



Vol. LIII, No. 1

THE TRUE WITNESS

IS PRINTED AT

3 BROADWAY

Subscription Rates: Canada, \$1.00; United States, \$1.50; Foreign, \$2.00.

Advance Payment: All Communications should be addressed to "The True Witness," P. O. Box, L. I. C.

By the English-Speaking Interest, they are powerful Catholic papers.

NOTE

MAY—This is our April. To-morrow of May. It is not most beautiful month commences on Sunday.

entire world, animating a rejuvenation month of May.

tholics have a special joy in its approach. It is the month of the Church for special devotion to Mary, the Mother of God.

need not tell of all her glories and devotions.

day of the month, they all our red.

Nor do we think it possible, each generation upon as general.

possible, each generation upon as general.

each parish, at Montreal, the hours of the day.

be announced by the Mother of God, a Mother of God, a Mother of God, a Mother of God.

and the Benedictine Sacrament.

Since the first hour of the glories of Mary, and repeated, in every form, by the Church to the Blessed Virgin of the most noteworthy long series of ages.

isted. In no other Mother of God received honor and veneration.

presumably desired to Mother. It is, also, be overlooked that the den jubilee of the immaculate Conception.

ional reason for a fervid devotion to God has so signally.

It will be remembered illustrious Pontiff, planned a special celebration for this year.

successor, Pius X., in the wishes of the Pontiff, and, at the same time, to his own devotion to the Blessed Virgin, carrying out of.

Amongst other items of keeping in a special eighth of each month.

December, 1903, to the month of Mary, is happens that the eighth will fall on a Sunday.

gin the month of May and we keep the eighth day. There would be thing providential.

ment. As Sunday is the one day of the every person is free.

devotions that may circumstances, all effort to-morrow to month's devotions and join her fully of the month in the of the glorious dogma.

claimed to the univ beauty of the Immaculate God.

We have no need for we are confident, ders will be only to this month of May, through the intercession who was raised to the Mother of Our Saviour.

TEACHING MORAL New York Legislature has introduced "to giving of instruction

OUR BOYS AND GIRLS.

THE HAND OF GOD.—In the city of New York, one bright morning in May, about seventy years ago, a young girl was seen driving a chubby baby through the avenues of one of the principle parks. Presently a carriage drove up, and taking the baby out of its own cozy carriage, she sprang up into the other one, in which a man was seated, and drove away. The baby was May Commons, a little girl of three, and the only child of Ronald Commons, a wealthy banker of New York city.

The nurse had left under the pretense of taking the little one to spend the day at an aunt's, who lived in another part of the city, and who had long been asking Mrs. Commons to let the little one spend a day with her.

When evening came and they did not return, Mrs. Commons, becoming a little uneasy, wondered what could be the matter, but as it was dinner hour and the servants were busy, put the worry from her mind saying they would probably be along presently.

After dinner Mr. Commons hurried off to catch the train; he had business in a neighboring town and would not return until next morning. In the meantime, becoming more and more uneasy and fearing the child might be sick, Mrs. Commons ordered her carriage and drove to her aunt's residence. Her astonishment was great to find that neither child nor nurse had been there at all that day. Her aunt was greatly distressed. What could have happened? Could they have been run over? She called her servant and sent him to the police station and any other place where information could be had to see if any accident had been heard of.

All the while Mrs. Commons sat there scarcely able to move, a paralyzing fear gnawing at her heart, her mind distracted by terrible forebodings. Why! oh why! she asked herself, had she let the child out?

The servant returned after some time with a baby carriage that he had found at the police station, and recognized as belonging to Mrs. Commons, for having seen it driven so often by the nurse. It had been found empty in one of the parks and taken to the police station; this was the only information he could get.

Mrs. Commons desired to return home, clinging to the last hope that perhaps they had returned during her absence. She was lifted into her carriage scarcely conscious, and accompanied by her aunt returned to find the missing ones still absent. She was taken to her bed—a telegram sent to her husband—a doctor sent for in haste. A spell of sickness ensued; a devouring fear caused by anxiety, which, as the days went on and no tidings came of the child, developed into brain fever.

