

THE TRUE WITNESS

OFFICIAL ORGAN

OF THE

ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS



OF HOCHELAGA COUNTY, QUEBEC

County officers for 1889 and 1900:
Wm. Rawley, County President, 78
Mansfield Street.
J. S. Fitzpatrick, Vice County President, 159 De Montigny Street.
Jas. McIver, County Secretary, 329
St. Antoine Street.
Humphrey T. Kearns, County Treasurer, 51 Gain Street.
Board meets third Friday of each month, at 1863 Notre Dame Street, 8 p.m.

SATURDAY, JUNE 2, 1900

FEDERATION OF CATHOLIC SOCIETIES.

Mr. H. J. Rush, chairman of the Committee of Federation of Catholic Societies, has written a lengthy report to those who insinuate, or assert, that that movement means the formation of a Catholic political party. The general lines of the subject have more to do with the United States than with Canada, but there are a few points in Mr. Rush's letter that may find general application wherever Catholic societies exist. After speaking of the circular issued in September last, explaining the federation movement that was commenced in June previous, he says:—

"The keynote of this circular and of all subsequent federation literature was the necessity for Catholic lay action. Federation was outlined on a basis of autonomy for each society, a central board for the purpose of better carrying out the fraternity taught by societies, of exchanging unsuccessful features of the different societies, of establishing a bureau for the dissemination of Catholic literature, employing bureaus, etc., and the address concluded with an appeal for federation, in order to stimulate the activity of laymen in Catholic affairs and to provide a Catholic Union of America, as England has her Catholic Union of Great Britain."

In subsequent correspondence with the officers of different societies, it was stated that the Church is greater than any organization that can be found within her; that, whatever be the immediate purpose of any such organization, one thing that it will look to as its ultimate object is the strengthening of the Church at large; the one thing to be desired is that our people feel proud of the grand old Church of God and that, while it is intended to take a wider scope than local societies, Catholic laymen must be practical Catholics before seeking admission and their spirit must be such as to make men love and practice their faith. The formation of a Catholic political party has always been, and is now, disclaimed, and every communication insisted upon the fact that politics must not enter the movement. The local federations of societies, organized as a direct result of the agitation of the Knights of St. John, in the District of Columbia, Pittsburgh, Cincinnati, Texas, California, etc., never once mentioned politics or party and have framed their by-laws in accordance with the views outlined above, so as to be ready at any time to join the national federation. For this reason also, the Federation Committee emphasized the fact that no society was to lose its entity or autonomy, character or language. Moreover, no definite step was taken until the movement had received the approval of the Cardinal, Apostolic Delegate and several Bishops."

From the pen of an eminent ecclesiastic comes the following:—
"Literature of one kind or another has been the means of a thousand prejudices from which we are suffering. The press is a power which we have not used for our protection as others have used it against us. And yet in our country it is as readily open to our use as it is to any other class. Lies and misrepresentation of one kind or another have found their way into the daily press and have been spread broadcast over the world with scarcely a denial or a correction from us; and it is generally our own fault that it is so. The press is a business enterprise; and, with rare exceptions, will receive our statements if we take the trouble to make them. Lies and misrepresentations undenied and uncorrected are taken to be true by the reading public. The federation, if used properly, would furnish an easy means of communicating with one another all over the land the correction and the desired statement of facts. But more than this—it might be made the cheapest way of distributing clear and faithful statements of Catholic doctrine to millions whose hearts really long for the truth. It might, in fact, originate a National Truth Society, such as that in England which has become a power."

"But, moreover, there is a field for good that we are neglecting and have neglected from the beginning of our national existence. The libraries of the country, public and private, are stocked with books and

THE BEST should be your aim when buying medicine. Get Hood's Sarsaparilla and have the best medicine MONEY CAN BUY.

periodicals that are poisoning the minds of the multitude against the truth. We cannot reach the private libraries we can, nearly all the school libraries and many others which our taxes help to support. If there were an organized effort all over the country that would see to it that if poison goes into these libraries the antidote should go along with it, many, at least, would take the antidote. We have not been vigilant on this point. It is a shame that ten or twelve millions of people are willing to pay their taxes to have themselves poisoned before the world, without at least an effort to set themselves right. History and fiction—history itself, when relating to us, is often little better than fiction—are poisoning the minds of old and young alike against us; and so long as this is true, prejudices will never die. It is not enough to build schools and maintain them for the protection of our children. We are paying taxes for the education of other people's children; and the whole system, the libraries included, is a public system which we should see is not used for the propagation of falsehood and misrepresentation. If we had not a child in the public schools we should still have the right and be under the duty of seeing that school libraries be not made channels of falsehood and breeders of unnatural prejudices. The very text-books of history in many of our high schools are grossly unfair and objectionable. Individuals here and there may raise objections; but nothing but organized and united effort all over the country can hope to accomplish any real and lasting good. It is a misfortune for anybody to be misinformed as to any fact—no matter what its nature. And without going so far as to say that 'History is a conspiracy against the truth,' it is known to us all that much of the history written to-day for the young is not history, but fiction, written with a design to blacken the Catholic Church. All this certainly offers a wide field for lay organized action. With some such federation as you speak of, I believe that any society might still maintain its immediate purpose—literary, charitable, social or beneficial—and still co-operate in carrying out some or all the purposes here outlined."

