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VOL. XIII., No. 6

TORONTO, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1905

PRICE FIVE CENTS

TOPICS OF AN OLD-TIMER

An Irish School of Learning in Dublin—
 A New History of Ireland by Mrs. Green—Dublin Celtic Society—Sir Robert Ball, the Irish Astronomer—
 The Mother of Washington Was a Ball—Washington Claimed to be Half Irish—Toronto's Christmas Magazine and Some of the People Who Figure in it.

There has been founded in Dublin a school of Irish learning, and strange to say, the founders are a German professor, a Scotch savant and an English lady. Kuno Meyer is the German professor, Professor Strachan of Manchester University is the Scotch savant, and the English lady is Mrs. J. R. Green, widow of the famous historian of the English people. Kuno Meyer is perhaps the foremost Gaelic scholar now alive, and with him the best teachers of Irish have to study before they go forth to teach. But Professor Meyer, notwithstanding his German nationality, may be a true Celt (a South German), and I believe he is. At any rate he has taken a wonderfully deep interest in Irish learning, and no one has dipped deeper into the old Irish manuscripts (of which there are thousands) than he has. Writing to a friend, Professor Meyer makes this explanation:

"Mrs. Green has told me of the great interest which you take in the matter, and has asked me to supplement her statements by an account of our work in Dublin, and by a programme of work for America. It was the fact in the first instance, that every one who wished to study Irish or Celtic philology, archaeology and history, had to resort to the German or French universities that gave me the idea of founding a school of Irish learning in Dublin. There, and there only, both old and middle and modern Irish can now be learned and studied systematically; while our school has at its disposal the enormous number of manuscripts in the Royal Irish Academy and in Trinity College, of which I have given some account elsewhere. As a student of Irish for over twenty-five years, I do not hesitate to say that there is no other branch of learning except perhaps Oriental archaeology—where so much remains to be done, and where the results to be achieved are so far-reaching. For the whole civilization of Western Europe, the whole history of medieval culture, are closely bound up with Celtic civilization, and show Celtic influence at every point and stage."

Mrs. Green, evidently, is the next figure in importance, in this movement. She is not only the widow of a great historian, but is a historian herself, having finished her husband's "Shorter History of the English People," after his premature death. She has already planned a "History of Ireland," which will, no doubt, supersede every other history now in existence, because she will have at her hand all the Irish lore now in the archives. She has been to America to seek assistance, and has been promised the support of such men as Archbishop Farley of New York, President Butler of Columbia University, Underwood Johnson of the Century Magazine, Hon. Pourke Cockran, Joseph I. C. Clarke, the poet and dramatist; Prof. W. H. Carpenter and Thomas Addis Emmet. They have also promised to patronize the school of Irish Learning.

Kuno Meyer has already translated and printed several manuscripts and will keep right on with the work. Besides this School of Irish Learning, there has been in Dublin for several years a Celtic Society headed by Lord Castletown, whose family name is Fitzpatrick, but the active man of the Society is a gentleman with the French name of E. E. Fournier, who seems to be familiar with all the Celtic languages, including Irish, Scotch, Gaelic, Welsh, Manx and Breton, and edits a magazine published in the interest of the organization, in which all these languages are used. The Celtic Society has had many great meetings in

the capitals of the countries which claim to be Celtic in their origin. There is another Celtic territory that has not been admitted into the organization because it has lost its language, and that is Cornwall in England.

An Irishman of much distinction at the present time is Sir Robert S. Ball, the eminent astronomer. Would you believe it, but a distinguished Irish scholar and a correspondent of mine, residing in Litchfield, Conn., assures me that he is of the same family as was the mother of Washington, whose name was Mary Ball. In ancient times some of the Balls were powerful enough to impose "eries" or tributes, one of which was known as "Ball's eric," imposed on the English in Ireland. Whether it be from this fact or not, Irish scholars in America are now claiming that George Washington was half Irish. Some of the Balls were dispossessed of their lands in Ireland by Cromwell in his time. Several of them were in the American revolution. One of them that my friend has traced, was a member of the revolutionary society of the "Sons of Liberty" or St. Tamany, a society in New York, which helped to force the revolution. James Jeffrey Roche, the editor of the "Boston Pilot," has written a brochure entitled the "Irish Washingtons," and I have met men who told me they knew people of the name of Washington in the "Old Sod."

