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ITEMS OF LOCAL INTEREST SOL-
ICITED.

**IN vain will you build churches,
give missions, found schools—
all your works, all your efforts will
be destroyed if you are not able to
wield the defensive and offensive
weapon of a loyal and sincere Cath-
olic press.**

—Pope Pius X.

Episcopal Approbation.

If the English Speaking Catholics of
Montreal and of this Province consulted
their best interests, they would soon
make of the TRUE WITNESS one
of the most prosperous and powerful
Catholic papers in its country.

I heartily bless those who encourage
this excellent work.

PAUL,
Archbishop of Montreal.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1909.

WELL DONE, MR. ASQUITH!

Mr. Asquith has at last pledged
the English Liberal Party to Home
Rule for Ireland. This declaration
of policy was made by him, amidst
storms of applause, in Albert Hall,
London, on the tenth day of Decem-
ber.

"Speaking last year, before my ac-
cession to the premiership," he said
"I described the Irish policy as the
one undeniable failure of British
statesmanship. I repeat to-night
what I said then, and on behalf of
my colleagues, and I believe, on be-
half of my party. I reiterate that
this is a problem to be solved only
in one way—by a policy which,
while explicitly safeguarding the su-
preme, indivisible authority of the
Imperial Parliament, can set up in
Ireland a system of full self-govern-
ment, as regards purely Irish affairs.
There is not and cannot be any
question of rivalry or competing for
supremacy, subject to these condi-
tions. That is the Liberal policy."
"That is the Liberal policy." We
are glad now to know it is. We
were in doubt beforehand; but Mr.
Asquith tells us that "for reasons
which we (the Liberals) believe to
have been adequate, the present Par-
liament was disabled in advance
from proposing any such solution;
but, in the new House, the Liberal
Government, at the head of a Lib-
eral majority, will be in this matter
entirely free."

Mr. Asquith declares that British
statesmanship failed in the Irish
policy. Even the Hottentots know
that; but it takes a man to say it
in the face of England, as Mr. As-
quith has. Centuries of misrule;
millions of martyrs; the blood of
men, women, and children number-
ed; a nation made the victim of
fiendish hate; the priesthood hunt-
ed down; education refused the peo-
ple; their language proscribed as a
crime of high treason; spies official-
ly paid; the accused brood of Jud-
ases and informers made thrive; a
nation visited with a Penal Code
corroded and devised in Hell;
famine, pestilence, sacrilegious out-
rage; sons paid to betray their fa-
thers—there is the story of English
rule in Ireland, a rule especially
dear to the majority of a House of
Lords!

Was it any wonder the people re-
sisted? Was it any wonder some,
and many, rushed to arms? What if
any wonder Ireland fought and bled?
Any wonder we cherish memories of
'98? Any wonder we hail the names
of Lord Edward, Robert Emmet,
Wolfe Tone? Any wonder we revere
Henry Grattan, Nicholas Flood,
Daniel O'Connell, Charles Stewart
Parnell, Isaac Butt, Sexton, Davitt,
Dillon, O'Connor, O'Brien, Blake,
McCarthy, Biggar, Devlin and the
illustrious John Redmond? Is it any
wonder Gladstone and Parnament
declared for us, and is it any wonder
Balfour and Lans-

downe should be against us? They
conquered us in a way, but they
could never subdue us! If Ireland
had been properly governed, would
millions of her sons and daughters
have gone beyond the seas, they a
people who loved their country
more than any other peoples love
theirs. What says England? She
knows what the Irish of the United
States said when she sent Bryce to
Roosevelt to ask for an alliance! Ah!
let them take care the self-same
Irish do not marshal their forces
from the rising of the sun to the
setting hereof, and thwart ten
thousand other measures!

Whatever Ireland will get, she will
not have to thank the selfish Tory
Catholic Lords, the foul British press
of twenty-five years ago, the rene-
gade Castle sycophants, the Georges
and the Williams, the Balfours, or
the Chamberlains.

The Irish cannot rule themselves,
they claim. The Irish can die on
battlefields, they can be Supreme
Judges of Great Britain, ambassa-
dors, generals-in-chief, win Eng-
land's victories for her, and their
offspring can rise to the highest dis-
tinctions of State in every other
land but their own. Is that it?
Perhaps they cannot rule themselves
because they cannot be renegades or
share the toil of Judas and Cain, or
the spoil of Esau and Barabbas.
Is that it? They cannot rule them-
selves and be loyal to England, that
people who, from St. Patrick and
Celestin to Pius X and Cardinal
Logue have proved loyal to God, in
spite of sword and dungeon and
scaffold and rack and famine and
plague! Is that it?

