

NOTE AND COMMENT.

There is great distress in the Holy Land. Thousands of famine-stricken people are flocking into Jerusalem and all the charitable institutions of the city are taxed far beyond their resources. We read of the countless blessings to humanity that were to spring up from the foot-prints of the German Emperor, as he prosecuted his recent pilgrimage to the sacred places of the East. Evidently plenty and prosperity were not amongst the blessings that were to befall the Emperor for a time, and startle the lethargic Orientals into some kind of usefulness and life. Truly have the words of the Prophet been amply fulfilled as far as Jerusalem is concerned. That once centre of human activity, and greatness, is but a vast monument of the past, preaching lessons for the future. Every year the Sultan sends a sacred camel with Imperial presents to Mecca; this year it is quite probable that neither camel nor gifts will reach the Holy City of the Prophet. The vessel containing this precious cargo is tied up at Scutari, opposite Constantinople. The trouble is all due to the fact that the Turkish Government has not coal and cannot get any. All the coal is in the possession of the "infidel dogs," called Christians; the Turks have no money to pay for the commodity; and the "barbaric and sordid" Christians will not trust the children of the Prophet. Hence the exceptional situation of a whole navy being useless for the time being. The Turks fear evil consequences if that special camel cannot get to Mecca; in fact they see a bad omen in the misfortune. It certainly does look dark for the Sultan's future, and the stability of Turkey, but, in our civilized eyes, the omen of misfortune does not consist in the fact that the sacred camel may fail to reach Mecca, but in the other more striking one, that the Sultan has no coal for his vessels, no money wherewith to buy it, and no credit in the commercial world. He offers honors and decorations in lieu of money; but they will not be accepted. Imagine, on a small scale, a citizen of Montreal offering to settle his coal bill with complimentary expressions of high esteem, and by styling the coal dealer Honorable Mr. — It looks gloomy for the "Unspeakeable Turk."

Some weeks ago, a gentleman with a familiar English name gave the writer a peculiar surprise. He was a quiet, intelligent, refined and evidently educated man. Our meeting was accidental; he introduced himself. It seemed to us, from the first, that there was something wrong with him, but for an ordinary observer or chance acquaintance it would not be easy to indicate what that something was. After some general and yet very interesting remarks, he gravely informed us that in four years hence he would celebrate his two thousandth birthday. Since almost the beginning of the Christian era he has been in possession of the famed "Elixir of Life."

He spoke most eloquently for one-half hour, about various famous characters he had seen, known, or been contemporaneous with. It would take a small pamphlet to relate all he said, of deep interest every word, concerning Julius Caesar, Constantine, the Great, Luther, Pope Leo X., Napoleon I., Bruce, Brian Boru, and other striking historical personages. Here was a monomaniac beyond all doubt. The source of his mental derangement was this belief in the "Elixir of Life," and in his imaginary possession of it. To prove to us that he enjoyed that unique advantage he quoted Bulwer Lytton's "Zanoni," and the "Strange Story."

Here we have an educated gentleman, but one of not overstrung nervous and mental stability, completely overturned and made practically insane by the study of and the undue meditation on two novels, which, to the vast majority of men, are not only harmless but even highly instructive. We relate this incident, in order to ask our readers a question, and to leave to themselves the answer. If the elegant style and wonderful charm of Lord Lytton's romances could thus turn a reasonable being into a semi-maniac, what must not be the pernicious, the deadly influence upon hundreds of thousands of young and informed minds, exercised by the light, the low, the sensational, the infidel, the immoral literature that floods the world even as a poisoned sea.

Here is food for a little serious reflection.

