

**THE TRUE WITNESS office has moved to 25 St. Antoine street.**

## Notes From Parishes.

Next Sunday afternoon, the members of St. Gabriel's Juvenile Total Abstinence and Benefit Society will hold their regular monthly meeting.

Sunday morning, the Forty Hours' devotion opened at St. Anthony's Church, and closed on Tuesday morning. The altar was a gem of artistic arrangement, and hundreds visited the church during the devotion.

Next Sunday at two o'clock the children of the first Communion class will be enrolled in the Scapulars. In the evening at 7.30 the consecration to the Sacred Heart and the Blessed Virgin will take place, followed by a procession around the church.

Last Sunday afternoon, the regular monthly meeting of the St. Patrick's Total Abstinence and Benefit Society took place. Rev. James Killoran, spiritual director, administered the pledge to two new members. Four vacancies were filled on the committee of management, and considerable routine business was transacted.

Rev. Father Joseph Hayden, formerly of the diocese of Harbor Grace, Newfoundland, but now of the Michigan diocese, was a guest at St. Patrick's Presbytery for a few days. He left for a visit to Newfoundland on Sunday evening.

Rev. Father McMillan, of the Diocese of Charlottetown, P.E.I., who represented His Lordship Bishop McDonald, of Charlottetown, at the meeting of the Council of Public Instruction held a few days ago at Quebec, was also a guest at the Presbytery.

## FIRST COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION SERVICES IN CITY CHURCHES.

First Communion and Confirmation day last Saturday at St. Anthony's Church was a red letter one. At 7 o'clock the children entered the church, amid the sweet strains of the organ. The altar was ablaze with lights and beautiful banners and draperies. The Mass was celebrated by Rev. Thomas Heffernan, who after the Gospel delivered a touching discourse to the children. During the Mass the ladies' choir sang several sacred selections very acceptably. One hundred and twenty children made their first Communion, the girls being from St. Agnes Academy and St. Joseph's Convent, and the boys from the Archbishop's Commercial Academy, Belmont School, St. Elizabeth's College, Miss Cronin's Academy, St. Ann's School, St. Joseph's School.

At 9 o'clock the Confirmation exercises took place. His Grace Archbishop Bruchesi, assisted by Rev. Fathers Donnelly, Shea, and Demers, secretary, conferred the sacrament. Previous to the ceremony, and at the request of His Grace, Rev. Father Heffernan again addressed the communicants.

The long lines of boys and girls with their sponsors moving in perfect order made the scene a pretty one indeed. Such a sight has rarely been witnessed as that of last Saturday morning in the beautiful little church on St. Antoine street. Father Heffernan had every reason to feel proud of the children on that memorable morning. The Rev. Father had not spared himself. He had preached fourteen sermons, and had seen his work crowned with success. The Sisters of Notre Dame deserve a share of the praise also for the faithful way the children were exercised in their many duties in the church. The number of children making their first Communion was the largest since the organization of St. Anthony's parish.

His Grace confirmed the children of St. Cunegonde parish at 10 o'clock on Saturday morning.

At 7 o'clock on Saturday morning the children of St. Joseph's parish to the number of nearly 300 received their first Communion. At 11 o'clock they were enrolled in the scapulars, and at 4 o'clock in the afternoon His Grace Archbishop Bruchesi gave Confirmation.

First Communion was celebrated on Tuesday morning in St. Gabriel's Church, and the Sacrament of Confirmation was conferred in the afternoon by His Grace Archbishop Bruchesi, assisted by Rev. Fathers O'Meara, P.P., Fahey, and J. B. Demers, secretary to His Grace.

## BISHOP RACICOT VISITS SAULT AUX RECOLLET.

Last Sunday His Lordship Bishop Racicot sang pontifical high Mass in the parish church at Sault aux Recollet. On the 13th of October, 1845, Bishop Racicot was baptized in this church.

After the Mass a public reception was tendered, in which the people of Ahuntsic, his native village, congratulated him on the high honor he had attained in the church. The Bishop was accompanied by Rev. Cure Beaubien, of Sault aux Recollet parish.

## FATHER STRUBBE PREACHES AT THE CATHEDRAL.

The feast of the patronage of St. Joseph was celebrated in all the Catholic Churches of the city last Sunday. At St. James' Cathedral, by request of His Grace Archbishop Bruchesi, Rev. Father Strubbe, C.S.S.R., of St. Ann's Church, preached at the solemn high Mass.

