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The True Witness



MONTREAL, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 1907

PRICE FIVE CENTS

In Honor of Manchester Martyrs. Splendid Turn-out of the A. O. H. to St. Anthony's Church. Stiring Sermon by Rev. M. L. Shea.

Last Sunday was certainly a red-letter day for the people of St. Anthony's. Each year, on the Sunday nearest the 23rd of November, the members of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, headed by their band with knights fully uniformed, hold a church parade to one of the Irish Churches of the city, there to honor the memory of the Manchester Martyrs.

south and west; the convents, monasteries and schools, in which the youths are receiving their first impressions. Through all these storms and trials and struggles the people have been loyal and true; they have been partakers of the crucified they have been partakers of the chalice. When He said to our forefathers: "Can you drink the chalice?" they answered, "we can," and drinking it with Him they became partakers of His troubles and His trials here, and as they have been partakers with the crucified they shall be sharers with the glorified.

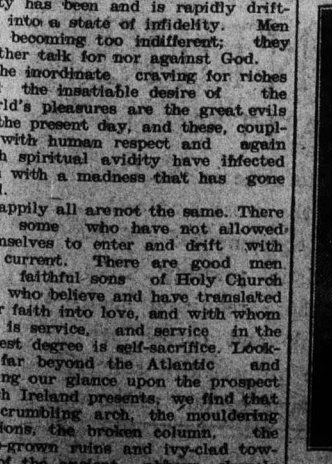


REV. M. L. SHEA, Preacher of the Occasion.

THE SERMON. "Walk ye as children of the light, for the fruit of the light is all goodness and justice and truth." (Eph. vi. 8, 9.) Beloved Officers and members of the A.O.H.: Your presence here today in such large numbers speaks volumes for the organization of which you are the faithful members. It shows to the outside world and to the members of this great congregation that the faith which was planted in your true Irish hearts has not dimmed with time nor been impaired by the morbid influences of the wicked world. It shows, too, that a splendid Catholic spirit pervades your actions when your annual meeting is sanctified by the solemn and most perfect service of religion, and it is, indeed, evidence of your practical Catholicity, which cannot but have a beneficial effect. The reason why I dilate upon your action of this morning, which is in every sense laudable, is because society has been and is rapidly drifting into a state of infidelity. Men are becoming too indifferent; they neither talk for nor against God.

Behold them to-day, animated with the same spirit. Poor as they may be and guilty at times of lassitude and distraction, they are rich in the possession of numberless edifices dedicated to religious service and eminently worthy of their glorious functions. In that respect at all events the enemies of faith and Fatherland have not prevailed, and never shall prevail, against the devotion of the Irish at home. Their faith is as deeply rooted in their hearts as the shamrock is rooted in the soil. Their ambitions are to be worthy citizens, in order to be co-heirs with the sons of God.

During a recent visit I acquired a knowledge of their simple and firm faith, of their kindly ways; of their intense religious feeling. I learned to admire them, for they are in word and in deed as a ray of sunshine to the world. Leaving Dublin, the capitol of the recognized and acknowledged home of pure poetry and legend, we proceeded southward passing through Kings, Queen's, Tipperary and Kerry Counties to Killarney. Of all the trips through Ireland that is one of the most fascinating. On either side of the roadway as far as the eye could reach there is varied and vigorous vegetation and a richness of scenery which stands to be admired. In the soft, insinuating loveliness of Killarney there is an impressive lesson. Visits were made to Muckross Abbey, which is in a good state of preservation, thence to Kate Kearney's cottage and the gap of Dunloe, and through the upper, middle and lower lakes to the Cooleen Bawn rocks. Thence to the places of interest in the environs and through to Dingle Bay, Valencia Harbor, Cahirciveen, Waterville, Parknasilla, Kenmore, Forus, Glengarriff, Bantry, Cork, Blarney Castle, Charleville, Limerick, Killkee, Galway, Clifden, Letterfrack, Leenane, Killary Bay, Westport, Claremorris, Enniskillen, Londonderry, Donegal, Portrush, Giant's Causeway, Antrim, Ballymena, Belfast, Armagh, Drogheda, River Boyne, Rathfrum, Glendalough, Vale of Avoca and Dublin.



