

ADDRESS FROM THE GRAND ORANGE LODGE OF IRELAND.

Londonderry, May 15, 1850.

Since the last meeting of the Grand Orange Lodge for Ireland, our institution has been subjected to serious trials, and the members of our body have been exposed to much temptation. Taking advantage of an act of parliament, passed with a view to prohibit party processions, and thus interdicting our loyal anniversary displays, as well as those of an opposite character and tendency, ill-advisers have endeavoured to exasperate evil passions in the hearts of many of our brethren, and have acted as agents in our adversaries' behalf, by suggesting as arguments for the dissolution of our society—the very reasons that should draw us into closer and more fraternal confederation.

Under such circumstances, it is cheering to be able to state, that these pernicious agencies have been employed without success. But of the nineteen hundred lodges of Orangemen in Ireland, not more than eighteen private lodges have wavered in their fidelity to the great principles of the institution, and of these more than seven have repented of their lapse, and desired to be again incorporated with our body.

But it is necessary to bear in mind that serious evil has been done by the precipitancy of some misled individuals; and when it is remembered that a hostile press is ready to turn any act of rashness or misconduct against us, we trust that the remembrance will induce every brother to observe during this season of trial, more than ordinary circumspection.

The cases in which our brethren have separated from the institution have occurred in the districts of Fintona and Stewardstown; in the county of Tyrone, and, as has been alleged, in the districts of Portadown, county of Armagh. In the cases of separation in Stewardstown, apologies have been tendered for the misconduct and desires expressed for re-admission into the society. In the alleged case of misconduct, at Portadown the allegation was untrue; there was no ground for it. The stigma of insubordination was attempted to be affixed on the brethren by an individual not a member of our body, and who was and is wholly unable to influence the members of a single lodge in the districts to which he once belonged. We are happy to say, that the districts of Portadown is in a state of the highest efficiency, and as it has been faithful to the principles of the institution.

While we congratulate the brethren at large, that, in circumstances of unusual trial and discouragement, and tempted by agencies of seduction more than ordinary insidious our society has been so effectually protected, we feel, that in the observations we have now to offer, we are not giving utterance to new things, but simply recalling old truths to remembrance.

The Orange Institution was not founded for purposes of parade or display. It was not designed to prove a convenience to any ministry, or a system of aggression on any description of people. It was instituted at a time of extreme peril, for the purpose of giving to our religion, our properties, and lives, that protection which law, in this country, was wholly incapable of affording. For a space of fifty-five years the institution has been very instrumental under God, in effecting these good objects. During these years, in trials and difficulties seldom equalled, it has never proved recreant to the principles, on which it was based—nor has it ever been found ill suited to the emergency for which it was designed to make provision.

If a change has passed over the spirit or temper of persons or parties in Ireland, such as encourages us to believe that life, property, and religion are sure of protection from the law, and safe from the adverse assaults of open and secret enemies, a time has come when we may deliberate on the wisdom of disavowing those bonds of association which have been found of so great power and efficacy. But if we believe that there is still dark conspiracy which aims at subverting the established order of things—if there are systems of outrage which threaten the peace and comfort of individual life—if governments and legislators instead of resisting evil and upholding law, are so influenced that they regard atrocities of disaffected men, not as evil deeds which are to be punished, but as arguments to which the law must yield deference—if the state perseveres in that course of concession, which strengthens while it does not conciliate enemies, and which endangers most seriously the permanent security of loyal men—then surely, it would ill befit us who have derived such benefit in former times of peril from our close union in the bonds of the Orange Institution, to deny ourselves, at a time like this, the advantages it is still so eminently calculated to afford us.

But adversaries say—how can you submit to be classed as on the same level with Ribbonmen, and to be denied a privilege dear to British subjects, that of openly displaying your attachment to the institution in the manner you most desire. We answer them that it was not for such displays we combined, and that as long as we can have the solid benefit of union, we will submit rather than lose it, to the restraints which prohibit our public display. It is thus, we should remember many of our loyal brethren in the more southern provinces maintain their principles and their cause Faithful, as the most faithful in Ulster, to that great cause, they prove their fidelity by moral and religious lives and by obedience to the laws of their country and the rules of our institution, although they never appear in public processions. And so it may be with us now. If there be among us, brethren more ambitious of parade and display than of the substantial advantages which union ensures to society, we tell them that such ambition are at variance with the spirits of our society, as set forth in its acknowledged rules. And to our brethren at large—who love with true affection the Orange society, and would gladly observe our great anniversary festival with all the publicity that law and good morals sanction we, offer greeting and advice—let us all cherish the principles of our institution and retain its benefits, although we are required to relinquish those public celebrations which are naturally dear to us.

