

TOPICS OF AN OLD-TIMER

Some Reference to Certain Passengers of the "Thistle," an Irish Immigrant Vessel that Sailed from the Port of Waterford, April 20th, 1842, and Arrived in Quebec June 6th, of the Same Year—What They Did and What Became of Them—Thomas D'Arcy McGee, Among the Number, and "Old-Timer," Too.

(Continued from last week.)

This brings me to the wonderful story of Mrs. Johanna Mary Purcell, their sister, one of the most patriotic, intrepid, adventurous and soulful women that ever crossed the Atlantic. After leaving Quebec she came westward in Canada with her husband and several small children. They tarried first at Toronto, then moved to Hamilton, where her husband became a manufacturer on a small scale.

It has been the fashion to describe Irish immigrants as shiftless and improvident. Some are so, but by no means is this the rule. Take up Aladdin's lamp and rub it, for I am now about to describe one of the most extraordinary immigrant successes known to the annals of fame, not excepting that of John W. McKay of bonanza fame, ocean cable and social family fame. It is that of old Martin Murphy from Wexford county and his dozen sons and daughters, who were former folk in old Ireland.

Her last visit to America was a long one, when she tarried mostly at the city of Duluth, which had become the family centre of the Dunphys in North America. There she met two brothers and one sister (all now dead) whose combined ages along with her own, amounted to 336 years!

friends and relatives in many lands, and blessing them with her visits.

There were two families named Britt in the "Thistle" transfer. They were from Kilkenny county and the husbands were shoemakers by trade. They settled at the head of Lake Ontario in the town of Dundas and succeeded fairly well. They had many children, mostly girls. Mrs. William Britt was a pushing woman and looked well to the care and education of her daughters, two of whom received excellent musical instructions and became famous vocalists, having rich contralto voices.

One of the "Thistle" tribe was a farmer named Richard Power, a Waterford man, who settled in the Ottawa Valley and became the prominent Irishman of his locality. The writer happened to meet him once upon peculiarly pleasant circumstances. It was at an Irish convention designed to promote settlement in the great Canadian Valley and advance Irish-Canadian interests generally.

There is one story yet to be told but it must not be. Modesty forbids. Yet the subject of it has seen as many ups and downs in life as the most adventurous. It is his part to tell of others, not of himself. He has been a good deal of a wanderer, a Bohemian, and he has helped to cover the buried bones of many a compatriot, and has seen the sods grow green on the graves of three generations.

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to describe all the fortunes of the family, there were so many sons and daughters and grandsons and granddaughters, all of whom had married other wealthy people. It used to be said "the Murphys own the country."

What a rambling, adventurous, freedom and fortune-seeking people the Irish are to be sure! No country is so hidden that they will not find out. They are great prospectors, but are not so good as the English or Scotch in holding on with a tenacious grip. Of course the "Thistle" was represented in the California gold seekers of '49. The writer of this had a brother in that memorable "push" and won a little distinction without realizing any fortune.

In a prosperous town in Central Illinois there resided a passenger of the "Thistle" of the voyage of 1842. He was one of the coopers that left "Mullineav with the sky over it."

The traditions of the "Thistle" voyage and the story of her passengers may not die for most of them have been an honor to the land of their birth and a credit to the countries of their adoption.

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The fleeting joy of candy and flowers for Christmas cannot take the place of the permanent pleasure of the gift of books for the holidays. Christmas books need not be stories; there is an infinite variety of Catholic Literature published suited to the tastes and minds of all classes of the community.

Pius X.'s Tribute to the Catholics of Germany

Here is a notable passage from the letter which the Holy Father sent to Cardinal Fischer, of Cologne, on the occasion of the German Catholic Congress at Essen, and the Latin text of which has just been published in Rome.

Death of Mrs. Catharine Haney

The death of Mrs. Catharine Haney, at her late residence, Schomberg, adds the greatest sorrow to the hearts of her children. She was the widow of Patrick Haney. The death of two sons saddened the closing years of her life.

The death has occurred in Paris of Madam Gounod, the widow of the celebrated composer, aged 77. She was the daughter of a professor of music.

FRENCH PRIEST ON THE FRENCH CRISIS

Rev. Dr. F. J. Sollier, Rector of the Marist College, Washington, Justifies the Pontiff's Course.

