

THE CONNAUGHT RANGER'S CORNER.

The Ladies of the Gaelic Class have taken their vacation for the summer months, but will resume their studies in the grand old tongue next September. The progress made by the class since its organization is really phenomenal. While all the ladies of the class are deserving of the greatest praise for the patriotic manner in which they have striven to propagate a sentiment in favor of the organization, one in particular is worthy of mention owing to the earnest and indefatigable manner in which she has worked since the inception of the society. We refer to Miss Gertrude Stafford, daughter of the sturdy executive member of the S. A. A. A.

Mr. Jas. Clarke and Mr. Jas. McHugh, who had charge of the class are also to be congratulated on the good work they have accomplished.

In the class composed exclusively of members of the Knights of Columbus, the Hon. Justice Doherty takes the lead. At the entertainment of the Gaelic Society held on the fourth of March last, the Hon. Judge made the statement that he would never address an assemblage of Irishmen, until he could do so in their native language. He has faithfully kept that promise. I am informed by the President of the Gaelic Society that it would do one good to hear His Honor converse in the melodious tongue.

There will be no vacation during the summer months by the members of the Gaelic Society, their meetings will be held regularly on every Saturday evening, and the classes will be started at half past eight sharp.

St. Patrick's Society will hold its regular monthly meeting on next Monday evening, it is necessary that every member of the Society should be present as I am informed matters of the utmost importance will be discussed. The question whether we shall have the national hall, will come up for consideration. I hope the matter will be settled one way or the other, and that the committees appointed will have their reports ready, if not discharge them at once.

The Knights of Columbus had a very pleasant trolley drive to Boute d'Isle, on Monday evening. Two special cars left the city at half-past eight, a most enjoyable time was spent by the Sir Knights.

A special meeting of the Young Irishmen's Association was held on Friday evening in their hall on Dupre Street. There was a large attendance of members. The Association intends celebrating its twenty-fifth anniversary during the summer, but in what manner has not been decided on. It is twenty-five years now since this popular society was organized, and during that time the Association has contributed in various ways towards advancing the cause of the Irish people besides aiding in a great degree to inculcate a love for the national literature of Erin. Many of the most prominent Irish Canadian Society and business men made their debut in its debating classes and a

glance over the roll of membership will show the names which are familiar in the fields of politics, literature and the various professions.

The question of a new hall is being seriously considered by the members, and I fail to see why an amalgamation with St. Patrick's Society could not be arranged on this very important matter. It should not be a question of supremacy of any particular organization, but one of thorough unification which would result in the attainment of the great object. An excursion down the St. Lawrence is also in contemplation, and a committee has been appointed to make the necessary arrangements. The reports of the Picnic Committee of the 21st of May, showed the affair to be very successful.

The first annual entertainment of Division No. 2, Ladies Auxiliary, A. O. H., held in the Sarsfield hall on Monday evening the 12th inst., was one of the most successful functions held under the auspices of the Daughters of Erin. The hall was beautifully decorated for the occasion, with both banneries and bunting of green and white. The hall was in charge of a squad of the Hibernians Knights under the command of Lieut. Doyle, who assisted in divers ways to make the affair a success. Ice cream and cake were served galore, and every one of the nine hundred who were in attendance left thoroughly satisfied with the evening's entertainment. The singing of Miss Marie Hollinshead was of a high standard. The Rev. W. O'Meara, P.P., St. Gabriel's, presided; and amongst those present were Rev. Frs. McDonnell, Casey, and Shea, ex-Ald. Tansey, ex-Ald. Connaught, Mr. W. Rawley, County President, A.O.H.; Lieut. and Mrs. Doyle; Denis Tansey, Jr., President Division No. 7, and Mrs. Tansey; Mr. M. Lynch, President, Div. No. 2, and Mrs. Lynch; Mr. M. Phelan, Pres. Div. No. 5; Ald. Gallery, Pres. Div. No. 3; E. J. Colfer, Treas. Div. No. 2; J. Colfer, Fin. Sec., Div. No. 7; Miss S. Lyons, Pres. Div. No. 2, L. A.; Mrs. Allan, Pres. Div. No. 1, L. A.; and a large gathering of other prominent Hibernians.

