

The True Witness

AND CATHOLIC CHRONICLE
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CORRESPONDENCE and items of local Catholic interest solicited.



THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1906

AN ANONYMOUS PAMPHLET.

Something like a sensation has been produced within the week by the press notices that have appeared far and near of a brochure entitled "A Searchlight Showing the Need of a University for the English-speaking Catholics of Canada." We have read the publication and the amazing assertion in its preface that a leading member of the Oblate Order was concerned or consulted about its compilation. Concerned the reverend gentleman in question no doubt is, inasmuch as he is contemplating legal action against the authors or publishers of the tract. But he emphatically repudiates the idea that he was consulted by these authors to whom he applies the epithet libellers. All this must serve to show that the pamphlet, which is anonymous, was spread broadcast with no friendly intention or helpful purpose. Indeed, it is not too much to say that a most lamentable imputation has been made against Catholic honesty by the charge that the fire-relief grant of the Province of Ontario to the University of Ottawa was misapplied. We have no intention to notice charges made in the manner of this pamphlet, the general tone of which discounts the claim of the authors that they are inspired with zeal for the realization of a Canadian University for English-speaking Catholics. Any help they are in a position to give to the Catholic Church in Canada may be very well dispensed with. The question is too large and too important to be helped or hindered by men who can resort to covert attack to advance their ends. There is no good to be gained by discussing the education interests of the Catholic youth of Canada in association with this pamphlet and its aims.

A PORTRAIT OF ST. CYRIL.

Monsignor Wilfert has recognized in his study of the frescoes in the subterranean church of St. Clements in Rome a portrait of St. Cyril which is a boon to students of history and archaeology, not to speak of the wider circle of devout Christians who follow the researches into early Christian art. Monsignor Wilfert's work incidentally identifies the sepulchre of St. Cyril which has been so long looked for. St. Cyril died in Rome in the year 869, and was buried in the primitive Church of St. Clement. He was of Greek nationality. The body of St. Cyril was placed in a marble sarcophagus and this was put up against the interior wall of the atrium or forecourt of the basilica and the upper wall was decorated with a painting representing the saint in the presence of the Divine Judge. When the ancient Church of St. Clement was abandoned towards the close of the 11th century and reconstructed on a higher level the relics of St. Cyril in their sarcophagus were transferred into the new basilica and

placed under the altar of the chapel which stands immediately over the primitive original sepulchre. Here is the place where St. Methodius bestowed honorable sepulchre on his brother St. Cyril, the humble monk who had evangelized the Slavs, and who in the funeral inscription placed upon his tomb desired to be called "peccator," and who requested the suffrages of the faithful surviving him. In the precious fresco now identified which adorns this tomb after the oblivion of a millennium appear the severe and ascetic features of the missionary saint of the Slavs, indicating, as Monsignor Wilfert remarks, a portrait not only new and unexpected but the only unspoiled one so far recovered.

A most attractive side of this subject to the pious Christian is the subject of the fresco in which is to be seen the Saviour represented as seated and having before Him two personages who are standing. One of them, who is arrayed in sacerdotal vestments—the humble peccator of the inscription—represents the dead person who is recommended to the Divine Judge by St. Clement assisted by the apostle St. Andrew and by the Archangels Michael and Gabriel. The other, whose square nimbus represents that he was still living when the picture was painted, offers the Eucharistic Chalice in the attitude of a suppliant. This is thought to be a scene of the particular judgment—the dead person for whom the Communion of Saints and Eternal Rest are desired, the saintly advocates who recommend their client, and the Divine Judge in the act of pronouncing sentence. The person who offers the sacrifice of prayer and of the Eucharistic sacrifice was introduced by the artist only indirectly into the scene in order to unite in the same composition the part which the living also take in order to benefit their departed friends.

SUNDAY OBSERVANCE.

