

The True Witness

AND CATHOLIC CHRONICLE.

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WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 13 1897

While the price of coal is going up, it may be consoling to reflect that our ice bill will remain stationary for the next few months.

Two grand Catholic Bazaars are to be opened within the week, and it is earnestly to be hoped that both will meet with unqualified success.

The sidewalks in many parts of the city, particularly in St. Ann's Ward, are in a very bad state. Aldermen Kinsella and Connaught should bestir themselves.

It is a fact not generally known that a British soldier, desiring to change his religion, must ask the leave of his commanding officer, and is required to send the reasons for his action to the War Office before the necessary permission can be obtained. No doubt some of these documents would make interesting reading for the student of theology.

The English Catholic Press are discussing the formation by their separated brethren of "a new Protestant Crusade." Bless their hearts, they need not be perturbed. Let them come over and see us. Here we have the A.P.A.'s, the C.P.A.'s, the P.P.A.'s, the A.P.W.'s, the J.W.U.O.A., Orangemen and Sons of England. Here is a list and we are ready for more. Ask the Readers to pay us a visit and we will give them a real good time.

It turns out that the Jewish Congress held in Basle was no congress after all, but that most of the delegates were Russian Jews. The Chief Rabbi of England, France, Belgium and Holland, protest that they were not represented at the Congress and will oppose its decisions. Rabbi Bloch, of Belgium, goes further, declaring that the Israelites of Western Europe have no fatherland except the land in which they first see the light, and he fails to see the necessity of any movement setting up a new kingdom for the race.

The Breach of Porta Pia, opened in the walls of Rome twenty-seven years ago, was celebrated by the Italian masons and Illuminati with great pomp two weeks ago. Wreaths were laid on the tomb of the robber King Victor Emmanuel and afterwards the breach itself was heaped up with flowers. Sentiment is a glorious thing but these blatant "patriots" do not like to confess that the breach of Porta Pia not only let in so-called liberty into Italy but also starvation and famine. They have covered Italy with a moral and intellectual plague.

HIS GRACE THE ARCHBISHOP OF MONTREAL has had a very busy time of it since he undertook the direction of this important diocese. In all his acts, administrative and social, he has displayed that peculiar tact and ripe judgment which have always been foremost among his characteristics. In leaving for Rome to pay tribute to the Holy Father, he carries with him the love and fidelity of all the Catholic people and the expressed respect of our dissenting brethren. May his voyage be a happy and prosperous one and may he soon be back at the head of his flock again.

IRELAND has a knight of Ballykilbeg, yelet Johnstone of that ilk, and he is grand master or some other high cockorum of the Orange Black Chapter. He has been holding forth before his black-bellied brethren on the similarity between the Queen's duties and their own. "The Queen," quoth he, "took an obligation at her coronation to uphold the Protestant religion, and all Orangemen here in Ireland have taken obligations for the same purpose." We do not wish to be offensive, but, so far as we know, all the obligations the Orangemen of Ballykilbeg and other places take are

obligations to about "To" with the Pope." No respectable Protestant journal recognizes them, and on every side they are looked upon as a survival of medieval times. It is only among the ignorant where the name is a power at all, and so much so is this a fact that the leaders of the association in Montreal itself, are ashamed to own themselves members.

NEVER before in the history of England have there been so many serious and brutal crimes before the courts as within the past few months, and never before have there been so few offences of a similar description in Ireland. If the position were reversed we would have the British Press teeming with accounts of such outrages and all the rest ad nauseam, but now when the lawlessness is within their own borders they keep a discreet silence. Never, even when goaded to madness by oppression and the vilest cruelty, did Ireland's record of crime even approach that of London alone.

"THERE is no excuse for bigotry," says an exchange, and never was there a phrase used which has a truer ring. The bigot is a blot on the face of humanity and should be shunned by all good living men. There never yet was a bigot who was an honest man. It is an invariable rule with this peculiar class, that under the disguise of strong allegiance to their own pet belief and correspondingly hatred of all others, they hide practices and ways of life which, if known, would disgrace them in the eyes of mankind. They use their bigotry as a brazen shield, but even that cannot make the world their dupes all the time.

