

# THE CONNAUGHT RANGER'S CORNER.

## THE DEATHLESS SONG.

"Drive out the grand old Celtic speech!"  
The tyrant gave command.  
My poisoned touch can never reach  
And blight that noble land  
While Celtic words on Keltic tongue  
The Keltic heart shall thrill;  
The songs the ancient Bards have sung  
Shall perish at my will!"

"The language heroes love to hear  
In seas of blood shall drown!  
No more its accents, strong and clear,  
Their deeds with fame shall crown.  
The glories of the Keltic race  
Henceforth shall be unsung;  
No minstrel voice their halls shall grace;  
The Keltic knell is rung!"

Then fell the great, the brave, the high,  
Beneath the despot's might;  
Then set the sun of Erin's sky  
In darkest clouds of night.  
The harps of Erin nevermore  
To those loved sounds awake;  
Their soulful chords, the music o'er,  
In mournful silence broke.

Yet when the Keltic heroes fell,  
Beside the Shannon's wave,  
In Keltic words their last farewell  
To that loved Isle they gave.  
When they were laid 'neath shamrock fair  
That springs from blood-stained sod,  
In Keltic words the mourner's prayer  
Went up in faith to God.

The babe upon its mother's breast,  
In caverns hid from sight,  
By Keltic songs was soothed to rest,  
Low whispered in the night.  
The refugees in mist-wove shrouds  
Far up the mountain side,  
In Keltic words that pierced the clouds  
The Saxon power defied.

In coracles far out at sea  
The Keltic fishers sang,  
And o'er the ocean wide and free,  
That deathless lyric rang.  
The wild, strong winds caught up the strain  
That floated o'er the tide;  
Its thrilling tones of love and pain  
Re-echoed far and wide.

Now once again that Harp of Gold  
Shall ring from shore to shore,  
As in the glorious days of old,  
Ere minstrel song was o'er.  
The echoes of that thrilling strain  
Shall leap from soul to soul,  
And o'er each shamrock-covered plain  
Shall that deep music roll.

Now once again through Innisfail  
Shall sound the Keltic tongue,  
And by the voice of every Gael  
Shall Keltic songs be sung.  
Now once again the thoughts of flame  
Shall glow in words of fire,  
And to immortal deeds of fame  
The Keltic soul inspire.

—M. E. TORRENCE.

To the members of the Montreal Gaelic Society who were in attendance at the last meeting the passionate and stirring words of County President Rawley of the Ancient Order of Hibernians must be a source of comfort. For some cause or another the attendance for the past month at the classes was anything but satisfactory, and it was this paltry attendance that made me write about our young men last week, to draw their attention to the splendid opportunity offered to them of acquiring a knowledge of the "glorious old tongue" before it would be too late.

While the response was not exactly what it should have been, nevertheless it was a source of pleasure to note the large increase in the attendance over the preceding meetings, and the amount of interest manifested during instructions. President Lavelle personally had charge of the class for the evening, and the lessons were the prayers published the previous week in the True Witness. The instructions, which lasted one hour and forty minutes, being over, Mr. Lavelle made an eloquent appeal to the National President of the A. O. H. through Mr. Rawley. This appeal, which there is no doubt will receive the serious consideration of the Hon. John Keating, whose nationalism is beyond questioning, reflects the highest of credit on the President of the Montreal Gaelic Society. It was as follows: "That the National President of the A. O. H. be requested to try if possible and have the quarterly communications of the organization printed in the Irish language." It was seconded by Mr. M. Birmingham, secretary of the Gaelic Society, and supported by Mr. H. T. Kearns, Provincial Treasurer of the Hibernians; by Col. Feeney and Captain Keane of the Knights. The County President in answer stated that it would afford him the greatest of pleasure to communicate the matter to Mr. Keating and he had not the slightest doubt that the National President would comply with the wishes of the Montreal Gaelic Society. Mr. Rawley then congratulated the members on their persistent endeavors to spread the Gaelic and illustrated many instances why success would crown their efforts. Continuing he paid a high tribute to the "True Witness" for the interest it has taken in the National societies and for the budget of Hibernian news it furnishes its readers every week. It should, he said, be in the

hands of every Hibernian in Canada. In eloquent words, he pointed to the unstinted support it gave the Gaelic Society, and in conclusion, asked where would the Irish of the Province be, but for such a paper.