Rev. Father Fallon, O. M. I., pastor of St. Joseph's Church, Ottawa, recently delivered a series of sermons on Anglican orders and kindred subjects. Rev. Mr. Gorman of Grace Church undertook to refute Father Fallon. The result so far has been

that Father Fallon announced last Sunday, that he had baptized three converts to Catholicity, during the week past, and that he expected to perform the same service for a couple more this week. In a small way this illustrates the eventual end of all honestly conducted controversies between Catholicity and Protestantism. It generally happens that those, "Who came to scoff remained to pray," so must it be finally, in the great controversy between the Church and the various sects that continue against her. The future has in reserve may a Newman, a Manning and a Brownson, the shattering of the great Anglican fabric, under the hammer of its own divisions, will bring about more wonderful conversions before the coming century shall dawn upon us.

Death is always sad, always terrible, but when the fatal stroke comes without warning, it leaves still sadder expressions and more terrible lessons. On last Saturday, the late Sergeant P. N. Chretien, of the Provincial Police force, was thus suddenly called away from the very heart of life's activity to the endless repose of death. Returning from the office to his home, about 11.30 p.m., he was stricken with heart failure, and died in the Bleury Street car. Mr. Chretien was in his sixty-fourth year and had been twenty-two years in the Provincial Police force, and for the last four years was in the Government service. He leaves a wife, who is ill, one son, and ten daughters, one of whom is a nun in the Grey Nunnery and five are members of the Congregation de Notre Dame. The coroner did not deem it necessary to hold an inquest, as the case was evidently from natural causes. We desire to express our sympathy with the members of the family, and especially with the afflicted widow, who has been a sufferer some time from illness.

We hear a great deal about the harshness of Roman Catholic Bishops in dealing with refractory members of their clergy. No doubt the priest who has been suspended, or else excommunicated will do his utmost to shield himself by launching accusations of tyranny against the ecclesiastical superiors whom he had driven to the extreme method adopted. Not a word, however, about the misconduct, which forced upon the spiritual authorities a course at once at variance with their inclinations and sentiments. In this regard it might not be untimely to give the following letter, which we translate from the "Semaite Religieuse de Gand." The priest therein mentioned, has been one of the most difficult of erring ecclesiastics to deal with; yet, mark the charitable but firm tone of his bishop.

"In order that our dear brethren of the diocese may not be led into error, we are obliged to inform them that our pastoral duty has imposed on us the painful obligation of forbidding one of our priests, after fruitless warnings, to celebrate Holy Mass. The refusal of Rev. Mr. Daens to conform in future with the regulations that were obliged to make regarding the celebration of the Holy Sacrifice; his refusal also to appear, after several invitations, before his bishop, have necessitated this step—painful as it may be—in the interest of ecclesiastical discipline and of the maintenance of authority."

"We are convinced that our dear brethren of the diocese understand more and more how the agitations of this priest, principally on account of this abuse of ecclesiastical dignity, have long been obstacles to the union of our Catholic people, to peace between the various social classes, and we may repeat, to the interests of true Christian doctrine, against which he awakens a defiance, and whose real defenders he attacks and seeks to depreciate."

"May it please God that the one, who has rendered this sad measure necessary may soon be animated with better sentiments and follow, as should a true priest, the direction of the Holy Father and of the Bishops."

(Signed)

† ANTOINE,
Bishop of Gand.

Gand, 30th December, 1898.

UNIVERSITY OF OTTAWA
TO ERECT A NEW BUILDING.

The Faculty of the University of Ottawa, proposes to build a new building next spring. It will be in front of the principal wing of the University. The dimensions of the building will be 85 feet in length, by 98 in depth, and 76 feet in height, and will comprise a basement and three stories. The first story will be entirely occupied by a museum of natural history, containing splendid specimens of nearly all the fauna of Canada. This collection is the fruit of almost forty years of labor and

research, especially on the part of Rev. Father I. Arnaud, O. M. I., one of the Labrador missionaries, and a man who utilized his long and numerous sojourns amongst the Indians, and his relations with the Hudson Bay Company, to erect a magnificent monument to science—the most complete and most beautiful in all Canada. On the second story will be the large physical laboratory, supplied with the latest instruments, where the University students, during their years of physics, may repair three or four times each week, to make the practical experiments that must accompany the theory of that science. The study of physics which always held a high place in the University's curriculum, will be so aided by this perfect equipment, that it will place the University of Ottawa on an equal footing with those universities which have been so liberally endowed by the princely gifts of generous benefactors. The faculty proposes, in the near future, to establish a course of physics for the young men who wish to make a specialty of that branch.

