

In Memoriam

MRS. (Capt.) AUCKINLECK.

Mother in Israel and a woman beloved.

(I.C.M.)

Forty-two years of widowhood is a long time to live, and one which is a very great trial to the survivors. Mrs. Auckinleck, who at the ripe age of 85, passed away last week.

The deceased lady was a member of one of our oldest families, and some years ago she married Captain Auckinleck, and the young couple made their home near the old residence, so long occupied by the same family, on Pennywell Road.

For all those years she resided in the same locality. Life with the young couple went well, and their children crowned the home.

and the good captain, with others of his class, made his regular voyages to and from the port of St. John's.

But while life's voyage for the fair bride was long, for the brave captain it proved brief, and tragedy cut short his career, as it was so often done among "those who go down to the sea in ships and do business upon the great waters," and the accident was so unexpected, and happened so near home, and upon such a beautiful summer day, and but a few hours after leaving port, that the sorrow of the loved ones, as well as of the community, was greatly intensified.

The story is as follows. It was an ideal summer day, the date being the 19th of June, 1873, and a moderate breeze blew from the westward. The good ship "Memento" hauled off from Duder's wharf at 10 a.m. and under her topsail ran down the harbour, and then setting her head sails, she shot out the Narrows like a thing of life. Her crew consisted of six all told.

under the command of Capt. Auckinleck, with his brother-in-law, Capt. Frederick Adams, as mate. The port of destination was Renewa, where the first cargo of new shore fish was ready. The distance to Renewa was covered with good speed, and towards evening the ship drew in for the harbour, evidently under full sail.

What then happened has ever been a mystery, and like all the mysteries of the sea, the secret is still unriddled. Whether the ship mistimed or whether the steering gear gave out, or whether the lookout failed, is not known; but the next morning the town was shocked to learn from a boat which had come from Renewa, that the "Memento" had struck Renewa rock, and with all hands, was a total loss. The shock to the firm of Edwin Duder was great, but to the community it was greater; but to the little home on the back of the city, where dwelt the mother and her children, the scene was indescribable.

Only the morning before they had watched the little ship sail away, and the run being so short, and the time so fair, there was no thought of shipwreck; but the inevitable had happened, and the ship was no more, and sorrow came to many hearts. And so the years have rolled by, and the fleet of foreign-going ships which were the pride of their owners, and the glory of their captains, have departed, many of them meeting the same fate as the "Memento." And through all the years the good woman in whose memory we write proved herself a devoted mother, and in time she became the centre of affection for her children's children, and in health and goodwill she trained them up, and when she died gradually approached she was ready for the change, and her departure closed the long-broken link of fifty-two years.

Not many of the present day remember the loss of the "Memento," but as the old ballad says:

"There are still the few remaining,
To remind us of the past."

To these few, the passing of Mrs. Auckinleck stirred some touching memories; hence they paid her their last tribute, and stood at the graveside, as the man of God pronounced over her the words of hope and promise of everlasting life.

Confirmation at
St. Patrick's Church

CARBONEAR.

On the morning of Saturday, 17th inst., the children preparing for Confirmation assembled in the church and had their confessions heard by the priests in attendance. In the afternoon some 92 reassembled for examination in Christian Doctrine to qualify for the reception of the Sacrament on the ensuing day.

On Sunday, 18th inst., the Feast of St. Luke, Evangelist, second Mass was celebrated by His Lordship Bishop March, assisted at the Altar by Rt. Rev. Mgr. McCarthy and Rev. Father Cullen. Following Mass, the Bishop, fully vested for the occasion, proceeded to administer the Sacrament of Confirmation to the girls and boys—92 in number.

Previous to the bestowal of this great Sacrament of the Living Bishop in choice and beautiful language, very simply and lucidly explained to the aspirants, the necessity, conditions and advantages of Confirmation. The enlightening discourse could not but have impressed indelibly, even the most youthful of his hearers. It was an instruction that should be vivid in the memories of all for many a day, who were privileged to hear it, and should serve to awaken in the minds of those already confirmed as well as those about to be confirmed the dignity of the Sacrament instituted by our Lord, for the perfection of the Christian life. After His Lordship had fully explained the nature and effects of Confirmation he descended to the altar-rail, where, attended by Rev. Mgr. McCarthy and Father Cullen, he performed the ceremony, with all the beauty and ritual of the Catholic Church. When all had been confirmed His Lordship again addressed the newly-confirmed and congregation as well. He told the children that they were now soldiers of Jesus Christ, and as such, should be ready to die in His holy cause, that the cross just received would be their strength and refuge against the assaults of the devil, the world and the flesh, and that if they were not true soldiers of Christ in the battles of life, it would be because they had not made proper use of the graces received. He further remarked that their conduct henceforward should show that they realized the spiritual benefits bestowed upon them by being better children all round, fervent and constant at their prayers and church devotions, better at their daily tasks, better scholars and loving and respectful to those in charge over them. Having thus, the Holy Ghost would abide within them, and would help them to preserve unblemished the spiritual character imprinted on their souls to-day, so that on the great judgment day it may appear not to their shame, but to their glory.

Next addressing the parents of the children, he fervently exhorted them upon their duties and responsibilities as such. He said God has given them these precious charges. They are yours, to be reared in a Christian way for Heaven, and terrible will be the accounting on the Last Day if the child's guardian angel shall point an accusing finger and say that the soul of this boy or girl has been deprived of the happiness of its God because of the neglect of its father and mother. Therefore, Catholic parents, see to it that you do not shift the responsibility of the Christian upbringing of your children to the school, to the teachers. It is yours to teach them their prayers, their catechism, in co-operation with the school. No one can take the place of father and mother in the child's life. God has so ordained. Work in unity with the teacher, so that this co-operation may result favourably for the spiritual and temporal welfare of the child. Your duty is to see that they are not roaming the streets at night, to know the Company with whom they associate, and to exercise a careful watch over them at all times. Instill in their youthful minds respect and obedience for their teachers and grown upon the conduct of those who would set otherwise. Thus by counsel, precept and good example, you will rear children who in this life will be your joy and happiness, and in the next witnesses before the Great White Throne of the care exercised in their Christian training.

Confirmation, Oct. 18th, 1925.

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Sir James Barrie considers that an

average of five to six hundred words a day is a good day's work, whilst H. G. Wells has often written 10,000 words in a day.

It may be imagined that speed is destructive of good quality work, but a sufficiently powerful retort is made to this in the fact that Robert Louis Stevenson wrote his famous work, "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde" in the short space of seven days.

W. W. Jacobs, famed for his humorous short stories, has confessed that he sat at his desk, pen in hand, for one whole morning without writing a word.

A story is told of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, in the course of conversation

heard of a rather remarkable adventure. On the next day, at breakfast, the novelist read out a complete "Sherlock Holmes" adventure, with the incident of previous evening's conversation as its plot. He had sat up the greater part of the night writing it.

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