

QUEBEC.

the cure and have been
their homes daily with
s. It is quite probable
system will be adopt-
y of Halifax, as Mayor
received a letter from
Halifax requesting to
with all information re-
system. It is already in
and as its merits be-
s likely to spread to
and towns of Canada.
this cure is spreading
it is to be hoped it will
of good results wher-

NISM. — The ranks of
s steadily growing in
its next meeting Di-
will initiate five mem-
be admitted by
Auxiliary at its next
several application
ut. Both organizations
th what is essential to
an efficient and hustling
May 5 will be the
the organization of the
d will be celebrated in a
anner, the details of
"I am leaving that to you and
Bureau. Arrange as you think best.
It will satisfy me."

—Another member of
congregation has pass-
ed a person of Mr. Andrew
ceased was a native of
settled in Quebec some
For many years he
position of interpreter at
sle Quarantine station,
of several languages,
ars ago was superannu-
government. On Sunday
members of St. Louis
St. Vincent de Paul
bled at his late resi-
dence the Rosary for the
oul. Mr. Anderson was
ried an active member
conference.

D HOUSE. —The drama-
ment given in Tara-
y evening by St. Pat-
Dramatic Club was
the hall being packed
and a tidy sum was
purpose for which the
was gotten up—to aid
a large family. The
quitted themselves
the audience manifest-
ation by frequent and
thursts of applause.

as held. Ecclesiastics,
s, lawyers, physicians,
ss men, principals of
ornament, rich and poor
gathered around the
se kindly nature and
osition had won for
n every man he ever
child that ever came
uence. The Gregorian
m was rendered with
choir of 250 voices,
chestra composed of
tution. The Rt. Rev.
McKenna was celebrat-
a and sub-deacon of
of the Rev. Patrick J.
James J. Gilmartin.
av. Joseph F. Mooney
absolution. Upwards
priests of the arch-
representative clergy from
igious orders occupied
nctuary. The eulogy
y by the Rev. Joseph
-Exchange.

N AUSTRALIA.

o I told you how the
miners have been fight-
justice. The mine
not accede to their re-
he matters in dispute
ference or arbitration,
rs, who have right on
remained on strike
under circumstan-
self-sacrifice and
y, I am glad to say,
ired a considerable
g land adjacent to
previously worked in,
o start a mine of their
co-operative principle.
them, I say. They de-
Correspondence Irish

AN HOUR WITH AN IRISH HUMORIST.

My acquaintance with Mr. MacManus had been only through letters, and quasi-business letters at that, but I had long admired his work, and so I thought I knew the man. I had pictured him as small in stature (there is a family reason for my thinking that smart people are usually small), that smart people are usually small, with dark eyes, black hair, no moustache, quick in movement, vivacious, snappy and witty of speech. How else should an Irishman of talent look, especially one of such talent as gave us "Through the Turf Smoke" and "A Lad of the O'Fries"? I was scarcely prepared, then, to meet a man with light hair and an albinistic Saxon moustache, with anything but the eye I wanted—so quiet was the look he gave me—extending a hand positively cold in its timidity, and accosting me with a soft voice that suggested "The Meeting of the Waters," but with an accent that I knew what it all meant in an instant—I was to do the talking.

First of all that talk must be business. There were matters of detail to arrange—financial, figures, travel, and the rest. It all ended just as he intimated in the beginning it would end—"I am leaving that to you and the Bureau. Arrange as you think best. It will satisfy me."

Since he plainly disliked the business side I turned to the social. I told him of the many inquiries that had come in concerning him and of the invitations that fairly littered my desk on his account—invitations to receptions, banquets and what not of lionizing. Most men would have liked it all, but not he. "If I deserved to be lionized, in your good-hearted and kindly America way," he said, "I should not like it at all. But I don't deserve it; so let me go on quietly. I'll need the rest." And he went on quietly, save now and then, when he was cornered and could not escape, and when this happened, they say he rose magnificently to the occasion. "I never knew a Donegal man who could talk," said a clerical friend of mine who didn't come from Donegal himself. If that's the reputation of Donegal men, Seumas MacManus is not at all disloyal to it.

