

ST. PATRICK'S FIRST CONVERT.

(The following extracts from McGee's poem on the subject of St. Patrick's first convert, will give an idea of the great Apostle, of his work, and of the fulfilment of his hopes concerning Ireland's adherence to the Faith.)

"He was no Druid of the wood,
Arm'd for the sacrifice of blood;
He was no poet, vague and vain,
Chanting to chiefs a fulsome strain;
His reverent years and thoughtful face
Gave to his form the Patriarch's grace;

His sacred song declared that he
Shared in no gross idolatry!"

"Mildly to tell, the holy man
The story of our Faith began—
Of Eve, of Christ, of Calvary,
The hallowed and the healing tree;
Of God's omnipotence and love,
Of sons of earth, now saints above;
Of Peter and the Twelve, of Paul,
And of his own predestined call."

"Leahaire, the last of our pagan kings,
In terror from his slumber springs,
For he had dreamt his daughters
Fair
Pillars of fire on Tara were,
And that the burning light thence
streaming
Melted the idols in his dreaming—
And the dream of Leahaire, our an-
nals say,
Was fulfil'd in the land in an after
day."

ST. PATRICK'S DAY.

THE A. O. H.—This powerful as- sociation will do honor to the closing hours of the day of celebration by holding a grand entertainment in the Windsor Hall, which will no doubt be attended by its hosts of admirers.

ST. PATRICK'S SOCIETY.—The veteran organization will hold a dinner in the Windsor Hall on Monday evening, and the Rev. Father Martin, resident pastor, will deliver his address to a large and representa- tive gathering.

A LITTLE SLIP.—In our last is- sue, through a little slip on the part of one of our compositors, the name of St. Gabriel's T. A. and B. Society was omitted from its usual honored place in the official programme. We regret that the little slip occurred.

Y. I. L. and B. A.—Owing to circum- stances, already explained in these columns, this patriotic organization will hold its annual celebration of the national festival this evening in the Monument National, on St. Law- rence street, when a sterling Irish drama will be put on the boards. That the young men who have done so much to keep the cause of Irish patriotism in Montreal alive will be rewarded by an enthusiastic audience we have no doubt.

ST. ANN'S YOUNG MEN.—In the same hall—Monument National—St. Ann's Young Men's Society will give two performances, afternoon and evening, on Monday, in honor of Ireland's great national festival. The dramatic section of the organization will present a stirring Irish drama from the pen of Mr. James Martin. We feel sure that the stalwarts of Old St. Ann's will have crowded houses at both performances, as they have always been in the front rank when there was work to be done in honor of Old Ireland.

THE LATE REV. FATHER JAMES CALLAGHAN.

At the regular meeting of St. Pat- rick's Society, held in their hall on the evening of the 4th instant, the following was unanimously adopted: "Whereas it has pleased Almighty God to call to a heavenly reward one of the workers in His vineyard, the universally loved and respected Father James Callaghan; be it Resolved.—That the members of St. Patrick's Society while humbly bowing to the decrees of Divine Providence desire to place on record their sense of the loss sustained by the community at large, and more particularly by the Irish Catholics of Montreal in whose midst the lamented priest has so long and so zealous labored, and further to give expression to their heartfelt sym- pathy with his relatives in the hour of his trial.

Resolved.—That copies of this re- solution be sent to the father of the deceased, and to Rev. Father Mar- tin and Father Luke Callaghan, worthy brothers of the deceased, both according to nature, and in the ministry of God. Also that it be sent to the "True Witness" for pub- lication.

CONDOLENCE.—At the regular meeting of Branch No. 2, C.M.B.A., held Monday, Feb. 25th, 1901, the following resolu- tion was passed by an unanimous and standing vote:—

That, whereas, it has pleased Al- mighty God to take to himself the beloved wife of our esteemed Brother Thos. Harding.

Resolved.—That the most sincere and heartfelt sympathy of this Branch be tendered Brother Harding and family in their sad bereavement, and that a copy of this resolution be published in the "True Witness."

CONDOLENCE.—At the regular meeting of Branch No. 2, C.M.B.A., the following letter of condolence was proposed and adopted:—

Whereas, it has pleased Almighty God in His infinite wisdom to call to her eternal reward Miss Annie McDonald, loving daughter of Bro. L. McDonald, for many years a high- ly esteemed member of the above branch, be it

Resolved.—That we, the members

of Branch No. 2, C.M.B.A., tender our most profound sympathy to the family in their sad affliction.