All we have thus said about physics may apply to chemistry and mineralogy, two sciences which have of late years made marked progress, and have opened out for scores of young

Mr. Howe is watching in the interests of his journal the movements of Agoncillo, the representative in the United States, of Aguinaldo, leader of the Philippine insurgents.

Rev. Father Knapp, of the Dominican Order in St. Hyacinthe, has left for New Orleans, where he will preach during Lent.

The many friends of Captain H. B. Moore, late of the 18th Royal Irish Regiment, will regret to learn that he is lying seriously ill at the General Hospital.

Mrs. Shaughnessy and a small party of friends accompanied Mr. Shaughnessy to New York a few days ago in his private car, where they will bid him bon voyage on his departure for England on the Majestic.

Miss Sadlier gave a most enjoyable little tea on Friday in honor of Mr. Henry Austin Adams, the distinguished lecturer. Mr. Adams, who is quite as brilliant in conversation as on the platform delighted all who had the pleasure of meeting him, with his ready wit and charming manner. A very pleasant hour was spent, every one regretting when the time came to



MR. D. J. MCGILLIS,
President of Branch 26, C M B A.

Branch 26, of the C. M. B. A., of Canada, is the banner branch of the organization in Montreal. It has always been successful in the choice of its chief officers. Last year Mr. Martin Eagan, one of the old St. Lawrence School boys, who has attained a prominent place in communal circles, was president. This year the Branch has selected Mr. D. J. McGillis, well known in the produce trade.

Mr. McGillis came from the provinces down by the sea, which have given to the trade and commerce of Montreal so many of its leading men. He was born in Cape Breton, N. S., some

men most successful careers. The grand old chemical laboratory, that for over twenty years, was the arena in which hundreds spent so many agreeable and profitable hours, will be entirely modernized, remodelled, completed and transferred to the third story of the new edifice. It will be open every day to the students desirous of making a special study of chemistry.

All true friends of Catholic education in Canada must admire the energy and the spirit of progress that mark the new Rector—Rev. Father Constantineau, O. M. I.—who, without other resources than his unshakable trust in Providence and the devotedness of the Faculty, has undertaken such a gigantic work, one so necessary for the Catholic youth of our country. The \$100,000 that he will borrow to place in the undertaking, will be most advantageously invested, when it is considered that they will procure such wonderful benefits for the young Catholics of the country, and above all, will give such a grand impetus to the glorious course of Catholic education in Canada.

PERSONALS

Mr. and Mrs. Converse have returned from their wedding trip and are living on Hutchison Street.

Rev. Father Lacombe, the veteran North-West missionary was in town a few days ago.

Mr. Charles Murphy, the well known lawyer of Ottawa, is spending a few days at the Windsor.

Mr. W. P. Davis, general passenger agent of the Grand Trunk Railway, left last evening for Toronto.

Mr. L. A. Howe, of the New York Herald, is a guest at the Windsor.

NOTES OF LOCAL INTEREST.

At a meeting of the Young Irishmen's L. & B. Society, which was held last week preparations were made for the celebration of St. Patrick's Day. Mr. W. P. Stanton, will be chief marshal of the association in the annual parade; where they expect to uphold their old time reputation. The dramatic section this year are making great efforts to surpass all previous occasions. They will produce on both the afternoon and evening the great Irish drama, "Robert Emmet," and Her Majesty's Theatre has been secured for that occasion.

A progressive euchre party and social in aid of the Catholic Sailors' Club was held in St. Ann's Hall, on Wednesday evening last, and was a great success.