MR. H. McMORROW, Representing Provincial President.

was a revelation; the prospect hopeful. Through the valiant efforts of John Redmond and his party the Government has loosed the chains that bound the tenant to the baronous landlord. To-day there is

hope shining in a clear sky. The tenant-farmer has been raised from the position of a serf to that of a man who feels that he has rights worth protecting. Formerly he could be cast adrift from his hold-land; to-day he has a right to possess, and through Government loans, become the owner of the acre or two of land that he cultivates. Soon he will be independent, for he will rise from the inertia into which he had fallen through the force of his position, and, stimulated with brighter prospects, will labor to attain the realization of his desires. Then things will assume their proper color and men's faces will beam with greater love for their children and their homes.

As it is they have good reason to be proud of their achievements in the way of church building and in the erection of all manner of religious edifices during the last fifty years. Wherever else there have been evidence of lassitude or distraction, the faithful Irish Catholic people have stood manfully and courageously by the cause of religion, and have out of their thin purses, in sunlight and sorrow, given liberally to the maintenance of the material and moral upbuilding of the Church and Faith of their fathers.

In the person of their clergy they have able lieutenants; men of head and heart; men of honor and distinction—intelligent and educated men. Men who willingly sacrifice their lives for the good and uplifting of the people; who watch by their destinies. They have influence over the people and rightly so, for they are sons of the soil who have grown to position and dignity. They are ministers of a religion endeared by suffering, and fastened by persecution to the affections of the country. They surpass to their influence which is born of their sacerdotal authority.

Across Two Continents And Through the Emerald Isle. Above is the title of an attractive narrative compiled by the Rev. M. L. Shea, as a souvenir of his recent tour abroad, which he reviews extensively and interestingly. It is profusely illustrated with some very fine views, making altogether with its graphic descriptions and well told incidents a charming little brochure which it is safe to predict that Father Shea's friends will deeply appreciate. While coming its pages the Roman sketches particularly appealed to us, and we here reproduce the very vivid pen picture of His Holiness:—



REV. FATHER T. F. HEFFERNAN, Master of Ceremonies.

No one who has been admitted to audience with the Holy Father has said other than that he is one of the most approachable of men. When in the past people used to ask Cardinal Sarro what he would do if made Pope, he replied: "I shall have white robes instead of red, and that will be the only change." And these robes are most becoming. His appearance is impressive. His person is extremely graceful and immediately imprints respect, yet denotes kindness and goodness. In bodily accomplishments he has vigor of limb, dignity and air, and a pleasant, engaging and open countenance. He is certainly a fascinating figure and the best loved of the chief pastors chosen by God for his people. As Pope he adorns the throne of Peter and is the admiration of his subjects who

Beloved members of the A.O.H., in your daily lives give to Caesar, that is to the world, what belongs to it, but withhold not from God what duty requires you to give to Him. That portion of the world who will criticize and turn your actions to

ridicule are the enemies of the Cross of Christ, who scoff at religion, and look upon that is pure and good, for the reason that it is pure and good, as the devil hates holy water because it is blessed; who are violating every right of conscience and every principle of freedom. This is the world; and to avoid its displeasures—to escape its censures, will you offend your God and lose your soul? You must see that there cannot be a greater folly, a more impious delusion than to offend God in this way. It is running a risk of losing your soul. Would you throw all your money into a deep river, because you have some hope that you might perhaps find it again? If not, then why expose yourselves to offend God rather than endure the disapprobation of a treacherous world?

Be good men; loyal and true to the principals of your organization, sincere and earnest in the performance of your duties to God! Regard the opinions of the wicked enemy, respecting your conduct, with the same indifference as you hear the wind blowing over your heads. Never doer shall be ashamed of me, and of my words, in this sinful generation, the Son of Man also shall be ashamed of him, when He shall come in the glory of His Father." On the contrary, pursue the path of virtue and truth and you will gain the approbation of the Almighty, in this life and will entitle yourselves to the blessings of happiness in the next.

So great was the attendance that the sanctuary had to be thrown open to accommodate the immense crowds seeking admission.