Roland Commons, on receiving the telegram, returned home as soon as possible, and did all that lay in his power to find his child. Detectives were employed, rewards offered, but all to no purpose; the missing ones were not found.

Poor Mr. Commons, the hand of God weighed heavily on him just then: his only child gone, to what horrible fate he knew not, perhaps far worse than death; and his wife a raving maniac with little hope of recovery. But with the courage of a brave man and Christian, though broken with grief, he bowed to the will of God. Whatever the designs of the Almighty might be, he felt sure they were for his greatest good.

Although his youth had been surrounded with every care to lead him in the path of virtue, by loving parents, of late years his contact with the world and the men with whom he had associated in his calling had rendered him negligent of his religious duties; he was over fond of amusement, and every moment he could spare from business was spent at his club, or other resort of amusement. He seldom found time for prayer except in Church on Sundays, and often found the services and sermon long and tedious. But the germs of virtue sown in his heart in youth were fanned into vigorous growth by the winds of affliction; recognizing the Providence of God in all that had happened, his heart was torn with remorse. His accustomed haunts of pleasure saw him no more, and humbled and repentant, he sought consolation in religion, where alone true consolation can be found: his one prayer being that God might visit his sins on his own head, and spare those he loved.

But what had become of May and

A Yard of flannel is still a yard after washed with Surprise Soap

Its pure hard Soap—that's why.

Don't forget the name—**Surprise**

the nurse that there were no more seen or heard of? On leaving the park they drove to the man's rooms (who, by the way, was her brother), on a back street, where a disguise was in readiness for them. He was a gambler and a villain, living by his wits; he had been abroad for many years, travelling with gypsies, whether he had gone to escape the penalty of the law for some offense committed in youth. Having returned and recognized his sister in the nurse of a wealthy man's child, formed the satanic plan of stealing the child, intending to return her for the reward he knew would be offered for her recovery.

Having donned the disguise of gypsies, and taking provisions with them they re-entered the carriage and drove to the country, where a gypsy's caravan was in readiness. Changing the horses from the carriage to the caravan, they started on their route for Canada, avoiding the cities and towns and even the villages as much as possible; procuring food from the farmers along the route, and camping in the fields or along the roadsides, they easily passed for harmless gypsies. The country folks, in those days, hearing very little of what was going on in the cities, had never heard of May Commons's disappearance. Thus they arrived at Laprairie in July, tired and worn out.

It was in the year 1834, when the cholera made such ravages in Canada. They were but a few days at Laprairie when it broke out in that neighborhood with its utmost virulence; people were dying by hundreds every day: when it entered a house, usually within a few hours all its inmates were dead. Sometimes one or two would remain—sometimes it would be an old person on the verge of the grave that was spared; sometimes a little child that was left to face the world alone. Everybody was panic-stricken, people scarcely left their houses except to bury the dead. The doctors and religious did all they could to alleviate the sufferings of the people, and check the ravages of the epidemic, but in vain.

At the inn where the nurse and her brother had taken quarters only an old woman and little May remained of all the household; over twenty people had died in that house within the space of two days. After the scourge had passed on the panic subsided and the people began to breathe freely once more. But many places were vacant, many houses were closed, many hearts never power with sorrow. The old woman at the inn was a servant, and now that her masters were dead she could not remain there, and she could not take charge of the child, so the authorities sent her to an orphanage of Montreal under the charge of the Sisters of Providence.

Time continued her onward march; indifferent alike to joy or sorrow, the sun must rise and set; the years must come and go. Five years had already elapsed since the events just narrated transpired. Despite all the medical care possible, Mrs. Commons' sickness had developed into a species of mild insanity. At times she would be hysterical with grief; then would succeed spells of apathy. At other times she would be comparatively rational, declaring that she knew where her child was, that she saw her frequently in a large building with other children; in a strange city where nuns had care of them. She would beseech her husband piteously to go for her, saying he would easily recognize her, as her features had not changed much since she left them, but she was much taller and larger.

