The True Witness AND CATHOLIC CHRONICLE.

TESTIS IN CŒLO FIDELIS

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THE TRUE WITNESS AND CATHOLIC CHRONICLE.

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EPISCOPAL APPROBATION.

"If the English-speaking Catholics of Montreal and of this Province consulted their best interests, they would soon make of the "True Witness one of the most prosperous and powerful Catholic papers in this country. I heartily bless those who encourage this excellen work

"†PAUL, Archbishop of Montreal."

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

BROWNSON CENTENARY.—Archbishop Farley, of New York, presided at a meeting of the Catholic Club in that city, held on Tuesday, the 5th October instant, at which arrangements were completed for the celebration of the centenary of Orestes A. Brownson. A day has also been fixed, but we have not yet learned the date, for the unveiling of a monument to Brownson which is to be erected in Sherman Square Park, at corner of Seventy-second street and Amsterdam Avenue. The bust has been completed, and has been on exhibition, in the main lobby of the Catholic Club. The bust is three feet six inches high, and will rest on a monument fifteen feet high, which will be placed shortly in the park. It is intended that the dedicatory day shall be important in educational circles, and the Club has invited the leading clerical and lay educators of New York to be present. Certainly if ever an American deserved a monument it is the great Dr. Brownson. But were he never to have a memorial in stone or bronze erected his works stand forth as an imperishable monument of the rarest character. Brownson was truly great; he was great even in the dark days when he went groping about, like a giant lost in a labyrinth, for the light and foot-hold that he needed—the light of faith, and the foothold of truth. And when he succeeded in securing both, he towered high above all his lay contemporaries in the domain of controversy. Brownson's "Review" is an encyclopaedia of Catholic doctrine. When the celebration takes place we will be happy to report the event and to thus revive the story of Brownson's wonderful life and still more wonderful works.

THE CHURCH IN AMERICA.—Mr. Urbain Gohier, a Frenchman, has just issued a volume in which he discusses the important question of the Catholic Church in America. He gives some very strong facts, backed up by strong statistics to show the strength of the Church in the New World. Mr. Gohier must have made a very careful and exhaustive study of his subject. From his volume we will extract a few passages that need no comment. Mr. Gohier says: "The Roman Church which in the United States numbered 44,500 communicants in 1790, to-day numbers 12,000,000, or more. To this we must now add 6,500,000 of Catholics in the Philippines and 1,000,000 in Porto Rico. The territory of the Republic maintains one Cardinal, seventeen Archbishops, eighty-two Bishops, almost 11,000 churches, more than 5,000 chapels, with 12,500 officiating priests. There are 31 Catholic seminaries, 163 colleges for boys, 629 colleges for girls (convents included), 8,400 parochial schools, 250 orphanages, and nearly 1,000 other various institutions. Finally, the United States alone sends more Peter's pence to Rome than all the Catholic countries together."

This would be still stronger had Mr. Gohier taken in Canada and added thereto not only our Catholic population, but above all the number of our churches, convents, colleges, universities, and various institutions of charity and otherwise. But, as it is, it suffices to show the great growth of the Church on this continent.

PRIZES FOR BOYS.—It is a well known fact that much of the prejudice, and consequently of the friction between people of different races, arises from the fact that they know little or nothing of each other. The more we know of our neighbors the more likely are we to appreciate them. We learn of their better and finer qualities and characteristics, which our separation, or isolation prevented us from knowing before; and we begin to find that their shortcomings are generally the same as are to be found in every race. We have a good illustration of this here in Canada, where happily our English and French-speaking citizens are, by inter-communication, becoming to understand each other better and better. The result cannot be but most beneficial to the country and to all concerned. The other day a very strange but praiseworthy illustration of the results of this international and inter-racial communication came under our notice. Mr. Peron, Mayor of Boulogne, France, and the Town Council, hit upon a novel method of rewarding the best geographical scholars among the school boys of the interesting old town. As a prize some thirty of the scholars were awarded a four-day trip to London and back. They crossed in one of the General Steam Navigation Company's vessels, and by arrangements made with the company were comfortably housed at a hotel in the west end of London. The boys took an intelligent interest in all they saw. It was suggested by English educators that intercourse of this kind deserved to be encouraged, and that the school-boards in England might with much advantage follow the example of the municipality of Boulogne. This is certainly what we would call good news. The spirit that suggests such movements is one of peace, of progress, and of education in the higher acception. There is every reason to anticipate splendid results from such methods, for they intend to widen the views of the pupils, to give them exact knowledge as to the countries of which they read, and the people with whom they will have to deal in the years to come. The rougher edges of prejudices are worn off and a feeling is created that must eventually redound to the credit of those who suggested such a plan and to the benefit of those who make use of it.

