

ERIN.

NOTES FROM QUEBEC.

(By our Own Correspondent.)

and the Nationalist move.

meeting, which had been the auspices of the A. O. H. Its support to the cause. The United Irish to co-operate, as far with the A. O. H. The last the pleasure of address. or in Pomeroy he pointed much it would tend to ment of the National the National bodies were United Irish League is organization. It is the A. O. H. as Nationalists, as traditions go far back to assist in the struggle Rule is won.

clusion of the meeting ceremony of laying in stone of a hall was Mr. P. C. Doogan, M. P. The site is at the Hill, Gortgonis, the town.

CONVENTION. —The vention to which refered in our last issue, will be Round Room of the se, Dublin, on April 21, representation has been follows:

bers of the Irish Parlia-

bers of the National D. the United Irish League, man, treasurer and sec- a divisional executive of

legates from each branch Irish League duly affi- the National Directory. gates from each branch Irish League of Great

Delegates from each Ancient Order of Hi-

legates from each branch National Foresters.

legates from each affil- of the Land and Labor

ates from each County

legates from each coun- owns electing Mayors, each.

legates from each rural

legates from each urban

commissioners (other councils), two delegates

of guardians, not iden- district councils, two

legates from each trade

ncil.

—St. Patrick's Day

observed as a national

ublin. All the large

ishments were closed,

the smaller ones, with

s. The vast majority

d premises also kept

the same rule being ob-

Four Courts, the vari-

offices, the National

libraries, the City

public offices, and et-

made to afford as far

holiday to the staffs of

ns as the Port and

the Richmond Asylum,

ON STRIKE. —A largely attended meeting of the painters was held on the evening of March 31, when a strike was ordered, the master painters having refused to pay the increase demanded by the men. About 150 men are for the present out of employment. They claim to have good financial backing and feel confident of winning. As some of the employers have contracts on hand which must be completed in the near future, it is thought that the strike will not be of long duration. Two shops on the co-operative plan are about to be opened by the strikers.

EUCHRE AND SOCIAL. —Perhaps never before did Tara Hall contain a larger or more select assemblage on a similar occasion than that which gathered there on Monday evening to attend the euchre and social given by the Ladies' Auxiliary of No. 1, Division, A. O. H. The hall was very tastefully decorated with flags and bunting and presented quite a pleasing sight. Among the guests were several of the Rev. Fathers of St. Patrick's Church, who spent a few hours mingling with their parishioners, and their presence was very much appreciated by all who attended. Upwards of 50 tables were provided, and there was not one too many. Several non-players occupied seats in the gallery while the euchre was in progress. Play started at about 9 o'clock and was kept up until 11, the contest being very keen, as each one at the commencement of the game declared his or her intention if possible to carry off one of the handsome prizes offered. While the checkers were counting the games secured by each player, choice refreshments were served, as well as during the remainder of the evening. The lucky ones were: Ladies, —1st prize, Miss M. Hurley; 2nd, Miss Gurry; 3rd, Miss Doherty. The gentlemen's first prize was captured by Mr. Jos. Burns.

When the result was announced the winners were applauded on going forward to receive their prize. Dancing then commenced and was kept up with vigor till the wee hours of the morning, the music being furnished by Quebec's best orchestra. Altogether the event was a most successful and enjoyable one and reflects the greatest credit on the officers of the Auxiliary and the committee who had charge of the affair, all of whom worked like Trojans and did everything possible to please and entertain their guests. Particularly in evidence was the popular President, Miss Katie Murphy, who seemed to be in half a dozen places at the same time. It was conceded on all sides that the event was the most successful of the kind ever held in Quebec, which is saying a great deal.

TO ASK HIGHER WAGES. —The carpenters and joiners of this city have decided to ask for an increase in their wages, and shorter hours of labor. Several largely attended meetings of the Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners have been held recently, when some 60 members joined the union. A delegation of the Brotherhood had an interview with a number of the employers with what they consider satisfactory results, as the employers seemed favorably disposed to the Union. It is to be

hoped the affair will be amicably settled.

