

get no satisfaction. It is evident that Catholics have no show to get in the brigade, there being a ring between the two Protestant chiefs and the Protestant guardians of the brigade.

Now, as our City Fathers, and Ald. Grenier in particular, have taken such a keen interest in the officials under their control, may we ask them if they will kindly enquire into the truth or falsehood of the above statement. The information was brought to us by one who knows all about the Fire Brigade, and if he, too, was wrong, then we shall be very sorry for it.

This evening there is to be a meeting of the Fire Committee, and an opportune time presents itself to sift the question. Ald. Grenier has thus another opportunity of exposing one more of our correspondents, and we hope the worthy Ald. or some of his friends, will not miss the chance of doing so.

But this is not all. Our solicitude for the reputation of our city is not confined within the narrow limits of the Police Force, and the Fire Brigade; it takes even a wider scope and embraces our Volunteers as well. Again we are forced to remind our City Fathers of the events of July, and having now experienced their desire to sustain the fame and honour of the commercial capital of the Dominion, perhaps some of them, Ald. Grenier in particular, would enquire into the truth or falsehood of another communication which appeared in the TRUE WITNESS of August 1st, and which charged the Victoria Rifles with giving "three cheers for King Billy."

Here is the letter:—

To the Editor of the TRUE WITNESS.

DEAR SIR,—Having heard a great many discussions on the subject of the unsoldierlike conduct of the volunteers on the 16th inst., and in nearly all cases being denied by the officers commanding, I would merely give a few facts, which can be proved without doubt. On Thursday, the 12th inst., before the men of the Victoria Rifles were dismissed, Lt-Col. Fletcher addressed them, and at the conclusion of his remarks called for "three cheers for Her Majesty the Queen," which were no sooner given than a man from the ranks called for "three cheers for King Billy," which were taken up with the same warmth by the whole corps, with the exception of quite a few, who no doubt were Catholics.

A MEMBER OF THE CORPS.

Would our worthy City Fathers, and the worthiest of them all—Ald. Grenier—kindly enquire into the truth or falsehood of that statement too. We shall be curious to notice how these suggestions of ours will be received by the members of the Corporation, if indeed they honour us by noticing them at all. We are aware that the questions may be delicate ones to touch but if they are not settled here, they may be brought to a higher tribunal.

THE MARRIAGE OF THE DUKE OF NORFOLK.

It is a signal inconvenience of greatness, in the present day, that it is almost necessarily associated with an amount of publicity from which refined and sensitive natures instinctively shrink. A not unnatural curiosity leads people to desire to know all about distinguished persons, and the newspapers find it much to their interest to gratify the desire. As Dryden apologetically remarked, "those who live to please must please to live." The most marketable commodity in contemporary journalism is gossip. It falls to the lot of few to "come near the courts or the mansions of the great." The many console themselves with accounts in the public prints, of the personal habits of eminent men, their homes and home life, and are hugely interested in the more prominent incidents of their private history, from the cradle to the grave. Hence one of the most salient characteristics of the newspaper of the day, and, in our judgment, a regrettable characteristic. It is extremely difficult for the journalist to "season his discourse with personal talk," without, at the least, a touch of vulgarity. And it is no small evidence of the high standard of cultivation which prevails in the press, that those of our contemporaries whose speciality it is to deal in this perilous stuff, on the whole surmount the difficulty so well.

It is not, however, our wont to discourse upon such topics, and we feel that some apology is necessary for our touching upon the subject of this article. That apology lies in the fact that the marriage which was celebrated at the London Oratory recently is something more than an important domestic incident in a great Catholic family. The Duke of Norfolk holds so prominent and well recognised a place as the leader and head of the Catholic laity in England, that it would be affectation to attempt to dissemble the interest which is felt by Catholics generally in an event of such moment to him. It has been observed by one of our contemporaries: "It is a searching trial to any man to pass through early manhood, *sui juris*, with a great position and with the command of large wealth. From this trial the Duke of Norfolk has emerged, not only without blame, but with credit. The years which so many in his place would have wasted in ignoble pleasures or in idle dilettantism, were devoted by him to a long apprenticeship to public affairs; and there

are few men of his age among the great nobles of England who have more successfully acquired the power of discerning the points involved in a matter of business, or of more plainly stating the bearings of a question which comes up for decision, and of eliminating from it extraneous considerations."

