

The True Witness and Catholic Chronicle

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EPISCOPAL APPROBATION.

If the English Speaking Catholics of Montreal and of this Province consulted their best interests, they would soon make of the TRUE WITNESS one of the most prosperous and powerful Catholic papers in this country. I heartily bless those who encourage this excellent work.

PAUL, Archbishop of Montreal.

SATURDAY..... SEPTEMBER 16, 1899.

OUR SCHOOLS.

Reports which have reached us from all the English-speaking Catholic parishes of the city show a large increase of attendance as compared with that of last year. This is a very encouraging circumstance. It is also a very gratifying proof of the attachment of Irish Catholic parents to the idea of religious education. They inhibit the idea in the old land, and no matter where their lot is cast they make strenuous efforts to put it into practice.

No better proof of this could be given than that which is afforded by conditions which exist in Ireland itself. Every student of its past history is well aware of these conditions.

If any modern proof were wanted by those of its descendants who live in far distant lands it is supplied by witnesses not Irish or Catholic. One of the members of the British House of Commons has just made a tour of Ireland, and in the course of an interview he has given expression to many of the opinions which he formed during his stay there. Speaking about education there he said:

"I quite understand the objection Catholics have to the present system of education. One has only to go through the country to realize that a mixed system of education is impossible. You are driving through a village. Here you pass an Anglican church school, further on a Presbyterian one, then you pass a Catholic school, and so on—all national schools. Surely it is not very hard to understand what that implies; and here again, I take up this paper indicating a Nationalist newspaper. 'I see this report from the Belfast Queen's College. Glance at it and you will realize at once what the state of affairs is. There is the religious element, and you cannot expect Catholics to enter a college of that description whilst things remain as they are. It is all moonshine to say they are open to every Catholic who wants to take advantage of them. They are open, yes. But the Protestant religious element is there, and you can't get rid of it.'"

DEATH OF CORNELIUS VANDERBILT.

There is one great law from which none are exempt: it is the Divine Law which ordains that every man, every member of the human race, must die. It has been the experience of untold centuries; it has been unfailing in its impartiality since the fall of our first parents. The Angel of Death has a record of every birth amongst men, and at a given time he visits each one. There is no escape. He is no distinguisher of rank, or age, or locality. In the hotel, in the guarded palace, up in the mountain fastnesses, out on the ocean's vastness, down in the city's slums, into the marts of commerce, on the traffic-burdened street, in the silence of the solitary's cell—everywhere, when the hour comes, the dark-winged messenger appears, and he knows no mercy, brooks no delay, and recognizes no obstacles. At times he forewarns, at others he strikes when least expected. It was in the latter guise he came the other night to that palace on Fifth Avenue, New York, and suddenly summoned the great Cornelius Vanderbilt to another world. There

was no time given for reflection, no warning of his approach, no ceremonials of entry, liveried servants and costly surroundings, walls of marble and mountains of wealth were no barriers. It was midnight when the shadowy envoy penetrated into that gorgeous abode; it was not yet sunrise when the spirit of the multi-millionaire winged its hurried flight into the great vast of futurity.

Cornelius Vanderbilt was only in his fifty-seventh year, when death came. He had been all his life a man of exceeding energy, of constant work, of unremitting attention to his vast affairs. He left a fortune of almost two hundred million dollars, a sum so fabulous, that it baffles all mathematical ingenuity to form an adequate idea of its tremendous extent. We can conceive a million, or even ten millions; but when it comes to one hundred or two hundred millions, the task is too great, and the mind will not attempt to form an idea of its proportions. Mr. Vanderbilt was one who never took any species of recreation. He knew no pleasures—in the ordinary sense of the term. He had not even enjoyment equal to those that bless millions of ordinary individuals. Yet he was not a miser, or a hoarder of money, nor did he make a god of his wealth. He was exceedingly liberal, his charity was very extensive, his benevolence was unbounded; he consecrated much time to the study of individuals and of institutions which he purposed aiding. He was a friend in the practical sense of the term, to all his employees, and to all who labored for his livelihood. Yet he rolled up his enormous amount of capital hourly, until it became like a gathering avalanche, carrying with it everything that came within its reach. Of its own strength his fortune augmented. Were he ever so willing, he could not have prevented its increase; it was too colossal to be checked, all that could be done was to guide it.