## MGR. COUNT VAY DE VAY SPEAKS ON MISSIONS IN THE ORIENT.

Mgr. Count Vay de Vay, a distinguished priest and missionary from the East, who is at present engaged in lecturing for the benefit of a new orphanage at Corea, preached last Sunday evening at the Church of the Gesu. He spoke at length on the Catholic missions in the East.

"Japan must face a serious crisis if her people do not become Christians," said Monsignor Count Vay de Vay. "Civilization, as we know, is the manifestation of Christianity, and no nation is truly civilized unless it is Christian. It therefore follows that if we are Christians our lives, our conduct must be a reflection of the great truths of the Christian religion, the higher ideals and motives of which must be traceable in all our actions."

"It is the lack of these qualities in Western methods which has made and is making the task of Christianizing the Eastern nations a slow and difficult process, and the problem is both puzzling and interesting."

In view of the great struggle which was going on in the East and the probable supremacy of the Japanese, it was an interesting fact that some of the leading men in the Empire were Christians, and they exercised the little influence among their people. He had had conversations with these men and he was convinced that if the Japanese embraced Christianity they must do so through a sense of duty.

This helps one to understand the conditions which missionaries had to grapple in their efforts to convert Asiatic people, especially the Chinese, who form sad ideas of the civilization of the West when Western nations go amongst them simply to take all they can lay their hands on.

To neutralize these baneful influences the Catholic missionaries are endeavoring, as they have been doing in the past, to place before those people the high ideals of Western Christianity and the Jesuits have seen their efforts crowned with success in the thousands of excellent Christians and useful citizens they can count in their following. Seminaries of learning, industrial institutions, orphanages and asylums have been founded and are flourishing. Native priests and nuns have been trained and are doing excellent work among their own people, and not a few have sealed their faith with their blood, side by side with the Europeans who made their homes among them.

Speaking of the future of those nations, the lecturer said that he regarded Corea as being the "dawn of Asia, for it had a great future before it." The Pacific is destined to be what the Atlantic is to-day—the centre of commercial activities of the nations, in which the Americans and Canadians will participate.

"In the meantime the orphanages are taxed for the accommodation of the children of impoverished parents. The little ones are constantly being thrown on the mercy of the missionaries who have to find the means to support them if they must live. His lecture, he concluded, was but the fulfilment of a promise he had made to tell the Western nations of the needs of those people so that success might be sent to the missionaries to enable them to tide over their difficulties and extend the area of their usefulness."

## ITEMS OF INTEREST.

### \$30,000 LOSS.

Upwards of \$30,000 is the estimated loss caused by a fire on Notre Dame street on Tuesday night. The large furniture factory of the Messrs. Bourassa was destroyed upon which there was no insurance. The block is situated directly opposite Notre Dame Hospital, into which institute the inmates rescued from the burning building were taken and sheltered for the night.

## CATHOLIC EMIGRATION CHILDREN.

On Saturday afternoon, the first contingent of children from England this year for the Catholic Emigration Association's headquarters at Hintonburg, Ottawa, passed through the city, stopping for a short while at the C.P.R. station. There were fifty-one children in all, and they looked the picture of health. On arrival at Quebec, the children were met by Mr. Cecil Arden, the hon. manager of the Association.

## PROGRESS IN THE WEST.

A subscriber from Macleod, Alta., sends us information that through the efforts of their parish priest, Rev. Father Danis, a convent is in course of construction, which promises to be as imposing a building as will be found in Southern Alberta. Within the eighteen months that Father Danis has had charge of the parish, he has set many improvements on foot, and folks returning after only a short absence are pleased to note the marked progress visible everywhere.

## ENTERPRISING HOTELKEEPER.

In a letter from Mr. McKenty, proprietor of the Manor Hotel, Winnipeg, he reminds us that the True Witness is fifty-three years going to his family. From the time of its first issue until his death, Mr. McKenty's father, of Amherst Island, Ont., was a reader, and his son has continued a subscriber. The Manor Hotel is a well-known hostelry, and its proprietor is considered as a man of most progressive ideas. In addition to the Manor Hotel, Mr. McKenty owns considerable real estate from which in time he will draw immense revenue. Mr. McKenty also owns a large general store in Bath, Ont., in fact the largest in the county. This and the fact that he so successfully manages the Manor Hotel, Winnipeg, bespeaks remarkable ability and enterprise. Mr. McKenty is spoken of as a genial, large-hearted man and judging from the progress already made, success must follow on success.

