tters.

that I had selected for issue, I have discovered, anscribing of it, that it xactly suit to give it to Of course, a line must rawn. Much that has by individuals, for pervate purposes, may well, of the pub; ic character be made known in aft de known in after he public fame of a man stify the publication of he probably would not pass into print. While the writer of the letter ould be a sufficient warcontents would interest still there are in it cers to people still alive not be accepted by them nds in the same way. I am forced to leave it I cannot pass on to the time for this issue, I te therefor a few lines in the handwriting of q live) and which have en given to the public. that this is only one of ems written by the nd that she has sufficiently good to risk tion. Now that she is ed in years, and has e less and less for any icity or notoriety, she an unkindness on my

classic writer, "Stat lain the purpose of the m. In 1849, the writer, to go visit a young neighborhood of a in Ireland. They lived cottage, were poor, but young and hopeful.

her companion reached hey found they young and the young wife on ide the bed of ther exnd, praying and whisbreaking farewells to s scene she based her make it more effective e purposely left the last stanza in blank verse. that is supposed to be whispers, to her dying

to even indicate who some day I may have

on, or be otherwise at

ive the reading public f these delightful pro-

ntil then I must respect

nd feelings of one who

shaped her life of great

on the motto of

SAD ADIEU. t! good night, Acushla

ght that is setting for

s, that are falling si-

a torrent soon. one beside me to cheer ght;

l me that God's will is 'tis a deadly sin to

at is going to Him.

my peace, and, in ac-His angels I'll tell my

dream I am grieving

chree, you are going!

ny head less lofty now, a laid in the church-

y lot God gave me! ie evening shades come

ay from the busy

bors will see me glide grave where they laid

will sit and weep a-

bid me to cease my

grief will be all my me down beside you."

) the

"True Witness."

Month Of the Sacred Heart.

By a Regular Contributor.)

June is the month dedicated to the Sacred Heart, and in this ofocese especially is it held in particular devo-The well known predilection of our Archbishop for the devotion to the Sacred Heart has given a special impress to that most important feare in the year's tribute to God. Coming after the month of May this season of particular supplication to the Sacred Heart seems to continue in an unbroken manner that mystical chain that binds the Blessed Mother to the Divine Son, and combines them in the worship of the latter and the veneration of the former in the souls of the faithful.

Again it is fitting that this month, when nature has reached fulness of glory, should be dedicated to one who is the plenitude of all glory and all greatness. It is during course of June that we celebrate the feast of Corpus Christi, and whether it be by outside processions, as was the time-honored custom in many a district, or within the walls of temple, it is an occasion on which the Catholic gives full and unmistaken testimony of the faith that is within him. The month is also marked by other festivals of a very important character, St. John the Baptist, who was the precursor of Christ, the one called uppn to "pre. pare the ways of the Lord," the one the received the exalted mission of baptizing Our Saviour in the Jordan, and thus giving to all future gener- might be added to sufficiently ations the example that must, by special command be followed, if original sin is to be effaced and the work of salvation is to be efficacious

Then we have the double feast of St. Peter and St. Paul. Again personages in the sacred history of the world that were most intimately connected with Our Saviour on earth to endure unto the end of time, St. Peter, the chief of the Apostles, the first Vicar of Christ on earth, the one who established the Church under the shadow of the golden palace of Nero, and who took his stand in the heart of the Great Roman Empire, there to remain for all time, to survive that Empire by long generations, and to witness the rise and fall of countless human institutions that faded away while the "pillar and ground of Truth' remained un-changed and unshaken. And St. Paul, the Apostle of the Gentiles, the one converted suddenly when on his way to persecute the followers of Christ, the educated Pharasee who Christ, the educated Pharasee who lecame the writer of the Epistles In Catholic that carried the light of truth into all the cities of Asia Minor, and se expressions have been preserved throughout the centuries as the most perfect enunciation of the doctrines of the new law. It is remarkable that the chief characteristic St. Paul's Christian life was his love for Jesus Christ, his devotion to the Sacred Heart, and his zeal for the conversion of souls. A recent writer, in one of our religious periodicals, says:-

