

THE CONNAUGHT RANGER'S CORNER.

St. Ann's Catholic Young Men's Society will run a grand excursion to Plattsburg, N.Y., on Saturday the 5th of August, this was decided on at the last monthly meeting. There is no question but it will be an interesting affair, as this very popular society has a large following, and many friends not only in St. Ann's parish but all over the city.

The last regular meeting of Branch No. 1, C.M.B.A., Grand Council of Quebec, was one of the most interesting and most largely attended meetings held for some time. President O'Rourke presided, and initiated four new members. Applications were also received from three aspirants to membership. After the meeting a pleasant and sociable hour was spent, a large number of visiting members from other branches of the organization were present.

Grand Deputy Meek of the Quebec Grand Council reports the various branches of the C. M. B. A. in the district to be in a very flourishing and prosperous condition. He says that each of the branches under the jurisdiction of the Quebec Grand Council have been increasing their membership lately.

Division No. 2, Ladies' Auxiliary will hold a grand ice cream social in the Sarsfield Hall, Centre Street, on Monday evening the 19th of June, a very pleasant time is anticipated.

Division No. 5, A. O. H., held its annual meeting on Wednesday evening in the Richmond street Hall, and it was largely attended. The annual reports of the various officers were read which showed the Division to be in a prosperous condition. Before the election of officers was taken up. Mr. M. Phelan, the popular President of the branch, gave a resume of the work, both charitable and otherwise that had been accomplished since its organization. He thanked the officers and members for their attendance at the meetings and hoped that they would be as loyal to the officers which they were about to elect. The following is a complete list of the elected officers:—

President, Mr. Martin Phelan, re-elected unanimously; Vice-President, Mr. John Tobin; Rec. Sec., Mr. Hugh Tracy; Fin. Sec., Mr. Chas. P. Dwyer; Treas., Mr. Martin Hickey, re-elected unanimously; Chairman Standing Committee, Mr. Ed. Farrell; Sergeant-at-arms, Mr. M. J. Hickey; Door-keeper, Mr. John Leahy; Marshal, Mr. E. Farrell; Standing Committee, Messrs. John Fox, W. H. Hickey, W. D. Hickey, and E. Waldron.

Short addresses were delivered by Wm. Kearney, Ed. Cavanagh, Capt. Kane, and several other members. Mr. Martin Hickey the veteran treasurer was the recipient of much congratulation from the members on his complete recovery from the severe illness which confined him to his house for four months.

The annual meeting of Division No. 4, A. O. H., for the reception of the yearly reports and the election of officers was held in the hall of St. Mary's Catholic Young Men's Society on last Monday evening. Previous to the election regular routine business was transacted and six new candidates initiated, and seven applications received. The financial reports showed the Division to be in a healthy condition. The officers and members are to be congratulated on the great strides which the Division has made during the past three months. During the election of officers the greatest enthusiasm prevailed, and the appreciation and worth of many of the old officers was fully recognized and in consequence were re-elected they are as follows:—

President, Mr. H. T. Kearns; Vice-President, Mr. J. N. Smith; Rec. Sec., Mr. N. J. McIlhorne; Fin. Sec., Mr. P. J. Tomilty; Treas., Mr. John Traynor; Chairman Standing Committee, Mr. John Costello; Sergeant-at-arms, Mr. Frank Geelan; Guard, Mr. John White.

All indications at the time of writing point to a new Board of Directors of the A. O. H., for the County being elected. The majority of the newly elected officers are all young men of intelligence and worth with every prospect of a bright future ahead of them. It is to be hoped that the new body when installed will recognize the worth of the "True Witness" by making it the official organ of the Order, in Montreal. There are no personal or ambitious motives, in making this suggestion but solely for the purpose of drawing together the members of the various branches of the organization in closer touch with each other.

The last meeting of the Gaelic Society was held last Saturday evening in their rooms on Craig street, it

was very largely attended, and several new members were enrolled. Amongst the number being many members of the Hibernian Knights. After the class instructions were over the committee of management met and elected Second Lieutenant Peter Doyle of the Hibernian Knights on the committee, to replace Mr. James McFadden who left a few months ago for Cleveland. Although a Canadian by birth Mr. Doyle is deeply interested in perpetuating the language of the Gael.

