



EDITORIAL NOTES.

As this is the first issue of THE TRUE WITNESS for 1893, we feel that it is proper to repeat our New Year's greeting and to once more wish our readers, our friends and all our fellow-Canadians a truly and prosperous and happy twelve months.

"The Angel's Message or Rosary of Song" is the title of a beautiful piece of music, with accompanying verses upon the Joyful, the Sorrowful and the Glorious mysteries. It is elegantly composed and each part is in harmony with the mysteries celebrated. It is composed by "A Child of Mary," and is lovingly dedicated to Rev. Sister Saint Frances, of the Congregation of Notre Dame of Montreal, on the occasion of her Golden Jubilee. 27th October, 1892." The music is by Prof. Moure, and reflects great credit upon the composer. As a sample of the versification let us take the Fifth Sorrowful Mystery:

"Now the last dread deed is doing,
Day refuseth earth its light;
Consummation eat is spoken,
From the Cross on Calvary's height,
Mother, let us kneel beside thee,
Weeping o'er the Crucified;
Dearest, Mater Dolorosa,
For thy children He hath died."

We sincerely hope that this new work, in the world of sacred music, will meet with success.

Recently the Church Progress had an able article upon Catholic newspapers. The editor points out many reasons why a Catholic should read Catholic papers. Amongst others we take the liberty of quoting the following:

"Catholics should take a Catholic paper because it is the cheapest way of informing themselves on Catholic subjects, besides being the briefest and most convenient. Moreover it is constant and reiterative. It not only offers much information upon all Catholic subjects, but it reiterates those subjects in many and various forms impressing the chief matter and points indelibly on the mind. It is therefore a constant source of Catholic education. The Catholic who does not read a Catholic paper, is neglecting his or her Catholic education. Catholics should take a Catholic paper because it is a stimulus to their Catholic faith and their pity. Our Holy Father himself says that "a Catholic paper is a perpetual mission in every parish." Therefore should every pastor make it his duty to see that his parishioners take a Catholic paper. If he seeks to enliven and awaken the fervor and piety of his people by occasional missions, all the more reason for him to seek the aid of a perpetual mission in the shape of a Catholic journal. Finally, Catholics ought to take a Catholic paper, for if they don't nobody else will. Without their support the Catholic press would die. The Catholic journal is for them, therefore by them must it live. But first, second and last Catholics should take a Catholic paper because it is Catholic and they are Catholic, and to be Catholic is to be one. In conclusion, a common motto should be: The Catholic journal for Catholics and Catholics for the Catholic journal."

After five years absence from the ministry, Dr. McGlynn has been reinstated in all his sacerdotal privileges. This is, indeed, a piece of good news, coming as it did at the festive season, at the time

when peace and happiness should reign universally and the hearts of all men be happy. Estranged from the altar, that he loved as a priest, must have been a grand consolation for the Reverend Doctor to have said the three Masses of Christmas this year. Upon the subject of his disagreement with ecclesiastical authorities, and upon the questions which led to his being censured, we have said nothing, nor do we purpose saying anything to-day upon the causes of his restoration. These are matters that concern Dr. McGlynn and his superiors, and we do not feel competent to give any opinion upon them. But we certainly do rejoice, in full harmony with the spirit of the Church, on the occasion of the return to the bosom of that good mother of one who is certainly gifted with great qualities of soul and mind. May he live to celebrate many another Christmas Eve as he did that of 1892.

With its number of the 31st December, the Catholic Weekly Review of Toronto announces that it has closed its career, and invites its readers to transfer their support to the new Catholic enterprise, The Catholic Register. A few weeks ago we spoke of the good old Irish Canadian and expressed our regret on learning that the familiar name was about to pass into the history of Canadian journalism. Although the Review has only been with us for six years, still in that time it has done its part faithfully and well. However, there is a sign of future encouragement in the fact that both publications are to combine their best qualities in the creation of the Catholic Register. To this new publication we hasten to bid hearty welcome. May its New-Year be happy and successful beyond the most sanguine expectations of its publishers. May its influence increase weekly for the good of the Faith that it is called upon to defend, and for the sake of the faithful whose rights and privileges it shall be ever ready to assert. Combining the sterling characteristics of the Irish Canadian and the solid principles of the Catholic Weekly Review, may the Catholic Register go on ever progressing and expanding in the New Year's greeting of THE TRUE WITNESS.

