

THE CONNAUGHT RANGER'S CORNER.

GAELIC SOCIETY.—A convention of the Gaelic League of America was held on Tuesday, the 14th inst., in the Lexington Assembly Rooms, New York, and was attended by delegates from almost every Branch of the League in America. Owing to some misunderstanding in forwarding the credentials, they were only received by the local branch on Friday, when it was too late to select a representative. Negotiations, however, are pending to have the local organization affiliated with the Gaelic League of America.

DIVISION NO. 2, A. O. H. held a large meeting in St. Gabriel's Hall on Friday evening, President Lynch presiding. Several new candidates were initiated, and a large amount of important Division work transacted. Three Delegates were elected to represent the Division at the convention of the Irish Societies in St. Ann's Hall on Thursday evening to consider the proposition of the removal of the Emigrants' Monument from Point St. Charles.

THE CHURCH PARADE of the A. O. H. will take place on Sunday afternoon, and the route is, as was published in last week's "True Witness," to St. Anthony's Church, where the sermon for the occasion will be preached by the Rev. J. J. Lannely, P.P.

DIVISION NO. 8 held another large meeting on last Friday evening, President H. J. Hummel in the chair. Six new members were initiated, and nine propositions received. Bros. Hummel, Stanton and Clarke, were selected to represent the Division at the forthcoming convention of the Irish Societies in St. Ann's Hall, County President Rawley, was present and delivered a few remarks.

THE KNIGHTS AT WORK.—The sword exercise of the Hibernian Knights, on Sunday afternoon was very interesting, about thirty of the uniformed members being present. The drill lasted fully two hours after which the members met and selected Lieutenant McCracken and privates W. J. Malloy, and P. Burney to represent them at the meeting in St. Ann's Hall on Thursday night.

MANCHESTER MARTYRS.—I had the pleasure of attending a rehearsal of the "Irish Exile," a stirring and patriotic drama which will be produced by the Dramatic Section of the A. O. H., in the Monument National on the 23rd inst. The play abounds with exciting scenes and will be well staged. The Dramatic section are working hard, and their efforts to produce a drama worthy of the solemn anniversary which the Irish people of this city are asked to commemorate, speaks volumes for the enterprise of this patriotic association.

DIVISION NO. 8.—The weekly meeting of Division No. 8 on Wednesday evening was well attended. President Lavelle opened the meeting in Irish. Several new members were initiated, after which a short address was delivered by County President Rawley. A large attendance of visiting members was present.

DIVISION NO. 3, A. O. H. held its regular semi-monthly meeting on Wednesday evening. There was a large attendance. One new member was initiated, and several applications received. Three delegates were selected to represent the Division at the convention of the Irish Societies in connection with the removal of the Emigrants' Monument from Point St. Charles. Other important business was transacted, after which the meeting adjourned.

ST. GABRIEL DEBATING CLUB.—The St. Gabriel's Literary and Debating Club, which is composed of the St. Gabriel's '08 Club, will hold its first public meeting in St. Gabriel's Hall, on Wednesday evening, the 22nd inst. The programme is a good one. It will include songs, recitations and readings; the subject to be debated, in which all the members will take part, is "Resolved that the enforcement of compulsory education by the State is unjustifiable." A pleasant time is promised those attending, and everyone is welcome.

THE CAZOOHTA'S TRIUMPH.—Rev. Father O'Meara's new enterprise, "The Cazoohta," in St. Gabriel's, this week, was a splendid success. The ladies of the parish are jubilant over the attendance for the past four nights. On Monday night a banquet under the auspices of the

ladies, was held, at which over 700 sat down. On Tuesday evening a promenade concert was given, at which the gentlemen of St. Patrick's choir, assisted by local talent, rendered a select programme of music. This was also a grand success. On Wednesday evening a "Bazaar and 45" party was held. The admission of the last mentioned good old Irish game doing some hard thumping on the tables. Thursday night was a splendid affair, taking in the principal features of the other three evenings. The flower, cigar and other booths under the direction of the ladies were largely patronized.