When the totally unexpected news of his death was made public, it was accompanied with a statement of the effects upon the market that resulted. To us this appears a very appropriate, but very sad obituary notice. The great Vanderbilt is dead; his death has had certain effect upon stocks; his wealth is estimated at two hundred millions. All this interests the great world, more or less; but it is of very little interest to Cornelius Vanderbilt. What matters it to him whether the market fluctuated or not on the day of his death? What odds is it to him whether his estate is worth millions, or thousands, or hundreds, or anything at all? It is only natural to presume that he had never calculated on such a sudden departure from all that he possessed. His life, but especially his end, should serve as a grand lesson for men to meditate on and to learn

THE DREYFUS JUDGMENT.

The decision of the Military Court at Rennes, France, finding Dreyfus guilty, and condemning him to ten years of imprisonment, has awakened a general cry of disapproval from the press foreign to France; on the other hand, almost all the French press approves of the judgment. If our readers will kindly recall the article which we published three weeks ago,

on this subject, they will find that we then gave as our opinion that he would be found guilty, and we explained, in full, our reasons for such a belief. We find, to-day, that the judgment was actually in accord with our statement at that time. We pointed out that it was a military and not a civil tribunal, and that the military code is radically different from the civil code—not only in France, but in every civilized country that supports a standing army. We also stated as our conviction that even were there no direct, nor yet indirect evidence, that Dreyfus was guilty of the special act for which he was condemned in 1894, still the presumptive evidence of military indiscretion—which constitutes a breach of discipline—was such that no court martial would likely exonerate him entirely.

It has been argued that if the judges believed him guilty of having sold army secrets to a foreign power, they should have condemned him to life imprisonment—that is to say, to be consistent, they should have inflicted the same penalty that was inflicted in 1894. This is very logical as far as it goes; but the judges did not believe him guilty of the crime, nor did they condemn him thereon. He has been found guilty of having committed with matters of a serious nature that did not concern him, and of having been guilty of suspicious conduct, without having been able or else willing to clear away the suspicions. In such a case he offended gravely against the rules of military discipline, and for that does a military tribunal condemn him. It would be a palpable injustice to have sentenced him to life imprisonment, when the crime that entails such a punishment was not proven against him. The judges in condemning him to ten years of penal service, merely wished to maintain the esprit de corps, and the discipline of the army. Were such a case to have arisen in England, or Germany, or Russia, or any other military power, there never would have been a word about it; it would have been considered as a mere question of the internal administration of that country's army. But the notoriety which this case has received, has attracted the eyes of the world to Rennes, and the great outside public seems to have overlooked the entirely military aspect of the affair. What the immediate result will be no person can tell. It is well, however, that the strain is over, and that the world in general, and France in particular, may sleep in peace over the result. The pity is that some other characters whose names were prominent at the trial should escape the punishment due to their political and national crimes. While we feel a natural sympathy for Dreyfus, still we are not blinded to the fact that the verdict and sentence are entirely consistent and logical.

NEGLECTED CHILDREN.

More than once have we dwelt upon this subject, and from various standpoints; and it was with a degree of pleasure that we read a report of some remarks made by Sir William Hingston, before the Society for the Protection of Women and Children. The subject under discussion related to idle, ignorant, or vicious parents who neglect or refuse to give their children a proper education. It was suggested that a law should be passed obliging such parents to do justice to their offspring, or in default punish them as guilty of a public offence. Sir William Hingston, who was present, said that the question involved was a wide-reaching one. He is reported to have said that "a child had certain inalienable rights. He has a right to his food, to his raiment, to protection, to be made acquainted with his Maker, and with his duty to society. So long as a parent did his duty to his children in this respect he did all that was required of him. The giving of education to a child would not make it virtuous. Religion alone could do that. When the parent neglected his duty in any of the above particulars then the State could step in and say: 'you must fit him for the condition of society in which he was born.' The State had only the right to interfere when the child could not get that to which he was entitled."