It is pleasant to read articles on interesting subjects, and the last issue of the Church News of Washington, D.C., has furnished us with one. It is entitled, "How to Avoid Debt," and the sum and substance of the advice is that people should avoid extravagance. The point is well taken, and we fully agree with it. The great question of the age from a monetary standpoint is not how to avoid extravagance, but as to how to procure the means of procuring it. When once in this comfortable position then such a lesson as that inculcated by the Church News will be of value, and we recommend all its readers to keep the article pasted in their hats until the happy event comes to pass.

TRUTH is it said that the vast majority of the human race do not take time to think for themselves. What little reasoning powers they have got they carry around as an ornament—or a life preserver. Let some few in a crowd start a rush and in a very short time there is a regular stampede.

Note the recent run on the City and District Savings Bank. Can any sane man, with the commonest kind of common sense, tell why so many people should suddenly conclude that their money was not safe in the keeping of this very sound institution? It strikes us forcibly that a whole lot of people who have saved some little money have at the same time lost considerable quantities of brains. A questionable exchange.

THE statement, scattered broadcast through the Press, that Mr. Charles R. Devlin, Immigration Commissioner to Ireland, had resigned, should be received with reserve. In point of fact, the Department in Ottawa, and neither his relatives, have any official knowledge of his having followed such a course. Mr. Devlin, sr., writing from Dublin under date of September 21st, states that the Commissioner was progressing well in his new position, and purposed to continue a work which could only result to the benefit and advantage of his compatriots. From this it may be gathered that this is one of the instances where the wish of the party who started the rumor was father to the thought.

OUR "Gerald" Balfour is about to take a tour through the South and West of Ireland with a view of judging for himself the extent of the failure of the harvest. To judge from the energy the Chief Secretary has already displayed it will be sometime in the Greek kalends before he will be ready with a report. It is said of him that he is the most dilatory official in the Castle Government. Mr. Balfour may tour through the south and west to his heart's content, but a visit from him to the distressed districts will be scant compensation indeed to the farmers and laborers for the loss of the harvest. Prompt and practical measures for the prevention of the impending distress are now required, and if they are to be postponed until starvation appears their utility will not only be impaired but almost destroyed.

For a century the people of Ireland have been agitating and fighting for the restoration of the National Parliament, which British trickery stole from them, and British hatred or obstinacy would not return. From O'Connell to Parnell

and since, it has been the fondest hope of every true son of Ireland to see her own legislators meet again at College Green. Nothing short of this will satisfy the yearning of the country-loving Celt. Often have his hopes verged on realization, to be as often wrecked on the rocks of bigotry, hatred and selfishness. The masses of the English nation, led by Gladstone, have shown their willingness to do tardy justice to their brethren of the sister isle, but the pampered aristocrats, many of whose titles are but standing proof of the perfidy of their ancestors, dread the giving of even a partial measure of autonomy to Ireland. They have a horror of justice, and everything suggestive of Irish rights repels or frightens them.

THE LATE MISS O'BRIEN.

In its capacity as a newspaper and a chronicler of all that passes in this busy and uncertain world, THE TRUE WITNESS has a painful duty to perform this week.

We have to record the death of Miss Katie A. (Dolores) O'Brien, which occurred at her father's residence, Wellington street, Point St. Charles, yesterday.

Miss O'Brien leaves behind her a host of friends; to know her was to admire her, to know her intimately was to love her.

Unassuming by nature, she never seemed to realize her own great worth. Her short life was marked by daily acts displaying the utmost kindness of heart, and by works whose far-reaching value will never be appreciated thoroughly, for most of them will remain, as she wished them to remain, unknown.

Relatives and friends will lament her death; they have reason to feel it deeply. But their grief will be shared by thousands of others who have often been pleased, instructed and uplifted by the many bright, ennobling thoughts which found birth in her pure, talented mind, and were given to the world over the pseudonym of "K. Dolores."