ST. MARY'S CONFERENCE. St. Vincent de Paul Society, will hold a concert on Monday evening in St. Peter Hall, corner of Panet and St. Rose Streets. This organization should be warmly supported in its undertaking as it provides the necessities of life for many a poor home during the severe winter months. Give them a crowded house.

ST. PATRICK'S T. A. B. SOCIETY.—The regular monthly meeting of the St. Patrick's T. A. B. Society was held Sunday afternoon, November 12th. The meeting opened with religious exercises in the church conducted by the Rev. Director Rev. Father Hallissey, who in the course of his remarks drew attention to the coming mission, and the vast amount of good the members could do during such a season of grace. After the instructions the members adjourned to the hall, where the business meeting was held. Mr. J. Walsh, Vice-President presided, and there was a very large attendance. Two new members were admitted to the Benefit Branch. The question of the removal of the Emigrants' memorial at Point St. Charles was discussed, and J. Walsh, J. H. Kelly and W. P. Doyle, were appointed delegates to represent the society at the meeting to be held in St. Ann's Hall. The annual religious temperance celebration of the Society will take place in St. Patrick's Church, on Sunday evening, November 19th. Members of St. Ann's and St. Gabriel's T. A. B. Societies will attend in full regalia. A special sermon will be preached by the Rev. St. Hallissey, reverend director, who during his short time in the parish, has proved himself an ardent worker in the cause. A special musical service will be rendered under the able direction of Prof. J. A. Fowler. On Tuesday evening, November 21, an open meeting and complimentary concert will be held under the auspices of the Society. All friends are invited. A good programme of music, song and speech has been prepared, in which some of our best local talent will take part. The entertainment will commence at 8 o'clock.

C. M. B. A. ANNUALS.—This is a busy month amongst the members of the C. M. B. A. Grand Council of Quebec. The officers on whose shoulders will lay the responsibility of steering, for the next term, this good old ship of Catholic Insurance will be nominated during the month. In consequence the greatest interest and activity prevails amongst the members. On last Wednesday evening two of the local Branches held meetings. Branch No. 10, which nominated its officers, and Branch No. 4, St. Jean Baptiste Parish, will hold a special meeting towards the end of the month when the officers will be selected.

A WORD TO SOCIETIES.—I have again this week received a report of a meeting of one of our Catholic Societies, with a request to give it space in my corner, but as it had already appeared in the columns of the secular press, I must emphatically refuse to do so. The "True Witness" wants all the Irish Catholic Society news in the district and will try and secure it for its readers. But when some over-zealous members think they benefit their organization by giving it to the secular press, they are wrong. I have endeavored in the past, to do ample justice to every Catholic society, and will try to do so in the future. But once and for all I say, no society news, published in the secular press, will find space in my corner. We aim to make the "True Witness" a journal representative of the Irish people and in our efforts we know we have the sympathy of every good and true man in our Catholic societies.

CONNAUGHT RANGERS.

soul. The English speaking population of Montreal is rising at last to the needs of the time. A splendid High School has been erected, side by side with a Catholic English College. Education has made prodigious strides, but it is not too much to say, that our English Catholic Free Library is an educator. Boys and girls cannot read if books are not provided and cannot improve themselves without the means. Now, it is the English speaking Catholics' own fault, if they have not a splendid library, which will be their pride in days to come. The nucleus has been made. Let them give their help and it will grow and develop marvelously, and with but a trifling aid from each. To give an idea of what is already on the shelves, I will take the headings of some of the departments, as well as the names of some of the authors. As regards the last, some are excluded altogether, while some works of some authors are all that can be safely included in the catalogue. The censorship is of course, most rigorous in the children's department, but is sufficiently exhaustive in all departments to prevent the introduction of what is bad. The department of Scripture comes first, popular editions of the Bible, with some very valuable and ancient ones in Gaelic and Arabic. **SCRIPTURAL HELPS** contains such books as Father Vaughan's charming "Divine Armory of Scripture"; Father Brennan's explanation of the Gospels; Father MacLevitt's Introduction to the Scriptures; Father Bridge's Ritual of the New Testament.