St. Paul's love of Jesus, St. Paul displayed as much energy in laboring for the glory of his divine Master as he had displayed ardor in persecuting the disciples of Jesus. When over-thrown on the road to Damascus, while on the way to persecute the faithful, he was suddenly changed; the cause of God made man, against which he had until then contended, became his own thenceforth and he devoted himself to it with invincible fortitude. Nothing could stop him. The Lord had said: 'I will show him how to suffer for my name.' Results followed closely upon the prophecy and, in the very city of Damascus whither he had gone to raise the Jews against the Christians, Paul count of his Christianity. But let us listen to his own account of what he had to suffer for Jesus Christ:
"Thrice was I beaten with rods, once I was stoned, thrice I suffered ship-wreck, a night and a day I was in whee, a night and a day I was in the depths of the sea. In labor and painfulness, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and naked-ness. Was the apostle discouraged by these sufferings and by man others? Far from it; he sought fur ther suffering for the love of his Re deemer. 'I keep under my body, he says, and bring it to subjection.'' Thus it is that in this month
June we behold so many of thos
closely associated with our Lord
His wonderful work of Redemptio
again grouped around His Sacre

Heart by the Church, and lending, as it were, their influence and example to heighten the devotion of the month. In June all nature is in perfect harmony with herself; the days reach their lengest point of durage and their lengest point of durage. shortest; the light and warmth of the sun have full effect upon the faithful to petition heaven for earth-so is it that the warmth and brightness from the source of all life and truth make themselves feel in the soul, through the special devotions to the Sacred Heart.

Catholic Hall

Dear Mr. Editor,-There appeared in the issue of the "True Witness" of May a letter signed "R. L.," under the caption of "A Plea for a Catholic Hall." I have much pleasure, Mr. Editor, in endorsing the sentiments expressed by "R. L.," and I agree with him in saying, what s wanted is a strong advocate who will lay before them (the Catholic societies) the feasibility of such scheme, and also that none is better qualified than yourself to create a healthy public opinion on the subject, and bring the matter to a sucessful issue

Now, Mr. Editor, to accomplish such a task a starting point must be made somewhere, the ground work must be laid out and ways and means must be considered carefully and thoroughly before such an important enterprise is undertaken.

The first thing to be done in my estimation is to look around and see what we have already on hand of a Irishmen's L. and B. A. have a hall of their own, the ground of which build thereon a large central structure, nr better still and more centrally located, with the cars passing the door, is that of the Sailors' Club. There is certainly no better locality in the city for large concert hall where a cool, refreshing breeze can be had from the river during the hottest season of year, and I think the space owned by the Catholic Sailors' Club is sufficiently large for the requirements of the contemplated or much talked of Catholic hall. Of course, Mr. Editor, I am not aware as to whether either of the above named organizations would be prepared to enter into such a deal with the English-speaking or Irish Catholic societies. I merely throw this out as a suggestion so that a start may be made somewhere.

SHAMROCK.

Monfreal, June 1st, 1903.

Country Parishes

While sections of the continent are being flooded and lives are swept away in the excess of waters, we in this part of Canada have been long weeks in need of rain. It has been a pious custom in all Catholic countries to send up petitions to heaven for the prosperity of the season and an abundance of harvest. Amongst will do just as suits His plans no matter what the desires of men; and that He knows as well as we do what is needed, and if He desired that matters should be otherwise He would so ordain. This is the false principle of predestination carried to its logical conclusion. It is not based upon the teaching of God, nor of the Church. In the olden times God ordered the patriarchs to offer sacrifices to Him that He might favor them in a special manner, He could have so favored them without the necessity of the sacrifices, had He deemed it proper and suitable to their condition in regard to Him. In the new dispensation He has given us the law most clearly: "Ask and you shall receive." Frequently, while God knows what we need He rerains from supplying our wants so that we may have the opportunity of presenting them in petitions and thereby acknowledging our depend-ance on Him. Again He sends afflic-tions, individual or national, by way

tion, the nights are correspondingly times of plague, or of great nation-shortest; the light and warmth of al affliction, the Church summons the tection and to have the danger avert-

> This is actually in the order of things. And at present, as we are passing through a most trying period, when the clouds have refused us rain for five or six weeks, and the sowing of the seed has been ren-dered almost a useless task, the Church again reminds the faithful that they must pray in order that God may grant them the blessing they so much need. On Sunday last a special Mass of petition was brated in our Cathedral, and a most impressive sermon was delivered by the Vicar-General, in which the ne cessity of supplication, under such circumstances was accentuated. The country parishes, in many of which the initiative has been taken. Outside the city, in the farming districts the want of rain is far more felt than in the city. Here we are worried with dust and heat; but, if our corporation only had the energy, carts could sprinkle enough water to lay the dust. But it is otherwise in the agricultural districts. Rain there means plenty; drought means famine It is there very lives their dails bread, their supply for the long winter, the absolute necessaries of life that the farmers are asking to have sent to them. We have had some beautiful examples of that piety, that sturdy faith, that confidence in heaven, which characterized the men and women of the older generations

