

THE EMIGRATION QUESTION.

Here is a letter—quite self-explanatory—that appeared a few weeks ago in the Catholic Times of Liverpool. We give the letter in its entirety, as it is certainly very interesting. It reads thus:

"Sir,—As I have been much interested in the remarks of the Rev. J. B. Gastaldi on Emigration and Rescue Work in the Catholic Times, I write with the hope that others may take up the work on the lines so ably suggested by his reverence.

"The need of relieving our congested districts is great indeed as described by a writer in the 'Spectator' of July 1, who shows how truly appalling that congestion is. He says: 'There must be districts in London which resemble circles in Dante's Inferno.' There is one square mile of London, it is said, on which no less than one hundred and twenty thousand human beings live. Life can be neither civilized nor Christian under such conditions."

"Now what untold blessings would result by a combined emigration even from that one spot in England to the vast unoccupied plains and forests of Canada where the air is purer, the heavens more open, and the many signs of distressful poverty and vice less familiar. People dread the cold of a Canadian winter, i.e., those who have not experienced it, but the really 'cold spells,' as they are called there, though sharp, are of but short duration, and I have known many a week pass in the very depth of winter when an overcoat became an unnecessary burden. The farming community are glad to engage children from the Old Country to assist in farm and household duties when it is almost impossible to get a help of any sort from the neighborhood. The children so placed would be well fed and cared for, whilst to those families that possess some capital every advantage is offered, for, as stated in the columns of the Catholic Times, homesteads of 160 acres may be bought in Manitoba for two pounds sterling!

"Why will not people emigrate? Why will they not learn the lesson of life by the things about them? When the beehive has become congested an emigration party is at once formed and on a fit and proper day the swarm goes merrily forth to take possession of a new country to them and there make a prosperous home for themselves. Let then the multitudes who now cluster in their squalid homes listen to the teaching of the honey bee and going forth settle where their welcome presence would make the solitary places of the earth rejoice with the joyous hum of their own untiring industry.

Yours, etc.,
W. F. Tunbridge Wells, Aug. 7, 1899."

Without a doubt, this is highly complimentary to Canada; but we are not so certain of the benefits that Canada would derive were its suggestions accepted and acted upon. No doubt there is ample room in Canada for half the population of Europe; but we are not over anxious to have all classes of emigrants dumped on our shores. If "F. W.'s" desires were carried out to the letter, this Dominion would soon become the refuge of a very undesirable class of citizens. On the other hand there is lots of room here for honest, serious and active men and women. But those who come here need not expect to live upon the pure air; nor need they dream that they can thrive without facing privations, and earning every cent they make. This is a land of untold wealth—much of it still undeveloped—but that wealth is neither picked up on the streets, nor found scattered over the country. What Canada does offer to the determined and ambitious sons of the Old World, are space, freedom, opportunity, work and ultimate remuneration. The idler, the drone, the criminal, the vagabond, the improvident may as well stay at home, because here they will be no better off—if anything they will have less chance than in London.

THE QUESTION OF CORPORAL PUNISHMENT.

We know that in the majority of our schools to-day the old-time methods of corporal punishment have been entirely abandoned, and milder as well as more refined and refining modes of correction have been adopted. On this subject there is very much that could be said both for and against; but we think that a recent writer in the New York Sun, signing "C," has placed the question in a generally fair and acceptable light. The writer is evidently a wise and moderate reformer of unruly youth. As some of our readers may be specially interested in this subject, and as it has its application in almost every household, as well as every institution of education or correction, we will quote a few passages from "C's" letter. He places himself in a very safe position at the start in the following manner:

"Shall corporal punishment of any kind be resorted to in correcting a child? I answer 'yes' and 'no.' There are undoubtedly instances, rare perhaps, where a good whipping, causing pain but no real injury, will benefit a wilful, stubborn, child more than any amount of talking, or any other method of treatment. Solomon had in mind such instances when he wrote, 'He that spareth his rod hateth his son,' and so did the author of the proverb, 'Spare the rod and spoil the child.' This is not a matter of opinion, but of knowledge and experience, as many parents and saved children can testify. These, however, are the exceptional cases, not the rule, and they are cases requiring the most careful discrimination."

