

ACTING ON PRINCIPLE.

The press of the country, of both political parties, reported Mr. C. R. Devlin, M.P. for Ottawa county, as having made the following statement when questioned concerning the report in Le Canada, that he would support the Remedial Bill:—

"I have very little to say beyond this, that in as far as I am concerned the statement of Le Canada is absolutely correct. If you want the opinion of the other gentlemen mentioned it would be better to seek it from them directly. I know nothing of their intentions. I will support and vote for the act even if I should be alone on the Liberal side to take such a course and even if my friends in the county of Ottawa should take from me the party nomination. It is unnecessary for me to give my reasons. Over and over again I have repeated them to the House and may have occasion to do so again."

Being asked if he could say what attitude will be taken by the Liberal party, Mr. Devlin replied:—

"I cannot. You have read speeches made by Messrs. Davies, Mulock, Martin and others. They may throw some light upon the subject. Needless for me to add that I have no sympathy with and heartily deplore their utterances. I have nothing to add beyond this, that my respect and admiration for my leader are not diminished, but that I consider it my duty to vote for the remedial act, introduced by the government."

There is no stronger party man in Canada than Mr. Devlin; ever since he has entered public life, and to our personal knowledge long before he ever thought of a political career, he was a most faithful adherent to the principles of the Liberal party. During the past six years he has rendered immense services to his party, and always spoke "with no uncertain sound." If we are not mistaken the Liberal party may expect still greater services from him in the future. As a party man nothing can be said against him; all the more, therefore, do we admire the fine manly attitude of the young member, on this occasion. He knows that while faithful to the cause of his political friends he will not allow his religious principles to go under or be made subservient. He is a Catholic first and a Liberal afterwards.

Time and again we have drawn attention to the difference between a Liberal-Catholic and a Catholic Liberal. The former is a Liberal first and then, if it suits his party's interest, he is a Catholic; the latter is a Catholic above all, and in temporal affairs belongs to a political party that is called Liberal to distinguish it from another party called Conservative. We have been accused of being out and out Conservative, of being able to see good in no other party simply because we performed the duty of a Catholic journalist in warning our people against the dangers of Liberal Catholicism. Be it remembered we never yet crossed a line in condemnation of Catholic Liberalism—on the contrary, we admire the principles of men who have faith. We are thankful to Mr. Devlin for having furnished us with such a striking illustration of the Catholic Liberalism to which we refer. We applaud him with both hands, not because he declares himself ready to support a Conservative Government on a measure, but because he can rise above party influences to steadfastly adhere to the higher and more lasting principles of his faith. There is no danger that his party will refuse him the nomination at the general elections; no party can afford to lose the services of such men. We are doubly proud to feel that the first to unhesitatingly and most positively declare, in fearlessness, his adherence to the grander principles of religion and justice to all, is an Irish-Catholic.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Don't forget that our Souvenir Number will be ready on the 18th March. We would respectfully request our advertising patrons not to give any orders or sign any contracts purporting to be for THE TRUE WITNESS Souvenir, unless solicited by Mr. P. J. Ryan or Mr. J. C. Smeaton.

IN IRELAND bacon from Denmark is rapidly forcing the Irish product out of the market. There is more protection needed in Ireland than any other country we know of, protection of the industries and of the whole race against perpetual injustice.

A SOCIETY in Munich has been formed for the purpose of collecting street car tickets. If the promoters' electric inventions continue on for a time there will be a sufficient variety of these tickets in the world to lay the basis of a great collection.

IN the Dutch village of Katyk the two Church bells are rung, without intermission, day and night, from the 21st to the 25th December. No one can explain the custom; the only reason given is that it has existed for centuries, and therefore cannot be omitted under any circumstances.

MR. DALTON MCCARTHY would rather see Confederation smashed than that the Catholic minority of Manitoba should be granted their rights under the Constitution. How very much like our

old friend, Col. Sanderson, who, on a certain occasion, threatened to kick the Queen's Crown into the Boyne, if Mr. Gladstone should dis-establish the Irish Church! And these are the worthies who prate about loyalty.