PECULIAR SOCIALISM. — The Mayor of Toledo is known by the name of "Golden Rule" Jones. It seems that he is a unique character. He has been credited with a fund of originality and of wisdom, and possibly on account of the strange rules of life that he is in the habit of laying down for the public has he acquired the title of "Golden Rule." It seems that he has taken to preaching municipal reform, and that he has very special socialistic ideas. He may be a very good and earnest man, and quite possibly he means well, but he certainly would revolutionize the world if he were to have the carrying out of his own ideas. In a speech which he recently gave, and which has been reported in the "Chicago Chronicle," he has this to say about street cars:—

"The street cars are only moving streets. Why should a man pay a fare to ride in one? Why should he not step in one as into an elevator and ride where he likes? Then there would be no men wasting their lives ringing up cash fares on the registers. There is lots of good and beautiful work for every man and woman to do, and to spend one's days ringing up fares is a waste of life. There should be no need of conductors."

With all due respect to Toledo's Mayor we feel that his utterances cannot be characterized by any word milder than "nonsense." Who is going to build the street car line, to construct the rolling stock, to keep both in repair, to pay for the running of the cars, and to foot all the costs? He is under the impression that the Government should do so; but if the Government does so it must find the money some place. The only revenue upon which to draw for the purpose would be the taxes. In a word, the public would have to be taxed to meet the cost. Then every person, no matter whether he used street cars or not, would have to contribute his share of taxes to pay for the free rides of others. Does this stand to reason? Then, there is another little difficulty in the way. If the passage on a street car were free there would not be enough cars in any city to accommodate the passengers. At certain hours of the day, bad as it now is, there would be no possibility of operating a line so terrible the rush would be. But there is nothing practical to be gained by entering into a series of arguments on such a subject. It suffices to quote "Golden Rule" Jones to show that the public is really a very gullible creature. If the theories and fantastic utterance of such a man be taken for sense and as qualifications for the civic chair, we hope that we will never be afflicted with any "Golden Rule" citizens.

CARE OF CHILDREN.—Rev. Father Lochman, P.P., of the Church of Our Lady of Lourdes, Marinette, Wis., has been preaching in a most forcible manner on the neglect of parents to look after their children, and especially the culpable neglect that permits the younger members of the family to live almost completely on the street. Above all does he speak plainly on the abuse of liberty in the matter of courting at an early age when the young people cannot know their own minds. In one passage the preacher said:—

"After twenty years' experience in the confessional I have come to some certain opinions on the question of dancing and courting among the young people. I know that the practice of 'keeping company,' as they call it among children below 18, promotes immorality and leads to intimacy that ought not to exist. Boys should be by themselves and girls also. I am intrusted as much with the spiritual as the mental welfare of the children, and I am taking the action that I consider necessary.

"I believe that if the testimony of teachers in other schools was taken they would coincide with me, and, lastly, there is another practice which I condemn strongly, and it is that of school children running the streets after dark. They ought to be home at that time, and it is on the streets at that many of them learn the things which result in their moral downfall."

Leaving aside the more important, or rather the larger, questions of dancing and courting, we might just pause with profit for a moment on that of children running in the streets at night. In almost every section of this city we have them out half the night shouting, playing, often cursing and making the night unpleasant for the entire neighborhood. On last Monday, the writer was standing in one of the most thickly populated sections of the city. Four young girls came around a corner; two were English-speaking, and two were French. They evidently had some dispute, and as they parted they commenced to shout at each other, launching the most filthy words and epithets that could be imagined. The two girls who were apparently going home, and who were English-speaking, were about twelve and fourteen years of age; the other two were about ten and fifteen. They not only hurled their dirty words in English, but the whole four of them had an equal vocabulary in French. They were very neatly dressed, and the daughters of evidently respectable parents.

Where did those girls learn such language? Not at the academies or convents; not in the churches; not in their own homes. Where, then? They have learned their vile words on the public street. They are out every night, rain or shine, playing, and planning schemes that are not to their credit. Will any one tell us that the parents of these young girls are not answerable for their souls, for their lives, for their very bodies, for their future here and hereafter? Parents say that their children are old enough to take care of themselves. Possibly they are; but on the street they meet with dangers far more to be avoided than those of being run over by teams or carried off by tramps. They meet with moral contamination, and their very language and looks show the effects of it upon their young lives. We are in full accord with the words of the good priest whom we have quoted, and we warn the parents that their children incur terrible risks on the streets at night.

