

Our Observer.

The Philadelphia Times, discussing the probable disposition of the Philippine Islands, suggested that they might be exchanged with England for Ireland. How does that appeal to those who are so frantically crying for an alliance between Great Britain and the United States?

The gentlemen who have charge of the civic garbage department would confer a great favor to thousands of people if they would only order the drivers of the removal wagons to walk their horses. These men always make it a point to drive along Sherbrooke and other quiet residential streets at breakneck speed, and as they always travel in large divisions, the noise is something terrific, and is far from enjoyable to people who desire quiet after the night has fallen.

Mrs. Madeline Vinton Dahlgren, widow of the late Admiral Dahlgren, and a well known Catholic writer, died recently at her home in Washington, D.C., aged sixty-three years. Mrs. Dahlgren was born at Gallipolis, O., but was identified with Washington for a long time. In 1859 she published poems and sketches under the pen name of "Corinne." When the movement for the recognition of woman suffrage was begun in 1870 and continued until 1873, she was a strong opponent of it, and proved a most active enemy of the scheme. She drew up a petition against the movement and presented it to Congress. She was one of the founders of the Washington Literary Society and was for many years president of the Ladies' Catholic Missionary Society. In addition to writing a number of well known books, Mrs. Dahlgren also translated from the French Montalembert's "Pius IX." and De Chambrin's "Executive Power," and from the Spanish Donose Cortes' "Catholicism, Liberalism and Socialism," for which she received the thanks of Pope Pius IX.

The constant repetition of the word *morro*, as applied to the forts in Cuba, has confused many persons, and now it has been learned that there are several forts of that name on the island. The word is one little used by the Spaniards and is confined almost exclusively to the Spaniards. In the dictionary the word *morro* is defined as anything that is round or a prominent overhanging lip. The Spaniards always describe a negro mouth as a *morro* from the projecting lips. The word is also applied to a cat, but in this sense it is taken to refer to the purring of the animal. When applied to the castles or fortresses in Cuba the word is to be taken in the same significance it possesses when applied to a negro's mouth. These defences are usually perched on heights, over which they project just as the protruding lips do. The word is always spelled with two r's. The word *more* is said to mean 'moorish, belonging to the Moors.' In a jocular style it is applied to wine not mixed with water. It also means as a noun a Moor or a native of Africa. It is also used in Cuba to designate a particular kind of horse collar.

In a sermon last Sunday night in Plymouth Church, Brooklyn, Dr. Lyman Abbott spoke about the Hispano American trouble, and after discussing several features of the struggle said:

"I have no fear of the Roman Catholic Church. And I do not want to be misunderstood on this point. That Church is not a persecuting Church. Religious liberty is as safe in the hands of American Catholics as in those of American Protestants."

Now, really this is very kind of the reverend gentleman. But, kindly pardon the advice, do you not think that a little originality would add much to your discourses, dear doctor? There is nothing at all new in your discoveries. The facts were old long ere you were young.

At the annual meeting of the Grand Orange Lodge, held recently in Ottawa, Grand Master N. Clarke Wallace addressed the brethren, or whatever they call themselves, and, after the usual preamble, said:

"The year in which we are met is the centenary of the abortive Irish rebellion of 1798. It would, doubtless, be deemed bad taste in some quarters were I to allude at any length to that unhappy event, in the course of which it is calculated no fewer than 70,000 persons perished, either in the field by military execution, or by popular vengeance, of whom 50,000 were insurgents. It was in May one hundred years ago that the rebellion broke out, and the autumn was well advanced before its complete suppression, the most important conflicts being those of Arklow, Ross, and Vinegar Hill. I may be, however, allowed to say that throughout this unfortunate strife the Orangemen of Ireland, as upon so many other occasions, rendered signal service to the cause of the Empire, attesting their loyalty to the throne by innumerable deeds of valor, self-sacrifice, and devotion. The progress of popular government since that day has been truly marvellous. To us who enjoy so fully the

