

SEBASTIAN MARTINELLI,

SUPERIOR GENERAL OF THE AUGUSTINIAN ORDER,

Visits Montreal—Brother to the Late Cardinal Martinelli—Second Governor-General of the Augustinians to Cross the Atlantic.

The Most Rev. Sebastian Martinelli, Superior General of the Augustinian Order, spent part of last week in Montreal. He was the guest of Mr. Forde, of Sherbrooke street, and was accompanied by the Very Rev. Abbott J. J. Fedigar, Atlantic City, N. J.

The rev. gentleman spoke highly of Montreal, and speaking of his reception in the various countries he has visited, he said that in Ireland he received the greatest and heartiest welcome, both from the Fathers of his own Order and from the people. During his visit here the illustrious prelate was conducted through the various institutions of St. Sulpice by the Rev. Fathers James and Martin Callaghan.

The Most Rev. Martinelli sailed from Italy on June 21 of the present year, and arrived in New York on the feast of St. Peter and Paul. He is the only Augustinian General save one (the Most Rev. Paul Micallef, who visited South America in 1859) that ever crossed to this side of the Atlantic; and he came for a visitation of the houses of his Order and to preside at the Chapter convened at Villanova College on July 25. Dr. Martinelli is in the very prime of his manhood and usefulness, and possesses a charming personality—a gracious mingling of dignity and ascetic simplicity. He speaks English with ease and fluency; and his many and brilliant gifts acquire a fresh emphasis and adornment from the unaffected modesty of his bearing. Sebastian Martinelli is the ninety-ninth Superior General of the Augustinian Order. The first was elected at the date of the union of the Order of St. Augustin in 1254. He was born in 1848 at Lucca, Tuscany, and is brother to the late Cardinal Toumaso Maria Martinelli and to Father Aurelius Martinelli, now Director-General of the Pius Union.

Sebastian went to Rome when he was fifteen years of age, and has dwelt for thirty-one years in the Eternal City. Most of his time has been spent in teaching. He was resident Regent of Studies at the Irish Augustinian Hospice of Santa Maria in Posterula; and (when the government seized that house for public improvements) at San Carlo on the Corso. For many years he was Promoter of the Causes of the Augustinian Saints and Blessed ones—an office of trust and great honor; inasmuch as the Promoter is champion, advocate, and sponsor of the candidates for canonization before the Sacred Congregation of Rites.

At the General Chapter of the Augustinian Order, convened nearly five years ago, at the Convent Church of St. Monica, Rome (in the very shadow of the Vatican Basilica) Sebastian Martinelli was elected Prior General of the Hermits of the Order of St. Augustine vice the Most Rev. Pacifico Neno, deceased February, 1889. On that autumn day (the 23th of September, 1889) Father Sebastian was in his cell at San Carlo—knowing nothing about the election. The committee from the Chapter house, coming thither in the name of the Cardinal President, found the humble friar at his desk (he was a hard student), and despite his tears and protests, insisted on bearing him off to where the brethren were awaiting their newly-chosen chief. Their choice has been well approved by the distinction with which the young Father-General has filled his high and responsible position. He is a member of the Holy Office, that select and supreme tribunal at Rome, which claims the Sovereign Pontiff himself as its Prefect: and which is called to render decision on the weightiest causes and questions of Christendom.

The Augustinian Order numbers 7000 members and is 1500 years old, being founded by St. Augustine.

The Superiors-General of the Order are elected for a term of six years and after that cannot be re-elected without a special Papal dispensation.

The Most Rev. Sebastian Martinelli left Montreal on Friday, for New York, from which city he will make his return journey to Italy.

RELIGIOUS PROFESSIONS.

A LARGE NUMBER OF YOUNG LADIES TAKE FINAL VOWS.

His Lordship Archbishop Fabre received last week the religious vows of the undermentioned young ladies at the Sisters of Providence convent: Sarah Cecilia Fusey (Sister Philomen), St. Ursule; L. Emerance, Belisle (Sister Andre Avellin), St. Andre Avellin; Arth Emelie Desrosiers (Sister Marie of Perpetual Help), St. Simon; Delia Desrosiers (Sister Pascal), Southbridge, Mass.; Emelia Gauthier (Sister Ludovic), Saguenay; Virginie Allard (Sister Joseph Elie), St. Tite; Georgina Corbeil (Sister Praxede), St. Vincent de Paul; Georgina Page (Sister Louis Victor), Lanoraie; Victoria Roy (Sister Zolique), Mascouche; E. Alphonsine Roy, (Sister Catherine of Sienna), Berthier; Adelina Genevieve Roy (Sister Jeanne de Marie), Berthier; Louisa Alma Hervieux (Sister Theotime), Lanoraie; Eutyobiane Evangeline Saucier (Sister Mary Hereule), Louiseville; Augustine Lasalle (Sister Joseph of the Bon Pasteur), Joliette; Rose Lapiere (Sister of the Immaculate Conception), Joliette; Leony Toomey (Sister Thomas of Jesus), Argenteuil; Pomela Frenette (Sister Mary Celina), W. Basile; Corina Forest (Sister Agnes d'Assise), Hinchinbrooke; Emma Herbert (Sister Mary Phoebe), Montreal; Emma Matilda Vachon (Sister St. Benjamin), Montreal; Philomena Jutras (Sister Peter), Fever Bay; Celina Boissonnault (Sister Joseph Calozance), Cohoes, N. Y. Mass was celebrated by the Rev. Father Jutras and the sermon given by Rev. Abbe H. Laforce.

