

OUR "RELIGIOUS" COLUMN.

ROMAN CATHOLICS AND CARTRIDGE WEAPONS.

News Items of Interest Picked up from the Religious Papers.

The following article appeared in a recent issue of the Detroit Christian Advocate:-

Numerous enquiries continue to reach us as to the alleged fact that Roman Catholics are arming themselves with Winchester rifles and other deadly weapons. The Ancient Order of Hibernians and other kindred organizations are said to have about three-quarters of a million men under arms. One or more Roman Catholic military companies in every large city, well armed and drilled, are well known facts. Even our state militia is composed to a considerable extent of Catholics. Within a month or two various quantities of Winchester rifles have been received and stored in various parts of the country. The Spokane Falls (Wash) Daily Review reports a consignment of Winchester to the Roman priest in that city. The Rock Island (Ill.) Tri-city Blade alleges that the priest in Bloomington, Ill., has received a similar consignment. Both of the above consignments came in disguise, the one as "books," and the other as "ornamental trees," but both were expensive firearms. In another reported instance the guns were shipped in "coffins," in another under the guise of "mass wine." The Omaha Christian Advocate says that "Winchesters have been received at Catholic institutions in Nebraska." Private letters intimate that they are also coming into Michigan. Read the following:

Editor Advocate: In your issue of March 4, I noticed under the heading, "Are Catholics Arming," some questions asked by a "subscriber." I have taken some pains to obtain the facts touching these questions. The Roman Catholics are arming themselves throughout the country. In most of their churches firearms are stored. In a certain church of this state, while the insurance men were appraising damage, over two hundred stand of arms were found in the basement of said church, situated on the Bay City and Mackinaw railway. It was reported to me last week by one supposed to know, that arms were secreted in the Catholic church at Roscommon. Also that the priest said to his Grayling people, that they had arms in the church at West Branch, and it would not be long before they would have some there too. We will give a few quotations from their canonical law: "The Pope has a right to annul state law, treaties, constitutions, etc., to absolve from obedience thereto, as soon as they seem detrimental to the rights of the Church, or those of the clergy." "The Pope can release from every obligation, oath, or vow, either before or after being made." It is true that many sleepy Protestants ought to awake, both as regards the Winchester rifles, and against Jesuitical schemes. Catholics wish to control the public schools and to grab all the public money possible. In New York alone during the past eleven years, they have received from the public treasury, contrary to the constitution, over nine and one half millions of dollars in cash and property. And shall we be called erratic because we cry out against such things? C. W. WEST. Pere Cheney, Mich.

In 1834 the R. C. population of Ireland was 4,436,000 and the Catholic clergy numbered 2,156. In 1891 the R.C. population was 3,547,000 and the priests 3,502, so that with the population reduced by nearly 3,000,000 the priests increased 1,350. No wonder many parts of Ireland are sunk in squalor. Geneseo, N. Y., April 24.-The Rev. Charles Flaherty, rector of the Roman Catholic church, who was convicted on Friday of seducing Mary Sweeney, a sixteen year old girl, was this morning sentenced to seven years and a half in Auburn prison.

The Halifax, N. S. school board has decided that hereafter there shall be no closing of the schools on any of the Saints days. The Recorder says that "the city should now abolish the obsolete closing of civic departments on holidays that are purely sectional and have lost nearly all their significance."

The year before Italy took possession of Rome the eternal city had a population of 205,000 of whom 7,322 belonged to the various R. C. religious

orders, thus giving an average of about 28 souls to be watched over by one of the holy fathers, sisters or mothers of the church. One would imagine this a sufficient guarantee that the morality of the city would be very good. The exact reverse was the case, for there were in the city 3,163 illegitimate births and one murder for every 750 of the population. In Protestant England and Holland during the same year the murders were one for every 187,000 and 168,000 of the population respectively. In London, Eng., the illegitimate births were four per cent. of the total, in Paris 43 per cent., and in Rome 75 per cent. No further proof is needed to show that Romish teaching, immorality and crime go hand in hand.

The marriage of Prince Ferdinand of Bulgaria to a daughter of the Duke of Parma will take place within a few days, and as a preliminary the constitution of the country has been altered in order to obtain the consent of the Pope to the alliance. Prince Ferdinand is a Roman Catholic, as also is the Princess, and the Vatican, as usual, insists upon the offspring of the marriage being educated as Romanists. The constitution of Bulgaria was originally framed so as to render it necessary that the second and subsequent princes who occupied the throne, should profess the national religion; this has been altered, and it would appear that Bulgaria must become nominally a Roman Catholic principality. Nothing so clearly indicates the vigilance of Rome in political affairs as such incidents as these.