Then he adds:

"Many troublesome, hardened, vic-

ious boys are cowardly. Nothing will restrain them but physical pain. Most of them will be restrained through the fear of punishment, not otherwise. Deprive the principal of his authority, and as a last resort the boy is compelled to leave the school."

Here is exactly our contention, and we do not think the question could be answered more concisely, or more wisely:

"The principal of a school, or superintendent of a reform school, is in the position of a judge, personally disinterested and impartial. If qualified for his position, he can safely be entrusted with authority to enforce obedience; the simple fact of being endowed with such authority being a sufficient restraint with the majority of troublesome boys. To the question, should teachers and subordinate officers be authorized to administer corporal punishment, I answer emphatically, 'No.' A principal or superintendent will discriminate. Corporal punishment will be a last resort, and will seldom be repeated, some other method being resorted to if necessary. Subordinates are apt to become exasperated and consequently to act hastily, repeating the punishment again and again without discrimination."

Finally "C" thus concludes:

"The evils of indiscriminate corporal punishment more than counterbalance the evils arising from the total abolition of such punishment, and therefore of the two evils, I should choose the latter."

"But in my judgment, the wiser course would be to delegate discretionary power to the chief executive of school or institution."

MUSICAL KINDERGARTEN.

One of our city dailies has published an interview with two ladies who are at present teaching music to children by the new Fletcher system. The inventor of this method is Miss Evelyn Ashton Fletcher, of Woodstock, Ontario. Miss Fletcher thus describes her method:

"In my system with children I make music so tangible that the child grasps it involuntarily. The sense of touch possessed by little children—the fact of being able to handle things—is great."

"Firstly, I allow the children to construct the staff, line by line, on a gigantic scale by the simplest means. They are then given a large box of blocks exactly resembling the notes, rests, expression marks, clefs, etc., used in musical notation. This leads to the process of thinking out the use of those things, for I go to the piano and make felt the respective value of the blocks. Fourteen different games can be played with the patented musical blocks, and each game has an object—something that is to be obtained by that game easily and thoroughly. We do not play for the sake of playing it. It is quite possible to play a species of 'blind-man's buff,' the child catching the note and identifying it after it has been struck on the piano. The child having learnt to read, we come to pasting work. Notes, musical figures and expression marks become dolls or soldiers. These, being placed in certain positions, are counted in pictures, and are pasted on staff sheets."

"The third development brings white cards with perforated notes on the staff, and we allow the children

to sew in the notes with colored silk or cotton."

"Then comes the blackboard, when children are brought to recognize the note by eye."

"In the fifth stage the notes are reduced to their ordinary size—as they appear on music paper. With these we play five interesting games, both reading and hearing the note."

"We are then ready for the pianoforte keyboard—seven and a third octaves—which can be broken to pieces like an ordinary puzzle. The child on a note being sounded rests in the fragment that note represents to its proper position. We connect sound with everything that is done, and the result is certainly wonderful."

"The intricacies of the scale are set forth in simple and fascinating fashion. A little ladder is demolished, and then reconstructed by the child putting the notes in the steps at the right distances apart."

"This may possibly be an excellent method of teaching musical children the art; but we doubt if this, or any other method, could ever make children musical. We are told that the particular aims of the method are: 1. To train the ear; 2. To make children familiar with time and musical signs and develop rhythm; 3. To teach them to read music rapidly; 4. To give them a thorough knowledge of the keyboard of the pianoforte; 5. To teach them how to build the major and minor scales; 6. To make the fingers and wrists flexible; 7. To create interest in the great masters of the past and present."