Rev. Francis J. Sollier, S.M., S.T. D., rector of the Marist College at Washington, who is thoroughly acquainted with the conditions in France, says the Philadelphia Standard and Times, demonstrates in the clearest manner the injustice of the provisions of the separation law and the wisdom of the Holy Father's course.

"It is this association which is to have the use of the churches and sacred edifices, which is to possess ecclesiastical property, real and personal (though only for a time) the residences of the Bishops and priests and seminaries; which is to administer the property, regulate collections and receive the alms and legacies destined for religious worship.

Hibernians Sympathize with the Church

At a notable celebration of the Ancient Order of Hibernians lately held in Cleveland, the following resolutions of sympathy with the Church in the French situation were passed after several had spoken feelingly on the subject:

Miss Lida Rose McCabe, a newspaper woman formerly of Columbus, but now engaged in newspaper work for New York papers, is a Catholic and has just returned from a four months' stay in Alaska, where she gathered material for articles to appear soon in the New York Times and also for contributions to McClure's.

How Christianity is Conducted

Here is a sad instance of how the campaign against Christianity is being conducted in France. The Prefect of La Lozere has demanded the secularization of the lying-in hospital at Meude, and, pending that event, has decided that no infants born at the maternity hospital shall be baptized under any pretext whatever.

Books for Children.—It is a conceded fact that impressions made upon young minds are never totally effaced, therefore, if you desire to mould the future conduct of your little ones, you must necessarily pay strict attention to the reading matter given to them.

Justin McCarthy on Irish Home Rule

"Then there is also another question which has yet far deeper interest for me and for my countrymen all over the world, a question which is certain to come into new development with the reassembling of Parliament. That is, I need hardly say, the question of England's constitutional relations with Ireland—the question of Home Rule. It may be taken for granted that we shall very soon after the reopening of Parliament have some distinct declaration on this subject delivered from the Ministerial benches in the House of Commons.

"I hear from many sources that the Irish Nationalists and the Irish people have reason to believe in the favorable disposition of King Edward towards Ireland's national claims. The confident impression is that the King is willing to give his full approval to any system of legislation which can bring Ireland into thorough harmony with other parts of the Empire, just as Canada and the Australian states are at present. We all know enough concerning the mysterious correspondence between leading members of the late Tory Government and Sir Anthony MacDonnell on the subject of what is described as Devolution to feel satisfied that the King distinctly encouraged the claims of Sir Anthony to hold a controlling position in the viceregal administration of Ireland.

Vestments of St. Patrick's Cathedral

The vestments in use at St. Patrick's cathedral, New York, compare very favorably with those in many of the famous cathedrals in Europe, and they are the finest in any cathedral in America. Archbishop Corrigan presented to the cathedral the only complete set of Holy Thursday vestments in the world. They are valued at \$20,000. In the set are thirteen chasubles, ten dalmatics, nine tunics, two copes and lace albs, amices and other vestments to correspond to the Holy Thursday service alone.

A famous set of vestments now in the old sacristy of vestments now in the Archbishop Hughes. On these vestments, which are of the finest gold cloth, is worked the archbishop's coat of arms. They are embroidered with gold and encrusted with jewels.

Another set of vestments which has attracted attention from admirers of artistic embroidery was presented to Archbishop Corrigan. They are rose colored and are worn on two days only of the year and are permitted to cathedrals and collegiate institutions only throughout the world. They are embroidered in fine gold and artistic needlework. On the chasuble is the usual cross and the figures on the cross and designs on the frontispiece are worked in silks of different colors, gold and silver on gold.

For Mrs. Farrell, Hamilton, Canada

(Taken from Longford Leader, Dec. 8.) The month's mind office and High Mass for the repose of the soul of Mrs. Farrell, Hamilton, Canada, mother of Rev. J. J. Farrell, C. C. Gawna, was held in the parish church at Rathowen, on Thursday, 29th inst. Office began at 11 o'clock. The celebrant was the Rev. J. J. Farrell, C. C., son of deceased, Deacon, Rev. E. Connolly, C. C.; Sub-Deacon, Rev. P. Higgins, C. C.; and Master of Ceremonies, Rev. P. Manly, C. C., nephew of deceased.