Mr. H. T. Kearns, P. T., President, Div. No. 4, followed in the same strain, and after the singing of "God Save Ireland" in Irish, a pleasant evening was brought to a close.

While the great nations of the earth hold at different periods a "world's fair," Ireland, poor, disconsolate Ireland, with her thirty millions of scattered children, has never had that privilege. The good results of such a grand undertaking are innumerable, but chiefly amongst them do I see through that far-away mist a unification of the warring factions of my native country, a re-union of the representatives of foreign powers to Erin, and an interest awakened in the industrial resources of the "Garden" of the world. To Irishmen the word impossible, in this important matter, should be unknown. It is to be hoped that this humble suggestion, coming from a soldier of the rank and file, will be seriously considered by the true children of Ireland the world over. Let us further hope that although the anniversary of '98 has passed away with but anything really of an important nature beneficial to the interests of our motherland transpiring, the year 1903 will behold a "world's fair," towards which the eyes of the civilized world riveted on the wonderful industrial progress of Ireland, and the unity of her children both at home and in exile.

The monthly meeting of St. Patrick's Society was held in their hall on St. Alexander Street, last Monday evening. Second Vice-President, Mr. P. C. Shannon, presiding. The attendance was not as expected as some important committees appointed at the meeting previous failed to have their reports ready, and consequently prevented the meeting from taking action in regard to one, at least, of the most interesting and important events of the hour. The Charitable Committee gave a lengthy report, and their requests were acceded to. The matter of holding an excursion some time during the summer was discussed, but no definite action taken until next meeting. The question of the National hall was once more under consideration, and it is very evident from the remarks of the members present that this important movement will be fully and finally discussed at the next meeting.

Other matters of minor importance were discussed, after which the meeting adjourned.

The committee having in charge the annual field day and games, under the auspices of Division No. 1, A. O. H., for Dominion Day, are progressing in a very satisfactory manner and intend to make it one of the leading, if not the most important event ever held by the pioneer Division. On the programme will be many of the leading games of old Ireland, including hurley, throwing the flat iron, throwing the sledge, and numerous other feats of strength and agility. It is the intention of the committee to have Mr. Jas. S. Flannigan, of New York, champion weight thrower of the world, present, and against him will be pitted some of the most renowned athletes of Canada. The committee, of which Col. Feeney is chairman, and Mr. Jas. Byrne, secretary, is a hard-working and able one.

The monthly drill of the Hibernian Knights was held last Sunday afternoon at the "Barracks." The orderly sergeant has returned from his vacation and had the place in a splendid state. Owing to the illness of Captain Keane, the instructions were given under the immediate supervision of Lieutenant McCracken, and the fine commanding voice of the First Lieutenant was heard to perfection. I am informed, on what is very good authority, that the combined divisions of the Ladies' Auxiliary intend in the near future, to present the boys with a stand of colors. Preparations for the Boston trip are progressing favorably, and Mr. M. Birmingham, Corresponding Secretary of the Company, was instructed to communicate with the State officers of Massachusetts, in connection with the matter. It has been also intimated that a large amount of the Western delegates to the Boston Convention will come by Montreal to accompany the Knights. Amongst them being Hon. John T. Keating, National President of the Order, Mr. Lavelle, President of the Gaelic Society will devote one evening weekly to the Knights for instructions in the Irish language, and the rooms of the society on Craig Street will be given them free of charge for that purpose. The Company will undoubtedly be the

first military one ever drilled in the Irish language on this side of the Atlantic. There is not the least doubt that a "Caid-Mille-Faillte" by the Irishmen of Boston awaits them.

According to the "C. M. B. A. News," the official organ of the association, Mr. Joseph Cameron, of Hornellsville, Steuben County, State of New York, has been appointed Supreme Recorder.

At a meeting of Division No. 2, A. O. H., held in their hall on Friday of last week, the following resolution was adopted:

That the members of Division No. 2, Ancient Order of Hibernians, desire to express their regret that there should be required of the Sovereign of the Empire, at coronation, or any other time, a declaration against transubstantiation, by which the sacrifice of the Mass and other doctrines of the Roman Catholic Church are characterized as superstitious and idolatrous.

