

CHICAGO'S NEW CHIEF OF POLICE.

An O'Neill of the O'Neill of Bantry, descended on his mother's side from Donald Mor O'Mahoney of Castle Mahon, in Munster; a bibliophile who has collected the most splendid library of Irish literature and Irish music in the United States; a policeman of twenty-eight years' experience on the Chicago force; a sailor who circumnavigated the globe before he was twenty-one years of age, who has visited Africa, Japan and Hawaii and who has been shipwrecked in the South Pacific—such is Francis O'Neill, Chicago's new chief of police. Probably no other member of the force has had a life so full of adventure and experience as has been the lot of the official who is now at its head. Literature and the police force are not often associated in the public mind, but that a man can be a scholar and an efficient policeman, filling every grade in the department successively from patrolman to general superintendent, is exemplified in the career of Chief O'Neill.

More than that, the fact that Frank O'Neill does not collect books merely to admire their bindings or to joy in their ownership was demonstrated three years ago in the most practical manner possible—by the civil service examination for police captains. When the papers were marked and the averages posted by the commission it was found that the "literary policeman" stood at the head of the list with the remarkable average of 99.8. Why the commission lopped off that two-tenths of 1 per cent. instead of marking O'Neill's papers 100 will never be known, but certain it is that no other police examination held in Chicago, and few examinations, if any, in any other department of the public service, have brought to light such a high average.

It is a trite saying to record that the early life of Frank O'Neill reads like a romance, but certainly is a true one. He was born in 1845 at Trilabane, three miles from Bantry, in County Cork, Ireland. That same neighborhood of Bantry gave to the world the famous Irish writer, A. M. Sullivan; T. D. Sullivan, who wrote "God Save Ireland," and Timothy Healy, the irrepressible member of Parliament. The elder O'Neill was a farmer and the mother of the new superintendent of police was an O'Mahoney, whose family lived at Castle Mahon, now known as Castle Bernard. It was amid these surroundings that young O'Neill became in his boyhood possessed of the strong love for Ireland, her history and her literature, which made of him in later years a "nationalist" and a bibliophile. He was sent to the national school at Bantry, and when he was but fifteen years of age he had so far outstripped his schoolmates in their studies that he was made a "senior monitor," a position in which he was really an instructor to certain classes.

It was intended that Frank should be a Christian Brother, his bent for mathematics and learning generally having impressed his parents and his spiritual advisers with the idea that he would make an excellent school teacher in a parochial school. With that end in view his studies were directed until he was sixteen years of age, but either young O'Neill had other plans in life or some other unforeseen circumstances intervened and he decided to be a sailor. By hard work he made his way to Sunderland, an English port, where he shipped as a cabin boy in a seagoing vessel. His first voyage was through the Mediterranean and the Black Sea to Odessa, Russia and return to England. The next year he decided to try his fortune in America, still continuing his seafaring life. From San Francisco he drifted to Missouri, where he taught school, and thence to Chicago, where for a brief period he sailed the lakes. Then he acted as a clerk in a railroad office, and finally, in 1873, joined the police force. There he has ever since remained, the hero of many stirring captures and noted because he was never the tool of the politicians.

His taste for reading and study never deserted him through all the vicissitudes of his police career, and many years ago he began the accumulation of a library which is today his pride and which has no equal among private collections.

In an upper room of O'Neill's residence, on Drexel Boulevard, the fruits of his labors in the formation of an Irish library are to be seen. His library is stocked with a collection of works of Irish authors and books pertaining to the land of sorrow, which he has spent years in accumulating. He began in a small way, buying volumes wherever he could find them in the book stalls of Chicago. An ardent student of Irish

literature, he knew exactly what he wanted to complete his collection, and when he could not find the desired volumes in this city he sent to London, Dublin, Toronto or wherever he could learn a book was to be found. Gradually the library grew, and it is still growing. Despite the fact that he has nineteen histories of Ireland, for instance, he is ready to snap up another should he discover one he has not purchased. He is the only Chicagoan who is a member of the Cork Historical and Archaeological Society, and he is well known by reputation to Irish writers and bibliophiles in the old land.—Cleveland Catholic Universe.

ABOUT HOSPITALS IN NEW YORK.