One thing we must never forget. All that man can do against us will be as nothing—all that man can do to aid us will be as nothing, unless so far as our Almighty Ruler is pleased to ordain—and we cannot seek His favour unless we submit to the laws enacted by those whom He has set in authority. We must obey for conscience sake. There is not a trial that befalls us as a body or as individuals, in which we are not bound to recognise an occasion of obedience proposed to us by a merciful God. And if the ordinary accidents of life may be thus instrumental for our good, how careful should we be to respect and obey in the laws of our country some gracious purpose of an Almighty Father.

Let it be, then, our word of hope, as it is of duty to say—“For conscience sake we will obey the law—with a true conscience we will be steadfast to the principles of our society; and the more angrily our open enemies rage against us, and the more insidiously treacherous assailants seek our overthrow, the more cordially will we cement our bonds of brotherhood—the more warmly will we cherish principles and feelings of loyalty to our gracious Sovereign, good will towards all men, and stout fidelity to the laws and ordinances of our time-honoured institution.”

WM VERRER, Bart., D. G. M., Chairman.

**IMPORTANT INTELLIGENCE!**—THREE MILLIONS GUARANTEED BY THE HOME GOVERNMENT FOR THE RAILWAY TO QUEBEC!—The Halifax Recorder of Saturday last, contains the highly important intelligence that the Home Government have consented to guarantee a rate of interest of 4 per cent. on £3,000,000 sterling, for the purpose of constructing the Halifax and Quebec Railway. This is the most interesting news we have ever received from Great Britain, if true, and must have a most beneficial effect on the future prospects of these Colonies.

The Recorder says, that the Canadian Land and Railway Association have, by their indomitable energy and perseverance, at length enlisted the able and spirited influence of Lord Stanley and Lord Monteaigle in favour of the Railroad. These noblemen, both eminent men, and well adapted to influence the Councils of the Nation, have assisted materially in impressing the Government favourably towards the undertaking, and Lord John Russell has spoken plainly and directly to the point, and now “assents to a Government guarantee of 4 per cent. on £3,000,000 of money for the purpose of building the Railroad. He also was pleased to say that he would instruct some gentleman of the Executive Government to communicate with Lord Stanley on matters of detail.”

If this intelligence should prove correct, the highest credit is due to the Messrs. Young, of Halifax, and the Company in England, who have worked most indefatigably in the furtherance of this great work, and through whose instrumentality there is now a prospect of its being commenced; but still we are inclined to be sceptical, especially as we find a correspondent of the Recorder writing on the subject as follows:

This is a matter of high import to these Colonies, and a fact which will gladden the hearts of multitudes of Her Majesty's Loyal subjects who have long and anxiously cherished the hope of such a consummation. But the British Government will not force upon us any Railroad—nor will they confer a boon of such magnitude as the endorsing our credit to such an extent is, without expecting to hear from us in reply. To secure any substantial benefit even from this offer and assurance on the part of Great Britain, it is indispensable that we as colonists, exhibit the deep and increasing interest existing with regard to the erection of this Railroad. We must put our shoulders to the wheels, and we must now increase our zeal, and double our diligence, in order to demonstrate our sincerity.

For these reasons I propose that on a certain day, far enough in the future to be made sufficiently public throughout the Colonies, a Simultaneous Meeting be held for the avowed object of promoting the Railroad. It matters but little what day shall be selected; suppose then I say Saturday the 20th day of July next. It is my firm conviction that if we actively and assiduously persevere, we shall yet have the Railroad. If we sit and fold our hands, and sigh and wish for it only, we shall never see it, as we deserve we never should.

**SLAVER CAPTURED!**—The Kingston (Jamaica) Standard contains the following account of the capture of the Brazilian Brig Clementina, with Africans, by her Majesty's Schooner Bermuda, Lieut. Jolly:—

The Bermuda, it seems, was at anchor in the Bight of Pines, off the Isle of Pines, on the south side of Cuba, on the 20th ult., when a low suspicious looking brig was discovered, outside, steering for the land, but without showing any colors. Suspecting the vessel to be a slaver, Lieut. Jolly immediately got his little vessel under way, and stood out for the purpose of overhauling her and examining her. The brig, however, on discovering the Bermuda, at once altered her course, and made all sail off the land, the Bermuda in chase, and it was not until after a run of 49 hours, when the chase had made a considerable way into the Gulf of Mexico, that the Bermuda succeeded in disabling her, and making her a prize. In the course of the chase, eighty shots were fired from the Bermuda, many of which told in the rigging, which was eventually so disabled as to make her an easy prize. She proved to be the Clementina, of Rio Janeiro, 176 tons, Brazilian measurement, commanded by Joas Goncalves Bandeira. She had on board, when taken, 280 slaves, of whom, however, several have died since their capture from the state of debility in which they were in consequence of the want of food, which was entirely out when she was captured. The vessel had Brazilian papers, dated in November, 1849, and prior to her surrender she hoisted Brazilian colors. She had taken a Cuban pilot on board, and was about to land her cargo on the Isle of Pines, when discovered by her Majesty's Schooner.