Division No. 4, A. O. H., held its semi-monthly meeting on last Monday evening, and transacted a large amount of business, president Kearns presiding. Five new members were initiated, and applications from seven candidates received. By a unanimous vote it was decided to comply with the wishes of the County Board, and make the testimonial to Bro. E. B. Devlin, as successful as possible. Since the meeting the Division has lost one of its charter members in the person of the late Brother James Shaw, who was buried on Wednesday morning. The funeral was largely attended by members and friends.

Branch No. 1, C. M. B. A., Grand Council of Quebec, held its regular meeting in the Seminary hall on Monday evening, president O'Rourke presiding. Two new members were initiated, and other business of importance transacted.

The insurance amounting to two thousand dollars on the life of the late Brother Haddisley having been paid, a letter of acknowledgment for the promptness of the branch was read from Mrs. Haddisley. This branch is in a very progressive state and its officers are working most assiduously to make it the strongest in Canada.

Division No. 1, A. O. H., held its semi monthly meeting on Wednesday evening. Several new members were initiated. The picnic committee reported that complete arrangements had been perfected for the annual outing on Dominion Day. The officers elected at last meeting were installed by H. T. Kearns, Provincial President, and addresses were delivered by both Mr. Kearns and Mr. John Lavelle, President of Division No. 8. Mr. Lavelle made a very strong plea for the Irish language, and invited every member of the Division to attend the Gaelic classes.

The last monthly meeting of St. Mary's Catholic Young Men's Society was very numerously attended. Mr. E. W. Kearns, the president presided. The report of the committee which had charge of the Cornwall excursion on the 24th of May was presented, showed the affair to be most successful. The hall of the Society on Notre Dame street is well equipped with all modern athletic appliances. There are billiard and pool tables, as well as the necessary apparatus for innocent and harmless games. The beautiful silver trumpet won for the second time by this popular society, in the annual competitions between the Catholic Young Men's Associations, as pointed to with pride by the members who have already a first and second mortgage on that much coveted trophy.

Hurrah, for Cornwall on Dominion Day. Hip, Hip, Hurrah, for Otterburn Park, don't forget St. Rose, and remember the annual excursion of the Irish Catholic Benefit Society on next Monday.

The regular meeting of Division No. 2, was held on last Friday evening in St. Gabriel's Hall. Several new members were introduced. The Division decided to support the proposal of the County Board in the matter of the Devlin testimonial.

Division No. 6, A. O. H., at its regular meeting held on Wednesday evening decided to support the proposed testimonial to be presented to Mr. Devlin by the County Board. The meeting was presided over by President J. B. Lane. Applications from ten candidates were received. A committee was appointed to devise ways of arranging for an excursion or picnic. The meeting also decided to advertise its meetings in future in the "True Witness." The officers elected were installed by County President Rawley, and after adjournment a pleasant and sociable time was spent.

CONNAUGHT RANGER.

Once it is established, taught and believed that the Bible is only a human work, the term Christian no longer applies. If the Bible be only a human fabrication the logical conclusion is that Christ was only a man, but not Divine. Daily it becomes clearer that Protestant Christianity is growing weaker, and that eventually all seekers after God's truth will have to come to the Catholic Church for enlightenment and certainty.

FORTUNE TELLING.—The Manchester magistrates recently fined a woman \$50 and costs for telling some ladies' fortunes after examining their hands, and receiving a shilling for each. The case was appealed to the High Court of Justice in London, and the remarks of the judges, in pronouncing upon it, are very amusing as well as instructive. The law said to be violated consists in a statute that was passed in the reign of George IV. which renders liable to punishment, as a rogue or a vagabond, every person pretending or professing to tell fortunes, or using any subtle craft means or device, to deceive and impose on any of His Majesty's subjects.