Mr. Commons visited almost every orphan institution of the United States in the wild hope of finding his child, but so far it had been useless. till one day, arriving in Montreal on business, he resolved to visit the orphan asylums here also. Something in his wife's manner of speaking about their child, in her rational

moments, almost convinced him that she did possess some clairvoyant power of seeing her; she was so positive in all that she said, and so minute in the description she gave of the child and everything around her that he really thought he might recognize her. He visited a couple of asylums but there was nothing in or around them to coincide with the description of the place where his wife said their little girl was; till visiting the Providence Nuns, he thought it looked very like the place described, and on visiting the children and examining them critically, as was his way on such occasions, one little girl attracted his attention. She was just about the age and size his own little girl might be, and he thought to trace in her features some resemblance to his own family; moreover, he seemed particularly drawn to her. He questioned the Sisters regarding her, but all they could tell him was that she had been brought to them the year of the cholera, and that all her people had died; they were strangers in the place, gypsies, they had been told; her name was May Rainville. But, stay! said the Sister, there was a valise brought with her that belonged to her parents, and contained some jewellery and other things. They brought the valise, and on opening it the first thing that caught his eye was a chain and locket set with opals that he had given his little girl on her first birthday. She had worn it ever afterwards, and had it on the day she was stolen. He opened the locket, and inside was his own portrait. He wanted to see no more; scarcely able to repress a shout, so delirious did he feel for joy. He told the Sisters that she was his own child, showing them as a proof the picture in the locket, which they easily recognized as his own. He related to them the history of her abduction, and how he had sought for her ever since.

May Rainville, now May Commons, was sent for, and I fear words are feeble to describe the scene that followed, or the emotions of the father's heart as he folded once more to his breast his dearly beloved child. May was overjoyed to find that her parents were still living. She had believed them long since dead, and had often prayed in her sweet childish way for the repose of their souls. Yet with her joy was mingled a sadness at the thought of leaving forever the dear good Sisters, whom she loved so much. Her father promised she would come to see them often, so bidding them all good bye, as well as all her companions, she returned to her former home.

On arriving home, Mrs. Commons happened to be in the hall as they entered. With a cry of joy she recognized her little girl, and clasping her in her arms embraced her with many effusions of love, saying she had known all day that her beloved child was coming to her.

The joy of finding her child restored her mind to its balance, and in a comparatively short time her health was perfectly recovered. Thus was joy restored to those who had suffered, let us hope, forever, and join in their thanksgiving to God.—Clara Beatrice Semcal, St. John's, P.Q.

There are people who seem to take more interest in our affairs than we do ourselves.

Lost time is never found again, and what we call time enough always proves little enough.

SYMINGTON'S
EDINBURGH

COFFEE ESSENCE

Makes delicious coffee in a moment. No trouble necessary. In small and large bottles from all grocers.

© U.S. PATENT OFFICE

ST. BRIDGET'S NIGHT REFUGE.

Report for week ending Sunday, 15th April, 1904: Irish, 172; French 118; English, 33; Scotch and other nationalities, 21. Total, 339.

Professional

Curran & Curran
Barristers and Solicitors,
Comm'rs for Quebec & Newfoundland.
SAVINGS' BANK CHAMBERS,
180 St. James Street,
Phone Main 187. Montreal

R. F. QUIGLEY,
Ph.D., L.L.D., K.C.,
ADVOCATE, BARRISTER and SOLICITOR,
Member of the Bars of New Brunswick and Quebec.

Brousseau Lajoie and Lacoste.
Advocates and Barristers-at-Law.
PLACE D'ARMES, Montreal,

C. A. McDONNELL,
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT,
180 ST. JAMES STREET.
..Montreal..

Fifteen years experience in connection with the liquidation of Private and Insolvent Estates. Auditing Books and preparing Annual Report for private firms, and public corporations a specialty.
TELEPHONE 1182.

The Montreal City and District Savings Bank.

