

REV. FATHER HAROLD,

Apostle of Catholicism in the Antipodes.

Saw Men Scourged Almost to the Death For Being Patriots, and He Left Behind a Growing Colony With the True Faith Firmly Planted in It.

In the Centennial celebrations of 1898 there are likely to be some names forgotten among the phalanx of heroes whose life blood bore testimony to their patriotism and their faith a hundred years ago. The priest, the man of God, the shepherd, is seldom if ever heard of, though among their holy orders were men who won a martyr's crown if ever crown was won. Chased like beasts of the field, driven from hedge to hedge, and panting like the hunted stag, these noble men shed and suffered. Their hiding was not that of the coward, afraid of physical hurt; it was the martyrdom of the pastor that came of the Saviour's charge. 'Feed my sheep.' How many saintly men were crushed under the iron heel of intolerance and unscrupulous bigotry will never be known. Hundreds of souls were sent to their reward amid the ribald jests of a brutal soldiery and others pined away in hedges and caves, the hiding place of the sogaarh aroon being only known to the few faithful peasants who were powerless to raise a helping hand. Others there were who were transported as felons and suffered all the indignities that could be heaped upon them on board the disgustingly filthy ships whose burden of trade was the carrying of human beings to Botany Bay. What these men suffered, the horror of the thing will never be known, for we only have records left of a few instances out of the many.

Among those priestly 'felons' one of the most notable was Father James Harold, the pastor of the parish of Saggart, County Dublin, then called Rathwale. The current number of the Irish Roseary contains a very interesting article on 'THE CONVICT PRIESTS OF '98.'

First place being given to Father Harold. The priest was not 'rebel' like Father John Murphy or Father Phillip Roche. On the contrary, he preached peace and resignation to the last hour. But he was, nevertheless, marked out for vengeance. One Sunday morning he was seized at the very altar and led away to jail, whence, several months later, he was transferred to a convict ship off the coast of Cork, and taken to Botany Bay. General Holt, in his 'Memoirs,' gives a terrible picture of the sufferings of the unhappy exiles of that period on board the horrible floating dungeons. The brave Wicklow leader voyaged with Father Harold. He describes the 'Minerva' as 'a floating dunce of disgusting filth,' under a 'cruel and unfeeling monster, in the shape of a man who commanded it.' He adds that 'many of the poor wretches on board had been eight months on the water without a change of clothes, in a state of inexorable torment, and covered with vermin,' and he concludes 'It would have been much better, and much more humane, to have ordered us to have been shot on the strand, than to doom us to linger out such a wretched existence of miseries.'

Fishmen in plenty were in Australia when Father Harold landed at Sydney on January 15th, 1800. He soon devoted himself to missionary work among his poor countrymen. Terrible was his task, because, evil as were the ways of the authorities at home, the degraded brutes who held irresponsible control over the convict settlement were nearer to the rank of fiends. Holt gives a perfectly appalling description of the flogging of a poor fellow named Fitzgerald, in the course of which he writes: 'The unfortunate man had his arms extended around a tree, his two wrists tied with cords, and his breast pressed closely against the tree, so that flinching from the blows was out of the question, as it was impossible for him to stir. Father Harold was ordered to put his hands against the tree by the hands of the prisoner, and two men were appointed to flog, one being the hangman from Sydney. They stood on each side of Fitzgerald, and I never saw two brethren in a barn move their flails with more regularity than those two maulers, unmoved by pity, and rather enjoying their horrible employment than otherwise. The first blow made the blood spurt out from Fitzgerald's shoulders. I have witnessed many horrible scenes, but this was the most appalling sight I had ever seen.'

Amongst such sights the good priest lived and labored for years. He and his friends were finally released, and they came homewards, but they left behind an enduring monument of their zeal and devotion. The Catholic Church flourished in Australia, and is flourishing today. Father Harold lived in Ireland to a good old age, beloved and respected by all.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Harbor Commissioners and Mr. Sharkey.

