

ITEMS OF INTEREST

ILLNESS OF ABBE BELLEMAIRE. Abbe Bellemaire, of the Seminary, Nicolet, was stricken with paralysis last Friday. His condition is very serious.

MGR. EMARD HAS AUDIENCE WITH PIUS X. The Pope yesterday received in private audience the Right Rev. Joseph M. Emard, Bishop of Valleyfield.

BAG NEWS. Mr. H. C. McCallum, who has been for the past sixteen years in charge of the printing department of the Canada Jute Company, has resigned and will assume the duties of Superintendent of the Printing Department of the new "Smart Bag Co." March 15th, with temporary headquarters in Toronto.

FIRE IN SEMINARY AT SHERBROOKE. What might have been a disastrous fire in St. Charles Borromeo Seminary, Sherbrooke, last Friday, was nipped in the bud by the timely arrival and splendid work of the fire brigade. It started quite mysteriously in the study hall, which together with the recreation hall suffered damage to the extent of some \$8000.

DIOCESAN WORK. At the beginning of the month of February, a new diocesan work was inaugurated by the White Sisters at Quebec, that of aiding seminarians in poor circumstances. His Grace, in order to express his sympathy with the good work, presided at the opening ceremony. The Rev. P. Forbes, Superior of the White Fathers, explained the work and its motives in a very interesting manner.

RETURN OF HIS LORDSHIP BISHOP McEVAY. His Lordship Bishop McEvay, accompanied by Rev. Father Aylward, rector of St. Peter's Cathedral, arrived in London, Ont., on Monday evening from New York, where they had landed on Sunday from Queens-town, Ireland. His Lordship and Father Aylward were met at the depot by a number of priests from the palace and prominent Catholic laymen. The Bishop will address the congregation on the subject of his visit to Rome on Sunday next. On that day the presentation of a purse and an address will be made to both the Bishop and Father Aylward.

TEMPERANCE DELEGATION WAIT ON ARCHBISHOP BRUCHESE. On Sunday a delegation from St. Peter's Temperance Society waited upon Archbishop Bruchesi and offered him their respectful homage, for the inauguration of the temperance campaign which he had undertaken. The delegation was composed of the Society's council and numbered 24 members. The Rev. P. Villeneuve, O.M.I., chaplain, presented the address to the Archbishop. His Grace replied thanking the delegation and expressing the happiness he experienced in being thus waited upon, and explained in a magnificent discourse the means to be taken advantage of to obtain the best results. He encouraged the Society to continue the good work they had in hand and gave them his blessing.

ARCHBISHOP'S CRUSADE. Archbishop Bruchesi has started a crusade with a view to stopping the sale and exposure for sale of indecent picture cards in certain stores in the city, and on Tuesday afternoon the Rev. Canon Decarie, of St. Henri, and the Rev. Father Armand Luche, were present in the Court of Enquete to support the prosecution before Judge Desnoyers of Osta-Berousson, of St. Lawrence Boulevard, and J. H. Superior, of St. Catherine street, west, the charge in each case being that of selling and having on view for sale obscene picture post-cards in their respective stores. The defendants pleaded not guilty. The defence is that the pictures are works of art.

The Rev. Canon Decarie said he had been requested by the Archbishop to attend the court to support the prosecution, in order to see if something could not be done to put down the evil and mischief which was being done among the young people of the city by the placing of obscene picture post-cards in the shop windows and by the sale of these cards. After looking at the cards, etc., that had been seized at the two stores in question, Canon Decarie said that from a moral standpoint they were vile, and certainly not

artistic productions. They were samples of nudity and vulgarity. Rev. Father Armand Luche stated that he had been asked by the Archbishop to take part in the crusade against these cards, and he was attending court with a view of doing some good for the community. After glancing at several of the cards produced as evidence before the judge, the reverend gentleman said one needed a pair of pincers with which to handle them. There was nothing artistic in the pictures. The case was adjourned until next week.