In poetry or prose she was equally at home, and the columns of THE TRUE WITNESS were often made brighter by the writings of this clever authoress. Versatile and well informed, she was never dull. Everything which emanated from her pen bore proof of the clear brightness of her intellect, and bespoke a deep, religious nature combined with an unusual knowledge of the world in one so young. She never shirked a task or neglected a duty. Her life was rich in good acts well done.

As editress of St. Ann's Journal she has made that little paper a prominent feature of the annual bazaars, and their uninterrupted success is in no small measure due to her efforts. Her various contributions to this paper, on diverse subjects, were excellently written and gave promise of a great literary future. But the Almighty has decreed otherwise.

The Catholic readers of Canada to day lament the loss from the literary firmament of a bright star whose ever-growing light had just reached their hearts when it was extinguished.

While we humbly bow to the inscrutable will of God, we cannot cease to mourn. We knew her well. She had every quality of heart which marks a good woman, and every quality of mind which makes a clever one.

We extend our deepest sympathy to the parents, who are bereft of a dutiful daughter; to the friends who have lost their dearest companion; to the poor and orphans, for whom she labored so well and for whom she can labor no more; and we join in the regret which every reader of THE TRUE WITNESS must feel in realizing, that the pages of this paper will never again be adorned by the pure, noble thoughts of genius which budded in the brain of "Dolores," grew under the magic cleverness of her pen, and were scattered in their fruitful goodness amongst us all. May she rest in peace eternal.

NAME THE "TRUE WITNESS."

THE general public and particularly the Catholic reader do not seem to recognize with what little effort a kindly act can be done, one which while costing nothing will result in benefiting enterprises worthy of their support. Says an exchange on the subject:

In the delicate art of creating an advertising department in their respective organs our non-Catholic religious contemporaries are far ahead of our own people. They contrive to enlist the sympathies of numbers of zealous readers and co-operators in the commercial side of their literary enterprises, and that help is exerted in such a way as to make it effective. The ladies are the most valuable allies in this service. Scarcely one of them neglects to inform the storekeeper who advertises in the paper of their choice by what means they have been attracted to the store, thereby affording the advertiser indubitable proof that he is receiving a good return for his investment. How many subscribers of Catholic papers can think of rendering such a service? Very few, we believe, ever dream of helping on a good work by such a simple act of thoughtfulness. If they reflected for a moment that their Catholic newspaper is not a commercial enterprise, but a moral in-

strument, with an object far beyond commercial gain, they would, many of them, be certain, never lose an opportunity of helping it on when it may be done so easily as this:

UNDER the title "Overcrowded Professions," the Globe discusses the superabundance of lawyers, which it claims to be particularly manifest in the Queen City. It says that Toronto has as many lawyers pro rata as New York, and in that city there are 7,900 too many. The New York Journal, in a recent issue, publishes the following advertisements which make an eloquent commentary:—

A young attorney, with six years' experience, good references, desires position; salary \$10.

Wanted—Position as law clerk or stenographer by lawyer eight years at bar; highest references; salary, \$8 per week.

Clerkship Wanted—Managing or assistant; competent attorney; college and law school (Columbia); highest references; moderate salary.

Wanted—Bright young attorney (admitted); familiar with city practice; in law department mercantile agency; salary to begin, \$5.

Wanted—By attorney, 15 years' practice, position in law firm as managing clerk or assistant in trial cases; will take \$6 per week.

MR. HUGH RYAN, the other day, gave a banquet at Holydene, Rosedale, Toronto, in honor of the Archbishop of Toronto, and Hon. Edward Blake was an invited and honored guest. He made a speech touching on the situation in Ireland, and in its course gave a brief review of the present trend of events, from which he drew hopeful deductions of unity and final success to the Home Rule movement. But to arrive at this culmination of the hopes of all true Irishmen, the fight must not become apathetic but be kept up with increasing vigor. "Irishmen," he said, "abroad and their sympathizers in every part of the world have given their encouragement and support to the cause of unity. They had endorsed the action of the Irish National Party in the manifesto addressed to the Irish people after the convention; they had endorsed the principle of majority rule, and that endorsement he could assure them had had a great effect in Ireland. The Irish party had acted strictly upon the verdict of the convention, laying down regulations that simply indicate the essential duty of all the members of the party. The Irish people are united, and the next general election will show their undiminished faith and firmness in the demand for home rule. On the other hand, there are signs of another change in England, and the Irish party must be prepared. In his (Mr. Blake's) opinion it was essential for the Irish people abroad to act upon and follow up the convention manifesto. In other words, they cannot pause; they must go on.