THE LIFE OF OUR LORD forms another department, in which all those exquisite writings of Father Coleridge have distinct prominence amongst many others.

CHURCH HISTORY has two or three of the great standard works of general church history, and volumes by such specialists as Gilmary Shea, on the Church of the United States; Dodd on English Church History; and H. Newman on the Church of the Fathers.

HAGIOLOGY offers the lives of nearly all the saints, the most modern edition of such lives being added yearly. Akin to this is

CATHOLIC BIOGRAPHY with the best lives of those uncanonized ones, who have illustrated church annals. **DEVOTIONS** contains numberless works of the best authorities on the devotions dear to the heart of Catholics.

ASCETICISM is a rich collection, containing works of Liguori, Francis de Sales, Alphonsus Rodriguez, Ignatius, Fisher, Manning, Wiseman, Landriot, Rootham, Ramiere, Balguy, Bowden, Perreye.

EDUCATION is a comprehensive department. Fenelon is side by side with Samuel Smiles, Rev. G. Dehon with Sir John Lubbock, Herbert Spencer with Rev. G. Conway, William Matthews and Dr. Holland with Dupanloup, Maurice Francis Egan, Brother Azarias, Lambing, O'Connor and O'Neil.

DOCTRINE AND POLEMICS both show an array of learning. Dupanloup, Newman, Milner, Spaulding, Gibbons and Wilberforce, Hecker and Alfred Young, James Kent Stone and Faa di Bruno, Rivington and Galway, Bowden and Hyder and Edmund Hill. Philosophy has Brownson and Balme and Hecker and Rickaby, and Ruskin, and Mallock and Schlegel.

MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE with astronomy, engineering, surveys, geography, chemistry, physics, geology, paleontology, mineralogy, and natural history, have each their own number of expert works. In the latter department care is taken to provide some simple and instructive works for the little folk.

GENERAL AND MISCELLANEOUS HISTORY is one of the most complete departments, where most truly both sides of the question may be studied. Robertson, Gibbon, Greene, Lingard, Magnall, Abbott, Macaulay, Dom Gasquet, Fredet, Christie, Rolin, Parkman, Cobbett, Knight, MacGeoghegan, McGee, Gavan Duffy, Justin McCarthy, de Tocqueville, Shea, Bancroft, Dwight, A. M. Sullivan, Morrill, Petrie, O'Curry, Maguire, Kinglake, Colfin, Frost, Bourinot, Lemoine.

In general biography, enough to cite such authors as Lord Campbell, Carlyle, Kingsley, Irving, Melrod, Samuel Johnson, Imbert de St. Armand, Belknap, Allen, Inghit, Melme Barry Barry, O'Meara, Augusta Drane, (Mother Raphael Francis) Henry Morgan.

VOYAGES AND TRAVELS, are abundant and varied. I will mention the names of two travellers here, Robert Louis Stevenson and Charles Warren Stoddard.

LITERATURE, shows specimens of Addison, Bacon, Emerson, Lamb, Macaulay, Disraeli, Brownson, Sydney Smith, Dana, Stoddard, O'Malley, Norton, Mrs. Sherwood, Ruskin, Schlegel, G. W. Curtis, Agnes Reelfin, Hazlitt, M. F. Egan, Azarias Pallen, Gies, Holmes, Tishnor, Lang, Sala, Stanley, Howitt. This department includes many delightful memories and autobiographies.

USEFUL ARTS AND TRADES is the heading of another department, immediately followed by the FINE ARTS, wherein are to be found, Ruskin and Flayman, Mrs. Jamieson, Dr. Lardner, Eliza Allen Starr, and a host of lesser names.

