

Several of our readers have asked us to re-produce the following poem, which the Pilot republished recently in answer to similar requests. If we are not greatly mistaken, the last five stanzas are from the pen of the late Mr. Sutton, of Quebec, brother of Mr. J. P. Sutton, of Nebraska.

Dennis O'Sullivan, of New York, wrote the first three stanzas of this piece of humor and pathos. The name of the writer of the others, so different in character, is not given.

THE EXILE OF ERIN.

Her Inquiry of the Priest, "Will My Soul Pass Through Ireland?"

"O Soggarth Aroon! sure I know life is fleeting;
Soon, soon, in the strange earth my poor bones will lie;
I have said my last prayer and received my last blessing,
And if the Lord's willing I'm ready to die.
But Soggarth Aroon, can I never again see
The valleys and hills of my dear native land?
When my soul takes its flight from this dark world of sorrow
Will it pass through Old Ireland to join the blest band?"

"O Soggarth Aroon! sure I know that in heaven
The loved ones are waiting and watching for me,
And the Lord knows how anxious I am to be with them
In those realms of joy, 'mid souls pure and free;
Yet, Soggarth, I pray, ere you leave me forever,
Relieve the last doubt of a poor dying soul,
Whose hope next to God, is to know that when leaving
'Twill pass through Old Ireland on the way to its goal.

"O Soggarth Aroon! I have kept through all changes
The thrice-blessed shamrock to lay o'er my clay!
And oh! it has minded me often and often
Of that bright smiling valley so far, far away.
Then tell me, I pray you, will I ever again see
The place where it grew on my own native sod?
When my body lies cold in the land of the stranger
Will my soul pass through Erin on its way to our God?"

"Arrah! bless you, my child! sure I thought it was heaven
You wanted to go to the moment you died;
And such is the place on the ticket I'm giving,
But a coupon for Ireland I'll stick to its side.
Your soul shall be free as the wind o'er the prairies
And I'll land you at Cork, on the banks of the Lee;
And two little angels I'll give you, like fairies,
To guide you all right over mountains and sea."

"Arrah Soggarth Aroon! can't you do any better?
I know that my feelings may peril your grace;
But if you allow me a voice in the matter,
I won't make a landing at any such place.
The spot that I long for is sweet County Derry;
Among its fair people I was born and bred;
The Corkies I never much fancied while living,
And I don't want to visit them after I'm dead.

"Let me fly to the hills where my soul can make merry,
In the North, where the shamrock more plentiful grows—
In the counties of Cavan, Fermanagh and Derry
I'll linger till called to a better repose;
And the angels you give me will find it inviting
To visit the shrines in the Island of Saints;
If they bring from St. Patrick a small bit of writing,
They'll never have reason for any complaints."

"A soul, my dear child, that has pinions upon it,
Need not be confined to a province so small,
Through Ulster, and Munster and Leinster, and Connaught,
In less than a jiffy you're over it all.
Then visit sweet Cork, where your Soggarth was born,
No doubt many new things have come into vogue—
But one thing you'll find—that both night, noon and morn,
As for centuries back, there's no change in the brogue."

"Good mother, assist me in this my last hour;
And, Soggarth Aroon! lay your hand on my head;
Sure, you're Soggarth for all, and for all you have power,
And I'll take it in penance for what I have said.
And now, since you tell me through Ireland I'm passing,
And finding the place so remarkably small,
I'll never let on to the angels, in crossing,
That we know a distinction in counties at all."

BURMA.

"AS OTHERS SEE US."

A contrast between Catholic and Protestant Missions is pointed out in the following letter sent to the Allahabad Morning Post, and dated from Pobyah, in the Karen County, East Burma:—"The Roman Catholics have established a mission here and are working with a zeal and energy coupled with a self-sacrificing self-denial found nowhere outside the Church of Rome. They are Italians, from the Milan Seminary, and are under the orders of the Right Rev. Lord Bishop Rocco, Vicar Apostolic of Eastern Burma. Their work and self-denial is in strong contrast to the pretence of another foreign mission who were first in the field, and whose members (some of them) live continuously in Tonugoo, varied by trips to a sanitarium on the sea-shore during the hot weather, and who once in a blue

moon pay a flying visit up here, from sheer necessity, which never lasts for more than a few days, in order that they may not be compelled to submit an account *a la* Gullion to their Home Board. Many of the members of this pretentious set have gone in for filthy lucre, beyond their handsome salaries, and make no secret of foisting upon the Karens patent medicines put up by their impecunious relations in the home land. To this they add scent soap, cheap calico, and even betel nuts. There are, however, some true souls among them who mourn over these iniquities, but seem powerless to prevent them—*Catholic Illustrated Missions.*

New Boarder—"What is the row up stairs?" Landlady—"It's that professor of hypnotism trying to get his wife's permission to go out this evening."

Agnes—I want a husband who is easily pleased. Maud—Don't worry, dear, that is the kind you'll get.

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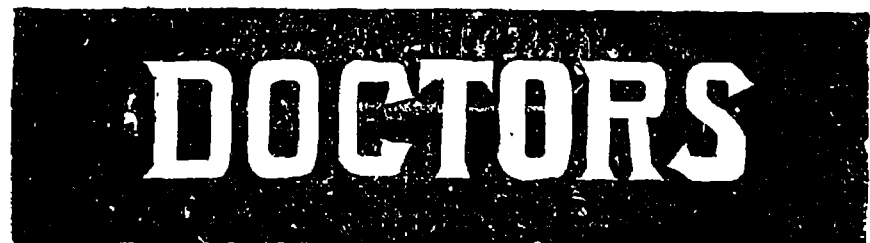


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District of Montreal. } No. 312.

Dame Albertine Lefebvre, of the parish of Notre Dame de Graces, said District, has instituted an action in separation as to property against Godfrey Charlebois, her husband, of the same place.
Montreal, 2nd April, 1894.

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