TEXT OF THE PRAYER

For the Close of the Nineteenth Century.

A recent decree of the Sacred Congregation of Indulgences grants a hundred days' indulgence once a day, applicable to the souls in Purgatory, to every one of the faithful who shall recite the following prayer either in Latin or in the translation. This favour will continue till the end of the year 1901:

"Concedo, nobis, clementissime Deus, Beata Virgine Immaculata intercedente, ut nostrae poenitentiae lacrimis noxae expiantur hujus saeculi occidentis, aique exortibus laetitiae istius aeternae, ut totum sit delectum gloriae tui nominis et regno Jesu Christi Filii tui, cui gentes omnes servant in una fide et perfecta caritate. Amen." "Most merciful God grant through the intercession of the Blessed and Immaculate Virgin that by the tears of our penitence we may expiate the guilt of this expiring century and so prepare for the opening of the coming century, that it may be entirely consecrated to the glory of Thy name and the reign of Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Whom may all nations obey in one faith and in perfect charity. Amen."

FIVE NEW CARDINALS

To Be Appointed. It Is Said, at the Consistory in November.

The Roman correspondent of the New York Freeman's Journal, referring to the approaching Consistory, at which the vacancies in the Sacred College may probably be filled, says:—

The Consistory of November, 1897, will probably result in the creation of five new Cardinals, and in the publication of the two created at the last Consistory, but reserved "in petto" by His Holiness. There are at present altogether nine vacancies in the Sacred College, but the full number, seventy, will not be filled up, it being customary to leave two, three and sometimes four places vacant.

Strange to say, there is not the least indication of a recrudescence of the old report that Pope Leo intends to add another American Cardinal to the Sacred College at the next Consistory. If there were there would be no foundation for it. Some time ago it was rumored that South America would shortly be represented in the Curia by a Cardinal, but apparently the time has not yet come. It is certain that Mgr. Della Volpe, major domo of the Vatican, will be one of the new creations, but, highly probable, that Mgr. Gennari, Assessor of the Holy Office, will be another; probable that Mgr. Sarnelli of Naples will be a third, and the remaining two or three may be found among the Italian archbishops, with the bare possibility that one non-Italian may fill the number.

There is no greatness so real as that toward lowliness which knows its own measure; nothing so enlightened as a humble soul.

REV. DR. LUKE CALLAGHAN

The Newly-Appointed Spiritual Adviser of Branch No. 1 C.M.B.A.

Presented With An Address of Welcome At a Special Meeting—The Principal Officers of the Order Present.

The meeting on Monday evening of Branch No. 1 was a grand affair, the occasion being the reception and presentation of an address of welcome to their newly appointed Spiritual Adviser, Rev. Dr. Luke Callaghan, of the Bishop's Palace, through the kindness of His Grace Archbishop Bruchesi, before leaving for Rome. The Rev. Director made a most happy and eloquent reply. The Grand Council officers attended for a second time to give eclat to the reception, with whom Dr. Kennedy of the Branch had a seat, and a very large attendance of members also assisted, as also many visiting brothers. Great was the pleasure to see such a splendid showing of the Branch. President John Lappin ably presided, and had on his right the Rev. Father and Grand President C. E. Leclerc, and on his left Grand First-President Brother F. F. McCaffrey.

The secretary, Brother F. C. Lawlor, read the following

Address of Welcome.

MONTREAL, 11th Oct., 1897.