blessings of individual liberty and electoral rights, it is strange to read that, of the 300 members who composed the Parliament of Ireland, 200 were returned by individuals, that 40 or 50 were returned by ten persons, and that several of the boroughs had no resident elector at all. Equal rights, and popular liberty, as understood in our day, were then unknown, and yet, looking back in the light of a century of experience, who can truthfully assert that the union of Ireland with Great Britain for legislative purposes, which grew out of the rebellion, has not produced a degree of material development and prosperity to the people of that island commensurate with their highest happiness. Nor, looking down the vista of the last hundred years, can it be doubted that as recommended in the King's message to the Parliament of Great Britain and Ireland, in January, 1799, the union of the kingdoms has best tended to improve and perpetuate a connection essential for their common security, and to augment and consolidate the strength, power and resources of the British Empire."

Can Clarke Wallace truthfully assert that the Union has resulted in prosperity and happiness for Ireland? If he can, he may be able to explain the many fluctuations in the population between 1791 and 1815, after which the British Government was so busy abroad that they gave Ireland a breathing spell, and the population grew to 8,196,579 in 1841, and then dropped to 5,159,839 at the last census, so that in a period extending over a century the increase in population amounted to only 953,237. In addition, the latest returns show a slow but steady decrease. It has always occurred to us that prosperity and happiness would tend to an increase of the population rather than otherwise. A fallacy of ours, perhaps, or it may be that the people have not been given sufficient time to witness the beautiful workings of the system and have not been educated to its merits. If Ireland was so happy and prosperous, why did so many people come to America, where there are now as many Irishmen as there are in Ireland. Are Irishmen so peculiarly minded that they turn their backs on prosperity? No, the truth is that there is no prosperity and but little happiness in Ireland. It is one thing to be in the most liberally governed country in the world and talk of happiness and prosperity and another to be in the most downtrodden, famine-ridden island on the face of the earth and find this happiness and prosperity. Probably Mr. Wallace is not aware that there is famine and actual starvation in many districts of Ireland. Perhaps, though, he is, and looks upon it as a sign of prosperity. In New York and elsewhere in the United States there are subscription lists for an "Irish Famine Fund." I have seen communications from many people in Ireland, in which they attest to all that has been said of the terrible distress in the Emerald Isle. It is a decidedly strange prosperity that moves a people to write a memorial for presentation to the President of the United States, setting forth that they are starving, and asking that he use his good offices to alleviate in some manner their sufferings. Such prosperity is most remarkable.

C. J. H.

A complaint has reached the TRUE WITNESS that a nurse of many years experience in one of our city hospitals greatly depressed a female patient recently by telling her that the affliction for which she was about to undergo an operation was "the worst case she had known" during her long connection with the hospital. In those days when "trained nurses" have become a sort of *fad* care should surely be taken to warn them against saying anything of a depressing or discouraging nature to their patients. Hospital nurses who grow callous with years of proximity to physical suffering, or who do not realize the effects of cheerful and of depressing words upon the sufferers, should be immediately replaced by others better qualified for so important a position.

Not a few of our patrons make it a rule to insist upon a discount for cash payments. An English Journal relates the following incident in the career of Mr. Gladstone, who was a stickler for discount:—Not many years ago Mr. Gladstone went to the Row, and, entering the shop of a well-known publisher, enquired for a book he wanted. On receiving it he demanded the full discount, whereupon the assistant who served him, not knowing in the least who his customer was, asked him if he was in the trade. Mr. Gladstone said he was not, and, being told that that being so he could not have the discount, enquired for a shop where he would obtain the discount he wanted, and straightway left to seek it there.

We notice that several of our contemporaries frequently write of "Catholicisms." What do they mean by this "ism"? If they mean "The Church" they ought to say so, and not try to connect it with any "isms."

The Church is making great strides in England. The official returns for 1897 show that in the Westminster archdiocese 1,811 persons were received into the Church during the year, and 1,050 persons in the diocese of Salford.

PREPARATIONS FOR '98 CENTENARY.

Celebration on Saturday, June 27.

