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CITY AND ELSEWHERE.

CALGARY'S new opera house will be opened to-day.

GOOD FRIDAY, March 31st, will be observed as a public holiday.

J. FISZ, of Clougher's returned from Detroit Friday last.

FOURTEEN cars of Stony Mountain stone for the new Norway bridge were unloaded Monday.

Mrs. A. Dow, of Revelstoke, B. C., who has been on a visit to her sister Mrs. M. Conway, left for home Saturday.

ST. MARY'S Court Catholic Order of Foresters will meet in Unity hall on Friday evening.

S. J. THOMPSON, ex-M. P. P., of Carberry, has been appointed as veterinarian and inspector for the province.

DISPATCHES announce that the second reading of the Home Rule bill has been postponed until after Easter.

A CABLEGRAM received in Montreal states that Sir John Abbot will sail from Genoa for New York on March 22nd and that his health is much improved.

A COMMUNICATION from Regina says that spring-like weather prevails over the whole Northwest. Farming operations will begin in about two weeks.

LIEUT.-GOVERNOR ROYAL, accompanied by his son C. H. Royal arrived from the east Thursday, and proceeded west by the regular train.

THE Sisters of St. Boniface hospital acknowledges with thanks the receipt of the sum of \$26.25 contributed by a few members of the grand jury.

COMMISSIONER HERCHMER, of the N.W. M.P., Regina, arrived from the west on Friday. He left Thursday morning for Yorkton.

PLANS for the erection of a new courthouse will be taken up and considered at the next meeting of the executive council.

THE death is announced of the venerable Father Donohue, rural dean, of the archdiocese of Chicago, who died on the 12th inst., in his 76th year.

PATRONS wishing a change of advertisement will please send in copy to this office not later than Monday, of which will be gladly attended to.

THE learned Spanish Jesuit Father Vincent, has just published a new work, Socialism and Anarchy, which is attracting great attention among his fellow-countrymen.

PRESIDENT CLEVELAND will press the button that starts the machinery of the World's Fair in motion Monday morning May 1st, and make a short speech suitable to the occasion.

THE mortal remains of the late Chief Factor Belanger reached the city yesterday, and were taken to the residence of Mr. Francois Gingras, St. Boniface. The funeral took place to-day at St. Boniface cemetery at 9 o'clock a.m.

DAILY average number of patients treated at the general hospital for the last week was ninety-eight, of which sixty-seven were males and thirty-one females. Thirty-four out patients were treated during the week.

IT is said on good authority that the N. E. railway company has purchased a large tract of land in St. Boniface, opposite the foot of James street, from His Grace Archbishop Tache. The property lies close to the site of the proposed new bridge.

SINCE the immigration season began 175 cars of settlers' effects have passed through the C. P. R. yards here, 106 from Ontario and nine from Dakota. In addition to the above thirty cars of horses for sale and breeding purposes have arrived.

FOR want of space we are unable to furnish our readers with a full account of the different celebrations that took place on St. Patrick's Day. In our next issue we will publish an account of the banquet held at the Leland house under the auspices of the St. Patrick's society.

FATHER HENNEPIN, the intrepid missionary, was the first to discover coal in America, the site of this primitive mine being in the vicinity of what is now Ottawa, Illinois. It was not until nearly a century and a half, however, that this discovery was made of practical use.

THE 'Hidden Gem' from the powerful pen of Cardinal Wiseman, which is to be presented by the students of St. Boniface college, Easter Monday, April 3rd, promises to be a rare treat. The young aspirants for theatrical honors are putting forth their best efforts to prepare themselves for the occasion.

Our esteemed contemporary The Canadian Freeman of ten pages to hand, magnificently covered in green making a very appropriate issue on the anniversary of Ireland's patron saint. It is beautifully illustrated and produces portraits of the leading Catholic clergymen and laymen, also the heads of the local Catholic societies and other prominent gentlemen.

A young ecclesiastic of St. Boniface, M. Brind'Amour, has kindly offered to give religious instruction to deaf mutes in the Sacristy of St. Mary's church on Sunday at 3 o'clock p. m. It is to be hoped that those who are acquainted with any who are thus afflicted will recommend them to avail themselves of this opportunity of acquiring a knowledge of their Catechism, of the articles of their faith, and of their religious duties.