OBSTACLE TO TEMPERANCE. The Hon. Mr. Tarte says in the Patrie: "One of the most serious obstacles to a re-establishment of our old temperance habits is the custom of 'treating.' If we could only stop that injurious and ridiculous custom, the great peril that threatens us would be half averted. 'The evil is perhaps as great in the Province of Ontario as it is here. Mr. McNaught, the new Conservative member for the constituency of North Ontario, has just given notice before the Ontario Legislature that he will shortly introduce a bill to abolish the 'treating' system. Any person offering a treat to others in a bar-room will be liable to pay a fine or even to be imprisoned. Mr. McNaught does not believe that his Draconic measure will be accepted by the House, but he reckons that the effect produced among the public by the discussion brought on will be beneficial. 'Any man who can put an end to that detestable custom would deserve the greatest gratitude from his fellow-beings. It is seldom, however, that mortals are reformed by means of severe restrictive laws.'

Support of Church and Pastor (Lenten Tract.) Catholics are bound under pain of sin to contribute to the support of their pastor and of his assistants. In this country there is the obligation, likewise, to contribute to the building and maintenance of church and school.

Whatever means are adopted in the parish to this end, Catholics must be willing to do their share whether it be by paying a fixed amount of dues, pew rent, seat money, or by contributing to certain collections and entertainments, and making certain customary offerings in receiving the ministrations of religion.

All members of the parish who have an income of their own, whether they are married or single, whether they have families or not, whether they live with their families, board, or live by themselves, moreover, sons and daughters who pay their board, and have the balance of their income for their own use, are bound equally as well as their parents, to contribute to the support of their church, school or pastor. Persons not able to pay the fixed dues, either through continued poverty, or for the time being, are bound to make their circumstances known to their pastor, or be considered delinquent. To neither pay nor make any excuse to the pastor, is considered either pure neglect of duty, pride or obstinacy.

Parties failing both to pay for their pews or seats, and to give an explanation for it, should remember that they forfeit their right to them. It requires no notice on the part of the pastor to such, in order that he may be justified in disposing of their pew or seat in favor of others. Pay your dues or pew rent at the appointed time and place, and see that you receive credit for it. Do not expect the pastor or anyone else to carry the pew book about with him. If through neglect of these rules, and through your own awkwardness, you find that you have not been credited for your payment, you will have yourself to blame.

Parties unwilling to take part in church entertainments or unable to attend them, should at least do their share by purchasing tickets or otherwise contributing to their object. If the character of such entertainments be not always to one's taste, the object of them, at least, should always be. If you have been accidentally overlooked at a regular church collection, either at one that is taken up within the church itself, or at a house-to-house collection in the parish, bring your contribution nevertheless, to the pastor, or to those in charge. Do not take advantage of such an oversight when you would otherwise have contributed. Such conduct is unworthy of anyone calling himself a Catholic.

German statistics show that seventy-two per cent of women miss railroad trains.

THE LENTEN SEASON.

Eloquent Discourses from City Pulpits on Sunday Last.

IMMENSE CONGREGATIONS IN ATTENDANCE.

NOTRE DAME. At Notre Dame on Sunday last the renowned pulpit orator, Pere Plessis, was listened to by a congregation which filled the grand old edifice from sanctuary to doors. For upwards of an hour he held the attention of the vast concourse. His theme was the contrast of two principles of life. Upon the person of Christ he showed how there played the conflict between the forces that would have moulded him into the Messiah whom the Jews desired and the Divine nature that impelled him to carry out that other and far different Messiahship of God. He set forth the nature and origin of the Hebrew ambition till his audience seemed to live in the captivity period and to burn with the hope that held the Jews of that time, the hope of worldly mastery over those who now mastered them. Some men believed they could trace in the person and character and works of Christ the point of contact of this Messiahship with the Divine Messiahship. If so they were more seeing than Satan himself. Satan in his most marvellously devised temptation sought to play on that ambition of earthly domination, and failed, finding no traces of it in Christ's nature. The Messiahship of God was a mission of renunciation. In a superb peroration the preacher showed how worldly ambition had succeeded in writing in history many names which would stand there until the end of time; but time was not all, and in the endless ages of eternity only those would be honored who had made obedience and renunciation the guiding principle of their existence. Archbishop Bruchesi occupied the throne, and was assisted by Rev. Abbes Filiatreault and Bedard. Rev. Gerald McShane was celebrant.