The members of the pioneer Division, (No. 1) met on Wednesday evening in their hall on Place d'Armes for the nomination and election of officers. The meeting was very numerously attended and a pleasant feature of the occasion was the presence of many visiting brothers, amongst them being County President Rawley; Mr. M. Phelan, President Division No. 5; Mr. H. T. Kearns, President Division No. 4; J. Hummel, Vice-President Division No. 3; W. P. Stanton, Treas. Division No. 3; and many others. It was also pleasing to note the large attendance of the charter members or founders of the organization in the Province who who clung to the Division since its organization. Amongst those who met that Sunday evening seven years ago, in the K. O. L. Hall, Craig Street, to lay the foundation stone of the Order in the Province and who have since labored in divers ways to raise the organization to the prominent position it holds—amongst the fraternal societies of Canada—who were present at Wednesday evening's meeting were:—

Mr. Patrick Tucker, Mr. Jas. McIver, Mr. J. S. Fitzpatrick, Mr. Wm. Tracy, Mr. Patrick Scullion, Mr. J. Dadd, and Mr. M. Bermingham. The election for the various offices was keenly contested, and the best of harmony and feelings of brotherly love existed. The result is as follows:—

President, Mr. H. McMorrow, Vice-President, Mr. James Byrne; Rec. Sec., Mr. M. Bermingham; Fin. Sec., Mr. J. McIver; Treas., Mr. Patrick Scullion, Chairman Standing Committee, Mr. John P. O'Brien; Standing Committee Messrs. Wm. Tracy, Martin Ward, Henry McAmbley, and Francis Collins. Sick Committee, Messrs. John O'Neill, Philip Collins and P. Connelly Sergeant-at-arms, Mr. T. Keough, Guard Mr. J. Horan. The sergeants during the election of officers were Messrs. M. J. Brogan, W. P. Stanton, and Michael Fogarty, of Division No. 3, and Messrs. H. T. Kearns, and P. J. Finn, of Division No. 4. Addresses were delivered by County President Rawley, Mr. E. B. Devlin, B.C.L., and many others.

At the annual meeting of Division No. 6, A. O. H., held on Wednesday evening, in their hall, corner St. Dominique and Rachel streets, the greatest of enthusiasm was manifested. The various reports gave evidence that the affairs of the Division were well conducted. The reports were adopted unanimously, after which the election of officers for the ensuing term was proceeded with, following being the result:—

President, Mr. J. B. Lane; Vice-President, Mr. W. H. Turner; Rec. Sec., Mr. P. O'Neill Jr.; Fin. Sec., Mr. John Brown; Treas., Mr. Jas. Tierney; Chairman Standing Committee, Mr. John Halpin; Sentinel, Mr. Philip McCall; Marshal, Mr. Jas. O'Grady; Asst. Marshal, Mr. Patrick Kenna; Chairman Finance Committee, Mr. P. J. Cavanagh; Chairman Literary Committee, Dr. T. J. J. Curran.

The most important and interesting event ever held under the auspices of the Catholic Order of Foresters will be the field day and games of St. Mary's Court, No. 164, at St. Lawrence Park, Cornwall, on Dominion Day. The programme of games for which costly and valuable prizes are offered is one of the finest ever presented to the public. An event, and one for which the veterans of St. Mary's Court are to be congratulated, is the perpetuating of the old Irish National game of "hurley"; indeed this event alone coming from a cosmopolitan body like the Foresters is enough to shame some of our national societies whose love for Ireland's great game of endurance and agility is fast declining. St. Mary's Court is to be congratulated on this grand undertaking, and we hope that the objects in view will be successful and that a pleasant day's outing will be appreciated by all.

The annual meeting for the reception of reports and the election of officers for Division No. 2, A. O. H., was held in St. Gabriel's Hall, corner of Centre and LaPrairie streets on Friday evening, a large number of members being present. The election

of officers for the ensuing term resulted as follows:—

President, Mr. Michael Lynch; Vice-President, Mr. M. A. Daley; Rec. Sec., Mr. Thomas Donahue; Fin. Sec., Mr. T. J. Halpin; Treas., Mr. E. J. Colfer; Chairman of Standing Committee, Mr. Lawrence Breen; Standing Committee, Messrs. Patrick Hogan, T. Sullivan, Frank P. Collins, and John Walsh; Finance Committee, Messrs. J. Stewart, R. Fitzgerald and J. Devlin; Sick Committee, Messrs. F. P. Collins, J. Falley, and D. McCrory.

