

The True Witness and Catholic Chronicle.

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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. I heartily bless those who encourage this excellent work.

PAUL, Archbishop of Montreal.

SATURDAY.....JANUARY 19, 1901

NOTES OF THE WEEK

MGR. BRICHESI'S LETTER.—In this issue we give our readers an English version of the able and important pastoral letter, upon "Catholic Marriage," that His Grace, the Archbishop of Montreal, has just issued. When the head of the Church, in any province, or diocese, speaks there must naturally be awakened a serious interest in the subject that he deems fit to treat. But, especially is it so, when that subject is one that has riveted public attention in circles outside the Catholic community. In the present instance nothing could be more timely than this elaborate and detailed exposition of the Church's teaching concerning the dogma and sacrament of matrimony. It would be superfluous for us to write any appreciation of the pastoral, as all that we might say could add nothing to the clearness and completeness of that important document. All we need do is to call attention of our readers in a most special manner to its contents.

FATHER CALLAGHAN'S ILLNESS.

—It is with deep regret that we are obliged, this week, to record the serious illness of one of our most widely known, most universally beloved, and most deserving priests, in the person of the Rev. Father James Callaghan. Father Callaghan, who has been for some time past the chaplain of the Hotel Dieu Hospital, in this city, while comparatively a young man, is possibly better known than any of our clergy in various sections of Montreal. We might almost say that his whole life has been spent here. With the exception of his years of study in Rome, and his year of professorship at Baltimore, we believe that Father James has divided his important sacerdotal career between the Grand Seminary, St. Ann's parish, and especially St. Patrick's. Hence it is that in Protestant as well as Catholic circles in this city his name is as familiar as are his works, his fine qualities of heart and mind, his eminent virtues, his fervid eloquence and his kindly disposition. In announcing the fact that his illness is certainly of a most serious nature, we impart very unpleasant news to the vast majority of our readers—for we are confident that nearly all our subscribers, at least in Canada, know, or know of Father James; and in expressing a fervent hope in and a sincere prayer for his speedy and complete recovery, we echo the sentiments that stir hundreds of hearts throughout Montreal, and in many places outside our city.

SUBMISSION A DUTY.—It is always, and under all circumstances, the duty of Catholics to submit to the decisions of the Church. This is a general principle that admits of no qualification. There are, however, occasions, when such submission is not an easy task—it entails a shock to our human pride, and it necessitates, not only strong faith, but great humility. Upon this very rock has many a gifted soul come to wreck. When a Catholic has erred—be it intentionally or unintentionally

—and his attention is drawn to the fact by the ecclesiastical authority, his repudiation of the error and withdrawal from his assumed attitude, become most meritorious acts; they redound to his honor, and they become the guarantees of reconciliation, pardon, confidence and future happiness. These reflections suggested themselves when we read of the cordial submission of "L'Avenir" and "Les Debats," to the archiepiscopal warning, concerning certain articles which they had published, and which were found to be at variance with the teachings of Catholicity. By that ready acceptance of the Archbishop's decision, they have proven themselves worthy of a greater confidence than ever. It is no pleasant duty to withdraw that which has been publicly expressed, and to repudiate that which we have held as an opinion. The very unpleasantness of the task enhances its importance and accentuates its merit. Consequently, we congratulate our French-Canadian contemporaries upon the fine spirit that they have evidenced, and the good example that they have set—an example worthy the imitation of all Catholic organs that, at any time, may stumble into an error.

"THE UNION."—This is the title of a new independent Catholic weekly just launched by the Federal Press Company, at Ottawa. It is a bright-looking, sixteen page, small-size publication that contains quite a variety of information gleaned from various sources and of interest especially to Catholic readers. We wish the new enterprise every success.

