

A SCHOOL ANOMALY.

[Montreal Daily Witness, Jan. 19.]

A recent correspondent, 'Questant,' under the heading 'Is this true?' asked if the Roman Catholic School Board had been relieved by the increase of Protestant taxes of the need of increasing the Roman Catholic school tax. Anomalous as it may seem, this is true. When the Protestant Board found the necessity, in order to provide for the decent education of the children for which it was responsible, to obtain more funds, they found a ready response on the part of the community they represented, and were pleased to learn that the Roman Catholic board were feeling a similar need. These they approached to see if they could approach the authorities together. The reply was in the negative. The Roman Catholic board, for some unexplained reason, preferred to make their own representations in their own way. When that board came to discuss the matter some members raised questions as to the incidence of the taxation which they wished to revolutionize in a way that would lay the new burden on business, rather than on property, and one that would have been practically impossible as applied to any one panel. The result was that the board made no application, but awaited results. The Protestant Board held that the question of how the taxation should fall was not a question for school boards. It was theirs to say what was needed, and it was for the government to determine how to raise it. That board not only asked that the taxes be raised from twenty-five to forty cents on the Protestant panel, but that it be also increased on the neutral panel. The neutral panel consists of joint stock companies whose taxes are divided, not according to the religion of the persons taxed, as corporations have no religion, but according to the proportion of school population. As three-quarters of the school population is Roman Catholic, and as very much more than three-quarters of the ownership of joint stock business is Protestant, this is practically taking Protestant money to pay for Catholic schools; but with full realization of this fact the Protestant board deliberately included the neutral panel in their petition. There were obvious reasons for this. It would have been an outrage to have increased the taxes on individuals and not on corporations. It would, moreover, have been one more incentive for people to put their businesses in that form and thus deprive the Protestants of three-quarters of their contributions to education. We can imagine, too, that in doing this they hoped to forestall opposition at Quebec from an element notoriously satisfied with a very meagre equipment and phenomenally low teachers' salaries. At all events the increase of Protestant taxation in both forms was graciously granted, and the Roman Catholic board is now snapping its fingers over the fact that, owing to the increase of funds from the neutral panel, there is no need to increase the taxation of Roman Catholics. The neutral panel, which at one time covered a comparatively insignificant part of the school revenue, has been increasing of late years by leaps and bounds, owing to the increasing custom of doing business in that form, and to the many and important privileges which the law accords to the corporations it creates and denies to the citizens as such.

OBITUARY.

On Sunday, January 22nd, there passed away Mrs. Mary Shea, wife of Mr. Peter Shea, of the Canada Sugar Refinery, at her home, 54 Coleraine street. The deceased was thirty years of age, and had been married but a year and a half, and up till a month ago enjoyed perfect health. The deceased was a sister-in-law of Rev. Father Shea, curate of St. Anthony's Church. The funeral took place on Tuesday morning to St. Gabriel's Church, where a solemn requiem service was sung by Rev. Father Shea, assisted by Rev. Father O'Meara as deacon, and Rev. Father Fahey as sub-deacon. Interment took place at Cote des Neiges Cemetery. R.I.P.

DEATH OF MR. W. CAVANAGH

On Sunday, the eighth instant, there passed to his reward the soul of an aged man who, though unassuming in every aspect, nevertheless was one who filled his humble place here below in a manner which reflected credit on himself and gave good example to those he has left after

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him. Such was the late William Cavanagh, of the parish of Richmond, near Ottawa, who died at the home of his son, Rev. Father Cavanagh, in Mayo, Que. The deceased was seventy-nine years of age. He was born in the parish of Richmond, a couple of miles from the place where he spent the greater part of his life. His father, Peter Cavanagh, was a native of Kells, Co. Meath, Ireland, and was a veteran of the war of 1812, and fought at Lundy's Lane, Queenston Heights, and on many other well contested fields of that historic struggle. His mother, Elizabeth Jefferys, was a native of the principality of Wales, and with her mother was a convert to the Catholic Church.

Mr. Cavanagh leaves a brother, Walter, two years older than he, and two sisters, Mrs. Weathers and Mrs. Fitzgerald, both of Richmond. Another sister, Mrs. Mears, lives in North Dakota, and a younger brother, Peter, died in the autumn of 1893.