Other Committees will be elected at the next regular meeting. The newly elected officers were installed by County President Rawley, who congratulated the members on their great progress in membership and finances. A feature of the meeting was

the presence of a large number of the charter members of the branch.

The following resolution of condolence to Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Jones Wellington street, on the loss of their daughter was passed at the last meeting of the Irish Catholic Benefit Society, Ald. Kinsella, presiding, and Mr. Jos. McCann acting as secretary:

"That this society have heard with regret the demise of the daughter of our esteemed fellow-member Mr. Arthur Jones, the society tender him and his family their heartfelt sympathy in their bereavement, and hope God will console them in their sorrow and reward the departed one with eternal happiness in heaven; and be it further resolved,

"That a copy of this resolution be sent to the "True Witness" for publication."

NOTE AND COMMENT.

In our last issue we made editorial comment to the very unjust and fearfully bigotted attack which the Daily Witness directed against Dr. Weir, the recently appointed Recorder, on account of his having taken part, or at least been present at the Fete-Dieu Procession. We gave, what seems to us very good reasons why Dr. Weir should have done that for which he has been so bitterly criticised. However, we consider it only fair to reproduce his own answer, made to a Herald reporter. He said:—

"I am not a little surprised at the tone of the discussion reported to have taken place at the Congregational Union yesterday, seeing that a true Congregationalist has always stood pre-eminently for freedom of thought and charity in judgment.

"Being a public official, I attended the Corpus Christi festival because of an invitation to do so, which was both courteous and Christian. I accepted it to repay courtesy with courtesy, and because, as a student of men and manners, I wished to obtain under the best conditions, a close view of the outward life of the majority in this city, so as the better to understand their modes of thought and feeling. I am a Protestant by deep conviction, but I am not a bigot. I believe it possible, in this age of enlightenment, for Protestants and Catholics to observe and study each other without recency to individual faith, and that it is one of the duties of men in public positions to widen their horizon by a study of social and religious conditions as the best opportunities offer themselves for so doing. I understand, too, that I am not the only Protestant occupying an official position who accepted a similar invitation elsewhere."

This reply should satisfy even the most prejudiced and the most exacting. While, however, the Congregationalists are making this gentleman run the gamut of their disapproval and the Witness is abusing him, in a most un-Christian manner, we find that some organ making this statement:—

"There is a possibility that the

heathen temple on Lagauchetiere St. may be closed up. First of all, the great bulk of the local Chinamen do not like the idea of the temple. The Christians are especially indignant and more than one has suggested the advisability of adopting summary measures, which may indicate that the evangelical effort is necessarily a slow one when applied to Mongolian people."

This, and the story of the practical paganism carried on in this city, do not speak very highly for the methods of evangelization that the Witness and its friends adopt. Would they not be spending their time more profitably were they to pay more attention to the erasing of pagan practices amongst their Chinese converts, than in censuring the Christian conduct of an honorable gentleman of their own persuasion?

The following despatch from Rome, dated June 10th, has given rise to much comment and speculation:—

"The clerical Il Cittadino of Genoa, says the Pope has decided to establish a permanent apostolic delegation in Canada.

"Investigation shows the statement of Il Cittadino is premature. Arrangements to that end, however, are in progress, and if carried out, it is understood Mgr. Zaleski, the apostolic delegate to India, who is now in Rome, will be appointed apostolic delegate to Canada."

That Canada may be some day honored by the presence of a perpetual representative of the Sovereign Pontiff, is altogether likely. But we do not think that any decided step has yet been taken in that direction, nor is it to be expected that such will take place in the very near future. Were it otherwise we are under the impression that our Canadian hierarchy would have some information of an important character in that regard. Rome does not act at the suggestion of public journals; but sometimes an astute journalist makes a fair guess at the actual intentions of the Roman authorities.

OUR CURBSTONE OBSERVER.