It is with great pleasure that we reproduce and call attention to these few remarks. They seem to contain the very source of what is lawful, as between parent, church and State, concerning the education of children. It must be always remembered that it was to the parents, and not to the State that God gave the children; the parents, and not the State, were endowed with paternal and maternal affections, sentiments and even instincts. But when the parents for one reason or another, are

unfaithful to their duties, are unnatural in their treatment of their children, and are obviously unfit to have control over their offspring, the State has its sacred obligations towards the young victims of parental neglect, which cannot be over-looked. It is the duty of the State to regulate and protect society, and when it is evident that parents are allowing their children to grow up under conditions that make them a menace to society, the State is bound to step in and remedy the defects. In other words the State has no right to interfere with the parents when the latter are doing their duty towards their children; it is only when they neglect such duty that the State must oblige them to perform it, or else to have it performed for them.

But in all this there is the rights of the Church, which has to do with both parents and children. If God gave the parents the charge of their children, and if He holds them responsible for the same, nonetheless has He given His Church control over both parents and children as far as matters affecting the spiritual life of each individual are concerned. With the control, in religious affairs, which the Church is obliged to exercise over the faithful—both old and young, the State has nothing to do. This seems to be the grand question, in all its applications, of authority over children. The authority of the Church in matters of faith and of morals, extends over parent and child alike, and is therefore permanent. As concerns the protection, the care, the "bringing up," as it is called, of the child, the authority of the parent comes first—for it is an authority direct from God, and in consonance with the laws of nature. When, however that authority is abused, or ignored, or improperly exercised, or neglected, to the detriment of the child, and to the injury of society, the authority of the State comes in, and either forces the parent to fulfill his duties, or punishes him for neglect and performs those duties for him. Sir William Hingston's remarks deserve careful perusal and close examination; the subject is of vital importance, and his attitude is of a correspondingly significant interest.

PARISH NOTES.

ST. PATRICK'S.—The bazaar which will be held in October promises to be a great success. The ladies of the parish are working very zealously in order to make this, the last one to be held owing to the Archbishop's prohibition, one of the most successful on record.

The evening devotions will be resumed on the first Sunday in October. The able, practical and instructive sermons delivered at these devotions are one of the main features.

The attendance at the last meeting of the Temperance Society was very large. Three new members joined the Society.

ST. MARY'S.—The work on the church is being rapidly pushed forward, and will be completed in about six weeks. The decorations are very costly and the parishioners will have a church that will be really a gem of artistic beauty.

The Catechism classes will be resumed next Sunday at 2 o'clock. It is to be hoped that the meeting of the Sacred Heart Society, which takes place next Sunday, September 17th, at 3 o'clock, will be largely attended.

ST. ANTHONY'S.—The work on the new presbytery is progressing favorably. Rev. Father Sinnott preached a powerful sermon last Sunday on devotion to the Blessed Virgin.

ST. ANN'S.—The Forty Hours' Devotion commenced to-day. Next Monday evening the meeting of the Holy Family for women takes place.

The Rev. Fathers Jackman and Semple, C.S.S.R., preached the sermons at the general pilgrimage held at Oka on Thursday, Sept. 14th.

Rev. Father Simard, C.S.S.R., is at present preaching a mission at Amqui, Que.

The pilgrimage to Oka under the auspices of the Young Men's Society was a great success.

NOTES OF THE ATHLETIC FIELD.

THE SHAMROCK Lacrosse team, by its magnificent victory on Saturday last over the Capitals on the S.A.A.A. grounds, have placed themselves in the foremost position in the great struggle for the championship of 1899. They have only one match more to play—that with the Nationals on the 23rd instant. While their enthusiastic friends believe that they will be equal to the task of overcoming the mighty representatives of the French Canadian club, there is no doubt that the match will be a well fought one.

It is some four years since the wearers of the green held the championship, despite the fact that in every one of those years they have fought hard and determinedly to win the coveted prize. This year, however, their season's work, it would appear, will be crowned with success. Every Irishman and Irishwoman in Canada should be proud of the S.A.A.A., because it is the only distinct-

ly Irish-Catholic organization in Canada, in the athletic field, and in many ways is an example of what might be done in other walks of life if unity of purpose prevailed. In the sphere of athletics the Shamrocks have had to face many prejudices both in the field and in the council room. Nothing daunted, however, they have always bravely met their opponents, and a glance at their splendid record for the past decade will show that these wearers of the green have proved themselves to be not only equal, but superior to, all other athletic organizations in Canada's two well known national games.

We hope that the boys will be led to victory by Captain O'Connell next Saturday; and that the Irish people of Montreal will manifest their appreciation of the victory by getting up for them a public demonstration such as they richly deserve.