A BANKER of Wales spends much of his time and money in collecting doors and gates through which illustrious persons passed at some time or another. If he could only get his hands on the portals of heaven, or the gates of the other place, he would have something to boast.

THE famous Chauncey M. Depew declined an invitation to address the law students of the Kansas State University. His reason for refusing is that Col. Robert G. Ingersoll was not granted permission to speak before the students. The incident is highly to the credit of the University and far from being so to Mr. Depew.

CARDINAL PERRANI, a member of the French Academy, and one of the most able writers amongst the French clergy, is soon to publish a book on music, or rather upon the relations between music and morality. In the plan of this work there is something actually new and striking; it will be a welcome addition to the literature of our age.

THERE is a Californian specimen of the "New Woman," who rejoices in the name of Miss MacMelbourne, and who enjoys the unenviable distinction of being "the only lady fighter in America." We always understood that it "took two to fight," we would like to know how this lady is going to prove her prowess should she remain alone in the field.

THE Polish Catholics of Chicago are making great progress. It has been decided to soon hold a grand Polish Catholic convention in that city, which it is thought would explain the position of the Poles in regard to the Church. Catholic Poland was a land of long and cruel sufferings; the Poles were ever remarkable for their strong faith.

THE Rev. Patrick Hennessy, rector of St. Patrick's Church, Jersey City, died on the 27th February, after a long and painful illness. In 1871 Father Hennessy formed the first society of the Catholic Total Abstinence Union, which has since extended its branches all over the United States, and has become one of the grandest levers in lifting up fallen humanity. God's rest to his soul.

THE Imperial Academy of Science of St. Petersburg has elected Leo XIII. an honorary member, and the Sovereign Pontiff will be represented at the approaching coronation of the Czar. All these things indicate the high esteem in which the Holy Father is held in Russia. In every quarter of the globe the great Pontiff is admired, honored and beloved even by those outside his own flock.

THREE well-known French writers, Paul Verlaine, Louis Le Cardonnal and Albert Jouineau, have become Catholics. Jouineau is a poet, author and editor of L'Étoile. Thus we see that even the infidel and anti-Catholic writers of importance are turning towards the Church. France is Catholic at heart despite the secret societies and atheistic leaders who have been seeking to turn her to perdition.

IN the death of Joas de Deus, Portugal has lost the greatest of her modern poets. In 1862 he became editor of a Boja newspaper; but giving up the position became a candidate for Parliament, and was elected to the Chamber of Deputies. Many of his poems have been translated into various European languages. He was as fine a speaker as he was a writer.

IT is rumored that Cardinal Satolli is to have six months leave of absence in order to travel through the United States and see more of the country than he has been able to do with the weight of his official responsibilities on him. Both Protestants and Catholics throughout the country are most pleased to learn that the eminent church man will remain sometime longer in the New World.

THE debate on the Remedial Bill is on. Soon the one hundred and one rumors concerning the various attitudes of different parties and different individuals on the question will be merged into cold facts. We will well know before another issue the fate of the measure—or, at least, its probable fate—which will likely include the political stability or fall of many public men of to-day. All we can say is "God defend the right!"

AN occasional correspondent has sent us a communication finding fault with the hours at which the "Public Free Library," at the G.S.U., is open, and with the separation of sexes in the use of the same. The letter evidently comes from a person whose impressions—no matter from what source—run away with his more serious reflections. It must be remembered that the library is in connection with a religious house. As we find fault it, the hour, place, better we prefer, or the "Month of St.

Joseph." We do not publish the letter because its author would be guilty of a grave wrong that we would be thus doing and which, we know, is far from his intention to commit.

THIS year the Redemptorist Fathers will celebrate with great solemnity the second centenary of the birth of their founder, St. Alphonsus Ligouri, Doctor of the Church and one of the greatest figures of the last century. St. Alphonsus was born in Italy, near Naples, on the second day of August, 1763, and died in 1787. We expect that the event will be the occasion for a special celebration with the Redemptorist Fathers in our city.