AT THE GESTU.

Father Schmidt commenced a series of Lenten sermons on the Sacraments, choosing as his opening theme Baptism. Taking his text from the phrase, "I am sent to cure the broken-hearted," he declared that Christ was the great Physician of the soul, and in order to carry out remedies for curing, preventing and strengthening. These remedies were the Sacraments: Baptism, Penance, and Extreme Unction, a cure; Confirmation and matrimony as preventives, and Holy Eucharist to strengthen the weak souls, although the latter Sacrament partook of the nature of all three.

Dealing with Baptism, Father Schmidt spoke of Christ's baptism, as St. Augustine said, "Not to purify Himself, but to purify the water." It was the symbol of adoption by God, bringing in its train all the splendid privileges and aids that such adoption must mean.

OPENING OF MISSION AT ST. PATRICK'S.

Last Sunday, at High Mass, witnessed the opening of the mission under the direction of the Redemptorist Fathers at St. Patrick's. Father Hamel, C.S.S.R., was the preacher, and took for his text "Blessed is the Lord God of Israel for he hath wrought salvation." (Luke, I: 56). The Rev. Father emphasized to the large congregation the necessity of holding a mission, how necessary for one and all to avail of the wonderful time of grace, what special benefits were derived, and how, in many cases, it was God's last appeal to erring humanity. Rev. J. Heenan, C.S.S.R., was the evening preacher.

C. M. B. A. OF CANADA.

Change of Meeting Hall. Branch 26, C.M.B.A., give notice to members of change of meeting Hall from St. Patrick's Hall to 2381 St. Catherine street (Irglis Building), and their evenings of meeting from 2nd and 4th Mondays to 1st and 3rd Fridays of each month, from 1st March.

SUDDEN DEATH OF MR. F. DOWD. About nine o'clock on Tuesday night, Mr. F. Dowd fell unconscious at St. Patrick's Church. He was carried into St. Patrick's Hall, and Dr. Dunston Gray was summoned,

but nothing could be done to save him, and he died in a few minutes. The last rites of the church were administered to the dying man. Mrs. Dowd was at the time attending St. Patrick's Church mission, and her husband was waiting for her. Mr. Dowd, who lived at 76 Aymer street, was 59 years of age, and a devoted member of St. Patrick's Church.

A Warning to the Enemies of Ireland.

(By John Dillon.) Believe me, that the defeat of Balfour and Chamberlain will be a warning to English statesmen in the future when they propose to coerce Ireland, and now the same men who advised us to enter into an alliance with the broken and discredited Tory party are advising us to adopt a policy of subservience to the Liberal party. I shall oppose that policy, as I opposed the other. The success of the Liberal party I rejoice to see, and I triumph in the complete defeat of the Unionist and Coercionist party; but don't imagine for a single moment that I rejoice in that because I believe Home Rule is won, or that we can place our hopes of Irish liberty and freedom in English Ministers or any English party. No, we have a good long road to travel yet, and the time and hour has not yet come to lay aside the weapons which have served us so well in the past. This is not the hour to untie the bonds of party discipline, this is not the hour to disband the Irish party and to trust the future fortunes of Ireland to a scratch alliance with Lord Dunsraven and Thomas Sloan. No, I say that now and more than ever we need to preserve our weapons and our fighting forces, because now is but the moment when victory is half won, and if you study history you will learn the lesson that in innumerable cases when the forces of the enemy are broken and the victory within the grasp of generals, it has been lost by want of maintaining that discipline that had all but secured the triumph. I say, therefore, that now more than ever we ought not to lay down our weapons and disband our party in this hour of triumph and approaching victory. No, I don't place trust, and I shall not place trust, in any Liberal party or in any other party in England. We are grateful and thankful to any English Liberals, like Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, who are faithful and loyal to their promises, but in the ultimate resort, until victory is actually won, and an Irish Parliament is sitting upon Irish soil, our trust must be in one pledge-bound Irish National Party—one policy, and one party and one leader. The moment we depart from that principle I say our hands will be paralyzed, and even though victory were almost within our grasp, it would be snatched from us.

