

"It is always the 'Lodge or Lodge business' you say, that will not have pleasures allow; Poor mother says Benevolence is all very well, And your efforts would yield her delight...

Father, dear Father, stop home with us pray Poor mother's desisted she said, And she wept o'er your absence one night, till away From our home to your 'Lodge room' I sped...

Father, dear Father, come home with me now, You left us before half past seven, Don't say you will come soon with a frown on your brow...

VILLA MARIE.

On the 5th inst., we paid a long promised visit to the famous Convent of the Congregation Nuns at Villa Marie. Fame had wrapped this worthy institution with attractions that were not disappointed.

One hundred and fifty happy, beautiful children lined the benches; smiles of greeting spoke their welcome; the sunlight was not brighter than the beams of innocence reflected from each cheerful countenance.

On Thursday evening, March 30th the Rev. H. Brettargh, was presented by a deputation of his parishioners, in presence of his Lordship Bishop O'Brien and several clergymen who took part in the dedication of the new Church, with an address and a gift—the portrait of himself, an oil painting by Mr. Buthon of Toronto, which to say the least, is no discredit to that celebrated artist.

Mr. McGuire, who presented the portrait and read the address, apologized for their neglecting to acquaint his Reverence of their intended gift and address, as they wished to enjoy the satisfaction of giving him what they hoped an agreeable surprise.

Stories, anecdotes and adventures made the little ones alternately tremble and laugh, and an hour that appeared but a few minutes was registered amongst the happy memories of the past.

THE VALUE OF A CATHOLIC PRESS.

The Catholic Journal (Pittsburg) tells some truths about Catholic journals.—A Catholic newspaper is an immense help to the priest. In whatever parish it circulates to any extent, there the clergyman's labour will be considerably lightened.

It will be regarded by your parishioners, together with many other works of improvement since you took charge of this mission, as a monument of your perseverance and industry, in every work that tends to advance our holy religion and the temporal and spiritual necessities of your parishioners.

LINDSAY, ONT.—There is less suffering among the poor and fewer applicants for relief in the Town of Lindsay this winter, than there have been during any of the last five winters.

New CATHOLIC CHURCH at TRENTON.

The opening of the new Catholic Church at Trenton took place, as you said in a former number, on Thursday, 3rd March last. The Church is in the Italian style from plans furnished by the Pastor—the Rev. Henry Bretargh—and carried out under the able superintendence of Mr. Michal Gormley.

Internally the church is most highly ornamented; the altar, the statuary and the frescoes being of the highest order. The sanctuary is contained by the three sides of the east apse and a three sided balustrade of solid massive panelling. The centre side of the apse contains the altar under an arch supported by heavy pillars; the other two sides contain two splendid monochrome frescoes; (11 ft. by 13 ft.) one of the Ascension and the other of the Resurrection, each framed in the same manner as the altar within a deep arch and heavy pillars finished in drab and blue and gold.

PRESENTATION AND ADDRESS to the REV. H. BRETTARGH, TRENTON.

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We cannot omit giving expression of our gratitude for visible improvement in the morals of your parishioners, inculcated both by your example and the precepts contained in your many lectures on temperance: nor can we omit to commend the wise plan you have adopted in taking hold of the youth before they have contracted the baneful habit of intemperance.

In conclusion we can only add that anything we could say in this address would but feebly convey the deep love and veneration we entertain for you as our pastor, and as a slight token of the love and esteem, we beg you to accept the accompanying gift, being the portrait of yourself, which though resembling the person, conveys to the beholder the comeliness of the man, but only a very faint idea of his many virtues.

We hope it will long remain an heirloom in the family, retaining all its present comeliness and beauty, so that your surviving relatives may show it to their friends, as the portrait of a model shepherd, and pray that it may please God to give you many happy years in health and strength to perform the duties of your holy office, and to administer to our spiritual wants.

the continual prayer of your ever devoted and obedient parishioners.

Signed by the wardens on behalf of the congregation of Trenton, March 29th, 1876.

F. J. MCGUIRE, JAS. QUINLAN, ALEX. AUGER, Wardens.

To which the Rev. H. Brettargh verbally made the following reply:

I thank you, sincerely for the valuable present you have brought. It will ever be to me very valuable on many accounts, but on no account more perhaps than because it proves to me that after 22 years labor in your service I still possess your confidence.

FORTY HOURS DEVOTION.