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EASTER AT ST. PATRICK'S. —Easter was observed at St. Patrick's with more than ordinary solemnity. The early Masses were attended by large congregations, at which a great number approached the Holy Table. The eight o'clock Mass was celebrated by Rev. Father Gannon, chaplain of the societies connected with the Church, at which the members of the societies assisted and received Holy Communion, the pews in the centre aisle being reserved for them. Father Gannon preached a short sermon on the Resurrection, and made reference to the beautiful custom established by the societies in receiving Holy Communion in a body on Easter Sunday, concluding by invoking God's blessing on the men, their families and their organizations. Rev. Father Henning officiated at the solemn Grand Mass, assisted by Rev. Fathers Delargy and Gannon as deacon and subdeacon. The altar was beautifully decorated with lights and Easter lilies. An eloquent sermon appropriate to the feast was preached by Rev. Father Cullen. Haydn's Second Mass was rendered by an efficient choir. At Vespers in the evening Weigand's harmonized psalms were sung, followed by solemn Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

STAG EUCHRE. —On Wednesday evening the Young Men's Sodality gave a stag euchre, which was well attended by members and their friends, the cosy little hall in rear of St. Patrick's Church being well filled. When play was concluded refreshments were served and several songs sung, "God Save Ireland" being the concluding item.

DEATH OF MR. PATON. —Mr. T. Paton, an employee of the Dominion Arsenal, died last week. Mr. Paton was prominent in labor circles and was one of the principal officers of the Federated Trades and Labor Council. The funeral was very largely attended, attesting the high esteem in which the deceased was held.

TROUBLE IN SIGHT. —There is said to be trouble brewing in the Carrier, Laine & Co. shops at Levis, over the formation of a machinists' union. The men, it is reported, were preparing to make a demand for an increase in their wages. Some of the men, supposed to be the leaders in the affair, were dismissed and it is quite possible that the rest will go on strike.

VISITED THE GAOL. —On Good Friday Mgr. Marois, V.G., visited the gaol, accompanied by a number of priests, Mgr. Paquet and Rev. Father Hickey, C.S.S.R., being among the number.

COMMISSION APPOINTED. —Mgr. Lafamme, who was entrusted with the formation of a commission on Church music, has named Mgr. Tetu and Abbe Lafamme of the Archbishop's Palace, and Abbe Paradis, of the Quebec Seminary, as the clerical members of the commission.

SOME NOTES ON ALASKA.

Rev. E. J. Devine, S.J., well known to local readers of the "True Witness," in his "Alaskan Letters" published in the Canadian Messenger of the Sacred Heart, says:

"There are miners living happily in this country with their families who left palatial homes behind them. Only the necessities of life are indulged in now while the gold dust is accumulating. But the cheerful face that is ever present and the cheerful smile that brightens it still further, clearly shows that happiness is not the exclusive appanage of ease and fortune. A career of this character led for several years in Alaska must surely have an influence on the lives and habits of rich miners when they return to the outside world, a consummation devoutly to be wished for. Would not this be a different world

if people would only dispense with their superfluities and spend the equivalent in works of charity? Think of the struggling institutions in our large cities that are surrounded by princely homes; and then reckon, if you can, the useless expenditure of money. A few years' residence in a miner's cabin would convince many a man that his needs are few, and that there are nobler uses for wealth than that of decorating drawing-rooms with barbaric splendor.

"I have met miners who are educated, even classically. The professions are all represented here; graduates of various American colleges and universities, ardent lovers of fresh air and the world out of doors, who have come to Alaska to get rich rapidly. But they generally get disappointed. They find the rich claims all corroded; and it is to their credit that they do not despise hard work. The greatest drawback for such men is the isolation of the long winter and the absence of intellectual food. The small supply of books and magazines is soon exhausted; and unless the educated miner can carve out a

solitude for himself and call it peace, he must find the time long and the winter dark indeed. There is a small library in the Arctic Brotherhood hall in Council, where, among good standard authors, there is the inevitable stock-printed prose in the shape of translations from Balzac, Dumas and other authors on the index. In Nome there was a small library kept open last winter under Congregational auspices.