CYCLOPEDIAS, DICTIONARIES, PERIODICALS AND REVIEWS come under another head.

POETRY contains the principal English classics, with translations of course of Dante, Calderon, etc., besides the chief American song writers and an exceedingly good representation of our Catholic poets, such as Aubrey de Vere, Boyle O'Reilly, McGee, Egan, Jeffrey Roche, Louise Imogen Guiney, Katherine Tynan Hinkson, Mrs. Meynell, Father Ryan, Father Russell, Newman and Faber. Fiction is necessarily the largest department. It is the rule here to include every Catholic author. As soon as a new work is advertised it is put on the list, for that is one way of helping Catholic literature. All the old favorites are there, Mrs. Craven, and Lady Georgiana Fullerton and Mrs. Dorsey, and Mrs. Sudior, with Christian Reid, Egan,

Lecky, Griffin, Crawford, Julia Kavanagh, Justin McCarthy, Mrs. Wilfrid Ward, Father Barry, Frances Ker-shan, Miles Gerald Keon, Wiseman, Mullholand, Talbot Smith, R. M. Johnston, Lady Herbert, Kathleen O'Meara, C. L. Dorsey, Father Finn, the Stewart Sisters, Alice Cochran, Mary Caddell, M. A. Tinker, Jules Verne, Guiney, Fernan Catterero, M. G. Francis, Mrs. Cashel, Bannin, Hock Schmidt, Bresciani, Mary Catherine Crowley, Julia Hardin, Bugg, F. G. Grey, Marie Molly Elliot Seawell, and a host of others.

However the department of fiction is not confined to Catholic authors. But all unobjectionable works by standard contemporary authors are included, Scott, Dickens, Thackeray, Cooper, Hawthorne, George Eliot, Bulwer Lytton, Lever, Carleton, Stevenson, Howells, Jane Austen, Edgeworth, Poe, Kingsley, Corvantes, De-foe, Goldsmith, Black, Henry James, Conan Doyle, Haring-Gould, Stockton, Kipling, Holmes, Balestr, Ian Mac Laren, Barrie Oliphant, Crockett, R. M. Johnston, Egbert Craddock, Nelson Page, Mary Wilkins, Joel Chandler Harris, Harding Davis, Grace Aquilas, Julian Sturgis, Constance Fenimore Woolson, Burton Harrison, Molesworth, Ewing Alcott, Barb, Lathrop, Henry, Burnett, Roe, Capt. King, Wm. H. Frost, Strange, Winter, Aldrich, Lyall, Miss Mulock, Lew Wallace, Anstey, Ballantyne, Kingston, Mayne Reid, Murray, Oliver Optic, Baldewood, J. K. Jerome, K. Douglas Wiggin, Egerton Castle, Lillie, Katherine Macquoid, Weyman, Anthony Hope, Trollope, Clark Russell, Ruth McInery Stuart, Helen Hunt Jackson, Bret Harte, Samuel Warren, Mrs. Gaskell, Octave Thanael Hopkinson Smith, Fothergill, Maxwell Gray, R. N. Cary, David Lyall, Mark Twain, Herman Melville, Dr. Holland, Catherine Noble, Thorne-miller, Clementina Black, Winston Churchill, Beatrice Hanaden, Caroline Tieknor, H. Janvier, Marion Harland, with, of course, many others.

As will be observed some names are rigorously excluded from the catalogue and we are very far from including all the works of all the authors here given. Some would be quite unsuitable for the particular aims of this library, others grossly objectionable. On this point the rule is inexorable. Whatever violates Christian morality, whatever inculcates unbelief, is rigorously banished. Otherwise as wide a latitude as possible is permitted with some discrimination in the giving out of books.