Very good aims indeed, and if the method succeeds in attaining them, so much the better; but to us—who

are merely untrained musically—it seems that if a child, or person were to have all the seven attainments above mentioned, and be devoid of inclination, of special talent, of inclination, of special talent, there is no kindergarten in the world that can make a musician of that individual. We do not say this in disparagement of the Fletcher system, far from it; but we know from personal experience, that much as we love and enjoy and appreciate music, there is no method and no teacher on earth could make us learn the piano—except mechanically. In music as in poetry, the gift, the talent must exist. But once it exists the teaching is effective."

THE GAMBLING EVIL

The Very Rev. Father Tierney, C.S.S.R., the spiritual director of the Archconfraternity of the Holy Family in Limerick, is making a raid upon gambling among his people (says a local paper). He did this more than once with salutary effect, and on Sunday night he again referred to it. It was said Father Tierney, an evil that made men unjust to their families and employers—which, when it turns from amusement into pure undiluted gambling, is a vice and a great one. When men—poor men sometimes, with 14s. or 15s. a week—can go on pay night and put on 2s. 6d. or 5s. on a horse, which their wives and families wanted, it was a crime before God, because those men were unjust to their families. The men of the confraternity could bring before their minds where men bet money to which they had no claim—money that belonged to their families or employers from whom they had stolen it, and forever ruined their prospects through it. If the money is a man's own, and he is able to lose it, if he is complete master of it, if no one has a claim to it, the loss entails no misery to himself or others, and if he bets at races once or twice a year—no one would blame a man like that, as it only makes the day's enjoyment more exciting. It is not against occasional betting he would speak. What he wanted to condemn was that system which becomes the all absorbing topic of a man's life.

It was eating into the life of the city. Young and old, rich and poor, the business and the professional man, the laborer, the artisan, they were all at it. Go to the office of a business or professional man, look at his face; you know him to be a gambler; he tries to do his business but cannot, as he is all anxiety as to the result of some race that is coming off. When the news comes watch the unfortunate man's face, look at the misery there depicted when he finds himself ruined, his head buried in his hands because the money which would have paid his creditors had been swept away. In the shop or workshop the men's minds are taken up completely on betting; customers are neglected, mistakes are made, the time of the employer is wasted. One cannot realize all the miseries and misfortunes that are brought on young men by gambling. Young fellows fresh from the country, serving their time, are led on by some companion. They become carried away with the tide of gambling. They cannot get money; where will it come from? Still the 2s. 6d. and 5s. come forth, but where does it come from? Men commit murder and suicide through the effects of drink, but just as many come from gambling, as it is ruining the world. Why are so many swept away through gambling? Because there are men who give every facility and foster the spirit of gambling."

CHURCH MUSIC REFORM.

Some time ago we informed our readers that Archbishop Elder, of Cincinnati, had appointed a commission to report on the musical compositions in use for divine service at that archdiocese. The labors of the commission have been concluded and official sanction to their findings has been embodied in a letter from the archbishop to the clergy of his archdiocese. The letter reads thus:

"The Clergy, Diocesan and Regular of the Diocese of Cincinnati."

"Very Rev. and Dear Brethren:

"We publish now the report of the commission on Church Music, giving the report of their labors up to the present time. You have all of you, Venerable Brethren, shown from the beginning your appreciation of the importance of this work, and have proved it by your active co-operation in facilitating the labors of the commission, and by your words of encouragement expressed to them, and to me. The same we must say of the organists and leaders and members of our church choirs throughout the diocese. All have given their cheerful co-operation and manifested a most consoling spirit of zeal, that the part which they take in the public worship of God be made worthy of its sacred purpose."

"The Commission has labored faithfully, conscientiously and devotedly. It is enough to read over the list given in their report to understand how much time and pains the work has cost them. It remains to give the report the sanction of our authority."

"We hereby enjoy that on and after the first Sunday of Advent, December 3rd, 1899, no other music must be used in liturgical services in the diocese of Cincinnati but what is either contained in the approved liturgical books of the Church, or is given as 'accepted' by our Church Music Commission, in this or in future reports."

"Any other compositions which persons may wish to use, must be sent

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to the commission to be examined, and not used until it has accepted them."

"And if any of the rejected pieces shall be corrected, they must not be used until they have been submitted to the Commission and approved by it."

