

The True Witness

AND CATHOLIC CHRONICLE

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NOTE WELL.—Matter intended for publication should reach us not later than 5 o'clock Wednesday afternoon

CORRESPONDENCE and items of local Catholic interest solicited.



THURSDAY, APRIL 25, 1907.

AS TO CHURCH MIGRATION AND OTHER MATTERS.

The Daily Witness and Le Canada—a formidable combination, we admit, when mutually sympathetic—were disturbed last week by an article appearing in the True Witness

announcing the decline of religion in connection with the abandonment of churches.

The Daily Witness quotes us as an "organ," while Le Canada avers that we are not at all musical. The characterization, however, is immaterial.

Far be it from us to give our Protestant friends any cause for resentment or lay ourselves open to a charge of unchristian spirit in our remarks or criticism. But the continued desertion of churches is as sure a sign of religious decline—in the localities where these church edifices are located—as that the sun will shine on the morrow.

Our strictures did not contemplate the area of the city, where there certainly are vital spots, but it referred to the environments of the churches in question, which must have been established to satisfy a demand.

Religion is a business—a business of the most serious kind, and no business man deserts an established locality while his business is prosperous, but when a serious and demoralizing decline is noted, he seeks other fields.

The Daily Witness says true Protestantism does not measure itself by stone and mortar. Neither does true Catholicity, but we are forced to a great extent to measure the vitality of the Catholic Church by the prompted and utter annihilation of space within the walls created by stones and mortar.

The Daily Witness says, "Roman Catholic church property is valued at \$3,652,150, and if spiritual life and vigor are to be measured by church stones and mortar, there is two and a quarter times as much vitality in Protestantism." For the information of our duo of critics, we would say that, from figures furnished us by the City Comptroller, the Catholic Church property of the city of Montreal is valued at 54 millions of dollars, with no buildings bearing signs "to let," "for sale," et cetera. According to these figures the Daily Witness' figures on a pro-rata basis appear rather faulty.

It is far from our minds to cause any ill-feelings, or to appear hypercritical, but facts are patent things, and "he who runs may read."

IRISH CARICATURE IN PUBLICATIONS.

To the Editor:

Dear Sir,—Within the past fortnight I have seen in widely circulated American magazines two highly objectionable pictures, purporting to represent typical Irish scenes. One of these was illustrating a folk-tale of my own in the Sunday Magazine, a supplement to eight or nine leading papers in the chief cities of

America. It appeared a couple of months ago, but it was only recently I saw it. The other appeared, illustrating an Irish story, in the Saturday Evening Post of Philadelphia a week or two ago, and showed two factions of Irishmen smashing one another's heads among the graves, and over the tombstones of a sacred burying ground. It was far and away the vilest of the two.

Irish-Americans can confidently reckon on this kind of outrage being regularly served up to them in the columns of the magazines, if they do not seriously and systematically set about ending it. To stop it is the easiest thing in the world. The American editor spends his life trying to get and hold his finger on the public pulse. If he finds these pictures are wanted, he'll give the public plenty of them. If he finds that the patient won't have them, he'll speedily stop them.

If on every occasion on which an offending picture appears every Irishman and Irishwoman, whose feelings are hurt, wrote a sensible, unambitious, firm letter of indignant protest and earnestly asked the editor not to outrage wantonly the feelings of a people who have done so much for the upbuilding of this great country and who occupy such a large and such an honorable place in the life of the country, the caricatures will disappear with a suddenness as surprising as it will be pleasing. It will not be enough to write such a letter on one occasion and forget to write it on two other occasions.

As it is the first opportunity I found, I have just written to the editors of the Sunday Magazine and the Saturday Evening Post of Philadelphia. I forbade the former ever again to employ upon any story of mine the artist who offended, informing him that I'd sooner burn my manuscripts and take a navy job than supply either ill-disposed or ignorant artists with the means of caricaturing our people. I told the editor of the Saturday Evening Post that our people are not the brutes, savages or scoundrels that his artist made them appear. I informed him that he had probably pained thousands of readers by the disgraceful picture and that he would be very likely to lose by it more readers than he cared to lose.

Letters along this line, I assure you, get home to the editors. I trust that some hundreds of your readers will be moved to follow the advice given and on every necessary occasion write a strong, sensible letter of protest to the editor of the magazine in which wanton offense is given. They will have reasons to be satisfied with results, I prophesy.

Yours faithfully, SEUMAS MACMANUS.

MORALS OF COLLEGE STUDENTS.