CERTAIN newspapers recently informed the world that the Congregation of Rites had forbidden the giving of Holy Communion before and after Mass except in the case of grave necessity. The Congregation of Rites has announced that no document of the kind has ever been published. The various congregations of Rome are, from time to time, the victims of that spirit of journalistic enterprise which can fabricate when it can find news.

BROTHER MARCELIN announces the publication of an illustrated history of the Catholic Educational Exhibit at the World's Columbian Exposition in 1893. This will certainly be a work of great interest and most highly instructive. There is no person in America more capable of presenting a perfect history of that wonderful Catholic educational triumph. We will watch with anticipation and great expectations the advent of this promised addition to our literature.

THE Kansas City A. P. A. people are trying to force a lot of degraded and obscene kind into the public school curriculum. It would be had enough to circulate poison in the public journals, but when it comes down to having it introduced into the school books we think it is time to draw a heavy line. What is funny about the whole affair is the fact that these productions are styled "poems." God protect us from the poetry of these people!

IN May next the fourteenth centenary of the baptism of Clovis will be celebrated at Reims. One of the principal promoters of the fete is Count Robert de Beaufort, President of the Association Catholique de la Jeunesse Francaise. The pilgrimage will be under the patronage of Cardinal Langenieux, Archbishop of the diocese. His Holiness has written to the Cardinal expressing his approval of the celebration. Great will be the interest centred in the grand old Gothic Cathedral of that ancient city.

THE King of Portugal had never seen the Highland costume. On the occasion of his visit to Balmoral, to receive the order of the Garter, he was very surprised to see the bare legs of the soldiers in kilts. Turning to the Duke of Fife he asked:—"Why are these men without trousers?" The Duke gravely answered: "It is a local custom. In some places men take off their hats as a mark of respect to a distinguished guest. Here they take off their trousers." Needless to say that the King felt highly gratified on finding so many men taking such an amount of trouble to do him honor.

NOW that Madame Albani-Gye is in Canada again and creating as favorable an impression as ever in the past, the following paragraph, from an American exchange, may be of interest to the admirers of the prima donna:—

"One of the debts which the world owes to the late Bishop Conroy is the prima donna Albani. When she had the good fortune to attract his notice, she was little Emma La Jeunesse, of St. Joseph's choir. His expert ear recognized the possibilities in the sweet, rich voice, and he made it his business to see Miss Emma on the way to a thorough musical education."

A FAKE DIVORCE STORY.

ARCHBISHOP IRELAND GIVES HIS OPINION OF A HALIFAX DISPATCH.

Despatches from Halifax, N. S., state that a decree of divorce, approved by Pope Leo XIII., has been granted John Keefe, on the ground of infidelity on the part of the woman. The despatch also stated that the decree granted Keefe is not only of separation, but it permits a re-marriage.

On being shown the above Archbishop Ireland said:—"The report coming from Halifax that Pope Leo XIII. has granted a full divorce on the ground of infidelity is clearly a misinterpretation of the facts in the case. It is certain no divorce has been granted on the ground of infidelity. The positive, inflexible teaching of the Catholic Church is that a valid marriage contract, duly consummated, cannot be annulled or made void by any authority in state or church, death alone terminating its obligations. Where the marriage contract was from the beginning null and invalid, through some natural or canonical impediment, or was never duly consummated, declarations of nullity, or dispensations, may be and often are, obtained from ecclesiastical courts. Nothing beyond this never occurs, or ever can occur in the Catholic Church."

[Archbishop O'Brien states clearly the law of the church. This case of Keefe v. Keefe is of over ten years standing. The parties were actually married, but the

marriage was never consummated. Infidelity on the part of the woman was proven; the case came within the provisions of ecclesiastical law; and the ecclesiastical courts, after carefully examining all the particulars, found the marriage to be null and void. No consummation having ever taken place, the parties stood in relation to each other as if no marriage ceremony had been performed; a dispensation being only necessary to permit re-marrying. The case is very simple, and in no way affects the attitude of the church on divorce. Ed. T. W.]