That we sincerely trust that the spirit of broad toleration, which within the reign of Her Most Gracious Majesty, and the two preceding Sovereigns, has removed this declaration from the statute books so far as members of Parliament, peers of the realm, and office-holders are concerned, will at the request of humble but dutiful subjects of the Empire cause it to be repealed in so far as it relates to the supreme head of the state.

That we believe that the removal of this objectionable declaration would enable the Roman Catholics of the Empire to enter with more profound feeling of loyal affection into the spir-

it of the ceremony, which should be the occasion of nothing but mutual esteem and good will on the part of both sovereign and subjects.

This was signed by the committee on resolutions as follows:

M. LYNCH.  
D. S. MCCARTHY.  
D. J. MCCRORY.  
T. DONOHUE.

Division No. 7, Ancient Order of Hibernians, the youngest division of the Order in the county, held its first annual election last evening in their hall, corner of Ropery and Centre Sts. The greatest enthusiasm was manifested, and the keenest of competition was evinced in the various offices. The services of Mr. Denis Tansey, as president of the Division, since its organization, were fully appreciated. In consequence thereof he was elected for a second term. The different reports, both financial and otherwise, were read, and they reflected great credit on the branch. As is the aim of Division No. 5, the New Directory of No. 7 are a unit in regard to the proposal of making the "True Witness" the official organ of the Order in Quebec, thereby recognizing its merit as a journal worthy of support of the Irish Catholic Societies of Canada. The full list of officers elected is as follows:

President, D. Tansey, Jr.; Vice-President, J. J. Mullins; Recording Secretary, P. J. Dwyer; Financial Secretary, J. Collier; Treasurer, P. Whalen; Chairman of Committee, J. Hayes. The meetings of this popular branch are held on the first and third Mondays in the Prendergast Hall.

CONNAUGHT RANGER.

## OUR CURBSTONE OBSERVER.

It has often been my intention to sign "Irishman" to the odd bits of composition that I have written for the press, but since I have commenced to notice the great abuse of that "nom-de-plume," which has been indulged in on more than one occasion I concluded that I would be only following a bad example and helping on the perpetration of a wrong. We often read letters, addressed to our daily press have just as well been written by an Englishman, a Scotchman, a German, a Turk, a Chinaman, or a Hindoo, for all the interest they contain of a specially Irish kind. Possibly if these writers considered that their real names would add any weight to their communications they would sign them in full; but feeling that their literary efforts are not much calculated to increase their own reputations, they get out of the difficulty by shunting the responsibility upon an imaginary "Irishman." Now and then we meet with a letter that contains absolutely nothing, except the name used as a signature, to indicate that the author is either Irish or in sympathy with Ireland. It is just as easy to write "Irishman" as to write any other word at the end of a communication, and it is my firm belief that very many of those correspondents are no more Irishmen than is the Czar of Russia, or the Emperor of Japan. In fact all sincere Irishmen should protest against this very un-justifiable method of venting spleen against Ireland and her people, and of doing so under the mask of an "Irishman." It is not always necessary that a man should sign his own name to a newspaper letter; but he should at least refrain from making use of a "nom-de-plume" to which he is not entitled; otherwise his signature may become more misleading than would be his letter—even though it were a tissue of misstatements. We would advise our genuine fellow-countrymen, when ever seized with the "scribbler's itch," to either give their real names, or else to sign something other than "Irishman." If all were prepared to accept such a rule, then we could at once detect the imposition when a letter would appear over the word "Irishman."

This recalls to mind an incident which recently took place in one of our city theatres. A well-known and rising young Irish Catholic advocate, created considerable commotion, by publicly objecting to a song of the caricaturing class. It is but necessary to go back over the files of the "True Witness" to discover how strongly it has adhered to the principle which most probably guided the gentleman in question. The spirit of the objection raised that evening is a patriotic and praiseworthy one; but it seems to me that a certain degree of latitude should be allowed in the case of organized theatrical companies, especially as they can well point to the example of more than one Irish-Catholic society or organization that has created precedents of the same kind, and has sanctioned the "stage-Irishman," by the mere fact

of keeping him alive. We should commence to reform our own home before we give advice to our neighbors upon that score. As long as our own societies are willing to aid in this miserable system of national misrepresentation, so long will outsiders—who cater to the general public for a livelihood—be found improving upon it for the amusement of their audiences. If we sincerely wish to efface this form of belittling and ridiculing the Irish race, we should should commence by never putting it into practice in our schools, our academies, our colleges, or our social reunions. This may be very plain talk, and possibly not universally acceptable; but it is the truth, and the sooner we recognize this truth and prepare to act in accordance with its dictates, the sooner will the caricature of Irishmen vanish from the field.