DEAR SIR:—The annual devotion of the "forty hour" in the parish of Prescott took place during the fourth week of Lent, and was attended with more than usual success. Father O'Donnell, the justly beloved and popular priest of the Mission was kindly assisted by the Rev. Dr. Chisholm, of Perth, Rev. M. Stanton, of Westport, Rev. T. J. Spratt, of Wolf Island, Rev. D. J. Casey of Gananoque, and the Rev. Fathers Josuitta, Larose and Normandeau of Ogdensburgh N.Y.

I cannot conclude this communication without alluding to the manly energy and untiring zeal of our devoted pastor. When leaving Westport, a little more than a year since, the highest praises were bestowed upon him by all classes and creeds, and since his advent in Prescott we can see and judge for ourselves that he is justly deserving of our humble tribute of respect and admiration.

In one short year he has erected a schoolhouse, which in any respect is not surpassed in Ontario. He has also built a beautiful Church in the village of Edwardsburgh, nine miles from here.

If energy, tact, unwearied zeal, kindness and courtesy to all, any criterion to judge the future, the career of our pastor must be one of honor and credit to himself, and a source of untold blessing to all committed to his charge.

HOWE ISLAND.

His Lordship the Bishop of Kingston, accompanied by Rev. Fathers Casey and Twomey, paid an official visit on the 13th ult. to Howe Island, where he lectured in the evening on the doctrines of the Catholic Church. Next morning, after High Mass by Father Twomey, the Bishop delivered a very eloquent address on the Sacrament of Penance, and conferred Confirmation on about sixty persons old and young.

IRISH HOME RULE MEETING.

The usual monthly meeting of the Montreal Branch of the Irish Home Rule League was held on Tuesday, the 4th inst., in St. Patrick's Hall, Edward Murphy, Esq., the President, occupied the chair.

After the reading of the minutes, which were approved, the President delivered a very interesting address. He recapitulated the Home Rule news received since the last meeting, this news was of a very cheering and hopeful nature. He pointed out the great progress the League was making in Ireland, England and Scotland.

He next referred to the Home Rule members in the present Session of Parliament, under the able leadership of Mr. Butt, how they are doing battle nobly for the cause, how although the Irish municipal franchise Bill was lost it was only defeated by a majority of 28 in a full house.

Mr. Murphy read a letter from Mr. McAlister, the Secretary of the parent Association, informing him that he, their president, had been re-elected for 1876 a member of the Council of the Irish Home Rule League.

The President reminded the members that the annual meeting would be held on the first Tuesday in May, when their subscriptions for 1876 would be due, and he hoped that a sufficient sum would be subscribed to enable the Treasurer to make a handsome remittance to the parent Association (cheers).

MR. McALISTER'S LETTER. THE IRISH HOME RULE LEAGUE, OFFICES 23 LOWER SACKVILLE ST., DUBLIN, 25 FEB., 1876.

DEAR SIR:—Your letter of the 29th ult. to hand with accompanying resolution, I duly placed both before the Council of the League, when it was resolved:—"That we have received Mr. Murphy's letter and enclosure with gratification."

I have great pleasure in conveying the foregoing resolution to you and informally notifying you that at the election for Council for the ensuing year, just held, you were elected.

The cause of Home Rule is steadily progressing; every attack made on it, every obstacle thrown in the way, seems but to add to its strength and to give it new vigor. The series of meetings held both in Dublin and throughout the country during the past recess proves that the hope in the ultimate success of the movement is undiminished, while the confidence in the leaders is increased.

Edward Murphy, Esq., President Montreal Irish Home Rule Association.

"This parcel we understand has not come to hand."

Mr. Thomas Mulcahy, Orillia, Ont.—We would direct the attention of business men in Ontario to the advertisement of this gentleman in another column of this paper. By close attention to business, fair dealing, moderate profits and the strictest honesty of purpose he long ago built up for himself the leading trade of the town.

MICROSCOPE FOR SALE.—We have entrusted to us for disposal, a large binocular Microscope, one of the most powerful imported into this country, made to order by Cassella, London, England, with all modern improvements and necessary appliance for concentration and polarization of light.

NEW AGENTS.

Mr. John Brennan, of Perth and Mr. S. Kelly, of Almonte, have kindly consented to act as agents for the True Witness in their respective localities.

Mr. Richard Devlin has kindly consented to act as Agent for the True Witness in the City of Ottawa.

It is expected that the Dominion Parliament will have practically finished its labours on Monday next.

EXTRAORDINARY LONGEVITY.—Nancy Rooney, a maiden lady, who had reached the extraordinary age of 110 years died at her residence Brussels street, St. John, N. B. last week.