THE CATHOLIC SAILORS.

To Have a Comfortable Home in the Port of Montreal This Year.

With the opening of navigation, the Catholic sailors coming to the port will have nice cheerful quarters to while away their leisure hours. The club, which was started in a rickety old garret on St. Paul street, has been a great success during the past three seasons, but much too small for the number of sailors, the average attendance on an evening being eighty.

The fact having been brought to the notice of several prominent citizens, they set about to look for a building which would be suitable, with the result that they have just secured from the Nuns, at a very low rental, the large building at 53 Cannon street, corner of St. Peter street. Yesterday the painters and carpenter were working on the inside, as the committee intend having the building ready to receive the sailors of the deep on the opening of the navigation.

Several ladies have kindly volunteered to look after the financial arrangements, and to carry on the good work, which is the only effective way to keep the sailor from spending the many dollars near the wharf, and donations and subscriptions will be generally received by the committee. Among those who take a lively interest in the welfare of the sailors are Mr. William and Lady Hingston, Mrs. McCarthy, Mr. F. B. McNamee and Mr. Frank J. Hart. As the city now possesses two sailors' institutes, working admirably, Jack Tar will hardly complain of the way he gets treated in Montreal. The Academy Hall of St. Mary's College was well filled last Monday evening, to hear Mr. Heckman's illustrated lecture on "Italy and the Holy Land." The lecture took his audience with him from Montreal to Gibraltar, Naples, Rome, Genoa, and brought them back to Montreal without a hitch. The profits of this entertainment are to be devoted to the equipment of the new rooms of the Sailors' Club.

So many people were unable to gain admission on Monday evening that another lecture had to be given last evening, treating of Northern Italy.

THE CATHOLIC SAILORS' CLUB.

To the Editor of the TRUE WITNESS:

Amongst all the institutions of charity which are the glory of Montreal, none is, perhaps, more striking in its effects more noble in its aims, than that little association which has for its object the welfare of Catholic seamen. Modest and unpretentious in its humble quarters overlooking the river, it has drawn, as by a powerful magnet, the hearts of the fine folks towards it. At No. 703 St. Paul street, the sailor coming into port is provided with a reading room, where the best of current and other literature is supplied him, and whence he takes forth for each ship a great parcel of the same—a parcel containing possibly the means of salvation for many a poor soul, to whom, afar on the deep seas, away from the whirl of the shore with its distractions and temptations, the truths of faith are presented, silently and powerfully. Games are supplied in this reading room, music of various sorts, weekly concerts, electrical computation, stationary in abundance to write home, while home letters are often awaiting the voyager there. Scarf and medals are also distributed, with cards, setting forth the labors of the Catholic churches, English or French, the hours of service and of confessions. A priest is frequently in attendance, the sailors having their own special chaplain, Rev. E. J. Devine, S. J. Without imposing any irksome restraint, or making this meeting place a religious assembly, a thousand influences are brought to bear on the honest and generous heart of Jack Tar.

But this good work, which has been so fruitful in the best results, is hampered for want of money. With the best will and the most scrupulous economy on the part of the management, it is difficult even to continue the work on its present lines, much less to develop it, as it should be developed.

During this Lenten season most people augment their charities. It is, moreover, approaching the time, when the opening of navigation will bring the sailors again to this port. What a blessed privilege, for those who have the means to help on this noble association. Protestants fit out vessels to go to the Deep Sea Fisheries in search of the souls of seamen. In the chief seaports they have homes and missions. Shall Catholics alone hold back and refuse to succor their imperilled fellow-believers? It is true, that the Catholics of Montreal, as elsewhere, have constant demands upon their purse, and there are a number who contribute, with a splendid generosity, to every charitable work. But this one more need which appeals to them is one which God must very specially bless, when the almost limitless opportunities for good are considered. It is useless here to attempt the giving of figures. But some eighty to one hundred seamen nightly congregate in those rooms in St. Paul Street. And those eighty or one hundred are kept from temptation, for the time being, at least, while they are brought directly under the best of influences. The Ladies committee, by strenuous efforts and very scanty resources, have endeavored to make the place habitable. The gentlemen of the Catholic Truth Society, who have been at the head of the movement, with other gentlemen, give their services, every evening, to entertain the guests. The gratitude of the sailors is proverbial. Over and over again have they expressed delight that their co-religionists have at last come to their aid, and their thankfulness for the same.