MARRIAGE LAWS IN CUBA.

The Boston "Herald" says:—From letters received in the United States by officers of the Federal Government and by private individuals in this city and elsewhere from correspondents in Havana, it is learned that there is great discontent in the island of Cuba over the present laws concerning marriage. These laws were enacted at the instance of the officers of the American regime, and have become intensely odious to the native Cubans and to most of the American residents of the island of whatever religious creed. As the situation now stands, and as it has stood for nearly a year, no marriage by a priest or other minister of the gospel is valid, the only legal marriage recognized by the authorities being a civil one.

One of the first questions which the newly appointed Bishop of Havana, Mgr. Sharetti, took up was that of the present state of the marriage law on his assumption of the duties of his See. He found that the agitation in favor of a repeal of the law was almost universal on the island, and that both the clergy and laity were endeavoring to bring such an appeal about by petition and otherwise, one of the most earnest in advocating an immediate repeal being the Rev. W. A. Jones, of the Order of St. Augustine, an American priest, who was sent to Havana to take charge of the only English-speaking Catholic church in that city.

It was on May 31, 1899, that General John R. Brooke, U. S. A., then exercising the office of Military Governor of Cuba, directed the publication of an order purporting to be a new marriage law for the island of Cuba. It was said that General Brooke issued this order at the instance of Senor Lanuza, formerly Secretary of Justice and Public Instruction, known as a bitter enemy of the Roman Catholic Church. The substance of General Brooke's law is as follows:

"Hereafter civil marriages only shall be legally valid. The contracting parties may conform to the precepts of whatever religion they may profess in addition to the formalities necessary to contract the civil marriage."

"The officials in charge of the execution of the laws respecting marriage shall not accept as legal the written license or consent of the parent, when the same shall have been taken before an ecclesiastical notary, nor shall any such certificate be accepted which is not attested by the civil functionaries."

Elihu Root, Secretary of War, had his attention called to the feeling on the question of the new marriage law during the course of his late visit to the island of Cuba, and it is said, discussed the matter with Governor-General Wood. Strong efforts are on foot to get Governor-General Wood to modify the law, and a petition, containing more than 30,000 signatures, looking to that end, has been prepared for presentation to him.

The Rev. Father Alexander P. Doyle, of the Paulist Fathers, who is deeply interested in the situation in Cuba, and who is in constant correspondence with representatives of the Catholic Church in Havana, had this to say yesterday concerning the obnoxious Cuban marriage law:—

"I do not believe that Gen. Brooke is personally responsible for that iniquitous marriage law in Cuba. I believe that the General tried to be perfectly honest and square in his difficult task of administering the law at a time when everything was in a state of flux. Still, when the matter is looked at, in the light of healthy American sentiment, it is simply astounding that under the

protection of the American flag such a savage attack should be made on 'the free exercise of religion.' Senor Lanuza is, of course, the perpetrator of the attack. The enacting of this law was unfortunate, because before the Cuban people the American authorities appear as persecutors of the Church. I am quite sure Gen. Wood, whose high instincts of honor have already made him a successful ruler in Cuba, sees the fatal mistake that has been made and is only too anxious to repeal the odious law."

A thing of beauty is joy forever, and of all the beauties that adorn humanity, there is nothing like a fine head of hair. The surest way of obtaining that is by use of **LUBY'S** Parisian Hair Renewer. At all druggists. 50c a bottle.

FROM THE SEAT OF WAR.