Nome was threatened a few months ago with a calamity in the form of an uncontrolled library. Mr. Carnegie was to be asked to contribute one of his free libraries, where, like his similar institutions outside, all kind of authors and their books, under the guise of enlightenment, were to be flung to miners for an eight months' pasturage. I do not know why the project was abandoned; it may be taken up again this winter. And the inconsistency of it all! In Nome the apparition of contagious disease is like a bolt from the blue. Health officers are always ready to swoop down on the tiniest microbe. The rumor that smallpox was coming to us last year on the steamship Senator, put all Nome in a flurry; and the authorities, ignoring the feelings and sentiments of friends and relatives, sent vessels and passengers into quarantine for a couple of weeks behind Sledhe island. These were precautions taken to preserve our miserable bodies, which sooner or later will be food for worms anyway. And still Nome may ask the Pittsburgh millionaire to set up, in our very midst, a public library, where there would be solid food undoubtedly, but where ignorant and half-educated miners, and citizens generally, would be at liberty also to fill their minds with the deadly germs of irreligion, false philosophy and error of all kinds. If a man's body must be protected by stringent health laws, why not his soul as well? Surely, it is better for our miners to be freed from such an intellectual pest-house; and rather than risk their eternal interests, let them spend their winter months revelling in solitary contemplative thought—the play of the soul—which a recent writer tells us, is the highest occupation of man.

Remove Emblems Of Christianity.

(By a Regular Contributor.)

All over the world, wherever Christianity has penetrated, the solemn day of Our Lord's crucifixion has always been observed in a most pious manner; and wherever civilization and culture were to be found, men, even without faith, respected the feelings and sentiments of the Christians and refrained from aught that may clash with their deep religious convictions upon that solemn day. It has been reserved for Premier Combes of France to enjoy the unenviable distinction of first violating that unwritten law of all refined society. Heretofore he has proven himself to be a blatant infidel; he now stands forth as an uncouth boor.

Good Friday was the day specially selected by the Government of France for the removal from all courts and public halls, of every emblem of Christianity. The work was one of brutal conception, and it illustrated even the lack of common artistic appreciation in the men who conceived it. "On all sides is indignation manifested at such a most outrageous celebration of Good Friday. Amongst the religious emblems that on Good Friday were taken down, we find a famous painting, ordered by Louis XI., in 1476, and which has hung upon the walls of the successive Court House of Paris since 1480; also Van Dyck's superb triptych, that since 1505 has ornamented the chief chamber of the Court of Appeals; also a Christ by Bonnat, in the Court of Assizes, and a Christ from the brush of Hemmer in the Cour de Cassation. Hundreds of crucifixes in ivory, in silver and other rich materials, scores of ancient and modern paintings that decorated the ceilings and walls of the various public edifices—all works of art of the greatest value—were taken down by order of Mr. Combes. All these were sent to Mr. Henri Marclé, director of fine arts, who says he will have them placed in the galleries of the Louvre. It would have been bad enough to have perpetrated this deed at any other time of the year, but the selection of Good Friday makes it clearly evident that Combes wished to outrage every religious sentiment in the hearts of the people. He has lost all sense of self-respect, all the instincts of the gentleman, and as De Quincey said of the tyrannic Caesars,

"history proves clearly that their mania was madness." He certainly is a lunatic; for no man possessing a remnant of sanity would expose himself to the comments that his conduct has created. Unless it be that he feels himself so insignificant that there is no other way for him to gain notoriety and to have his name spoken of, and that his mad vanity skirts the wilds of folly so closely that it drives him to any extreme for the sake of being publicly spoken about, we cannot conceive how he could do such an abominable deed in the glare of our twentieth century civilization.

REDEMPTORIST ORDER.

The regular triennial change in the offices of Provincials and Rectors of the grand old missionary Order of Redemptorists will take place at the end of this month or during the first week of May.