A TRIBUTE TO CANADA. — In an interview which His Eminence Cardinal Gibbons recently accorded the "Newark News" he spoke very forcibly on the subject of divorce; he called it a modified polygamy; and he declared that it was poisoning the fountains of the nation. From the main subject he branched for a moment into that of the necessity of religious instruction in the schools. To a lack of it he attributed a great deal of the divorces that are blackening the fair fame of the great Republic to the south of us. On this point he said that, "the catechetical instructions given once a week in our Sunday schools, though productive of very beneficial results, are insufficient to supply the wants of our children. They should, as far as possible, breathe every day a healthy religious atmosphere in those schools in which not only is their minds enlightened, but the seeds of faith, piety and sound morality are nourished and invigorated. By what principle of justice can you store their minds with earthly knowledge for several hours each day, while their hearts, which requires more cultivation, must be content with the paltry allowance of a few weekly lessons? I am not unmindful of the blessed influence of a home education, and especially of a mother's tutelage. But of what avail is a mother's toil if the seeds of faith which she has planted attain a sickly growth in the cheerless atmosphere of a school-room from which the sun of religion is rigidly excluded?"

It is in connection with this passage in the interview that the Cardinal said:—"The remedy for these defects would be supplied if the denominational system which now obtains in Canada were applied in our public schools."

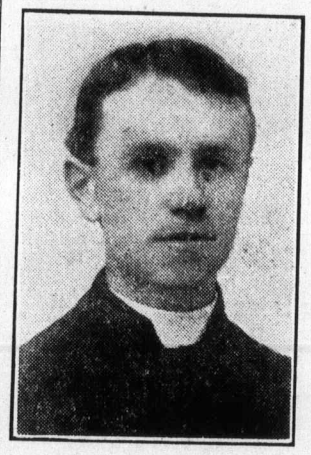
As we characterized it in the beginning, this is a fine tribute to the system of education that prevails in our country.

THE TERTIARIES.—On the 10th, 11th and 12th of this month a General Tertiary Congress of India was held in the centre of Catholicity in that great country. The Congress, which received in its inception the blessing of the late Pope Leo XIII., is under the patronage of the Delegate Apostolic of India, Dr. Zaleski. The purpose of the meeting was to try to bring into harmony all the Catholics of India, so that they may work to a common end. Although Christianity forms but a unit in the hundreds of millions of the population of India, yet the Catholic Church holds a commanding position among the Christians, having about two and one-half millions of faithful who are organized and ruled exceptionally well. It is a splendid thing to note that all over the world the great spirit of Catholic unity is asserting itself; and it would seem that this system of congresses has come to the front as a very effective method of consolidating Catholic forces.

In India we have this example; in Australia we think there is something of the same character taking place. On the American continent we are perfectly conversant with the strides towards harmonic action that have been made within the last quarter of a century by the Church. We have heard so much about the influence and results of the Catholic congresses of Germany that an allusion to them is enough. Now this does not mean that the Church, herself, is in need of any consolidation. It is simply that the faithful, especially the lay faithful feel the need of combining their forces; and it is easy to see that with perfect unity of action what a tremendous influence such a vast body of people must have upon the world.

Local Parish and Society Notes.

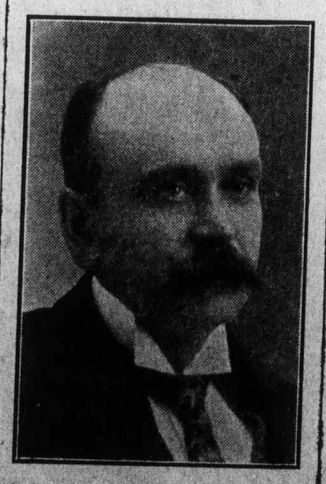
ST. MICHAEL'S PARISH. — On Sunday last the parish of St. Michael's had an imposing celebration in honor of its patron saint. Rev. Father Kiernan did all that possible to make the occasion a grand success. The High Mass was sung by Rev. Father Cotter, S.J., assisted by Rev. Father Killoran, of St. Patrick's, and Rev. Father Fahey as deacon and sub-deacon respectively. The attendance was very large, and the musical programme, under the able direction of Prof. McCaffrey, was a marked success.



REV. DR. GERALD McSHANE.

