



THE YELLOW LABEL

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EDITORIAL NOTES.

A SERIOUS subscriber wants to know "how much wine a man must take before he can be considered drunk." A queer question. We don't see how it applies to the temperance movement of which he speaks. We are of opinion that as soon as he is full he is drunk; and the quantity depends upon his internal capacity.

REFERRING to our St. Patrick's Day Souvenir number, the Philadelphia Catholic Times says: "The St. Patrick's Day Souvenir issue of the TRUE WITNESS, Montreal, was unquestionably one of the most beautiful newspaper productions of the decade." This is a tribute worth all the labor that our effort on that occasion entailed.

THE nuns of the Dominican Convent of St. James at Mount Ripoli, in Italy, were the first women printers in the world. Florence had a press as early as 1472. But from 1476 to 1484 these nuns issued over 100 works from their Convent press. Scarcely had Gutenberg's invention appeared when the nuns seized upon it to spread the knowledge of books over Italy.

REV. FATHER PARADIS continues his repatriation movement. He reports that twenty-eight families left Lake Linden, Mich., for Verner, in the Nipissing District, and he is to make arrangements with the C. P. R. for the transport of forty or fifty more families this month. All these people possess a small capital, ranging from \$700 to \$1,000, so that they can easily commence building. It is a truly patriotic work and a practical one that Father Paradis has undertaken.

DALTON MCCARTHY has been chosen captain of the "British-Crown Football Team," that plays on the 12th July next at Winnipeg. Unless high fences are erected along the Red River there may be some difficulty in fishing the Crown out after these gentlemen have kicked

it to their satisfaction. It is a healthy climate out there and there will be a good opportunity of testing which is the more solid, the constitution of Great Britain or that of the P.P.A.

WE must thank the news dealers of the city for the successful manner in which they got rid of the number of St. Patrick's Day Souvenirs at their disposal. The veteran and universally known news-boy, Pete Murphy, did yeoman service, and we must say that he has proven himself an adept in his own line. No wonder he is so popular.

A DISTINGUISHED religious passed from this life, a couple of weeks ago, in the person of Helen Cummings, known to the Catholic world as Sister de Chantel. For over thirty years she was Superioress of the famous Visitation Convent in Washington. She was born in that city, on the 8th August 1811, took the white veil in 1830, and has been sixty-five years connected with the Community. Cardinal Gibbons officiated at the funeral service. One more of Christ's workers gone to a sure reward.

A GENIUS—we suppose he is one—has asked us, amongst a number of other peculiar questions about newspaper work, how long it takes to write the editorials for a weekly issue. We have never made any special calculations on the subject and have not time to figure it out. But if he wants to be informed he can easily learn, by just copying one week's issue and marking the time it takes him to do so. He may then double the number of hours thus spent in consideration of the preparation and study necessary to write the originals.

IN a serious and pious Presbyterian magazine, we are told that a young Presbyterian layman is going to be sent to China as a missionary. It appears that he is remarkably fitted for the work, because he was "captain of the football team and a member of the champion boat crew at Yale." There is a better field for his missionary activity in Canada. Dalton McCarthy could give him an engagement in the Manitoba crusade; they want a first-class kicker this summer. Besides, he might take an oar in the P.P.A. boat.

VISCOUNT HALIFAX, President of the English Church Union, which consists of about three thousand Anglican ministers and thirty bishops, visited the Pope on the twenty-third March, and is reported as having asked His Holiness to send "a tender and gracious message to the Anglicans in the forthcoming encyclical." The ground and purpose of the message are not explained. While numbers of the English clergy are taking orders in the Catholic Church, and great Romeward movements are on foot, our P.P.A. gentry are raising a howl in Canada, and the A.P.A. element is going wild in the United States over the progress of what they

call "Romanism." These outbursts are merely the frantic efforts of a despairing and shattered opposition; Protestantism is so visibly weakening, in all its branches, that we must expect extraordinary exertions on the part of its adherents to check the progress of Catholicity.

THE Metropolitan pays us this very fine tribute: "THE TRUE WITNESS has done itself credit by the issue of its St. Patrick's Day Number. The Souvenir is beautifully gotten up, the illustrations and letter press being exceptionally fine and very appropriate to the occasion. The number, which is really a work of art, will be warmly appreciated, not only by Irishmen in Canada, but also by those who have never seen the country."