But silent Donegal is somewhere in the kingdom of strenuous Ireland, and Seumas MacManus can't get away from that.

Before his arrival I had read something of a certain meeting in Dublin, called to consider a reception, or rather, the lack of a reception, to the King of England. Redmond, Harrington, Maude Gonne, MacManus and others were present. The discussion was most interesting, as indeed are most discussions which have helped along by the judicious use of chairs and tables as emphyasizers. Our literary giant, however, I had understood, used only a stick. I gently broached the subject now—to see how cleverly he would drop it. But he made no attempt at dropping or evading it. He told me the whole story, and I found it up with a eulogy on the Lord Mayor, one of his opponents, who he said, "was a fine fellow, for when he had broken the chair he thought to the end with nothing but the leg of it."

Things went easier now, and the talk naturally shifted into Irish politics.

"Are you for or against the Parliamentary Party?" I asked.

"I am not an enemy," he answered. "They are doing good work in their own way, but I go farther."

"You hear some criticisms?" he asked, when I mentioned his literary work.

"O, now and then," I replied, "we get a note from an over-sensitive brother of the 'race and sod,' telling us that you are caricaturing your people to catch the public." I made no effort to soften things. I saw that the man could take his medicine without sugar.

"I am glad you told me," he said. "All there is for me to say is, that I know my own people. I have lived my life with them and I love them. I would be less likely to do them an injustice than these good, well-meaning critics. I never will, I can not and will not deal with foolish flattery, however. I am writing of things as they are and of the people as they are, being careful to allow my love and sympathy to minimize the faults, while not hiding them, and insist on showing forth the great virtues that easily overshadow them."

An Eastern editor had dealt rather severely with one of Mr. MacManus' lectures on the ground that his stories were nothing but the homely fire-side tales and had nothing of the

new and mirth-provoking gags about them.

"It is a great compliment, this criticism," he said, when it was shown. "They are the stories that are heard at the hearthstone by night—the people's stories, that reflect their hopes and loves and fears. They are the stories worth while. I have no gags—no inventions for the vaudeville. I would not use them if I had. The editor seems unconsciously and unwillingly to have grasped the reason for my writing and speaking. I referred to a most flattering offer made him by one of the large magazines, an offer which, if accepted by Mr. MacManus, would make him a resident of America."

"I can not accept," he said. "It is a great deal of money, but I can not leave Donegal and Ireland. My work and my people are there."

"Then you don't like America?"

"I do—I do," he answered, "but I love Ireland. If I were not to live in Ireland I might prefer America—but, I live in Ireland."

"Perhaps you have something against us Yankees," I suggested.

"No, not just that. The best of you"—he said—"ye"—are just as good and kind as the best of us, but you try to cover it up with a hard gloss of practicability." I remembered the business details with which I had opened the interview and winced.

"It is good for your business, I suppose," he went on, "but it is bad for the better part—the humanity."

It was interesting, however, to note that only a few minutes later he referred to a pound in Ireland being worth "five times its equivalent in America." He was not really indifferent to the purchasing power of the "root of all evil."

We said good-bye, I to return to the West, he to go North, and begin his lecture work, as we had arranged it. A week later a hurried engagement brought him to my home, and he was my guest for a few days. I got to know him better then.

The Irish in his make-up was growing on me. I saw it in his smile, in his brogue, in his outspoken comment when asked for his views, but better than all, in his bearing under adverse criticism—for he had that pain, too. I failed, however, still to see the Irish in his retiring disposition, and that awful Saxon moustache which still worried me.

The Sunday of his visit at my rectory happened to be one of the odd Sundays of the year when there is no Mass in the parish church, but both pastors go to the little mission chapels—one to each. "I am sorry, Mr. MacManus," I said to him on Saturday night, "that you will not have a chance to hear Mass to-morrow," and I explained the situation, adding that one mission was twelve miles away and the other thirteen, and both Father Dan and myself would leave in carriages very early in the morning.

"You will have no room, then for another?" he asked.

"Yes, but the distance is long and the weather cold and bitter. There is really no obligation upon you under the circumstances."

"I would like to go," he answered, very simply, and he went with Father Dan to the smaller mission chapel.