That the Sunday law fails to be observed as it was ordained it should be in the beginning is very evident. The all-night saloon and dance halls are responsible for a great deal of the desecration of the day of rest and if only this growing evil could be conquered an open sore in our midst would have disappeared. The rev. editor of the Chicago New World touches on this matter very succinctly in the following words:

"Thank God, our Catholic people are second to none in the whole world for fidelity to the duty of attending mass on Sundays. But they are not all of them sufficiently sensitive to the impropriety of visiting low places of amusement or of prolonging Saturday night dances and revels to the small hours of Sunday morning. There is plenty of legitimate recreation that is pleasing to God, healthful and invigorating to the body, and refreshing to the mind. The religion of Christ as infallibly interpreted by the oracle of the Holy Spirit, is a religion that inspires joyfulness of heart and serenity of conscience. The sour-faced Puritan's conception of God resembles the stony-hearted southern slave owner as depicted by Harriet Beecher Stowe. But while the Catholic ideal is far removed from Puritanism on the one hand, it is equally remote from the French secularist standards on the other."

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Apparently the French Government intend to imitate Bismarck's Kulturkampf by imprisoning clergymen. The Prime Minister, in a circular which he has issued to the public prosecutors, says his department has received information to the effect that certain priests in commenting publicly on the Papal Encyclical made remarks which infringe Articles 34 and 35 of the Separation Law, and he wishes to be informed without delay of the names of the delinquents. Probably the Article of the Separation Law upon which the priests will be arraigned is that

which imposes fines and imprisonment for direct provocation to resist the execution of a law or of legal acts by the public authorities. We feel sure the French priests will be quite as resolute in their conduct as were the German clergy during the Bismarckian persecution. Arrangements should, however, be made for giving publicity to their cases throughout Europe. Men should know what is to be expected when Freemasons and enemies of the Christian religion obtain possession of power, and how whilst making profession of a love of liberty they are in their acts as intolerant as the most narrow-minded pagans.

A telegram from Vancouver announces the death of Dr. J. M. Lefevre of that city, president of the British Columbia Telephone Company. Dr. Lefevre, who went west some twenty years ago from the neighborhood of Brockville, was one of the wealthiest Catholics on the Pacific Coast, and one of the most generous to the Church.

Judge Bowen Rowlands, one of the laymen nominated by the Catholic Bishop of England to sit on the Catholic Education Council is dead. He was formerly a clergyman of the Anglican Church and afterwards became a barrister. He was the first ex-clergyman of England to be raised to the bench. His appointment was made some time after his conversion to the Catholic faith.

The Very Rev. Dr. O'Riordan, Rector of the Irish College, has left Rome and is now in Ireland, where he will confer with the bishops at their annual assemblage in October. Before leaving Rome, Dr. O'Riordan completed about twenty articles for the "Catholic Encyclopedia." Among the subjects were the Papal Bull of Leo XIII. on Anglican Ordinations, the Ascendente Domino (on the constitution of the Society of Jesus), the Auctorem Fidei of Pius VI (on the Synod of Pistolia), the Aeterni Patris of Leo XIII (revival of Thomism), and the Encyclicals of the same Pope on Christian Marriage and the Christian Constitution of States.

In another column we reproduce a letter in which the writer states that same has already been handed to our contemporary, the Daily Star, for publication, but as yet it has not appeared in its columns. Our people are noted for their generous patronage to this same paper, and for giving it their unlimited support, for which at the first opportunity they are turned down. Comment is unnecessary, the remedy is obvious.

The British Journalistic Association met in Dublin this year. In his address of welcome the Provost of Trinity College, Dublin, bid the newspaper writers of to-day remember that they are the successors in letters of Swift and Johnson.

Hon. James Bryce, Chief Secretary for Ireland, is making a tour of the Coast in the Grannale. This is seeing Ireland according to Irish ideas.

A new Catholic church will be erected at Strade, near the spot where Michael Davitt's body rests.

Not a Nauseating Pill.—The exipient of a pill is the substance which enfolds the ingredients and makes up the pill mass. That of Parmelee's Vegetable Pills is so compounded as to preserve their moisture, and they can be carried into any latitude without impairing their strength. Many pills, in order to keep them from adhering, are rolled in powders, which prove nauseating to the taste. Parmelee's Vegetable Pills are so prepared that they are agreeable to the most delicate.

Butterfly Suspenders. A Gentleman's Brace, "as easy as none." 50c.

A Struggling Infant Mission

IN THE DIOCESE OF NORHAMPTON, FAKENHAM, NORFOLK, ENGLAND.