It is hardly overstating it to say that of all public charitable institutions, hospitals are as a rule in a state of the greatest impecuniosity, though richly endowed and the recipient of hundreds of gifts and legacies yearly. Inquiry at the offices of four of the largest hospitals in New York the other day—namely, St. Luke's Episcopal, on Cathedral Heights; the Presbyterian, in Madison Avenue; the German, at Park and Lexington Avenues, and the Roosevelt, at Ninth Avenue and Fifty-eighth Street—brought out the fact that every one of them is struggling under a deficit, representing the difference between the institution's income and its expenditures for the year. In this respect the Presbyterian is perhaps the least well off, the treasurer reporting that during last year current expenses exceeded the receipts by \$77,364.32. Next comes St. Luke's, with a balance of \$62,043 on the wrong side, while the German and the Roosevelt are comrades in poverty to the extent of about \$11,000 during the last year.

And yet, notwithstanding such pecuniary needs, these hospitals are all going on constantly increasing their activities in the treatment of the sick, and showing large yearly gains in the number of patients cared for. From none of them will any worthy sick person be turned away if there can be found a vacant bed. At all hospitals it is the same story of a dearth of ready money to pay current expenses. Last year the receipts in cash at the Presbyterian Hospital were \$103,432, of which \$11,000 came from ward patients, \$22,000 from private patients, \$12,000 from investments, \$32,000 from donations, and \$8,000 from legacies. But the running expenses of a great hospital may be gathered from these items in the report of the treasurer of the Presbyterian: Administration expenses, including salaries, \$20,819; department, including labor and supplies, \$32,969; nurses and servants, \$29,082; provisions,

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BUT A LITTLE distance separates "almost" from "altogether," and yet, like that little word "if," it's big in significance.

If you buy a pair of "The Mansfield" \$3 Shoes of me it doesn't mean almost correct, almost fit, almost satisfactory. It means it must be altogether correct, altogether perfectly fitting, altogether satisfactory.

Your money back if you want it keeps you from all harm.

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MANSFIELD, - - - The Shoelist,

124 St. Lawrence Street, Montreal.

\$45,518; medical supplies, \$16,482; maintenance of buildings, fuel, etc., \$35,923; a total of \$180,796, just \$77,364 more than the receipts. During the year ending September 30, 1900, the large gifts and legacies to St. Luke's aggregated about \$167,000, much of it to endow beds. This becomes principal, of course; only the interest can be used for current expenses. But these are constantly increasing in St. Luke's, as in all other hospitals, and last year the books showed an increase of 3,313 hospital days and 3,932 visits in the out-patient department. To provide for continuing the great work of this hospital special appeal has been made for \$1,200,000 to the general endowment fund.

Most of the gifts received by hospitals come in the way of endowments of memorial beds which in most cases are \$5,000 in perpetuity, or \$2,500 during the life of the donor, and all money so received goes, of course, into the vested fund of the hospital, only the interest of which can be used. From private patients a large income is derived that helps to pay the cost of maintaining the free or semi-free patients, for nearly all hospitals expect some pay from all who are treated in the public wards, though the amount varies with the pecuniary resources of the patient or his family, and in the case of the worthy poor is often remitted entirely. At St. Luke's the revenue from the rental of private rooms was \$23,285, and from ward patients \$12,134. But try as hard as hospital managers the world over may, it is still often impossible to make both ends meet, and notwith-

standing balls, concerts, fairs, bequests, and annual dues of members, a deficit may reasonably be looked for each year in the treasurer's report.

"Well, what is done at the annual meeting when it is announced that the hospital is \$5,000 or \$10,000 behind in its current receipts?" was asked the superintendent of a large New York hospital that had a deficit of about \$10,000 last year.

"Why, ten members of the Board of Trustees before the meeting adjourned agreed to move it up, and the next day the treasurer received ten \$1,000 checks."