If to-morrow our country is blessed
with the boon of Home Rule, we
shall not have to thank the Eng-
lish Lords for it; we shall not have
to thank the spies and renegades and
traitors! We shall thank ourselves;
we shall thank, not the inglorious
broods of vampires and scorpions
(not even the ridiculous Sinn Fein-
ers), but the men of our Parlia-
mentary Party, the unconquered Na-
tionalists, and their unequalled lead-
er, John Redmond.

Let us unite our forces still more;
let the ranks be unbreakingly ser-
ried! Onward! hand in hand! Union!
Union! and still Union! Soon shall
the green flag of our country be seen
waving over a new and undying Col-
lege Green, with Redmond, we hope,
as our first premier, and his immortal
colleagues there to frame Ireland's laws
for the Irish! Well done! Asquith!
and God Save Ireland!

VERY REV. DR. A. CUIROTTE HONORED.

We were rejoiced—but not, in any
sense, surprised—to learn that Very
Rev. Dr. A. Cuirotte, of our own
archdiocese, had been called to the
Apollinarist Chair of Dogmatic The-
ology, in Rome. Dr. Cuirotte was
formerly Secretary of Laval Univer-
sity (Montreal), and had al-
ready taught Dogmatic Theology in
our Grand Seminary, with very
marked success and distinction. In
fact, it is praise abundant to state
that he had shared the noble work
of the Sulpicians on their staff of
eminent theologians.

Furthermore, he was lately named
representative of Montreal archdioc-
ese and the suffragan sees, by his
Archbishop and the Bishops of our
ecclesiastical province. He is a leader
among the many priestly schol-
ars who have shed lustre on our
archdiocese. That God may con-
tinue to prosper his work and
achievements is the sincere wish of
us all. Ad multos!

A CALL FOR ACTION.

Montreal is doing very much bet-
ter, but we need a more determined
crusade against evil of all kinds.
Our youth, at least, must be saved,
and all respectable citizens, whether
Catholic or Protestant, must take
a hand in the action. Our Arch-
bishop is there with the serried
ranks of his clergy; and the non-
Catholic clergymen, with Bishop
Farthing at their head, Anglicans,
Presbyterians, Methodists, Baptists,
Congregationalists, etc., are with
us for a better and cleaner great
city. Just think of it: hundreds of
minors may obtain liquor in licensed
drinking-houses; cheap theatres and
moving picture shows of all kinds;
some offices of business proving ver-
itable hell-holes for children selling
newspapers; little boys and little
girls on the streets at all hours;
filthy cheap reading for juveniles;
cursing and swearing in the broad
public; dens of infamy tolerated by
respectable residents in their neigh-
borhood; blind candy shops, etc.,
etc. Where is it all going to end?
Are Montrealers forgetful of the
traditions they have inherited? Are
we going to permit our leaders' ideals
to be cast overboard? No! We can
sweep away the pestilence

and banish infamy from our midst.
Let there be a grand Citizens' League!
Let us all shoulder the
wheel! We are not more badly off
than is any other great city; we
have a tremendous majority on the
side of righteousness; but let us act,
and act with a vengeance! On
questions pertaining to righteousness,
whether we be Catholics or Pro-
testants, we can and should all
unite! Let there be nothing short
of a crusade! Let evil-doers find
out that Montreal is determined to
be the Montreal it can and ought
to be. Onward! Onward!

OUR GRATITUDE.

The True Witness, all its readers,
and all Canadian Catholics are very
grateful for the recognition English-
speaking Catholics have received at
the hands of the truly distinguished
men in charge of arrangements for
the coming Eucharistic Congress.
We have been shown the lists of
names on the different committees,
and it is easy to see that we are not
forgotten, but that, on the con-
trary, English-speaking Catholics
have been more than remembered. It
was no surprise, however, that
greeted us. It was what we ex-
pected, for we know the kind of
men in charge of the whole work
and its various departments.

In return, we hope English-speak-
ing Catholics will respond generos-
ly, far exceeding even what is ex-
pected of them. In the Eucharistic
Congress we shall have an opportu-
nity of working shoulder to should-
er with our French-Canadian breth-
ren, for the common good, and for
the common glorification of
Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacra-
ment. Let us then be up and do-
ing. Let us remember that God is
not surpassed in generosity. The
pageantry will be glorious, the cele-
bration thrilling; but the experience
of all experiences will be missed if
the quest does not include the ex-
perience of mingling our spirit-life
with God-life. Men, a few, may
perhaps smile at the suggestion, and
deride our faith in the Most Blessed
Sacrament; but let us remember that
men scourged, spat upon, crowned
with thorns, crucified, denied and
blasphemed the Redeemer Himself.
Our respectable non-Catholic neigh-
bors in thousands, on the contrary,
will admire the honest profession
and confession of the faith within us.