Where is Mass said and Benediction given at present? IN A GARRET, the use of which I get for a rent of ONE SHILLING per week. Average weekly Collection..8s 6d. No endowment whatever, except HOPE. Not a great kind of endowment, you will say, good reader. Ah, well! Who knows? Great things have, as a rule, very small beginnings. There was the stable of Bethlehem, and God's hand is not shortened. I HAVE hopes. I have GREAT hopes that this latest Mission, opened by the Bishop of Northampton, will, in due course, become a great Mission.

But outside help is, evidently, necessary. Will it be forthcoming? I have noticed how willingly the CLIENTS of ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA readily come to the assistance of poor, struggling Priests. May I not hope that they will, too, cast a sympathetic and pitying eye upon me in my struggle to establish an outpost of the Catholic Faith in this—so far as the Catholic Faith is concerned—barren region? May I not hope, good reader, that you, in your zeal for the progress of that Faith, will extend a helping hand to me? I cry to you with all earnestness to come to my assistance. You may not be able to do much; but you CAN DO A LITTLE. Do that little which is in your power, for God's sake, and with the other "littles" that are done I shall be able to establish this new Mission firmly. DON'T TURN A DEAF EAR TO MY URGENT APPEAL. "May God bless and prosper your endeavors in establishing a Mission at Fakenham."

"ARTHUR,
"Bishop of Northampton."

Address—Father H. W. Gray, Hampton Road, Fakenham, Norfolk, England.

P.S.—I will gratefully and promptly acknowledge the smallest donation, and send with my acknowledgment a beautiful picture of the Sacred Heart.

This new Mission will be dedicated to St. Anthony of Padua.

CHURCH'S POSITION ON BULL FIGHTS

In a paper entitled "The Joys of Spain," by Austen Harrison, in the Nineteenth Century and After, is found the following sentence: "As-tounding is the enthusiasm for bull fights, nor does the Church ever raise its voice to check or stop them."

"This statement," comments the Sacred Heart Review, "is certainly more astounding than the Spanish enthusiasm for bull fights. Mr. Harrison evidently did not seek out information on this matter at all, else it would have been easy for him to find out that the Church has been for centuries opposed to the Spanish bull fights. The law of the Church in Spain, as elsewhere, ordains that those who engage in these fights and die therein be deprived of Christian burial. In 1587 Pius V. issued a decree excommunicating not only all who took part in them, but also princes and governors who permitted them. Pope Clement VIII reiterated the prohibition with the result that the custom abated, until Charles IV. of Spain finally abolished it. Under the Bonapartist regime, however, it was revived. But the attitude of the Church toward it is still as hostile as ever. No priest is allowed to be present at a bull fight, not even to administer the last sacraments to those who may be seriously injured. He is not even allowed to remain within convenient distance, lest his presence should seem to sanction this cruel sport."

Definite Purpose in Life.

To have a great purpose in life is a kind of patent of nobility. It adds strength to the character, makes life interesting, and settles at once all those questions of casuistry that puzzle the brain of the aimless as to whether this thing is good, that consistent, or the other permissible. There is room for every one to find some sphere of work that is specially his own. There are difficulties to overcome that will "task high and hard" the wisest hearts, but there is also work to be patiently done. There is need of the man with one talent, and need of him who has ten—need that both of them should work with their might. Let them consider what task their abilities, training and circumstances point to as their own.

The Natural Food of Brain and Nerves
Montreal, December 16th, 1905.
Messrs. MOTARD, FILS & SENEAL,
Gentlemen,—I am pleased to tell you that the TRAPPISTS' PHOSPHATED WINE OF CINCHONA BARK has cured me of nervous prostration and also from a run-down condition.
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Sold by all Chemists and Grocers.
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5 Place Royale, Montreal.
Depot for the United States, Rouse's Point, N. Y.

Sadlier's Catholic Complete Speller, Oral and Written.
The Appendix contains Words Pronounced Similarly, Facts in Pronunciation, Rules in Spelling, Prefixes and Suffixes, Capital Letters, Punctuation Marks, Abbreviations, Names of Person, Test Words, and Roman Catholic, English, and Dominion Titles and Forms of Address.
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210 St. James St., Montreal.

