

OUR CURBSTONE OBSERVER.

ON TEETOTALISM!

WILL not inflict a temperance lecture on the readers of the "True Witness." I might do so, if I were so inclined for in the long course of my "observations," both on the "curbstone" and elsewhere I have had ample opportunity of noting the effects of intemperance, or rather the advantages of "teetotalism;" but this is not exactly the place for such moralizing, nor am I, in any way, commissioned to perform a work of reformation. But, I was forcibly attracted by a recent utterance of T. P. O'Connor, in an article on "Journalism" that appeared in a recent number of "The Royal Magazine." In closing he said, somewhat to this effect: "Let me whisper a word in your ear—with all the qualifications I have mentioned, you may find it to your advantage to be a teetotaler. I believe than in the next half century no man, whose is not a teetotaler will be able to obtain any position of trust or importance upon any newspaper." I quote from memory, as the number of the magazine is not under my hand; but I believe these are about his words. The moment I read the paragraph I was at once awakened to the reality of a situation that had long puzzled me. In order to explain myself more briefly and more exactly, I will have to tell of a few facts connected with an experience I had in Montreal last summer.

SEEKING IN VAIN.—A young married man, in whom I had a special interest, and who possessed very many desirable qualifications as an employee, was anxious to get work and was unable to find any. He asked me if I would try amongst my own friends to secure him a job. The winter had just commenced, and all places were filled—and, at that season each one hung on to what he had. I went forth on my mission; I followed the advertisements in the papers; I called on the heads of a great many firms; and I even sought ordinary laboring work for him. It was a very difficult task; but I found, in every case, that I was met with one special question. I would tell all the man's qualifications, his experience, his reliability, his honesty, his willingness to work, and so on to the end of the chapter. But whether he suited or not, whether or not he was needed, I invariably was asked "is he steady?"—or "does he drink?"—or "is he sober?"—or the same thing in some other brief form. Happily I was able to say that he was a teetotaler. But, unfortunately, that did not always open the door for him, while, were it the contrary, the lack of that quality would have inevitably closed the door. I came, then, to the very rational conclusion, that the world is becoming very much a teetotal one; that is to say, that employers will no longer risk their business, or their prospects in the hands of any man who is not perfectly temperate.

NO CONTRADICTION.—It is no contradiction in a man to demand teetotalism on the part of his employees, while he is not a personal teetotaler. Even, with greater reason, would he need perfectly sober men to do his work, when he is not too sure of himself. But he has had the experience; probably he has paid for it; and he does not wish that others should gain experience at his expense. In any case the

plain facts are there, and they cannot be denied. Whether it be the result of a religious motive, or of early training, or of inclination, or of association—no matter what the cause—the young man who enters on life to-day as a teetotaler has ninety-nine chances against the one of another less temperate man to succeed and to make his way in any profession or business.

OLD TIMES CHANGED.—The days of our ancestors, when a man was considered no good if he could not drink a given amount per night, and when the day's work ended under the table after the night's repast, have gone and for all time. It is as great a disgrace to-day to be intemperate as it then was considered to be an abstainer; it is as great an honor to-day to be a teetotaler as it was then to be the "prince of good-fellows and of boon-companions. The world is very much governed by fashion. We all are given to imitate those to whom we are expected to look up. It was then the fashion for the master to go to bed staggering; very naturally the follower, the dependent, the servant took his morals from his master. To-day no man occupies any high position that is not strictly temperate; as a result those under him are forced to follow in his footsteps. The fashion has changed and men have changed with it. I have observed this in almost every walk of life; and no place more than in the public service of the country. At present teetotalism is almost as good a passport to a civil position as is the service examination. At all events the latter is of very little use without the former.