The deceased was married to Catherine Kelsey, of Kilmee, County Limerick, Ireland. Of a family of nine children, six are still living. The good mother having been called away, the deceased father fulfilled the obligations that ordinarily devolve upon both father and mother and fulfilled them in an exemplary manner. It needs only to be told how his family have fared to see what his single-handed labors must have been. His eldest son, Peter, is a physician of twenty years' experience in the State of Iowa. He made a course of classics in the University of Ottawa, and a course of medicine in the University of Michigan. James, the next in age, follows the avocation of his father on the old homestead. Mrs. Patrick Gasson, the only living daughter, resides with her family in the village of Manotick, Ont. Joseph, the next in rank of years, lives on a farm at Fayette, Mich. Walter, the next, made his arts course in the University of Ottawa, in which he graduated in 1893 and afterwards completed the course of theology in the same institution, and was ordained to the priesthood in 1897 and is now pastor of the parish of St. Malachy, Mayo, Que. Patrick, the youngest son, is a letter delivery man on the staff of that department in Ottawa.

The deceased was a life-time supporter of the Liberal party in politics, but above all he strove to be a faithful Catholic. His interest in the affairs of old Ireland was not less than that of those who were born there, and one of his wishes was to see the legislation of Ireland accorded to her before he left this world.

His life work was well done, and kind providence granted him the consolation of having his own son not only close his eyes in death but also bestow upon him the last blessing that our holy religion accords to her faithful children. May his soul rest in peace.

THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT AND M. BRUNETIERE.

Says the Paris correspondent of the London Tablet:

M. Chaumie, Minister of Public Instruction, has caused no small amount of surprise and indignation, which has found utterance in strong protests in the newspapers, by the treatment he has meted out to M. Brunetiere. For several years past M. Brunetiere, the editor of the Revue des Deux Mondes, a man whose wide knowledge has acquired for him a reputation which is not confined to Europe, has been excluded from the College de France. The reason alleged is that he had insulted M. Perthelot, one of the pontiffs of Jacobinism, by declaring that science was not sufficient for everything, and that she had signally failed in the domain of morality. It is this we shall know more before long, for it is impossible that the exclusion of M. Brunetiere from the University will be allowed to pass without the fullest explanations being required. M. Brunetiere has, of course, protested and intends to appeal to the Council of State, and meanwhile the case has been raised in both houses of the Legislature by way of interpellation. On Friday afternoon M.

Paul Beaugard called for an immediate discussion on the measure taken by M. Chaumie against M. Brunetiere, but without any better results than a promise that the interpellation should be taken in its turn. The same fate befel a similar question in the Senate. When the matter does come on for discussion there is every probability that the Bloc will support M. Chaumie, in spite of its professed esteem for culture and learning. M. Brunetiere may be an Academician, and one of the most learned men in Europe, but he has discounted it all by having formed opinions which are not those of the Bloc and its Jacobin corner-stones, and he has become a Catholic. He would, therefore, perhaps be too much to hope that his sentence of exclusion from the University will be revoked, but it is quite certain that there will be much excellent talk before the matter is allowed to rest. M. Brunetiere is well able to defend himself. The Rappel, though no friend of his, has with other papers, protested against the penalty by which he has been visited, and it did this though it believes him to be "an enemy of the Republic." Whilst thanking the journal for having taken up his cause, M. Brunetiere has objected to this description of himself. "A Catholic, and even if you will a clerical, I am, and deem it an honor to be so, but my motto is that of a Pope who said: 'Be good Christians and you will be the best of Democrats.' I have now been writing or speaking for thirty years, and for twenty I have never varied or wavered on this point. Though any one is free to think that I deceive myself, still my pretension and my ambition in working to defend the religious idea has been and is to work to defend, develop and propagate the Democratic idea. I know very many Republicans who could not say as much."

Retirement of Noted Professor

Dr. Sullivan has retired from the Medical Faculty of Queen's College, Kingston, after fifty years connection with the institution as student and professor. The careers of Farrell in Halifax, Hingston in Montreal, and Sullivan in Kingston, remind us in the first place, that while a great many rank and file physicians are materialists, the leaders of the profession are generally earnest Christians; and, in the second place, that a Catholic doctor does not always find his creed a hindrance to his advancement. Kingston has deserved to be called the Canadian Derry, yet Michael Sullivan has been its Mayor, has been the most honored professor in its Medical College, and sits in the Senate of the Dominion to represent the district of which it is the centre.

MEDALS FOR SISTERS.

At the church parade on the "Wanderers" Ground, Johannesburg, South Africa, recently, five sisters of Nazareth House, Johannesburg, with other religious and secular nurses, received medals from Lord Roberts in recognition of their services to the sick and wounded during the late war. The nuns were the first to be decorated, and as they advanced towards the place where Lord Roberts was seated with Lady Roberts, their two daughters, Lord Milner, the

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Mayor of Johannesburg and others, the cheering and applause from the tens of thousands assembled were beyond description. Lord Roberts spoke kindly to the sisters, and expressed great pleasure at meeting them again.

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The Pure Food Fair Opens!