A DEPUTATION consisting of Mayor Leconte and the council of St. Boniface waited upon the Hon. J. D. Cameron Monday to ask permission from the municipal commissioner to construct a bridge across the Red river from their town to the city. The act provides that this course must be adopted where a public work touches the territory of another municipality. Mr. Cameron promised to write the council of the city of Winnipeg in reference to the matter and if that body is willing, permission will be given to allow the work to go on.

Perhaps you know it already, but if you do not you will be astonished to be told that in the intelligent republic to the south of us, in the dying days of the 19th century, there are living along the mountain ranges from Virginia to Alabama nearly 1,500,000 people "who have never received or written a letter and could not read one if it were printed and sent to them." They are not negroes either, but white people, with good old Scotch and Huguenot blood in their veins. Their ancestors came to that country in the colonial days.

IRISH HOME RULE FUND.

Another Contribution From Winnipeg - \$114.75 Sent to Mr. Blake.

WINNIPEG, 21st March, 1883. HON. EDWARD BLAKE, M. P., House of Commons, London, England.

DEAR SIR, - We beg to enclose herewith on behalf of the Home Rule Association, a bank draft for \$114.75, a sum made up of contributions handed to us by friends of Ireland's autonomy, as outlined by the bill now before parliament, to be transmitted to you in aid of that great and vital cause - a cause which all true lovers of justice, liberty and humanity, hope will come to a speedy and triumphant issue.

This sum, with \$27.25, forwarded on the 10th Jan. last to Hon. Senator Frank Smith and Hon. S. H. Blake, Toronto, makes the quota from this association this far \$142.00.

We have the honor to be, Your obedient servants, P. D. O'PHILLAN, Chairman, FRANCIS McPHILLIPS, Treasurer, A. McGILLIVRAY, Secretary.

Contributions to the Irish Home Rule Fund are as follows: James Redmond, \$10; J. D. Landers, \$10; G. F. Brophy, \$5; C. J. Penser, \$5; D. T. Lennon, \$5; W. J. O'Connor, \$5; Michael Kelly, \$5; Martin Kelly, \$5; John Gunn, \$5; J. T. Haggard, \$5; Rev. A. A. Cherrill, \$5; D. McAnanny, \$5; H. T. Dennehy, \$2; J. A. Joyce, \$2; James Barr, \$2; Mr. Cleary, \$2; J. A. Bogue, \$2; D. N. McLean, \$2; John Shaw, \$2; J. R. Wynn, \$2; P. D. O'Hellan, \$2; Friend, \$2; Friend, \$2; W. D. T. Jones, \$1; E. Meehan, \$1; T. Redmond, \$1; John Curley, \$1; Frank O'Sier, \$1; Geo. Young, \$1; Miss Mary O'Brien, \$1; J. A. Girvin, \$1; L. O. Genest, \$1; W. J. Cuspin, \$1; Chas. Janus, \$1; Miss M. Healey, \$1; Mr. McBain, \$1; Friend, \$1; Friend, \$1; Friend, 75 cts; E. Groefer, 50c; J. Lynch, 50c; J. F. Mulligan, 50c; Friend, 50c.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY.

Concert at the Bijou Opera House.

At 8 o'clock sharp, the chairman, ex-Ald. D. Smith opened the Charity Concert given by the St. Vincent de Paul Society of Winnipeg. The hall was filled by a large and most representative audience. On the platform seated on either side of the chairman were the Rev. Father Drummond, S. J., of St. Boniface College, His Worship Mayor Taylor, Messrs. Kercock and Lemieux, the Presidents of the St. Jean Baptiste Societies of St. Boniface and Winnipeg, Mr. F. W. Russell President of Branch 52 of the C. M. B. A. and Mr. A. H. Kennedy, President of the St. Joseph's Friendly Union.

The proceedings were opened by the orchestra playing a selection, and "St. Patrick's Day," after which Mr. Arthur sang "Steer my Bark." The next number on the programme, "There's a Dear Spot in Ireland," was sung by Mrs. Gregson, and rendered by that lady in a faultless manner, her clear enunciation being a marked feature.