When he was away in the far West filling his engagements he wrote, "I have had a lonely Christmas. Many times I wished I had been with you, driving to that little chapel in the country."

I met Mr. MacManus several times after his visit to me in the course of our travels, and each time I found something new in the man to admire.

His kindly humor enlivened many an hour; and yet, it seemed to me that under the cheerful disposition of the man there flowed a current of gentle sadness.

A good friend of his—and I hope of mine, too—remarked, when I spoke of Mr. MacManus as almost sad: "Oh you don't know him now, at all. You should have seen him on his former visit to America. He was entirely different—so gay and lighthearted—typically Irish. But you know his wife, Anna MacManus (Ethel Carberry), one of the sweetest women and truest singers in Ireland, died since, and—"

I understood, for I remembered the pathetic, heart-moving words of MacManus in the preface to his dead wife's poems. Never before had I seen such nobility of sorrow as these lines pictured. Seumas MacManus is, perhaps, a changed man, but changed

only as the darkness of night changes the cereus. His joy was bright while it lived, and under its sun he grew and waxed stronger. Alas! that it should needs be the night that brings forth the bud and blossom! But he, in whose heart has gathered the dew of such a night, can be trusted to tell the heart-story of a race whose past is the admiration of the world; whose present is that world's sorrow—but whose future must be its glory—Rev. Francis C. Kelly in Men and Women.

THE FIRE IN TORONTO

Some idea of the magnitude of the recent fire in Toronto may be had by a glance at the following estimate of the losses of various companies:

Royal	\$800,000
London and Lancashire Mercantile, Quebec	500,000
North British and Mercantile	500,000
Anglo-American	400,000
Queen's	400,000
Norwich Union	400,000
Scottish Union	370,000
Commercial Union	350,000
Union	300,000
Atlas	275,000
Guardian	200,000
Union Assurance Society	200,000
Phoenix, London	200,000
Equity	200,000
Mercantile	200,000
Gore	150,000
London Mutual	200,000
Law, Union and Crown	150,000
Manchester	90,000
Phoenix, Brooklyn	150,000
Phoenix, Hartford	100,000
Quebec	100,000
Insurance Co. of North America	180,000
Sun	200,000
Atlas	300,000
Guardian	300,000
Hartford	160,000
Northern	300,000
British American, including re-insurance of National of Ireland	230,000
Western, including re-insurance of National of Ireland	250,000
Metropolitan	20,000
Hand in Hand, Millers' and Manufacturers' Queen City and Fire Exchange	100,000
Manchester	90,000
Merchants' Fire	24,000
Economical	100,000
Economical, re-insured	300,000
Standard	27,000
Caledonian	175,000
York Mutual	15,000
Canadian Fire	50,000
Mercantile	90,000
Waterloo Mutual	35,000
London Mutual	50,000
Perth Mutual	20,000
Gore Mutual	35,000
Alliance	100,000
Home	65,000
Liverpool and London and Globe	300,000
Sun Fire of England	165,000

CHINESE MISSIONS.

Bishop Favre, Vicar Apostolic of Pekin, reports that during the year 1903, 19 churches, 34 chapels and 90 oratories with presbyteries and schools, have been rebuilt in his vicariate. There remain 190 mission stations to be provided for, which, it is hoped, will be done by means of the forthcoming indemnity. The violated tombs of the ancient Jesuit missionaries have been repaired, and an expiatory Gothic chapel erected over them. All the tombs were found open, but some portions of the remains were found in each. There are 8000 persons under instruction for baptism in his vicariate; and if peace continue, the Christians will soon be more numerous than they were before the persecution. In some parts of China the movement has been checked by rumors of persecution; but, generally, the missionaries state that the number of converts is, or will be, twice as large as usual. From the Jesuit mission of south-eastern China, 11,000 baptisms are reported for 1903, of which 2583 were baptisms of adults. There are 2400 catechumens (under instruction) more than usual, making the entire number 8258. Of the 6000 children in schools, about 1000 are pagans. There are 491 catechists, of whom 267 are teachers; 283 native religious women, of whom 251 teach. Of the 52 priests, 13 are native Chinese. The entire Christian body of this vicariate numbers 49,165. In all China there are at present 10 religious societies of missionaries. The priests number 1522, of whom 481 are natives. The Catholics are put down at 788,000, distributed in 38 vicariates and two prefectures apostolic.—The Messenger Monthly Magazine.