The Annual General Meeting of the Shareholders of this Bank will be held at its Head office, 176 St. James street, on

TUESDAY, 3rd May next, at 12 o'clock noon.

for the reception of the Annual Reports and Statements, and the Election of Directors.

By order of the Board,
A. P. LESPERANCE,
Manager.
Montreal, March 31st, 1904.

STILL DEAD.

A good story, told, we fear, of many others, is related of the late Mr. Justice Byrne, who died on Monday night after a few days' illness. Mr. Byrne was at one time a member for the Walthamstow Division of Essex, and in his canvass came across a certain voter, after whose father he enquired. "He is dead, sir," replied the young man, pleased at the notice taken of him. Probably there were many other enquiries made of a similar nature, but it is certain that one more was made, and of the young man alluded to, who replied, "Well, sir, he is still dead," an answer which, we fancy, must have made Mr. Byrne a little more careful of his memory, which was ordinarily excellent.—London Universe.

There are people who seem to take more interest in our affairs than we do ourselves.

Lost time is never found again, and what we call time enough always proves little enough.

PATENTS PROMPTLY SECURED

We solicit the business of Manufacturers, Engineers and others who realize the advisability of having their Patent business transacted by experts. Preliminary advice free. Charges moderate. Our Inventors' Help, 125 pages, sent upon request. Marlow & Marlow, New York Life Bldg., Montreal; and Washington, D.C. U.S.A.

Professional

Smith Bros. Granite Co.

The following was clipped from the "Granite," Boston, Mass.:
"Illustrated in the advertisement of E. L. Smith & Co., Barre, Vt., on another page, is practically their complete plant, with the exception of their derricks. This Company was the first of the quarry owners to use compressed air for operating rock drills, and also the first to take up the plug drill. We can say, without exaggeration, that this concern has the best equipped granite quarry in the country."

T. J. O'NEILL,
REAL ESTATE AGENT.
180 ST. JAMES STREET.

Loans, Insurance, Renting, and Collecting of Rents. Moderate charges, and prompt returns.

CONROY BROS.
228 Centre Street.

Practical Plumbers, Gas and Steam Fitters
ELECTRIC and MECHANICAL BELLS, etc.
Tel. Main 2552. Night and Day Services
TELEPHONE 3233

THOMAS O'CONNELL
Dealer in General Household Hardware, Paints, Oils, and a fine line of Wall Papers.
Cor. Murray and Ottawa STREET
PRACTICAL PLUMBER,
GAS, STEAM and HOT WATER FITTER
RUTLAND LINING, FITS ANY STOVE CHEAP.
Orders promptly attended to. Moderate charges. A trial solicited.
ESTABLISHED 1864.

C. O'BRIEN,
House, Sign and Decorative Painter
PLAIN AND DECORATIVE PAPER-HANGER.
Whitewashing and Tinting Orders promptly attended to. Terms moderate.
Residence 445, Office 647, Dorchester street east of St. Laur street, Montreal.
Bell Telephone, Main 1466.

LAWRENCE RILEY, PLASTERER.
Successor to John Riley. Established in 1866. Plain and Ornamental Plastering. Repairing of all kinds, promptly attended to. Estimates furnished. Postal orders attended to. 15 Park Street, Point St. Charles.

Business Cards.

THE Smith Bros. Granite Co.

The following was clipped from the "Granite," Boston, Mass.:
"Illustrated in the advertisement of E. L. Smith & Co., Barre, Vt., on another page, is practically their complete plant, with the exception of their derricks. This Company was the first of the quarry owners to use compressed air for operating rock drills, and also the first to take up the plug drill. We can say, without exaggeration, that this concern has the best equipped granite quarry in the country."

T. J. O'NEILL,
REAL ESTATE AGENT.
180 ST. JAMES STREET.

Loans, Insurance, Renting, and Collecting of Rents. Moderate charges, and prompt returns.

CONROY BROS.
228 Centre Street.

