

All communications intended for publication or notices should be addressed to the Editor, and all business and other communications to the Managing Director THE TRUE WITNESS P. & P. Co., Limited, P. O. Box 1138.

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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1898

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 excellent work.

PAUL, Archbishop of Montreal.

CHRISTMAS.

To-morrow will be Christmas Day, the greatest of the festivals celebrated by the Catholic Church, and the most joyful of the commemorations of the Christian year. From countless pulpits to-morrow, the "old, yet ever new" narrative of the birth of the Redeemer of mankind will be told again, and the salutary considerations which it naturally suggests will once more be presented in a variety of ways. Yet, as a recent Catholic writer remarked, all the volumes ever written and all the sermons ever preached on that sacred theme cannot improve upon the Christmas Gospel of St. Luke. Its very simplicity stamps it as a narrative altogether superhuman. It is heaven and earth mingled together, and all that could cloud or obscure or distract the vision is absent. The noise of the crowd in the town near by does not reach us, the bustle and excitement of the day are over; "for while all things were in quiet silence, and the night was in the midst of her course, Thy Almighty Word leapt down from Heaven, from Thy Royal Throne, as a fierce conqueror into the midst of the land of destruction."

This year's celebration of the anniversary of the birth of the Divine Prince of Peace finds the world in anything but a peaceful mood. There have been wars recently and there are rumors of wars to-day. Nations glare with hatred at nation, and empire at empire; and offensive and defensive alliances are being made and unmade. If Christian nations practised their religion, if they were animated by the spirit of peace and good will, of love of God and love of our neighbors, which the Saviour taught, and which His Church teaches, this state of things would not exist. But above the tumult of the angry passions of men and nations we discern the figure of the Vicar of Christ, the visible head of the Church, gazing calmly forth from His watch tower in the Eternal City, confident in the knowledge that His Kingdom will yet comprise all humanity and that peace and good will, will in God's good time reign over the hearts and minds of all men.

ENGLISH-SPEAKING CATHOLICS AND THE CENSUS

In connection with our proposal to have a separate classification in the census record for English-speaking Catholics, we published an interesting letter in our last issue from Mr. Geo. Johnson, the Dominion Statistician, in which this passage occurs: "I do not believe it would be best for the minority to secure 'such a division.' Herein lies the secret of that lack of public spirit which has been, and is to-day so painfully manifest in the ranks of English-speaking Catholics of Montreal. In making this statement, the Dominion Statistician merely repeated what has often been said by leading men of other nationalities, as well as by some English-speaking Catholics. 'Keep quiet' is the word

that has been passed around among English-speaking Catholics. 'Keep quiet,' lest you may lose your representation for St. Ann's Division in the House of Commons and in the Legislative Assembly at Quebec. 'Keep quiet,' English-speaking Catholics, because by demanding your rights as an important and numerous section of the community you will be denied representation at the civic board.

"Keep quiet," English-speaking Catholics, or your sons and daughters will be ostracized in the business establishments presided over by Protestant proprietors. "Keep quiet," English-speaking Catholics, or you will be shut out from obtaining your share of the public offices within the gift of the Federal and Provincial governments. So continually has this fatal faculty of complaisance been preached that we believe it to be no exaggeration to say that there are a number of English-speaking Catholics in Montreal who have allowed themselves to be led to believe that a policy of silence is more opportune, under present circumstances, than one of assertiveness. Assertiveness does not necessarily mean aggressiveness. It does not make for the fomentation of trouble, either secular religious or political. It simply means that a man shall recognize his own manhood, and the deduction naturally follows that he must perform love and strive for his own nationality, his own faith, his own speech. Shakespeare was never more thoroughly human than when he put into the mouth of Polonius the words, "To thine own self be true, and it must follow as the night the day thou canst not then be false to any man."

In a recent meeting in London, Lord Russell, at the opening of the St. George Club—a distinctively English Catholic institution—pointed out the want of cohesion among Catholics in the great metropolis, and his words must carry weight throughout the civilized world. If such a thing is necessary in England, where duality of language is not recognized, how much more necessary is it here in the Province of Quebec. Every Catholic has a mission in life more than the matter of mere living. Unity of faith is the distinguishing character of Catholicity the world over, with the inflexible utterances of the Sovereign Pontiff to guide us. We do not need to be reminded of this fact by even so erudite a gentleman as Mr. Johnson, who necessarily looks on all forms of religious belief with the cold calculating eye of the accomplished statistician. This is said with all due respect to Mr. Johnson, for it will readily be understood that in his official capacity the various creeds are simply units in columns of figures.

