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NOTICE.
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A. DESCARRES,
cés & Descarres,
Attorneys.
a. 7, 1908.

The True Witness



MONTREAL, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1908

PRICE FIVE CENTS

A Dismantled Irish Town.

There are two proverbs very frequently heard which concern Carrick. One of these contains the assertion that wherever you go you will meet a Carrick man; the other is brief and mysterious, and is worded thus: "Carrick, I dread you," says Father Fitzgerald in the Catholic Press, Sydney, Australia. What claims an original inhabitant of Carrick has to being considered ubiquitous beyond the average Irishman is not easily seen, but at the same time one must not challenge the truth of the proverb without running the risk of being charged with irreverent temerity, for the proverbs of all nations are considered to be the crystallized wisdom of many generations of wisacres, who most self-sacrificingly neglected their own affairs to enrich posterity with nuggets of condensed lore.

From the fact that it is a Carrick man you may expect to meet everywhere and not a Carrick woman, it must not be suspected that wives in that town fail to exercise an attractive influence on their husbands, who consequently seek relief in the distractions which foreign parts afford. No; for among the warmest-hearted people in the whole of Ireland the Carrick people, men and women, should be accorded a premier and honored place. If there are Carrick men to be met with far from their native town it is because Carrick has suffered most disastrously from commercial misfortunes during the past few decades of years, and to-day that once flourishing centre is truly only a shadow of her former self.

It is not so very long ago since Carrick, which now numbers four or five thousand, was able to support the creditable number of fourteen thousand. There were tanneries and wool factories, and great forwarding grain stores. Besides, Carrick was famous for the quality of boots made there. In fact, there was one street where all the houses were little boot factories employing many hands. That street is now, and perhaps always was, called a lane, and is narrower than any street in Naples, and yet great fortunes were amassed there. It is said that the "sun never sets on the British Empire," but it may be safely asserted that close are the houses together, it never rises on Cook Lane, for this is the appellation which now perpetuates the fame of that once busy thoroughfare, and is attributable to the circumstance that in bygone years, when the concourse of country people to Carrick was considerable, there were numbers of cook-shops in that convenient quarter.

There are five storehouses in Carrick telling the usual tale of past prosperity. In the days that were, and roundabout the country you see many an old mill, and the big mill-wheel motionless and its ironwork rusty, and its woodwork worm-eaten, the glass in its windows shattered, and birds flying in and out, for human beings come and go there no longer. Magnificent watercourses run away unused to the sea, and piles of machinery are only heaps of scrap-iron. From the top of Grubb's hill over the town you get a beautiful view up towards Clonmel, down towards Waterford, and across to Sliavenamon. Through this fertile vale the River Suir runs. Yet, although you command a vista of several miles each way, perhaps you may not count three fields under cultivation in the whole circle of vision—and this the very best land in Ireland.

THE DETERIORATION OF PHYSIQUE.

The cessation—total or partial—of agriculture is responsible for another lamentable consequence—the deterioration of physique in the countryman. There is no mode of life calculated to form healthier manhood than agricultural life. The thousand and one duties of the farmer in connection with his lands and crops and cattle constitute so many athletic exercises as to be a perfect training discipline for the development of man's endowments. So far as I have seen of Connacht they still cultivate the soil as of old, and for industry and unremitting labor this tract of country affords an example which could not be surpassed. It seems as if it rained stones galore all over the land, in many stretches of country, and yet with infinite patience the farmer and his boys, aye, and girls, have gathered the stones into heaps and put in crops between them.

As the subject of health is under discussion, allow me a few observations which I have made, or were

HYMENEAL.

MACPHEE-NICHOLS.

A wedding of considerable interest took place at St. Columban's church, Cornwall, on Monday, when Miss T. Nichols, daughter of Mr. George Nichols, of Montreal, formerly of Alexandria, and niece of the late Mr. D. J. McDonald, of Cornwall, was mar-

An English Protestant "God Save Ireland." Index.

The Catholic Herald (England) referring to English press strictures on the Catholic Church Index Expurgatorius points to the fact of the (Protestant) Archbishop of Canterbury having "placed publication of a Protestant minister on the Protestant Index by prohibiting their further publication," and noting the prosecution in London of a street orator on a charge of blasphemy it remarks upon it as "additional evidence that England has nothing to learn from the Pope in the matter of suppressing mischievous or unpalatable opinion."

Further proof in the same direction is quoted from a London daily, which, commenting on the prosecution referred to, gives some English law on the subject: "Prosecutions for blasphemy, such as are now going on in London (the paper says) are so rare nowadays that it is generally forgotten that it is an offence against both common and statute law. By an act of William III, a person was declared a blasphemer who should deny any of the Persons of the Trinity to be God, or assert that there are more Gods than one, or deny the truth of Christianity or the Scriptures. In deference to the opinions of Unitarians and others, the first clause was afterwards omitted. In 1841 Mr. Moxon, the publisher, was successfully prosecuted for having published Shelley's 'Queen Mab.'"

On such English enactments and practice the Herald observes that "as long as this law stands in the Statute book of England, it is not consistent in English critics to assail the Vatican for the existence of an index which does not send men to jail for writing distasteful matter, but simply declares that such matter ought not to be read."

So we see that there is an English Protestant "Index," and much more penal than that of the Catholic Church.

His Grace the Archbishop Will Make Pastoral Visit to St. Patrick's on Sunday Next.