By a Reader of the True Witness

Since my contribution to the last issue of the "True Witness" I read with no small degree of interest an important item of local news which that number contained: it was a statement concerning the new High School accompanied by a list of all those who have contributed to that much needed and most deserving undertaking. Possibly like the proverbial "hurler on the fence," the man standing on the "curbstone" is more liable to notice defects and shortcomings in the passers-by than would be the one who is drifting, or rushing or hustling in the crowd. While I have but little sympathy with the professional "fault-finder," still I consider that it generally serves a good purpose to have a slight degree of that honest criticism which tends to make us "see ourselves as others see us." It is in this spirit that I write; and when I sometimes make plain statements, and unhesitatingly convey my observations to the readers, it is merely for the purpose of undeceiving them, and possibly of allowing them to know what is really thought and said by the great public. But, to come back to the High School: I was sincerely pleased to note that quite a large amount had already been subscribed, and I trust that this is only the commencement of a series of generous contributions. However, I could not fail to perceive that over one-third of the sum collected so far came from one gentleman—and he is a Protestant. While this fact speaks volumes for the generosity and liberal spirit of the nobleman in question, it certainly goes a long way to prove the truth of some of my remarks in last week's issue, and it is a strong evidence that we Irish-Catholics are sorely

in need of an occasional stirring up and spurring forward. Either we have very little practical interest in the most important matter that concerns the future of our race in Canada—that is to say in the education of our children, or else we are lamentably poverty-stricken.

There is scarcely an Irish-Catholic amongst the forty-five or fifty thousand of our people in Montreal, who would not resent as a grand insult both to himself and to his nationality, were he to be frankly told that he had no public spirit, that his patriotism was only skin deep, that his loud-voiced protestations of devotion to Church and country were never put into practice, or that he was an illustration of that selfishness which is perfectly willing to allow others to do his work and perform his duties for him, but which becomes as cold as an icicle and silent as a mummy, the moment the slightest personal sacrifice is in question. Yet here is an evidence of the truth of such accusations, unless they are rendered excusable on account of some spirit of forgetfulness, or the extreme misfortune of poverty. Not one of us would care to accept the alternative of forgetfulness, or neglectfulness; nor would any of us care to admit the existence of general and individual poverty. Yet there is another way out of the dilemma. Either our people are unwilling or incapable of taking a proportionate and reasonable share of those public and national obligations or else "there is a screw loose somewhere," and a new spirit and a higher degree of training and of education is required.

There is nothing dishonorable in

poverty, unless it be due to vice; still the conclusion is inevitable that if our people are all too poor to even carry on a single work, such as that of a Catholic High School, they must have either failed to take full advantage of the opportunities which this new country affords to all those who desire to rise, to prosper, and to create a future for their offspring, or else they lack national institutions and the consequent means of keeping pace with the other elements that go to make up Canada's population. I would not like to assume that the former alternative is sufficiently true in general to permit of its unqualified acceptance; there, then, remains only the latter one upon which we can lean for a palliation of much that is regrettable in our existing circumstances. That is to say, we have not those national—I mean thoroughly Irish-Canadian—institutions that the French-Canadians, the Scotch, Irish, and English Protestants, and even our neighbors the Jews, to a certain extent, possess. By institutions I do not mean churches, universities, convents, colleges, and the like; I refer to those establishments commercial, social and otherwise, the existence of which leaves an impress of importance upon the history of the country and the record of its development.

It may sound mercenary to say that "money" is the only "sine qua non" of success to-day—he that success considered in regard to the individual, or to a whole section of the community. Yet such is the case. We may have "faith sufficient to remove mountains," and a good will proportionate thereto, but the stubborn fact remains that the mountains will stay exactly where they are unless we have money enough to pay for the labor of leveling them. We have our churches, our schools, our hospitals, our institutions of various kinds to support and they depend entirely upon us for their existence; but unless we can furnish the money—that is the pecuniary means—they cannot subsist, and the old Latin proverb stands good to-day "meno dot quod non habet;" if we have not the money we cannot give it. And how are we to have it unless we adopt the means of increasing wealth that is made use of by all sections of the human family in this age? We may earn wages or salaries, or else make small profits in trade or business of any kind, but these accumulations barely suffice to make both ends meet; at best they may enable us to give education to our children and leave them a small

inheritance; but they can never exercise a telling influence upon the community at large, nor help to place people on a footing of equality in the great struggle for existence and for power. We should, therefore, make it a national object to secure money—not for money's sake, but as a means, and a legitimate one, to a patriotic end.