Lord Baltimore, Lord of Avalon and of Maryland, was first Governor of Virginia, A.D. 1632. He and Henry Washington were great friends in Ireland. Henry Washington had several sons. It is claimed that one of these sons was the ancestor of George Washington. They all had important positions under the Stuarts and were their loyal supporters. One of those Washingtons was collector of the port of Limerick, appointed by James I. Not being loyal to the new government, he escaped from Ireland and turned up in Virginia, after being some time in Bermuda.

A writer in an Irish publication some months ago, signed the name "Usaichtain" to a communication. This is an old and historic Irish name and is pronounced Washington. Can it be possible that the English genealogists are mistaken. Four countries in Ireland and two in England claim that the Washingtons belonged to them.

A friend has lent me a copy of "Toronto's Christmas Magazine," the appearance of which has greatly surprised me, especially for its artistic excellence. It is published by the Society of Elks with a benevolent purpose. There are pictures presented within its pages of many persons whose names are familiar to me, and of some ladies and gentlemen whose faces and forms were once well known to me. E. H. Coates signs the introductory article as editor-in-chief. I do not know Mr. Coates, nor of him, but wonder if he is a son of the Mr. Coates who published the original "Toronto Star" in the early forties? I recognize the name of C. E. Bunting, as one of the officers of the Elks. I presume he is a son of Mr. Christopher Bunting, the founder of the "Mail" newspaper, who was Irish and a dear friend of mine. I notice the advertisement of the Confederate Life Association, with W. H. Beatty, Esq., another old friend, as president, and what a magnificent building the company has, to be sure. There is the name of James Mason attached to the "ad." of the Home Bank of Canada as General Manager. How well he has held his ground. I remember the day down in Colborne street, when he took the place of Eugene O'Keefe, behind the bank's counter, and when it was only the Toronto Savings Bank, and now O'Keefe is Toronto's big brewer. That is nearly forty years ago. And there is the face of Hon. Chancellor Van Koughnet, who at one time I used to see nearly every day. I remember well the article John Sheridan Hogan wrote in the old "Colonist" newspaper, boasting Mr. Van Koughnet and John Hilliard Cameron as the two men most capable to govern us. Like President Roosevelt, Mr. Van Koughnet is Dutch on his father's side and Irish on his mother's side—"half poe" and half schnaps," as "Terry Finegan" used to put it. I view the face of Mrs. Stephen Jarvis, as I did fifty and more years ago. Mrs. Jarvis was a daughter of Mr. Thos. Stenson of Hamilton, and was the belle of the town. "Her father and mother were Irish and she was Irish too." The Stinsons were a great Hamilton family in the forties and fifties. If Mrs. Jarvis looks as well now as in the picture, which is a remarkable striking likeness, she has borne her years with but little change. I had a young friend in Hamilton named Owen Duffy, who used to rave about Miss Stinson, and out her as the heroine in a story he wrote more than fifty years ago. The sight of Mrs. Jarvis' most striking likeness refreshes my memory a very good deal, for I, too, liked to look at Miss Stinson. And there are the pictures of Sir John Beverley Robinson! I did know Sir John when he was member of parliament and president of the Northern Railroad. I was not on his side in politics, but I never participated in the buffoonery that his political opponents practiced against him, when they invented the cry of "up goes the donkey!" Mrs. Robinson bore a very close resemblance to one who was very dear to me. She was a very beautiful woman fifty years ago. I want to tell you something about the Robinsons. They were U. E. Loyalists and the father of the Chief Justice was a neighbor of General Washington in Virginia before the revolutionary war. So were the Beverleys, with whom the Robinsons intermarried. They were too loyal to the crown to remain in the United

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States, so they came to Canada and became the leading family in this upper country.

There is a picture of Mrs. Col. O'Hara, which reminds me of the O'Haras, which of course, and have a history somewhat similar to the Robinsons. When Cornwallis surrendered at Yorktown to the Americans, he was so sick he was not able to attend to the ceremony himself, and commissioned Col. O'Hara, his next in command, to give up his sword for him and sign the conditions of surrender. And the O'Haras, too, found their time, to "Maddy Little York," the name by which Toronto was generally known in the early days of its history.