A bill to incorporate Loyola College is being introduced at the present session of the Quebec Legislature by Dr. Guerin, M. L. A. It provides that the Rev. Gregory O'Bryan, B.A., Isidore J. Kavanagh, B.A., John C. Coffey, Louis J. Cotter, Rev. Owen B. Devlin, LL.D., and the Rev. Gregory Fere, M.D., M.R.C.S., London, Eng., all of the City of Montreal, and all persons who hereafter associate themselves with them and their successors, are and shall be constituted a corporation for educational purposes under the name of Loyola College; and that the College may confer the degrees of Bachelor of Letters and Bachelor of Arts, and for that purpose is authorized to make regulations respecting the course to be followed and the examinations required for obtaining such degrees.

A grand banquet to raise funds for defraying the debt of St. James Cathedral was held in the old church building on Thursday evening. There were some six hundred guests present, and Rev. Father Desy presided. The place was very tastefully decorated. Miss Robillard sang Rossini's "Charite," and a Spanish song by Metra.

A religious profession took place at the Convent of the Sacred Heart, Alexander Street, on the 2nd instant. Rev. Canon Racicot, Vicar-General of the Archdiocese of Montreal, officiated. Rev. Abbe Adam celebrated Mass, and the sermon was preached by Rev. Father Champagne, S.J.

The following is the list of those who took their vows:—

Temporary vows.—M. A. Couillard, Sr. Hyacinthe de Pologne, Hochelaga, P. Q.; A. Ferland, Paul du Sacre-Coeur, Berthier, P. Q.; C. Craig, Louis de France, Montreal, P. Q.; Anna Bonin, Joseph de St. Hyacinthe, St. Hyacinthe; C. Blanchard, Felix d'Athens, Assumption, O. Varier, Anne Elizabeth, St. Henri, Montreal; B. Grain d'Orge, Marie France, Hochelaga.

Holy Habit.—A. Charbonneau, Alfred St. Vincent de Paul, Montreal; I. Baudouin, St. Alexandre, Berthier, P. Q.; Marie Tardif, Hochelaga; Clara Jolivet, Montreal; B. Jolivet, Montreal; Julia Audet, St. Jean, Berthier; Edith Edillon, Ste. Agnes, Dundee; E. Brisser, Montreal; M. A. Charland, Waterloo, P. Q.; Alida Lehoux, St. Narcisse, P. Q.; E. Gervais, St. Narcisse; J. A. Jacob, St. Narcisse; B. Duracher, Beloeil, P. Q.

Postulante.—Misses Annelle Forest, St. Roch de l'Acadig; Marie Louise Lemay, Montreal; Marie Louise Vanier, St. Henri; Albertine Poirier, St. Henri, Montreal; Adela Portelande, Montreal; Bernadette Marcotte, Montreal; B. Archambault, St. Antoine; Alice Vezina, Hochelaga; Azelle Ledoux, St. Narcisse; Agnes Gervais, St. Narcisse; Sara St. Arnaud, St. Narcisse; C. Archambault, St. Antoine.

The first lecture under the auspices of the Montreal Branch of the National Federation of the Women of Canada, was given last night, in St. Mary's Hall, Craig Street, to an audience of ladies. It was delivered by Dr. E. J. C. Kennedy, and was on the subject "Contagious Diseases." He spoke of the causation of disease and the germ theory, touching on the work of Pasteur and Koch, and gave an idea of the manner in which contagion may be spread, speaking in special reference to small-pox, diphtheria, consumption, and the like, and dealt with the prevention of the spread of contagious diseases, and the benefits to be derived by anti-toxin and vaccination.

The third weekly meeting of the Gaelic Society which has recently been organized in Montreal, was held on Monday evening in their hall, 662½ Craig St. Ten new members were admitted into the Society during the evening. All those who desire to learn the Gaelic language or who take an interest in its revival are cordially invited to pay a visit to the Society's Hall.