James R. Day, Chancellor of Syracuse University, denounces the moral conditions at many non-Catholic colleges. He says:

"I need mention no names, but we are all apprised of the depraved conditions and the scenes of debauchery in many of our universities. While heads of colleges seem zealous in guiding the students along lines of study, few there are who place morals first. I venture to say that if the college presidents would unite along a common line of thought and action this dissipation among the students could be wiped out in thirty days. At Syracuse, thank God, we place morals first. A student prior to entrance must show that he is morally equipped as well as intellectually, and once in the school he must maintain the strict standard required or get out. At a majority of the other universities, however, the student is allowed to come and go as he pleases—to spend his nights in riotous living, to drink, enter pool rooms, and waste much energy that should be devoted to his studies."

Drunkenness, profanity, lewd talk, and impurity are widely prevalent among students at these institutions. Yet there are Catholic parents who send their sons to them by preference over Catholic colleges, either not knowing that immorality obtains there or not caring for it so long as their boys get the social or

school advantages at the non-Catholic schools. Now there is a social superiority there, judged by the two standards of riches and official position, but there is no educational pre-eminence. There is no school in the United States—Harvard, Yale, Princeton, Chicago, Johns Hopkins or any other—that excels Georgetown, Fordham, Notre Dame and the Catholic University, says the Catholic Columbian. For Catholic parents, then, to send their boys to institutions where their morals are in danger of being corrupted, when there is no dearth of Catholic schools, is a sin and a shame.

ALDERMAN GALLERY'S ALERTNESS.

The City of Montreal should give an official vote of thanks to Alderman Gallery for his prompt action in having confiscated a huge cargo of poisonous, rotting salmon which was placed on sale in the city last week.

Had the poisonous food reached the tables of our citizens, it is not difficult to conjecture what the results would have been.

Actions like these are what commend public servants to the everlasting gratitude of a community, and we hope that Ald. Gallery will receive a just meed of recognition for his interest in the public welfare.

On behalf of the readers of the True Witness, we present our sincere thanks to Alderman Gallery.

GAELIC MISSION TO CANADA.

The Very Rev. Father Campbell, S.J., of Glasgow, is shortly leaving Scotland on a Gaelic mission to the Catholic Gaelic-speaking Gaels of Canada, of which it is estimated there are about 200,000. Besides conducting the mission, which will be in the national tongue of Scotland throughout, Father Campbell will prepare the way for an entente cordiale between the Catholic Gaels of Scotland and those of Canada, with a view to the formation of a society which shall be at once Catholic and national, and which will devote itself to the promotion of the Gaelic cause in Scotland and Canada. Father Campbell will be absent from Scotland six months, and comes to Canada at the invitation, sanctioned by Rome, of a number of Canadian Gaelic-speaking priests.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

An association of Catholic ladies was recently formed in New York with a view of bringing Catholic influence to bear against the divorce evil and other works in aid of the Church. The association is known as the Daughters of the Faith. At a meeting last week Archbishop Farley delivered the principal address, which dwelt on the importance of Catholic education. In the course of his remarks he said:

"I cannot speak too strongly on the subject of the necessity of sending Catholic children to Catholic academies. There is, I regret to say, a constant and I fear growing tendency to violate this most binding duty."

"Let no motive, social, financial or political, lead you to fling your children into the jaws of infidelity and atheism."

"Only a few weeks ago a mother came to me almost in despair, entreating that a Mass be said for her daughter. She had sent the girl to a woman's college—I will not mention its name, but it was an institution on the order of Vassar, Smith and Bryn Mawr—and in six months her faith had been tampered with to such an extent that she refused to accompany her mother to confession on Holy Thursday."

"Again I enjoin upon you, don't relax your vigilance in this direction."

The words of the Archbishop should serve as a warning to any Catholic mother who is contemplating sending her daughter to a Protestant educational institution.

The following from the Standard and Times, Philadelphia, well expresses our own views. At last a step has been taken by the city authorities to grapple with the epidem-

ic of immoral postal cards. Strange that while the cry of smallpox or spinal meningitis mutes our guardians instantly rush to the ramparts to grapple with an invisible foe, the deadly enemy of the soul that can be both seen and felt is left to work its ravages all over the city, boldly staring at the public from every petty store window. And, stranger still, those impure and obscene things are sold across the counters, in most places, by young girls, who seem to have no feeling that modesty is outraged by the merchandise they are deputed to handle. The Director of Public Safety has shown that he does not confine his estimate of danger to the general health to the physical side of human nature. Apathy as to moral sanitation has been too long existent. Long ago the postal authorities at Washington gave warning as to the danger of this postal-card display by laying down rules for the exclusion of the objectionable kinds. Every city should have immediately taken steps to check the evil at its source.