The Irish National Exhibition.

The following is a syllabus of the proposed Irish National Exhibition:

1. An exhibit of all the industries and manufactures existent in Ireland.
2. A department illustrating the industries and manufactures formerly but not now existent in Ireland.
3. A department showing the industrial resources of Ireland at present undeveloped, and displaying the products manufactured from like resources in other countries.
4. A department of Irish art and art handicrafts, and, in connection a general art loan collection, including examples of the application of art to all forms of industry.
5. An agricultural section, including an exposition of the most modern scientific and successful methods of tillage, and of the industries subsidiary to agriculture.
6. A horticultural section, showing the methods of intensive cultivation of the soil practised in Ireland and in other countries.
7. A forestry section, displaying the effects of afforestation and deforestation on the soil, and climate of countries, and an exhibit of the industries which afforestation has created in France, Germany, Norway, Russia, and other countries. This section will be modelled after the French "Exposition Forestiere," and will include an exhibit of all Irish-grown timber, and of timber suitable for growth in Ireland which affords the raw material for profitable industries.
8. An Irish peat section, including an exhibit of the manufactures in Ireland and abroad, which depend on peat. This section will be modelled on the lines of the Peat Exhibition held in Berlin, 1903. It will demonstrate the inexhaustible and untutilized wealth which Ireland possesses in her peat bogs.
9. An Irish mine and quarry section, including an historical view of Irish iron, coal, copper, lead, silver and gold mining and manufacture. This section will include illustrations of products and wrought work from the iron mines and foundries of Tallow, Mountrath, King's County, Roscommon, Leitrim, Cavan, Tyrone, Derry, Carlowe, etc., which formerly successfully competed with English iron in the English market, and which are capable of being again successfully worked.
10. An Irish fisheries section—sea and inland—showing the breeding, curing and marketing of fish and cognate industries.
11. An exhibit of Irish cottage industries.
12. An exhibit of the industries carried on in the Irish-speaking districts.
13. An Irishwoman's section, showing the industries, arts and crafts carried on by women in Ireland at the present time. This section will comprise a model Irish home, showing that all articles required for the household—food, fuel, furniture, clothes, books, music, etc.—can be provided of Irish material and Irish manufacture. Subsidiary to this section will be a domestic economy department which will provide demonstrations in cookery, laundrying, nursing, dress-making, housekeeping, hygiene and physical culture. Specimens of Irishwomen's work in the past, and the appliances used by them, such as the bro or handmill, and the turna or spinning-wheel, and examples of the ornaments and dress used by Irishwomen of all ranks at different periods will be shown in this section.
14. An Irish archaeological and literary section, including an illustration of the arts and crafts peculiar to Ireland in mediaeval times. In connection with this section, entertainments, consisting of Irish plays and Irish concerts in Irish and English, Irish tableaux, and lectures on Irish subjects, will be regularly given.
15. An exhibit of raw material non-productive in Ireland, such as rubber, but which is capable of profitable manufacture in this country.
16. Transit section, showing by machinery, models, etc., facilities for improving land and water transit in Ireland.
17. Electrical section, displaying the evolution from the water and peat supplies of Ireland of power for industrial purposes.
18. Co-operative section, showing the development of industries conducted on co-operative lines in Ireland.

In connection with the exhibition, congresses of Irish resources, Irish industries, Irish education, Irish art, the Irish language, Irish literature, Irish music, Irish archaeology, etc., will be held.

The outdoor amusements will include Irish and classical pastoral plays, aeridhechtheanna, band concerts, sports, athletic contests, including a revival of the Tailtean games, and the usual recreations provided in connection with exhibitions generally. A vast ground map of Ireland showing at a glance the resources of and industries carried on in each of the thirty-two counties, will be constructed in the grounds.

It is intended that the buildings shall be entirely composed of Irish materials, manufactured in Ireland by workmen resident in Ireland.