State Insurance For Working Classes

Everyone knows that the Germans have been the pioneers in legislation for workmen and that in this matter they are far in advance of all other nations. And it can be truly said that since the days of Bishop von Ketteler, long before the existence of the Socialist party, the Catholics have been the leaders in this great work whom the Government and other political parties have followed, often very reluctantly. By their untiring activity in and out of Parliament and by their votes in the Reichstag, they have brought about the great results of which Germany is so justly proud. The first President of the Imperial Insurance Office, in fact the chief organizer of the gigantic work, which was a veritable leap in the dark, was a distinguished Catholic, Dr. Bodiker, who held the office for thirteen years. We take a few facts and figures from a lecture which he delivered lately in Berlin. Imperial insurance comprises three departments: insurance against sickness, against accidents, against ill-health and old age. Insurance is compulsory and the insurance money is drawn from three sources, from the workmen, the employers and the State. The number of persons insured is: 10.3 millions against sickness; 19.1 millions against accidents; 13.4 millions against ill health and old age. More than 550 million marks are paid yearly into the insurance office. Down to the year 1903 over four milliards had been paid in pensions; a capital or fund of over 1.5 milliard has been accumulated, and 300 millions of marks have been expended over and above the pensions for the welfare of the working classes, in building and equipping sanatoria for consumptives, etc. As experience advances, throwing new light upon the subject and showing the flaws of the original legislation, these laws are gradually being improved and new classes of working men and women are admitted to the enjoyment of pensions. It is needless to say that the Centre party holds to this day the position of undisputed leadership in this great social work. —Chronicle of Monthly Messenger Magazine.

Temperance Reform.

A London correspondent of an American daily journal writes:

Some kind of temperance bill will be submitted to Parliament after Easter; meanwhile the leading men in each county, Lord Lieutenants, Bishops, members of Parliament and magistrates, are working privately under the name of the Public House Trust, and making steady progress with the conversion of mere beer-shops into decent houses for the sale of meat and drink. Only four English counties are without the trust. One hundred and thirty public houses now are working successfully on new lines, which make it profitable to the manager to discourage the use of intoxicants. England's best work of reform, always has been done under private auspices.

A DEMORALIZING INFLUENCE.

Nothing exercises more powerful influence than example; and certainly nothing is more contagious than bad example. Every observing person has remarked the number of suicides that follow the published account of

Mr. O'Kelly Speaks at Lowell.

Mr. Conor O'Kelly, M.P. for North Mayo, has entered upon his tour in the United States. Speaking at Lowell, Mass., under the auspices of the United Irish League, Mr. O'Kelly discussed the policy of the party of which he is a member, to use the words of the report from which we have taken the extract given below, "in a cool, logical and persuasive manner."

"My object in this country," said he, "is to ask you if you wish to assist in the noble work of this organization. There is only one way in which Ireland can be aided, effectively, at the present time, and that is by upholding the organization of the United Irish League. I know there are in this country men who have no faith in Parliamentary agitation; they regard it as time wasted—men who believe that it will never procure for Irishmen everything they desire. But I will ask them this question: If Parliamentary agitation were as hopeless as some people in this country would wish to describe it, would not our fellow countrymen in the old land be the first to detect it and to repudiate it? The men who are on the spot are the best judges and our people at home like most of their fellow countrymen in this country, do everything in their power to advance, to strengthen and to sustain the Parliamentary movement in Ireland.

Believe me, they wouldn't do this if the Parliamentary movement answered to the description which some of our friends in America are not unwilling to give it. The Parliamentary movement, of course, has not done everything, but it has done much and far more than any other form of agitation could possibly do and it will, if we persevere, finally bring us to the ultimate aim of all Irish effort—the national self-government of our country.

"Let us examine for a moment the charges of the people who say that Parliamentary agitation is so far without result. Take the act of 1881. Before that act was passed seven-eighths of the Irish people could be turned out of their homes to starve, to emigrate or to die at the mere whim and caprice of a landlord, without mercy. They were serfs, the sport and the victim of their masters. The act of 1881 changed that. Instead of being what they had been, they were made practically free men, no longer could the landlords turn them adrift. They got security and a status in the soil of Ireland and that was the real beginning of the progress of the past twenty-three years.

"If that act stood alone and if no other reform had been secured, I say that one act by itself would have vindicated and justified the Parliamentary agitation of the Irish people. But that act does not stand alone. Act after act followed it. The tendency of all of which was to strengthen and make more certain the grip of the Irish people on the land of their country.