FROM NAZARETH NUNS. — We take the following extracts from a letter received by Rev. Mother-General, Nazareth House, Hammersmith, London:—

All the people in Kimberley were astonished when they found the town was besieged. The first alarm occurred on Sunday, October 15, when the station master sent us word that the Boers were upon us and that they had torn up the railway lines, cut the telegraph wires, and were doing their best to turn the water from Kimberley. All the hooters at the mines went off, which was the signal for all men to take up arms. This happened during the 11 o'clock Mass. Every man cleared out of church to their posts. For a couple of hours there was nothing but panic. Every one came running into Kimberley from the outskirts. Every available conveyance and train were sent to fetch in women and children, as they were ordered into larger in the Town Hall. Most of our benefactors (Catholics) rushed to our house; women with their infants, breathless and crippled old people asked to be allowed to sit on our steps for the night. About three p.m. every one felt faint; it was only then we remembered the dinner of the Sisters was forgotten. Next day the enemy stole all the sanitary nuns and horses, numbering about 300. After that the sanitary arrangements were most trying on account of the heat and the number of people in the house. For a fortnight we got three pails of water daily for cooking. All bathing and washing of clothes had to be discontinued. One basin of water had to wash us all in the mornings. On the 2nd November the Boers sent a shell in, which fell on the powder magazine of one of the mines and the explosion was so terrible and so near that through the smoke we hardly knew for a few seconds if we were living or dead. Thank God no lives were lost. On the 7th November the Boers began shelling the town. At first we were greatly alarmed as the shells were falling very close to us; one struck the Dutch Orphanage next to us. Provisions were getting very scarce. Two Sisters, with a permit, went every morning for the meat. A poor Kafir woman had her head blown off by a shell, so some days we could not send, as it was not safe to go out of the House. We had two or three hard fights close to us, and, unfortunately, each time we were defeated, many of our men wounded and killed, which has thrown a gloom over the whole town and numbers of families into mourning. Our House was taken for the wounded, and forty beds put up for them. We have our old people and children just as usual. We converted the schoolroom into a dormitory for the children.

The Bishop was very ill and laid up here from an attack of jaundice. His Lordship was at death's door but, thank God, he got better. He was the first to occupy a military bed. At the time of his illness there was the greatest difficulty in getting food for a sick person. Eggs 25s. a dozen and 15s. for twelve potatoes. We are eating horse flesh. I felt so much to see the poor Bishop eat it, but we could get nothing else. The Mayor of Beaconsfield ventured outside the barrier and took six potatoes from the Boer stores, by some way or other, brought them to us in his pocket so that the Bishop might have them. At that time we were on weekly rations. We were allowed forty pints of soup each day with the horse flesh. They were very kind to us. Our cows were left to us so that we had milk for the wounded and for our poor people. We had milk in our tea every day, which very few had. Four hundred babies in town died for want of milk.

A SOUTH AFRICA TOWN. — Bloemfontein is a pretty town of about 4,000 inhabitants. The Catholic mission dates from 1870. The present substantial church was blessed by Bishop Jolivet in 1881, the president of the Free State and his family being amongst the large congregation assisting at the High Mass and sermon. The mission is served at present by three Oblate Fathers. Two of these, however, are very frequently absent, one of them serving Brandfort and Koonstad, and some scattered Catholics along the line of railway, and the other passing from farm house to farm house amongst the isolated Catholics of the State. The resident priest at Bloemfontein is Father Bompert, who may be said to have grown up with the country. At least he has grown old on the South African mission. The Nuns of the Holy Family have two schools at Bloemfontein, with 100 boarders and over 200 other pupils.

BOERS AND CATHOLICS. — The following letter on "the Boer treatment of Catholics," has been addressed

by the Vicar Apostolic of Natal, to the Editor of "The Weekly Register."

Dear Sir,—I see that the Boer treatment of Catholics is still a subject of controversy in England, as the simple truth is often distorted according to the bias of the writer or speaker.

Generally speaking, I can aver that the Boers, at least for the last twenty years, have not persecuted the Catholics. They have often been kind to them, and in my travels through the Free State and the Transvaal I have experienced their kindness and hospitality, notwithstanding their ignorant and absurd prejudices against the Catholic Church and her ministers. I may add that lately the Boer authorities have been (to use Father Baudry's expression) kindness itself towards Catholic priests and nuns, with a view to gaining the sympathy of Catholic nations, and of Ireland in particular. But Dr. Leyds has overshoot the mark when he dared write to an Irish member of Parliament that there is no law in the Transvaal debarring Catholics from employment under Government. His statement, made public by the press, is "unequivocal," and he knew it to be so when he made it. It is true that two or three Catholics have been admitted by favor into Government offices. I have been told, moreover, that some Hollanders, by concealing their religion, have got into some situation or other, but all this is illegal. The Catholics are still politically "boycotted," the law against them has been maintained in spite of the Convention with England, wherein it was stipulated that religious disabilities were to be abolished. Is not this a distinct breach of the Convention? Mr. Chamberlain does not seem to have laid much stress on this violation of the Convention, which, however, affects us very severely as Catholics. Perhaps he was afraid that the Boers might have retorted by a "tu quoque," as religious disabilities are still in force in Ireland.