HIS GRACE DETERMINED TO SAVE.

The dailies tell us that a numer-
ous delegation of members of the Li-
censed Victuallers' Association and
other persons connected with the li-
quor trade called upon Archbishop
Bruchesi, a few days ago, to dis-
cuss with him the license question.
They explained that their object was
to come to some understanding by
which the liquor traffic could be
sufficiently controlled, while at the
same time protecting the large mon-
etary interests involved in the busi-
ness.

It was pointed out that the mod-
ern system of taking licence down
town rendered the apparently very
large number of licenses in the cen-
tre of the city necessary, as the
restaurants serving meals derive
their profit from the sale of drinks
to their clients.

The delegates also suggested an
indemnity be paid by the govern-
ment to those affected by a gradual
reduction in the number of licenses,
the amount to be made up from an
increased license fee. They opposed
the proposed early closing by-law,
on the ground that it opened the
door to many abuses.

His Grace reminded the visitors
that he was in duty bound to pro-
tect his flock against the ravages
of intemperance, but he was dis-
posed to consider the question of
justice to those interested in the
trade.

The Licensed Victuallers' Associa-
tion and all our fellow-citizens must
understand by now that His Grace
will never be a party to shadowy
compromise. No one better than he
understands the evil too much li-
quor has been doing here in our
great city of Montreal. Fortunately
the old custom of many a man who
came by a few hundred dollars of
investing it in the sale of alcohol is
being given a rude shock nowadays.
The Licensed Victuallers' Associa-
tion assuredly approached His Grace
in the best of faith. Whatever an-
swer he will give will be for the
greater moral and spiritual good of
all concerned. We are glad that
the Temperance wave is
rolling the way it is. There are
fewer barriers to-day to stop
its progress than there were a few
years ago. Our bright young men
must be saved. Montreal must have
less dreamy youths on its streets.
The grand old habit of teaching
young men the beauties of social
life by making drunkards out of

them must stop. Enough have been
irretrievably lost already, and we
want all we have left saved, with a
work of reclaim for the downfallen.

OUR CANADIAN PARLIAMENT.

Canadians are justly entitled to
feel proud (in a good sense) of their
parliament and the men who go
to make it up. First of all, no
more truly and deservedly popular
man could occupy the Speaker's chair
than the Honorable Charles Maclellan.
Then, our Prime Minister, Sir Wil-
frid Laurier, sits at the helm of
state with a calm dignity and a
mastery of the entire situation
about and around him, that makes
of him the very greatest parliamen-
tary leader in the world. Opposite
is Hon. Mr. Borden, a gentleman be-
yond reproach.

There is nothing of the Duma to
Canada's parliament, and nothing of
the cad in the men who represent
us, whether among the Liberals or
Conservatives. There may, it is
true, be a few harmless bigots, but
they are needed as exceptions to
confirm the general rule. They do
not represent Canada, but only cor-
ners in Canada. They are on hand
as warnings of what a Canadian
member might be, if he ceased to
be truly typical of his country.
There are great Catholics in our
House and great Protestants, as
well. There are next to no penny
pagans among them. The holy
name of God is in veneration, and
there is as much difference between
Sir Wilfrid Laurier and Combes, for
instance, as there can be between a
gentleman and a vulgar cad. Irish-
Canadians are not abundant, but
the quality relieves the number. If
ever the Church's best and legiti-
mate interests are at stake, they can
be relied upon to act unanimously,
as did their kind in 1896. French
Quebec need not feel ashamed of its
men, for the Parliament holds no
better. Their early training was
good. The golden age of "voting
and talking machines" is fast de-
clining. We are getting orators and
statesmen in their lieu and stead.
Both parties, however, should try
to remove leaden bullets from their
feet. Wings are of little use, if
you do not. Let bigots be a party
to themselves.

THE JESUITS AGAIN.