DEAR SIR.—The English-speaking Catholics are to be congratulated in having an organization such as the St. Patrick's League to look after their interests. The stand taken by the League in the case of Mr. M. Sharkey and Mr. D. O'Brien is the proper one; an injustice has been done to two of our people and the matter should be made right. It was a pleasure to see the hearty manner in which our representatives, Hon. Dr. Grier, Mr. M. J. F. Quinn, M.P., Hon. James McShane, Mr. J. H. Semple and ex-Aid. Cunningham supported the League at the interview with the Harbor Commissioners. In reading over your excellent report of this interview I was somewhat sur-

prised at the views expressed by some of the Commissioners after the delegation had left the room. In speaking of Mr. Sharkey, Mr. Torrance is quoted as saying: 'No more work for him; nobody put in his place.'

This goes to show, Mr. Editor, that there is a mistake somewhere, as the fact remains that there is some one in his (Mr. Sharkey's) place and he is out.

I understand that Mr. Sharkey has been in the employ of the Harbor Commissioners for over thirty years, and in 1890 was promoted by that honorable body to the position of Superintendent of harbor dredging. In the latter part of '96 he was notified that his engagement would expire in January, '97. In the month of February, '97, arrangements were made for the continuance of their works; all of their old officials were retained; no changes were made, except in one case, and this one was in Mr. Sharkey's. He was informed that he would have to be content with the charge of one dredge as an engineer, thus depriving him of his rank as superintendent, but his salary was to remain the same. Before accepting this degradation in rank, Mr. Sharkey asked for a hearing; this he did not get. He went to work as engineer. It is all very well to say there is no one in his place. There is some one in his place, performing his duties as superintendent. It is very easy to see the injustice done to Mr. Sharkey. Why did the Commissioners remove him from the position of superintendent and replace him by a man who was only about two years in the service and had had no previous experience? Why did his final dismissal follow the sinking of Dredge No. 6? Why was the sinking of that dredge, when first reported on, attributed to an error of judgment on the part of Mr. Sharkey? And why, when Mr. Sharkey asked for an investigation, was that charge withdrawn without any investigation being held?

It looks to me, and to a good many others, that Mr. Sharkey's removal from the position of superintendent was totally unwarranted. His ability the Commissioners recognize and praise his faithful services. It looks as if the change of position was made with a view of making his removal easy.

There are other reasons that I have heard of, and for some of which I can vouch, which plainly show that Mr. Sharkey has not been fairly dealt with. Mr. Sharkey is held in esteem by his fellow-citizens, and has at all times shown himself worthy of that esteem. He has been a faithful servant of the Harbor Commission of Montreal, and the gentlemen who compose that honorable body should see that justice is done him.

Montreal, 18th April, 1898.

OUR PHILADELPHIA LETTER.

PHILADELPHIA, April 16, 1898. How quickly changes all around us, and how different the very color of the sunshine according to the inward light that glows and pales as hope or fear ministers to it? Is this indeed the same land it was when the old year passed into the new? And what kind of a summer do we really look on to from these first spring days of brightness? The thought of the seashore is cooling enough now for any rise in the thermometer, and the hills—the further off the better—are most inviting to most women. For women do not like war when it comes to the 'real thing.' They can endure war, but they cannot enjoy it, as some men certainly do. Even Atlantic City, the 'dearest spot on earth' (in two senses of the word at least)—to the majority of Philadelphians, is agitated at the prospect of a season of empty cottages. The usual Easter flitting from here there has taken place, and with a universality that suggests a last, long farewell for the year, but no one is prepared to go down for the summer. So it is all along the Jersey coast, for there is a long chain of small resorts 'within walking distance,' as one may say, the whole length of it. Most of them have summer chapels, and the Catholics have a monopoly of several whole towns or settlements, notably Sea Isle City, where Miss Eleanor C. Donnelly and her sisters have the coziest and most hospitable cottages. It has a little upper balcony overlooking the ocean where our own poet takes her rest of mind and day. And the fairest hours of dawn and day. And I must confess to a feeling of attraction to that little balcony, for I cannot but trace its sheltering peace and its gift of beauty through many of her lines. The shining sea stretches boundlessly before it and the moonlight on the waves at Sea Isle is certainly clearer and finer than at other places along the shore. But, although Spain is not within a reasonable distance across those waves, the terror of her carries their chill into many hearts, and no one talks of going to Sea Isle this year. How thankful I am for the hope yet left us that all may be at peace here before summer weather!