Practical Plumbers, Gas and Steam Fitters
ELECTRIC and MECHANICAL BELLS, etc.
Tel. Main 2552. Night and Day Services
TELEPHONE 3233

THOMAS O'CONNELL
Dealer in General Household Hardware, Paints, Oils, and a fine line of Wall Papers.
Cor. Murray and Ottawa STREET
PRACTICAL PLUMBER,
GAS, STEAM and HOT WATER FITTER
RUTLAND LINING, FITS ANY STOVE CHEAP.
Orders promptly attended to. Moderate charges. A trial solicited.
ESTABLISHED 1864.

C. O'BRIEN,
House, Sign and Decorative Painter
PLAIN AND DECORATIVE PAPER-HANGER.
Whitewashing and Tinting Orders promptly attended to. Terms moderate.
Residence 445, Office 647, Dorchester street east of St. Laur street, Montreal.
Bell Telephone, Main 1466.

LAWRENCE RILEY, PLASTERER.
Successor to John Riley. Established in 1866. Plain and Ornamental Plastering. Repairing of all kinds, promptly attended to. Estimates furnished. Postal orders attended to. 15 Park Street, Point St. Charles.

MISCELLANEOUS.

BRODIE'S CELEBRATED SELF-RAISING FLOUR
Is the Original and the Best.
A PREMIUM given for the empty bag returned to our Office.
10 BLEURY ST., Montreal.

PATENT SOLICITORS.

PATENTS PROMPTLY SECURED

We solicit the business of Manufacturers, Engineers and others who realize the advisability of having their Patent business transacted by experts. Preliminary advice free. Charges moderate. Our Inventors' Help, 125 pages, sent upon request. Marlow & Marlow, New York Life Bldg., Montreal; and Washington, D.C. U.S.A.

CHURCH BELLS.

MENBELY BELL COMPANY
TROY, N.Y., and
117 BROADWAY, NEW YORK CITY.
Manufacture Superior CHURCH BELLS
ROOFERS, Etc.

The Plain Truth Tells

In roofing as in everything else, if your roof needs only a repair we will candidly tell you so, if a new roof is required we give a guarantee for 10, 7 or 5 years, according to price. Our experts are at your disposal, without extra cost. Can we do anything for you?
GEORGE W. REED & CO.,
Roofers, Asphalters, &c.,
785 ORAIG STREET.

CHURCH BELLS.

MENBELY BELL COMPANY
TROY, N.Y., and
117 BROADWAY, NEW YORK CITY.
Manufacture Superior CHURCH BELLS
ROOFERS, Etc.

The Plain Truth Tells

In roofing as in everything else, if your roof needs only a repair we will candidly tell you so, if a new roof is required we give a guarantee for 10, 7 or 5 years, according to price. Our experts are at your disposal, without extra cost. Can we do anything for you?
GEORGE W. REED & CO.,
Roofers, Asphalters, &c.,
785 ORAIG STREET.

ST. PATRICK'S SOCIETY.—Established March 6th, 1856, incorporated 1868, revised 1864. Meets in St. Patrick's Hall, 92 St. Alexander street, first Monday of the month. Committees meet last Wednesday. Officers: Rev. Director, Rev. M. Callaghan, P.P. President, Hon. Mr. Justice C. J. Doherty; 1st Vice, F. E. Devlin, M.D.; 2nd Vice, F. J. Curran, B.C.L.; Treasurer, Frank J. Green; corresponding Secretary, J. Kahala; Recording Secretary, T. P. Tansey.

ST. PATRICK'S T. A. AND B. SOCIETY.—Established 1863.—Rev. Director, Rev. Father McPhail; President, D. Aillery, M.P.; Sec., J. F. Quinn, 625 St. Dominique street; M. J. Ryan, treasurer, 18 St. Augustin street. Meets on the second Sunday of every month, in St. Ann's Hall, corner Young and Ottawa streets, at 8.30 p.m.

Society Directory.

