

L. & B.
Association
Entertainment,
Patrick's Church,
Night,
17th, 1905.
Readings.

as "Emmett."
Oceller, ex-bari-
the Misses Belle
P. Kelly,
T. G. Ireland
Artrude Murphy,
companionist.

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Main 2645.
IN, Sec-Treasurer

ATIC CLUB.

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reserved, 50c.

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ST. PATRICK'S DAY ISSUE

The above issue will appear early on the morning of the 17th. Those desiring extra copies would do us a favor by notifying us early in the week.

NOTES FROM THE CATHOLIC PARISHES OF THE CITY.

ST. PATRICK'S PARISH.

On Ash Wednesday the ashes were blessed at the 7 o'clock Mass, and distributed immediately after, at 8 o'clock, and again in the evening. The regular monthly meeting of St. Patrick's T. A. & B. Society will take place on Sunday next. His Grace Archbishop Gauthier, of Kingston, who had been a guest at the presbytery, returned home on Tuesday.

ST. ANTHONY'S PARISH.

A solemn anniversary requiem service was sung at St. Anthony's Church on Monday morning for the late Mrs. Donnelly, mother of the pastor, Rev. J. E. Donnelly, who officiated at the service. A very large congregation assisted.

ST. GABRIEL'S PARISH.

After high Mass on Sunday last, the St. Gabriel's Total Abstinence and Benefit Society held their meeting. Mr. E. J. Collier gave notice that he would move at the next meeting that a temperance convention be held. Resolutions of condolence were ordered to be sent to the families of Messrs. Polan and Myles, on their recent bereavement. A special meeting of the juveniles will be held on Sunday to make arrangements for St. Patrick's Day.

ST. MARY'S PARISH.

At the high Mass, Rev. Father McDonald preached on Holy Communion. He divided his sermon into three points: The utility of Holy Communion, how we should communicate, and the thanksgiving after Holy Communion.

In the afternoon the Holy Rosary Sodality held a largely attended meeting. Rev. Father Cullinan presided.

At the St. Patrick's Day parade St. Mary's parish will be well represented, with their Young Men's Society, an equine club of twenty horsemen, a band, delegates from St. Vincent de Paul and Holy Name Societies. The concert given on St. Patrick's night promises to be a great success, financially and otherwise.

FORTY HOURS AT NOTRE DAME.

Last Sunday morning the Forty Hours' Devotion opened at Notre Dame Church. In the evening the Nocturnal Adoration Society were present.

Opening of Lenten Retreat At St. Patrick's.

At high Mass on Sunday the Lenten retreat was opened by the Redemptorist Fathers of Saratoga, N. Y. The opening sermon was preached by Rev. Father Hubert J. Zilles, C.S.S.R., Superior of the missionary band. The Rev. Father took for his text: "Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, because He hath visited and wrought redemption of His people."

Father Zilles cited the reasons and necessity of a mission. For the good that they may be sanctified the more, and thus be prevented from being bad. To raise the dead to life, those who were spiritually dead by sin, to the life of grace and friendship of God. To raise those who were in the grave of religious indifference, to a better understanding of their duties and obligations. Those who were lukewarm must be roused from their spiritual lethargy, mindful of the saying of Christ: "Since ye are neither hot nor cold, I will vomit ye out of my mouth."

In conclusion he urged the congregation to enter with earnestness on the work, so that God's graces would be showered on them in abundance.

In the evening Rev. Father Thomas Cullen, C.S.S.R., opened the married ladies' retreat. The Rev. Father gave a touching exhortation on the importance of salvation. It was simple yet convincing, and every word was heard by the vast congregation of fifteen hundred persons. The preacher took for his text: "What shall a man give in exchange for his soul?" He professed his re-

marks by the following example: "Take saintly Margaret of Austria," he said, "as she beheld walking the corridors of her palace, two paintings. The first painting represented the narrow road leading heavenward and few were walking thither. The second painting represented a broad road, where many were walking, which led to eternal perdition. As she stood in meditation, she was heard to exclaim: 'Here I am walking on one or the other of those two roads. If I am walking on that which leads to the left, what shall become of me at eternity?' Now Margaret of Austria was a saintly woman who had the same God to serve, and the same commandments to obey, that people in the world have, and yet how few there are who shed tears over the uncertainty of their eternal salvation." The preacher then divided his discourse into three points: 1. The importance of salvation. 2. The uncertainty of salvation. 3. Once lost, lost forever.