A SIMPLE ADVICE.—I am now writing for the young man, the one who is on the threshold of life. Be advised in your youth. You may have learning, and talent, and ambition, and advantages; but you have not the years, nor the experience. Pay no attention to the Satanic advice that tells you to "sow your wild oats;" believe me, you will be "sowing the wind," and most infallibly shall you some day "reap the whirlwind." It is true youth may be excused for many errors and many follies; but you will only know when too late, or when you will have passed through an earthly Purgatory, how hard a thing it is to live down the mistakes of the past. You may live a life of perfect morality, you make your years one long model of every Christian virtue; but, some day, when you least expect it, the weed will crop up in your garden. You thought you had plucked it out years before; you only ploughed it under. It is down there in the soil, and will peep out, when you imagine that the world, like yourself, perhaps, has forgotten all about it. If you wish to have nothing in after life that will demand the constant strain of "living it down," set out, from the very start, as a teetotaler. No matter what errors of judgment, or mistakes from lack of experience you may have to count, they will be all forgotten with time, and all forgiven; but never will the world forget nor forgive the sins against teetotalism. It is thus, from my own observations, extending over the third of a century, that I would advise the youth of to-day to adopt teetotalism as a principle.

short of marvellous. His education did not include a collegiate course in mechanics or any other science, but what he might have done under such circumstances can be inferred from the achievements which are to his credit as a snug young farmer of the premier county.

His comfortable house in the heart of Tipperary is an example of his

genius. It was designed and erected by himself, and every article of furniture which it contains, with the exception of a piano and an iron bedstead, is the work of his own hands.

From mere youth he displayed an extraordinary mechanical genius, and when a young gossoon could take a watch to pieces and put it together again. He has made numbers of violins, and is himself no mean performer on that instrument. On one occasion while invalided with a sore foot and not being able to leave the house, he occupied his time by making a clock.

Among his other accomplishments are glass and china stitching, gun and brass bicycle repairing, steel and brass working and wood turning, but what we are at present most interested in is his successful attempt at the manufacturing of Irish pipes, and his own special device for boring out the chanter quickly in the lathe. This secret of his success he naturally wishes to keep to himself for the present.

It was John S. Wayland, one of the founders of the Irish Pipers Club, Cork, who first got Mr. O'Keefe interested in pipe-making. When Mr. O'Keefe was handed the chanter by Mr. Wayland he remarked that he thought he would get over the paper boring and promised that if he did not make a chanter as good he would not make one worse than the one that had been given him. His words have come true, and he is now in a position to meet the rapidly increasing demand for this old Irish instrument. His success is all the more creditable as he is not as yet able to play the pipes himself. It is an amusing fact that his first experiment at chanter making was made with a well-seasoned stirabout stick, the brass end of which had once done duty as part of a porter barrel tap. When undertaking the experiment Mr. O'Keefe wittily observed that he hoped that where once flowed Cork porter would soon flow sweet music. His wish was realized and the brass keys for this interesting chanter were made from the face of a grandfather clock.

Mr. O'Keefe is an uncle of E. Mac Oisín (Cussen), a national teacher, who has been teaching Irish at Knockavilla for some time.—Dublin Freeman.

For Catholic Teachers.

A public meeting was held last Saturday night at the Catholic Club, New York, to arouse interest in the movement to establish in this city a department of pedagogy in connection with the Catholic University at Washington.

The Rev. Joseph H. McMahon, of the University, presided, and announced that Archbishop Corrigan was ill, and would be unable to be present.

"We hope that the first fruits of the proposed school will be the correction of those misrepresentations of Catholic history which now prevail," the chairman said.

Bishop Conaty, rector of the University, said that many inquiries had been received from Chicago, Boston and other cities as to why the University did not establish a school of pedagogy for Catholic teachers.

Continuing, he said: "The proposed school has great possibilities, and it depends on the encouragement of the people to make these realities. There is something more than industrial and intellectual development with the others. Our great University should be an object of devotion among the people, as it spreads abroad scientific and true knowledge for the onward march of the Church and the salvation of the people. Though there have been great difficulties in our way during the past thirteen years, we have overcome them, and I trust we will continue to succeed in our efforts."

"The University has gathered about it a band of distinguished educators from our own country, and is fast becoming the American Catholic Oxford. We stand for higher Catholic education. If the teachers of New York who feel the need of such a school co-operate with us, we will succeed in establishing it."