IN THE CITY STREETS

I don't know anything sweeter than this leaking in of Nature through all the cracks in the walls and floors of cities. You heap up a million tons of hewn rocks on a square mile or two of earth which was green once. The trees look down from the hillsides and ask each other, as they stand on tiptoe, "What are these people about?" And the small herbs at their feet look up and whisper back, "We will go and see." So the small herbs pack themselves up in the least possible bundles, and wait until the wind steals to them at night and whispers, "Come with me." Then they go softly with it into the great city—one to a cleft in the pavement, one to a spout on the roof, one to a seam in the marbles over a rich gentleman's bones, and one to the grave without a stone, where nothing but a man is buried—and there they grow, looking down on the generations of men from mouldy roofs, looking up between the less-trodden pavements, looking out through iron cemetery railings.
Listen to them, when there is only a light breath stirring, and you will hear them saying to each other, "Wait awhile." The words run along the telegraph of those narrow green lines that border the roads leading from the city, until they reach the slope of the hills, and the trees repeat in low murmurs to each other, "Wait awhile." By and by the flow of life in the streets ebbs, and the old leafy inhabitants—the smaller tribes always in front—saunter in, one by one, very careless seemingly, but very tenacious, until they swarm so that the great stones gap from each other with the crowding of their roots, and the feldspar begins to be picked out of the granite to find them food. At last the trees take up their solemn line of march, and never rest until they have encamped in the market place. Wait long enough and you will find an old dotting oak hugging a huge worn block in its yellow underground arms; that was the cornerstone of the State House. O, so patient she is, this imperturbable nature.—O. W. Holmes.

PROTESTANT ON WYCLIFFE

Our esteemed Protestant Episcopal contemporary, the Lamp, quotes from Church Bells, another Protestant Episcopal paper, an extract which shows what a Protestant writer of to-day thinks of Wycliffe, "the morning star of the Reformation." This writer is Dr. Bigg, author of the "Wayside Sketches in

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Charges moderate. Special arrangements made in favor of C. O. F., C. M. B. A., A. O. H., and K. C. members.

SANCTITY OF FAMILY TIES

Cardinal Gibbons, in a recent interview said: "The great crimes the scandals which are now exciting so much comment can be traced directly to a lack of sanctity in the family relations. Until the sanctity of family ties is more generally recognized I see little hope for improvement. The principal obligation of the family is the religious education of the young, the importance of which is apparent. With it everything may be accomplished. Without it we may have great awakenings, we may have a general revival of public conscience, but revivals will come again, because the foundation is lacking. It is not marriage, but recognition of the sanctity of the marriage relation and its obligation, that must cure these terrible evils. Most of the turpitude of private character, as disclosed in revelations of courts and the press grows out of family relations with false standards and without religion and not from a lack of family relations."

BISHOP BERNARD, OF CINTHE, GIVES REPLY TO COLLEGE FRIENDS

A number of the former companions of Mgr. Bernard of St. Hyacinthe, were of His Lordship Thursday present were the Rev. T. Kavanagh, of St. Paul; the Rev. Abbe D. St. James Church; the Rev. O. Harel, chaplain of the de Paul Penitentiary; the Rev. Bedard, of the Church Dame; Mr. A. Chaurat, of Hochelaga and Jacques D. Perome, of the Witne J. B. A. Lamarque, of Laval University, and M. Mars, president of the C. O. F. Association. Under circumstances prevented a former conferees of Harel from attending. The strictly private and his tendency to his old friend cordial hospitality.

OFFICIALS OF S. A. SPLENDID WORK AT FIRE.

At the Gilmore Hotel on last Friday night, several lives were lost, work was done to save nate people from an Aid. Thos. O'Connell and Kenneth, P. Hinchey, J. Hughes and P. Murphy

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RESOLUTIONS ADO

At a meeting of the Co
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11th inst., resolutions w
to Bro. Jas. Tracey, vi
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Guilfoyle, President of I
5, on the death of hi
Father.

COMING CONVENT

The Biennial conventi
Ancient Order of Hibern
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Much interest in being
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AMERICANISTS AT

The Americanists were
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