Speaking on the importance of salvation, the speaker cited an argument from Philip II. of Spain to his son, who was to be his successor after death. As the King was nearing his end he called his son and said to him: "The crowns and kingdoms I have retained, what will all these avail me, if I stand before my God and find out that I have not gained the crown of eternal life. Be wise, my son, and take warning." We generally prize a thing more from the value set upon it. Think of what Christ did for our souls. Christ's bitter passion will tell us the value of an immortal soul and the work we should do to save that soul. The Rev. Father then gave the example of Otto III. of Germany, who visited St. Nilus in the desert. After paying his respects to the saint, he proffered him a little money and the saint refused such an offer, saying that he had made the vow of poverty. Then said the Emperor: "If you have any request to make, make it, and I will grant it." To which the saint answered, as he clasped the Emperor's hand: "Yes, Sir, I have one request to make of you; that you save your soul." And this was the request which the preacher asked of his large congregation. In conclusion, he hoped that all would enter fully into the spirit of the retreat, and the time would be spent profitably and with joy unto the day of salvation.

Services will be held every morning at 8 and every evening at 7.30, for the married ladies this week.

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of this week, at 11 a.m. and at 3 p.m., were devoted to the children of the parish, who attended in large numbers.

The unmarried ladies will have their mission next week, and the men's mission will not take place till Passion week.

SEPARATE SCHOOLS.

(Continued from Page 4.)

The sixty per cent of those who are in favor of common schools have no more right to sixty per cent of the money voted for educational purposes to educate their children according to their own ideas of education, than the forty per cent. (Catholics) would have the right to forty per cent. of the money voted for educational purposes to educate their children according to their ideas. The Catholics of this country pay forty per cent of the taxes, and if the majority has the right to use public money to educate their children according to their ideas of education, the minority has also the right to use their share of the public money to educate their children according to their ideas. In reading different papers opposing Separate schools we would think that the Catholics of this country are not paying any taxes to the public treasury, that they are not citizens, that they have no right to see in what way the money would be spent as to educational purposes.

A cartoon in the World of Saturday represents an American settler coming to the Northwest and astonished by the fact that he is obliged to pay taxes for Catholic schools. This is untrue and unfair. The settlers in the Northwest are not all Protestants. The Catholics pay their share of taxes, the proceeds of which are devoted to education, and is trust money appropriated according to their views.

If the American settler wants to send his children to common school the taxes that he pays will be used for the common schools. If in one district there are sixty children for a common school and forty children for a Catholic school, sixty per cent of the public money will go to the common school and forty per cent to the Catholic school.

Another argument against Separate

St. Patrick's DAY,
Friday, March 17th.

Schools is that by the Constitution certain money coming from the public lands are to go to the public schools. Some say that consequently this money cannot go to Separate Schools. As I have said before, Public Schools are not the schools of sixty per cent. of the population, but schools for one hundred per cent of the population; otherwise schools cannot be public; they can be the schools of the majority, but they are not the schools of the people. By Public Schools we should understand those schools which are used by all the people, and for which there is public money given. For instance, where there are only common schools helped by the government the common schools by the fact that they are used by everyone become public schools. Whereas, in the Province of Quebec, there are Catholic and Protestant schools that receive public money, those Catholic and Protestant schools form the public schools of the Province of Quebec.

What is meant by the constitution is that the money coming from public lands should be given to the schools that exist under the law for the benefit of the public, and the consequence being that if the public system of schools is the system of Separate Schools these schools are entitled to money destined for public schools.

GENERAL ITEMS OF INTEREST AROUND THE CITY.

THE ARCHBISHOP'S RETURN.
His Grace Archbishop Bruchesi will return to Montreal on March 15th.

VISITING THE SCHOOLS.
Inspector McGavan, Government Inspector for Catholic Schools, is busily engaged visiting the different schools of the city.

MONTHLY CONCERTS.
The monthly concerts given in the Catholic Commissioners schools were held on Friday last and interesting programmes were given, including songs, choruses and recitations.

ST. ANN'S HOCKEY TEAM.
On Saturday afternoon St. Ann's hockey team defeated a team from the Hydraulic Company by 12 goals to 1. St. Ann's suffered one defeat this year, when Loyolas defeated them by 3 goals to 0.

ST. PATRICK'S T. A. AND B. SOCIETY.

On Tuesday evening the members of St. Patrick's Total Abstinence and Benefit Society celebrated their 65th anniversary of their organization by holding a euchre party at their hall, 92 Alexander street, which was very successful. A large number assisted and several prizes were donated.

MEAT MAY BE EATEN ON MARCH 17th.

As March 17th falls on Friday this year, Irish Catholics of the diocese who wish to eat meat on the feast day of Ireland's patron saint may do so. As the day falls in Lent, however, it is not permissible to eat fish at the same meal, so that whatever delicacy of the finny tribe may be on the menu, will not be for the consideration of those who wish to discuss the other portions of the dinner.

C.M.B.A. HAVE VISIT FROM ADVISORY BOARD.

