

OBITUARY.

THE LATE FRANCIS McMANUS.

Death has, during the past month, cast its dark and gloomy shadow over many homes and taken from amongst us dearly loved ones. None on whom it has placed its icy clasp will be more deeply lamented than the late Francis McManus, Clerk of the Division Court, Breton, one of the most prominent and respected members of St. George's congregation.

He was attacked with la grippe about a year ago, but was able to discharge the duties of his office until July, from that time, despite the best medical skill and the most devoted care and attention of loving children, it became evident that death was steadily approaching. He lingered, however, until 18th Dec., when, after receiving with tender and trusting devotion the last Sacraments with which the Church consoles and fortifies her children in that solemn hour, he calmly breathed forth his soul into the hands of Him who gave it. The funeral was one of the largest and most respectable seen in Breton for some time.

Rev. Charles McManus performed the last sad rites, having journeyed from Marble Head, Mass., to pay this last tribute of affection to a fond brother.

Mr. McManus belonged to an old and respected family, being a relative of the late Bishop O'Reilly, Springfield, Mass., also of Bishop McGovern, Australia, the late Vicar-General McManus, Gen.-vs., Rev. James McManus, Scranton, Pa., Rev. Michael McManus, South Lawrence, Rev. Patrick McManus and Rev. Lawrence McManus.

He was an ardent lover of Faith and Fatherland, and need I say an enthusiastic advocate of Home Rule?

Strictly upright in all his dealings, conscientious, honorable and warm hearted he won the respect and esteem of all, irrespective of class or creed.

He took a deep and lively interest in all matters appertaining to the Church and Catholic school, and was most zealous in promoting their advancement. Besides other offices he held that of Sec.-Treas. of the Board of Catholic school trustees, and was one of the members of the Executive Committee of the Church, and ably and faithfully did he discharge the duties entrusted to him. His charity was deep and earnest, the true Christian charity which knows neither creed nor nation. The poor have indeed lost a kind friend who gave cheerfully and unostentatiously, looking for no praise or reward but the reward of Him who "loveth the cheerful giver."

While our hearts go out in sympathy for his sorrowing children we must not forget to pray for him whom we mourn, and in the words of our Holy Church, say *Requiescat in pace.*—Communicated.

THE LATE MRS. CHARLES DEVLIN.

On Saturday last, at Aylmer, P. Q., there passed away a devoted wife, a fond mother and a most fervent member of the Catholic Church, in the person of Mrs. Charles Devlin. The deceased was the faithful and loving life-partner of Mr. Charles Devlin, one of the oldest and most highly respected citizens of Aylmer. Besides her bereaved husband, the departed lady has left a large family to lament her loss and to grieve over the saddest event that can come to the household—the death of a good mother. Two daughters and seven sons survive and to them, as well as to Mr. Devlin, the TRUE WITNESS extends its deepest sympathy. One of the sons is the Rev. Father O. B. Devlin, S. J., the Prefect of Discipline in St. Mary's College in Montreal; another is Mr. C. R. Devlin, M. P. for the County of Ottawa.

Mrs. Devlin had been ill for quite a long time, and although her recovery was not expected, still her death was accompanied by somewhat painful circumstances. A few days before the sad end the deceased met with an accident which hurried on the final result; consequently, despite her protracted illness of several months, her death was much more sudden than anticipated. It is no exaggeration to say that Mrs. Devlin was in every sense a model woman: she was charitable and kind to all; in the hour of sickness and in times of distress, she was ever to be found soothing the part of a friend, a neighbor, a consoler; in society she was a gentlewoman; in the quiet of private life she was a solace to all around her; as a mother and helpmate she was faithful to the duties that God imposed upon her; as a Catholic she ever gave an example of devotion and sincere zeal for the sacred cause of religion which might well serve as a model for the imitation of thousands in this world. After a useful, a dutiful and a well-spent life, in the full possession of all her faculties, with the consolations of Holy Church to support and encourage her, and with her husband and children around her, she peacefully passed from time to eternity, leaving behind her sad hearts, tender recollections, grateful memories, and a life-record that will be ever cherished by those who knew and those who loved her. Over the grave of such a person there is a certain sad-toned consolation that blends with the natural grief of those left behind: it is true that the cloud of sorrow lowers over the mortal remains of the departed and hover around the members of the grief-stricken family, but beams of Faith pierce those mists—Faith that she possessed so truly, beams of Hope—Hope in a union hereafter, beams of Charity or Love—Love that survives the grave and in the glorious Communion of Saints flashes its promises of eternal happiness upon the future of the living and the dead.

The funeral, which took place on Monday, was one of the largest ever seen in Aylmer; the requiem service was most solemn and grand, and to add to the impressiveness of the scene, the presence of the son-priest offering up the Holy Sacrifice for the soul of the departed mother, rendered the obsequies most touching. It is with deep sincerity that we repeat the words of our Church's service, "May her soul rest in peace."

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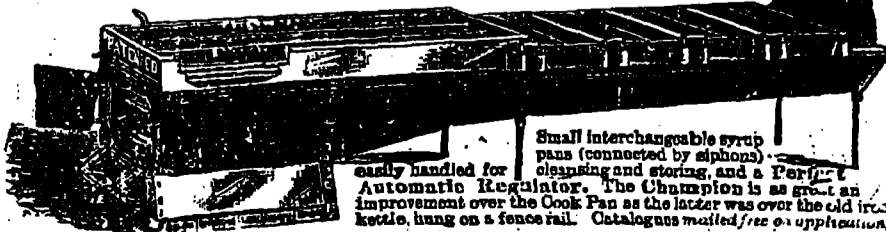
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I most sincerely hope that the English population of Montreal will respect the unwritten compact left between the different nationalities of this city and that they will give me their loyal support.

Sincerely Yours,

J. O. VILLENEUVE,

Central Committee,
1597 NOTRE DAME.

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—THE—

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