ST. PATRICK'S SOCIETY.—Established March 6th, 1856, incorporated 1868, revised 1864. Meets in St. Patrick's Hall, 92 St. Alexander street, first Monday of the month. Committees meet last Wednesday. Officers: Rev. Director, Rev. M. Callaghan, P.P. President, Hon. Mr. Justice C. J. Doherty; 1st Vice, F. E. Devlin, M.D.; 2nd Vice, F. J. Curran, B.C.L.; Treasurer, Frank J. Green; corresponding Secretary, J. Kahala; Recording Secretary, T. P. Tansey.

ST. PATRICK'S T. A. AND B. SOCIETY.—Established 1863.—Rev. Director, Rev. Father McPhail; President, D. Aillery, M.P.; Sec., J. F. Quinn, 625 St. Dominique street; M. J. Ryan, treasurer, 18 St. Augustin street. Meets on the second Sunday of every month, in St. Ann's Hall, corner Young and Ottawa streets, at 8.30 p.m.

ST. ANN'S T. A. & B. SOCIETY.—Established 1863.—Rev. Director, Rev. Father McPhail; President, D. Aillery, M.P.; Sec., J. F. Quinn, 625 St. Dominique street; M. J. Ryan, treasurer, 18 St. Augustin street. Meets on the second Sunday of every month, in St. Ann's Hall, corner Young and Ottawa streets, at 8.30 p.m.

ST. ANN'S YOUNG MEN'S SOCIETY organized 1885.—Meets in its hall, 157 Ottawa street, on the first Sunday of each month, at 8.30 p.m. Spiritual Adviser, Rev. Father Flynn, C.S.S.R.; President, P. Kenahan; Treasurer, Thomas O'Connell; Rec.-Sec., Robt. J. Hart.

C.M.B.A. OF CANADA, BRANCH 26.—(Organized, 13th November, 1878.—Branch 26 meets at St. Patrick's Hall, 92 St. Alexander St., on every Monday of each month. The regular meetings for the transaction of business are held on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month, at 8 p.m. Spiritual Adviser, Rev. M. Callaghan; Chancellor, F. J. Sears; President, F. J. Darcey; Rec.-Sec., P. J. McDonagh; Fin.-Secretary, Jas. J. Costigan; Treasurer, J. H. Feeley, Jr.; Medical Adviser, Drs. H. J. Harrison, E. J. O'Conor and G. H. Merrill

CHURCH BELLS.

Church Bells in China or India. None so satisfactory as **McShane's** McSHANE'S BELL FOUNDRY, Baltimore, Md., U.S.A.

MENBELY BELL COMPANY
TROY, N.Y., and
117 BROADWAY, NEW YORK CITY.
Manufacture Superior CHURCH BELLS
ROOFERS, Etc.

The Plain Truth Tells

In roofing as in everything else, if your roof needs only a repair we will candidly tell you so, if a new roof is required we give a guarantee for 10, 7 or 5 years, according to price. Our experts are at your disposal, without extra cost. Can we do anything for you?
GEORGE W. REED & CO.,
Roofers, Asphalters, &c.,
785 ORAIG STREET.

CHURCH BELLS.

MENBELY BELL COMPANY
TROY, N.Y., and
117 BROADWAY, NEW YORK CITY.
Manufacture Superior CHURCH BELLS
ROOFERS, Etc.

The Plain Truth Tells

CHURCH BELLS.

MENBELY BELL COMPANY
TROY, N.Y., and
117 BROADWAY, NEW YORK CITY.
Manufacture Superior CHURCH BELLS
ROOFERS, Etc.

The Plain Truth Tells

CHURCH BELLS.

MENBELY BELL COMPANY
TROY, N.Y., and
117 BROADWAY, NEW YORK CITY.
Manufacture Superior CHURCH BELLS
ROOFERS, Etc.

SUBSCRIBE NOW

SUBSCRIPTION ORDER

190

The True Witness P. & P. Co.'y, Limited.
P. O. BOX 1126, MONTREAL, P. Q.

I hereby authorize you to send me THE TRUE WITNESS for which I agree to pay to your order at the rate of One Dollar per year.

Signed.....

Address.....

Subscription Rates, Strictly in Advance

Canada, Newfoundland and United States, \$1.00 per year
City and Foreign, \$1.50 per year.