WE have a piece of news for Rev. Mr. Graham; it is too bad that he was not aware of it when he lectured against the Jesuits. In 1868 there were only 600 Catholics and 70 children in the primary schools of Denmark. The Jesuits got into Odrupshoi and Copenhagen, and as a result there are over 6,000 Catholics there now and full 1,000 children in the schools. Each year adds about 300 converts to the list. An increase of 930 pupils under the regime of the Jesuits! Just think of it! Bad, ignorant men that they are, it is wonderful how they do make good Christians and scholars of others!

POOR John Knox; he—or rather his church—is getting some hard knocks in Scotland. Dr. Leishman, President of the "Scottish Church Society, declares that "the result of 300 years of Genevan heresy is that the current is setting in towards Rome, or infidelity." Dr. Cooper of Aberdeen, advocates "retreats as in the times of St. Columba." Rev. D. MacGregor wants to "disseminate among the people narratives from the lives of the saints." And the Dean of St. Andrew's, talking in Perth, on the prejudices in the days of Knox, says that "Scotland must have been a very melancholy place to live in." What a lot of zeal, fire, hatred, wild language and blasphemy Knox squandered in vain! What an amount of innocent blood was used to cement an edifice that is now a ruin!

NEXT Sunday is Palm Sunday, and then comes Holy Week. Thursday, Friday and Saturday of next week will be days of special devotion in all the Catholic Churches of the world. Easter is at hand, and we feel it our duty to remind all the readers of THE TRUE WITNESS that the annual obligation of approaching the sacraments—at least once in the year, and that at Easter time—must not be forgotten or omitted. With the resurrection of our Lord each Christian should arise from the night of sin, from the tomb of moral death, into the day light of grace and the true life of the soul. It is not absolutely necessary to await Easter Sunday. In fact the Easter duty is often performed during

Holy Week, especially on Holy Thursday, the day upon which the sacrament of the Blessed Eucharist was established. As a rule, the crush is so great on Easter Sunday that many miss their chance of either confession or communion. In any case remember that the duty must be performed. It is not optional; it is obligatory. Let all our readers act in accordance.

IN the current issue of the American Ecclesiastical Review appears an article entitled "Catholic Journalism and the Recent Encyclical," in the course of which contribution the writer speaks thus of the Catholic journalist:

"His is the task, not of an informant or of a newsmonger or of a time-server, but that of a teacher whose energies are to be exerted to influence the opinions and morals of men by the sound views which he applies to the questions and topics of the day, so as to prevent the spirit of the age from destroying morality, and from obscuring faith in the individual Catholic."

The writer further distinguishes between Catholic teaching and opinion, and says the journalist should stand ready to sacrifice slight differences of opinion on non-essential points to the general aim of Catholic journalism. We are afraid that even too few of our well-informed Catholics appreciate the difficulties of a Catholic journalist's duties. The editor of a secular, political, commercial or ordinary newspaper can make a score of mistakes every week and rectify them the next without doing any great harm. But let the Catholic journalist err a hair's breadth in the assertion of a principle, in the explanation of a teaching of the Church on dogma or morals, or even regarding matters of discipline and practice, and he will have the theological rule down upon his fingers, while he will be affording the enemies of religion an opportunity of defeating her aims. He has, week in and week out, to run the gauntlet of the severest scrutiny on the one hand, and of the most prying criticism on the other. And one error, in the hurry of numerous subjects that must be dashed off, will suffice to wipe out all memory of his years of exactness. Let the reader learn to distinguish between the mission of a Catholic paper and that of an ordinary journal, and he may come to appreciate the value, necessity and power of the former.

HERE is is a very practical and truthful paragraph from the Sacred Heart Review:

"We ought not to fear to speak of our love at home. We should get all the tenderness possible into the daily household life. We should make the morning good byes as we part at the breakfast table kindly enough for final farewell. Many go out in the morning who never come home at night; therefore, we should part, even for a few hours, with kind words, with a lingering pressure of the hand, lest we may never again look into each other's eyes. Tenderness at home is not a childish weakness; it is one that should be indulged in and cultivated, for it will bring the sweetest returns."