

In and Around Toronto

A retreat for the members of the Sodality of the Blessed Virgin was given at St. Francis Church during the past week, beginning on Thursday morning and ending on Sunday. The exercises were in charge of Rev. Father Williams of St. Mary's parish and were well attended, many from other parishes in addition to the hundred or more from St. Francis availing themselves of the opportunity. The retreat was treated at 6.30 followed by an instruction and Benediction with sermon every evening. The course of instructions included dissertations on the soul's salvation, methods to be used towards this end, the Sacraments of Confession and Holy Communion, rules that should govern the conduct and general deportment of the young Catholic woman and the closing sermon given on Sunday evening. The speaker ended a really eloquent discourse by the hope that all present might be confirmed without crime until the day of the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Father Williams graphically described the condition of Corinth prior to and at the time of St. Paul, then touching on the words of the text he showed that perseverance was a gift not to be merited but hoped for and prayed for; the speaker ended a really eloquent discourse by the hope that all present might be confirmed without crime until the day of the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, which meant the moment of death, that they might thereby be rewarded with the crown of eternal life. The attendance at the different meetings, together with the large numbers who approached Holy Communion spoke for the success of the retreat.

LECTURE BY DR. DWYER.

Reminiscences of Westminster Abbey was the subject of the interesting lecture delivered by Doctor Dwyer before the Canadian Catholic Union and their friends on Thursday evening at the gallery, where the exhibition pictures was in progress. A good deal of history was brought to light and a very fair idea of the topography of the famous building and its make-up were conveyed by the lecturer, and there is no doubt but that the end which he wished to attain, that of putting his listeners in a properly receptive condition of mind should they ever visit the great Minster, was fully realized. Mr. Seitz presided throughout the evening, and Masters Joseph and Ernie, his two sons, added much to the enjoyment of the evening by their very fine piano playing. The younger boy, Ernest, a lad of twelve years, intends to make music his profession, and his already supple fingering and generally fine technique give promise of a brilliant future. A vote of thanks was tendered the lecturer on behalf of the Association by Mr. Wm. O'Connor, seconded by Mr. Moore and a vote of thanks to the boy-players was given by Mr. Kelly and enthusiastically seconded by all present. The chairman announced that an interesting entertainment by the society, was in the near future and urged upon the ladies present to get the men of their families to join, in order that all might be eligible to take part.

RYAN-BURNS.

The marriage of Miss Susie Ryan and Mr. J. Burns, the well-known merchant of the east-end, took place on Wednesday morning at St. Paul's church, Power street. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Father Hand, P.P., and the church was crowded by the many friends of the popular bride and groom. The bride was given away by Mr. Morgan Kelly, her brother-in-law, and was attended by Miss Margaret Flannigan. The party made a charming appearance, the bride being gowned in white silk crepe de Paris, with Irish point lace, and carrying white chrysanthemums, and the bridesmaid in reseds green with handsome touches of pink and white. Miss Eileen Kelly, niece of the bride, in blue silk, rock and poke bonnet, was a captivating little flower girl. Mr. Richard Burns, a brother, assisted the groom. Handsome favors were given by the groom to the entire party. After the wedding breakfast Mr. and Mrs. Burns left for Chicago and St. Louis and on their return will reside at 270 Berkeley street.

O'NEIL-COADY.

Among the pretty weddings of last week was that of Miss Maud O'Neil and Mr. Joseph T. Coady. The event took place at St. Paul's church; Rev. Father Hand, P.P., officiating. The bride was attired in a handsome costume of brown broad-cloth, with ostrich-leather boa and hat in tones of brown and white. She was attended by her sister Balon, as matron of honor, prettily gowned in a suit of hirsuit-colored cloth. The groom was supported by Mr. Harold Sylvas. Many handsome presents spoke as to the popularity of Mr. and Mrs. Coady, who on returning from their wedding trip will take up their residence at 110 Sydenham street.

MRS. McMULLEN.

On Tuesday of last week the death occurred of Mrs. McMullen, wife of Mr. Alexander McMullen of the Street Railway Company. About three weeks ago the deceased lady sustained a paralytic stroke which ended fatally. She was in her 60th year, and was a native of Ireland. The funeral took place from St. Paul's church. May she rest in peace.

NEW LAUNDRY FOR THE HOSPITAL.