MARRIAGE IN ITALY.—Now that the important question of religious and civil marriages is so much spoken of, especially on account of a notable case before our tribunals, and the splendid pronouncement of our Archbishop, in the pastoral letter which we elsewhere publish, it may not be uninteresting to learn what is actually transpiring in Italy—at the very fountain head of Catholicity—in regard to this matter. We learn that:—

"Cardinal Sarto, Patriarch of Venice, has presented a petition to the Italian Parliament, asking the representatives of the nation to refuse their sanction to the Bill, now before the Senate, which renders the precedence of the civil marriage ceremony obligatory, thus tending to deprive the religious rite of its importance. The petition is signed by the Bishops of Verona, Chioggia, Treviso, Padua, Adria, Ceneda, Vicenza, and Concordia. In accordance with the usual Parliamentary routine, a commission has been appointed to inquire into and report on the petition, but it is hardly to be expected that the commission will warmly support Cardinal Sarto's demand, as the chairman is no other than Baron Morpurgo!"

It is certainly remarkable that such pains should be taken, above all in Catholic countries like Italy and France, to bring the dignity of sacramental marriage down to the level of a civil contract. While the petition of Mgr. Sarto and other bishops may serve to inform the world of the dangerous class of government that controls the destinies of Italy, and of the lengths to which the anti-Catholic element will go, in order to deprive the Church of her

prerogatives, as well as to strip the clergy of their rights, still we have not the faintest hope that the petition will be favorably considered; in fact, it is almost certain to be pigeon-holed at once.

It must be remembered that the chairman of the committee—Baron Morpurgo—is a Hebrew and a notorious Freemason. What is the most peculiar about the whole proceedings, is the selection, as chairman, of such a biased personage; for he is actually chosen to decide a question of almost vital importance to Italian Catholics. It is exactly this selection that causes us to believe that the fate of the petition has long since been decided, and that the committee of investigation is merely a sham.

However, it is evident that the twentieth century opens with a general attack upon one of the most sacred institutions on earth, and that sacramental marriage is one of the Church's pillars that the infidelity of the hour seeks to shake. But, as far as that goes, we have no anxiety, for the end of the twentieth century will find the Church just as she is to-day—unchanged and unchangeable.

THE APOSTOLIC DELEGATE.

In one of its periodical fits of insane bigotry the "Daily Witness" has taken upon itself to settle the status of the Apostolic Delegate. On reading the editorial jumble in question we had decided to reply to it in the manner that it best deserves, when our correspondent, when usually calls himself a "Curbstone Observer," informed us that he had taken off his gloves in order to better handle the subject in our next issue. Nothing could please us better, for we know, as our readers, ere this, must know, that he is thoroughly competent to deal satisfactorily with such outbursts of prejudice folly. We may expect something good from him next week.

A SILVER JUBILEE.

Twenty-five years to carry the episcopal crozier; the quarter of a century to wear the mitre; in years, to hold the dignified and venerable position of dean of the episcopacy of the province; to be the special object of Apostolic solicitude and blessings from the immortal Leo XIII.; to be surrounded, just at the dawn of the twentieth century, by the Apostolic Delegate, several archbishops and bishops from all over the Dominion, scores of priests and representatives of religious communities and educational institutions; to be the object of the most affectionate and enthusiastic, as well as affectionate demonstration on the part of the general laity; to behold the long years of episcopal labor and responsibility crowned by one of the most elaborate and magnificent demonstrations of its class ever known in the annals of any diocese in Canada—such has been, during the past week the share of the venerable Mgr. Moreau, the grand old saintly Bishop of Saint Hyacinthe. It would be absolutely impossible for us to even attempt a synopsis of the elaborate ceremonies and ceremonial of that most auspicious occasion. It would alone take columns to properly describe the magnificent decorations of Mgr. Moreau's Cathedral; pages might be consecrated to the numerous and eloquent addresses, read by the various communities and by the general body of the faithful, as well as the thoughtful and affectionate replies given by the aged Bishop to all of them. And especially would it be necessary were we to attempt an account of the jubilee to give in full the more than eloquent sermon preached by Mgr. Bruchesi, Archbishop of Montreal. We all know how deeply sympathetic, how forcibly logical, how wonderfully entrancing our Archbishop is when treating some grand subject on some special occasion; but never before was he as powerfully magnetic, never before did he allow his richly-stored wealth of language to soar into a sublimer atmosphere than on this occasion. It was a picture never to be forgotten—and so illustrative of the universality of the Church—to hear the youngest of the hierarchy pouring forth the praises of the old member of that same episcopal body; to behold that youngest one clothed with archiepiscopal authority; while the oldest one still occupied the humbler dignity of Bishop; to witness the child, in years, occupying the position of a father to the one whose years are more than those of a father in regard to his youthful superior.