CONVERSION OF PRINCESS ENA.

Princess Ena, bride-elect of King Alfonso, formally joined the Catholic Church yesterday. The ceremony took place at the Church of El Antinguo; which is close to Miramar Palace, in San Sebastian. There is great satisfaction that the ceremony took place on Spanish soil. Princess Ena thus gave the strongest denial to the statement that her conversion was only half-hearted and formal.

WANT PRIVILEGES LIKE CANADA.

It is announced that Mr. Field, Nationalist, Dublin, will this week call the attention of the Government to the fact that in Canada during the session members of Parliament are not only allowed to send correspondence and bluebooks free of postage, but that they obtain by act a free pass over all the railways of the Dominion. Thus a movement is now on foot to imitate Canadian Parliamentary customs in three important respects: the payment of members, the franking system, and railway passes. Should the payment of members be conceded, it is not thought that more than £200 or £300 sterling will be allowed.

CATHOLIC AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

The Rev. Mr. Vay de Vays, the noted Hungarian priest and nobleman, who visited this country last year is about to start for Manchuria, where he will lay the cornerstone of an agricultural college, which will be his work alone.

OBITUARY.

VICTOR DALEY.

Victor Daley, Australia's poet laureate, died recently at Sydney. He was twenty when he landed in Australia. His native place was Armagh, where he was born on August 5, 1858. There, as in other parts of Ireland, nearly every square foot is historic ground. Every rath has its fairy tale, every ruin its thrilling historic memories. The youth drank in these traditions—fairy lore and song and story—and the old charm and spirit of them seemed to breathe in his after work which smacked of the truest traits in Irish life. Young as he was when he touched the Australian earth, his memories were well defined. Few of his age would have stored their minds with a fraction of those rich memories which Daley brought with him to the new land from the old. But he was no ordinary man. He had that spark of immortal fire which burns from cradle to the grave in the soul of genius. And so it was he sang of "the old dead flowers of bygone summers" with all the tender yearning sadness of the transplanted Celt striving to twine the shamrock with the wattle and endow each with the glory of the other. He began Australian life as clerk in Adelaide, and to a suburban paper sent his first chirpings. Thus he made known his aspirations to the public, and thereafter he ventured to Melbourne and Sydney, and laid the readers of Sydney Punch, the Freeman's Journal, and the Bulletin under tribute to his talent. In Queenbeyan, whither he went on foot, he met the late John Farrell, and the two destined to brighten Australian literature, helped to illumine a local journal with their flashing pens. To the Bulletin Daley drifted with his stock of poetic outpourings, and his name became a power in its pages as in those of the Sydney Freeman's Journal, and other avenues.

E. J. BEDARD.

After a very short illness of pneumonia, there passed away at Richmond, Mr. E. J. Bedard, L.L.B. This young lawyer possessed more than the ordinary intellect, was a clever writer and popular orator. He was very widely known throughout the district of St. Francis and in fact in the whole province. His preliminary education was received at St. Francis College, Richmond. Subsequently he took the full arts course at St. Charles Seminary, Sherbrooke, where he graduated with honors in 1881, being one of the first pupils of that institution. His law studies were pursued at Laval University, this city, which conferred the degree of LL.B. upon him in 1885. In the same year he was called to the provincial bar and practised in this city first with Judge Davidson, and later with Senator Cloran, in the firm of Cloran and Bedard, and for several years was the Crown Attorney of Richmond. He was also P.C.R. of Court St. Francis, No. 333, Catholic Order of Foresters, and a member of St. Jean Baptiste Society.