Bishop Spalding, of Peoria, said, in part:

"If we are not to sink into a materialistic life and a prey to a sensual life, it is religion that will save us. Institutions of learning alone will not do it. You cannot govern a free people by an army or by a police force; it is only through the conscience that they can be governed, and this principle is an essential of the Catholic faith to make character."

"From religious and patriotic motives we Catholics should take a

more active part in educational matters. The Catholic Church is the strongest religious organization in the country beyond a doubt, and we are constantly increasing in numbers, wealth and education, and if we are to be an active part of the life of our country we must take a national view of Catholic education, and not confine ourselves to the parochial.

"Only men of deep intellectual culture can be safe leaders for us. It is to form the moral fibre of such leaders that the University is most useful."

Other speakers were the Rev. William O'Brien Pardow, S.J., and the Rev. Father Campbell.

IN DAYS OF OLD.

From the files of the "True Witness" of 1851, we take the following items:—

ST. PATRICK'S DAY.—The order of procession was as follows:—

St. Patrick's T. A. and B. Society. Grand Marshal on horseback. Band.

Blue Banner of the Cross. Boys of the Christian Doctrine Society.

Two Deputy Marshals. Banner of St. Patrick. Supporters with Spears.

Irishmen, not member of the Temperance Society.

Original Harp Banner. Two Stewards with Wands.

Father Matthew's Banner. Members four abreast.

Two Deputy Marshals. Green Medal Banner. Members four abreast.

Two Stewards with Wands. Ladies' Harp Banner. Members four abreast.

Two Stewards with Wands. Tree of Temperance Banner. Members four abreast.

Two Deputy Marshals. Committee.

Two Stewards. Honorary members.

Secretary and Treasurer. Vice-Presidents.

Grand Banner of Ireland. President.

Five Stewards. Band.

St. Patrick's Banner. Supporters with Battle Axes. Members two and two.

Honorary members. Committee of Management. Office Bearers. Presidents.

ABOUT TORONTO.—The following extracts from a private letter, of March 14th, from a gentleman in Toronto, to a friend here, have been handed us for publication:—

"The Bishop has been truly a God-send. He is rapidly diffusing his spirit of goodness among the congregation. The communicants have greatly increased, and he is constantly laboring for the religious teaching of the youth. He has one priest devoted nearly all the time to finding out and bringing within the sphere of his instructions, destitute and neglected children. And then the way he has grappled with the debt of the Church—£2,000 and upwards paid already! £1,000 of this he gave himself, when he came, and of the other £1,000 he received £500 since his arrival from the Propagation of the Faith funds. We have also the benefit of Pere Teller, whose close, logical and elegant sermons you well remember. But the flower of our Clerical flock, as a preacher, is Father O'Hara, a young Irish priest, who arrived shortly after the Bishop. He is constantly attracting Protestants, and is very popular in the city."

St. Patrick's Day of the Past.

THE HIBERNIAN SOCIETY of Montreal had a splendid dinner at the Mansion House, on the 17th instant, in honor of the festival of St. Patrick. The chair was most ably filled by Mr. O'Sullivan, vice, Rev. W. Johnston. The utmost conviviality prevailed. Montreal, 17th March, 1824.

Kingston, 17th March, 1824.

The Sons of Hibernian met at the Mansion House to celebrate the anniversary of their Saint. The company consisting of about 30, sat down at half-past six o'clock to a dinner prepared in Mr. Moore's best style, and enjoyed themselves to a late hour. Many excellent songs were given during the evening. The band of the 60th Regiment was politely permitted to attend.

The above two extracts are from a rare Canadian magazine, and with the compliments of Jno. Horn. Montreal, 26th Feb., 1902.

Returning to the Fold.

The London "Tablet" announces that the Rev. J. R. McKee, M.A., formerly curate of St. Agnes and St. John the Baptist, Tuebrook, Liverpool, has been received into the Catholic Church.

It is reported that Miss Rebecca Emily de St. Remy, daughter of the late Count and Countess de St. Remy, was recently received into the Church at Driffeld, England.