The Archbishop is at present visiting the parishes of the city and Sunday next it will be the turn of St. Patrick's. At Grand Mass on Sunday last Rev. Gerald McShane, the pastor, gave a very lucid explanation of what a pastoral visit meant. A pastoral visit was the fulfilment of a duty assumed by every Bishop in order to oversee the spiritual and temporal interests of all the churches in his diocese. The ceremonial is specially provided for in the Roman Ritual and is very touching and impressive. The Bishop is welcomed by the pastor, the clergy and the faithful, whom he addresses. In the course of the day he visits the parochial institutions and in the afternoon he presides over a special ceremony for all the departed ones of the parish, when a solemn Libera is chanted.

Renting Pews.

In the course of a few practical remarks on a recent Sunday, the pastor, the Rev. Gerald McShane, emphasized the necessity of paying the dues as well as the obvious obligation of renting either a pew or having a sitting in one. Father McShane said that the idea that pew renting was an expensive matter need not be a deterrent to those desiring to obtain such or even a sitting, for there were many pews presently unoccupied which could be procured for a very reasonable sum. He urged upon the young men of the parish, who had no family pew, to either procure same or a sitting instancing the fact that during the past few days a number of young men had done so. For those whose homes are outside the city, the regular attendance at church was most important, and took the place of the home and the home influence.

Another School Needed.

Rev. Father O'Meara, at a meeting of the School Commissioners on Tuesday evening, reported that the accommodation of the Sisters' school on Wellington street was no longer sufficient. The sisters of the Congregation of Notre Dame, he said, were ready to put up a new building at their own expense, provided the Board afterwards allowed them an annual grant of \$1000. The cost is estimated at \$30,000. Unless this offer was accepted, it was pointed out, the board would have to assume the building expenditure itself. At the suggestion of Commissioner Lapointe, the matter was referred to the Finance Committee.

Holy Rosary Society of St. Patrick's

The Holy Rosary Society of St. Patrick's Church will hold their regular monthly meeting in the chapel at 4.15 on Sunday next, at which a large attendance is expected.

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A NEWMAN ANECDOTE.

The following story of Newman has often been told, but we do not remember to have heard the name of the challenger before. It is the Pall Mall Gazette which tells it now:

"That Presbyterian stalwart, the late Dr. John Cumming, from the title of one of his books and the tenor of his preaching—once visited Birmingham on a lecturing tour, and sent a note up to the Quakerian challenging him to a public debate on any point of religious controversy at issue between them. The place of encounter was to be the local town hall, where the Suffragists got such a demolition with their own weapons on Wednesday night, and some such results would have come about if Newman had accepted, for sectarianism ran pretty high in the Ironopolis of forty years ago. Dr. Newman, however, was not to be drawn the veil. She was one of those expelled from France by enactments of the Government which rendered necessary the scattering of teachers and those who had previously taken their novitiate course. The ladies who made their vows were: Mesdames Sheehan, McPhee, both Southerners; S. and A. Harkins, of Montreal; A. Harter, Hellmutti; A. Gary, France; and Barbour, Washington, D.C.

In addition to His Excellency Mgr. Sbarretti, there were present: His Lordship Bishop Racicot; Father Reaubien, parish priest of Sault au Recollet, where he presided at a religious profession in the Sacred Heart Convent on Tuesday morning.

A very interesting feature of this ceremony was the presence of a French lady among those who took the veil. She was one of those expelled from France by enactments of the Government which rendered necessary the scattering of teachers and those who had previously taken their novitiate course. The ladies who made their vows were: Mesdames Sheehan, McPhee, both Southerners; S. and A. Harkins, of Montreal; A. Harter, Hellmutti; A. Gary, France; and Barbour, Washington, D.C.

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Mengelik and the Pope.

It is announced that the Rev. Father Maria Bomardo, of the Capuchin Order, who was sent by the Pope in July last to Addis Abeba with a decoration for King Mengelik of Abyssinia, is returning to Rome with an autograph letter from that sovereign and two lions as a present for the Pope. Father Bomardo will bring with him to Rome, an Abyssinian Catholic priest, who suffered persecutions and imprisonment at the hands of the Coptic priests, and whose liberation was secured through King Mengelik.

Question Answered.

D. C.—Is a low Mass for a deceased person as good as a High Mass?
Ans.—Undoubtedly. The Mass is always the Mass. The Jesuits always celebrate a low Mass for the dead. High Mass is, of course, more imposing, the consecration is larger, and more pomp is observed throughout the ceremony. Good is also done in several ways, such as giving extra money to singers, besides adding to the church funds.

BABY'S OWN TABLETS.

A SMILE IN EVERY DOSE.

The mother who, in her gratitude for what Baby's Own Tablets have done for her child, said that "There's a smile in every dose" coined a very happy and very true phrase. The tablets cure all the minor ailments of babies and young children, and make bright, smiling, happy little ones. Mrs. John Young, Auburn, Ont., says:—"I have used Baby's Own Tablets for more than a year and I think they are the best medicine that can be given a baby. They are splendid at teething time, and for stomach and bowel troubles. You don't need a doctor if you keep Baby's Own Tablets in the house." That's about the highest praise a mother can give and it's true, every word of it. You can get the Tablets from any medicine dealer or by mail at 25 cents a box from the Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

Illustrated Lecture by Father Ehelbert O. F. M.

On Tuesday evening last a lecture was given in St. Ann's Hall, by the Rev. Father Ehelbert, O.F.M., under the auspices of the Catholic Temperance Union of Canada. The lecture was most instructive, and, with the aid of a series of views, gave a vivid description of the effects of alcohol on the entire system, showing plainly the progress of