SOME PERSONAL NOTES.

THE REV. FATHER FALLON, who until the first of August last was one of the assistant pastors of St. Patrick's Parish, Montreal, has been appointed by the Bishop of Alton, Illinois, to the charge of the important parish of Jerseyville, in that diocese, which has been rendered vacant through the death of the late Very Rev. Dr. Hart, R.D. We are sure that this intelligence will be received with a great deal of pleasure by the hosts of friends which Father Fallon made during his all too brief stay at St. Patrick's Church. The "True Witness" wishes him every success in his new sphere of spiritual labor.

THE REV. FATHER McDERMOTT, better known to the literary world as "Walter Lecky," one of the most prolific contributors to the Catholic press and to Catholic magazines in the United States, whose novels have a very wide and very merited celebrity, is at present seeking a much required rest from his arduous labors at the Hotel Eden in this city. In addition to the literary work which has made him famous, Father McDermott has had to perform parochial duties of no small importance.

In expressing an earnest hope that this distinguished Irish-American priest may be speedily restored to perfect health, the "True Witness" is but echoing the wish of thousands of Catholic Canadians as well as of Catholic Americans.

MR. F. J. HART RE-APPOINTED.—The Federal Government of the Province has appointed our esteemed fellow-citizen, Mr. Frank J. Hart, a member of the Board of Catholic School Commissioners of Montreal, for another term of three years. The appointment gives us great pleasure. It is certainly very creditable to the Quebec Government that it should, in making educational and religious appointments, cast aside political considerations altogether, regarding only fitness and aptitude. Mr. Hart is one of the most efficient lay Catholic school commissioners that have been appointed for some time. He is easily one of the foremost men engaged in his particular line of business, and has occupied one of the leading positions in the Board of Trade. He has accomplished all this by the result of his own energy, enthusiasm, and ability. Mr. Hart is a man of whom Irish Catholics in particular may well feel proud.

WEDDING BELLS.

Mr. Ed. Quinn, one of the most popular young men in St. Ann's Parish, of this city, and well known in musical and athletic circles, was on Tuesday morning married at St. Ann's Church, to Miss Marie L. Laperance. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. E. Strubbe, C.S.S.R. The bride was escorted to the altar by her step father, Mr. John Garreau, and Mr. Quinn was attended by his lifelong friend, Mr. P. T. O'Brien, and by Mr. R. J. Byrne. The choir of which Mr. Quinn is a leading soloist assisted at the ceremony, and rendered a select programme of choruses during its progress. After a breakfast at the residence of the bride, Mr. and Mrs. Quinn left for a wedding trip to New York, Boston and Washington.

The bride was made the recipient of many costly and beautiful presents, that of the Ladies' choir being particularly noticeable, a handsome parlor cabinet of a unique design. Mr. Quinn was also made the recipient of three very valuable testimonials. The St. Ann's Young Men's Society in which he has held many important offices gave him a well-filled purse of gold, the S.A.A.A. in which he now holds a prominent position, presented a solid silver tea service, and the employees of the Sheldon Carriage Company, where Mr. Quinn is employed, sent a magnificent dining-room set in oak.

THE LATE WILLIAM SELBY.

It is our painful duty to chronicle the death of Mr. William Selby, a well-known young man in business circles of Montreal, who died on the train while returning home from Boston. Deceased who had been aiding for some time, in company with his wife, left Montreal, a couple of months ago, for Boston, in the hope that a change of scene would restore him to his former health. For a short while he improved, but a second attack of illness warned him that the end was near. Hasty preparations were made to return to this city and while on the cars he passed away peacefully. Mr. Selby was a devout Catholic and a zealous and enthusiastic member of St. Patrick's parish. He was also associated with the St. Patrick's T. A. B. Society, and with the C. M. B. A. To the bereaved widow the "True Witness" offers its deep sympathy.—R.I.P.

NOTES FROM AMERICAN CENTRES.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE.

There are 1,300,000 freight cars in use on the 187,000 miles of railway in this country, just now, and some of the trunk lines say they could use 10,000 more cars if they could get them. The lack of cars for passenger service is proportionately as great, but it is not as severely felt.