A new laundry has just been opened at St. Michael's Hospital. This fills a want which has been largely in evidence since the opening of the institution, but more particularly of late years, when the hospital is crowded to its utmost capacity. The laundry is altogether apart from the main building and the machinery and apparatus installed is of the latest and best. The apartment in which the principal part of the work is done shows six or eight women and two men at work with a skilled mechanic in charge. The new clothes are daily brought to the laundry only very few are now done "by hand", even the ironing is now for the most part done by machinery. An electric fan carries off the steam and the drying is done in large press-

es by means of artificial heat. The entire cost will be about ten thousand dollars.

CLOSING OF ART EXHIBITION.

On Saturday evening the closing of the exhibition of religious pictures took place. The event was marked by a most interesting entertainment at which perhaps the largest gathering of the exhibition was present, numbering in all about three hundred. The entertainers were Mrs. Moore, who delivered several delightful vocal solos, Mr. O. B. Dorland, whose singing contributed much to the success of the evening, Master Ernest Seitz whose piano-playing was as usual much admired, and Miss Marguerite Dunn whose name speaks for the high order of her elocutionary selections and entertainment. Mr. James Hynes, the Secretary of the Canadian Catholic Union, thanked all for their attendance and encouragement, and also gave special thanks to those who had lent to the exhibition, to all who had contributed to the instruction and entertainment of the audiences and to the Catholic Register for its several notices. On the whole the venture has been fairly, indeed more than fairly, successful in the object aimed at; the financial results are not yet known, but it may be stated that if the expenses connected with the affair are met by the returns the committee who had this part in hand will be more than satisfied. It may not be out of place to emphasize here what has been often stated before, but nevertheless seems not yet to be fully understood. The question, "for what benefit was the exhibition organized?" or something similar, was asked over and over again by those who visited or heard about it. The answer is, for the public benefit, no individual or society will benefit in all probability to the value of a cent, in fact it is more than likely that the Canadian Catholic Union will be out of pocket. Many of the pictures had been brought from Boston, Philadelphia and England. This meant considerable outlay; there was also the rent of the gallery, expense of attendance, lighting, etc., etc. The casual observer might not think of this. Financial gain was not anticipated. The object was altogether an altruistic one, that of aiding the spread of a truer idea of religious art than that which heretofore obtained. That the object has been achieved in some degree at least is self-evident. The pictures themselves were object-lessons, and the delightful and instructive lectures by Professor Fraser on Religious Art in Italy, by Rev. Professor Clark on the Holy Grail and by Dr. Dwyer on Westminster Abbey, have in many instances opened up avenues of thought never before touched upon. The benefits were altogether of an educative order. The Canadian Catholic Union deserve the appreciation and thanks of the public for their effort, which it is hoped they may repeat on a future occasion.

TWO NEW ALTARS.

The Feast of the Immaculate Conception will be marked in the parish of St. Francis by the blessing of two new side altars for their church.

AT ST. HELEN'S.

At St. Helen's the Sodality of the Blessed Virgin will have a reception into the Society on the evening of the approaching great feast. The men and boys of the parish who sang the Mass for the first time on Sunday last, acquitted themselves well; the alternate singing of the heavier voices of the men and the lighter ones of the boys, lending itself to a very pleasing contrast. The beginning speaks well for the future.

DEATH OF MR. P. HAYDON.

Mr. P. Haydon, who died at his residence on Esther street on Wednesday last week, had been ill for some months, due to a stroke of paralysis. Mr. Haydon was of a kindly disposition, and had many friends in Orillia, Waubausene and other points north, as well as in Toronto. He is survived by his widow and a young son and daughter. The funeral took place from St. Mary's Church on Saturday morning to St. Michael's cemetery. May he rest in peace.

AT ST. PATRICK'S.

The High Mass at St. Patrick's on Sunday last in honor of St. Cecilia, was for the intention of the success of the choir under new conditions. The choir is reported as doing well.

DEATH OF MR. J. SCANLON.

On Saturday, the 26th inst., at his late residence on St. Patrick street, the death occurred of Mr. J. Scanlon. Mr. Scanlon had only been a resident of Toronto for about two years, having moved here from Iremuseth, where he was well known and respected. The funeral took place on Monday morning to the Union Station, the interment to take place in St. James' Cemetery, Adjala. Mr. Scanlon is survived by his widow and a daughter, Mrs. Haydon. May he rest in peace.

THE BELL WILL BE BLESSED.