It will, however, be permitted us, as the organ of the English-speaking Catholic element, in this province, to unite our humble voice in that magnificent chorus of congratulations and of thanksgiving, and to tender thus, to the Venerable Bishop of St. Hyacinthe our most cordial and fraternal felicitations on the rare occasion of

his episcopal silver jubilee. In so doing, despite the many years that have left their summer's beams and their winter's snows upon the brow of the good and beloved Mgr. Moreau, we feel an inward confidence that the wish shall be realized which we convey in the words "ad multos annos."

ABOUT OUR PARISHES.

Father Quinlivan last Sunday referred to the habit which quite a few of the parishioners indulge in of arriving late at Mass on Sunday. At High Mass this is particularly noticeable in St. Patrick's.

At St. Ann's the parishioners are very punctual in their attendance at High Mass. On a recent Sunday a representative of the "True Witness" assisted at High Mass, and noticed that the people were entering the Church while the bells announcing the approach of the hour of Mass were ringing. When the celebrant of the Mass entered the sanctuary it was a most edifying spectacle to notice that all the pews were occupied. It is the intention of the "True Witness" to send a representative to other churches to ascertain how punctual parishioners are in this regard.

An impressive and devotional effect is given to the most solemn part of the Mass at St. Patrick's by the introduction of a chime of three bells. These little embellishments in the service of the Mass are all well directed and enhance it to a degree which has a most pious result.

The new pastor of St. Mary's, Father Brady, has entered upon his work. He is now engaged in making himself familiar with all matters concerning the parish, which covers a large area.

There are quite a few people who would like to have the hour of High Mass changed from 10 to 11 o'clock. We doubt very much if it would be advisable to make the change. There are some customs which have been in vogue for a long time which it is most difficult to change. The practice of commencing to sing High Mass at 10 o'clock may be classed as one of them.

Of course Father Casey, the genial spiritual guide of the Irish residents of the North End, is an exception to the foregoing. I understand that Mass is celebrated in the parish Church of this populous French district at 11 a.m., and that quite a contingent of St. Patrick's—up-town—parishioners assist at this Mass.

The rumor is again revived that many of our Irish boys are wearing the colors of the Y.M.C.A., a Protestant association on Dominion Square. While the literature spread out on the reading room tables in this institution is not as ultra religious as that in the Y.M.C.A. there is, to our mind, little difference in the spirit which moves the leading lights in both organizations.

Rev. Gerald McShane made an earnest plea during the course of a recent sermon to the people with a view of enlisting their sympathy and aid in the noble and holy cause of promoting vocations to the priesthood. Father McShane pointed out that the Irish people in this city were not contributing their share of the vocations in the same ratio as the French-Canadian section. The remarks were timely.

The monument erected by the workmen engaged in the construction of the Victoria Bridge nearly a half a century ago to mark the last resting place of the unfortunate victims of the ship fever has been removed to a site near the Wellington bridge. It would be interesting to know who is responsible for its removal. Equally interesting would it be to know if the G. T. B. paid for the burial ground—which covers an area of nearly 20,000 feet—and who got the money.

SNOW SHOVELING.—I would like to know how many people, writes a correspondent of a western newspaper, have taken cold, grip or pneumonia from clearing the snow off the sidewalk in front of their houses. Several persons have told me that to this cause they attribute ailments with which they have been afflicted. It is unwelcome exercise that is altogether too severe for those not accustomed to outdoor work, and should be undertaken not by men employed in sedentary labor, or by women or children, but by the same men who, in summer, sweep the roads and presumably in winter are out of employment. Few householders would, if necessary, begrudge the small sum that such work would cost if undertaken by men fitted for it. Years ago boys were wont to go from door to door eagerly solicited to do the sweeping, but now, in some localities, there are none such, and it has to be done either by lads in a hurry to get to school after a hasty breakfast or by men who suffer all day from the unusual exercise or sow the seeds for something more serious than mere aches and passing pains.