On Thursday of last week at Varmnes, a most edifying ceremony took place. A solemn procession was held from the parish Church to the shrine of Ste. Anne de Varennes, in which parishioners from Varennes, Boucherville, Ste. Julie, Vercheres and other surrounding parishes took part. was a grand spectacle to behold those hundreds of men, women and children walking in solemn ranks citing the rosary, and turning their eyes to the miraculous statue of Ste Anne de Varennes. It is only in the regions where the pure faith remains unsullied by contact with the world's false principles that such scenes can

On Friday, the day following, another like religious demonstration, for the same purpose, took place at Boucherville. At 6.30 in the evening all the bells were rung and the faithful from the surrounding districts flocked to the Church came in all kinds of vehicles. It was as when the tocsins used to ring in Brittanny of old and the peasants crowded to the temple to supplication that God might avert the war. The Church was crowded to the doors, when Cure Lafortune ascended the pulpit to say the pre liminary prayers. After the prayers a procession was formed, and they proceeded to the cemetery, where the Stations of the Cross were made. and special prayers were said that heaven might send rain. All the way to the cemetery and back the beads were recited aloud. Solemn Benedic-tion of the Most Blessed Sacrament was given in the Church, and thus closed one of the most impressive religious demonstrations that the parish had ever witnessed.

We have frequently heard strangers and Protestants especially travel ling up and down the St. Lawrence express astonishment at the number activity.

They do not seem to understand that these are the real beacons that guide our province and its Catholic people along the immense stream of existence. These are the lightning rods that protect the mansion and the cabin alike against the flash of adversity's tempest, the thunderbolts of heaven's chastisement. These churches are the refuges to which and beneath the roofs of which they that they so greatly need. In the Church the child has been baptized: there he or she made the First Communion, and probably was confirmed; there the priest united the young couple in the sacred bonds of wed-lock, and in a sacramental union that defies the society-ruining-demon of divorce and infidelity; there the "Requiem" was chanted over the pa-rents' coffin—and in the cemetery. ance on Him. Again He sends afflictions, individual or national, by way of punishment; and the "prayers of the just availeth," to turn away the lightnings of His wrath.

Hence it is that four times in each year the Church sets aside days called. Ember Days, when the faithful are ordained to fast and pray that "Requiem" was chanted over the parents' coffin—and in the cemetery, neath the shadow of that spire repose the ashes of all who were once dear to them. Hence that Church represents the epitome of the farmer's life, and the story of his family for generations. No wonder that Quebec is the banner Catholic province of our Dominion.

Memorials The Past.

The archaeologist, especially one inclined towards oriental search, cannot fail to be interested in some very instructive comments recently published by Rev. Dr. J. Peters. on the recent work of plorers in the Holy Land. The art icle is highly educational in as far as it gives a fair idea of the great contrast between Palestine and other olden and Eastern countries in matters of archaeological discovery While the poverty, in such relics, of Palestine is noteworthy, the wealth of antiquity's remains in Egypt. Babylonia and Assyria is remarkable This point he emphacizes in the fol lowing comment:-

"From the architectural and artis tic standpoint the relics of the past are, if anything, less valuable. Excavations have revealed no works of art and no buildings of great importance or beauty, if we except perhaps the colossal foundations of the various Byzantine, Crusading and the various Byzantine, Crurading and Saracenic structures built upon or adjoining those same foundations Partly this failure to find archaeolo gical material of value is due to the lack of systematic and extensive excavation in Palestine, partly it is due, doubtless, to the lack of material-that is to say, it seems evident that we shall never find in Palestine such abundant inscribed material as has been discovered in Babylonia, Assyria, and Egypt, nor shall we find such valuable artistic and architectural remains as have rewarded ex cavations in Greece, Crete, Cyprus and Egypt."