Now a word on the specific case of the Newcastle convent. It is not true that the nuns were awakened at night and hunted away by the Boers, who at that moment were at a good distance from Newcastle, although expected to arrive there in a short time. Neither is it true that the English authorities compelled the nuns to depart; they might have remained, but they were strongly, "very strongly," advised to leave at once. They were told that the train, probably the last train, would go in a couple of hours; that if they chose to remain the Government would not be responsible for the safety of their persons or of their property. Under these circumstances what could the poor nuns do but go at once as advised, what their treatment by the Boers might have been was, to say the least, problematical. In Johannesburg the case is different. There the war does not rage and order prevails. The nuns, mostly French, and all under a French superior, were allowed to continue their services in the hospital when the English nurses were dismissed. Their services could not be dispensed with, and altogether the circumstances were different from the state of Newcastle, suddenly invaded by the enemy.

When the Boers came to Newcastle they looted the convent and desecrated the chapel. Pianos, tables, beds, everything was carried away. The premises were left in a filthy state, but the buildings were not destroyed, and I am informed that they are now used by the Boers as a hospital.

It cannot be denied that the Boers do loot and too often wantonly destroy everything in the house which they find deserted. General Joubert is a good and brave man, and where his influence is felt we need fear no great excesses; but he is not ubiquitous.

Give no credit to reports of "Boer atrocities" or "British atrocities" which may find their way into newspapers. War is always a cruel thing, and many irregular and deplorable acts may be committed by both parties, but, on the whole, the Boers are not worse than other people. I can gather a little comfort and consolation in the thought that on both sides the prisoners are treated with humanity.



Summer Furniture

We are now showing the largest assortment of Summer Furniture of all kinds in the city. Elegant designs combined with very low prices make it possible for you to have really tasty chairs and rockers, etc., etc., on your lawn or verandah. Call in and examine our stock.

Renaud, King & Patterson,

652 CRAIG St., 2442 ST. CATHERINE St.



A Contented WOMAN

is not contented simply because she uses SURPRISE Soap; but the use of this soap contributes largely to her contentment. In proportion to its cost, it's the largest factor in household happiness.

It is pure, lasting and effective; it removes the dirt quickly and thoroughly without boiling or hard rubbing.

SURPRISE is a pure hard Soap.

JOHN MURPHY & CO.

THE NEWEST IN Summer Dress Goods!

ALL THE CHOICEST NOVELTIES IN FULL ASSORTMENT.

45 new colors, 54 inch Checked Suitings, extra fine quality, \$1.10 per yard.

54 inch Check Housewoven, a novelty, new colors, the finest made, price \$1.50 per yard.

New black and white checked Dress Goods, all sizes of checks, all 54 inches wide. Price from 75c per yard.

Fancy Checked Voile de Laine, all the latest shades, for Spring and Summer wear, price, \$1.00 per yard.

Fancy Silk and Wool Dress Goods, a large assortment to select from. A leader at 40c per yard.

Fine Fancy Checked Dress Goods, all colors in this lot. Here is a bargain, 25c per yard.

50 Pieces Fancy and Tartan Checks, any color or plaid wanted in this lot. All prices from 25c per yard.

54 inch Camel's Hair Plaids, only the latest shades in this lot. Price, \$1.50 per yard.

Country Orders Carefully filled. Samples sent by mail.

JOHN MURPHY & CO.

2343 St. Catherine Street, corner of Metcalfe Street.

TERMS CASH Telephone Up 328.

After a thorough analysis, and proof of its purity, the leading Physicians of Canada are recommending

COWAN'S Hygienic Cocoa

to their patients. It builds up and strengthens the system. It is a perfect food as well as drink.

CARPETS.

Large openings of new effects, beautiful goods, and in time to meet the heavy demands. Carpets from leading makers, and up-to-date effects. Curtains, Drapes, Rugs, Mats. Also an immense stock of China and Jap Mattings for summer use.

THOMAS LICGET, 1884 Notre Dame Street, 2446 St. Catherine Street, Montreal. 175 to 179 Sparks Street, Ottawa.

WALTER KENNEDY,
DENTAL SURGEON,
REMOVED TO 758 PALACE STREET
Two Doors West of Beaver
Hall Hill.