This appreciative criticism, coming as it does from "those who are without" has a peculiar value. But we, who are within, know that the praise thus expressed, high as it is, falls very far short of what might have been said. A small, and until of late years a much-oppressed minority, it has been too much our habit to look for rules of conduct and standards of excellence outside our own body. Many an instance occurs to the mind of young men in the leading Catholic families in England, who, carried away by the tide of dominant fashion, powerless to resist the evil influence of the Protestant society in which they have learnt to seek their friends and companions, have made shipwreck of life, and, alas! sometimes of the Faith too. The youth and early manhood of the Duke of Norfolk have done much to break down the old evil tradition that has led so many astray. He has taught by the best of all teaching, that of example, that it is possible for a young man to be thoroughly Catholic, and yet to exhibit the highest qualities of an English gentleman. One may indeed say that it has been given to him to reproduce in nineteenth century guise the essential characteristics of antique chivalry. He is scarce other than the ideal knight—

Who revered his conscience as his king;
Whose glory was redressing human wrongs;
Who spoke no slander; no, nor listened to it.

So has he passed through the period usually most perilous in man's life—

Not swaying to this faction or to that;
Not making his high place the lawless perch
Of winged ambition, nor a vantage ground
For pleasure; but through all this tract of years
Wearing the white flower of a blameless life.

Thus has he worthily sustained the great name which has come down to him, for it is a name illustrious in the annals of England, and especially dear to the Catholic, for it is the name of confessors of, nay of martyrs for, the Faith. That name must needs derive fresh lustre, and lustre of the highest kind, from its present representatives, "because (in the apostolic words of a recent writer) he sees that it is altogether a nobler thing for a man to be brave and chivalrous than it is to be fashionable; because he looks forward on his dying day, to remembering the human souls that he has saved alive, rather than the pleasures that he has shot dead"; because "he lives among his own people, and is a complete and lovely example to them of a life quite simple indeed but in the highest sense loyal, noble, and orderly."

DR. CONROY.

VISIT TO ST. PATRICK'S SCHOOL, ST. ALEXANDER STREET.

"All hail with universal voice,
Proclaim the Heaven directed choice."

On Monday the 10th instant, the Papal flag was floating from the central window in the building of St. Patrick's School. It was to announce the visit of His Excellency, the Right Reverend Dr. Conroy. This educational establishment, though it bears the very modest and unpretentious name of School, is fully competent, on account of its many superior advantages, to assume a much more highly sounding title. At three o'clock the Papal Delegate made his appearance in the reception hall which was most handsomely and judiciously decorated. Hundreds of little Irish girls neatly attired and placed in excellent order, were expecting him with the liveliest expression of delight, and intelligence beaming from their youthful countenances. He was accompanied by the Priests of St. Patrick's and St. Ann's and other clergymen. The lofty style which he occupied, enabled him to take a full view of all the pupils, of the illuminated bust of Pius IX., and of two sods of Shamrocks which Father Dowd brought from Ireland on his return from Rome. Among the many persons who graced this occasion with their presence we noticed the Reverend Mother Superior of the Congregation de Notre Dame, her four assistants, Sister Josephine of Villa Maria, and the officers of the senior and junior branches of the Sodality of the Blessed Virgin. Sister Aloysius was also present, and lionized by all the children. For several years she had laboured most successfully in their midst under the roof of St. Patrick's School. Her memory will always live embalmed with a thousand blessings in the hearts of all her grateful and affectionate pupils. When the children caught a glimpse of the engaging and dignified figure of their illustrious visitor they greeted him with the sweet and touching strains of "The Dear Little Shamrock." It is useless to say in what true spirit and exquisite harmony that song was rendered. Then followed a drama, in which several of the more advanced pupils figured, among whom we might

mention Agnes Whelan, Nellie McShane, and Lilly Morgan. Each of those young ladies did ample justice to their respective parts, and certainly reflect no small amount of credit upon the institution which claims them. Mildred O'Neil, Susan and Kate McDonald, Maggie Maloney, and Kate McCall, proved equal to the task which they assumed. At the conclusion of this drama, Miss Kennedy read in an easy and most intelligible manner the following address to which His Excellency listened with the deepest interest:—