The only Church that could ever
succeed in producing an admirable
body of men such as the Jesuits,
with their thousands of members
spread over the world, is the Church
that can feed strong intellects, build
bravny bodies, and fill great souls.
But there they are, those noble sons
of Ignatius, and in no other part
of the world are they doing better
work than in the United States of
America. Not content with George-
town University, they now have
Fordham, St. Louis, Chicago,
Creighton, etc., with Arts, Law,
Science, Theology and Medicine. In
a free land like the United States
(or like Canada, for that matter)
they can show Flatlanders what
they can do; and it is because they
can effectively accomplish so
much, that Combes, Dreyfus, the
Czar, Mme. Steinheil, Ferrer and
Jack-the-Ripper find them uncom-
fortable. Where the Jesuits have
been given an honest chance, they
have beaten everybody else, handi-
caps notwithstanding. In the
United States, they are giving us
telling proof of their worth. "Pre-
sident Taft, Vice-President Sherman,
and all the Cabinet attended the
ten o'clock service, in St. Matthew's
Catholic Church, on Thanksgiving
Day. On that day and hour," re-
marks Father Phelan, "bigotry was
declared officially dead in the United
States." Just imagine a Cana-
dian ruled by Orangemen, and just
imagine what a companion would
look like with its chieftains on one
side, and the most learned Jesuits
on the other. We shall never see
anything like this until we all finally
meet in the Valley of Jehoshaphat.
We hope that, in the mean-
time, Jesuit universities will con-
tinue to multiply, for the sake of
profane learning, if for no other
reason.

IT'S BEGINNING TO TELL.

The fight the Bishops of France
are making against the ungodly gov-
ernment schools of France and the
fiendish school books in use, is be-
ginning to tell. Briand can al-
ready feel the rope of Judas choke
him. He has more sense and de-
cency than Clemenceau, and, thus,
can understand why Catholics, the
world over, stand for peace and
charity, but, if forced to the is-
sue, they can fight to the death.
Briand is finding out that he is
not going to have it all his own
way, and he would just as well
postpone the rejoicing of Combes
and Clemenceau at his downfall.
The Chamber of Deputies is some-
thing like the children's game known
as "The Devil Among the Tailors."

AS USUAL

We are selling more underwear this
year than ever before.

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ny of Padua, Madonna di San Sisto, St. Cecilia,
Head of Christ at Twelve Years, Madonna Per-
uzzi, Madonna Sicché.

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then, he must remember that the
Canadian market is exacting on the
score of eggs.

"THE WOMAN AND THE ANGEL."

A priestly friend and admirer of
the True Witness asks the editor
what he thinks of a piece of poetry
(we mean a cord of wood) that ap-
peared in one of our Montreal dailies
—not the Star, and assuredly not
either the Witness or the Gazette—
called "The Woman and the An-
gel."

From the view-point of Hot-
tentot morality it would be unfit
for even a rag-pile. The author,
some ignoramus or other whose
name is often under a collection of
daily newspaper stanzas, should de-
vote his genius to valentine work.
He has no more knowledge of what
a poem is than has the author of the
"Ballad about the bells that ring
at five o'clock."

The present poet's cord of wood
tells how an angel came down from
heaven and fell in sinful love with
some demirep or other. We could
not think of publishing his poem for
many reasons, in consequence; while
from a purely humanitarian point of
view, we could not do so without
going against the anti-leprosus-
crusade. Our poet is past master as
far as bad English is concerned,
however, and has evidently written
"Come-all-ye's" in his day.

"Poets! birds of spring! in sooth
All the seasons are your spring!"
Especially is this true of the
crows and buzzards among them.
One of our poet's stanzas reads as
follows:

"Never was seen such an angel, eyes
of a heavenly hue,
A form that would shame Apollo,
hair of a golden hue,
The women simply adored him, his
lips were like Cupid's bow,
But he didn't know how to use
them, and so they voted him
slow."

Now, what do you think of that?
If changed, they might read:

"Never was such a poet; gall of a
billy-goat;
A rhyme that would shame the "Bal-
lad"; and verses not worth a
groat;
The dailies simply adored him; his
touch that of asinine hoof;
But that he did know how to use
it, his poems convincing proof."

We now ask the S.P.C.A. to do
its share. The Board of Health
should attend to the matter as
well.

Are
Pois
You

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day, to
health. I
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of bile in
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Constipati
Abbey's

Echoes and

What has happen
the Presbyterians
quy's centenary?

Then John Calvin
very lately deat
tory often plays u

Brother Lebeau,
when going to Que
prayers. The Mari
missed them, but
thinks he has been

The Toronto Stat
typical of its city,
know what that me
Telegram and the
you have the trio.
welcome to them.
long time to make
of some people.

The best proof th
Protestant Allianc
men not bent on b
due to the fact that
of fraud and trick
go on with lies and
de Beelzebub's work

According to a st
the dailies a pres
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least, did not grow
some heretics, at the
symbol of mankind