St. Patrick's Society.
The regular monthly meeting of St. Patrick's Society will be held in the St. Patrick Hall, 92 St. Alexander Street, on Monday evening, June 4, 1900, at Eight o'clock.

By Order,
S. CROSS, Sec. Soc.

CARPETS.

Always wide awake to the requirements of our customers we have taken extra pains to have a stock of such Carpets as the present day calls for and in sufficient quantities to supply any reasonable demand.

We are showing a fine range of Wiltons in plain colors, Red, Blue, and Green, with 3/4 fancy borders to match.

Drawing Room Wiltons in exquisite designs.

Dining-room Wiltons of the most appropriate designs for bedrooms and bedrooms.

Rich Wiltons for the library or sitting-room.

Soft, mossy Axminsters, luxurious to the tread and pleasant to the eye, a little more than the cost of Brussels.

Now Scroll Brussels in 2 tints in Green, Blue, and New Red with handsome borders to match.

Brussels for halls and stairs in great variety.

A full range of yard wide Brussels stair carpets.

Red Turkish Rugs, all sizes.

Yard wide Red Turkish stair carpets (very rare).

Hearth Rugs and Door Mats in endless variety.

Best imported all Wool Squares, will wear like Brussels, in all sizes and newest designs.

All Wool and Union Art Squares, all sizes cheap.

Hammocks, Carpet Sweepers, Window Shades, Cellophane, Linoleums, Cork Carpet and Inlaid Linoleums.

TRAVELLING REQUIREMENTS.
Fine Range of Travelling Rugs With Leather Straps, Ladies' Waterproofs, Umbrellas, Parasols and other requirements that makes travelling a pleasure.

Weldon's Patterns and Journals for June.

OGILVY'S

Cor. St. Catherine and Mountain sts.

GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY SYSTEM

IMPROVED TRAIN SERVICE

MONTREAL AND OTTAWA.			
Ly Montreal	7:30 a.m.	Ar Ottawa	11:20 a.m.
" "	10:40 a.m.	" "	12:10 p.m.
" "	14:00 p.m.	" "	16:20 p.m.
" "	15:50 p.m.	" "	19:10 p.m.
Ly Ottawa	10:10 a.m.	Ar Montreal	9:50 a.m.
" "	12:40 p.m.	" "	11:15 a.m.
" "	14:20 p.m.	" "	16:00 p.m.
" "	18:30 p.m.	" "	9:45 p.m.

*Daily. †Daily except Sunday.

FAST EXPRESS TRAINS.

TORONTO AND WEST.

Ly Montreal	9:00 a.m.	Ar Toronto	10:30 p.m.
Ar Toronto	5:00 p.m.	Ar Montreal	7:15 a.m.
Ar Hamilton	6:55 p.m.	Ar Montreal	8:30 a.m.
Ar Niagara	8:40 p.m.	Ar Montreal	10:10 a.m.
Ar Buffalo	10:00 p.m.	Ar Montreal	12:00 noon
Ar London	9:50 p.m.	Ar Montreal	11:00 a.m.
Ar Detroit	8:45 a.m.	Ar Montreal	1:10 p.m.
Ar Chicago	2:30 p.m.	Ar Montreal	3:45 p.m.

On Sundays leave Montreal 8 p.m.

City Ticket Office, 137 St. James Street and Bonaventure Station.

New Publications.

FOR SALE BY

B. HERDER,

17 S. Broadway, St. Louis, Mo.

BECKER, REV. WM., S.J.—Christian Education, or the Duties of Parents. Rendered from the German into English by a Priest of the Diocese of Cleveland, 12mo. 424 pages, cloth, \$1.25 net.

BELLORD, RT. REV. JAMES, D.D.—"Titular Bishop of Melevis, Vicar Apostolic of Gibraltar. Outlines of Meditations. Extracted from the Meditations of Dr. John Michael Kroust, S.J., 18mo. 10 and 180 pages. Cloth— .40 net.

KUEMMEL KONRAD.—In the Turkish Camp and Other Stories. From the German by Mary Richards Gray. 18mo. 136 pages. Cloth, special cover design— .50.

HAMON, E., S.J., BEYOND THE GRAVE.—From the French. By Anna T. Sadlier. With the "Imprimatur" of the Rt. Rev. John Joseph Kain, Archbishop of St. Louis. 12mo. (810 pages) Fine cloth, with title on cover and back, net \$1.

"... This book is a treasure of spiritual truths—the most consoling ones. A few moments given to the reading of the work would lighten our crosses considerably." (The Carmelite Review, Niagara Falls, Ont., 1898, No. 6.)