MR. NANTEL TAKEN TO TASK BY THE "CANADA REVUE." Referring to the Hon. Mr. Nantel's utterances in support of Archbishop Fabre in the latter's dispute with the Canada Revue, the last issue of that paper says: "Mr. Nantel, as a minister, you have given your sworn allegiance to Victoria, by the grace of God, Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, Empress of India. By the grace of God, defender of the faith! This is how you have yourself qualified her, and you deny her power. You have sworn to undertake nothing "against her crown or dignity!" Still you applaud when excited citizens deny the power of her civil courts. You have sworn to stop the schemes of those who might attempt to destroy her authority! Still you become an accomplice of clerical demagogues by asserting that there is in the state another power besides that of the Queen, inviolate, irresponsible and independent of the laws of the country. Now, Mr. Nantel, you are setting forth in treason with full sails, unless perhaps you did not understand the paper that was placed in your hands, which is quite possible."

An article on Siam appears in the Fortnightly Review, written by the Hon. George Curzon, M. P., in which he says:- To an Englishman, undoubtedly, the most striking feature of modern Bangkok is the predominance of English associations and ideas. Of the European population, who number between six hundred and seven hundred, over one-third are English, and of these some forty to fifty are in the Government employ. English is the second language of Bangkok. It appears on the shopfronts and public buildings, is used on the postage stamps, in the schools, and is spoken with perfect facility by the King and the majority of the princes. Several of these have been educated in England, and three sons of His Majesty are now passing through a similar curriculum. English carriages, built in London, India, or Singapore, roll along the streets; the Siamese officers and cavalry are mounted on Australian horses, which, however, appear unable to resist the rice diet or the climate. English machinery is employed in the mint; two English newspapers represent the local press; the prison is under an English warden and is modelled under European lines. Three English tutors educate the Crown Prince and the younger sons of the King. English games, lawn tennis, and billiards are played with ability by the royal princes who have been in Europe; and in the palace they maintain a club, containing an extensive English library, where upon a table the Times lies side by side with Truth, and the Athenaeum with the Review of Reviews. Finally 88 per cent. of the trade of the port is carried in British vessels.

"She married a poor dry goods clerk!" "Yes: how handy he will be to send down town to match goods!"

LAMBTON MILLS S.O.E. CHURCH SERVICE.

JOHN W. CARTER, S.G.S., ATTENDS-SERMON BY THE REV. DR. WITHROW.

The members of Lodge Bradford No. 91, held their annual church parade and service on Sunday, May 14th. The service was held in Islington Methodist Church. The united brass bands of Lambton Mills and Toronto Junction headed the procession, rendering very valuable service.

It was a great pleasure to have with us Bro. Carter, S.G.S., Bro. Drewitt, P.D.D., and Bro. Barber, of Middlesex Lodge, Toronto. The weather was dull and discouraging, doubtless preventing some from being present, but the lodge may well feel proud of the good turn-out of members, also thankful to the brethren of Leeds Lodge, Weston, who joined in large numbers to swell the ranks, and a good number from Worcester Lodge, Toronto Junction also attended, with the juveniles. The parade was a very creditable one indeed.

The Rev. Dr. Withrow, of Toronto, preached an able and patriotic sermon from 1 Cor., 16th chapter, 13th verse: Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong. Bro. Carter, S. G. S., addressed the members before leaving the church, and moved a vote of thanks to the Rev. Dr. Withrow, which was unanimously carried.

THE S. O. E. IN BROCKVILLE.

BRIGHT PROSPECTS AHEAD-SUFFOLK LODGE INITIATES THE VEN. ARCHDEACON T. BEDFORD JONES-QUARTERLY REPORT.

Sunday, May 14th, Suffolk Lodge, No. 87, celebrated the approaching anniversary of Her Majesty's Birthday by attending Divine worship in St. Peter's Church. There was a good turn-out of Englishmen, also members of the juvenile lodge. The Island City band headed the procession, and rendered excellent music. The church was beautifully decorated with roses; amongst the most choice were several lovely wreaths and roses, which were presented to the brethren for the occasion by members of the Order in Belleville, and sent through Bro. Bramley, G. T. R., engineer.

The Ven. Archdeacon delivered an excellent sermon. At the close of the church service "God Save the Queen" was sung with enthusiasm. A great deal of credit is due to Bro. D. Derbyshire for the able manner in which he acted as marshal of the procession, besides the valuable assistance he is always ready to render in the interest of the society, which is fully appreciated by the brethren. Among those present were noticed the Mayor of Brockville, Bro. Booth, N. B. Colcock, editor Times, and many other prominent citizens, besides a number from distant lodges. The parade was a credit to Englishmen and made a fine appearance.

INITIATIONS.

The members of Suffolk Lodge were pleased to enroll the Ven Archdeacon T. Bedford Jones at their last regular meeting, and at the meeting previous we initiated seven others, and have five propositions in hand. There is bright prospects and good signs of advancement in our lodge this year, which we are proud to see.

GANANOQUE BRETHREN.

