathize with and appreciate the efforts of Pope Pius X. restore the purity of the music of the Catholic Church!"

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#### DIAMOND JUBILEE

Recalls a Great Movement-Picture of land's Greatest Convert.

Writing in the London "Catholic Times," F. J. T. Headon says:

Monday, October 9, was a great

anniversary for us converts, a day of gratitude and of thanksgiving, this year is the diamond jubilee of the reception of the greatest of converts since the "Reformation." Sixty years have passed now since that October day in 1845, and the years that have only added to its importance and made it a day long memorable in the religious annals of England, when Newman, the greatest of Oxford men then, knelt as a little child before Father Dominte and whispered the profession of faith with which all England was to be ringing ere many days were over. Till the very day of John Henry Newman's reception in the Church hopes were entertained by his Anglican friends that he might still repent of his intention; nor was the fact of his conversion believed even after it had occurred. Speaking of this same year Dean Church says: 'It was not till the summer that the first drops of the storm began to fall. Then through the autumn and the next year friends whose names and forms were familiar in Oxford one by one disappeared and were tost in it. Fellowships, livings, curacies, intended careers were given up." It was a great shock to the Church of England, a shock from which she can never recover. The heart of the nation was moved. Lord John Russell mourned over that secession; Lord Beaconsfield said the Anglican Church reeled under the shock; Mr. Gladstone went on regretting it even to his last days; Dr. Pusey has told us the tale of his grief, and so also has John Keble, and men will go on They did nothing to meet the terible as others; but connected with all to tell it, that remarkable event of calamity but vote some money for popular movements there always is October 9, 1845. And now that Newman had led the way, "the Kindly Light, from amid the encircling gloom," with what pleasure do we read of the others who followed. Among the many we may mention Ambrose St., John, Frederick W. Faber, Hope Scott, Ward, the two Wilberforces, Frederick Oakley, Edward Thomas their possession rotted in their ware- riots of fifty or sixty years ago, and W. Allies, Stanton and Bowles, of Mr. Smith, however, says which ceased only when trades unions the London Oratory. Converts came too thick and fast almost to allow of recognition, until six years afterwards, in 1851, high above One wrong usually brings on anoth- his fellows, rose the memorable figer by way of retaliation, and those ure of Henry Edward Manning; even

> The number who cleared the path. "City of Confusion" to the "City of God. But of converts, whether of Tractarian or of latter days, none so noble, none so great as John Henry Newman. He has been the pioneer of that great army which, leaving behind them friends, and human ambitions, had resolutely shut their ears to the soft syren blandishments of "Anglo-Catholicism. to listen only to the wise and tender counsels of their true Mother, which lead to the rest, and peace and safety of the one true fold, "the Pillar and Ground of Truth," which can neither deceive nor be deceived, because God is her infallible Guide. He, the great leader, was home at last to where "his soul would have its rest," and he has himself told us that his admission into the Catholic Church was like getting into harbor after being tossed about on a stormy sea. Consciously or unconsciously almost every convert. suppose, from Anglicanism has been nfluenced by that great mind and that great example; and we, like

our leader, have gone out from our ather's home, from kith and kin, to the haven where we would be. and as it was with him, so it has been with so many of us; the exodus has been attended with heart-searching parting and severance keener than those outside it can think. The profound calm of these moments was

like nothing else in life. The welcome

stillness of the storm-tossed ship coming into haven is but a feeble image of it, the rest of the body after long hours of pain, but the material counterpart. No more doubt, no Oxford Presented-Sketch of Eng. more fear, no more driving before wind and waves, no more sick sinking of spirit, no more strife and struggle between things as they are and things as one wished them to be: 'All journeys end in welcome to the

> weary. So Father Faber, who himself had made the journey, sang, and so we can sing, too, now.

So with heartielt thankfulness we look forward to and keep the great anniversary of October 9, 1845-that event which caused an immense sensation throughout England. brought sorrow to the hearts of many, but he went his way quietly, yet with a sorrowing heart; for he had now to abandon the home which he had loved so well, and the friends he most loved were lost to him, or turned away, grieved or shocked, from him, and fell into other paths, or contracted other ways of thinking. To him it was like the dividing of the marrow from the bones. He went out from Oxford, almost like a martyr to strangers. But love of truth. fearless courage and a high sense of duty led him on, and brought to him the fulness of interior peace and joy which surpasses the understanding. Therefore with thankful hearts we say: "I believe in the Holy Catholic Church. In its bosom I became Thy child and in its bosom I hope "O harbinger of to live and die. day! O hope of the pilgrim! us still as thou hast led; in the dark night, across the bleak wilderness, guide us on to our Lord Jesus, guide us home." Yes, guide us home, we who are in that "Fold which draws all peoples and tongues into ecclesiastical unity," that Fold and that Church, the one True Church, which claims to be "Mother of us all." 'And with the morn those angel

Which I have loved long since and lost awhile.

faces smile

#### A Blow at Gaelic

In the recent debates on public education, in the British House of Com-Secretary Long threatened that, from 1906 forward, the special fees for the teaching of extra jects in the national schools of Ireland would be withdrawn. If this should be carried into effect, a serious blow would be struck at the teaching of Irish in the schools. Last (1904) special fees for as an extra subject, were paid in respect of 25,984 pupils in 1,116 schools in Ireland. That is to say, a sum of £13,000 or thereabouts, was paid for the teaching of Irish. Compared with previous years this was a great advance, as in 1903 the number of pupils in respect of whom special fees for Irish were paid was only 11,175, in 553 schools, and in 1902, 2,002 in 225 schools. Of course, it was all Irish money, taken out of the taxes paid by the Irish people; and as such, it could not be applied better purpose. The placing of the language among the extra subjects, liable to the exigencies of the results system, however, shows the continued existence of the hostility to it always manifested by the government; and this latest threat to make that hostility active is in keeping with all the other movements of the Tory regime with regard to Irish in-

#### Days and Nights in the Tropics

This new book by Rev. Dean Harris, formerly of St. Catharines, will be much appreciated by our readers. 'After years of roaming through strange lands, in the byways and trails outside the lines of travel,' writes the author, "the man who has kept a record of his experiences ought to have something worth telland ought also to be able to correct erroneous statements and re-arrange some popular opinions made and formed of these strange lands and their peoples." Dean Harris we know to be a brilliant man and his writings certainly add to his brilliancy. The descriptions of the tropical lands and the peoples are so interesting that the reader is carried along with the tourist and every point is noted.

The book contains many illustrations, is of good paper, well printed and bound and worthy of a place in any library. Messrs. Morang & Co., Limited, the publishers, have donated a copy to the boys of the De la Salle Institute



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