Letters have taken fifteen days to reach Quebec from St. Gervais de Rimouski. This will give an idea of the effects the recent snow storm has had on communication with the surrounding parishes.

The following award of contracts for the work on the Lachine Canal has been made:—Messrs. W. Davis & Son, of Ottawa, sections 6, 7, and 11; Mr. A. Charlebois of Montreal, and Whitney & Doty, section 4.

SAD AND FATAL ACCIDENT.—A Grand Trunk brakeman named Halley, was accidentally killed on Wednesday evening, 5th inst., at Danby, by falling under the cars. His mother, a widow, who had been notified that an accident had befallen her son, on arriving at the scene of the accident, was taken by Conductor Forman into a private first-class car, and made acquainted with her sad bereavement in a very feeling manner.

REMITTANCES RECEIVED.

Eardley, J. McG., \$2; Alexandria, P. McD., 1 1/2; Hal-loway, S. F. J., 2; Port Lambton, M. C., 7; Collin's Bay, H. McK., 2; St. Alphonse, J. HeC., 2; Eastwood, J. S., 2; Marysville, C. S., 2; Grand River, T. C., 1.50; Kingston, A. B. McD., 2; Brinston's Corners, T. H., 2; Eganville, T. P., 2; Keysers, J. L., 2; Quebec, J. R., 2; Chatham, D. F., 2; Ottawa, A. D., 5; Cornwall, D. McD., 4; Peterborough, T. B., 2; West Farnham, Rev. J. B. V., 4; Granby, Miss H., 4; Tignish, S. F. P., 2; Souris, Dr. McI., 2.

Died. McKENNA.—In this city, on the 4th inst., Thomas McKenna, aged 49 years and 6 months.—R.I.P.

BUSINESS NOTICE.

All Business Letters, relating to Advertisements Subscriptions, supply of Copies, Back Numbers, &c. &c., should be addressed to the Proprietor, Mr. JOSEPH GUILLES, True Witness, MONTREAL, to whom Post-office Orders, Cheques, &c., should be made payable. Persons asking for receipts should enclose a postage stamp for same.

OPEN STOCK EXCHANGE REPORTS.

(CORRECTED FROM THE MONTREAL "GAZETTE.")

Table with columns: STOCKS, Sellers, Buyers. Rows include Montreal, British North America, Ontario, City, People's, Molson's, Toronto, Jacques Cartier, Merchants, Hochelaga, Eastern Townships, Quebec, St. Lawrence, Nationale, St. Hyacinthe, Union, Villa Maria, Mechanics, Royal Canadian, Commerce, Metropolitan, Dominion, Hamilton, Exchange.

Greenbacks bought at 12 dis. American Silver bought at 10 dis.

MONTREAL WHOLESALE MARKETS.—(Gazette)

Table with columns: Commodity, Price. Rows include Flour, Fancy, Spring Extra, Superfine, Extra Superfine, Fine, Strong Bakers, Middlings, U. C. bag flour, City bags, Wheat, Oatmeal, Corn, Oats, Pease, Barley, Lard, Cheese, Pork, Dressed Hogs, Beef, Ashes, Pearls, Butter.

TORONTO FARMERS' MARKET.—(Globe)

Table with columns: Commodity, Price. Rows include Wheat, Barley, Oats, Peas, Bys, Dressed hogs, Beef, Mutton, Butter, Eggs, Apples, Geese, Turkeys, Cabbage, Onions, Turnips, Potatoes, Hay, Straw.

THE KINGSTON MARKET.—(British Whig)

Table with columns: Commodity, Price. Rows include Flour, Family, Grain, Rye, Peas, Oats, Wheat, Fall Wheat, Meat, Mutton, Ham, Veal, Bacon, Pork, Hides, Calf Skins, Deka Skins, Lambskins, Tallow, Poultry, Ducks, Fowls, GENERAL—Potatoes, Butter, Eggs, Cheese, Hay, Straw, Wood, Coal, Wool.

J. H. SEMPLE, IMPORTER AND WHOLESALE GROCER, 53 ST. PETER STREET, MONTREAL

GENERAL STORE BUSINESS FOR SALE in the Town of ORILLIA. Annual Cash Sales from \$60,000 to \$75,000. Wishing to retire from business, will either lease or sell the premises.—Apply to THOMAS MULCAHY, Orillia. 35-2

TO BE SOLD, at the SISTERS OF THE PROVIDENCE, all the ORNAMENTS, LINEN, and SACRED VASES, belonging to the CHAPEL of LA MARQUISE DE BASSANO. 35-4