Dr. Frederick Loeber, chief surgeon of Touro Infirmary, New Orleans, who died recently, accepted on his deathbed the Catholic faith. His father, grandfather, and great-grandfather were Lutheran ministers. He was a graduate of the University of Hesse-Darmstadt. Three years ago Emperor William conferred on him the Order of the Red Eagle.

It is stated that a niece of the Turkish Ambassador at Rome, a Greek, whose name is Smaragda Photiades, has become a Catholic. Her father is a governor on the Island of Naxos, and belongs to the orthodox Greek Church. The young lady desires to become an Ursuline nun.

NERVOUS TROUBLES

MAKES LIFE A SOURCE OF CONSTANT MISERY.

The Sufferer is Constantly Tired and Depressed—Will Startle at the Slightest Noise, and is Easily Irritated.

There is no torture more acute and intolerable than nervousness. A nervous person is in a state of constant irritation by day and sleeplessness by night. The sufferer starts at every noise; is oppressed by a feeling that something awful is going to happen; is shaky, depressed, and, although in a constantly exhausted state, is unable to sit or lie still.

If you are nervous or worried, or suffer from a combination or languor and constant irritation, you need a nerve food and nerve tonic, and Dr. Williams' Pink Pills are absolutely the best thing in the world for you. You will find after taking them that your feelings of distress and worry are being rapidly replaced by strength, confidence and a feeling that you are on the road to full and complete health and strength. Get rid of your nervousness in the only possible way—by building up strong, steady nerves.

Miss Ina Doucet, Bathurst, N.B., says: "Words fail me to adequately express what I owe to Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. I was attacked by la grippe, the after effects of which took the form of nervous exhaustion. The least noise would startle me and I would tremble for some time. I used several medicines, but they did not help me, and as time went on I was growing worse and was so nervous that I was afraid to remain alone in a room. I slept badly at night and would frequently awake with a start that would compel me to scream. The trouble told on me to such an extent that my friends feared for my recovery. At this time my aunt urged me to try Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, and after using eight boxes I feel that Dr. Williams' Pink Pills saved my life, and I sincerely hope my experience will benefit some other sufferer."

These pills never fail to restore health and strength in cases like the above. They make new, rich blood with every dose, strengthen the nerves and thus drive disease from the system. Dr. Williams' Pink Pills are a certain cure for rheumatism, sciatica, partial paralysis, St. Vitus dance, indigestion, kidney and liver troubles, and the ailments that make the lives of so many women a source of constant misery. Bright eyes, rosy cheeks and an elastic step is certain to follow a fair use of this medicine. Be sure that the full name "Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People," is on every box you buy. All others are imitations. If you do not find these pills at your dealers, they will be sent post paid at 50 cents a box or six boxes for \$2.50 by addressing the Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

I feel more compassion for those who fight against God than any desire to call down greater vengeance on their heads. They are already miserable enough in the mere fact that they do so fight.

As no single man is born with a right of controlling the opinions of all the rest, so the world has no title to demand the whole time of any particular person.

Irish Leaders and Evictions.

An English correspondent of a leading American daily says:—

The Irish party attaches great significance to the evictions of the tenants of forty farms on Lord De Freyne's estate in Roscommon County, Ireland, for refusal to pay rent, and intends to make a fierce Parliamentary struggle over the matter.

John Redmond, chairman of the Irish Parliamentary Party, said to a representative of the Associated Press:—"Not only are forty tenants now sold out, but many hundreds of others are being proceeded against. The country thereabouts is alive with police, who patrol the roads day and night, force themselves into people's houses, and in every way create a reign of terror. Everything has been peaceable so far, but the proceedings of the Government are so extraordinary that we cannot help feeling anxious lest violence occur."

"The cause of all the trouble is the Government's refusal to face the unanimous demand of the Irish people that it pass legislation giving compulsory power to buy out Irish landlords and thus restore the land to the Irish people. Lord Dillon's estate, which is next to that of Lord De Freyne, was bought out by the Government, and the tenants who bought the land are paying fifty per cent. less rent than formerly. The De Freyne tenants naturally wished to do likewise, but Lord De Freyne refused to sell on any terms. The Government, instead of endeavoring to effect a settlement, poured in an army of police."