To REV. DR. LUKE CALLAGHAN:

REV. AND DEAR FATHER,—Having long felt the want of a Spiritual Adviser for our Branch, No. 1, C.M.B.A., to whom we could look for advice and decision, such as only a calm and wise judgment could give upon any question that might be placed before him, we are proud now to offer you a fraternal hand, and in the joyful fullness of our hearts, exclaim, "Hail, Soggarth Aroon! please accept our kindest welcome." We regard your presence with us this evening, dear Father, as our newly appointed Spiritual Director, as indeed a happy advent that will cheer us on and strengthen our desire to continue our good work in endeavoring to lessen the grief and assist the afflicted families of our deceased brothers, and by inviting all wise thinking and prudent Catholic men to join our ranks, will open a still larger field over which to extend our united charity, and create and foster a greater Catholic sociability amongst our people, and also asking our dear French Canadian Catholics to join with us in brotherly friendship, many of whom, indeed, are already engaged in our good work. We are very anxious to explain the nature of our aims and objects, in order to better enlighten you, reverend Father, as to what kind of Society over which you will have spiritual charge, and also what manner of men compose it. We respectfully beg to remind you, dear Father, that our Quebec Grand Council is the only organized body in Canada that is legally affiliated with that great American Catholic Mutual Benefit Association, commonly known as the C.M.B.A., notwithstanding any statements to the contrary.

Now, Reverend Father, being aware that His Grace Archbishop Bruchesi has already set sail for Rome, we deem it opportune to join with you in prayer that God may grant him a most favorable journey and a safe return home to his archdiocese.

In conclusion, dear Father, we pray that you will remember, on the first opportunity, to convey to His Grace our sincere thanks for his prompt kindness of heart in so honoring us by appointing such a distinguished Irish priest to be spiritual adviser of our Branch, No. 1, C.M.B.A., Province of Quebec.

Trusting you may be pleased to accept our humble welcome, and asking you to nourish our Branch by your blessing. We have the honor to be, Rev. Father, yours respectfully and fraternally,

Branch No. 1, C.M.B.A., Prov. Que.

Bro. JOHN LAPPIN, President.

Bro. F. C. LAWLOR, Secretary.

SPANISH JOHN.

[FROM AN OCCASIONAL CORRESPONDENT.]

"The life and adventures of Colonel John McDonnell, known as Spanish John, when a Lieutenant in the Company of St. James, Regiment *Irlanica*, 'in the service of the King of Spain,' is the briefcase with which Mr. W. McLennan, of Montreal, prefaces his story begun, and rightly given the place of honor, in Harper's Magazine for October.

The hero is sent in his early youth from home in the Highlands of Scotland to the Scots College in Rome some time about the year 1740. After enjoining there for a while he arrives at the conclusion that he is more fitted for a soldier's tunic than a scholar's gown, and leaves the college for the camp. There is no intention here to spoil a delightful story by half telling it, and the present purpose is to draw the attention of Catholic readers to it and point out that it is written not by a Catholic, nor by an Irishman, though, judging by its first two chapters, its author might have been both. The author is of the nationality of origin of his Highland hero, and, if he were asked the question, he would tell you that he is a Protestant. And yet the story, with its first scenes in Rome, with priests and Scotch and Irish soldiers for its characters, so far is, and promises to be, very pleasant reading for Irish Catholics. The kindly treatment of anything Catholic or Irish, at the point of a Protestant pen is such a rarity in English literature that Mr. McLennan's story, marked already by the stamp of literary excellence which Harper's gives it, is remarkable also as being a happy departure from an unfortunate rule.

To have so delightful a story doled out to one in pinnacles of but two chapters

is a time is appalling. Happily "Spanish John" will appear in book form in December. It is the kind of book that healthy boys will read, and older readers, who haven't had all of their youth knocked out of them, will enjoy it too. The publishers have evidently appreciated the merit of Mr. McLennan's work, for they have hung it round with splendid pictures. Nor has the gifted author neglected to embellish his story, but, after the manner of Lever, he enlivens the narrative with songs of the mess and the cam-fire, and there is such a ring and ring about these songs that you can almost hear the voices of the men who sang "The day we beat the Germans at Cremona."