Col. Gzowski was a prominent figure in Toronto for many a day. He was a splendid looking gentleman and a civil engineer by profession. He was a Polish refugee and came here in early days. He had a companion, whose name I do not now call to mind, who paid his expenses travelling from New York to Toronto. The man had a jeweller's shop in Toronto for many years. A son of his that I met in humble circumstances in Chicago, told me this.

And there is Mr. and Mrs. George Gooderham, "lovers of to-day." I have seen three generations of the Gooderhams. When George Gooderham was president of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association in 1869 the writer was its secretary. When I went to California in 1870 I resigned the position in favor of Mr. John McLean, father of the member for South York, John McLean, the father of "the boys," was a strong protectionist, and so was I.

I learn from the San Benito (California) "Advocate," that James Slavin, son of Mr. Thos. Slavin, formerly of Caruga, Ont., has been elected a member of the California Legislature, on the Republican ticket. I knew Mr. Slavin both here and in California, and thought well of him.

WILLIAM HALLEY.

BARRIE CORRESPONDENCE

Miss Lynch is visiting friends in Tottingham.

Miss Mary Ross, Elizabeth street, left on Saturday with a party of friends for an extended visit to Florida and New Orleans.

Mrs. W. L. Patterson, "The Glen," is visiting friends in Toronto.

The Christmas offering in St. Mary's Church was larger than any previous year.

The pupils of the Separate School enjoyed their annual sleigh ride on Monday afternoon.

The Conservatives of Centre Simcoe elected Mr. A. B. Thompson of Penetanguishene as their provincial representative, by a large majority.

On Thursday evening, 26th ult., the supporters of Mr. Thompson tendered him a reception in the operahouse, Barrie. The building was thronged to its holding capacity with ladies and gentlemen, all of whom were anxious to honor their member-elect.

Dr. Palling was chairman of the evening. As Mr. Thompson rose to speak, Miss Palling, a fairy-like child in white, appeared on the platform and handed the speaker a beautiful bouquet of flowers, which he tenderly received. The large assemblage listened to most entertaining and witty speeches, interspersed by original political songs, sung by Messrs. Soules, Boys and Heard, also a song in French by Mr. Pecaud, Reeve of the Township of King.

A Great School

An educational institution which can show an actual daily attendance of 468 students gathered from all parts of the Dominion, and whose graduates are eagerly sought for by business firms, may reasonably be termed a great school. The one business training school in Canada which enjoys this standing is the Central Business College of Toronto. The catalogue issued by this well known school is an interesting production and may be had on application to the Principal, Mr. W. H. Shaw.

It is an argument of clownery to do as other people do.

A LUMBER CAMP INCIDENT

American Soo, Jan. 27, 1905.

Editor of the Register:

Dear Sir,—Appropos a false report that lately appeared in the public press, I beg to ask you to give space to the following incident that happened many years ago in a lumber camp in which I happened to be, as I was making a tour of the Ontario camps at the time in the interests of the company. One of the men was badly crushed with a log and died on his way home to his wife and six or seven small children. A missionary priest came to the camp three days afterward and after supper preached for over an hour to the men, on Death. I shall never forget it. At his closing words, speaking of the man who died from the accident, many rough lumbermen were moved to tears, and being a shorthand writer, I took notes of the latter part of his address, which now, after long years, I thought worthy to transcribe from my faded copy. "Men and Brothers," he said, "There is sadness in this camp to-night. One is missed from your ranks. You shall see his face here no more. He is gone the way of all flesh. We are travelling the same road at a rapid pace. Perhaps we are already approaching near to the Valley of Death. We hope the Crucified Saviour will have mercy on his soul. His poor wife and children! What a cross has come upon them! Their bread-winner is gone. Perhaps this very night hunger is staring them in the face. Sorrow's sword has pierced their hearts and the kindly voice that so often sounded as sweet music in their ears is hushed for ever. God pity them. Have we nothing but empty words for the widow and fatherless children. I didn't know this poor man. His wife and family probably I shall never see, as they live far from here. He didn't happen to be one of those who would send for me in their dying moments. There is not over half a dozen among you, as far as I know, that would care to have a Catholic priest beside your bedside at the hour of death. (In the camp were about 80 men, all Protestants except 8 or 10). Your belief in this matter differs from mine. Though I shall fail to convince you that He could be your greatest friend at that dread moment, let us not forget men and brothers in arms fighting for the same common cause, the salvation of our souls, let us not forget that we all owe our existence to one and the same God, that we are all redeemed by the blood of the same crucified Redeemer, that we are in the same world, each free to work out for himself his eternal destiny on the final day of reckoning, our loving Lord will receive us into the same mansions of blessing to be happy with Himself for one endless eternity. Have we not common interests to safeguard in this valley of tears, should we not assist each other to win the crown that will be ours one day as a just recompense for the good deeds we do in the flesh. Pere, then, is a sweet work of Christ-like charity which I earnestly invite you all to unite with me in doing tonight, to show sympathy and compassion for others in affliction is one of the most noble aspirations of the human heart, but to be genuine it must be something more than a mere form of spoken words, and must express itself into acts. Kind friends I am going to do something that I never did in my life before, take up a collection and I will head it with half the contents (taking out a pocket-book) of this little purse, which is all the money I have as my own in the world, which I find is \$7.50, and the foreman will do me the favor of making a present of our united offering to the wife and children of this poor man whom you knew so well but to me a perfect stranger."