Side by side with the underlying fear goes on the usual routine, and little by little brings about great results. It seems but a short time since we first heard at Easter time—in 1895—of the Proctory Archbishop Ryan felt to be needed and determined to have. Looking onward to the great sums it demanded even to start it, to erect it and to furnish it, it

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seemed almost hopeless to understand it, but the Archbishop said that when the time came for a work because it was needed, the money would come, too. He was right, for in a few weeks—in May sometime—he will bless it, and in a few more weeks it will be furnished and, no doubt, in a very little time it will be filled. Great has been the thought, the perseverance, the steady, never-flagging labor of those who have stood by the Archbishop in this matter, and great will be the work as it goes on. It stands not far from the city in a most rich and lovely country—so rich indeed, as an agricultural district, that it bore the name, hideous indeed, of 'Fatlands.' Out of courtesy to the Archbishop, and, I hope, out of a love for better things and more musical sounds than those of such gross suggestion in a name, the P. P. R. has changed the name of the station to 'Proctory.' Let us hasten to forget its predecessor.

Among the other good works in Philadelphia we may now number the formation of the People's Eucharistic League, which has been established during the Lenten season at St. Patrick's Church, on South Twentieth street. Father Turner was then of St. Patrick's and had charge of it, but he has since been transferred to the Cathedral on the occasion of Father Monahan's transfer to St. James' Church, from whence Dr. Garvey went to be in command at the Sembrony of St. Charles Borromeo, Overbrook, when Dr. Fitzmaurice was made Bishop of Erie. Behold the circle wide! 'A chain of circumstances' is certainly far reaching, and these are the 'gold chains' by which the great, round world is ever bound about the feet of God, as Tennyson sang. In spite of wars and rumors of wars, they seem to bind the world closer and closer in some things, and I sometimes forget the 'certain fearful looking forward' to which we are all prone, in wonder and admiration at the good which comes before me and cannot be doubted. We have saints and we have sinners now—a days that must balance the scales of Justice, after all, but there must be some tremendous vacillations before they tremble to an exact adjustment. Comparative evil makes but a poor showing at the close of the century.

Does it ever strike anyone of the many readers of the many books of the day that the convent stories—I mean the stories of convent schools—are showing up to us an exceedingly silly type of school girl, a very mean type, and a very inferior type as compared with non-Catholic girls of the same shadowy character? For myself, I do not believe in them. No such girls were ever visible to the naked eye, therefore they are not studies of the realistic school. They are utterly and unmistakably disgraceful as studies of any kind, and I think the school girls of the day ought to protest against such libels. If the girls have not sense and discernment enough to reject such portrayals, then will the stories do them harm. There will be just that weight of brain upon which will work the spirit of emulation, and the pranks and tricks—neither amusing, witty, nor probable—that may disturb the good Sisters as the result, will cause no end of trouble. Then, too, these books and the favorable criticisms, so often given them in false kindness, are spreading abroad a spirit that is not favorable to convent schools—rather, distinctly unfavorable to these splendid and earnest institutions. The Sisters depicted are, of course, the wishy-washy saints so often affected by those who have little experience in spirituality or its study. They are 'amiable fools,' but they are not in anything the practical, cultured, clear-headed executives, either in authority or 'behind the throne,' in convent schools. All these comments—in which I am of the same mind with the speakers—have floated to me from many sources, and there is a turn in the tide of many distinctly expressed opinions. If there should be either new troubles or a dearth of pupils anywhere, righteous punishment should fall upon the heads of those writers who 'try to be funny' and to amuse by lowering the standard of 'our young readers.' For the young, at least, let us have ideals. Rather impossible perfection than impossible wickedness, especially the 'wickedness' of school girls.