Now we quote the report:—
"Mr. Justice Denman had said that no sane man believed that it was possible to tell fortunes. Upon this Mr. Justice Darling, who was also upon the Bench interjected:—

"That was in 1887, I would not say that now. People now believe much more than they did." Mr. Justice Channell capped this with the crushing judicial sarcasm, "I believe certainly that there has been an increase in insanity."

It seems to us that people who go to get their fortunes told are equally, if not more to blame than the fortune teller. It would not be safe to say that every person who frequents a fortune-teller is a fool; but it certainly is beyond all doubt that every such person is lacking in something—either mentally or morally. It is strange contradiction of human nature to find that persons who have no faith in miracles believe in spiritualistic and other similar wonders. They do not put trust in what is taught them concerning Christ, but they put faith in what is told them by a common fortune-teller.

Of course our readers are aware of the strict attitude of the Church in regard to this practice, but all are not equally ready to follow the teachings, advice and commands of the Church. There are Catholics who make it a practice to have their fortunes told; who, on every slight occasion, strive to penetrate the future through the medium of cards or some such device. They are not aware that the veil of the future is woven by the "Hand of Mercy." Apart from the superstition of the thing, it is the height of folly and self-deception to squander money by paying for that which we know to be of no absolute value. These fortune-seekers are generally young girls; but the list contains many of the male sex, and many elderly females.

Even as a pastime fortune-telling is always injurious. If it had no other effect, it is a cause of dissatisfaction with our circumstances, it engenders morbid fancies, and it causes people to live in a world apart from that which is real; consequently duties are neglected, peace of mind is destroyed, and a true sense of religion is effaced. The fortune-teller is scarcely ever a dupe; but her clients are always dupes.

SOMETHING ABOUT GLASSES.

An eye-glass to have the right effect on the eyesight, must be right. What is right for one may be injurious for another. The oculist keeps a stock of different kinds of glasses and a slight error in the prescription means unsatisfactory effect. The same, exactly, is true with Luxfer Prisms. The Luxfer Prism Company, keeps in stock thousands of pieces of glass of over 50 different kinds, and from this stock, after a careful examination of your premises, "prescribes" the prism best suited to your case and guarantees to correctly fill the "prescription." If an error be made, the guarantee covers the doing of the work over again, and it will be right when finished. At the Company's office, 1833 Notre Dame St., the subject is fully explained and illustrated. The Company consider it a privilege to make any desired explanations. Effects illustrating accurate "prescriptions" can be seen at the offices of the City and District Savings Bank, and the Moisons Bank, both on St. James Street.

DIED.

MOORE.—In this city, on June 27, 1899, John Moore, at the age of 87, native of County Meath, Ireland, and for forty years, employed in the Engineer's Office of the Public Works Department. County Meath papers please copy.

ST. PATRICK'S SOCIETY.
The regular monthly meeting of St. Patrick's Society will be held in the St. Patrick's Hall, 9 St. Alexander Street, on Monday evening, 3rd July, 1899, at eight o'clock.
By Order, S. CROSS, Secy.

IRISH CATHOLIC PILGRIMAGE TO STE. ANNE DE BEAUPRE.

The seventeenth Irish Catholic Pilgrimage under the able and worthy direction of Rev. Father Strubbe, C.S.S.R., and the other Redemptorist Fathers of St. Ann's Parish, to the famous shrine of miracles, St. Anne de Beaupre, and the favored chapel of our Lady of the Holy Rosary, Cap de Madeleine, took place on Saturday last, and was most satisfactory in every respect. Although the number of pilgrims (three hundred) was somewhat less than in former years, they made up in devotion what they lacked in numbers and the pilgrimage was fruitful of many graces and spiritual favors.