The collection was over \$100, and acting on the advice of the missionary priest, I interceded with the company and got another \$100. I have never met that kindly and charitable soul since that night many years ago when with those burning words coming from the heart rather than from the lips, I am not ashamed

BELLEVILLE'S NEW PASTOR

The City Hall was crowded at the Welcome Ceremony—Expressed Gratitude at His Warm Reception

The new pastor of St. Michael's parish, Rev. D. A. Twomey, was formally received by his congregation in Belleville. At the conclusion of the mass a deputation consisting of Messrs. E. J. Butler, E. P. Carney, J. S. McGurn, Col. M. J. Hendrick, James C. Hanley, J. H. Hurley, ex-P.P., James Copeland and James St. Charles came forward and presented an address, which was read by Mr. Butler.

Following this Prof. Paul Denyes and Mr. M. J. Madden, of the Ontario Institute for the Deaf and Dumb, came forward and on behalf of the Catholic pupils presented an address. Mr. Madden made the address in the silent language of the deaf and Prof. Denyes interpreted it to the pastor and flock.

In replying to the address Rev. Father Twomey was very visibly affected, but from the moment he spoke his first sentence he had won the hearts of one and all of the large congregation present, one all too large for the City Hall. He expressed the deep gratitude he felt at the warm reception he had been given and the very kind, good wishes made for him. He had parted with his old flock with the greatest regret and reluctance and here paid a very high tribute to the work and worth of the people of the faith in Tweed and Stoco. He said the breaking of old associations was always painful. His new charge involved a sacrifice but it was amply repaid. He felt satisfied that he would have loyal support in the work he was about to undertake and that a new temple would arise from the ashes of the one destroyed by the inscrutable hand of Providence. The temple was gone but the Faith remained. His chief desire was for a spirit of union between pastor and people. He had been told Belleville's congregation was a poor one and he felt more like work at that. Had it been a rich one his heart would have sunk. The poor were the most self-sacrificing and came closer to the heart of the Lord. He exhorted them to look to God for everything and place all their works under the protection of His benediction. Another loss to the parish was that of their beloved pastor, Rev. Mgr. Farrelly. He would try to follow that good priest's example, but feared it would be at a long distance and very imperfectly. He wished to grow into the hearts and love of his new flock and wanted them to consider him a friend of old and young alike. His door would be always open to them and especially to the poor. He had broken the past with reluctance but looked to the future with hope. The material building was gone up but the spiritual one was there, and by sacrifice a new and finer temple would be erected to God.

To the children of the D. & D. Institution he said he wished to be more than a simple friend and pastor. He wanted to be both father and mother. God had afflicted them but had still cared for them and at their home here they had everything they desired. One thing they had as an advantage and that was that their silent tongues never profaned the Giver of all. He promised them to become better acquainted with them and their teachers and to do all in his power for them.

In concluding Rev. Father Twomey pronounced his benediction on all. The choir, although laboring under great difficulties, rendered very acceptable music under Miss Mackie's leadership. Misses K. Pawden and F. McInch sang the "Alma Redemptoris," very sweetly, and Miss Pawden sang "O Salutaris" in splendid manner.

