## Literary Notes.

The October number of the *American Catholic Quarterly* is to hand containing able articles upon the following various subjects 1. The limits of Papal Infallibility, 2. Indian bibliographies: 3. The age of the human race according to modern science and biblical chronology 4. The Church in her history: 5. Harnack's dogmatic history: 6 The idea of evolution. 7 The newest ritualism in England, 8. The Cluniac and his song: 9 Reunion or submission; 10. University colleges, their origin and methods. 11. How words change their meaning, 12. Scientific chronicle; and 18 Book Notices.

That upon the change of the meaning of words gives a remarkable example in the word *hearse*. Derived from the Latin *hirpex*, a harrow, it was primarily applied to the triangle of lights used in the office of holy week. Then it was transferred to a frame for lights at funerals. Fourthly it signified a funeral pageant, next a frame on which a body was laid, whence lastly it acquired the meaning it now possesses.

Many of the articles in the *Canadian Magazine* for November are interesting in their subjects and the able way in which they are treated. We cannot say so much for the article on State Education and "Isms," which takes the first position. Without entering upon any criticism of the writer's views, we think that for this vexed question to lead in three consecutive numbers of a monthly is more than the non-committal character of a magazine will guarantee. Mr. Payne's article on Problems of Home-winning is decidedly realistic and well suited for a young married couple starting out in life. Professor Horning of Victoria University gives us an admirable sketch of Beowulf, the English Homer. The title of a story, La Messe de l'Aurore, is very taking; and, were it not for a few phrases here and there, the story itself would be just as charming. To talk about any "infallible sign of vocation to the priesthood;" to play upon the sound of English and French words, to write of people tittering at the most solemn moments of a soul's struggle with sin —all mar an artistic picture, and display a want of delicacy not in harmony with the subject. The other principal articles are: The Canadian Club Movement, The Battle of the Eclipse, The old Bastille of Paris and a continuation of a trip Down the Yukon.

Ever welcome, *The Owl* for November came to hand, as sprightly and as varied in the plumage of its articles as ever. The reprint from the *Ave Maria* of a scholarly paper by the talented Editor of the *True Witness*, entitled "In the path of pioneer priests," recalls the name of one of those heroic missionaries, Father Beboul, whose memory clusters around Ottawa University and the devoted community in charge thereof. Another essay attracted us by its title. We refer to "The methods and aims of Grecian Universities," for it is very seldom, in fact never before, have we read of the ancient Greeks establishing universities. Be this as it may, it does not detract from the clever paper which Mr. Fallon gives us upon education and teaching amongst the Athenian sophists, towards whom Mr. F. is much more merciful than most critics.

## Catholic News.

Rev. Father Kenny, S.J., preached a very eloquent sermon on the "Day of Judgment," in the Church of Our Lady, Guelph, last Sunday morning.

The British government in Burmah has given land to Bishop Bigandet for the erection of a Catholic Cathedral in Rangoon, the capital of that country

Four of the professors at St. Bernard's Ecclesiastical Seminary of the diocese of Rochester N.Y., are former pupils of Mgr. Satolli the Apostolic Delegate.

It is frequently asserted that there is a lack of able Catholic writers. The great need of Catholic literature is not writers but readers who pay for what they read.

Father Elliott, the Paulist Father, has been giving a series of lectures recently in Ann Arbor, Mich. He closed by giving a temperance lecture to the Father Matthew Temperance Society.

Three weeks before his death Gounod sent to the shrine of Loretto, in Italy, three sacred compositions, which will be produced on the occasion of the 1,100th anniversary of the basilica. These were Gounod's last works.

Tuesday, the 21st of Nov., being the 12th anniversary of Archbishop Cleary to the Bishopric of Kingston, a solemn High Mass was sung in the beautiful chapel of St. James by His Grace in commemoration of the event. There was a very large attendance of devout worshippers.

The residence of the professors of St. Ann's College, Digby, N. S., was burned on last Monday, together with the college library, the private library of the professors, and valuable historical papers and documents of the college. The priests, professors and lay brothers, ten in number, barely escaped with their lives in their night clothes.

## Blessing of the Bell.

Sunday, Nov. 19, Right Rev. Bishop O'Connor, assisted by Rev. Fathers Tiernan, Gahan, Noonan and McCormack blessed the bell for the cathedral. This solemn and impressive ceremony took place at 4 p. m., and was followed by Vespers and Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament. At High Mass at 10.30, His Lordship clearly explained the ceremony of blessing the bell and why the Church in her wisdom blesses inanimate objects by way of devoting them to holy uses. It is in virtue of the prayers of the Church that we hope for benefit from these things, and experience shows our hopes are not vain. Immediately after the blessing of the bell Rev. Dr. Flannery of St. Thomas, ascended the pulpit and delivered a discourse appropriate to the occasion, taking for his text the words, "I am the voice of one crying in the wilderness. Make straight the way of the Lord," as saith the prophet Isaias. (St. John 1st, chap., 23rd verse.) The Rev. Father spoke of the many uses to which the Cathedral bell is devoted: its joyous peals betokened the festivities of the marriage feast; its solemn and mournful tolling reminded all that one of our children had departed this life and entered the home of eternity Its peals rang out a warning note to the sinner, reminding him that its sound was like that of the voice of John the Baptist calling on them to repent and turn from their evil ways. Its tolling and ringing at early morn, at midnight and again at eve brought to the minds of the faithful the grand and sublime message that our Heavenly Father sent the Archangel Gabriel to deliver to the humble Virgin of Nazareth, viz., that she was "to conceive and bring forth a Son, and that His name should be called Jesus, that He was to be the Son of the Most High and that He would save the people from their sins." This tolling and ringing is called the Angelus, which has been immortalized by poet, painter and historian. The Rev. Father termined his discourse, by exhorting his hearers to profit by the lessons that the tones of the now consecrated bell would bring to their minds.—*Catholic Record*