In New York the matter has been taken up seriously. Each parish contributes its

share, and various confraternities, and notably the League of the Sacred Heart, have made it their work of zeal. Still, Montreal has the glory of being first in the field. She was first in the world to establish a Catholic meeting place for sailors. Let her add to this triumph by making it a grand success. Let the French-Canadians, so active in every worthy cause, lend their assistance to their English-speaking brethren, for French and Belgian Sailors are visitors to the home. Let the poor give their mite no less than the rich.

Some may ask, and have asked: "But what is the good of it?" They are thinking only of the material side of it, though even in that way it is of immense benefit to poor Jack. Such a question can be only adequately answered in eternity; at least the helpers of these toilers of the deep may rest assured that the face of the Lord shall be turned towards those who turn not away from the poor, it must look lovingly at all who contribute thus directly to the saving of souls. With the following little anecdote which occurred here in Montreal, this appeal, through the Sacred Heart and Our Lady, for the Catholic Sailors' Club, may fittingly end:—

An active and zealous member of the Ladies' Committee chanced to be one evening in the neighborhood of St. Mary's Church. She perceived an individual, whom she at once took to be a seaman, hovering about the church. She spoke to him and discovered that he was in search of a priest. She told him it was too late, that he had better come in the morning. He answered that he could not, as the ship sailed at sunrise. She offered to find him a priest and to wait to confession. It transpired that he had not knelt at the tribunal of penance in many years, and the cause of his going then, was the picture of the Blessed Virgin displayed at the Catholic Seamen's Club, which had so touched his heart that he could not go away again without making his confession.

ST. ANTHONY'S YOUNG MEN.

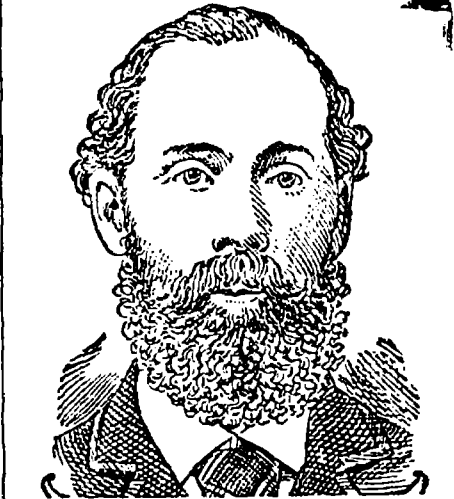
At the semi-annual meeting of the St. Anthony's Catholic Young Men's Society, held in their hall, St. Anthony street, the following officers were elected for the ensuing term: President, D. Deady; first vice-president, J. K. Givens; second vice-president, William J. McGee; financial secretary, James Reardon; recording secretary, William E. Foley; assistant recording secretary, D. Shea; librarian, E. M. Cullen; assistant librarian, James McLoyle; marshal, Joseph Ferguson; council, J. J. Whelan, C. Brady, C. Foley, J. P. Corbitt, G. C. Gahan.

The society has secured some of the best talent in the city for its concert on St. Patrick's night.

FORESTERS ENJOY THEMSELVES.