Meeting Held at the Young Irishmen's L. & B. Hall—Two Communications from the Secretary of the Executive in Charge of the Arrangements -- A Circular from the A. O. H. County Board -- The Route of the Procession.

In the far Antipodes the spirit of the men whose names are emblazoned imperishably on the banner of Irish history still lives. It springs perennially from a fountain of patriotism. The blood of the sons and grandsons is impregnated with the same grand idea. In Sydney, N.S.W., the centenary of the Rebellion of '98 was celebrated three weeks ago. The remains of Michael Dwyer, the exiled Wicklow leader, who died in New South Wales in 1825, and also the coffin of his wife, were raised from their original burial place, and removed to St. Mark's Cathedral. And thus it is the world over that all of us "dare speak of '98."

The Young Irishmen's L. & B. Association is always in the front rank in every patriotic movement. On Wednesday evening a meeting was held at their hall, to which a public invitation had been issued in the columns of the press, calling upon all young Irishmen in Montreal to attend.

The meeting was a most successful one and resulted in the formation of a '98 club to assist at the great demonstration on the 27th inst. in conjunction with the Association. Mr. Richard Burke, president of the organization, occupied the chair.

Speeches were delivered by Mr. E. B. Devlin, B.C.L., Mr. J. Curran, Mr. W. Rawley, President County Board A.O.H., and Mr. E. Reynolds, Provincial President of the A.O.H., who addressed the gathering, and Mr. E. Halley, Mr. Carroll Ryan, Mr. J. J. Foley, Mr. M. J. Power, During the evening Messrs H. Howard and Chambers contributed songs and recitations.

A meeting of the '98 club for the purpose of perfecting arrangements for the celebration will be held on Monday night next.

The County Board of the A.O.H. has issued the following circular of invitation for a meeting to be held at St. Ann's Hall to-morrow afternoon. It is of the utmost importance that all Irish Canadians should support the many endeavors of the Hibernians and other Societies to fittingly commemorate in Montreal the great centenary of '98.

The Circular.

You are especially invited to attend a meeting of the '98 sympathizers under the auspices of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, of the County of Hochelaga, on Sunday, June 12th, in the St. Ann's Hall, at 3 p.m.

You are recognized by us as one who has always manifested a deep interest in propagating unity and harmony among our race and creed in this city. We, therefore, hope that your presence on the above occasion will exemplify your sincerity in the present movement as one who recognizes no class distinction in commemorating the heroes of '98. The masses are in perfect accord with this memorable event, and we hope that those whom we honor with an invitation, and whom we have looked upon as our leaders in the past, will not fail to honor us by their presence at this important meeting, so that your influence and social status among our people will tend to make the 26th June demonstration one of the most important events in the history of our race in Canada in bringing the desired unity which should prevail among our people.

JAMES McIVER,
County Secretary,
329 St. Antoine Street.

WILLIAM RAWLEY,
County President.

We have received the following communication from Mr. B. Feeney, Cor. Sec. of the '98 Centenary Committee, which speaks for itself:—

To the Editor of the TRUE WITNESS:—
SIR,—At the regular meeting of the '98 Centenary Delegates, the various committees brought in very encouraging reports. Communications from many outside organizations and societies asking for information were read, and the corresponding secretary ordered to furnish all necessary information. A resolution was passed that all information to the Press should have the signature of the corresponding secretary; that no individual delegate is authorized to give to the Press misleading news, as has been done by some mysterious person. The route of the procession decided upon for the grand demonstration, June 26th, is as follows: Assemble on the Haymarket Square, to start at 2 p.m., by way of William, Colborne, Wellington, McCord, Notre Dame, St. Lawrence, St. Catherine, Park Avenue to Exhibition Grounds.

B. FEENEY,
Cor. Sec. '98 Centenary Committee,
Montreal, June 8th, 1898.

CONVENTION OF IRISH NATIONAL AND CATHOLIC SOCIETIES.