C. M. B. A.

Branch 74, of the C.M.B.A., of Canada, held a public installation ceremony on Wednesday evening, which was a most interesting function. After the business meeting, an adjournment was made to the larger hall, the doors of which had been thrown open to admit the numerous lady and gentlemen friends of the branch not members of the association, and the visiting brothers. Grand Deputy Costigan occupied the chair, and seated with him were: Rev. Father O'Meara, P.P., Hon. Judge Curran, Grand Deputy Carpenter, Grand Deputy Feeley, Bro. P. J. McDonagh and other officers of the sister branches. Grand Chancellor Finn acted as chancellor. Chancellor P. Reynolds and Chancellor M. Sharkey as first and second vice-presidents respectively.

Grand Deputy Feeley on being applied to, declared the meeting an open one, and dispensed with the customary rules of the order. A select musical programme was provided. Following came the installation, with Grand Deputy Feeley as the installing officer, being assisted by the other officers present. The following were the officers installed: Spiritual adviser, Rev. Father O'Meara, P.P.; medical adviser, Dr. Lennon; representative to Grand Council, Jer. Coffey; chancellor, J. Deegan; president, J. J. Sheehy; first vice-president, J. Kavanagh; second vice-president, W. B. McCarthy; recording secretary, W. Deegan; assistant recording secretary, M. Hennessey; financial secretary, M. Murphy; treasurer, W. Cullen; marshal, J. Devlin; guard, G. Greer; trustees, W. Eagan, J. Shea, W. Deegan, M. Haggerty and J. Coffey.

The newly installed president, Brother J. S. Shea, made a brief address. In a special manner he alluded to the presence of one of the association's most honored members in the person of their esteemed friend, the Hon. Mr. Justice Curran, who was a charter member of Branch 26, the parent branch of the Province of Quebec. To him the association owed the existence of many of the safeguards in its constitution, which tended to make it the leading association of its kind in the Dominion. It gave him much pleasure to introduce their honored brother.

Hon. Mr. Justice Curran delivered a very interesting address. Having spoken of the early days of the C.M.B.A. in this city, he said he would deal with the important feature of the association, its insurance. He spoke of the history of life insurance as a branch of our commerce to-day that filled a most important role in modern civilization. It employed an army of men and women, and gave security to millions of families. Yet it was comparatively a new feature. It was not until 1699 that the first attempt at a regularly organized insurance association had been established in England, and that had not been successful. In 1706 a charter was granted to the "Amicable society for a perpetual assurance office," and from that date the business had gone on increasing and prospering. In France, under the Ordinance of Marine, in the days of the old regime, life insurance was prohibited as an immoral contract, and they based their views on the dictum of the civil law, that the life of a man is beyond all price. He next referred to the efforts of the organization through fraternal organization, and he pointed out the causes of the failures, that had so often attended them. Those who had organized the C.M.B.A. had profited by the experience of others, and to-day it was safe to assume that the organization was upon a sound principle and solid basis, prospering and progressing. The fact that the association was under the surveillance of the Superintendent of Insurance of the Dominion was in itself a guarantee, whilst their membership of 15,000, and a reserve fund of \$105,000, already in hand, and daily increasing, showed that the affairs of the association were being carefully attended to. He felt that he could conscientiously advise any eligible person to join the association, with a feeling of perfect confidence for the future. Having alluded to the duty of providing for one's family, he spoke of the changed condition of society as regards the working classes more particularly. In the old days, when a poor man reached these shores he saved money out of his wages, he frugally and put something aside. They bought themselves homes with what they had put into the savings banks. To-day, the children and grandchildren of those hardy self-sacrificing parents no longer made the same efforts. To them what the former generation considered luxuries were now necessities, and the fraternal society was about the best means of providing something for those dependent upon the breadwinner when death claimed him. If the fraternal society was to be a success, it was necessary that it should have a daily increasing membership. It had struck him forcibly, that there was a serious omission in the programme of the C.M.B.A., and he would give his idea for what it might be worth. One condition had changed in more than one respect. The position of the mother of the family was still the same, but not so with the daughters. Now the young women occupied a very different position from that of their predecessors. Take the city of Montreal alone, and how many young women could be found filling the positions of saleswomen in stores, private secretaries and bookkeepers, as well as thousands who were engaged in industrial pursuits. The mother of the family was as essential to its well-being as the father. Why should she be deprived from holding a certificate of membership in the C.M.B.A.? Then the daughter was often the breadwinner, yet she also was not