Several explanations are offered for this car famine. The volume of increasing business has simply overwhelmed the railroads. At the same time the car factories are loaded up with orders, materials are contracted for far ahead of possible supply and a very large percentage of the product has been promised for foreign export. It is said that in one large car factory thirty-six per cent. of this year's output goes to Finland, Russia, France and Mexico.

LARGE BEQUESTS.—By the will of the late Mrs. Anna Panning, which was filed for probate in the Orphan's Court, Baltimore, Md., on August 24, \$25,000 is bequeathed to various Catholic religious and charitable institutions. Following are the bequests:

St. Anthony's Orphan Asylum, \$1,500; St. Joseph's German Hospital, \$1,000; Little Sisters of the Poor, \$1,000; Oblate Sisters of Providence, \$1,500; Protectors of St. Mary's Orphan Female School, \$1,500; St. Vincent's Infant Asylum, \$1,000; St. Elizabeth's Home, \$2,000; Society of St. Vincent de Paul, of Baltimore, \$1,500; Associate Professors of St. Mary's Seminary, \$1,500; Carmelite Sisters, \$1,000; Institution of Mission Helpers, \$1,000; Sisters of Mercy, \$1,000; Young Catholics' Friend Society, \$500; St. Jude's Tabernacle Society, \$500; House of Good Shepherd for Colored Girls, \$500; Cardinal Gibbons, \$1,500, to be divided in sums of \$500 each to St. Andrew's church, St. Joseph's, St. Anthony's, St. Ann's, St. Jerome's, and the remaining \$1,500 to St. James'.

All the residue of the property, exclusive of legacies to relatives, is left to Cardinal Gibbons and his successors.

A NOBLE GIFT.—Mrs. Robbins, of Washington, cousin of the Rev. Father Lee, pastor of St. Matthew's Church, of that city, is building a magnificent chapel in honor of St. Anthony at a cost of \$10,000.

DIED A CONVERT.—Hon. Casey Young, ex-member of Congress, and for 35 years one of the most distinguished lawyers in Tennessee, is dead. For some months prior to his death, Col. Young had been receiving instructions into the Catholic Faith through the Dominican Fathers of St. Peter's Church. He was baptized and received into the church by Rev. Father Meagher, O.P. A couple of days before his death he received the last sacraments of the church from Rev. Father Lockinger, O.P.

Col. Young was one of the most brilliant and logical orators in Tennessee. A GOOD BERTH.—John T. Gibbons, of New Orleans, La., brother of Cardinal Gibbons, has been appointed by Mayor Flower of that city, to represent the First municipal district on the water and sewerage commission of New Orleans. This commission is to expend about \$15,000,000 on a new water and sewerage system.

TWO DOLLARS A DAY.—Mayor Van Wyck has notified the heads of the City Departments, of New York, that in preparing their estimates for 1900 "the wages of laborers, workmen and mechanics should be at least \$2 for a legal day's work, and not less than the prevailing rate of wages for a day's work in the same trade or occupation in the city."

Corporation Counsel Whelan also, requires, as one of the conditions of his approval of the contract for the construction of the underground rapid transit railroad that the contract shall provide for the payment of wages to the laborers employed on the work at the rate of \$2 per day. This provision has likewise received the approval of one, at least, of the Rapid Transit Commissioners, and seems likely to be approved by the others.

BELGIUM CATHOLICS UNITE.

The Democratic League, of Belgium is going to make a praiseworthy and strenuous effort to draw the Catholic together in a bond of closer union, in view of the present troubles caused by the electoral crisis. They publish a general invitation to all Catholic groups and societies to attend their Congress at Brussels on September 24, 25. "Union is indispensable for the success of the Catholic Party in the future," they say, "and the common enemy of their religion, institutions and social existence must be resisted by their undivided forces." This initiative deserves sympathy and praise, and shows the lively desire of this league to produce tangible and lasting results.

THE POPE AND FRANCE.

The state of affairs in France judged by reports from different sources is a cause of considerable anxiety to those who wish well to that country. Hence the public mind in Rome is disposed to put faith in the report that has been sent from that city to an Italian provincial journal, that Cardinal Rampolla has telegraphed in the name of the Pope to the Nuncio at Paris, recommending the episcopate and clergy of France to strive and pacify the minds of the people, and recommend them to calmness. It is reported that great anxiety is felt at the Vatican for the immediate future of this country.