TO THE IRISH CITIZENS, GREETING.—The Executive Committee, in whom are entrusted the carrying out of the arrangements of the '98 Centenary of June 26th, 1898, in accordance with resolution

passed by the Irish National and Catholic Societies assembled in convention on the 5th day of June to commemorate the heroes of that eventful epoch, '98, who had every quality calculated to win the hearts of the Irish people by their generous warm-hearted nature and undaunted courage, and, above all, their ardent patriotism, combined to render them the beau ideal of Irish leaders.

Heaven saw fit to ordain that the electric spark of patriotism and unconquerable love of Irish liberty should be conducted through the martyrdom of those heroes who have offered their lives on the altar of liberty for their country's sake, from the land of our forefathers to this our adopted country. We, who are here to perform this duty of patriotism, have all of us long ago received it from our fathers, to cherish their names, virtues and heroic self-sacrifice displayed by them in their opposition to the injurious, insulting, ruinous and hated measures exercised through the Penal Code against the Catholics of Ireland.

We therefore appeal to the Irish and Catholic people of Canada, and their descendants, to make the demonstration of the '98 insurrection, to be held on Sunday, 26th June, one of the eventful periods in the history of the Irish race in Canada, by your appearance in the parade from Haymarket Square to the Exhibition Grounds, where we receive ourselves into a mass meeting, where some of the ablest Irish and French speakers from home and abroad will expatiate on the valor of those heroes who appeared on the scene of that sad but glorious period.

B. FEENEY,
Cor. Sec. '98 Centenary,
Montreal, June 5th, 1898.

ST. PATRICK'S LAWN PARTY.

Organized in Aid of the High School Building Fund.

A Most Successful Social Function, at Which Thousands of the Parishioners of the English-Speaking Catholic Parishes Assisted--To Close on Tuesday Next.

There has been many celebrated lawn parties and many of them have had particular bearing on very important historical events; but here in our own way we have had a lawn party, which, if not actually rivaling in magnificence similar events of days past, had certainly in view an object of greater good.

One of these unique, and what has proved to be the most successful of social functions organized in Catholic circles of Montreal for many years, is the St. Patrick's Lawn Party, which opened on Monday evening last, on the grounds west of St. Patrick's Church, with entrance on Dorchester street, near the Presbytery.

The object of the undertaking is to assist the project of the High School for English speaking Catholic boys. The TRUE WITNESS has long been an ardent advocate of this most meritorious and most needed institution.

Every imaginable form of amusement is served up under neatly arranged water-proof tents for the enjoyment of the patrons of the Lawn Party, from the old-fashioned Cake Walk of the negro-fairs—with its modern improvements—to the electric and up-to-date transportation facilities between Chicago and Montreal.

A feature, and it may be said a most attractive one, is the publication of a journal under the very appropriate title of "The Gleaner." It contains interesting selections and several ably written articles on education from the standpoint of English speaking Catholics.

The encouragement shown to the enthusiastic promoters of the affair on the opening night was continued during the week, and it is expected that Monday and Tuesday of the coming week, the closing evenings of the Lawn Party, will be as well patronized.

The undertaking has done great service in the interest of the High school project, as well as in the direction of bringing Catholics of the various parishes into closer social intercourse, and inspiring them with the worthy ambition of establishing institutions of their own.

It is rumored that at least one or two fair parishioners of one of the Irish parishes will shortly be led to the altar by two gallant members of the Knights of Columbus, whose presence was so conspicuous near the ice-cream freezer, and whose chivalrous gallantry at many of the booths would make Don Quixote green with envy in his palmiest days.

The following are the names of the ladies of the Board of Management and Committees:—

Ladies' Committee.
Lady Hingston, Mrs. Menzies, Mrs. John McCrory, Miss Dixragh.

GENERAL REFRESHMENTS—Mrs. Menzies, Mrs. Burns, Mrs. Ireland.

ICE CREAM AND CAKE—Mrs. Reynolds, Mrs. Loye.

CIGARS AND SOFT DRINKS—Mrs. John McCrory, Mrs. P. McCrory.