MISS CRONIN'S ACADEMY.

One of the most deservedly popular elementary schools in Montreal is that under the able direction of Miss Cronin. At No. 257 St. Antoine street Miss Cronin opened her academy last year, and the success that attended her efforts and those of her talented sister was most encouraging and gratifying. The coming term promises even greater results than the last one, and we can only express the hope that the public may show a thorough appreciation of all that the lady directress has been doing for the young persons confided to her care, and grant her a corresponding encouragement. For a time Miss Cronin had called her academy after the patron saint of the parish—St. Anthony of Padua. She adopted that name in order not to clash with what has long been known as St. Anthony's Academy. However, it has been discovered that St. Anthony's Academy was only so called for the sake of abbreviation, and that the real name of the institution was the one adopted by Miss Cronin. Consequently the generous-hearted teacher, who is ever willing to do aught in her power to please and adjust matters, has decided that her school will be known merely as "Miss Cronin's Academy"—the very best she could adopt—for she is the foundress, the life and the soul of that ever increasing home of learning.

BEATIFICATION OF MARGUERITE BOURGEOIS.

Monsieur Minetti, the Italian lawyer, who has been charged with furthering the proceedings tending towards the beatification of the Venerable Marguerite Bourgeois, foundress of the Congregation of Notre Dame, writes that the Sacred Congregation has approved of the case as far as it has gone. Proceedings have also been instituted for the beatification of Mgr. de Laval and the Venerable Mother Mary of the Incarnation.

SAILORS' CONCERT.

The Catholic Sailors' club was again crowded Thursday evening. The programme was an attractive one and thoroughly enjoyed by those present, which included a large number of citizens. Mr. Harry Singleton presided, while those who contributed to the pleasure of the evening scored great applause.

A TRIDUUM TO BE HELD.

A triduum is to be held next week on Friday, Saturday and Sunday at the Church of the Immaculate Conception in honor of the Venerables Balducci and Aquaviva, of the Society of Jesus. The sermons are to be preached by Rev. Father Hamon, S. J., Rev. P. Bernard,

Franciscan, and Rev. Father Strubbe, Redemptorist. The Archbishop is to preside over the ceremonies.

THE DRINKING HABIT.

It Can Be Cured.

The most cheering feature of this particular theme is that expert medical authorities agree that, except in its last stages, what is now called the drinking habit and classed as a disease can be cured and the taste for liquor eradicated. How to accomplish this cure has been classed by students of inebriety as one of the "gravest social problems of the times." Dr. E. F. Arnold, a member of the American Society for the Study of Inebriety, in a recent article in the North American Review, put the case succinctly when he said of the result of mere agitation:

"Public interest in the subject has been shown for years in the many temperance reform organizations, and more recently by the formation of a political party whose primary idea is the suppression of intemperance by legislative enactment. It must be admitted that thus far these movements have been more or less failures. The reason for these failures is obvious. The inebriate has been regarded as an example of moral depravity, and the efforts to reform him have been in the line of appeals to his better nature. These waves of public sentiment served to produce an emotional crisis among inebriates. Names on pledge lists swelled to magnificent proportions. Hopes waxed high, only to wane when it was found that the majority of these had fallen into a worse condition than ever. This is the natural result of any method which appeals only to the emotional nature of the man and fails to relieve his physical sufferings."

Dr. Arnold divides inebriates into these three classes:

1. The steady drinker, seldom or never becoming intoxicated.
2. The outgrowth of Class 1, associated with periods of intoxication. An effort to reform is made, but the physical deterioration so weakens the will that frequent excesses occur. These conditions become worse, and the debauches more frequent and more prolonged. A general breaking down of the whole system follows, and the victim dies directly from chronic alcohol poisoning, or ends his days in a madhouse.
3. The true periodical or dipsomaniac forms a separate type, in which the law of heredity is strikingly illustrated. A study of family history usually reveals in the ancestry either chronic alcoholism or some grave form of nerve disease. A congenital weakness of the nervous system in the offspring results. Once the desire for alcohol or other narcotic becomes developed the effect is overpowering.