I will give just one example to illustrate my contention. Where are our banking houses? Where are our financial institutions? Where is the distinctively Irish-Catholic establishment that wields any influence in the great arena of commercial endeavor? Not one in all this vast city; not one in all this Dominion. We certainly have individual Irish-Catholic Canadians who have attained great eminence in the commercial world; we have, here and there, an isolated instance of one of our successful men of business occupying an official position on the Board of Trade, or in some other large and influential body; we have sometimes one of our people holding a very important position in some bank, or insurance company, or great railroad organization. But these are the exceptions that serve to prove the rule. And, honorable and creditable as their careers may be, they still fall far short of constituting any special national strength, or influence in the affairs of the country.

Suppose that our various societies, associations, organizations, and national bodies, were to combine in one grand effort, and that the leading spirits in each, the men of means and of business aptitudes, were to unite and that the result were the establishment of an Irish-Canadian Bank—what would be the consequence? A training school of finance would exist for our young men; a deep and practical interest would be taken by our people in the business affairs of Canada; a great weapon of strength would be placed in the hands of our representatives, and a road would be opened whereon we might all travel with a feeling of independence. Our Churches, colleges, and benevolent institutions would reap untold benefits; our charity and our faith would assume more practical forms; and good intentions would become good deeds; in a word, we would have a status in the country that we certainly do not enjoy to-day.

This is a subject which I will develop more fully later on, and which gives rise to other considerations of no less importance to our people.

LEAGUE OF THE SACRED HEART PILGRIMAGE.

Over five hundred people attended the pilgrimage which St. Patrick's Parish held on Wednesday to the Shrine of the Sacred Heart of Jesus at Lanoraie, under the able direction of Rev. Father Driscoll. The clouds which looked very threatening as the steamer "Three Rivers" left the wharf soon gave place to the warm rays of old Sol, and everybody on board thoroughly enjoyed the delightful sail down the river.

A beautiful Shrine of the Sacred Heart was erected in the saloon of the boat and was surrounded continually by pious pilgrims. At 10:30 a.m. the Litany of the Sacred Heart, and the first part of the Rosary were recited by Rev. Fathers Quinlan and Driscoll, after which a sermon was delivered. The pilgrims arrived at Lanoraie at 1:10 p.m., and were met by the parish priest. A procession was then formed and all wended their way to the church. Here the second part of the Rosary was recited by Rev. Father Driscoll, and a most eloquent sermon was delivered by Rev. Father Armour who has recently been transferred to St. Patrick's from the diocese of Harrisburg. He took for his subject, "Devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, its end and object." He ably described the burning love that Jesus has for men and how we should strive to return that love; to give Him our heart, and to be meek and humble like Him. Solemn Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament was then celebrated by Rev. Father Driscoll; the musical portion of which was furnished by a choir composed of the orphan boys

of St. Patrick's Asylum. After a short ramble through the village, the return was made to the boat which started on the home journey at three o'clock. Two lady pilgrims who overlooked the hour of departure were unfortunately left in the village. The return trip was also most enjoyable. The third portion of the Rosary was recited at six o'clock, and the steamer arrived in Montreal at seven. All who were present agree in saying that it was the most successful pilgrimage ever held from St. Patrick's; and we are pleased to add that it was most satisfactory from a financial point of view also.

Much credit is due to the ladies who managed the refreshment table, the sale of religious articles, the sale of tickets, etc., also to the gentlemen who conducted the sale of temperance drinks and the collection of tickets. One and all deserve praise for their share in making the pilgrimage such a complete success.

Another pilgrimage will be held from St. Patrick's to the same Shrine at Lanoraie, on the 21th of August, in order to give another opportunity to those who wish to visit the shrine of the Sacred Heart.

MARRIED.

LABELLE-GRAY. — On the 8th inst., at St. Patrick's Church, by Rev. Father Quinlan, Rector, Mr. Gustave Labelle, son of Mr. Hospice Labelle, to Miss Mary Ursula Florence Gray, daughter of Mr. Henry R. Gray all of this city.

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