CANDY AND FRUIT—Mrs. Boud, Miss Coleman.

ICE CREAM PARLOR—Mrs. Jos. McCrory, Mrs. Nicholson.

STORE ROOM—The Misses Conway.



IF YOU WANT

Neat, Nobby

Styles,

Small Boys' Suits

We have a very fine, choice assortment of high class Suits, the finest imported. We would be pleased to show them, in Sailor Suits, Knee Pants, very nicely trimmed, also a good assortment of Boys' School Suits, Boys' Sailor Straw Hats, Tan or Shantung Suits, Scotch Caps, Tweed Caps, Washing Sailor Collars, Windsor Ties, Strong Double Knee Stockings, Boys' Boots, etc.

Our prices are the lowest for the quality of the goods. Mothers are invited to examine our stock.

Allan's 2299 St. Catherine Street.
and 665 Craig Street.

Booths.
FLOWERS—Mrs. P. S. Doyle, Miss Feron.
GUESSESS' BOOTH—Mrs. James, Mrs. Love, Mrs. Kelly.
GRAB BAG—Misses Farrell and Madden.

Amusements.
MAZE—Mrs. Harding.
GRAMAPHONE—Mrs. Costigan, Mrs. Giffin.
OPTICAL ILLUSION—Mrs. T. Collins.
TRIP TO CHICAGO—Mrs. C. O'Brien.
SHOOTING GALLERY—Mrs. Duffley, Miss McGrath.
CINEMATOGRAPH—Mrs. T. McKenna, Mrs. M. Eagan.

CLUB ROOM—Miss McCurragh, Miss Downey.

Box Office, Amusement Hall.
Mrs. P. McDermott.

LADY ASSISTANTS.
AMUSEMENT HALL.
Assisting Mrs. P. McDermott, her sister, Mrs. John Feron, and Miss L. Cox.

TRIP TO CHICAGO.
Assisting Mrs. C. O'Brien, the Misses O'Brien, Doyle, Atty, Smith, Hoolahan and McCallum.

OPTICAL ILLUSIONS.
Assisting Mrs. T. Collins, the Misses Collins, Tenney, Scanlan, Wright, Donovan, Cuddy.

FLORAL BOOTH.
Assisting Mrs. P. S. Doyle and Miss Feron, the Misses Trihey, Shannon, Wright, Feron, Cox and Mullarky.

GRAB BAG BOOTH.
Assisting Miss K. Farrell and Mrs. Dick, the Misses Huber, Huly, Nash, Flannigan, Morton and O'Brien.

CIGARS AND SOFT DRINKS.
Assisting Mrs. John and Mrs. P. McCrory, the Misses K. McCrory, D. McCrory, Williams and Kavanagh.

GENERAL REFRESHMENTS.
Assisting Mrs. Menzies, Mrs. Burns, Mrs. Ireland and Mrs. Nicholson, the Misses Menzies, Butler and Burns.

ICE CREAM AND CAKE.
Assisting Mrs. Reynolds and Mrs. Loye, the Misses Reynolds, Misses Maloney, Ward, Smythe, K. and M. Hanley and Neville.

REFRESHMENT PARLORS.
Assisting Mrs. Jos. McCrory, the Misses Manning, Pigeon, K. and M. Mullin, Minnie McCrory, Sullivan, Flannigan, Gougeon, Sharp, O'Connor, McMahon, Kiely, Murphy, Selby, Conway and Kearney.

CANDY AND FRUIT.
Assisting Mrs. Boud and Miss Coleman, Mrs. Murphy and the Misses Milroy, Collins, Scullion, the Misses Madden, Misses Moffit and the Misses O'Connor.

GUESSESS' BOOTH.
Assisting Mrs. James, Mrs. Love and Mrs. Kelly, the Misses Love, Sexton, Webster, McAndrew, Kearney, Scanlan, Mullarky, Durack.

CINEMATOGRAPH.
Assisting Mrs. T. McKenna, Mrs. M. Eagan and Mrs. John Kavanagh, the Misses McKenna and Doherty.