## PRESS ASSOCIATION DINNER.

The Province of Quebec Press Association held the final dinner of the season on Tuesday evening at St. Lawrence Hall. A feature of the dinner, which was highly appreciated, was an address delivered by Hon. Justice Curran, who spoke on a phase of the libel law. He was heartily greeted, and responded to the invitation to address the gathering with ready and genial words. He had experienced, he said, two great surprises during the day. The first was the kind invitation to be present at the banquet. He thought he had been forgotten by his old friends of the press. The next was more surprising still, that he should be asked to make a speech. Newspaper men, as a rule, blessed silent men. After a happy allusion to his own connection with the press, in former days, His Lordship proceeded to speak of the efforts that had been made, from time to time, to obtain legislation relieving the press from vexatious libel suits. Only recently one of these attempts had failed. Most people were adverse to class legislation, and if the press wished to succeed, they must, he thought, appeal to the Legislature on broad lines, that would benefit, not only the press, but the people generally.

If instead of asking for legislation special to newspapers, the Legislature were approached with a demand for an amendment to the Code of Civil procedure to the following effect, he thought they might be successful:

"No action for libel, slander or insult shall be taken against any person, without the permission of a judge, who shall have the power to limit the amount of such action, and the proceedings shall be the same as those for instituting an action in forma pauperis."

He had spoken to one or two of his colleagues, and to Mr. Lamothe, K. C., the late batonnier of the Bar, and the suggestion had met with their approval.

Other speeches were made by Mr. G. H. Ham, of the C.P.R.; Mr. Gardner, of Prince Edward Island; Mr.

B. A. Macnab, Mr. J. C. Walsh, and Mr. E. Slack, president of the association, who occupied the chair.

## THE CHAMPIONS OF 1904 AGAIN TO THE FRONT.

The many friends and admirers of the famous Shamrock lacrosse team, champions of 1904, will be glad to learn that notwithstanding reports to the contrary, the same team that upheld the honor of the Shamrock Association last year will still be to the fore this year. Last Saturday afternoon a representative of the True Witness had a few minutes' talk with the genial captain, Tom O'Connell, President of the Lacrosse Club. "Well, Captain," said the newspaper man, "what about the trouble of the desertion of some of your players of last year's team?" "There is no trouble," said the captain, with a smile. "It's all a sensational report. The two men in question, Howard and Robinson, were at the grounds this afternoon practising. I have just returned from there now, and I left them with several others of last year's team engaged in a good hard practice. There is no doubt but that these men have been offered heavy inducements to leave the Shamrock Lacrosse Club, but they are too loyal to their colors to desert the green and white." Captain O'Connell then produced a paper with the signatures of all last year's team with the exception of McIlwaine, who may not play at all this season. The game between Capitals and Shamrocks on Saturday, May 27th, will be a hummer, and the "boys in green" will show what playing qualities yet remain in them.

## WRITER IN SEMAINE RELIGIEUSE OPPOSES NEW SYSTEM OF ELECTING CATHOLIC SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS.

The Semaine Religieuse publishes an article signed "A Friend of Education," in which the writer refers to the new bill providing that the school commissioners of Montreal be elected by the people. While admitting the good faith of the promoters of the new measure, the article asks whether such a system would in reality be progress.

The clergy do not fear progress, but can they willingly give up the advantages offered by the present system to enter a path that would not lead to the desired perfection? Would the election of Commissioners by the people be a progressive or retrograde movement? Some serious minds are disposed to adopt the latter opinion. In the choice by the people of school commissioners, a man who has rendered service as an alderman for the improvement of the streets will run a big chance of being elected, but will such a man be always qualified to deal with the special interests of education? An argument is brought forward that the members of the school board should be responsible to the people for the mandate entrusted to them, but under the proposed new system, the responsibility will be still less. The school tax is imposed by the legislature and by the city, which must therefore be held responsible, but under the new system, neither the legislature nor the city would have anything to do with the appointment of the commissioners having control of the money collected for them.