"To you then, Venerable Brethren, I commit the execution of this work, with all confidence in your conscientious fidelity and your well-known zeal."

"I give my affectionate blessing to you and all your care; but particularly to them who devote to God the services of their voices and musical abilities, anticipating on earth the occupation of heaven. And I beg the prayers of all."

"Yours sincerely in Christ,
WILLIAM HENRY ELDER,
Archbishop of Cincinnati.
Cincinnati, O., Feast of St. Anne, 1899."

It would be both interesting and instructive to know what were the findings of the commission—that is to say the details as to the acceptable music. We know that the tendency of late, in almost every part of the world, has been to curtail the latitude accorded, or else, taken, in regard to church music. In many churches nothing that even savors of secular or profane music is allowed. But we do not think that this can well apply in the cases of new Masses, or other like compositions of a purely religious class. However, we are not in position to speak regarding the special case of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati.

JUDICIOUS USE OF NEW INVENTIONS.

It is a strange thing how little some people understand how light can be handled, and what little cost daylight can be secured in places naturally dark. Many a storekeeper in the city would be greatly benefited by the judicious use of means at hand for distributing daylight over his store. John Murphy and Company have lighted their first floor with Luxfer Prisms, and know that even in a corner store Luxfer Prisms, if judiciously used, are profitable. Nothing in the building line pays so good returns.

PATENT REPORT.

Below will be found a list of United States patents granted to Canadian inventors. This list is prepared especially for this paper by Messrs. Marston & Marston, Solicitors of patents and experts, New York Life Building, Montreal.

No. 632,610.—Samuel W. Lortner, Ont., Three Rivers, P. M. 122 saving machine.
632,446.—Charles G. Davis, Freeman, Ont., wire spinner.
632,367.—Alfred Robinson, Abertown, Ont., card agitator.
632,540.—Robert W. Sampson, Quebec, Can., puncture closer for pneumatic tires.
632,287.—W. J. Walsh, Hamilton, Ont., telephone number and address annunciator.
632,391.—Messrs. Abraham & Marston, Paris, France, ozone generator.
Good advice.

HOW MUCH DO YOU WEIGH?

Thinness is wasting. Wasting is tearing down. Scott's Emulsion builds up, it never makes waste. It will give you rich blood and bring back your weight.

GOOD ADVICE.

Don't hurry. "Too swift arrives as tardy as too slow."
"Simplify!" "Simplify!" "Simplify!"

Don't overeat. Don't starve. "Let your moderation be known to all men."

Court the fresh air day and night. "Oh, if you knew what was in the air!"

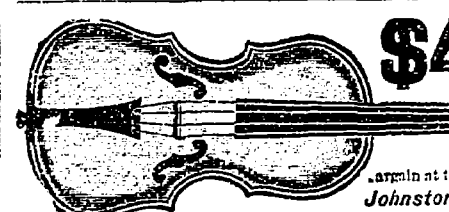
Sleep and rest abundantly. Sleep is Nature's benediction.

Spend less nervous energy each day than you make.

Be cheerful. "A light heart lives long."

BICYCLISTS: young and old should carry a bottle of Pain-Killer in their saddle bags. It cures cuts and wounds with wonderful quickness. Avoid substitutes; there is but one Pain-Killer. Perry Davis', 25 cents and 50 cents.

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If you are not already a member of our Society, do not wait until to-morrow to join; it might be too late. Outside of our subscribers funerals we are prepared, on the shortest notice, to undertake all classes of funerals at moderate prices. If you wish to become a member, telephone and we will call immediately. Specialty: Scientific Embalming.

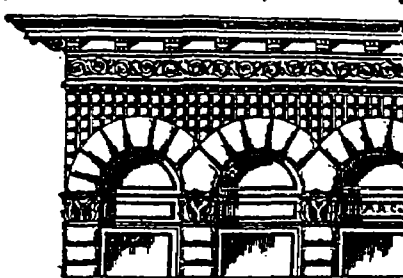
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