

The True Witness and Catholic Chronicle

Printed and Published by the True Witness P. & P. Co., Limited,

178 St. James Street Montreal, Canada.

P. O. BOX 1138.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE

Table with subscription rates for various regions: CITY OF MONTREAL, OTHER PARTS OF CANADA, UNITED STATES, NEWFOUNDLAND, GREAT BRITAIN, IRELAND and FRANCE, BELGIUM, ITALY, GERMANY and AUSTRALIA.

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TERMS, PAYABLE IN ADVANCE.

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.

PAUL, Archbishop of Montreal.

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 30, 1899.

CIVIC AFFAIRS.

While we ponder over the advantages we have had during the past decade or two in the country...

Coming down at once, from generalities and reflections to the practical consideration of our duty at the special time, we feel that we cannot too strongly appeal to our co-religionists and fellow-countrymen...

Owing to the redistribution of administrative seats, in Montreal, in virtue of the new charter which will find its first application in the civic elections of 1900...

But no matter what the course adopted may be, there is one thing positive—the action to be taken must be immediate. As will be seen by an article, in another column, upon the Mayoralty question...

Then let us have organization; and let it be immediate! To secure this there is one grand essential—it is self-sacrifice. All minor interests, individual ambitions, and personal feelings must be effaced.

What is absolutely necessary is organization. We are not organized; otherwise our century-marking chance will pass away, and our future will be even less promising than has ever been in its worst days.

some more public manner, to be generally we commence this week, with one suggestion.

We repeat: Organize! But how? We to organize? Here many directions may be given, but for the present we offer the following—subject to any amendments that wise counsels may offer.

If this plan—thus roughly drawn—does not meet with general approbation, then let others suggest one, or express their views.

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A PAGAN PRACTICE.

Not long since the Rev. Pastor of St. Patrick's made strong observations upon the very regrettable practice of throwing rice at the newly married couples.

but it must be remembered that, in taking a stand against this custom, the Rev. Father acted purely and simply in accord with the dictates of duty.

The following is evidence that neither in one country nor in another does the Church approve of or countenance such practices:

"Rev. Charles P. Gillen, pastor of St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Patterson, N.J., denounced from the altar Sunday the practice of throwing rice at newly wedded couples in and around the church.

A LEADER REQUIRED.

One of our city newspapers has written as a very timely letter, in which, amongst other things he says: "The time is fast approaching when the Irish Catholic citizens of the city will be called upon to nominate an Irish Catholic for the Mayoralty."

I have heard it is the intention of some parties to call a public caucus of the Irish electors to choose a representative, and it is possible to make it unanimous.

In regard to the question of an Irish Catholic Mayor, which the foregoing letter suggests, we will dedicate a separate article, in this issue to its consideration.

Napoleon once made the remark, when referring to the organization of a special army, that it was not men that he needed, but "a man."

The next few years contain many vital problems for the consideration of our people. These may concern representation in civic affairs; or our rights in the various departments of the public service; or our educational necessities; or our commercial interests.

It is not for us to now occupy the attention of our readers with an essay upon the various qualifications that such a leader should possess.

should be fully equipped in every sense, he should be a man to whom all would look up with entire confidence in his integrity, ability and spirit.

THE MAYORALTY.

Under this heading we published an article in our last issue which evidently struck the right chord at all points it has awakened considerable comment, much approbation, and a little criticism.

When we read the comments of La Patrie on our editorial of last week and the remarks of Mayor Prefontaine regarding the same matter, in that organ, we recalled the words of the same honorable gentleman, as given in the "Daily Witness" of February 13th last.

Not seeing any valid reason why His Honor should have changed his attitude, as well as his sentiments, in this regard, and being desirous to know the whole truth about the matter, a representative of the "True Witness" called upon Mr. Prefontaine and plainly asked him if he had been correctly reported in La Patrie of the 26th instant.

Here is a flat contradiction of what the same gentleman stated as his view of the situation in February last. We are at a loss to know what has transpired during the past seven months to cause the Mayor of Montreal to undergo such a revolution of sentiment.

in the direction of Federal representation. But we do not believe His Honor is serious in his contention.

The history of Montreal's Mayoralty is studded with the names of distinguished Irish-Catholics whose presence in office has left an impress of patriotic endeavor and spirited action upon the heart of our city.

We had hoped that expanding Montreal, with the development of her industries, the improvement in the beauty and solidity of her constructions, the ever broadening horizon of opportunities, which of late years has engendered her, would experience a proportionate enlargement of sympathies, augmentation of tolerance and justice.

Was our hope a delusion? It remains for the next few months to decide that question.

The effort to prove their passing interest in the Irish Catholic people may be overdone! Let sincerely mark such advocacy, or else let the recognized voice of our fellow-countrymen be allowed to state their case as they would have it presented!

To gratify this legitimate and patriotic ambition, we cannot afford to sacrifice one iota of our rights in matters of civic representation!

AMERICAN COLLEGES.

An idea of the heavy odds against which Catholic colleges in the United States have to struggle in their battle for faith and principle is afforded by an examination of the financial condition of secular educational institutions in that country.

With the American Colleges it is the same as with our own McGill, in

Montreal—the more liberally they are endowed, the more money they spend and the more money they want.

In addition to their large incomes from both students and property owned, American universities receive large amounts year after year from wealthy philanthropic individuals.

In the administration of American secular colleges the present tendency is to have at the head of each a man of business ability as well as of broad scholarship.

The appointment of President Hadley to be President of Yale, is understood to be due to the belief that that university has suffered from a lack of business enterprise, and needs a clever business man to direct its affairs.

FEAST OF THE HOLY ROSARY

At St. James' Cathedral (Dominion Square), on Sunday next, October 1st, Feast of the Holy Rosary, the following will be the music of the Mass and Vespers:

REQUIEM MASSES.

A solemn High Mass was celebrated in the Chapel of the Deaf and Dumb Institute on the 27th inst., for the repose of the soul of the late Mrs. Henry Kavanagh.

THE LATE MR. J. O. NEVILLE.

Another old Irish Catholic resident of Montreal passed away a few days ago in the person of Mr. J. O. Neville. He was well known in the circles of our Irish National Society, and always took a deep interest in all matters concerning his native land.

THE BROTHERS' SCHOOLS.

We would never tire writing about the excellence of the schools conducted by the Christian Brothers. We know that these schools will go on increasing with the needs of education, and we are reassured and full of hope for the future of their schools and the welfare of the boys entrusted to the care of the good Brothers.