The chairman announced that a change in the programme would be necessary, owing to a sore throat Mr. Hamber would be unable to appear, but Mr. Hamber had kindly consented to take his place. This gentleman then sang "A Soldier's Good-bye." To say that he rendered this song well would be but meagre praise; his rendition was simply splendid, and he received a hearty encore at the close. In response he gave "In thy Heart is my Home" in an equally creditable manner. The old favorite, "Come Back to Erin," was then sung by Miss Barrett, who entered into the spirit of the song even to the Irish accent, in a very happy manner. In response to a hearty encore, she gave "Over the Mountain," and was again applauded. After a selection by the orchestra the chairman introduced the Rev. Father Drummond, who, in speaking to his subject, "Phases of Irish Character," referred to a humorous discussion in his own mother's kitchen when he was about ten years of age on the question of what language was spoken in Eden. There was a tradition given by a historian of note that Irish was the language spoken in those primitive times, and the Irish not having taken any part in the building of the tower of Babel their language had consequently not been confounded at that interesting period of the world's history. He referred to the genealogy of Irishmen. They were all descended from kings, but some of them could not remember the name of the particular king from whom they sprang. The Scotch had sprung from the Irish - at least, the best part of them. He referred to the fact that no reference to the shamrock was made in any history so far as he knew, and he believed that the fable of the snakes was allegorical, the true meaning

being that the saint had driven out of Ireland heathenism. Reference was made to the longevity of Irishmen, and to the power which the saint had exercised over a fierce and untamed people. The lecturer, by his numerous anecdotes humorous and sentimental, his reference to the true Irishman's love of truth and justice, and his generosity, courage, and devotion, held the close attention of his audience, and, by his charming manner, made them forget the flight of time.

The Rev. gentleman, by his flashes of wit and his artistically told anecdotes, caused no little amount of laughter and merriment among the audience. Every one likes to hear Father Drummond because he knows that he will go away instructed and pleased with what he hears. The St. Vincent de Paul Society is to be complimented in providing the Winnipeg people with such an intellectual treat. Father Drummond resumed his seat amidst loud applause.

Immediately it was noticed that His Worship, Mayor Taylor took his place and in a few well chosen words, moved a vote of thanks to the Rev. Father for his entertaining lecture. His Worship said: "Notwithstanding that we have a banquet to attend, I know that you will forgive me for the time I am taking when I tell you the reason I am addressing you. I am sure you will all agree with me that the Rev. Father Drummond deserves our thanks for his able, instructive, and, I may add, humorous address. I therefore, have much pleasure, Mr. Chairman, in moving a hearty vote of thanks to the Rev. Father Drummond."

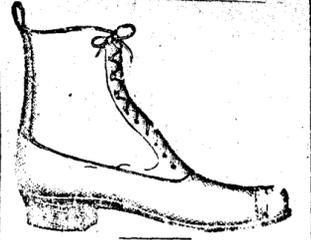
This motion was seconded by Dr. Barrett, who said: "I quite agree, Mr. Chairman, with your remarks, when introducing Father Drummond this evening. To sing Father Drummond's praises to a Winnipeg audience would be like painting the lily or gilding pure gold. Were I master of that beautiful Irish language first spoken in the garden of Eden I would be in a better position to do justice to my subject. Whether in the pulpit or on the platform the Rev. Father Drummond is a drawing card. The citizens of Winnipeg have learned, long ago, of the great merits of Father Drummond as a lecturer and preacher, and the simple announcement that he is going to preach or to lecture acts like magic and a full house is the result. I have, therefore, much pleasure, Mr. Chairman, in seconding the vote of thanks proposed by our chief magistrate, Mayor Taylor." The chairman asked for a standing vote, when the large audience responded and humorously expressed his thanks and the pleasure he felt as the large audience "rose to a man."

The programme was then resumed Mrs. Joseph Fahy, who is a great favorite with Winnipeg audiences, sang "Sing to me, Nora," in a graceful, pleasing and feeling manner. As we listened to her rendition of this beautiful Irish song, we felt a regret that Mrs. Fahy does not oftener grace our concert stage. To the cause of "sweet charity" do we owe her appearance at this concert. Mr. Hanby was the next to appear. His selection was "The Sailor's Grave." He was in splendid voice and afforded the audience a rich treat. The next number on the programme was the comic sketch, "The Irish Schoolmaster," by Mr. Arbutus.

Miss Barrett received a hearty encore for her rendering of "I'll take you home again, Kathleen," which was well merited, but owing to the lateness of the hour, simply bowed her acknowledgment. The last number on the programme, "The Blind Girl to Her Harp," sung by Mrs. Gregson, in a very artistic way, which was enhanced by her charm of manner, finished the programme and the proceedings were brought to a conclusion with the playing of the national anthem by the orchestra.

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