TO HIS EXCELLENCY, THE RIGHT REVEREND GEORGE CONROY, BISHOP OF ARDAGH, AND APOSTOLIC DELEGATE IN CANADA.

May it please Your Excellency.

The children of St. Patrick's School beg to present to Your Excellency the homage of their filial reverence as the double representative of the immortal Pius the IX., and of the dear old land of their fathers.

Your Excellency, on arriving in Canada, was pleased to think early of us. You paid us a visit, the kinder because it was a visit of surprise. Were it possible for us to double our hearts, and our wills, the homage of all would be too little to acknowledge such paternal goodness and condescension, on the part of Your Excellency. Indeed the visit of the kind Irish Bishop, the worthy representative of our Holy Father, shall not soon pass from the memory of the little Irish girls of St. Patrick's school.

No doubt Your Excellency desires to know Canada and its people well. Permit then this little family to tell, in a few words, its own history—the simple thoughts and facts that fill its daily life. We are happy here under the care of our kind and devoted teachers. Our severest punishment would be to know that we had caused pain to any one of them. They watch over us with the tender severity of loving, but wise, Christian mothers. We are taught to work hard, but our hearts are trained to bear the labor we should naturally desire to avoid.

We love our Holy Father, the Pope, most ardently; and we love Him more because of the persecutions and sufferings He has to endure from wicked men. We pray for him every day, and we are sure God will protect his representative on earth, and will give him a glorious triumph over his enemies. When our pastor, Father Dowd, went to Rome, last spring, we too sent our loving offerings to our Holy Father. We worked hard, and succeeded in sending a much larger amount, than any day or boarding school, in, or about Montreal; yet we are sorry we had not more to give to our dear Holy Father, whom we love so much.

We have never seen the land of our fathers, yet we love it dearly, and we glory in being the children of those who suffered the loss of all worldly goods in order to preserve the precious inheritance of faith. Should the same sacrifice be ever required of us, we hope, through God's help, to imitate the noble generosity of our ancestors. The conduct of little girls in Ireland is often placed before us as a model. We are told how modest and how pudent they are; how humble, obedient, and respectful to their parents, how pious and attentive to the duties of religion. This beautiful model often excites our envy. We fear we shall never be able to come up to it, but we are trying hard. We have confidence in the kindness of Your Excellency, that you will not blame us too severely if we are not quite so good as the little girls in Ireland; for you know St. Patrick did not bless Canada, as he blessed Ireland.

We crave the indulgence of Your Excellency for one word more. We are unable to express the fullness of our joy to find ourselves in the presence of a worthy representative of our Holy Father, in the person of a genuine Irish bishop. It brings to our minds what our fathers have often told us of the former glories of the Island of Saints. Zealous missionaries in foreign lands we have many; but it was reserved for Your Excellency to represent in distant lands the glorious and saintly Pius IX., thus reviving the grand traditions of the ancient Irish Church. Your devoted children of St. Patrick's fervently pray that God may preserve your health, and bless all your important labors. May He conduct you back in safety to your beloved flock after having crowned with complete success your mission of benediction amongst us. And now your Excellency we humbly solicit for ourselves, our parents, and our teachers, your own, and a renewal of the Apostolic Benediction.