It is also stated that during the chase both vessels must have run upwards of three hundred miles, and that out of sixty rounds of shot fired from the Bermuda, not less than thirty-five took effect in the slaver's rigging, spars, and

sails, such was the precision of her gunnery: motives of humanity caused the hull to be spared, as it was considered certain that a number of Africans were confined below, among whom dreadful havoc must have been made had the Bermuda's shot been directed at the hull, besides running the risk of sinking the brig. Such was the determination of the captain of the slaver, that he would not surrender until his masts and rigging were cut to pieces by the Bermuda's fire; and it was only when the helmsman's hat had been shot through and he quitted the wheel, followed by a volley of musketry from the Bermuda, that the captain would at last give in.

**MORE INTERESTING VISITORS.**—The Ripon brought home a collection of birds and beasts from Ethiopia, Abyssinia, and other parts of the world. There were a fine Young lion and leopard, a wild hog, a pair of pelicans, three eagles, a gazelle, three lynxes, two musk cats, a Sahara ibex (a goat with magnificent horns), a number of kangaroo rats a little larger than English mice, of a very light brown colour, and remarkable for the length of their hind as compared with their fore legs, several Cashmere goats, a wild cat rather larger than a domestic one, marked like a leopard, with a beautiful head. There were also a number of venomous serpents and gigantic lizards; several of the cobra capellas were as big round as a man's wrist. The beasts, birds, and reptiles were attended to by several grim and picturesque looking Arabs and Abyssinians, many of the former with large grisly beards. Amongst them were two African serpent charmers; one of the latter was a lad, a strange little shrivelled-face fellow, who caused much amusement by his comic manners, his grotesque dress, and daring handling of the beasts and reptiles. In each of his ears were two brass bead-curtain rings, his trousers did not reach below his knees, and he wore a pair of large Wellington boots. His legs and boots appeared like two mahogany posts in a pair of leathern buckets. He played with, and teased the most savage of the beasts and reptiles, with the most daring intrepidity; but the most extraordinary performances of this youthful charmer, were with the venomous serpents, at the request of the Admiralty agent; and for the trifling backsheesh of a silver sixpence, for which he made a profound and slave-like salaam, he exhibited his power over the serpent tribe to the writer of this notice when he went on board the Ripon in Southampton docks.

He took out the cobra capellas from a box, fondled with them, kissed their heads and mouths, held them in his mouth, irritated them apparently to madness by scratching them on the back, and even suffered them to bite him without experiencing any apparent injury. It was a singular sight to see one of these serpents irritated, standing firmly on a small portion of his tail while the body was forming graceful curves, and it was preparing to spring upon the boy with its mouth open and its fangs quivering.

The greatest curiosity, however, brought by the Ripon was the Hippopotamus. The one brought home in the Ripon is a male specimen, in good health, about ten months old, and 500lbs weight. It fed on milk and rice, about 80 pints daily of the former, and the latter was consumed both boiled and raw. A number of cows and goats were kept on board the Ripon to supply the milk.

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**SERIOUS RIOT AT PANAMA.**—We learn that serious disturbances had occurred between the Americans and some of the natives of Panama, in which two Americans and several natives were killed, and a few of each wounded. The affair, it appears, commenced by the Americans accusing a lad, the son of one of the natives of Panama, of theft, of which the others believed him innocent. The riot resulted in the death of two Americans, (Mr. Wm. A. Sempler, of New York, and Mr. John Everett, of Cayuga county, N. Y.) and one person wounded severely, and several natives killed.

Numerous robberies are occurring daily on the Isthmus, and great watchfulness of one's baggage is necessary to prevent theft.

The Consuls, of the foreign nations acknowledged in this port, in view of the present state of affairs in this city and its neighbourhood, and with the purpose of giving protection to the grave and various interests which are under their charge, have the honour to inform the Governor of the province that it is their duty to protest in the most solemn manner, against all the acts which have taken place, and which may occur, to cause danger to the lives and property of the citizens of their respective countries.

The St. Andrews and Quebec Railroad is going ahead. We understand that an American company offered \$50,000 for the right of the present company, but was not accepted. This is a strong indication that the project is not chimerical. St. John influence and opposition are benefiting instead of injuring the undertaking.—Calais Advertiser.