Joseph Dwight, son of Professor Thomas Dwight, of Harvard Medical School, Boston, after mature reflection, and under wise spiritual guidance, has entered the monastery of the Trappists, Our Lady of the Valley, Lonsdale, R.I. Mr. Dwight is twenty-one years of age. The Trappist novice is tested for the hard life of his choice, and a considerable time must pass before he is allowed to make the perpetual vows of religion.

It is rather noticeable that these convert sons and daughters of the Puritans are drawn to austere lives in the Church. A near relative of the young candidate for the Trappist Order is a Carmelite nun, as is also another daughter of a well-known Boston convert, whose family were early followers of Channing, the Unitarian leader.

The Rev. James Kent Stone, Union soldier, and later Episcopal clergyman and college president, has found his mission in the strict congregation of the Passionists, as Father Fidelis, now at the head of the Eastern Province, Rose Hawthorne Lathrop, Mother M. Alphonsa, is at the head of a community of Dominican Nuns who devote themselves to poor cancer patients in the poorest districts of New York.

"The new Catholic Apostolic French Church, headed by the Archbishop Vilatte, has come to an end," is the way in which a cable despatch from Paris announces the failure of the experiment made by the versatile "Archbishop" in the matter of starting a brand new French church, which was to take the place of the Catholic Church.

Sure enough, Vilatte is about to abandon his "pastures new" in Paris and return to his old stamping grounds in the United States.

The despatch from which we have quoted above states that the "Archbishop" intends to start soon for America. . . The reader may be disposed to believe that with Vilatte's madorous record staring the American public in the face he will have no chance of charming dollars from the pockets of anti-Catholic big game. The "Archbishop" knows better. His past experience has convinced him of the gullibility of the class among whom he will work after his return to these shores.—Freeman's Journal.

Father Phelan's Western Watchman thinks "there must be an anti-Merry del Val cabal in Rome. Scarcely a week has gone by in the past year that we have not been told that he was either to resign, or be dismissed. True, the Cardinal Secretary of State is young, and has never had much diplomatic training, but the cause of all those hypocritical tears is the terrible but undeniable fact that he is not an Italian. He is not considered a Spaniard, as he is never included among the Spanish contingent in the sacred college. He is certainly not an Englishman. Then what is he? He

has spent most of his life in Rome, and he is more Italian than anything else; and we do not think he will be forced out of his place by the Italian cabal while the present Pope lasts."

Archbishop Farley at the Peace Conference last week said:

Public opinion we must cultivate, but any genuine and durable public opinion must eventually have a basis of religion. Otherwise it will be only a series of popular ebullitions, a form of psychology of the mob, that to-day shouts for "Liberty" and to-morrow goes drunk over its violent extinction.

We ought to welcome all organized religious efforts in the interest of a general peace, for all such effort is essentially Christian, and supremely humane and uplifting.

The Holy See is still the working head of the great Catholic body, over 250,000,000 of souls, and its moral authority was never greater. All these countless millions would surely welcome the recognition of the Holy See as a factor in international arbitration.

"Any man with blood in his veins would do the same as the defendants before me are charged with. No man, especially an Irishman, would sit still and witness a performance that was ridiculing his mother and sister. From what I learn of the sketch it was indecent, vulgar and shocking to the extreme."

These are the words of Judge Fleming, of Brooklyn, in discharging Edward Bergen, John Harrington, William Fleming, Paul Donahue, Patrick O. Winslow, Daniel Managan, Hugh Coyle, William Bryan and Patrick Naughton, who were charged with having created a disturbance in a theatre when they drove "The Irish Servant Girl" from the stage.

Rev. Alexander R. Goldie, M.A., of Trinity College, Cambridge, formerly vicar of Elvaston, Derby, and rector of Gawsforth, Macclesfield, is one of the latest converts to the Catholic faith. He was received into the Church on March 8, at Bath, by the Rev. Dunstan Sweeney, O.S.B. Among the immediate causes of his conversion was the reading of Froude's "History of England." The anti-Catholic, violently partisan Froude was a signpost pointing out to Mr. Goldie the right direction, and he trusts that Froude may do the same good turn to many others.

In a local daily's report of the Torrey campaign, we find the following:

Other requests were for prayers for a celebrated brewer, a noted atheist, a Sunday-school superintendent who played cards and attended theatres, and an influential deacon who held card parties in his home. Lastly, a Catholic lady requested prayers for herself and her husband, that they might see the light.