Sometimes, however, gifts come in strange, unexpected ways to hospitals, and a notable instance of such saying that the public did not see until he reached a very practical society chairman of the Committee, work-service upon a facting in accord with provements in the fire department is related by a trustee of St. Luke's Hospital, which received a legacy of \$2,000 on the death of a very old lady, who said in her will that it was given to the institution because she had long been a worshipper in its chapel and had one day been particularly touched by the kindness of an attendant who, seeing her standing at a crowded service, took considerable pains to get her a cushioned chair. Another case of gratitude taking tangible form was that of a man of moderate means, who, while driving one Sunday in the vicinity of the hospital, met with a runaway accident and had his leg broken. He was taken to the hospital and treated for a month in a private room. When he left, he not only paid very liberally for his room and attendance, but promised to remember the hospital in his will. It was not more than a year afterwards that he was stricken with a fatal illness. He had made good his promise, for his will contained a \$5,000 bequest to the hospital. Though many patients declare after kind treatment and recovery in hospitals that they are going to remember them by gifts later, either during life or after death, yet somehow their gratitude cools off, and there are few instances where the good intentions are really carried out.

Another case showing that gratitude is not always for favors to be received was related by Louis Kortum, superintendent of the German Hospital, who, several years ago, received a call from a tottering old man of seventy years or more. "I haven't long to live, now," he said to Mr. Kortum, "and so I want to make good a pledge of mine. Thirty years ago or more I was treated for six weeks in this hospital, and my life saved, without costing me a cent. I was poor then, and I said

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 - Clover Carpet Squares, 2 by 2 1/2 yards, \$1.50.
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- Iron Bedsteads.** 50 Iron Beds in white enamel finish, fitted with brass knobs and caps, in all widths from three feet to four feet six inches wide, \$4.00.
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Three hundred only Wire Summer Doors, strongly made, cherry finish; they come in three sizes,—2 feet 8 inches by 6 feet 8 inches, 2 feet 10 inches by 6 feet 10 inches, and 3 feet by 7 feet; all one price, 89c each.

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If I ever prospered I would give some money to this hospital. Well, I have not made much money, but here is what I can spare from the sale of a bit of land out on Long Island. So please take it for the hospital." He handed an envelope to the superintendent and went out, refusing to give his name or address. The envelope contained \$250. — New York Post.

A donation of \$5,000 to the new school fund of St. Lawrence parish, New Bedford, has been announced by the pastor, Rev. Father Smyth. The gift is made on the condition that an equal amount be raised by the parishioners, but it is thought that there will be no difficulty in meeting this condition. Father Smyth announces that a subscription will be taken up at once, and that he will head the list with \$500.

When you have anything which you think would be of interest to our readers, send it in. The "True Witness" is always open to items of real interest.

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A BAD BOY

You might say to yourself. But you'll admit he is a nice boy when he is good; he may romp around and wear out his suits, make holes in the knees of his stockings and all that sort of thing, but you like him just the same—and so do we. He needs new suits occasionally, and it's better to buy suits than pay doctor's bills.

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Vol. L, IMPORTA

Rev. James Watertown, re-spirited and eloquent subject of Catholicism for the Knights of Waterbury, from we take the following:

Organization of the day. Men aspects of life of actual protection and such organization a power in the world. Individuals could themselves. Not that if the principle is recognized as modern life; if it trades, the arts unite their respective classes nation without an against them, but distinctness of big the clamors of v the strains of v this class flocks a merits no consi They are not re advanced thought from we must be important fact that who oppose us a their antagonism private is often s ance with their u and when asked t inconsistency th the church is a tion aiming at the institutions, with the "our." But some to adopt this co have little sympathy from a conjured souls that Cathol result in organiz Should oppositi against us, it wo ever been in the misrepresentation. from an intention aims and purposes opposition will h brains only of m pulous in the emp and whose antipa ther be increased any action we may have nothing to tellectual portion of population of this pie recognize more the benefits that a ization; and none p to practice with gr that there will be no difficulty in meeting this condition. Father Smyth announces that a subscription will be taken up at once, and that he will head the list with \$500.

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Catholic federation dream, as some say, be a grand, living power and influence, that the sun rises a the air. It will con beneficiaries of Cath will be the Cathol tional rights and pe will then be more s sent and our power the great issues of t be held in the super which they are now fourteen million Ca United States, accor thority, and yet it i Catholic could be e of a single state in tainly, no member church need ever asp ching conditions, to t racy of Connecticut, Presidency of the U am of the conviction take another half most liberalizing ed many of our non-C sufficiently broad-min

MISSION

When we talk of the missionary's life, ourselves scenes in the dark continent, and go so far from home into the mining di us to meet with dif takes courage and p part of the mission endurance and good of the settlers to surr ped to converse with