allowed to join. The widow who had orphan children depending upon her labor and sacrifices was not eligible. Why this exclusion? It was a sentimental question of woman's rights, more especially could it not be considered as when they saw how anxious the law was to protect women at the present time. He hoped at the next meeting of the Grand Council that this subject would be thoroughly discussed, and, if possible, that the lists of membership would be thrown open to the wives and daughters. Having pointed out the many advantages to flow from such a course, the speaker closed his address by referring to the fact that the president of Branch 74 was an old member of 26, and he wished him and those who had just been installed years of prosperity, and expressed the hope that the C.M.B.A. of Canada would continue to fulfill its grand mission of ideal Christian charity.

After the hearty vote of thanks had been tendered to the Hon. Mr. Justice Curran for his eloquent address, speeches were delivered by Grand Chancellor Finn, Chancellor P. Reynolds, Grand Deputies Carpenter and Feeley, all of whom made special allusion to Hon. Mr. Justice Curran's proposal to grant certificates of membership to the ladies.

Branch 232.

Branch No. 232, of the Catholic Mutual Benefit Association, Grand Council of Canada, held their regular meeting in their hall on St. James street, last Tuesday evening, and there was a large turnout of the members, the occasion being the installation of officers for the ensuing year. The installing officer was Grand Deputy J. H. Feeley, who conducted the installation ceremonies assisted by the Grand Council. A vote of thanks was tendered to the grand officers; and Grand Deputy J. H. Feeley in responding, congratulated the members of Branch No. 232 for the progress made during the past year, and gave some good advice of how to still carry on the good work, and aim always to increase the membership. President J. R. Cowan assured the installing officers that Branch 232 would break the record this year for new members. A good start having been made by the initiation of one member, and the reading of one application for membership, Chas. T. Lynch, Bros. J. H. Neilson, J. McDonald, T. McGillivray, G. A. Carpenter, and others also spoke in view in this the opening year of the 20th century for the C.M.B.A.

Resolutions of condolence were passed to the late Mrs. Thomas Law, whose husband was a member of this branch, and also to Bro. E. M. Rowan and family, on the death of Mr. James A. Rowan, of Rowan Bros.

The following are the officers for the ensuing year: Spiritual adviser, Rev. Father Dault; chancellor, Bro. T. A. Lynch; president, Bro. T. K. Cowan; 1st vice-president, Bro. J. H. Feeley; 2nd vice-president, Bro. W. J. Elliott; financial secretary, Bro. J. H. Neilson; treasurer, Bro. W. B. Durack; recording secretary, Bro. G. A. Carpenter; assistant recording secretary, Bro. T. McGillivray; marshal, Bro. C. Greene; guard, Bro. J. J. O'Neill. Board of Trustees, Bros. Dr. T. J. Curran, J. McDonald, Chas. T. A. Lynch, W. J. Shea and W. J. Elliott. Medical examiner, Dr. J. A. McDonald. The arrangements for the approaching progressive euchre party and social of Branch No. 232, are going on apace, and indications at present are that the opening social of the new century will be a "hummer." Don't lose sight of the date, it is important, Friday evening, Feb. 8, 1901, in Drummond Hall.

Branch No. 1.