A similar resolution was sent to the widow of the late Mr. James McElroy, whose death was recorded in these columns last week.

CONDOLENCE.—At the regular meeting of the St. Patrick's T. A. & B. Society, held Sunday afternoon, March 10th, 1901, the following resolu- tion was unanimously adopted:—

That, whereas it has pleased Al- mighty God to remove by death the wife of our worthy member, Mr. Thomas F. Harding;

Resolved.—That this Society de- sires to place on record its sincere sympathy with Mr. Harding and family in the great loss they have sustained.

CONDOLENCE.—At a regular meeting of Branch 54, C.M.B.A., held on Wednesday, March 6th, the follow- ing resolution of condolence was passed: Whereas it has pleased God to call to his eternal reward our es- teemed brother Chancellor Cahill, re- solved that this Branch hereby ex- presses its heartfelt sorrow and sym- pathy to the bereaved widow and family of our esteemed brother. Re- solved, that the charter of this Branch be draped in mourning for a period of thirty days; that these resolutions be inserted in the minutes of the Branch.

EMMETT'S ANNIVERSARY.

A complimentary concert was held in the Hibernal Hall, on Monday evening, the fourth of March, under the auspices of No. 8 Division, A.O. H., in commemoration of Robert Emmet, one of Ireland's most illus- trious sons. About 300 members of the various divisions with their friends, accepted the invitation. Jno. O'Brien, president of No. 8 Division, occupied the chair. His opening re- marks elicited great applause. After thanking and stating to the mem- bers the object for which the con- cert was given, he gave an eloquent address, eulogizing Robert Emmet, and concluded by asking the mem- bers present to attend the Gaelic

classes and learn the language of their forefathers. Bro. Hugh McMor- row, in an address of twenty min- utes' duration, gave an excellent de- scription of the life, trial and death of Ireland's martyred son. Too great praise cannot be given the commit- tee which had the direction of the affair and which consisted of Bros. R. Millette, J. O'Brien, W. Hickey, P. Flanagan, J. Jordan, M. Ward and W. Graham.

BRANCH 26 TO GIVE A EUCHE.

It is the intention of Branch 26, Catholic Mutual Benefit Association, to give their first euehre and social of 1901, in Drummond Hall, 79-81 Drummond street, on April 19th. A very large number of tickets have already been distributed, and as the entertainment given by this popu- lar Branch are so very largely at- tended, patrons are specially re- quested to secure their tickets as early as possible in case it should become necessary to limit the num- ber of admissions. The euehre, for which several valuable prizes will be awarded, will start, without fail, at 8.30 p.m.

FATHER CASEY'S NIGHT.

Father Casey, the zealous and warm-hearted spiritual guide to many of our people in the northern district of this city, will hold his annual en- tertainment on March 27 in the Mon- ument National. We are aware that many of our readers in the vicinity of Park avenue are much indebted to this genial priest. We hope they will show their gratitude by assisting at the entertainment. Father Casey should be greeted by a crowded hall on the occasion.

AN IMPORTANT DECISION FOR FRATERNAL SOCIETIES.

A case of practical interest to all fraternal insurance associations was recently tried in Pittsburg, says the Cleveland Catholic Universe. It is

reported at some length in the C. M. B. A. News for March. The facts in brief are as follows:

In 1892 Charles Coll made applica- tion for membership in Branch 38, C. M. B. A., Pittsburg, claiming to be under fifty years of age. He re- ceived a beneficiary certificate for \$2,000 issued in favor of his daugh- ter. He paid his dues regularly un- til his death in January, 1899.

An obituary notice and the report made by attending physician, both stating his age to be sixty-five years, attracted the attention of officers of the association. They verified this fact and determined to make the case a test case by resisting payment of the claim. Suit was brought against the association by the daughter. Conclusive evidence was brought be- fore the court to prove that Mr. Coll was born at the time of his initia- tion. Notwithstanding, the jury gave a verdict for the plaintiff for full amount claimed.

An application for a new trial be- ing granted after much opposition, the case was again brought before the court in January, 1901. After a hot contest, the association was re- leased from any liability under ben- eiciary certificate. The presiding judge ruled that if at the date of Charles Coll's initiation he was fifty years of age, it was immaterial whether he knew, or not that his statements were untrue, and that if they were not absolutely true, he should forfeit his rights. This is an important decision.