It has always been a mystery to me why the stories of boarding school life are written as they are. I remember that I longed to go to school—being anything but a model young person—because I expected all sorts of high jinks there from the boarding school fiction I had read. I was disappointed. In the two large and fashionable schools that came under my personal observation I never met with any girl, from the north, south, east or west, who was not good rather than bad. In both schools there was a high sense of honor, there was a spirit of refinement, there was a majority whose approbation was desired by the minority, and who would never have yielded it to any such 'carrying on' as are (falsely I am sure), credited to the convent pupils. Life at the schools, as I know thoroughly, would have been rendered impossible to such girls by the silent, gentle, yet marked avoidance of such 'madcaps.' Nor have I ever even heard of anything of a similar nature at a good non-Catholic school. I am very sure, therefore, as I am convinced the convent schools are equal to the best in other respects, so they must be in order and discipline. It is a shame to give them such a character for silly revolts, showing the inefficient rule.

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CANADA, Province of Quebec, District of Montreal—Superior Court—No. 1618—Dams Eva Gertrude Mann, of the City and District of Montreal, wife of John Augustus Mann, of the same place, Plaintiff; vs. the said said Augustus Mann, Defendant.
An action in separation as to property has been instituted in this cause.
CHARLES A. DUCLOS,
Attorney for Plaintiff.
Montreal, 12th March, 1898.

MONTREAL CITY & DISTRICT SAVINGS BANK
The Annual General Meeting of the Stockholders of this Bank will be held at its office, St. James Street, on
TUESDAY, 3rd MAY next, at 1 o'clock P.M.,
for the reception of the Annual Reports and Statements and the election of Directors.
By order of the Board,
H. Y. BARBEAU, Manager.
Montreal, April 1st, 1898.

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC, DISTRICT OF MONTREAL—REAL SUPERIOR COURT, No. 1629.
Dams Mary Ann Jackson, of the City and District of Montreal, wife common as to property of Thomas H. Love, of the same place, Plaintiff, and duly authorized, has taken action in separation as to property against her said husband.
Montreal, 15th March, 1898.
GEOFFRION, DORTON & ALLAN,
Attorneys for Plaintiff.

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Society Meetings.

Young Men's Societies.
Young Irishmen's L. & B. Association.
Organized April 1874. Incorporated, Dec. 1875.
Regular monthly meeting held in its hall, 10 Dore street, first Wednesday of every month at 8 o'clock, P.M. Committee of Management meets every second and fourth Wednesday of each month. President, JAS. J. McLEAN; Secretary, M. J. POWER; all communications to be addressed to the Hall. Delegates to St. Patrick's League: W. J. Hinchey, D. Gallery, Jas. McEabon.

St. Ann's Young Men's Society.
Organized 1885.
Meets in its hall, 157 Ottawa Street, on the first Sunday of each month, at 2:30 P.M. Spiritual Adviser, REV. E. SERRIBBE, C.S.S.R.; President, JOHN WILFONG; Secretary, D. J. O'NEILL. Delegates to St. Patrick's League: J. Whitty, D. J. O'Neill and M. Casry.

Ancient Order of Hibernians.
DIVISION No. 2.
Meets in lower vestry of St. Gabriel New Church, corner Centre and Laprairie streets, on the 2nd and 4th Fridays of each month, at 8 P.M. President, ANDREW DUNN; Recording Secretary, THOMAS SMITH, 63 Richmond street; to whom all communications should be addressed. Delegates to St. Patrick's League: A. Dunn, M. Lynch and E. Connaughton.