After blessing the pupils as they requested, he replied to the various sentiments embodied in the address. He was grateful for the address itself and for the sentiments which it expressed in such happy language. Since he had come to America, he never felt so much as upon this occasion, that he was an Irish Bishop, having before him two pots of genuine Irish Shamrocks, and on his right the Reverend Father Dowd, who was worthy any day to become a Bishop. He was pleased to hear them say they loved the Pope, and had shown it by the rich present they sent him. They should remember that their ancestors had kept the faith through their attachment to the Holy See of Peter. Like them they would be persecuted, not indeed by the sword, the rack, the dungeon or the scaffold, but by the spirit of the world, which is the spirit of vanity, pride and pleasure. They should follow the lessons imparted by their revered teachers. Each sister of the Congregation de Notre Dame seems surrounded by the angel of Truth, of Hope and Charity. Each not only inculcates those virtues with her lips, but also teaches them constantly by her life. After a few other remarks His Excellency took his departure from the Hall, but not without having previously granted to the pupils the extraordinary privilege of three holidays.

THIS MORNING'S NEWS.

This morning's news from Rome is to the effect that the Pope is said to be suffering intense agony, and, unless speedily relieved, cannot survive many hours.

The fall of Plevna was celebrated with great rejoicing in St. Petersburg, and had a correspondingly depressing effect in the Turkish capital. Osman Pasha's losses were 10,000 killed and wounded, 40,000 men taken prisoners and 400 guns captured. The Osar and Prince Gortschakov will return to St. Petersburg in a few days. It is stated that there is good authority for the rumor that the Porte will immediately take steps towards either an armistice or peace negotiations.

LETTER FROM TORONTO.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

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FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION.

This festival of the dogma of the Immaculate Conception was celebrated in St. Michael's Cathedral with unusual solemnity and grandeur. His Grace the Archbishop at grand Mass occupying the throne in full Pontificals. Celebrant, Rev. Father Berrigan, and the panegyric of the Mother of God was preached by the Rev. J. J. McCann, rector, who is an orator of no mean order. The rev. gentleman seemed to have been inspired by his subject, his beautiful imagery, and eloquently flowing sentences fell pleasingly on the ear, captivating the mind thereby causing a soothing tranquility long after, the preacher had left the pulpit.

ST. NICHOLAS' HOME.

The institution bearing this name was founded by his Grace the Archbishop in 1869, as a boarding house for young boys—orphans having no guardians or protectors to look after them. It is under the direction of the Sisters of St. Joseph, and is capable of accommodating over forty boys. The children are generally employed as messengers, selling newspapers, etc., only pay the nominal sum of one to one and a half dollars per week for board, washing, mending and when necessary clothing. As a matter of course, it must depend largely on the charity of the faithful, and in aid of this meritorious work his Grace the Archbishop preached on Sunday evening, when a considerable amount was realised. The learned prelate took his text from (Matthew xxv. 31.) His Grace quoted largely from the Old and New Testament showing the heavenly fruits and benedictions which assuredly follow unostentatious charity, and gave a graphic account of a similar institution in Rome, commenced by a mechanic and patronized by His Holiness Pius IX., who, when a student cheerfully superintended the establishment, and has never forgotten it to this day. The Italian Government, with a spirit worthy only of thieves, seized or stole £3,000 the savings of the poor inmates for years. He rapidly sketched the numerous houses of a similar kind founded by St. Jerome, St. Vincent de Paul, St. Camels, St. Nicholas the Ven. de La Salle, and others, and concluded a lucid and interesting discourse by showing that the case of the widow and orphan is one of the charges enjoined to the chief Pastor of a diocese by his oath before consecration. All the choirs of the city were in attendance.

MISSION AT THE CENTRAL PRISON.

His Grace the Archbishop has visited frequently the Central Prison within the last three months. A few men approached Holy Communion every Sunday, but last week through the kindness of Captain Prince, chief warden, his Grace and the priests of the city were allowed in on Friday and Saturday evenings. The Catholic inmates were assembled in the chapel of the institution and the Archbishop having exhorted them on the necessity of amending their lives and doing penance for their sins, confessions were heard and the result was sixty-seven communicants on Sunday morning. The Venerable Dean Proulx, missionary Apostolic, celebrated Mass and His Grace the Archbishop preached in his usual fervid manner. A large class for confirmation and first communion was formed, and the ecclesiastics of St. John's Seminary and the young men of St. Aloysius Society attend every Sunday morning to teach Catholicism and to prepare them for the reception of the Sacraments. It will be the salvation of those men to have been sent to that institution.