DEATH OF A CENTENARIAN.

On February 2nd, Candlemas Day, Mrs. Veitch, the oldest woman in Newfoundland, was called to her eternal reward. The deceased was born at a thriving settlement called Holyrood 107 years ago. Over a quarter of a century ago, her hus- band, the late John Veitch, died. She worked hard to build up a home and by industry and perseverance accumulated some means. Mrs. Veitch was a thoroughly religious woman. Her parents were some of the first settlers in Holyrood parish, long be- fore a church was built, and Mrs.

Veitch often walked a distance of six miles to the nearest parish, Harbor Main, to hear Mass. In the good old times when faith and piety flourished, when virtues were many and vices were few. Consequently God blessed her old days with all the con- solations of our Holy Mother Church, and with the kind and loving atten- tion of her son, the Rev. William Veitch, P.P., Conception Harbor, at the bedside of his dying mother. Rev. Father Murphy, P.P., Holy- rood, assisted Father Veitch, and ad- ministered to the dying Centenarian the last Sacraments. She was con- scious to the last, a remarkable thing in a person so advanced in years. She died on the Great Feast of the Purification as the church was chanting the hymn, "Nunc Dimittis." Well could she have said, like the holy old man Simeon in the Temple, "Now, O Lord, dismiss thy servant in peace for my eyes have seen thy salvation." Calmly, like the gentle sleep of an infant, life's lamp went out, and the bright soul of that noble woman, rich in good works, hath gone to the better land. She leaves three sons to mourn her de- cease, Rev. Wm. Veitch, P.P., J. P. Veitch, Esq., J. P., and George Veitch, Esq., hotel proprietor, quite a number of her sons and daughters having pre-deceased her. High Mass and office was offered for the repose of her soul, at which a large number of the Clergy of the Diocese of Har- bor Grace assisted. The Celebrant of the Mass was her son, Rev. Father Veitch. Resting in the family plot at Holy Cross cemetery, Holyrood, are the last remains of this old and good woman. "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord, for they rest from their labors, and their works follow them."

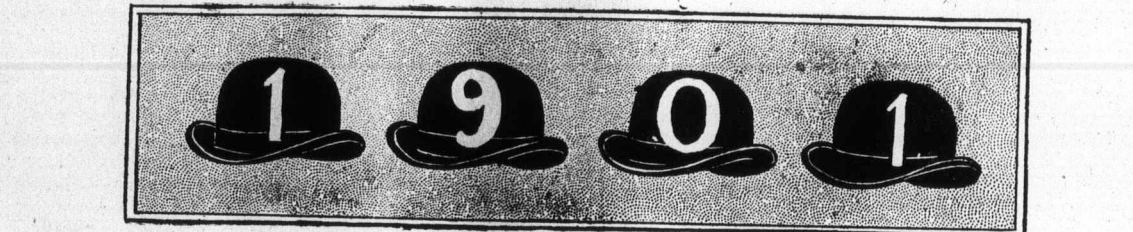
Queen's Hotel

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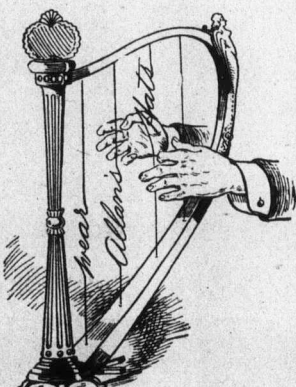
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Lives with the Beaver in Canadian brooks;
Virtue may flourish in an old cravat,
But man and nature scorn the shocking hat;
Does beauty slight you from her gay
abodes?
Like bright Apollo You must take to
Rhodes;
Mount the new oar—ice itself will melt;
Boots, Gloves may fail; the hat is always
Felt!



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Silk Shamrocks and Lapel Buttons with Shamrock given away free to all Hat purchasers.

See Our New Nobby Nock-about Hats at 75c for Youths and Young Men.

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SPECIAL "DUKE OF YORK STYLE," OR "IRISH LANDLORD," at \$2.50 each, as shown in illustration

Also New Neckwear, New Gloves, New Suits, Spring Overcoats and Men's Furnishings at

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MILLIONS OF DOLLARS WAITING OWNERS.