"But there are some people who notwithstanding all these great achievements, may still be sceptical as to the value of Parliamentary agitation. Will they consider the local government act of 1898? Will not

that convince them? That act dealt the severest blow given to English rule in Ireland in one hundred years. It disestablished the grand juries. I need not tell this to people who knew what the Irish grand juries were. They were the authority that ruled the country, had sway over county and town and parishes and villages; exercised all functions and privileges of local government. They were Dublin Castles in miniature, they filled up every public position and enjoyed immense patronage and exercised that patronage for the benefit of their own class. All the strength, all the influence, all the power of the English garrison in Ireland was mainly derived from their supreme and absolute control over the local government of the country.

"Yet in one night—so to speak—they were swept away and in their places were put those whom they formerly regarded as outcasts and inferior in that country. The old landlord oligarchy is now abandoned and belongs to history. But there may be those who will say still in face of all this that the Parliamentary movement is an idle movement. Will even the land act of last year convince them? What is that land act doing? It provides the enormous sum of \$500,000,000 for the expropriation of every landlord in Ireland. And to this add the bonus of \$60,000,000 to make more certain that the expropriation will take place. It also provides for the expenditure every year of a sum of \$33,000,000 for the purpose of cutting up the great grazing ranches in the west of Ireland for the settlement thereon of the young people at home, thus giving them an opportunity to remain in their own land, instead of emigrating to some foreign country.

Surely this is something gained, something the cavillers and the carpers and the fault finders who refuse themselves to stir hand or foot in the work of preserving our people in their own country ought to reflect upon. Do they ever reflect that we of the old race are but 3,000,000 now, and that there are in Ireland 1,500,000 of a different class? The latter are increasing steadily, our race is decreasing, so that if something had not been done to keep our people at home there would soon be no Irish race, no country to struggle for. And the Land Act of last year is something, then, to save the remnant of the race; it provides for the transference of the soil of Ireland to the people; it provides for the settlement of the young men upon the great grazing ranches of the country, reversing in this way the British policy of half a century.

"If we had not gone on with this movement as I have said there would be no Ireland left to fight for, and still our friends refuse to help us adopt a policy something resembling that of Nero, who fiddled while Rome was burning. If we did nothing to stop emigration, instead of being in the majority, as we are now, we would be very soon in the minority, and, instead of sending eighty-six, as we do now, members to the House of Commons, to our opponents' twenty, it is they who would be sending the eighty-six and we who would be sending the twenty."

one sensational suicide: children of

14 years have died by their own hand

because of some parental correction

or of some childish disappointment.

Where did they obtain the notion of

self-destruction? From the family

daily paper. Everybody knows how

one sensational lynching has been fol-

lowed by other lynchings more sen-

sational; and what arousing the

sleeping passions of justice-loving

Christians to seize, hang and burn

a brother mortal, without a hearing,

without a trial, without a judicial

condemnation? The family daily

paper has urged them on, has fitted

their hearts for crimes unspeakable.

The highly colored sensational ac-

counts of divorce trials, of elopements

or murders, and of breach of pro-

preserving unsullied your domestic

hearth.

What then, are we to do? Shall we

give up our daily paper and be in

ignorance of the daily history of the

world? Yes, by all means, give up

your daily record of public and pri-

ate scandals and devote your lei-

sure hours to more profitable studies

or to better advantage. Your mind

will be healthier, your conscience will

be purer, your suspicions of your

neighbors will be rarer, your jealousy

of your husbands and of your

wives will vanish, and you will be

better men, better women, and better

Christians. It is really a national

calamity to permit the unlicensed

privileges of the press to demoralize

our American youths; it is an un-

REMEMBRANCE.

elle Murphy.)

on the sun will peep

de blue vault above,

a remembrance keep

ance of me that love

most treasured friend,

my journey's end.

rant flowers will bloom

on the path thou'lt

their sweet perfume

nk of me on that sod.

will sink to rest,

in sorrow's thrill.

ght best in thy breast

en loves me still.

ST. BRIDGET'S NIGHT REFUGE.

Report for the week ending Sunday, 3rd April, 1904: Irish, 157; French, 146; English, 17; other nationalities, 13. Total, 333.