"STRONG-MINDED" VERSUS "CLINGING-VINE."

A few weeks ago ladies of the Methodist, Presbyterian and other persuasions assembled in Shaftesbury Hall, for the purpose of inaugurating a determined Crusade against king Alcohol, when a fair sprinkling of Revd's also put in an appearance, and, as some of the ladies intimated, did more than their share of the talking—taking into account that they were admitted on suffrage. The head and front of the Pastors' offending was, one expressed his opinion in which the others co-incided, that woman's province chiefly consisted in household duties and, warming with his theme, pictured the "clinging-vine" in a poetical strain, whilst those engaged in the agitation of Woman's Rights were denominated "Strong-minded" and received a pretty good rubbing. Of course the audience was too mild and well-mannered to give vent to their feelings, but when the *Globe* gave a leader on the matter the pent up indignation burst forth in such a terrible storm, that the Editor winced under the heavy blows of the strong-minded and in another article cried *peccavi* for having been lured from the paths of rectitude by the "clinging vine." There is certainly a wide field here, but such patching as "Rise Movement" "Ladies Movement" "Gospel Movement" are so weak and silly that I believe their promoters only get them up for the purpose of airing their sham eloquence—sort of safety valves for overplus steam.

Two branches of the I. C. B. U. have been recently established in this Province at Nananee and another in Erinville. Both were organized by the Vice-President of the Union, Mr. Garrigan.

Mr. P. B. Flanagan ex-Grand President of the I. C. B. U., is preparing a lecture to be delivered in various parts of the Province, the subject he has chosen is "Questions of the hour" and from Mr. Flanagan's ability as a speaker, and experience as a student, I believe his lecture will be attended with success. He has already made his mark as a man of no common ability, and his speech delivered at Oakville last August was a good specimen of the ability and eloquence of many of the Irish working-classes of which he is an able representative. We wish him success.

MUSICAL CONCERT.

The Misses Ford are going to give a musical concert on the 19th inst., in the Hall of the Young Irishmen Literary and Benefit Society. The programme promises to be an interesting one, and the well known talents of the Misses Fords will no doubt ensure for them a cordial reception at the hands of their many friends in Montreal.

PERSONALS.

NORFOLK—Lord Norfolk's bride is a foot taller than himself.

MOSS—The Honourable T. Moss has been sworn in Chief Justice of the Court of Error in Ontario.

DUHAMEL—A nephew of Bishop Duhamel's was admitted to the priesthood in Ottawa last week.

SHEIL—Mr. Sheil of the *Irish Canadian* is in Montreal.

SULLIVAN—Mr. A. M. Sullivan, M. P., was admitted a member of the English bar last month.

BARTLEY—Intelligence has been received in Quebec of the murderer of Sergeant Dore.

BUTE—The Marquis of Bute has contributed £170,000 for the endowment of a memorial hall at Glasgow University.

CHATARD—Mgr. Chatard, formerly President of the American College at Rome, has been appointed successor of Bishop Gibbon at Richmond.

SULLIVAN—Mr. A. M. Sullivan, M.P.'s "New Ireland" will be published in the United States by Messrs. J. B. Lippincott and Co., of Philadelphia.

BRAY—The Rev. Mr. Bray's lecture on the "Roman Catholic Church in Canada" has been postponed until next Tuesday, the 18th inst.

ALFONSO—The cablegrams tell us that all Spain is pleased with Don Alfonso's bride elect, the Princess Mercedes.

MACDONALD—Dr. George Macdonald, the well known Scotch novelist and poet, has been awarded a pension of £100 a year on the Civil List.

JOSEPH—Chief Joseph was visited by about five thousand people on Sunday last. The visitors were principally Catholics.

MURPHY—ALLEYN—Messrs Murphy and Allyn are the two candidates for the Quebec West in the Local Legislature.