The many friends of the Rev. H. J. Cadegan, C.C, Waterford, will hear with pleasure of his recovery from his recent illness.

## The Catholic Truth Society of Ottawa.

In the lecture hall of the University the annual meeting of the Catholic Truth Society was held on Sunday, the 12th inst., an unusually large body of the members being present. Mr. F. B. Hayes, President, occupied the chair, and the Archbishop of Toronto, his Grace of Ottawa, Sir John Thompson, and Dr. McCabe and other distinguished Catholic representatives being seated on the platform. The large hall was crowded in every part by the most enlightened portion of the Catholic community of Ottawa. All were anxious to hear the report of the Society's successes during the past year, and still more to listen to the manly and eloquent words of encouragement which they expected from his Grace of Toronto.

When the committee had reported on the amount of work performed during the past year, and the various publications received and distributed in the city, his Grace the Archbishop of Toronto rose to address the assembly. His appearance was the signal for an outburst of applause, again and again repeated. He commenced by remarking that he was very grateful for the reception which the Catholic Truth Society accorded him on this occasion, and he thanked them for such kindness, which he appreciated, coming as it did from such earnest workers in the vanguard of the Catholic Church. Their work was indeed a noble one, the object of their Society—to spread the light of Catholic truth and disabuse the minds of our Protestant fellow-citizens of the fallacies and falsehoods which hundreds of years of calumny had heaped on the Mother of nations—was one which should forever commend itself to the love and praise of every true child of the Church. That Church was not only persecuted by the sword of infidelity, but was even calumniated and reviled by men professing belief in the charitable maxims of Jesus Christ. Surrounded by enemies, she appealed to God alone in testimony of her innocence and purity. Like the chaste Susanna, the adultress of Divine Truth sought her ruin; but, like the pure daughter of Israel, she also had her defenders —other Daniels, who appealed to the ancients and great ones of the earth in her behalf "Ye men of Israel, are ye so foolish that without condemnation or knowledge of truth ye condemn a daughter of Israel Return to judgment, for they have borne false witness against her."

It is incredible, continued his Grace, what ignorance of the teachings of the Catholic Church is displayed by men who should know better. The Archbishop then gave several examples of the prejudice and ignorance which mislead our Protestant fellow-citizens forming an impartial judgment of Catholic doctrines. Let us go to the people, said his Grace, show them the light of Catholicism, place it so before their eyes that they *must* see it. For ourselves, let us live up to those grand truths which our fathers have given us as the eternal heritage of ourselves and our children. Let us be kind and considerate in our dealings with our Protestant fellow citizens. Kindness in the end and Christian charity succeed far better than controversy, which must be an extreme measure in the propagation of Catholic belief. Proclaim the Truths of Christ's Church and God will effect the rest.

In concluding, his Grace regretted that the Toronto branch of the Catholic Truth Society had disappeared; but, with the inspiriting example of the Capital before their eyes, the Catholic Truth Society of the Queen City would again, like the Phœnix, arise from its ashes and be renovated to youth and vigour.

His Grace was followed by Sir John Thompson, who was most happy to address his *collaborateurs* of the Catholic Truth Society, of which he was happy to be a member. He endorsed his Grace's views as to the object of the Catholic Truth Society. An appeal to the honest, impartial judgment of our fellow-citizens as to what Catholics do believe effected far more than the most learned controversial attacks on other creeds. He also favored cheap Catholic publications for those of our own Church who cannot procure the more voluminous works on Catholic Doctrine.

Archbishop Duhamel of Ottawa having addressed the Society the proceedings terminated with a vote of thanks to the presiding officers.

## St. Paul's Young Men's C. L. Society.

This Society held its regular meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 21. The attendance was large. Great interest was taken in the debate "Resolved, that the conquest of Canada by Great Britain was favorable to Canada." Messrs. O'Brien, O'Leary, Murray, Tempone and others spoke on the question.

The Society adopted the report of the Programme Committee. The programme is as follows 1. Chapter in Canadian history; 2. Study of the Encyclical Letter of His Holiness Pope Leo XIII. on the Condition of Labor; 3. Vocal and instrumental music, which will form part of each evening's programme.

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