Our Montreal Letter.

Fifty-two years of surgical work is arkable force athe remarkable record of Dr. A. oves, of Fergus, Ontario, who, at i doing the will the age of seventy-six, is still perah Chorus was reforming intricate operations at the Royal Alexandra Hospital, which he founded twenty-three years ago.

Dr. Groves was a pioneer in the ld of surgery, and is credited with

endix, was conducted by Dr. Groves in 1883. During the fifty-two years of his practice he has performed Cured more than 20,000 operations, an average of nearly 400 a year. He is the author of several pamphlets and

Simple remed The 75th anniversary of St. Mary's eatment know college, Bleury St., was carried out with elaborate ceremonies, both religious and social. The college opened in 1847 with thirteen pupils. At ord's the end of the first year sixty-nine pupils were in attendance. In 1859,

there were one hundred and twenty To-day there are six hundred and ema eighty on the roll. No doubt, a few of your Newfoundlanders received their education at the big institution tion on Bleury Street, and will recall happy memories of the past spent under the guidance of the able sons of St. Ignatius Loyola. Among the distinishes wonder guished old pupils present were Rt. a preparatio Rev. Bishop Feehan, Fall River, Mass.,

ves as good rethe Hon. Athanase David, Provincial gilm of the Supreme Court of Canada, Louis Beaubien, Emile Massicotts, Alderic Laurendeau, Rene T. health an Leclerc, Rev. Fr. Brodeur, Col. Leduc. stem is to le Henri Letondel, Maurice Forget and Rock Bergeron. Pontifical High Mass was sung by

tion under the French regime, saying

versaupholding these in philosophy

and other subjects in the present of

that as long ago as 1635, in a college

Bishop Feehan and the sermon was e a mild case of one—try thi General of the Archdiocese. He reviewed the early efforts of our educa-

4.00 pestablished by the Jesuits, pupils

the religious and military authorities. When the revolution was raging in France the Society of Jesus was moulding statesmen, men of letters, and men of counsel for Canada. The ord & Son preacher told of the untiring work of the greatly beloved Mgr. Bourget in bringing about the establishment of their Alma Mater. He cold of his voyage to Europe in 184. with this purpose in view, and how in 1848 the project finally succeeder Mgr. Deschamps read a pastor: letter addressed by Archbishop Durget to his Faithful with referenc to the College, in which his pophetic vision beheld the day when in his own

> Mgr. Deschamps hen congratulated the Fathers of the College on the success which has crowned their work and, turning a the "old boys," he reminded them hat the education they had received was not destined to make them menly banal and vulgar personalities living isolated lives, but to give them Christian training to prepare them for leader-ship, both in helping their fellowmen and in the public life of the

words, Montreal "word become one

of the mest importancities in Am-

In conclusion the preacher appealed to his hearers to remember that they owed their Alma Mater devotion to her religious traditions, everlasting gratitude, and best wishes for her continued prosperity.

High Mass was followed by a banquet in the College, to which nearly one thousand "old boys" sat down. A new college at the slope of Mount Royal will be built to replace the present St. Mary's College on Bleury St.

Under the heading of "Beware of Labrador," the "Franciscan Review," a monthly magazine has the follow-

ittacks of gold fever, usually brought about by gratesquely tales of wealth to be made in far-off lands as a result of speculation in the share of gold-mining companies. So many people, however, have been swindled n faked gold-mining companies that was necessary to devise some new

method of luring the public.

Labrador seems to be furnishing the latest infection for a mild type of gold fever. Although Labrador enthusiasts are acting in a more or less frantic manner in their endeato secure ill-gotten gains, the thin disguise of enthusiasm is very easily penentrated right down to the rock-bottom dishonesty underlying most of these schemes. For example, the Government of Newfoundland is selling mining claims in Labrador, covering 320

brador speculator secures a claim of this kind, instead of organizing a company and selling the stock, he otherwise divides each achre into our small claims which he endeavors to sell for \$1,000.00 per one quarter acre, payable as follows: \$200.00 in cash and the balance of \$8,00.00 to be paid out of the first gold paned or washed. In addition to this, royalty of 10% is demanded on the irst \$190,000 00 taken out of the quar-

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ippose that he has to pay agents ission for thus swindling people. He has still left over 200,000,00 for a claim which only st him \$160.00 in the beginning.

It is conceivably possible that gold ay have been discovered in Labraevery part of North America t is safe to assert, however, that a prospective purchaser of a quarteracre share in one of those claims has not even one chance in ten thousand of getting any returns. It behoves all sensible people, therefore, to beware of Labrador gold speculation, which at best, is merely a sickly lure weakly propped up by extravagent

N.B.-In spite of a general belief to the contrary few fortunes are ever made in gold rushes. Gold is a magnet that lures seekers from all the corners of the earth. If it were discovered at the North Pole there would be the same wild stupid rush of prospectors, workers, thieves, gamblers, and women as heretofore. We are told that the precious metal has been found in Labrador and hopes of lucky find may draw large numbers of men from all over Canada. And yet not one in every hundred of those who are ready to speed into these desolate wastes in their search for the yellow treasure will ever realize enough to pay their expenses.—Ed.
R. J. LOUIS CUDDIHY.

## Jewels Now Made.

The play of light and fire in rubies and sapphires which thousandseven millions-of lovers of jewels are enjoying and are able to possess at nominal sums, has been made possible by chemistry.

"The modern synthetic gems," says Dr. Alexander Silverman, head of the departemnt of chemistry of the University of Pittsburgh, and a member of the American Chemical Society, "are as good as native gems as far as their practical and aesthetic value is concerned."

Dr. Silverman recently collected natural and synthetic gems worth \$50,000 for display before the Pittsburgh Academy of Science and Art. He has also made a study of the history of jewels from biblical times to the present, together with legends concerning their endowment with "talismanic, curative and supernatural powers" and their supposed influ-

ence upon the stars and planets. He has traced the history of the liamond through India, Brazil and South Africa, where the most extensive deposits have been found.

"The South African fields were disovered accidentally by the curiosity of a farmer concerning a bright peb ble with which some Boer children were playing," said Dr. Silverman. This pebble subsequently was sold for £500 in Paris.

After discussing other non-precious forms of diamond used for grinding cutting and drilling, Dr. Silverman described the Moissan, re Boismenu and Parsons experiments for the preparation of diamonds. He mentioned the Franz Fischer theory, which may in time lead to commercial manufacture of the diamond. Diamond and other forms of carbon were shown to be chemically identical, through combustion experiments.

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"The discovery of a method for artificially making rubies and sapphires was made by Alebrt V. L. Verneuil in 1893," said he. "The industry subsequently was established by L. Heller at Geneva, Switzerland where rubies are now made by playing the oxhydrogen blowpipe, through the flame of which various metallic oxides pass on a heated point, to build up the 'boule,' or inverted pearshaped mass from which the stones are cut by diamond dust."

Island Religious Shrines

Star Island, one of the Isles of Shoals ten miles off the mainland of New Hampshire, has been dedicated exclusively to religious service for 120 years. On its rocky summit is f small graystone church which was built in the year 1800. This has been used ever since as a place of worship first by fishermen's mothers, sisters and sweetheadts who prayed for the safe return of their loved ones. Dur ing the last 26 years it has been 4 shrine for Unitarians and Congregal

At ten o'clock each night long line of men and women, carrying small lanterns, wend their way thither and a churchyard at a time, hang their larterns on the walls, and bow theil heads in prayer or raise their voice in appropriate hymns,

NOVELS .- Bertha M. C Nick Certer, Merriweil and