It was three o'clock p.m. when the Steamer "Three Rivers" left the wharf at the foot of Bonsecours St., amidst the sweet notes of the "Ave Maris Stella," which was sung by the ladies' choir. The weather was all that could be desired. It was an ideal June day which made the sail down the river most delightful and refreshing, as seated upon deck all admired the endless borders of beautiful scenery dotted at intervals by the quaint little villages that fringe both banks of the St. Lawrence. The Rosary was recited at 5.30 p.m., after which supper was served. The pilgrims arrived in Cap de Madeleine at nine o'clock the same evening, where a solemn Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament and veneration of the relics took place. The way from the boat to the chapel was illuminated with numerous torch lights and the shrine itself was one mass of lighted tapers and decorations. Prominent amongst the latter were noticed the gold crown, gold heart and marble heart which were donated by the English speaking ladies of the Montreal branch of the Third Order of St. Francis. Rev. Father Strubbe delivered the sermon. He said that many people make pilgrimages year after year to the shrine of St. Anne or the Blessed Virgin Mary and are perhaps displeased with good St. Anne or the Blessed Virgin because their requests seem not to have been granted. However, the matter rests entirely with themselves. There are three obstacles in the way. The first is because their soul is not properly disposed. To obtain favors from Almighty God we must have purity of soul; and the purer our souls are the closer we are to God. The second obstacle is because they ask God for a favor, but not with the proper dispositions. The manner in which they approach the Throne of Mercy is not satisfactory to the Divine Goodness. They have no faith in the power of God nor in the influence of the saints. The third barrier is, we ask for something that is not good for our souls. The reason we make a pilgrimage is to dispose the saints to exercise their influence with God in our behalf. We should therefore first of all ask for graces and blessings and when we ask for temporal favors we must ask for them conditionally. Just so far as they will benefit our souls. They should finally excite in their

hearts lively sentiments of faith, hope and charity and Almighty God through the intercession of His Blessed Mother and Good St. Anne, will grant them any favor that will benefit their souls.

The sermon was followed by Solemn Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament and veneration of the relics. All then paid a brief visit to the new church, which is nearing completion. They returned immediately to the boat which continued on its course. St. Anne de Beaupre was reached at five o'clock Sunday morning. Rev. Father Holland, C.S.S.R., meeting the pilgrimage at the wharf. Upon arriving a procession was formed by all the pilgrims, four abreast and reciting the beads. Headed by the shrine of St. Anne, they wended their way to the Church where all attended Mass and received Holy Communion. After breakfast each one performed the various devotions, visiting the scala Sancta, Calvary, the side chapels, the treasury, etc. Extensive improvements have been made since last year in the grounds in front of the church. The railway station has been removed two hundred feet further away and the entire grounds are enclosed by a massive brick wall, eight feet high, with two iron gates. Within the enclosure a beautiful garden has been formed being sodded and having paved walks, flower beds and trees. The refreshment shed has also been renovated. The proposed electric railway between Quebec and St. Anne's is not running yet.

The blessing of articles of devotion took place at half past ten and was followed by a sermon by Father Holland. He spoke of the pleasure he felt at seeing so many pilgrims from St. Ann's own parish in Montreal. He exhorted them to have confidence in St. Ann's power and not to be afraid to ask for their needs, above all spiritual ones. They should also in return for these favors to be grateful to St. Anne by making a sacrifice of some object that was dear to them, or by overcoming some bad habit or vice. Sacrifices were pleasing to God in the old law and so also will they be to-day. After the sermon Solemn Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament took place and was followed by the veneration of the relics of St. Anne. The pilgrims left St. Anne de Beaupre at noon and arrived in Quebec at two o'clock. Special arrangements had been made by Father Strubbe with the Quebec Street Railway for a two hour's trip through the Ancient Capital; and five special cars awaited the arrival of the boat. The trip through all the principal streets of the old historic city was much enjoyed by all. The departure from Quebec was made at four o'clock and all arrived home at six o'clock the next morning.

There will be a pilgrimage to St. Anne de Beaupre for men in July, and a visit will be paid to the Catholic summer school, Plattsburg, on August 5th.

NOTE AND COMMENT.