I often feel deeply grieved to notice how lacking our Irish-Catholic Canadians are in that spirit of progress and development which might be said to characterize, in some way, every nationality in this broad Dominion. We fail to take full advantage of all the opportunities—social, educational, political and otherwise—which the constitution of this country affords us. This is a lamentable fact, and a severe comment upon the patriotism and practical ideas of our common race. Irishmen in Canada, with few exceptions, seem to be perfectly contented to fold their arms and lean against a corner to watch the onward march of all other races. If political, municipal, literary, commercial, or any other kind of preferment comes his way, and it requires no great exertion to seize upon it, we may now and again find an Irish-Canadian sufficiently well equipped to take advantage of it—but, as a rule, he moves right along as if no such opportunity ever existed. I think that the time is fast approaching when we will either have to be up and doing, or else our distinctive influence, as a factor in this Canadian Nationhood must become a dream of the past. If we were to merely take full advantage of the great degree of liberty which this country affords to every person, we would have no reason to complain; but complaint must be heard when it is evident that a suicidal lethargy has crept over those who should be foremost in the great struggle for success—no matter in what sphere.

Let us take an illustration. Although the 21st of May is not very specially an Irish-Catholic festival, still even were our young people desirous of taking part in its celebration they would be absolutely incapable of so doing. On that occasion this year the public of Montreal witnessed a delightful spectacle; a grand review of the city's cadet companies. There were the Scotch, French, English, Jewish, and almost every nationality or creed represented, but not a single Irish company; and worse still, out of every forty-five thousand inhabitants of this city you could not get fifty young Irish boys, or young Irishmen, to form a regiment for drill and exercise purposes. This is no exaggeration, and it is the more lamentable because our young peo-

# Great Attractions at Cornwall

DOMINION DAY 1899.

## EXCURSION

Under the Auspices of ST. MARY'S COURT, No. 164, C.O.F.

By Grand Trunk Railway

TO ST. LAWRENCE PARK, CORNWALL,

Where the Annual Picnic and Games Will Be Held.

### PROGRAMME

- |                                     |      |  |
|-------------------------------------|------|--|
| 1. Putting 16 lb. Shot.             | Open | 10. 100 yards open to Catholic Foresters.                    |
| 2. Throwing Heavy Hammer.           | "    | 11. ¼-mile open to all Foresters.                            |
| 3. Tossing the Caber.               | "    | 12. 1 mile open to Amateurs only.                            |
| 4. Throwing 56-lb Weight.           | "    | 13. Pole Vault.  |
| 5. Quoit Match.                     | "    | 14. 150 yds. Smoking Race.                                   |
| 6. Hop, Step and Jump.              | "    | 15. Irish Reel.  |
| 7. Running Long Jump.               | "    | 16. Scotch Reel.   |
| 8. Girls' Race, 14 years and under. | "    | 17. Bicycle Race.  |
| 9. Boys' Race, 14 years and under.  | "    | 18. Tug-of-War between St. Mary's Court and Cornwall Courts. |

### 19. GRAND HURLEY MATCH.

For Prizes and Rules See Hand Bills.

PROF. JAMES TOUHEY, the world renowned Irish Piper, will be with us.

Round Trip Tickets only - \$1.00  
Children - 50c.

Leave Bonaventure Depot, - 8 and 8.30 a.m.  
Return Leave Cornwall, - 7 and 7.30 p.m.

ple have advantages equal to any enjoyed by the youth of other races in Canada. I know of one Irish Catholic school where fully five thousand dollars were expended in fitting up a magnificent and perfectly equipped gymnasium and drill hall, where a first class military and first class musical director are employed, where every modern improvement exists and all the requirements of enjoyment and improvement are furnished, where the cadets are fully equipped with uniforms, arms, band instruments and ball and grounds, where the membership is only one dollar per year, and yet where you could not induce a single score of the youth to join in the formation of a military company. What encouragement can there be for other parishes to undertake anything that might prove of benefit to the rising generation?