The present system, pursues the writer, has the advantage of giving the Church a direct part in the management of the Catholic schools, and although it is true that the priests might be candidates for the office of commissioner, they could not very well enter the field for such elections. The letter concludes with the remark that it is the duty of every one not to set aside well-tried systems to adopt others the result of which will be more than problematic.

## BISHOP RACICOT AT MOUNT ST. LOUIS.

The newly erected hall of Mount St. Louis College was the scene of an elaborate entertainment on Wednesday, the 10th instant, when His Lordship Bishop Racicot was the guest of the students.

The new hall is of fine architectural design, with an immense stage and gallery; it has a seating capacity of over fifteen hundred, and is a valuable addition to the already popular institute. The seating capacity was taxed to its utmost to accommodate the many visitors, parents, and relatives of the students.

The performance was opened by a fancy drill by the Cadets of the institute. It was very militarylike, and Major Phillips, who had charge of this portion of the performance, has every reason to be proud of the success of his students.

The Discovery of Canada, a symphony composed by the Director of

the College, was produced in three parts. The singing of Messrs. Thiberge and Gravel was one of the features of the performance. This was a rarely seen production, original in every respect and deserving of much praise.

The trial scene of the Merchant of Venice was given by the Mount St. Louis Literary Union. Rarely has such a display of college talent been better shown. The performance all through was marked by a certain degree of originality, peculiar to students of this college. Although the Merchant of Venice has been produced throughout the city on numerous occasions, still, when it is as well rendered as on the 10th, it is always very interesting.

Mr. Thomas Kearney was a true Shylock. The difficult role of Portia fell to the lot of Mr. R. J. Quigley, and he proved himself equal to the task. Mr. J. Hammill as Gratiano gave an exceptionally good interpretation of that important part. He was ably assisted by Mr. J. Stevens as Bassanio. Mr. Harry Hayes as Antonio surpassed himself.

The other members of the cast interpreted their parts in a very creditable manner. Addresses were presented to His Lordship in English and French, to which he replied very fittingly.

Much is being done by the members and Moderator of the Mount St. Louis Literary Union for the promotion of the study of literature. The Literary Union is open to students of the College, and the success attained by the individual members is well known throughout the country.

## HAY FEVER UNKNOWN.

Certain it is, and many years of careful experience are back of the statement, that hay fever and kindred annoying and troublesome summer affections, distressing to so many thousands all over the country, recurring regularly as July and August, are absolutely unknown in the "Highlands of Ontario." Thousands of people go to Muskoka, Georgian Bay or the Lake of the Bays every year for nothing else but to avoid hay fever, and find perfect immunity from the ailment, and many by going there regularly for a period of a few years are said to be permanently cured.

Hay fever booklet may be had free for the asking by applying to G. T. Bell, G.P.A., G.T.Ry. System, Montreal.

## OBITUARY.

### MRS. FULFORD.

There passed away on Saturday, the 6th instant, at her late residence, Aylmer Road, one of the most respected residents of Hull township in the person of Mrs. Fulford (nee Ryan) in her seventy-eighth year.

The deceased lady was one of the most exemplary of Catholics, a fond mother, a kind and charitable neighbor, and her family have the consolation of knowing that she received the last rites of our holy religion, was resigned to God's will and died in hope of a happy resurrection.

To mourn her loss are left five sons and four daughters, also thirty-three grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. The sons are, John, of the Ottawa Electric Car Co.; Fred, who holds a position in the Government Printing Bureau; Frank, of Montreal; Joseph, of Aylmer, and Hilliard, of the Hull Electric Co. The daughters are Mrs. Teresa Delaney, of the homestead; Mrs. Mary Welch, Chelsea; Mrs. P. Sheehan, Ottawa, and Mrs. Jos. McGoe, Farrelton. The funeral, which was of unusual length, wound its way on Monday morning to Aylmer, where the requiem Mass was sung by the Rev. Father Labelle, P.P., assisted by deacon and sub-deacon, the choir singing the requiem very effectively, after which interment took place in the family plot.

The pall-bearers were the four sons and two grandsons. May she rest in peace.