His countrymen and their friends in France taking exception to his position, began to assail him with the most vile epithets; but sublimely impervious to the unmerited attacks upon his exalted person and the members of his clergy, he continued to show the tenderest solicitude for the happiness of even his rebellious children. These attacks were followed by a nefarious campaign in which the revilers of Catholicity took a large number of the soil who have grown daily of some abomination perpetrated against the Church, against the prelates, of priests outraged, of nuns libelled most foully. And strange that the would-be reformers, who see the shortcomings of the system of the Church, have never seen fit to censure the lawlessness of the rabble, or the anti-Christian behaviour of their associations. The Church is an old sufferer, and the fresh wounds she is receiving at the hands of her deadly enemies, now openly, now secretly, are being attended to by Pio Decimo, who is eminently qualified to uphold with honor the dignity and rights of the universal Church. Next year, 1908, he will celebrate his sacerdotal Golden Jubilee, and every demonstration of mingled loyalty and affection shown him on that auspicious occasion will be an answer to the cavillers and enemies who have left nothing undone to cause him anxiety and pain. It is our humble prayer that he may be spared to rule the

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Church for many a year, and to see with his eyes of Irish blue peace restored to the Kingdom of Christ on earth.

The Late Mrs. Patrick Kennedy.

On Sunday night, November 17th, Mrs. Patrick Kennedy, after a brief illness, passed away to her reward. The deceased lady was born 77 years ago in the County of Tipperary, Ireland, and came to this country when yet quite a young girl, about the age of ten. Her maiden name was Mary Ann Horan, and she was widely related in Almonte, Ottawa and Huntley, and a number of her relatives are still living in the old land. She was married about 57 years ago to Mr. Patrick Kennedy, of this parish of St. Michael's, Corkery, Ont., and her aged husband still survives, her living with his son Edward here. Her funeral, which took place on Tuesday morning at St. Michael's Church, was largely attended by friends and neighbors from the surrounding country. Three sons, John, Patrick and Edward, and one daughter, Mrs. Michael Scott, are left to mourn her demise. May her soul rest in peace.

Uniformity of Text Books Asked For.

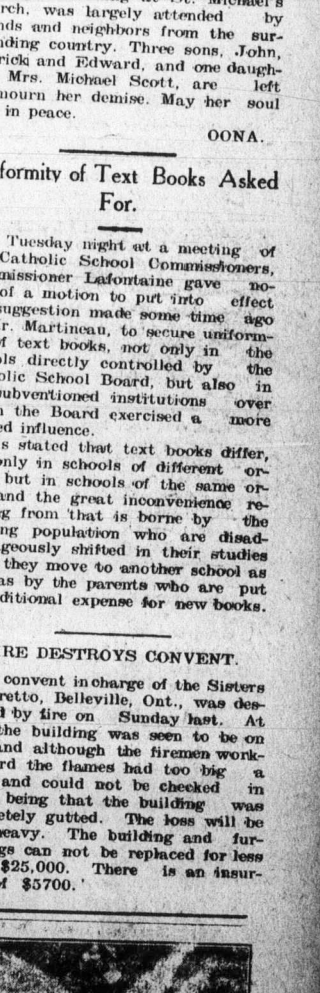
On Tuesday night at a meeting of the Catholic School Commissioners, Commissioner Lafontaine gave notice of a motion to put into effect the suggestion made some time ago by Mr. Martineau, to secure uniformity of text books, not only in the schools directly controlled by the Catholic School Board, but also in the subventioned institutions over which the Board exercised a more limited influence. It is stated that text books differ, not only in schools of different orders, but in schools of the same order, and the great inconvenience resulting from that is borne by the floating population who are disadvantageously shifted in their studies when they move to another school as well as by the parents who are put to additional expense for new books.

FIRE DESTROYS CONVENT.

The convent in charge of the Sisters of Loreto, Belleville, Ont., was destroyed by fire on Sunday last. At 5.40 the building was seen to be on fire, and although the firemen worked hard the flames had too big a start and could not be checked in result being that the building was completely gutted. The loss will be very heavy. The building and furnishings can not be replaced for less than \$25,000. There is an insurance of \$57,000.

POPE PIUS X. SURROUNDED BY AMERICAN PILGRIMS.

The interesting group pictured above was photographed in the Vatican on August 3 last, on the occasion of the Holy Father's reception of a large party of American tourists conducted by J. J. McGrath, of New York.



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