This good Branch, Quebec Council, affiliated with the great progressive American Association, having a membership of 50,000, with a proud showing of close up to \$700,000 as a reserve fund, to provide for emergencies,—was up and doing by a good meeting on Monday evening, to witness the annual installation of officers for the next term. The genial president, Bro. J. Rourke, presided. Grand President, Bro. P. F. McCaffrey, Supreme Deputy, Bro. P. Flannery, and faithful Grand Deputy, Bro. J. Meek, were present. The Grand President delivered a short address in his usual eloquent style, giving advice to all. He was followed by the Supreme Deputy, who gave a lengthy and important explanation of things in general, in such an able manner as to be accorded a standing vote of thanks. He performed the interesting ceremony, assisted by the veteran secretary of the Branch, Bro. F. C. Law, for who now enters upon his 16th term of office, and is one of the first charter members in this city.

LADIES OF CHARITY, EUCHERE.

On Wednesday evening, the 23rd inst., the Ladies of Charity of St. Patrick's parish will give their second euchre party in St. Patrick's Hall. The affair is under the direction of the president, Mrs. Monk, and the following executive committee: Mrs. P. McCaffrey, Mrs. P. Reynolds, Miss McGarvey and Miss Duffy. The parishioners of St. Patrick's and other parishes should encourage the ladies in their noble efforts. Every preparation has been made for a large attendance at this euchre. The prizes to be awarded to the successful players have been chosen by the ladies with the greatest care, and it is said that they are the finest ever offered on such an occasion. We hope the endeavors of Mrs. Monk and her enthusiastic followers will be appreciated as they deserve to be.

Energy will do anything that can be done in this world; no circumstances, no opportunities will make a two-legged animal man without it.

OUR CURB

There is no sharper quiver more acute than sarcasm directed, or wrong abuse or wrong be productive of results. However, weapon, and on sparingly used, one except an especially in matters should it be avoided, is likely, if too free to prove detrimental of meekness and charity characterize every expression. For example that sarcasm is a pulp. A sermon to its general tone, points, is more ca a harshness of sentiment of tenderness, it is generous to make use of matters of course, for the reason is not gifted with necessary to seize the the sarcastic remarks many good souls to receiving wrong even to be scandal. Of course all this any business, but I lay down these ground before asking the reason and to over a piece of sarcasm here reproduce. rounds of several Old Country, and I have for years Without exception, some of taken in I have for years Catholic press. It to Treat Priests, ting to atoms that seem to have no clergy is due to the clergy say that it might be a sense and a few of our co-religion elsewhere. Without leave the article to and meditation of general, and especially the "cap may fit."

"Priests are not They expect to be ly. In the nineteenth well that we should world fancies, and common-sense rule ment of priests.

"1. The first duty live on nothing. The priest is spiritual when, therefore, he he gave up food, I should content him. "2. Be particularly fore to give him necessary for your put something in the you have a copper of Silver should never you desire to make may put a three-pence even a sixpence at his mas. Be careful in dangerous for the too rich; for lay p danger in it, but it clergy. "3. Whatever car take in keeping their

NOTES

The following brief few very important marked the close of century, and of the as well as the com present century, is of the most reliable respondents to the press.

THE ENGLISH P Although the "An been officially closed felt in Vatican circles most important op with that privileged English pilgrimage ed in Rome. Indeed cult to quote another body of English, Ca two such august dinal Vaughan and folk, journeyed to in order to do hom of Christ. Cardinal V to rest in Florence morning, having be term of office, and is one of the first charter members in this city.

pilgrimage, number personally conducted of Norfolk, reached evening by the Flor took up their quart de Rome, which will the pilgrimage, and hotels. That the p of the most rep which ever left the to be gathered from of its leading compo of Norfolk, Lord an Talbot, Lady Philipp Harriet and daughter Law, Colonel Lawsoe Mrs. Walter Maxwell, Colonel MacDonnell, Miss Moore, Colonel Vaughan, the bishop mouth, and Phoece, dent English prelat bishop Stonor, Mon Giles, Schobel, Ee Lindsay, and others, of English Catholics Rome, Florence, Nap Italian towns have and obtained to sh tual exercises and