The funeral took place from the parish church, Richmond, on Saturday. Representative citizens from all parts of the province filled the edifice to render a last tribute to the memory of one of Richmond's most popular young men. The hearse was preceded by the members of St. Francis Court, 333, in mourning regalia. The mourners were: Mr. Joseph Bedard, father; Messrs. F. J. Bedard, H. F. Bedard and A. J. Bedard, brothers. In the cortege were: Archdeacon Roe, E. W. Tobin, M.P.; M. T. Stenson, Collector of Customs, Sherbrooke; L. E. Paneton, advocate; M. O'Bready, Judge Mulvena, all of Sherbrooke; J. McGovern, uncle; E. McGovern, Dr. J. J. McGovern, cousins; J. P. Connaughton, cousin; Claud Orsall, St. Hyacinthe; J. Wright, J. Cuddy, E. Lemieux, F. Connaughton, all of Montreal; T. P. Millette, county warden; B. Quinn, Windsor Mills; Dr. McCabe, Windsor Mills; Dr. Meagher, Windsor Mills; E. H. Gilbert, Meagher. The True Witness extends its sincerest sympathy to the bereaved family.

MR. JAMES BURKE.

Mayo, March 2nd.—Mr. Jas. Burke, of this parish, has passed away to his eternal reward. On Tuesday morning, Feb. 27th, he breathed his last at the home of his uncle, Mr. Thos. Lavell, of this parish. He had been ailing for the past couple of months. The kind and genial disposition of deceased made friends for him of all those who had the favor of his personal acquaintance.

His funeral service took place on Thursday, March 1st. His bereaved mother, sister and brother and relatives have the sympathy of all in the loss they have sustained. May his soul rest in peace.

We try to bow in silence 'Neath the blow that on us fell, Knowing He whose hand had dealt it Ever doeth all things well, But we miss him; yes, we miss him, And we list, alas, in vain, For the sound of coming footsteps We shall never hear again.

PATRICK O'SHEA.

Patrick O'Shea, the nestor of the Catholic publishers in America, is dead at his home in Summit, N.J., in his seventy-fourth year, having been born March 17th, 1832, in Kilkenny, Ireland. He came to the United States in his 19th year, and in 1854 began business in New York. During the fifty-two years that his business had been established he published a great many Catholic story, school and standard books. He was author and editor, as well as publisher of most of his text books. During the Civil War Mr. O'Shea was an earnest advocate of the cause of the Union, and his letters, signed "An American Citizen," published in the Boston Pilot and the Dublin Nation, excited much interest.

GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY SYSTEM Reduced Fares.

Table with 2 columns: Destination and Fare. Includes routes to Seattle, Victoria, Vancouver, etc.

TOURIST SLEEPING CARS

Leave Montreal Mondays and Wednesdays at 10:30 p.m. for the accommodation of passengers holding first or second class tickets to Chicago.

CANADIAN PACIFIC CHEAP RATES.

Table with 2 columns: Destination and Rate. Includes Vancouver, Seattle, Tacoma, Portland.

Tourist Sleeping Cars

For Chicago, the North West & Pacific Coast

SLEEPING CARS—MONTREAL—OTTAWA.

Above service has been resumed on train leaving Windsor Station, at 10.10 p.m. At Ottawa passengers for Montreal may board car any time after 9.00 p.m., and remain in sleeper until 9.00 a.m.

BUILDING ASSOCIATION IN AID OF St. Michael's Parish, Montreal.

By a resolution passed at a meeting of the Fabrique of St. Michael's, dated the 3rd of January, 1906, and with the approval of His Grace the Archbishop, the Fabrique binds itself to cause to have said in St. Michael's during four years two masses a month according to the intention of those who contribute 50 cents yearly. Help yourselves, help your deceased friends and help the new church by joining this Association. The two masses in favor of contributors to St. Michael's Building Association, are said towards the end of every month. They are said with the intentions of those who contribute fifty cents a year. Contributors may have any intentions they please, they alone need know what their intentions are, they may change their intentions from month to month—they may have a different intention for each of the two masses in every month, they may have several intentions for the same Mass, they may apply the benefit of the contribution to the soul of a deceased friend. Contributions for the year 1906 (50 cents) may be addressed to: REV. JOHN P. HEENAN P.P., 1000 St. Denis Street, MONTREAL, P.Q. (All contributions acknowledged.)