There is another complaint, and one of a general kind, but with many striking examples of individual application; it is to the effect that the Irish people in this city do not, as a rule, support or encourage each other. Go the rounds of Montreal and select an Irish-Catholic in each walk of life—let us say a lawyer, a doctor, a mechanic, a tradesman, a store-keeper, an accountant, a writer, or an agent—and ask each one of these how he succeeds in his affairs, and in ninety-nine cases out of one hundred you will be told: "If it were not for the Protestant section of the community I could not make a living if I depended on the practice or custom of our own people I would starve." This supposed answer contains an absolute truth, and one that should be brought home to all those who neglect the interest, the vital interest of their fellow-countrymen here.

On this subject of mutual assistance I would say that I have countless times gone into the prominent and most perfectly supplied news depot, kept by the genial and enterprising Mrs. Milloy, on St. Catherine Street. I observed the splendid variety of literature that filled every nook and corner of the cozy shop; I marvelled at the number of Catholic publications exhibited on the shelves; I recognized that the "True Witness" has its very best agent in that good lady; but I also noticed with great regret that Mrs. Milloy's establishment received patronage and support from almost every direction, except the very one whence it should naturally come. Give us but a mutual support, and what a power the Irish Catholics of Canada would become!

### IN AID OF CATHOLIC SAILORS.

The Committee of Management of the Catholic Sailors' Club will give a Strawberry Festival on Thursday, 15th inst., 8 to 10 p.m., which promises to be a delightful social function.

It will be given in the Library Hall, under the Church of the Gesù, which the Jesuit Fathers have kindly rendered for the occasion. The college orchestra will play during the evening. A large attendance is expected, as the Catholic Sailors' Club is one of the most popular of local good works, and all who purchase a 25 cent ticket are certain of a pleasant evening. Tickets may be had from Rev. Father Kavanagh, S. J., Chaplain of the Club, at the Library Hall, or from any member of the Committee.

### WEDDING BELLS.

A fashionable though quiet wedding took place this morning at St. Patrick's Church, when Miss M. E. Florence Gray, daughter of Mr. Henry R. Gray, was married to Mr. Gustave Labelle, of Gustave Labelle & Co., son of Mr. Hospice Labelle. The bride wore an exquisite gown of gray bengaline lined in pearly silk, with "La Tosca" field of pansy surah, hat of gray straw with wings and pansy colored trimmings. The music was particularly good. Prof. J. A. Fowler surprised the bride, who is an old pupil of his, by playing the organ during the ceremony, and Miss Terroux, who has just returned from New York, sang with her accustomed sweetness. After the ceremony a number of friends met at Bonaventure Station to wish Mr. and Mrs. Labelle bon voyage.

### MOUNT ST. LOUIS CADETS.

The Mt. St. Louis Cadets were inspected last Saturday afternoon on the Champ de Mars by Lieut.-Col. Roy, who was accompanied by Lieut.-Col. Robinson of the Royal Scots and Capt. Chirac, Royal Canadian Regiment of Infantry. The efficiency of this favorite Cadet corps is too well known to need comment, suffice it to say that on Saturday last they again proved to the satisfaction of everybody present that they are the most efficient and best drilled Cadet corps in Canada; and they highly merit all the praise that they have received. After the review, the inspecting officer complimented the boys upon their steadiness and the precision of their movements. Rev. Bro. Orestes, Rev. Bro. John and Sergt.-Major Phillips, their instructors, are also to be warmly congratulated upon the success of their pupils.

### WORK THAT HOLDS.

The Luxfer Prism Company are now making up ornamental glass panels as well as prism panels. Their system of copper glazing, whereby the pieces of glass are held together with copper, put in place electrically, lends itself to any form of glass. This glazing is the only one that will not deteriorate. There is no cement to crack and break away. The sheet being of copper and glass only, once the joint is properly made, it is solid for all time. Stores, offices, and basements lighted with Luxfer Prisms are much enhanced in value, and the prisms require no outlay for their upkeep—there are no repairs.

A dispatch from London states that Sister Mary Margaret Cusack, known as the Nun of Kenmare, died on the 7th inst. This is a brief and unconfirmed report of an event that gives rise to very sad reflections.