Thus, the puerile exhibitions of an unenlightened bigotry, which often disfigures the most brilliant of modern fiction, are not taken seriously in excluding books, except such bigotry descends to positive sanity or where it puts in a false light some great historical personage or event.

Long as this article seems, many more pages might be written on the methods and aims of the library, its struggles, the evidences which it has had of the good accomplished. Golden words might be said of the library staff, who give their labors. But this is a detail of the great scheme of the work which has been carried on so unostentatiously and quietly, appealing but little to the public.

It only asks even now a fuller recognition and encouragement, with substantial aid from those who can. If they will but turn aside, in the midst of their many good works, all deserving, to say of the library, here is something which makes for the moral, intellectual, and religious instruction of the English speaking people as well as for their pleasure.

A. T. S.

NOVEMBER'S DREAM.

I gaze from where Mount Royal's height
Looks westward far away,
To yon bright verge behind whose edge,
Descends the closing day.
Serene and sombre stretches far
November's naked scene,
The majesty of silence rolls
The deepening space between.

Low at my feet the city's dead
Look up from marbles white,
To ashens skies that darker grow,
As quickening comes the night,—
O! Golden West! Hope's gate un-
flung!

I gaze with wistful sight,
And fain across the plains would
chase
Thy fast, receding light.
Across the plains,—the years in
sooth—
I'd backward fly once more,
Beyond thy beckoning flood of gold,
To Fanny's distant shore.
Ah! sweet would be the greeting
there,
If old friends led the way—
November's chill would quickly
change
To Spring's exulting May.

Yon rift of light to grander day
Would burst with glad surprise,
Yon lowering sun would sink to
blaze,
From Youth's perennial skies.—
But lo! 'tis past—the light! the
gold!
Hope's gates are tightly drawn,
November's day has run its course,
November's dream is gone.

—CONNOR CREGAN

The Superior General of the Redemptorists has established a novitiate at Hochelaga, near this city. Before, the young men desirous of joining this Order had to cross to Belgium.

The Nuns of St. Agnes' School, St. Antoine Street, will hold one of their delightful entertainments on the 23rd inst. The proceeds will go to the St. Anthony's Young Men's Society.

Read Mansfield's advertisement in this week's issue. He offers bargains in special lines which cannot be equalled in any shoe store in Montreal. Mention the "True Witness" in making a purchase.

The FAMOUS TISSOT PICTURES

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PIANOS.

SHIP FEVER VICTIMS' MEMORIAL.

As we go to press a meeting of representatives of Irish National Societies is being held at St. Ann's Hall, to consider an offer from the Grand Trunk Railway in connection with the removal of the memorial which marks the resting place of the remains of the unfortunate victims of the ship fever scourge of '47.

C.M.B.A., BRANCH 26.

On Monday night, the 13th inst., Branch 26 celebrated the 10th anniversary of its foundation by a Grand At Home and Social in Heenan's Conservatory Hall. The event was an unqualified success, and reflected great credit on the membership of the Branch and its large circle of friends. These entertainments are always looked forward to, by the intimates of the C. M. B. A. with pleasant anticipations, and this year, those who attended last Monday's reception had their expectations of a good time realized to their heart's content.

There were some 67 couples present and, as the younger element whiled away the hours in gliding over the waxen surface in a series of old and new dances, the Chancellors, chaperones and others were entertained with progressive ouchre.

The evening's programme commenced with a Grand March and Promenade led off by Mr. Geo. Carpenter, Grand Deputy, and Mrs. Carpenter, who were followed by Mrs. D. J. McGillis, Mr. and Mrs. Martin Egan, Mr. and Mrs. P. Reynolds, Mr. and Mrs. A. D. McGillis, Mr. and Mrs. James Callahan, Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Costigan, Mr. and Mrs. McCullough, Mr. and Mrs. B. Tansey, Mr. and Mrs. T. P. Tansey, Mr. and Mrs. Griffin, Mr. and Mrs. Feeley, Mr. and Mrs. Hughes, Mr. and Mrs. Dolan, Mr. and Mrs. Shorthall and many others. The procession being completed by a host of bright young folks.