The bell to be hung in the new bellry of St. Mary's church will be blessed on Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock. The blessing of the bell is a ceremony which does not often come in the path of a life-time and all who can should avail themselves of the opportunity of being present. The ceremony is something like the baptism of an infant, and it is somewhere stated that in the blessing of a bell the Bishop prays that its sound may avail to summon the faithful, to excite their devotion, to drive away storms and that the powers of the air hearing it may tremble, and flee before the standard of the holy cross of the Son of God engraved upon it. The bell, too, has sponsors, and to be chosen as a sponsor is to be the recipient of an honor of no small degree. The bell for the use of churches is said to have originated in Italy about A. D. 400. Since then bells have been used for different purposes, mostly signified by the name as for example Angelus bell, Ave Maria bell, Sanctus bell and Mass bell. The largest bell ever made is the great Czar Kolokol of Moscow; it was cast in 1733 and is estimated to weigh 440,000 pounds; it is supposed never to have been rung and is now used as a chapel. The largest bell in use weighs 128 tons, and is also in Moscow. This is probably the bell made famous in the Bells of Shandon, by Father Prout, as well as the bell of Notre Dame, Paris, which

weighs 17 tons. The Big Ben of Westminster, the largest in England, weighs only 13 tons, and its tone is injured by its cracked condition. Bells and their notes are significant of many things and have been a prolific theme for the poet and even for the painter. The blessing of the bell of St. Mary's and its erection will be the crowning point in the work of the putting up of the steeple. This is nearing completion; the cross even now crowns the pinnacle and the sheets of copper used in covering the apex are quickly coming into evidence. The copper employed alone costs three thousand dollars, and the entire cost of the steeple apart from that of the bell, is estimated at twenty thousand dollars.

Bolstering of the Old Ascendancy

Sir Horace Plunkett, who undertook the work of rejuvenating Ireland, has packed the government department over which he presides with his own co-religionists and defends his policy in the following style: "The Irish question would be more than half solved if some of the effort which is squandered in belaboring the old Ascendancy were directed against the intellectual tyranny which threatens to stifle with its rank growth the tender shoots of a nascent nationality." The fling is probably at the clergy. Another Scotchman has been appointed by Sir Horace Plunkett Superintendent of one of his departments. The vacancy created by the lamented death of Mr. W. P. Coyne has been filled by the importation of a young Scotch graduate from Oxford, who has been lecturing for some time on economics in Owens College, Manchester. Mr. Coyne was one of the few Catholics whom Sir Horace Plunkett thought capable of filling an important post in his department. But, in his opinion, he has left in all Catholic Ireland no possible successor, nor even in Protestant Ireland. The decision will appear only ludicrous to those who know the qualifications of some of the Irish candidates, Protestant and Catholic.

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The Religious Sentiment in Armies

(From the Literary Digest.) The war in the Far East lends special interest and timeliness to an article from the pen of General F. C. Calfone, of the French army, which appears in the "Correspondence" (Paris) and which deals with the religious psychology of the troops who took part in the Crimean campaign. The general holds that "moral forces are more potent than material forces in war." "Then men on whom has fallen the supreme honor of commanding soldiers in the field," he says, "have always made every effort to utilize the mighty influence of religion. * * * A belief in the immortality of the soul and in God is the only thing which can induce a poor soldier to make the sublime sacrifice of his life." Even Frederick II. and Napoleon I., as he points out, employed religion as an instrument of control and government, and the commanders of the French forces before Sebastopol were religious men. We quote further from the article: "Protestant pastors arrived too late in the Crimea to give to the English soldiers the consolations of religion. * * * In certain cases it happened that dying soldiers made their confession to their comrades. The piety of the Russians is well known, and it is not necessary to dwell upon the moral support which they derived from the orthodox religion. All accounts of the time are unanimous on this point. Soldiers and officers wore metal scapulars stamped with the image of the Virgin or of a saint. The Greek priests, or popes, fostered this religious enthusiasm, after the example of the Czar Nicholas, and preached the Holy War in the name of 'this sacred soil, on which St. Vladimir received his baptism.'"

Death of a Religious

Trenton, Nov. 21.—Sister Mary Edward, Superior of St. Peter's Convent, Trenton, died this morning, after a long illness. Deceased was a daughter of the late John McKinley of Kingston, and for twenty years was connected with the House of Providence in this city, and served as Mother Superior. Several years ago she went to Trenton to open the House of Providence established there and was at the head of it at the time of her death. Deceased was sixty-six years old, and entered religion in 1861. She was founder of the Kingston House of Providence, and to her management is largely due its present efficiency. Her sister is matron of Toronto asylum, and a brother is in business in Oswego.

It seems that love—true and profound love—should be a source of light and calm, a revelation, in which there is no place left for the lower victrories of vanity. Great souls care only for what is great, and to the spirit which hovers in the night of the infinite, any sort of artifice seems a disgraceful puerility. The more company, the more danger.

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