PERSONAL
 Mr. C. A. Gormally, son of Superintendent Gormally of the Union Station, has received the appointment of Commercial Agent of the Grand Trunk at St. Louis.

The estate of the late John English was valued at \$3,285. It is divided between the widow and daughter Josephine.

His Grace Archbishop O'Connor addressed the regular meeting of the Catholic Union on Monday evening.

Every L.O.L. in Canada, we are told, will oppose the separate schools in the Northwest Territories. They won't accomplish much.

ed to say I was one of the many whose eyes dropped tears. As I believe my noble friend is still alive, if he should chance to see this letter he may remember me from the fact that I gave him my photo, and I humbly ask his pardon for the freedom I take in looking up my musty manuscript and placing the deep impressions made upon us all that night on record.

G. C. T.

HIS 70th BIRTHDAY

Hon. John Costigan, Father of the House of Commons, Congratulated

February 1st was the seventieth anniversary of the birth of Hon. John Costigan, the "father of the House of Commons." Mr. Costigan has been a member of the Lower House continuously since confederation, representing the same constituency. He is one of the very few members who have never been defeated. He received in his room at the House of Commons, where his old friends had the opportunity of offering congratulations.

The day was also the anniversary of the marriage of his daughter, Mrs. Walter Armstrong, and the twenty-first anniversary of the birth of her oldest son, Harry Armstrong, of the post office department, Mr. Costigan's oldest grandchild.

Mr. Costigan's seat in the Commons was decorated with a handsome display of maple leaves and shamrocks. They were placed there by a warm friend and admirer of the veteran parliamentarian. The little sprig of shamrock was addressed the "father of the House." Before the House resumed its session after adjourning for dinner, Mr. Costigan was the recipient of a present from the members assembled in room twenty-six, a beautiful cabinet of silverware. The presentation which was made by Sir Wilfrid Laurier, was also witnessed by a number of Ottawa's well known citizens, old friends of Mr. Costigan. Sir Wilfrid in making the presentation, said he had known Mr. Costigan for some thirty years, had known him both as an opponent and as a friend. He had always known him however, as a fair opponent and a true friend. He hoped Mr. Costigan would live many years longer to enjoy the esteem of his many friends.

Replying Mr. Costigan said that he appreciated the gift very highly, and while he did not undervalue it, he would say he enjoyed and valued a warm shake of the hand from a friend equally as much. During his public career, Mr. Costigan said he had supported both political parties. One time he was the supporter and admirer of Sir John A. Macdonald, but now he was an equally strong supporter and admirer of Sir Wilfrid Laurier. His change of politics was due entirely to conviction and solely on principle. He said he believed that he had very few if any enemies and was proud of his many friends. After again extending his thanks for the gift, Sir Wilfrid Laurier called for three cheers for Mr. Costigan, which were heartily given, followed by the singing of "He's a Jolly Good Fellow." Sir Wilfrid was then given three rousing cheers. The members then returned to the Commons to resume their duties.

As each general election passes one by one the old parliamentarians pass from the scene until at last they can be counted on the fingers of one hand. Hon. John Costigan has had a unique experience. For forty-four years he has continuously represented the one constituency, that of Victoria, N.S. During that time he has never suffered defeat, never had a bye-election or a protest. Furthermore he is an Irishman representing what is generally regarded as a French constituency.

Death of Mrs. George Orr
 The death occurred on Friday last at the residence of her daughter, 123 Lippincott street, of Hannah McFarland, wife of the late George Orr, and mother of Orr Bros., the well-known contractors of this city. Mrs. Orr had been enjoying good health for some time past, but was suddenly stricken with paralysis a few days ago, which was the cause of death. Mrs. Orr was born in Tyrone, Ireland, 79 years ago, and came to this country when a young girl, settling in Barrie, where she lived for many years. She was a member of College street Presbyterian Church, and took an active interest in Sunday School and missionary work. The surviving members of the family are Messrs. Charles of Winnipeg, R. J. William and George Orr of Toronto, and Mrs. John McAnish of this city. The funeral took place on Monday to Mount Pleasant Cemetery.

T.A.S. Will Celebrate March 17
 St. Peter's Total Abstinence Society, Peterboro, will celebrate the 17th of March this year by holding a grand concert and entertainment in the Opera House.

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