Our brethren from Gananoque are taking a lively interest in this lodge, and we trust they will transfer their membership to Suffolk Lodge before long, and our wish to Cambria Lodge is that their place may be filled by as good men and true. Bro. J. H. Baxter is doing his best to have us go ahead, the band for our church parade having been secured through instrumentality. A great deal of attention is given to lodge matters by Bros. Colcock, Brunston, Edwards, White and Woodward.

QUARTERLY REPORT.

Our quarterly report, ending March 1893, shows the following: 48 members in good standing; \$270 to our credit; debts nil; paid in sick dues, March quarter, \$72. The beneficiary is making a move, after so long a rest, two new applications, one sent to S. G. S., the other in doctor hands for applicants examination.-A. C. Bacon.

MONTREAL CHURCH SERVICE.

The annual church parade of the Montreal Sons of England, was held on the 21st ult. About 250 members, attired in regalia, assembled on Place d'Armes and marched thence to St. Stephens' church to the music of the Sons of England band and the Point St. Charles Temperance band. The annual sermon was preached by the Rev. R. F. Taylor, of Kingston.

William Dietz, the discoverer of William Creek, one of the richest gold creeks ever worked in British Columbia, lived until 1877, and died in that year a pauper in Victoria.

TRUE PHILANTHROPY.

To the Editor: Please inform your readers that I will mail free to all sufferers the means by which I was restored to health and manly vigor after years of suffering from Nervous Weakness. I was robbed and swindled by the quacks until I nearly lost faith in mankind, but thanks to heaven, I am now well, vigorous and strong. I have nothing to sell and no scheme to extort money from anyone whomsoever, but being desirous to make this certain cure known to all, I will send free and confidential to anyone full particulars of just how I was cured. Address with stamps: MR. EDWARD MARTIN, (Teacher), P. O. Box 143, Detroit, Mich.

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EVERYONE is liable sometime, and especially in spring, to get out of sorts, feel sick without knowing just what ails them, lack appetite, have no ambition and are easily fatigued, need a tonic, etc. When anyone feels themselves in this condition they

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It is just the thing to throw off lassitude and reassert its usual vigor. is a name the users of this great remedy in England apply to it, and I am sure you will agree with them that it exactly fits the case if you just give it a trial. Put up in stone jars; small size, \$1; large size, \$3. For sale at all druggists, and by J. S. Dingman, General Agt., 67 O'Connor St., Ottawa.

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AIMS, OBJECTS AND BENEFITS

OF THE

SONS OF ENGLAND

BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.

Organized in Toronto, December 12th, 1874

To Englishmen and Sons of Englishmen

The mission of this Society is to bring into organized union all true and worthy English men; to maintain their national institutions and liberties and the integrity of the British Empire; to foster and keep alive the loving memory of Old England, our native and Mother-land; to elevate the lives of its members in the practice of mutual aid and true charity-caring for each other in sickness and adversity and following a deceased brother with fraternal care and sympathies, when death comes, to earth's resting place. Great Financial Benefits, viz: Sick pay! Doctor's attendance and medicine and Funeral Allowance are accorded. Healthy men between the ages of 18 and 60 years are received into membership. Honorary members are also admitted. Roman Catholic Englishmen are not eligible.

Reverence for and adhesion to the teachings of the Holy Bible is insisted on. Party politics are not allowed to be discussed in the lodge room.

The Society is secret in its proceedings to enable members to protect each other and prevent imposition-for which purpose an initiation Ritual is provided, imposing obligations of fidelity to the principles of the Society on all who join it.

The Society is making rapid growth and has lodges extending over Canada from the Atlantic to the Pacific shores, having a membership upwards of 12,000 at present, the ratio of increase being for greater as the Society's influence and usefulness is better known. Lodges have been started in South Africa and will soon probably be started in England, etc.

The Beneficiary (Insurance) Department is providing insurance to the members for \$1,000 or \$2,000 as desired, at the minimum cost, unsurpassed by any other fraternal Society in Canada, and is conducted on the assessment system. The assessments are graded. A total disability allowance is also covered by the certificates in class "A." There are no disability claims in class "B." No Englishmen need join other organizations when the inducements of this Department are considered.

Englishmen forming and composing new lodges derive exceptional advantages in the initiation fees, and 12 good men can start a lodge.

The Society is governed by a Grand Lodge with subordinate lodges-the officers of which are elected annually.

In our lodge rooms social distinctions are laid aside and we meet on the common level of national brotherhood, in patriotic association for united counsel and effort in maintaining the great principles of our beloved Society. As such we can appeal to the sympathetic support of all true Englishmen-asking them to cast in their lot with us, thereby swelling the grand roll of those bound together in fraternal sympathies and in devotion to England and the grand cause of British freedom.

Any further information will be cheerfully given by the undersigned.

JOHN W. CARTER, Grand Secretary.

Grand Secretary's Office, Shaftesbury Hall, Toronto, April 1st, 1892.

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