It is however, with these columns of figures that we have to deal. Catholics in Canada live under circumstances impossible to duplicate in but few parts of the world. The term French-Canadian practically means that the person spoken of is a Catholic, in much the same way that the appellation Irish means Catholic. In creed there is no divergence; in racial instincts there frequently is. In the matter of creed the statistician or the census taker bulks nationalities apparently forgetting the fact that there are two distinct representative nationalities in Canadian Catholicity. The aggregative name of Protestant is generally understood to comprise the various forms of belief that emanated from the errors of one Martin Luther and his followers. Still all these multifarious and diverse sects are carefully tabulated, while Catholics are all found in one column.

In the Province of Quebec there is a distinctively drawn line of demarcation between English-speaking Catholics and French-speaking Catholics in a business, political and social way, and it is only a recognition of this fact in the census that is demanded.

Our interests in the community are too great to be overlooked. We are more numerous than our representation in public life would lead one to suppose; a great deal of that is our own fault, for we have taken things too easily; been too generous and not sufficiently self assertive. A different classification in the census returns would serve as a sort of report of progress, show our people what their numerical strength is and incidentally point out to them the power they might wield in matters of great public moment. As it is now we have no official recognition in the census record, and we are calmly told that we are fairly represented in public life. It is under these circumstances that we de-

mand that English-speaking Catholics be properly tabulated in the census returns.

Rev. Father Veitch, of Newfoundland, is at present the guest of the genial pastor of St. Mary's Church, Rev. P. F. O'Donnell.

We regret to hear that our young and talented writer, Mr. Thomas Whelan, is confined to his home, suffering from a severe attack of pneumonia. His "Talks to Boys and Girls" are much admired by the readers of the "True Witness." Mr. Whelan is an old pupil of St. Patrick's School, and a graduate of Mount St. Louis College. Young men of Mr. Whelan's stamp would do honor to any institution.

The official statistics which we published about a year ago showing the consumption by Scotchmen of whiskey largely exceeded, per capita, that of Ireland, finds corroboration in the figures dealing with the recent bankruptcy of a single Scotch distiller. Here is what the cable says about it: The panic in whiskey shares continues. It is stated that the assets of Pattison's bonded warehouse in Leith which has a floorage of seven acres, exceed the liabilities by \$150,000. None of the Scotch banks involved are without security. The capital of the Pattison warehouse is invested in Scotch whiskey to the amount of £10,000,000. Last spring the concern had 138,000-

also been considerably increased. Owing to the competition of the producers, without regard to consumption, every inch of storage room in Glasgow is occupied by whiskey. If every inch of storage room in Dublin instead of Glasgow were occupied by whiskey, what an uncoquid editorial sermon we would have in the "Daily Witness." The Scotch for whiskey cannot be put down to illiteracy; for the Scotch are an educated and bright intellectual people.

A strike is at the present moment imminent on the part of the Grand Trunk Railway Company's telegraphers. On Tuesday negotiations came to a termination. General superintendent McGulgan discussed the entire situation with the chairman and other members of the telegraphers' committee, and pointed out to them that it was absolutely impossible to concede the demands which have been made upon them, by reason of the financial exigencies of the line.

It is not, perhaps, much thought of, but it is certainly a very important lesson, to learn how to enjoy ordinary life, and to be able to relish your being without the transport of some passion or the gratification of some appetite.

What an incalculable field of dread and sombre contemplation is open to every man who, with his heart disengaged from himself and his eyes accustomed to the sharp observance of his tribe, walks through the streets of a great city.

THE KARN PIANO

Has satisfied some of the most CRITICAL, it is sure to satisfy you. Its case work is chaste and handsome. Nothing cheap looking about it. Its tone is of that beautiful singing quality, only found in pianos of superior manufacture. It is

EVERY INCH A PIANO.

In order to make room for our new styles, we intend to sell off our old designs at LIBERAL DISCOUNTS. Give us a call before you decide to buy, and we will show you value for every cent of money you wish to lay out, in the purchase of a piano.

THE D. W. KARN CO., LTD.
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The Light and Wholesome
WINES
 Hailing from the Moselle

Absolutely Pure, Healthful and Delicious.
 For use with Oysters and all sorts of Fish,
 There are no finer Wines in existence.

Via New York, from Messrs. EDUARD SAARBACH & CO., Mainz, Germany, we have just received a small parcel of 51 Cases Still Moselle Wines. They are just in time for our Christmas trade. Owing to the increased duty of 30 per cent. ad valorem, on the coast in Germany, we are compelled to advance prices but the Wines are worth all we are asking for them. Here are our Revised Prices:

FOR STILL MOSELLES:

- SAARBACH'S "BERNGASTLER DOCTOR," In cases of 1 dozen quarts Per Case \$20.00
 - SAARBACH'S "MOSELBLUMCHEN," In cases of 1 dozen quarts Per Case \$12.00
 - SAARBACH'S "BRAUNBERGER," In cases of 1 dozen quarts Per Case \$11.00
 - SAARBACH'S "PIESPORTER," 1898, In cases of 1 dozen quarts Per Case \$ 9.00
 - SAARBACH'S "ZELTINGER," In cases of 1 dozen quarts Per Case \$ 8.00
- 20 Pints of all the above "Still Moselles" \$1.00 per case extra.