## REV. FATHER MCGRATH.

News reached the city on Monday announcing the death of Rev. Father McGrath, formerly curate of St. Patrick's. The late Father McGrath was connected with St. Patrick's for three or four years, until the parish passed from the control of the Sulpicians to the Archbishop of Montreal. Father McGrath was a distinguished student of Laval University, Quebec, where he studied theology, and during his career at St. Patrick's he was admired by the parishioners for his zeal and eloquence. Three of his sisters are nuns in the Congregation of Notre Dame. News of Father McGrath's death was sent to Montreal by his brother, Dr. McGrath, of Tignish, P.E.I.

## AN IMPOSING CEREMONY.

### The Laying of the Corner Stone of St. Cunegonde Church.

Last Sunday afternoon was a memorable day for the parishioners of St. Cunegonde. It was the laying of the corner stone of the new church. The different places in the parish in the vicinity of the church were gaily decorated with flags and streamers. At three o'clock the procession left the Presbytery and the blessing and laying of the corner stone by His Grace Archbishop Bruchesi was performed as prescribed by the ritual of the Catholic Church. The ceremony was witnessed by an immense concourse of people. The sermon was preached by Rev. Father Belanger, P.P., St. Louis de France. He took for his text: "Behold the tabernacle of God with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people."—Apoc. 21-3.

"On the 19th of January, 1904," began the preacher, "it pleased Almighty God, in the secret designs of His Providence, to visit this parish, this section, with a severe and bitter trial; your magnificent church, the pride and boast of pastor and people, the result of years of patient labor and sacrifice, became the prey of flames. Sad was that day when your beloved pastor, stricken down with sickness, had to shoulder the terrible burden and provide for the welfare of his flock. Lion-hearted, he set to work, nobly and bravely did you, his generous people, second his every effort. Like the patriarch of old, we could put in the mouth of the pastor, 'I will not give sleep to my eyes, nor rest to my eyelids, till I behold the mansion of the Lord.' And again, 'The zeal of the house of the Lord hath eaten me up.'"

"To-day not a stone remains upon a stone of that once beautiful structure. From the ruins of the past we behold going up another grander, nobler, more imposing and more dear for the pains, labors and sacrifices it will cost. I don't know which to admire the more, the generosity of the people or the grand designs of the pastor."

In the body of his discourse the preacher explained what the Church meant, the object of its erection, and what it teaches and symbolizes. In conclusion, he said: "Never regret the sacrifices you have made to raise a monument in keeping with the worship due to your God. Continue what you have begun so well, and the God to whom you are building a tabernacle to-day, that same God will reward you to-morrow in His eternal tabernacle."

The new church, when finished, will be a gem, and will be on a larger and grander scale than the former.

## LECTURE ON NATIVES OF ALASKA.

Last Monday evening witnessed another of those unique and most enjoyable of gatherings to which the Rev. Father Devine has lately given rise through his lectures and lime-light views of Alaska and the gold-finding regions of the extreme northern part of America. He passes with lightning rapidity from point to point, now giving some interesting detail concerning the interior life of the aborigines; then some point of their meeting with the outside world, after which he favors his hearers with views, thrown upon the canvas, of the actual incidents or persons of whom he has been speaking, thereby giving to the question a realistic character rarely to be met with under such circumstances. In the course of his last lecture he treated principally the divisions known as the Tynos and Mukluks; and even showed a person's appearance in their favorite fur garment, called a Parki. The intermission was enhanced by a couple of songs given by Miss Gude, lately from Boston, who is the possessor of a fine and well cultivated voice and gives great promise for the future. Miss Murphy presided at the piano, where she did honor to the occasion and due credit to herself.

On the whole, the evening was one to be remembered by those who had the pleasure of being present, and we cannot speak too highly of Father Devine's efforts or wish him too great success in the grand and noble work he has undertaken.

## FUNERAL OF MRS. R. W. SCOTT.

The funeral of the late Mrs. Scott, wife of Hon. R. W. Scott, Secretary of State, took place on Monday morning. All the Cabinet Ministers, many Senators, members and citizens, attended. The chief mourners were Hon. R. W. Scott, his two sons, William and D'Arcy, and his son-in-law, G. Desbarats, of Sorel. Requiem Mass was chanted by Rev. Father Murphy, at St. Joseph's Church, and the interment took place in Notre Dame Cemetery.