We must not conclude however from this that what has been discov ered is without interest, or that there no prospect of the discovery Edom, southeastward of Palestine There is the rock-cut city of Petra in Edom, southeastward of Paleetine the picturesque castles that form ; line east of the Jordan, from its source at Banias southward to Kerak; the great caves in the hills of the Shephelah, between Judaea and the land of the Philistine; the rock-cuttings in Gilead, north in Bashan, and a whole city cut in the rock in the same vicinity. East of the Jordan atre at Amman, the ancient Philadelphia; the temples and streets of colonnades at Gerash, and other great remains.

One great reason why Palestine is not as excavated and explored as other lands in the East is very well set forth in the following passage:-

"The sanctity attaching to most of

the localities in Palestine, while it has attracted much attention to those sites, has also to some extenprevented a more accurate and scien ies. The country is equally sacred to Moslem, Jew, and Christian, All have traditions as to the identification of various sites. There has been since the time of Constantine rather a tendency on the part of Christians to endeavor to confirm the Bible nar rative or to support traditional iden tifications of holy sites than to as certain the actual facts. The Jews have had no scientific interest of an sort in the investigation of the antiquities of the country, and the same is true of the Moslems. Owing to the sanctity of the country, the latter have interposed more obstacles some people this is set down as a distances, along the shores, and like Palestine than elsewhere. There are, needless task, for they say that God the light-houses mark the centres of however, at the present time in the in the way of scientific research in field societies representing different countries, which are conducting exexcavations at Jerusalem and at vastrictly scientific basis. The oldest of these is the Palestine Exploration Fund of England, to which is the the careful mapping of the country already mentioned, and which has conducted for some years a series of excavations at Cerusalem and at va rious sites in the Shephelan. Next in point of date is the German Palaes tina Verein, having the same object as the English society, but younger This society has conducted survey: east of the Jordan, with a view to completing the geographical survey of the country, and is now about to supposed to be the site of the ancient Megiddo on the plain of

While we might, from a Catholic standpoint, go further into uctails and show the difference, in regard to the sucred character of the places in the Holy Land, between the views of our Church and that of others interested in Palestine: but for the 100-sent, we will confine ourselves to a gleaning of the information afforded by Dr. Peter's article. He thus tolks of the various views of different People that you meet in Palestine—and directions in that vicinity.

this furnishes us with a fine theme for

"I need not speak of individual ef-

forts and of the various small archaeological and Biblical collections which one finds in Jerusalem. Almost every resident of Palestine-English, American, French, and German- has some interest in and knowledge of or theory about the antiquities, the ancient history, and the identification of sites in Palestine. So, for example, as I am walking down the Beth lehem road, west of the walls of Jerusalem, a man accosts English and expounds to me his theory of the topography of Jerusalem, and the actual site of the hill of Zion, I call on a lady, the head of an English school, and am shown some interesting Graeco-Phoenician glass and a small prece of gold leaf, with an inscription in Greek letters: Good luck to the newly married. The holes in the gold leaf showed that it had been sewn on the gar nent of a corpse, and the reference of the inscription was to the iage of the dead with Persephone It had come from a tomb excavated by the natives in the neighborhood of the ancient Mareshah in the Shep helah. I am the guest of the Fran ciscan monks in Tyre, and the abbot holds a discourse on the antiquities of the country. He had been in Je rusalem when Dr. Bliss was excavating there, and had followed his work closely and intelligently. I meet ar American missionary at the Bewisl town of Safed in Galilee, and he tells ne of monuments which he has dis covered in northern Galilee in mis sionary and hunting tours, which are as yet on no map, of a cave full of fragments, remains of the period of the stone workers, and much more

The next most important point is this noteworthy article is the mention of the collection of the Assumptionist Fathers—like all the Catholic orders, from time immeme rial they were the real cussodians of all that antiquity held of useful for coming generations. Here is the pas-

"In Jerusalem, at the hospice of the Assumptionists, there is a scientific collection of antiquibles, with a catalogue in French. To be sure, the collection is small, but it is well arranged. At the monastery of White Brothers, by the supposed pool of Bethesda, where a fresco of an angel stirring the waters found some years ago, is also a Biblical Museum, but here there more zeal to illustrate the Bible than scientific knowledge of archaeology. In the Moslem high school is a collection of pottery gathered and arranged by Dr. Bliss, from objects found by him in his excavations for the Palestine Exploration Fund. Unfortunately, it is difficult for stranger to visit this collection, nor is the collection itself kept up. late it is whispered, also, articles which were in that collection have been offered for sale by dealers; for there are dealers in antiquities Jerusalem whose agents through the country are causing an enormous destruction of antiquities."