Several of the leading citizens have been speaking to us about our last week's editorial on "Civic Representation," and almost all agree that we hit the nail pretty fairly upon the head. However, some few raised what appear to be very serious objections to the present system and would be glad if any remedy could be found. For example, one gentleman contended that the really responsible man has not the time to give that the position of Alderman requires. It is too great a sacrifice to be called upon to spend money and time, and to receive no remuneration. Therefore, the great majority of eligible citizens seem to shrink from having anything to do with municipal matters, at least in as far as active as representation goes. Consequently men who seek the honors of the council must have some way or other of paying their time and the loss in business in-

terests. This is actually true; and we see only one remedy. Adopt the system that we suggested last week, namely, the formation of electoral clubs to look after the choosing of candidates, to see to the elections and to watch the after career of each alderman and to bring them all to account for their actions. Add to this a reasonable salary. Pay the City Fathers a fixed and sufficient amount, and the city will reap the benefit of it in a very short time. Then there will be no longer an excuse that time and labor are given at a sacrifice, and there will be no inducement for aldermen to seek other means of reimbursing themselves. Even, as in the cases of judges, so low is their salaries that the most eminent members of the Bar cannot go upon the Bench unless at an immense sacrifice, their practice pays them double and often four times or more the salary of a judge; so with the members of the Council, or rather with the citizens, their business is so important that they cannot, in justice, be expected to injure it for the sake of sitting day after day at the Council-board. We say pay them good and adequate salaries and then hold them strictly to account for the work they do in lieu of the payment received.

Toronto has a Sun. This new orb in the firmament of journalism is destined to do some wonderful work. It purposes illuminating the minds of benighted Canadians that they will soon be able to understand and see the immense benefits of annexation to the United States. Such, however, the editors of this rising Sun declare to be their intention. Their last issue contained the following editorial. It is about the only approach to a reasonable excuse for advocating such a policy that we have yet read. Referring to the fact that they are often called "Disloyal Annexationists," the article says:

"We admit the charge of disloyalty to any and every nation outside our own borders.

"We esteem the welfare of our own country above that of any other nation under the sun.

"We think more of Canada than we do of England, Scotland, Ireland, Wales, France, Germany and the United States. Hence from anyone who wishes to benefit any of these foreign nationalities at the expense of this country, we accept the charge of disloyalty with equanimity.

"Whatever arrangement is made must be for the benefit of our own land; there may be an incidental benefit to a foreign nation; but the chief advantage must accrue to us. That is why we advocate Political Union with the United States in preference to Imperial Federation; wholly and solely because greater advantages along commercial lines will be gained by the one than by the other."

If the advantage is all so one-sided it seems strange that the clever Americans could not see it, and if the Sun points it out to them, it appears to us that our Toronto luminary will likely produce an effect upon their cause opposite to that which they seek. Moreover, we always understood that there should be two parties to a contract, and each should

have a say in the agreement. The Sun evidently takes for granted that the United States, as a people, and each individual inhabitant of the great Republic are extremely anxious for annexation. If they are, then Canadians should be on their guard; if they are not, then all the Suns that ever shone could not bring about the result of political union.

"Last week the Imperial authorities directed Scotland Yard to take the spy, Major le Caron, into the employ of the Government for the purpose of tracing out the guilty parties connected with the Dublin explosion." So reads a Dublin despatch of the 29th December last. We have no reason to doubt the correctness of the information above given. It seems to us very strange that the Government would see fit to engage such a character as this le Caron for any work at all. Low as the work of a spy and informer is, still we think that the detective enterprise upon which this notorious character is sent out is too good a work for such as he. Surely the force in Scotland Yard has men sufficiently acquainted with their business as regular detectives to be entrusted with such an important case. Were we le Caron's employers we would hesitate to accept his report, or to proceed against the person or persons he might find, or pretend to find, as connected with that unfortunate event. Judged by his many-sided career, this peculiarly despicable character seems capable of swearing away the life of any one at all—guilty or innocent—provided notoriety and money were to be made by the transaction. Of all the British spies, whose lives are such a series of inhuman and unnatural episodes, this one appears to be the prince. We regret exceedingly that an administration that evidently is seeking to have tardy justice done to Ireland should, even in a minor office, allow the shadow of le Caron's contemptible form to fall upon the path it is destined to follow. Why are such men sent upon earth? We can only answer by asking why was Iscariot born?

We have received the catalogue of the famous Gregorian university of Rome. In attendance at the courses of this institution there are more than eight hundred ecclesiastical students; among the names we notice some members of the Canadian College, of the Congregation of the Priests of the Blessed Sacrament, of the Fathers of the Resurrection established in Berlin, Ont., and of the Oblates of Mary Immaculate. We are happy to say that they occupy a prominent place in the Roman University, and especially the Oblates, who carried the honors of the day at the solemn Distribution of Prizes,—Nov. 24th last; they won 21 medals out of 69 offered for competition, against 9 merited by the College next in merit. We can most heartily congratulate the Fathers of the Oblate Order, of which community so many worthy and brilliant members are to-day doing the noble work of Christ in Canada.