The members of St. Lawrence Court, 253, C. O. F., celebrated their 4th anniversary, on Tuesday evening, by a smoking concert, in their hall, 662 1/2 Craig Street. The Chief Ranger, Bro. Plamondon, being absent through indisposition, Vice Chief Ranger Bro. Howard presided, and there were about one hundred and fifty members of the Court and their guests present. Professor Wilson, in his usual genial manner, presided at the piano. There was an excellent programme of songs, recitations and speeches, which were all enthusiastically received. Among those who contributed to the enjoyable evening's entertainment were Professor Wilson, Messrs. W. M. Briggs, C. Gahan, Smeaton, Herbert, Omy, Paul, Belsie, Ammerson, and Bro. De Chas. O'Connor, T. W. Maguire, Secretary of the Court, Burwick, Kavanagh, Clarke, Brady, Davis, O'Keefe, Ryan, Murphy, McCallery, M. Donald, Maguire, Sullivan, Quinn, Elliot and Goney. The beautiful piano was kindly loaned by Willis & Co., N. E. Dame Street. The guests of the evening were W. M. Briggs, J. Davies, J. O'Keefe, and J. J. Ryan. Donors of refreshments, etc., were Messrs. J. Scanlan, J. J. Ryan, J. O'Shaughnessy, J. O'Rourke, M. J. Flanagan, S. Davis & Sons, C. Gahan, J. Brown, and M. Scanlan. J. E. Quinn acted as caterer and did remarkably well, as did also M. Scanlan, who loaned the programme. There being some 35 items, it was the "wee sma' hours" when the entertainment closed.

Thos. W. Maguire, Rec. Sec.



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ST. ANN'S YOUNG MEN'S SOCIETY.

REGULAR MEETING AND SELECTION OF CON-

DOLENT COLLECTION OF MEMBERS—

ST. PATRICK'S DAY CELEBRATION.

On Sunday evening the regular meeting of the St. Ann's Young Men's Society was held in their hall on Young street. After the general routine business was dispatched several important movements were made. Resolutions of condolence were moved and unanimously adopted expressing the grief of the great sorrow felt on hearing of the death of the late Rev. Father James Hogan, formerly a pastor of St. Ann's parish. Several of the members present spoke very feelingly of the devoted priest and recalled the numberless services he had rendered the parish and the great debt of gratitude he owed to it. It was announced that the Victoria Rifles Army Band had been engaged for the St. Patrick's Day celebration. The band will accompany the St. Ann's Young Men, who will turn out in a body on that occasion. The Dramatic section is preparing a splendid new play, for their entertainment on St. Patrick's night. The drama is entitled "The Pride of Kilarny." It is in four acts and special scenery has been painted to correspond with the play. The author is Mr. James Martin, the talented writer of whom we have so often spoken, and who, by his present production, will add materially to his fame as a dramatic author.

Some few weeks ago the Society conferred an honorary membership on our talented and eloquent fellow-citizen, Mr. M. J. F. Quinn, Q.C. This was a most timely and appropriate act of recognition, and the recipient must certainly have felt gratified to know that his many services, and particularly his very instructive lecture on the "Duties of Young Men," were so thoroughly recognized. At last Sunday's meeting a similar honor was conferred upon one of Montreal's rising young barristers in the person of Mr. E. B. Devlin, M.A., and likewise on the editor of THE TRUE WITNESS.

A SERMON ON FAITH.

Last Sunday, notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather, Notre Dame Church was filled with people who had gone to hear Rev. Father Tripiet. The text of the sermon was "Credo in Jesum Christum, filium Dei unigenitum." (I believe in Jesus Christ, only Son of God.) You will be, said the orator, true believers the day when, recognizing Jesus Christ, the eternal Truth, you will take Him as the master of your thoughts, the inspirer of your conscience, the day when you will give Him in your heart the priority on all your affections, and when He will be the rule and aim of your conduct, then you will be true believers. Absolute faith in our Lord gives security in the storms of adversity.

VALUABLE PRIZES

Two valuable prizes, worth \$2,000 each, were this fortnight distributed by the Society of Arts of Canada, 1066 Notre Dame Street, to M. M. Auguste Demers, 358 St. Denis Street, and Alderic Gelinus, clerk at Mongenais, Boivin & Co., St. Paul Street.