We simply take these few quota tions. Later on we purpose returning to this subject and dealing with it from a standpoint not within the scope of Dr. Peter's article. But the foregoing will serve to indicate the importance of the subject.

THE SACRED HEART.

O Sacred Heart, my yearning Doth spend itself in Thee; For Thou art ever waiting My Haven sure to be; world and its alluremen Doth cause me oft to stray, But swiftly comes the waking, And I am Thine alway!

O Sacred Heart, forgive me If still from Thee I turn: And seem Thy Love to spurn: Tis not that I am faithless, But errant ways are mine; For these do not despise me, But make me ever Thine

Amadeus, O.S.F. in St. Anthony's

BUSH FIRES.

Mrs. William Howes, a widow of 65 years of age, was caught in a bush fire in Caledonia township, a few miles from Vankleek Hill, last

Jubilee · Immaculate Conception.

Rome, May 14.-Another Jubilee! The echoes of the Pontifical Jubilee of Leo XIII. have not died away, when Rome begins to prepare for angreat Jubilee, in which the other Holy Father, not only by reason of his office, but of his person, occupies the leading place. In the apse of Peter's are a number of marble tablets containing several hundreds of names of Cardinals and Bishops of the Catholic Church throughout the world. All these hundreds, representing the whole hierarchy of haff a century ago, have, with one solitary exception, disappeared from world. They met in that very spot to hear from the lips of Pius IX. the definition of the Dogma of the Immaculate Conception. The portraits of many of them still speak from the magnificent frescoes in the Hall of the Immaculate Conception in the Vatican, in which the historic scenes have been handed down to poster-

The only one of them who survives to-day is Cardinal Pecci, whose name was printed almost last among the members of the Sacred College of the time; and Cardinal Pecci has just closed the Jubilee of his pontificate in the Chair of Peter.

During the present month the programme of the celebrations in honor of the Jubilee of the Immaculate Conception will be published here in Rome under the auspices of the commission which has already been established to make the necessary arrangements. Three of the Cardinals of the Roman Curta are at the head of this, Vincenzo Vannutelli, Ferrata and Vives, while the detail work has been appropriately entrusted to the Circle of the Immaculate, which has been in existence in Rome for nearly half a century. The first part of the pointment of committees throughout the world, the organization of pilgrimages to the Eternal City, the execution and diffusion of a "cantata" on the Immaculate Conception com posed by the great Maestro Perosi, the formation of a Marian Library for works dealing with the Mother of God, especially in relation to the dogma; a preparation of the statistics of the institutions existing in honor of Our Lady under this title, the organization of a universal Marian Congress to be held in Rome, a collection of the best poems composed in honor of the Blessed Virgin, and the publication of special periodicals to bring out all the significance of the great event.

The second part of the programme has special reference to Rome, and consists of a series of missions the people, a particular organization of preparation for first communions, retreats for members of the different Catholic associations, a special religious service for the 8th of every month in the year in the basilica of St. Mary Major-the chief church in, Christendom, dedicated to Our Lady On Dec. 8, 1904, the fiftieth anniversary of the Solemn Definition of the Immaculate Conception, there will be a magnificent function in the presence of the Holy Father in St. Peter's, where the cogma was defined, at which all the Catholic associations of the Eternal City will be represented; a similar function in 13t. Mary Major's-without, of course the presence of the Pope. On the same day there will be a solemn reception in the Vatican, at which the people of Rome will offer the Holy Father a magnificent ring, and out at San Lorenzo a Solemn Requien will be offered for the repose of the soul of Pius IX.-the Pope of the Immaculate Conception.

Just four years ago a committee took in hand the preparations for the Jubilee of Leo XIII.—an apparently audacious undertaking, for His Holiness was then almost ninety. Strange to say, nobody seems to consider the presence of Leo XIII. the crowning of the Immaculate Conception Jubilee a year and a half hence as a far-fetched supposition. Even His Holiness himself has ceased for the last year or two to speak of his death as imminent. Certainly, he is at present in as good health as he has been any time during the last four years, and his private physiforr years, and his private physician, Dr. Lapponi, continues to answer all enquiries about his illustrious patient with a confident optimism which is inspiring.—Roman Correspondent, New York Freeman's Journal.