At the regular meeting of Branch 10, C.M.B.A., held in their Hall, 329 St. Antoine street, they were honored by a visit from the Advisory Board, and after routine business a pleasant hour was spent. Stirring addresses were delivered by Supreme Trustee Nechan, Supreme Grand Flannery, Grand Deputies Marcell and Grace, Grand Trustee Duggan, President Bishop and 1st Vice-President Fitzpatrick.

Two candidates were initiated and four propositions referred to the Board of Trustees.

ST. ANN'S YOUNG MEN'S SOCIETY.
GALWAY LAW
Irish Drama in 3 Acts, by Mr. EDWIN VARNEY.
New Irish Music, Songs, Choruses, Dances.
COD SAVE IRELAND.
Plan now open at Mr. T. O'CONNELL'S, cor. Ottawa and Murray sts., Phone M 3833, and at Star office, St. James st., on and after Monday, March 13th.
POPULAR PRICES.
2.30 p.m. & 8 p.m.

St. Michael's Parish And Their School Bill.

St. Michael's, Montreal, March 7th, 1905.

To the Editor of the True Witness: Dear Sir,—Would you kindly publish the enclosed letter, which I intended to place in the hands of the Catholic School Board Monday last. I take the responsibility of its publication, as I consider it only fair to St. Michael's to have its side of its school case before the public as well as that of the School Commissioners. Thanking you for your services, I am, dear sir,

Yours truly,
J. P. KIERNAN.

St. Michael's 1602 St. Denis street, Montreal, March 2nd, 1905.

Gentlemen: I, the undersigned, parish priest of the Parish of St. Michael the Archangel of Montreal, beg respectfully to draw the attention of your esteemed board to an application my parishioners are making to the Quebec Legislature in its present session.

I say in all sincerity, that if we were a portion of your school jurisdiction I would not have urged this application. You have shown yourselves so well disposed to the Bethlehem Asylum and to St. Anthony's in voting them a yearly allowance to cover a number of years, and so generous in meeting the wishes of the parishes of the Cathedral and of St. Eusebe, that I would have relied upon sharing like goodwill and generosity in our behalf. As our position now is, I cannot expect to benefit by broad and wise ordinances which your body have issued to meet the legitimate desires and practical views of these various communities. What I might have expected to obtain from your Board, I gratefully acknowledge having received, namely the privilege of having our children admitted into the schools under your control, at the rates at which the children within your territory are admitted.

Not being entitled to your friendly enactments I beg your board to weigh with its usual leisure and impartiality our reasons for urging the endorsement and sanction of the bill we have presented to the Legislature and which will so amend the Education Act as to allow us to enjoy the rights and privileges of Catholic School Boards throughout the Province of Quebec, and which will so convince the English-speaking Catholic population that they do not need to favor a public school system to obtain for their English-speaking Catholic children proportionate opportunities with the French-speaking children in this Province as to reconcile them with the separate school system at present in vogue.

The Parish of St. Michael's is composed of the English-speaking families in the territory that formerly constituted the Mile End parish, the French-speaking Catholic population of which have been distributed so as to form five large promising parishes with suitable churches and commodious school buildings, every one of which parishes has its own school board wholly distinct and independent. If there was only one school board to consult and to dispose, our position would not be as "unique et penible" as the late regretted Secretary of your board, Mr. Archambault, described it. There being as many school boards as there are French parishes, it is easily conceivable how morally impossible it is to organize and advance a school system as our English-speaking population justly demands, and such as their children require to equip themselves to cope with their co-linguists of other creeds, who are provided with most modern and approved methods of instruction, and who will not brook any error in expression or pronunciation. It is not possible even in the two classes of St. Edwards wherein are found all grades

from the alphabet to the fourth reader, all of which grades are taught in each room by its respective teacher, which cannot be done with due advantage to the scholar nor with out excessive fatigue to the teachers. In saying this I do not wish to convey that we do not appreciate the concessions made by the School Board of St. Edward's, nor the kindness of their Reverend President. The existence of these six independent school boards upon which we English-speaking Catholics depend, bear witness to the ability and zeal of the reverend pastors of these six French-speaking parishes. The prosperity of their parishes would be secured or maintained more easily by separate school boards and there was nothing in the legal way of their erection or continuance, hence their existence. I congratulate these parishes and rejoice with their pastors in what they have achieved, and I do not expect any opposition direct or indirect from their representatives. Opposition would be unworthy of the spirit of liberality and broadmindedness which makes for betterment and peace in any community. Co-operation and assistance would contribute largely to excite and enliven that good feeling required to secure union of sentiment and action in our ever-increasing population of different creeds and tongues in the north end of Montreal and of its suburbs. Our central school with its private schools situate in convenient sections of the parish would contribute in perfecting the educational facilities of this neighborhood and obviate the necessity in which French-speaking parents are sending their children long distances at considerable expense, to St. Patrick's or to St. Ann's and to other schools in the city, to complete their instruction, after having graduated in French.