FERRY—Julius Ferry, the French Republican leader is said to be threatened with insanity from the excessive use of hair-dye.

MACKENZIE—The Hon. Mr. MacKenzie will address a meeting in the Academy of Music on Friday evening next.

CITIZEN—The *Ottawa Citizen* has a vulgar attack on the Irish in Quebec. We never read a coarser piece of composition.

YOUNG—Brigham Young's grave is said to be watched day and night by Mormons, living for the purpose in tents near the spot.

CAUCHON—Monsieur Cauchon was buried at Winnipeg on Monday, Archbishop Tache officiated.

TILLY—It is rumored that Lieut. Governor Tilly is likely to succeed Sir John Macdonald as leader of the Opposition.

LAURIER—Mr. Laurier announced his intention of contesting Drummond and Athabasca again in the approaching general election in his speech last night.

SCOTT—A granddaughter of Sir Walter Scott, who is a convert to Catholicity, is about to found a house of the order of the Good Shepherd in Edinburgh.

HAYES—President Hayes recently informed a delegation of ladies that if Congress should recommend the States to adopt a woman suffrage it would meet his approval.

TILDEN—It is said that Mr. Tilden looks forward to his early accession to the Presidency. With both the House and Senate Democratic he intends to prosecute his rights.

CHAMBERLAIN—At a great meeting held in Bradford, England, Mr. Chamberlain, M.P., made a very elaborate attack on the Established Church, and strongly urged its disestablishment.

HAVELOCK—Colonel Sir Henry Havelock, Bart., was sent to the seat of war as one of the correspondents for the *Times*. He proved a complete failure and he was ordered home.

HOSPITAL—An exceedingly delicate operation was performed at the Roman Catholic Hospital in Ottawa, last week. A tumor, weighing 11 pounds, being successfully removed from a young lady from Pembroke.

ANGLIN—It is said that Mr. Anglin will refuse to become Speaker of the House of Commons again. It would please every Catholic in the country to see him in the Cabinet for which his capabilities eminently qualify him.

FLESSIS—This day week was the anniversary of the death in 1825 of Mgr. Fleassis, a former Bishop of Quebec. It was also the anniversary of the end, burning to death in 1875 of Rev. Fathers Murphy and Lynch at Sault-aux-Recollets.

McLAUGHLIN—A correspondent recommends the son of the late Mr. McLaughlin for the position which his father so long and so creditably fulfilled. The appointment would be a graceful recognition of the late Mr. McLaughlin's services.

NAPOLEON—The Prince Imperial has written a letter in which he says that his father yielded too much to those who surrounded him. He favoured the bourgeois at the expense of the workman. He approves of strikes, and is in favour of amnesty.

O'LEARY—Mr. Peter O'Leary, of London, writes to the *Irish World* under date of November 25 from San Francisco, that he had just arrived there after an extended journey in the British-American dominions nearly to the borders of Alaska. He was about to start for home, his mind well stored with valuable information gathered during his extended journeyings.

CONROY—In the course of a recent address Mgr. Conroy, referred to the Christian Brothers as "those Brothers who stand between the altar and the world which they abandoned through devotion to youth, and love for their Saviour. We cannot overpraise these humble Brothers who certainly are the admiration of the whole universe for their learning as well as virtue."

DEVLIN—Mr. Devlin, M.P., has received great and well deserved praise for the manner in which he conducted the "Hall Estate" lawsuit. This was a lawsuit brought by the heirs to the "Hall Estate" for two hundred and forty five thousand dollars. Their claims were contested, under Mr. Devlin's advice, and the city of Montreal has been saved many thousand dollars by the successful termination of the suit. We congratulate Mr. Devlin upon the result.

BEECHER—The proprietor of the hotel in the White Mountains, where the Rev. Henry Ward Beecher spends his summer, has been appointed keeper of the Senate restaurant at Washington at Mr. Beecher's suggestion. It is generally asserted that the hotel proprietor above alluded to has never charged Mr. B. for the spending of the summer. It is well that the moral persons political influence can return the compliment so cheaply.—*Catholic Times*.