STORE ROOM.
Assisting the Misses Conway, Miss Carroll and Miss L. Dely.

THE SOCIETIES ARE SCHOOLS.

"Few realize what educational advantages are to be enjoyed in the various local organizations of the fraternal societies," says the "Index," of Scranton, Pa. "Thousands of societies representing some general organization, hold meetings every week. Scarcely a village but has one or more societies of some kind holding at least one meeting a week. If properly conducted, each local organization will afford each of its members educational advantages of great value in themselves."

"Let us examine into this matter and see for ourselves what there is in it along the line of education, and for those whose actual school days are over."

1st. There is a personal and special

watch one has at these meetings over his actions and his words. The tendency is for members to brush their clothes and make themselves appear presentable as a matter of personal pride. A habit of courteously greeting one another is instinctively formed, and with that comes the desire to oblige which leads a man to abstain for the time from any habit which he has reason to believe is distasteful to others.

2nd. The conduct of the official portion of the business brings into play faculties of the mind which is apt to result in quickening and brightening the mental machinery to the lasting good of those affected. The investigations made in committee work, the thought bestowed upon books of accounts, the preparation and formulation of constitutions, by laws, programmes and forms, the conversations with fellow-committeemen, the examination of records, books of reference and conferences with other committees, all give very useful play to faculties which might otherwise lie dormant, and so become weak and inert. All this gives practical facilities for brushing up in writing, in spelling, in grammar and composition.

3rd. The order of business affords each one, however humble, however inexperienced, the privilege of putting in practice the faculty of debate and extemporaneous speaking. The orderly conduct of the business opens the way for each member to take some part, and by so doing, take advantage of the educational advantages offered at every meeting.

4th. Parliamentary practice is a branch of learning which the most distinguished man in the land may study with becoming pride, and in every society meeting the humblest member may help to put in practice the principles of parliamentary law, the mastering of which has made men great and worthy of honor in all civilized countries."

GIVE WHILE YOU HAVE IT.

It is wonderful how many benevolent men we find who have no money. They feel for the cause of Christ, for the necessities of the poor, for the welfare of the heathen and a thousand other good objects but really they have nothing that they can give. They have lost so much and property has depreciated so greatly, that they are restricted, and cannot do as they would. But how was it when they had money? Then they used it for themselves and for their own advantage. When it is gone they are very willing to give it away, but while they had it, neither God nor man could loosen their grasp upon it. They proved themselves unfaithful stewards and have been put out of their stewardship. They have now the opportunity of being "faithful over a very few things," and if they are thus faithful the Lord can make them rulers over many things.

The lesson for us all to learn is to do good while we can do it; while our hand is on the plow is the time to cut the furrow. Today we have the opportunity to do something for the Lord. It may be our last opportunity; it may be the only one. Let us do while we can do; let us give while we can give; let us work while we can work. The night cometh when-in no work can be done.

Acute Rheumatism

Pains in the Foot and Limb—A Complete Cure Accomplished by Hood's Sarsaparilla.

"For a number of years I was afflicted with acute rheumatism in my left side and all the way down my limb into my foot. I live five blocks from my work and had to stop and rest several times in going and coming. I could get no relief from my trouble and was on the point of giving up my job when I happened to hear of Hood's Sarsaparilla. I purchased a bottle of this medicine and a vial of Hood's Pills and began taking them. Before I had half finished them I was relieved and it was not long before I was completely cured. I never lost an opportunity to praise Hood's Sarsaparilla, for my cure meant a great deal to me, as I have a family and must always be at my post."

WILLIAM HASKETT, yardman, Grand Trunk Railroad depot, Brantford, Ontario.

Hood's Sarsaparilla

Is the best in the world for all kinds of skin diseases, such as Eczema, Itch, Scald Head, Ringworm, etc. Sold by all druggists. 25c. and 50c. bottles.

It is purely vegetable, and is perfectly safe. It is made in the United States.

Hood's Pills