A RELIGIOUS WAR-WHOOP!—It would seem that the efforts of Episcopalian and Salvation Army Ministers of the Gospel have been having a hard time of it with some of the Vancouver Indians. They await the return of their agent to have an explanation why their war-paint was suddenly daubed over them, and the hatchet was hastily withdrawn from its place of peaceful repose. Here is a despatch from Vancouver, B.C., that reads like one of Fenimore Cooper's imaginative and exciting pages:—

"Salvationists and Episcopals have been very busy in mission work among the northern Indians now camped around the canneries waiting for the salmon fishing. So quick been subdued. One thousand Indian Salvationist soldiers, headed by a brass band, met in a narrow street, going in opposite direction one thousand Episcopalian soldiers also headed by an Indian band. Neither the Episcopals nor the Salvationists would budge an inch. The missionaries urged, exhorted, entreated and demanded them not to fight, but love one another in the name of the Lord. It was no use. Angry looks led to white man's oaths and oaths to blows. The bands led on the conflict by snatching their instruments to pieces over the heads of their rival. The fight was bloody, but was stopped by Indian policemen, more by persuasion than by force, before murder was done."

Just contrast this scene with that reported last week when 5,500 Indians of the coast and island sang the requiem service over the late Mgr. Durien, of New Westminster. What

comment could be more glowing than the simple recital of these true facts? What better evidence of the respective claims and the unquestioned superiority of Catholicity in the missionary world.

RELIGION WITHOUT FAITH.

A week ago, in American Notes, we published an account of an organization in New York, the object of which is to secure a Christian unity. We remarked that it was intended to have a union of all Christian denominations—except the Catholic Church. The recent Briggs controversy has served greatly to start this movement. There seems to be a section of the Protestant world that absolutely clings to the inspiration of the Scriptures, while an equally large section teaches that the Bible is a fallible human production, "containing revelation." The result is that the younger generation of Protestants is losing the old faith in the Bible. The "Sun" commenting on this phase of an important question says:—

"Recent literature bears notable evidences of this change; it is losing its Biblical color. Many men in the Churches who once accepted the Bible unquestioningly and without a thought of criticising it, have now ceased to regard it reverentially. Dr. Briggs professes, with the assent of Bishop Potter, that he has made it more 'vital,' but he has killed the book for all those who have been affected by his teachings. That is a fact apparent to every observer, and there is no getting away from it. The Bible no longer has power with men who criticise it as a merely human pro-

duction, for, of course, it cannot stand scientific investigation, since its authority rests primarily and necessarily on miracles."

Very truly does the writer of the above paragraph point out that it must be a unity of unbelief and not one of belief that is sought. And in reasoning out the matter, there is an allusion to the Church of Rome, that is worthy of attention. It says:—

"The unbelievers, as we have said, may combine to get up a new Christianity, with a purely ethical system as a substitute for the old theology. But the believers, where will they go? It seems not improbable that they will undergo a change of sentiment toward the Roman Catholic Church, with which they will be in sympathy, so far as concerns the infallibility of the Bible, while they must turn away sharply from the infidelity of the Briggs disciples. Really the great rock of defence of the inspiration of the Scriptures is now the Roman Church, and its exclusion from consideration by the proposed conference on religious unity suggests that the movement is propelled specifically by the new unbelief in the Bible. That it is a project for unity in unbelief rather than belief, for a sort of agnostic combination, the interest in it and sympathy with it manifested by Unitarians seem to bear witness."

Of course this movement can never come to anything because it is based on a negation and has nothing positive to offer. Yet, we see in it a very strong sign of the times. Protestantism is entirely founded on the Bible. Take away the Bible and you remove the foundations of the many-angled edifice. What then is to become of the various conflicting sects, since the grand general tendency is to ignore the inspiration of the Scriptures?

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1.00	1.50	2.00	2.50	3.00	3.50	4.00	4.50	5.00	5.50	6.00	6.50	7.00	7.50	8.00	8.50	9.00	9.50	10.00	10.50	11.00

If you are not already a member of our Society, do not wait until too morrow to join; it might be too late. Outside of our subscribers' funerals we are prepared, on the shortest notice, to undertake all classes of funerals at moderate prices. If you wish to become a member, telephone and we will call immediately. Specialty: Scientific Embalming.

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