A.O.H.—Division No. 3.
Meets the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month, at Hibernia Hall, No. 242 Notre Dame St. Officers: E. W. Hall, President; P. Carroll, Vice-President; John Hughes, Fin. Secretary; Wm. Rawley, Rec. Secretary; W. P. Stanton, Pres.; Marshal, John Kennedy; T. Ervine, Chairman of Standing Committee. Hall is open every evening (except regular meeting nights) for members of the Order and their friends, where they will find Irish and other leading newspapers on file.

A.O.H.—Division No. 4.
President, H. E. Kearney, No. 32 Delorain avenue; Vice President, J. P. O'Hara; Recording Secretary, P. J. Finn, 15 Kent street; Financial Secretary, P. J. Tomlin; Treasurer, John Traynor; Recording Secretary, D. Matheson, St. Paul; White, Marshal, F. Geshan; Delegates to St. Patrick's League, T. J. Donovan, J. P. O'Hara, F. Geshan; Chairman Standing Committee, John Goshalski. A.O.H. Division No. 4 meets every 2nd and 4th Monday of each month, at 1113 Notre Dame street.

C. M. B. A. of Canada.
C.M.B.A. of Canada, Branch 74.
Organized March 11, 1888. Branch 74 meets in the basement of St. Gabriel's new Church, corner of Centre and Laprairie streets, on the first and third Wednesdays of each month. Officers: President, J. J. O'Neil; Secretary, P. E. Spence; Financial Secretary, Wm. C. O'Neil; P. E. Spence, Spiritual Adviser, Centre street. C. W. DeLoach, President, 14 Fire Street. M. J. McLean, Treasurer, Financial Secretary, 37 Forth Street. Wm. C. O'Neil, Treasurer, 101 Rossel Street. JAMES TAYLOR, Secretary, 141 Rossel Street.

C.M.B.A. of Canada, Branch 26
(Organized 17th November, 1883)
Branch 26 meets at St. Patrick's Hall, 92 St. Alexander Street, on every Monday of each month. The regular meetings for the transaction of business are held on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month, at 8 P.M.
Applicants for membership or any one desirous of information regarding the Branch may communicate with the following officers: JAS. TAYLOR, President, 101 Rossel Street. MARTIN EAGAN, President, 377 Cadieux St. J. B. FEELY, Treasurer, 719 Sherbrooke St. G. A. GARDNER, Fin. Sec., 511 St. Lawrence St. JAS. J. O'NEILL, Secy., 327 St. Urbain St.

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Catholic Benevolent Legion.
Shamrock Council, No. 320, C.B.L.
Meets in St. Ann's Young Men's Hall, 157 Ottawa Street, on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month, at 8 P.M. M. SHEA, President; T. W. LESAGE, Secretary, 117 Berri Street.

Catholic Order of Foresters.
St. Gabriel's Court, 185.
Meets every alternate Monday, commencing Jan. 31, in St. Gabriel's Hall, cor. Centre and Laprairie streets.
M. P. McGOOLDRICK, Chief Ranger.
M. J. HEALEY, Rec. Sec'y, 8 Laprairie St.

St. Lawrence Court, 263, C.O.F.
Meets in the Engineers' Hall, 6621 Craig street, on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month, at 8 P.M. M. J. Flanagan, Chief Ranger; Thos. W. Maguire, Recording Secretary, 116 St. Andrew street, to whom all communications should be addressed.

St. Patrick's Court, No. 95, C.O.F.
Meets in St. Ann's Hall, 157 Ottawa street, every first and third Monday, at 8 P.M. Chief Ranger, JAMES F. FOSBERG; Recording Secretary, ALEX. PATRICKSON, 66 Bleury street.

Total Abstinence Societies.
ST. PATRICK'S T. A. & B. SOCIETY.
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