A fire at the Trappist monastery at Oka, has burned down a number of buildings and caused damages to the extent of \$10,000, on which there is \$20,000 insurance. The fire started near the boilers in the butter factory,

and destroyed that as well as the woodshed, the mill, the ice-house and the store-house. It was with the greatest difficulty that the fire was prevented from destroying the main buildings, which constitute the monastery proper.

OBITUARY.

Mr. Maurice Sullivan.

This week it becomes our sad and painful duty to chronicle the death of another of our Irish Catholic young men; of one who if we judge by his talents, had a promising future. But the "dread reaper" cut him off while he was still in the bloom of his manhood. On Saturday, the 4th inst., at the Royal Victoria Hospital, died in his 22nd year, Maurice, the only son of Richard Sullivan, of Richmond, Que.

The deceased had been ailing only since Thursday last and on Friday was taken to the hospital where he expired the following afternoon. He was assisted in his last moments by Rev. Father James Callaghan, Chaplain of the Hotel Dieu. Rev. Brother Denis, Director of the Archbishop's Commercial Academy, and several others of his many friends, were at his bedside when the fatal issue came.

Maurice Sullivan pursued a very successful course at Mount St. Louis. He then matriculated at McGill University, standing first on the list. He studied dentistry at McGill and at Bishop's College. He was to have passed his final examinations in April, 1898, but was prevented from doing so by a severe attack of pleurisy. On his recovery, he practised with Dr. R. L. Watson. He was preparing to pass the final examination this year, when he was suddenly stricken down with appendicitis and acute peritonitis.

Mr. Sullivan was always a brilliant student, and was endowed with all the qualities of mind and heart that give promise of a bright and successful career. His amiable disposition and social qualities won for him a high degree of popularity among his professors and classmates in Montreal.

On Saturday evening, the body was removed to Richmond. The funeral took place on Tuesday, the 7th inst. To his bereaved father and mother and sorrowing sister, as also to Rev. Brother Denis, we beg leave to convey our sincere expression of condolence in their hour of sore trial and affliction.

Mr. James Walsh, N. P.

The Quebec "Daily Telegraph" in chronicling the death of Mr. James Walsh, N. P., says:—

"Mr. Walsh, who had been in failing health for some months past, breathed his last quietly on Monday, surrounded by all the consolations of religion and happy in his release from this vale of suffering and tears. His demise will awaken a pang of sincere sorrow in the bosom of many old friends, who admired his many unselfish, genial and lovable qualities. The Irish element of our community will especially miss in him, professionally and otherwise, one of their warmest friends, as well as one of the last representatives in our midst of an old and respected family, who took a prominent part in the foundation of their church and the working of their destiny in Quebec. The 'Daily Telegraph,' to whose staff he was attached for over a year past, lays on his tomb the tribute of its sincere sorrow for the loss of a faithful and valued employee, as well as an old and dear personal friend. To his mourning relatives, who include his sister, Mrs. Redmond, of St. Louis St., and his niece Miss Fullerton, of Mountain Hill, it also tends the expression of its deepest sympathy with them in this fresh affliction."

Mr. F. J. Gillis.

(From the Charlottetown Herald.)
We very much regret to be obliged to chronicle the death of Dr. F. J. Gillis, of Summerside, which occurred quite suddenly on Sunday last. Dr. Gillis had not been feeling very well of late; but was about as usual and attended to his patients, apparently in as good health as he had enjoyed of late. About 11 o'clock he was attacked by paralysis and at 5 in the afternoon he died. Dr. Gillis was one of the best known and most popular physicians in Prince County. He was a man of good ability and high character. For two or three terms he occupied a seat in the Provincial Legislature, where he always did what he thought was in the best interest of the people irrespective of party or creed. He was fifty-six years of age at the time of his death. He was married to a niece of the Rev. Dr. Doyle, of Vernon River, who, with a family of eight children is left to mourn. The deceased was a brother of Very Rev. Mgr. Gillis, of Indian River. We tender our deepest sympathy to his bereaved family and friends.

Every right action and true thought sets the seal of its beauty on person and face.—Ruskin.