The chapters of the office were: The Rev. M. Corcoran, P. P., Gowne, and Rev. E. O'Reilly, C. C., Columbkille. Among those in the choir were: The Very Rev. T. Canon Martin, P. P., Edgeworthstown; Rev. T. Langan, P. P., D. D., Abbeylara; Rev. P. Redahan, P. P., Legan; Rev. P. Ledwith, P. P., Rathowen; Rev. T. McGoey, P. P., Streete; Rev. P. O'Hara, C. C., Edgeworthstown; Rev. S. Gerety, Adm., Longford; Rev. Father Cahill, Adm., Ballymahon; Rev. R. Egan, C. C., Grenard; Rev. E. Connolly, C. C., Granard; Rev. J. McGivney, C. C., Abbeylara; Rev. T. Gavigan, C. C., Clonbrooney; Rev. P. Duffy, C. C., Legan; Rev. Father O'Dwyer, C. C., Ardagh; Rev. P. Clancy, C. C., Streete; Rev. H. Lynch, C. C., Carrickedmond.

The deceased lady was a sister-in-law to Mr. Michael Farrell of Edgeworthstown, and was a native of Canada. She leaves a very large family to mourn her loss, all of whom, with the exception of Rev. J. Farrell, C. C., are living in Canada. The very large attendance of the local clergy at her obsequies was but a fitting tribute to the universal esteem in which Father Farrell is so deservedly held, whilst the congregation of the faithful, who also attended as a mark of respect to her memory, filled the church.

We tender to the bereaved relatives our sincerest sympathy. R.I.P.

Father Bernard Vaughan's Christmas Sermon

In the Christmas number of the "Pall Mall Magazine" Father Bernard Vaughan writes a Christmas sermon, of which the following is the text: "In the Parliaments of the world there is no room for God, for these men are pledged to party politics. On 'Change there is no room for Him, for there men are gambling on the fluctuations of the market. In society there is no room for Him, for society has long since discovered that it can get on better without Him and His religion, which is out of date and dull. Is there any room for Him in our schoolrooms? No, for He will not come without introducing dogma, and dogma is a forbidden science. No; nor may He enter the law courts, for there His teaching about divorce is laughed to scorn. And above all, keep Him out of our workshops, lest the sweaters of labor might feel the lash of His scourge as well as of His tongue."

Juvenile Abstainers

The free entertainment, says the Standard and Times, for members of the juvenile total abstinence societies which was given in the Academy of Music on Thanksgiving afternoon more than met the expectations of its promoters as a demonstration. With probably four thousand inside the building and about another thousand unable to gain admission, some idea of the strength and solidity of the juvenile societies was given. Most of the organizations came in a body, some marching, others in chartered cars, and the Kellyville juveniles in omnibuses.

CANVASSERS WANTED

Miss Franklin, travelling representative for the "Catholic Register," has been appointed Manager of the Circulation Dept. and desires to secure good earnest workers. Traveling expenses paid to all parts of Canada and excellent remuneration to successful agents. Apply personally or by letter to Miss T. Franklin, Circulation Department of the Catholic Register, 117 Wellington St. W.

Use the Newspapers

The Paulist Father Smith says that "the tallest pulpit to-day is the printing press." Who can doubt it? But even if it were not the tallest it is very tall. In the United States, for instance, there are a few score millions of people who are preached to from no other pulpit.

In our seminaries much time is taken up in the oratorical training of candidates for the priesthood. The results are, on the whole, satisfactory. But not so much time is put in the literary training of the seminarians. Yet it is much harder to learn to write well than to talk well.

Our priests are compelled to become talkers by the necessities of their ministry. Very few of them write for publication, because they did not receive the necessary discipline in their student days, and necessity does not step in to make literary artists of them after they begin the actual work of the ministry.

There is a feeling among priests that it is not exactly dignified to appear in the public press. But is it conceivable that St. Paul would have shrunk from newspaper publicity if it had been offered him? Before the invention of printing men had to talk; it was the only effective way of spreading ideas. But now that we have a better way, we should make use of it. Over in England at a recent conference of the Catholic Truth society the Rev. Dean Rothwell told of his method of using the bill board for the spread of Catholic truth. He suggested the use of colored posters, attractively printed, on which Catholic belief and practice might be set forth in simple words.—Catholic Sentinel.

BUSINESS EDUCATION

We direct the attention of our readers to the advertisement of the popular Elliott Business College of Toronto—a school that is growing greater year by year and is well worthy of patronage. Write to the Principal, Mr. W. J. Elliott, for a catalogue. The winter term opens Jan. 2nd.