John Dillon, the former chairman of the Irish Parliamentary Party, said:—"I agree with every word uttered by Mr. Redmond. The trouble, although for the moment confined to Roscommon, involves a principle of vital interest to Ireland. If the De Freyne tenants succeed it will be impossible for the Government to resist any longer our claims for the compulsory settlement of the Irish land question. The very existence of the Irish nation, and the whole future of the Irish national movement are seriously affected by the struggle proceeding on the De Freyne and neighboring estates."

Trade Inquiries.

The following were among the inquiries relating to Canadian trade received at the Canadian Government Office in London during the week ending February 10th:—

A London firm importing grained split hides wishes to correspond with Canadian tanneries producing such for export.

The following were among the inquiries in Canada of canned and dried fruits are asked for by a provision and produce broker in Liverpool.

A Manchester firm desires to get into communication with importers and users of textile machinery in Canada.

A correspondent in the Midlands with experience of Bradford and Manchester goods is open to act as buying or selling agent for Canadian houses in the trade.

An agent having an extensive experience in the grocery and confectionery trade, and having facilities for doing a large agency business, desires to hear from Canadian firms desiring representation.

The makers of horse-clothing of all kinds, saddle-girths, knee-caps, dog-sheets, body-belts, etc., wish to extend their business in Canada, and ask to be referred to importers of these goods.

Information respecting Canadian hard woods for street-paving purposes is asked for by a selling agent who has experience in placing such goods on the English market.

A London firm at present doing a good business in chair-stocks, backs, seats, legs, etc., ask for names of additional exporters of such goods in Canada.

A firm of West of England woollen manufacturers are looking out for a first-class agent to represent them in Canada, and also desire to get into touch with wholesale houses in the Dominion purchasing best cloths.

A Birmingham house exporting gas and electrical fittings is desirous of extending its business with Canada.

One principal reason why men are so often useless is that they divide and shift their attention among a multiplicity of objects and pursuits.—Emmons.

There is one titled person to every 100 untitled persons in Russia.

We must never leave God out of our calculations, or he will leave us out of His blessings.

Some Notes

ANN

Last week a series of festive activities took place which lasted five days my purpose to dwell on tails; but I will quote part of the first day. It runs thus:—

Paris, Feb. 26.—Activities to celebrate the birth of Victor will last until Sunday with a grand ceremony in the Pantheon, under the Government. President Waldeck-Rousseau, the other members of the Chamber of Deputies, delegations from the other state bodies, leading lights of literature in France, and the various educational institutions.

The ceremony began ten in the morning, and ended at 11.45. The programme included eulogies by M. Leygues, Minister of Instruction, and M. Saisset, president of the Institut. Several of Victor Hugo's members of the Com and the rendering of on Hugo's works, by the Opera, and a ch and women. The republican Guards and numbering 100 persons the instrumental part.

The scene within the most imposing and owing to the brilliant ladies and the officials.

In all the public school the day was celebrated on the life of France and by readings from the professors."

HUGO'S GENIUS.

Hugo was a literary yond all dispute. He of versatility, and instances, his works evidenced his profoundness of thought; his study of the book of nature, his volume of logic; his serene reason was so numbered by his suggestion and his unbridled ity, that splendid world, and to the in of Truth. He built monuments of literature that loom upon the nineteenth century, 1

St. Vincent Paul S

In the current number of the American Catholic Quarterly there is a very timely pen of Thomas D. vard Medical School, a question of "The Needs of the Society de Paul." The writer tend to tell either the Society, so well world to-day, was first yet to trace its throughout the years. Yet, he tells us in connection with its origin.

"Four facts stand out for us: they were men of deeds whose works of charity and the Divine vision of the Church. He inspired was their wonderful success is discussed here, but did the story of the de their works from visit at their homes to the of charitable works would be well worth it is particularly to be they worked not merely bodily suffering, but poor better in all wa the spiritual works of prominent in their pla

The writer states that al knowledge of the S

A Clever Irishman

William O'Keefe, of Knockavilla, is a Tipperary farmer whose business as an agriculturist does not prevent his capabilities from branching out in other directions. His aptitude for mechanical work is little