Mr. J. J. Costigan in a few well chosen remarks, welcomed the guests and the dancing was begun and continued until "the wee" sine hours," the only interruption being for refreshments.

The music was furnished by Casey's String Orchestra and was very favorably commented on by all especially after the Cotillion, which was indulged in by nearly all the euche players, for, unable to resist the strains of the old time favorites, they left their cards and joined in the grand chain.

A recherche supper was served by Bro. W. J. Shea. The gentleman's euche prize which was a handsome mirror, was won by P. J. McDonough, who scored eleven straight games, and the ladies' a valuable clock, was carried off by Mrs. R. J. Dolan.

The Hon. Mr. and Mrs. M. F. Hackett had been expected but, owing to great pressure of business, the Grand President sent a letter of regret in which he conveyed to the Branch, his best wishes for a pleasant and profitable evening, and assured them that both he and Mrs.

Hackett appreciated most heartily their kind invitation.

The members of Branch 26, have once more to be congratulated on the manner in which they have acquitted themselves of their self-imposed task of entertaining their friends and have proven themselves worthy of their wide reputation for hospitality and good-fellowship.

The D. & L. Emulsion of Cod Liver Oil may be taken with most beneficial results by those who are run down or suffering from after effects of La Grippe. Made by Davis & Lawrence Co., Ltd.

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ANNUAL CHURCH PARADE.

In Commemoration of the Manchester Martyrs.

Officers and Members of the various Divisions, and HIBERNIAN KNIGHTS, are requested to meet at Hibernian Knights Hall, 2042 Notre Dame Street, on Sunday, 19th inst., at 2 p.m. to form in line and proceed to St. Anthony's Church, where Religious Service will be held.

W. RAWLEY, County President. JAS. McIVER, County Secretary.

St. Mary's Irish Conference of St. Vincent de Paul Society

WILL GIVE AN ENJOYABLE

CONCERT,

IN AID OF THE POOR,

MONDAY, Nov. 20th, 1899.

ST. PETER'S HALL, corner of Panet and St. Rose Streets.
Tickets 10c. Doors open 7:30. Concert at 8. D. MURPHY, Secretary.

MONTREAL FREE LIBRARY

To the Editor of the "True Witness."

Sir,—To the English-speaking Catholic element of this city belongs the honor of having established the first FREE, CATHOLIC, CIRCULATING LIBRARY. I believe I may say the first, free circulating library in the country. It has been founded and maintained in face of a very "sea of troubles." It has now a circulation of some 20,000 yearly. It has many thousands of readers in all parts of the city, of varying creeds and nationalities, though, of course, chiefly Catholic. It has grown and developed. But the demand for books has become so great that it is fast becoming impossible to meet it adequately with present resources. New books must be supplied. Duplicates of old favorites must be provided. Printing, lighting, and a score of minor expenses must be met. Do most of those who heard of the library consider at what a sacrifice it has been maintained? Only an intimate conviction of its great usefulness indeed could have sustained its pro-

jectors in their efforts during these eleven years. How many things have come to their knowledge, which have consoled them for their sacrifices. For one thing, they have seen their example imitated amongst their French Catholic brethren and in various other quarters. Do those who are asked to contribute a half dollar, perhaps, in the year, realize what vast good they are helping to do. For a Catholic library is truly an apostolic work. Never was there a time when the old truth, that "the pen is mightier than the sword," was more manifest than now. Persecution literature floods the country, newspapers and magazines exercise an often baleful influence. The Sovereign Pontiff, the Bishops of the Catholic world have said it upon many occasions that good reading is the great apostleship of the day. Besides this, it makes for the mental improvement, especially of the young, and is a truly patriotic work in that sense. It brings pleasure of the best kind into many a joyless home. It feeds the mind and uplifts the