The sermon which was most appropriate to the occasion, was preached by Rev. Dr. Gerald McShane, of Notre Dame Church. The subject taken was the "Power of the Church." The preacher called attention to the importance of the feast of the day. Then he briefly reviewed the history of the Church in all her great struggles, from the days of the Apostles down. The centuries of persecution were reviewed in a most lucid manner, and then came the immense development of the Church in all ages and especially in modern times. He pointed out that the faithful of to-day are not required to die for the faith, but are obliged to preserve and to transmit the traditions of faith, piety and sacrifice to those who are yet to come. He then made an appeal to them to be united to love each other, and to assist in the building up of their infant parish.

We see in these celebrations a guarantee of the spread and the ever increasing strength of the faith; and the pastor and people of St. Michael's are to be congratulated on the fine example they give.



MR. BERNARD McNALLY,
One of the Church-wardens.

ST. LEO OF WESTMOUNT. — On Sunday last the inauguration and blessing of the new Church of St. Leo, at Westmount, took place. The ceremony was performed by His Grace Archbishop Bruchesi, in person, assisted by Rev. Abbe Labelle, S.S., Superior of the Montreal College, and Rev. Abbe Chevrier, S.S., of St. James. The Mass was sung by Rev. Canon Vaillant, assisted by Rev. Father Faucher, chaplain of Hochelaga Convent, and Rev. Abbe Neveu, S.S., as deacon and sub-deacon respectively. In the sanctuary, amongst many others, were noticed: Rt. Rev. Mgr. Racicot, Rev. Martin Callaghan, P.P., of St. Patrick's; Father Le Pailleur, P.P. of St. Louis du Mile End; Father Belanger, P.P. of St. Joseph's; Father Troie, P.P. of Notre Dame; Rev. Canon Decarie, P.P. of St. Henri; Father Christopher Fitz-Maurice, O.F.M.; Father Larocque, P.P. of St. Louis de France; Father Doherty, of the Jesu; Father J. A. Perron, P.P. of the new Church, and his assistant, Father O. Gauthier. Members of the Provincial Cabinet, Bench and Bar occupied seats of honor.

The musical programme, which was excellent and most appropriate to the occasion, was under the masterly direction of Mr. A. M. Clark, of St. Louis de France Church. The sermons of the day were preached by Rev. Father Doherty, S.J., in English, and Rev. Father LePailleur, of St. Louis du Mile End, in French.

The new Church is a very fine example of the Roman Byzantine style of architecture, and occupies a commanding position at the corner of Clarke and Western avenues, which will soon be in the heart of a rapidly increasing town. Amongst those who mostly contributed to the construction, by co-operation with the pastor in overseeing the building, may be mentioned, Messrs. B. McNally, Chas. Flanagan, A. St. Cyr, A. De Lorimier and T. Terroux. We can see by the number of churches that are being constructed along the outskirts of our city how rapidly Montreal is growing, and it is a great pleasure to know that in the same population. Wherever the Church-population. Wher?ver the Church-spire appears the population seems to flock thither, just as the palm-tree of the desert draws the caravan to its shade. May success mark the progress of St. Leo of Westmount.

CONDOLENCE.—At the regular meeting of Branch No. 50, C.M.B.A., held on the 7th inst., resolutions of condolence were passed to the families of the late Brothers William Bohan and Samuel Cross, and the the Charter of the Branch be draped in mourning for a period of six months.

LATE MRS. JOHN O'LEARY. — The Month's Mind of the late Mrs. John O'Leary will be held at St. Patrick's Church, on Monday, the 19th inst., at 7.30 a.m.

CONDOLENCE.—At a meeting of St. Patrick's Society, held on Monday evening last, a resolution was adopted expressing the sincere sympathy of the officers and members to Mr. John O'Leary, an esteemed member of the organization, in his recent sad bereavement.

A similar resolution was passed at a recent meeting of the Irish National League, of which Mr. O'Leary is also a member.

PERSONAL NOTES.

Archbishop Bruchesi left this week for Vancouver, B.C.

Rev. Martin Callaghan, P.P., St. Patrick's, is taking a few days of well-earned rest.

Rev. P. McGrath, formerly of St. Patrick's, is one of the visitors of the week to this city.

BUFFALO DIOCESE.

The Knights of Columbus of Buffalo, tendered a banquet to Bishop Colton on Tuesday last.

KINGSTON DIOCESE.

Archbishop Gauthier, of the diocese of Kingston, will celebrate the fifth anniversary of his consecration to-morrow.