His Grace the Archbishop of Montreal sympathizes with us and would faint assist us; our friends throughout the city view our state with again akin to indignation, but the law as it now reads, cannot relieve us, as the Superintendent himself informs me. It is not only expedient, therefore, but necessary to apply for an act that will allow us to collect and use our own taxes, viz., the tax of English-speaking proprietors, and thereby supply our children with suitable schools that will prepare them for their life struggle.

Rumor says that your Board will oppose the granting of our petition, I am at a loss to conceive upon what grounds to base such an assumption. We are outside of your limits; if later on, you should incorporate the school boards of the upper levels of Montreal and of the suburbs, we will be as willing as the other school boards will be; if you do not incorporate these upper town boards, we will do the best we may, and our existence will be assured both by the levy of taxes and by voluntary contributions.

In the meanwhile I beg to state again that I cannot conceive that you do not concur with us in our efforts. It would seem to me as if you owed this to us for the advancement of education, of which you are the champions in this city, and likewise to these residents both English-speaking and French-speaking within your school limits who have purchased property in our locality, and the value of which hinges on the facilities of learning not only French but English also.

As I already asserted, if we had to deal with one school board we would have little to fear; having six school boards to approach and to favorably enlist in our interests, we have everything to fear, for their spirit might be willing, but the flesh being weak, the weakness and the versatility of their human nature might assert itself to our detriment and discomfort. Truly there never was nor ever will be such an anomaly as our position presents, whence there can be no subject for alarm for any board, nor can there be found any cause on which to build a precedent. The deep interest, gentlemen, that you take in education and the im-

portance of the subject of this letter have prompted you to give patient and attentive ear to its contents. I hope that I have not penned one syllable of exaggeration nor one word that could be construed as indicating any biased idea. My object in life has always been to aim at securing fair treatment to all by insisting on the observance of principle and charity. "Justice and peace have kissed," says the Psalmist. Granted it is that fairness and equity conduce to harmony and good will.

I am, gentlemen,
Your grateful servant,
JOHN P. KIERNAN.
To the members of the Catholic School Board, Montreal.

At the special meeting of the School Commissioners held on Monday morning for the purpose of discussing the project of a separate school board for St. Michael's Parish, the Commissioners bitterly opposed the movement, and appointed Right Rev. Bishop-elect Racicot, and Messrs. John Semple and Paul Martineau as a delegation to go to Quebec and fight the bill.

BBY'S OWN TABLETS.

A Pleasant Medicine Which All Children Will Take Readily.

You do not have to coax and threaten to get the little ones to take Baby's Own Tablets. The ease with which they are given as compared with liquid medicines will appeal to every mother. None is spilled or wasted; you know just how big a dose has reached the little stomach. As a remedy for all the ills of babyhood and childhood arising from derangements of the stomach and bowels Baby's Own Tablets have no equal. Mrs. E. A. Jewers, Mitchell Bay, N.S., says:—"I think the Tablets a blessing to both mother and children as I find them a certain cure for all the ills to which little ones are subject. I do not know how I could get on without them." Sold by all medicine dealers or by mail at 25c a box by addressing the Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

How the Young Irishmen's L. & B. Association Will Celebrate St. Patrick's Day.

Following its custom, the Young Irishmen's Literary and Benefit Association will, this year, celebrate the anniversary of St. Patrick on an elaborate scale. This worthy organization, always in the front rank of Irish national affairs, will endeavor to eclipse previous efforts in this connection. The members are working hard towards making the celebration thoroughly national in character and in keeping with the standard established by the association. As usual the society will have its place in the parade, and, judging by the enthusiasm shown by the members, it is safe to predict that the turnout will be a creditable, large and representative one. An excellent band of forty pieces has been engaged to precede the Association. In the evening the Society will hold its entertainment in Windsor Hall. This entertainment will be on a large scale indeed, and, from an artistic point of view, promises to be one of the memorable ones in the history of St. Patrick's night celebrations. The preparations that are being made and the reputations of those who will contribute, indicate a distinct success. The different items selected to form the programme constitute all that is best in Irish music and song. In addition to this several Irish dances will be given, also dramatic readings, and the trial scene from "Robert Emmet." There will be a chorus of 125 well-trained voices, altogether 150 people taking part. Prof. J. A. Fowler, L. Mus., Organist of St. Patrick's Church, who has brought so many similar entertainments to a successful issue, has the control of this, and under his able direction a splendid production is assured.