It is intended that the main building shall be a permanent structure, suitable for the giving of concerts, lectures and periodical exhibitions of particular industries on the plan of those held in Paris, Berlin, London, etc. It is proposed to raise the funds for the purpose of the exhibition as they were raised in the case of the National Exhibition of 1882 by the formation of a limited liability company with a capital of £100,000, divided into shares of £1 each. It is confidently believed that the financial results of the exhibition and the valuable property which will remain to the shareholders in the shape of a great building, so long needed in Dublin, suitable for public entertainments, assemblies, periodical exhibitions, etc., will render the undertaking permanently profitable to the subscribers. The committee believes that the scheme it outlines will secure the approval and support of all Irishmen and Irishwomen irrespective of party who are anxious for the welfare of our country, and it is convinced that an exhibition on these lines will so much promote industrial education in Ireland, and so stimulate Irish enterprise and render such material aid to Irish industries and manufactures, that permanent employment will be provided for greatly-increasing numbers of the people, and the tide of emigration at once considerably checked, since the chief cause of emigration is the lack amongst our people of industrial education, thus rendering Ireland unable to cope with international competition.

The Daily Chronicle contains the following leading article: "We entirely sympathize with those who are doing all in their power to oppose the scheme for holding an International Exhibition in Ireland. The idea has been started by a small body of men, who are in opposition to true Irish feeling, and aim rather at a political move than at the industrial advantage of the country. They wish to raise a guarantee of about £250,000, which is not much in itself, but means a great deal for Ireland, and promises have so far come in very slowly. For the International Exhibition at St. Louis this year, the American Government and the States most nearly concerned have promised the sum of £8,000,000, and what could Ireland hope to do in rivalry with such expenditure? But it is not chiefly on account of the expense that we think the idea ill advised. One of the most hopeful signs of the renewed life in Ireland has been the extraordinary development of her own native arts and industries during the last few years, and anything that would check that movement either by artificial encouragement of imported goods, or by the introduction of foreign standards of taste is only to be deplored. We are glad to see on this subject Sir Horace Plunkett,

who has done more than any living man for Irish agriculture and industry, is entirely at one with the Gaelic League, which aims at developing Irish National art and character on every side. Never has the future of Ireland looked so bright as it does at the present moment, and the reason is simply that almost for the first time the Irish people are looking less than ever before for outside assistance in the form of redress and legislation, but have determined to take their destiny into their own hands and work out their salvation for themselves within the limits of their own country, and on the lines of their own character. An international exhibition, with its array of foreign productions and vulgarized arts, would be coldly received by the people themselves, and act as a hindrance to the notions of progress that now inspires them. A National Exhibition would have a better chance. But there is no hurry for that. The only interesting part of the recent exhibition at Cork was National, and Ireland can well wait ten years before pulling up her arms again to see how they are growing.

Tribute to Nuns.

Who have not seen the Little Sisters of the Poor? But how many have visited their home and know aught of their happy family of old people?

One of the most touching incidents was witnessed not long ago in which two of these Sisters were principals. At a certain factory here in town where stockings are made, the Sisters have been granted permission to come and select odd or defective pairs of hose that could not be used for the regular trade, and in this way many of the old people have been supplied with warm hosiery for the cold winter months.

One day last winter they were engaged in making their selections, but the manager noticed that they took only those of one color or those, at least, that were almost of the same shade. As heretofore they had showed no discrimination against any one color, the manager grew so interested that he finally asked them why they did not take all the stockings as usual.

"Well," explained one of the Sisters with sweet solicitude, "you know many of our people are but children grown old, and they have their likes and dislikes of childhood. Last time we brought home stockings one old lady got a red pair, and one a black pair, and they haven't yet decided which received the best pair. In fact, even yet I think each one thinks the other has the nicer pair, and you know we do not want to cause them any unnecessary unhappiness."

"Their lives for the most part have not been overcrowded with many pleasures, and we want their remaining years to be as free from strife and clouds as much as possible."

Surely in this commercial age such words seem like a bit of lavender pressed in between the leaves of some old-fashioned book. To-day there is an incessant demand for practical charity, which too often means a great deal of investigation, a very little help and no kindness worth mentioning.—Minneapolis Times.

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