HEIRS MISSING.—You could do almost anything with the amount of money that is lying about unclaimed in England, says the London correspond- ent of the "New York Press." There is more than a billion dollars' worth of it, deposited in all sorts of places; in the British Treasury, in the Chancery vaults, in hundreds of banks and in the coffers of countless private companies. There it is, wait- ing for its owner, or his heirs, growing greater all the time—and in almost every case its custodians are making periodic attempts to discov- er the persons whose property it is. The names of such unwittingly lucky people, advertised for in 1900, when collected and printed in small type, filled a straight column in the "Times" the other day, and many of the advertisements of that year have a distinctly American interest. Here, for instance, is \$30,000 held for James E. Higgins, who was last heard of in New York; here, too, is "a large sum of money" waiting for the heirs of Joseph Sullivan, former- ly of Cork, and later of San Fran- cisco. One John Scott, who fought in the Rebellion, is entitled to money in trust here, and so are J. H. Cook, who left England for America in 1873, and Mary Wrigley, who got married and then went to live in "the States."

Probably a small percentage of the hundreds of "missing heir" adver- tisements of which these few are cit- ed, are "fakes," inserted by wily "next-of-kin" agents to charm away the guineas of credulous folk, but a good many of them are honest, efforts on the part of Govern- ment officials, lawyers, company se- cretaries or what not to reach the strayed legacies. Not long ago an English professor remarked that in no country but his own could there be not only so much unclaimed money but so many persons ignorant of their claims, or how to establish them, and he accounted for it by pointing out "the size of the British Empire, the migratory and enter- prising habits of its people, and the kinship of many families in the three kingdoms to others settled in the English colonies and other parts, and the fortunes made by emigrants and even outcasts."

MILLIONS IN BANK.—The fact that the unclaimed millions in Great Britain are distributed among so many different departments of the Government, and of the business world probably explains why no real estimate of their total amount has ever been made. How staggering such a figure would be can be gues- sed when it is said that a reasonably sane calculation of the unclaimed funds lying in banks alone is some- what over \$250,000,000. Of course this estimate takes no account at all of the money in Chancery and those sums of which the Government takes charge—the property of those who have died intestate—to say nothing of all the unclaimed dividends on Government and company bonds, un- claimed soldiers' and sailors' prize money, and so on.

The extent of the treasure lying in banks is easily explained. Strangers call and make one casual deposit, never to be seen or heard of again, having, perhaps, been killed or obliged to make tracks out of the country without losing any time. Some banks, after making continued attempts to find these missing de- positors, calmly add the sum to their assets, but most houses keep the ac- counts open and the money waiting year after year.

IN CHANCERY there is now over \$400,000,000 in cash and property, of which some \$5,000,000 is await- ing claimants, a subject dealt with in a previous article. A part of the simple surplus interest on this huge amount in Chancery was used in building the stately Royal Courts of Justice, on the Strand, in which the Chancery Court now holds forth. In 1881, too, Mr. Gladstone borrowed no less than \$200,000,000 to apply to the national debt, but it isn't always safe to do this on the ground that the unclaimed money included in the amount borrowed is never go- ing to be demanded anyway, for in 1891, the Chancellor of the Exche- quer remarked in his financial state- ment that he had been called upon "quite unexpectedly" to provide \$500,000 to satisfy the demands of heirs and other claimants who had suddenly popped up.

It is true, too, that the next of kin to the owners of these estates are continually turning up. In 1871 a Mrs. Mangin Brown died intestate, leaving property worth half a mil- lion dollars. All her heirs were abroad at the time, but years after- ward the Government's repeated ad- vertisements finally attracted their attention, and they claimed and re- covered the estate.

THE WILY AGENT.—It is just possible that the appearance of these heirs may have been due to the ef- forts of the alert next-of-kin agent. He is rather uncertain, this agent, and has the reputation of being of- tener tricky than otherwise, but he is never asleep. The righteous next- of-kin man spends his time in hunt- ing up the heirs of property that really exists, and sometimes suc- ceeds in unearthing them after years of work, during which he has per- formed prodigies of shrewdness. His library helps him a lot, and an odd mass that library is, for it com- prises hundreds of old directories, domestic and foreign, old court guides, peerages, long records of births, marriages and deaths, school

Continued on Page Eight.

Our next issue will contain special reports of St. Patrick's Day cele- bration in Montreal and other lead- ing centres in Canada, as well as of the demonstrations in other parts of the world.