We were unaware heretofore that we had any Dowiesites in Canada.

At present there are in France only three or four Catholic papers of note: La Croix, L'Univers, La Libre Parole and Le Gaulois. We were sadly surprised to learn through the Luzerner Vaterland, a Catholic paper of Switzerland, which claims to have absolutely reliable information on this point, that L'Univers has 3200 subscribers, all told, although the paper is in existence seventy years.

The Vermont Catholic Review, published at Burlington, Vt, which started some few months ago, gives evidence of prosperity. We note the names of Rev. J. Aloysius Lynch and Rev. R. J. Cahill, D.D., appearing as editors, and T. E. Scully as business manager. This combination should give the Vermont Catholics a thoroughly appreciated paper.

The report sent out from Rome by some enterprising press association that Mgr. Sbarretti, the Papal delegate in Canada, who is at present in Rome, would not return to this country, is, of course, incorrect. Mgr. Sbarretti will come back with the Premier, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, who is now in London attending the imperial conference.

Advertisement for Penmanship books, Dominion Edition of Payson, Dunton and Serbiner's System of Penmanship. Published by D. & J. SABLIER & CO., 13 Notre Dame St. West, MONTREAL.

Advertisement for Wedding Stationery, Reception Cards, Announcements. Correct Form, High-Grade Material, Best Workmanship. Prompt and Careful Attention to Orders. THE TRUE WITNESS PRINTING AND PUBLISHING COMPANY.

Advertisement for J. J. GARLAND GRAVEL ROOFING and all kinds of Calvanized Iron Work. Damp Proof Flooring a Specialty. Also Portland Cement Work. 27 & 29 St. James St. Montreal.

Advertisement for Where to Dine in the City. ST. ELMO RESTAURANT, Corner McGill and RECULLET. Premier Clemenceau, fearing that conflict between Church and State might result in disturbances, has forbidden the civil or military authorities to participate in the annual historical processions and festivities in celebration of the deliverance of the city from the English by Joan of Arc (May 8, 1429), in which the clergy take a prominent part.

Advertisement for Mothers Feel Safe. Mothers who have used Baby's Own Tablets for their little ones say they feel safe with the Tablets at hand, for they are a never failing cure for all the minor ills of babyhood and childhood. Mrs. Ursula Crossman, New Hamburg, Ont., says: "I have used Baby's Own Tablets for stomach trouble and constipation with marked success. I always feel that my little one is safe when I have a box of the Tablets in the house."

Advertisement for THE SOVEREIGN, Randolph Macdonald, D. Capital Subscribed, Capital Fully Paid, Reserve Fund, Assets over, General Bank, Inq.

Advertisement for His Grace Archbishop Bruchesi, Asks for Censorship Production, Matter Under Consideration of the Aldermen.

His Grace has addressed to Mayor Ekers and the city asking that censorship be established examinations of plays playhouses. His Grace follows: "To the Mayor and the city of Montreal: Gentlemen,—The more I am to be favorable you a project in the public morals, and which is very important; I wish of the establishment of of theatrical censorship. "Certain incidents which happened have given this measure and have necessity for it.

"Also I know for a large number of citizens only asked for it, and of the theatres themselves, it, as is shown by the I have received and of ward you copies herewith. "Among your duties that of maintaining One of the means of public morals would be effective control exercised theatrical performances, about a city as Montreal, where trees are already numerous become more so.

"I therefore pray you powers to establish for in the city, according to means at your disposal, committee charged with ation before hand of th of plays which it is int to be performed. "As we can count on men, when on your good your devotion, when it in the defence of a ca and so important as the tie morals, I am confident will give to my request serious attention. (Signed) "Archbishop of

As an evidence that of nations favor the move, appends the following fr thodist Department of and Moral Reform:

Toronto, April "My dear Archbishop, ed to learn that you ha in establishing a censor the plays produced in in your city. In Toront sent there is a movement purpose of reaching the also prohibiting children years of age from attendi

"I have been asked by city aldermen to assist movement, and I, therefor you requesting that you ly furnish me with a stat the method adopted for c this idea. "Permit me to assure y high admiration with wh viewed your temperance p and to wish you the grea ble success. A meeting mittee to deal with the th tem will be held some week, and I should be obliged if you would give ly reply. "Yours faithfully, (Signed) "S. D. C

Letters from Mr. R. Riv sending the management of theatres, and Mr. Paul Car behalf of the Theatre Nat tioning the proposed cens also transmitted.