The action of alcohol on the system is that of a narcotic poison, capable of producing death, with symptoms of brain congestion and coma so closely simulating apoplexy that there is hardly a hospital in the country which does not contain records of cases in which the correct diagnosis was made only on the post mortem table.

Dr. Arnold, in a further analysis, calls attention to the fact that while alcoholic stimulant will increase the flow of ideas, the ideas lose in concentration, and that constant use of the stimulants will produce insomnia and a breaking down of the mental machinery, inevitably, besides doing vast and often irreparable harm to the stomach and digestive system. Of men who drink under the strain of business cares, and want to get rid of this habit, Dr. Arnold writes:

"There remains a larger class, at most times capable of transmitting business, and who, while unable to overcome the drink habit unassisted, seek aid to enable them to do so. The question arises: How shall we best treat them? Shall it be by the use of narcotics powerful enough to overbalance an intellect already on the border line of insanity? To answer is to condemn. The plan is illogical, and is undeserving the sanction of any honest medical man. An extensive experience with these cases has shown the writer that, if treated intelligently on lines governing the physician in the treatment of chronic nervous troubles, satisfactory results may be obtained.

"The administration of remedies belonging to the tonic and restorative classes is, as a rule, promptly followed on

the part of the patient by a voluntary cessation from the use of alcohol. The majority of the cases will, if shown that the sudden withdrawal of stimulants does not produce the depression they dread, refrain from alcohol from the beginning of the treatment. With them the improvement is almost immediate. Appetite is restored, insomnia is replaced by restful sleep, tremor promptly disappears, in emaciated cases gain in weight is rapid, and general improvement in health goes on without interruption."

To this large class belong the class of drinkers about whose welfare the Sun's correspondent is evidently solicitous. A reporter asked Dr. Arnold for further facts about the treatment of the cases. "My only reply," Doctor Arnold said, "can be that they must take a tonic treatment and exert their will power. No physician can give a rule that will apply in a cast iron way to such patients. The first duty is to restore the nervous system and re-establish a healthy tone to the stomach. The latter may be accomplished by a diet of toast, light broth, eggs beaten up, and generally food that is easily digested. A physician who finds out the condition of his patient can judge for himself and can bring the patient back to health if the case is taken in time.

"The use of whisky," continued the Doctor suddenly, "does not bring on always the worst cases of inebriety. It is the men who are what you call calisaya and ginger fiends who form the worst types of inebriates. Both these stimulants are just as much to be feared as any of the better known forms of strong alcoholic stimulants, and perhaps calisaya will hurry a man to delirium tremens quicker than whisky. The patient who is under treatment for the drinking habit and who turns to calisaya or ginger makes an almost fatal error. To be cured he must abstain from anything that will excessively excite the brain."

Many patent medicines are on the market which are proclaimed as cures for inebriety. Reputable physicians do not endorse them, because it is a rule in their profession to taboo secret remedies. It is impossible to find out what these remedies contain without a chemical analysis. The purchaser must take them in faith.

Under these circumstances, it seems that the sensible course for any hard drinker to pursue is to consult a reputable physician, tell the whole truth about himself, submit to a diagnosis of his physical condition, and then adopt the treatment that the physician prescribes.

RELIGIOUS NEWS ITEMS.

The Jesuits, the Lazarists and the Sisters of the Sacred Heart are now the only religious orders excluded from Germany.

The largest sum ever paid for a book is said to be \$50,000 that the German government gave for a missal that Pope Leo presented to Henry VIII.

The Congregation of Rites has taken another step in the process of beatification of the Venerable Louise de Marillac, co-foundress of the Sisters of Charity, by deciding that there was nothing contrary to faith in her writings.

Father Decker, of St. Anthony's Church, Milwaukee, is attending the Catholics stricken with smallpox, at the isolation hospital. He makes daily visits to the pest house and ministers to all the unfortunate ones confined there.

The Berlin newspapers' report, that the only son of Herr Buhl, heir to an immense fortune, intends to enter a monastery, has created amazement, especially as his father, although a Catholic, is a National Liberal and opposes the politics of the Centrist party.

Lord Masham's daughter has been received into the Catholic Church, and it is said by the Bradford Observer that there is a prospect of his Lordship's eldest son following his sister's example. Lord Masham was better known as Mr. Sam Lister, founder of the famous mills of Manningham, Bradford, England.

The community of Dominicans at Sherman Park, Westchester County, New York, who have established a novitiate and house of studies at that place, will be re-enforced in a short time by the arrival of a colony from Lyons, France. They are expected to arrive within two weeks. The party consists of twelve professors, forty students and a number of lay brothers. Studies will begin in a few weeks.