FRASER, VICER & CO.,
 Sole Agents for Messrs. Eduard Saarbach & Co., Mayence.

STERLING SILVER TEASPOONS.

What is more disagreeable than to sit down to a table where the tea spoons are worn and tarnished. We can show you an excellent line in good heavy weight, which we sell at \$6.50 per dozen. More expensive ones if you want them. But bear in mind the fact that when you buy sterling silver goods from us we always guarantee them 925 fine, and our stock of Sterling Silver and Electro Plated Ware is larger than that of all other dealers combined.

Simpson, Hall, Miller & Co., Silversmiths,
 1794 Notre Dame Street.

P. WRIGHT,
 1327 and 1329 Notre Dame Street.
CONTINUATION RETIRING SALE.

- Men's Lined Kid Gloves, stitched backs, 49c, 53c to \$1.00.
- Men's Lined Extra Heavy Kid Gloves, 73c, 78c, 90c per pair.
- Men's Fine Dressed Kid Gloves, 85c, 93c, 95c, \$1.00.
- Men's Wool Gloves, 15c, 20c, 25c, 33c, 35c per pair.

SILK MUFFLERS.

- Men's Silk Mufflers in all colors, 33c, 35c, 46c, 50c.
- Men's Extra Fine Mufflers, 73c, 78c, 85c, \$1.00, \$1.25, all reduced.
- Men's Black Twilled Silk Mufflers, 75c, 85c, 90c, \$1, \$1.25, \$1.50.
- Men's White Shirts, 45c, 50c, 55c, 70c, 75c, 80c, \$1.00.
- Men's Neckwear of every description all reduced.

LADIES' and GENTS' SILK HANDKERCHIEFS

Our Offering in Silk Handkerchiefs cannot be Surpassed in Value or Quality.

Ladies' Silk Handkerchiefs, 15c, 19c, 25c, 30c, 35c, 40c, 50c, only Half the Original Price.

Men's Colored Silk Handkerchiefs, 33c, 46c, 54c, 63c, 74c, all reduced.

Men's Extra Heavy White Silk Handkerchiefs, Brocaded, suitable for Christmas and New Year's Presents, \$1.00, \$1.25, \$1.45, \$1.70, \$1.85, \$2.10.

LADIES' KID GLOVES.

Wonderful Value, Fine Soft Elastic Leather, every pair perfect, in all sizes and in almost all colours, stitched backs, 4 buttons, only 38c, 43c, 54c, 63c per pair.

Did you ever hear of such Prices for Good Kid Gloves before. A Full Assortment of Ladies', Misses' and Children's Stockings, Gloves and Mitts in stock, all reduced during Our Retiring Sale.

P. WRIGHT,
 1327 and 1329 Notre Dame Street.

CHRISTMAS TIME

Teaches good towards Men, but the purchasing members of the family, who buy for Men crowded, jostling Women's Store, are far from showing good will towards Men or themselves.

Buy For Men at a Man's Store.

CHRISTMAS CLOTHING FOR MEN.

Special Overcoat Offer—275 Men's Heavy Pilot Overcoats, well lined and trimmed Regular price \$8.00. To-day **\$5.50**

To-day, Saturday—A special line of Men's Dress and Business Suits at \$8.50 Well worth \$14.00. Your choice to-day **\$8.50**

Men's Finest Heavy Moscow Beaver Overcoats, handsomely lined and trimmed. Regular \$20 values. For the holidays only. **\$12.50**

Men's Fine Castor Beaver \$15.00 Overcoats for \$10.00. Such quantities were never sold at such low prices. **\$10.00**

Men's Heavy Real Irish Frieze Overcoats and Ulsters, large storm collars, tweed lined and magnificently tailored. They would be cheap at \$12.00. All we ask is **\$9.00**

J. G. KENNEDY & CO., The One Price Clothiers,
 31 ST. LAWRENCE STREET.

ST. GABRIEL COURT, NO. 185, C. O. F.

The annual election of officers of the above Court took place on Monday evening, at a very largely attended meeting, and resulted as follows: Spiritual Director, Father O'Meara; C. R., Bro. P. Cantwell; P. O. R., Bro. M. P. McGoldrick; V. C. R., Bro. C. McMenamin; R. S., Bro. T. Donohue; F. S., Bro. J. Lennon; Treas., Bro. P. Birney; Trustees, Bros. C. Carter, P. Tobin, and J. Morrissey; Medical Examiner, Bro. Dr. Lennon; Delegate to Provincial Convention, Bro. P. Cantwell; alternate, Bro. L. McMullin.

I would rather make people religious through their best feelings than their worst—through their gratitude and affections rather than their fears and calculations of risk and punishment.