It is probably true that Irish wit is peculiar and that it is difficult for even the wittiest stranger to imitate it. The witty Irishman, in books written by Englishmen, is usually a failure. Mr. McLennan, however, has been fortunate in this respect. He has understood that a characteristic of Irish wit is its humour, and that the really humorous Irishman is seldom without the cleverness of wit; and so his Chaplain of the Regiment, half soldier and all priest, a good man and a fine fellow, would betray his nationality even if we did not know him as Father O'Rourke. For instance, after he had sung "Then gather ye, Appin, Clanranald, Glenagarry!" in such splendid voice and style that the Scotch officers about him cheered and cheered, breaking their glasses, young Lieutenant McDonnell jumped upon him calling out in wonder:—

"Oh, Father O'Rourke, how could you ever do it, and you not a Highlander at all?"

"Faith!" he answers, "I could do the same for a Hottentot, if I could only manage his irregular verbs."

Well, it were not extraordinary if, on reading these two chapters, in which Irishmen are made to appear so true to the life and talk so much after their own fashion, some Irishman were to exclaim in wonder:—

"How ever could you do it, Mr. McLennan, and you not an Irishman nor even a Catholic?"

Such a book as this, if offered as a prize in our schools, would be worth working for and winning, and it might act as an incentive to the lads learning to write, showing them what literary success may be achieved in Montreal by a man who has received his education in its schools.

NOTE AND COMMENT.

"Nil desperandum" is a very good motto. Verily, while there is life there is hope. The city is actually repairing the roadway on St. Francois Xavier street.

The fifty-first report of the Commissioners in Lunacy has been issued as a Parliamentary paper. The commissioners regret to report the very large increase of 2,919 in the number of lunatics in England and Wales on the 1st of January, 1897, over the corresponding number on the 1st January, 1896. The returns show that the total number on the 1st January, 1897, was 99,305, as against 96,446 at the beginning of 1896. It is pointed out with regard to assigned causes of insanity that very great reliance cannot be placed on returns, but so far as they go it would appear that hereditary influence continues to be the most fruitful cause, previous attacks next and intemperance in drink third.—Irish Catholic.

What are the white Mahatmas going to do now that the one of their learned brethren in Poona has been arrested for the murder of the two British officials there. What a shudder will pass through their delicate frames, both male and female, when the rude hand of the English soldier elevates their brother Brahmin on the gallows. As they believe in transmigration of souls, no doubt the theosophists will begin to discuss what kind of an animal this specimen of a Brahmin will enter when his soul wings its flight from the gibbet.

An exchange very properly remarks: It is a waste of money to start new Catholic papers where there are Catholic papers already, to divide support that is hardly sufficient for one, to prevent the development of publications already in existence, and to add to the number of the enterprises that have failed. Every dollar of capital ready for investment in Catholic journalism should be utilized to improve the papers that we have.—[There is no doubt whatever that there is some necessity for a centralization movement in connection with Catholic journalism.]

The English Catholic press do not take very kindly to the idea that Lord Ashbourne should be the next Governor-General of Canada, as is evidenced by the following extract from a London newspaper:—

The rumor started by a news agency the other day to the effect that Lord Aberdeen was to be succeeded in the Governor-Generalship of Canada by Lord Ashbourne was not credited by those who had any acquaintance of the position in which Irish affairs in Parliament stand at the present time. Apart altogether from the unavailability of Lord Ashbourne for such a position, his appointment would necessitate such changes in the Cabinet and in the Irish judiciary as the Government would not care to undertake just now. Moreover, they would be left without an official voicing of their views in the House of Lords during the Irish Local Government Bill of next session. Lord Ashbourne was raised to the peerage in 1885, and he sat in two Unionist Cabinets as Lord Chancellor of Ireland. While a staunch supporter of Unionist principles in the sister country, his fairness and impartiality on the Bench, and his evident intention to act justly in public affairs, has secured for him an immunity from that unpopularly amongst the masses which followed some of his less broad-minded brethren.

Suspect evil-speakers and do not over-credulous of them. Charity thinketh no evil; nor easily and cheaply believeth it.