This, the Ninth Annual, held under the auspices of The Big Store, is certain to eclipse any similar event of the kind. THE FAIR WILL BE A PRACTICAL DEMONSTRATION. The purpose of these Food Fairs is to acquaint ladies with the numerous good foods procurable, and to demonstrate the many palatable ways in which each may be prepared. Exhibits from the leading Pure Food Enterprises of Two Continents, artistically arranged. EXHIBITORS WILL DISTRIBUTE FREE SAMPLES Throughout the Food Fair's duration. Ladies should not fail to include a visit in their list of engagements.

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Mrs. Reardon, 16 Paris street city: I earnestly recommend the Sancte Joseph Salve to every household. I have used it on several occasions and found it excellent for burns, cuts, etc. John Lynch, Corporation foreman: Having used Salve Sancte Joseph for my feet, which were very painful from walking, I got immediate relief after one application. Mr. Thomas Demers, Butcher, Cor. Young and William streets: I used your Salve Sancte Joseph for my nose, which was very sore and painful. I can recommend the salve to the public. James Carroll, William street: I have great pleasure in recom-

mending Salve Sancte Joseph to the public, having used it myself, and my brother, for chapped hands, sore face, from the wind and weather.

Mr. Dan Doyle: Used Salve Sancte Joseph for a badly cut finger and it is now perfectly well. I also used it for chapped hands, and it is excellent.

Mr. Cook, Superintendent of the Maple Sugar Works, Grey Nun st: I used Salve Sancte Joseph for my little daughter who got burned, and also for a bruised foot. I can safely say it is marvellous, having cured so quickly.

Mrs. Milloy, Wellington street: I have used the Salve Sancte Joseph in my home on several occasions, and I can confidently recommend it to every family.

The above are only a few of the many testimonials received. A box of the Salve can be had at the Home for the asking. Don't ask your druggist for it.

HUMAN AND DIVINE LOVE.

If ever human love was tender and self-sacrificing and devoted; if ever it could bear and forbear; if ever it could suffer gladly for its loved ones; if ever it was willing to lavish itself for the comfort or pleasure of its objects; then infinitely more is divine love tender and self-sacrificing and devoted and glad to bear and forbear and to suffer and to lavish its best blessings upon the objects of its love. Put together all the tenderest love you know of, the deepest you have ever felt, and the strongest that has ever been poured out upon you and heap upon it all the loving hearts in the world, and then multiply it by infinity, and you will begin, perhaps, to have some faint glimpse of what the love of God is.



Vol. LIV. IN "DAR"

(By Gilson Willets, I)

The gaunt spectre of famine stalks abroad in County Galway, and other parts of the West of Ireland, recently made a tour of inspection among the conditions among the tenants class. The tour proved a failure. The potatoes rotted in the ground not even worth digging. Starvation to the pitiable cottagers described in this article is contemplated. Even the Irish leaders like John P. Keenan and John J. O'Connell have made public statements that the famine in Ireland, and that "without a speedy relief there is not a person but death."

In short, the past season has known since the plague year, 1879. The fact that the government has not even worth digging immediate relief the most winter will approximate the plague year. And, now, with Ireland's distress ringing in the ears of the world, I will set down conditions that surround the uttering of the cry—conditions which have helped to make family conditions that make the green of existence lower than that of mere poverty.

It is a record that is a fact of the true meaning of famine where hunger gnaws at the vitals the year round. My recent journey was week through "dark st" I poorest, unappreciated corner whole world. As my trip out was far from the best, mostly in carts, I saw those things which the tourists names of most of the visited are carefully kept guide-books by the railroads depend for their right of way in parliament in London who simply will not visit Ireland for themselves the there.

No investigator could be but horrified by the awful have witnessed—scenes of wretched and suffering, of and desolation. Neither of Finland nor of Poland, Russian Government, are distressed as the Irish people places I have been—only a journey from the seat of government for poor people's "conqueror" but blindfolded "conqueror" Ireland is the only country that shows a steady of population all during half century. Ireland has lion less inhabitants to-day than fifty years ago. (Ireland had four million less inhabitants she had fifty years ago—land has half a million tenants than it had ten years ago, as big as Maine or had a population at one to that of New York State this beautiful island has many people as Missouri. present rate of diminution in Ireland the island will be late. The people who these facts abandoned their birth, emigrated to the cities. And the vast majority of these people and their offspring in the United States of America result is that the biggest in the world is New York. has an Irish population that of the two biggest cities—Dublin and Belfast—together, namely, 725,000. total number of Irish people United States—5,000,000—1,000,000 the total number of people in all Ireland. And son for this I can only say telling exactly what happened I was looking and listening land from which came the America.

The Irishmen themselves blame for this condition. proven by the known fact they reach America they die