

OUR PARAGRAPHER

AN INTERESTING SKETCH OF THE BERNADOTTES.

SOMEWHAT TARDY NOVA SCOTIAN LEGISLATION—A WORD TO CATHOLICS OF ST. BONIFACE—ST. PATRICK'S LEAGUE, AND OTHER SUBJECTS.

Should King Oscar of Sweden be finally agreed upon as arbiter of the differences between Great Britain and the United States, another remarkable chapter in the remarkable history of the Bernadottes will be written. Less than a century ago Jean Baptiste Bernadotte was a tury ago Jean Baptiste Bernadotte was a tury ago Jean Baptiste Bernadotte was a tury ago...

There is a rush towards matrimony these times. Take my advice, young men, and go with the crowd. I know whereof I speak. I have been there myself.

Judging from the activity displayed by politicians we will soon be in the throes of a Provincial election. Anything to relieve the present monotony.

What is the St. Patrick's League doing? Make a noise, gentlemen; let people know you are alive and frisky.

The proverb in last week's budget was "Union is strength." Don't forget it.

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our blue-nose brethren a considerable length of time to drop into line. Their stubbornness may have been melted by Premier Laurier's "sunny smile."

Vertical handwriting is rapidly superseding the slanting style in the schools of the country. Legibility is said to be more easily attained and more general in the new style.

Few men have reached a place of eminence without the assistance of others. The humblest amongst us may some times give a great man a lift in life. No one realizes this more forcibly than the elevator boy.

Her Majesty the Queen has donated £5 towards the Kerry Disaster Relief Fund. Her Majesty's fortune is estimated at £20,000,000 sterling. If Her Majesty is not careful she will go broke.

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A NOBLE UNDERTAKING.

PRELIMINARIES TO FITTINGLY RECOGNIZE THE WORK OF MRS. SADDLER.

AN INTERESTING OUTLINE OF THE SERVICES RENDERED BY THE DISTINGUISHED WRITER TO THE CAUSE OF RELIGION AND NATIONALITY—AN INSULTUAL COMMITTEE APPOINTED.

It will be pleasing to thousands, we have no doubt, to learn that, at length, a movement is on foot, having for its object to secure fitting recognition for the eminent services rendered by Mrs. James A. Sadlier in her many and admirable writings.

Last week a strong committee was formed with Sir William Hingston, M. D., as chairman, Hon. Justice Curran as secretary, and Mr. Michael Burke as treasurer, and the success of the movement is no longer a matter of doubt.

The name of Mrs. Sadlier was a household word all over America a few years ago. No doubt many of her warmest admirers have, in the interval disappeared from the scene, and we have now very largely to deal with a new generation, for whose benefit a brief, although very imperfect, sketch of her career of usefulness may not be out of place.

Born in Ireland, Mrs. Sadlier took up her pen at the age of 18 in defence of right. Arriving in Canada at the time of the ship fever in 1847, her first literary effort here was the portrayal of the sad scenes of that dismal period. In the intervening 50 years, upwards of sixty works—more than half of them original, the remainder being translations from the French and Spanish—have been the product of her pen; and in America alone hundreds of thousands of readers have by her writings been made better and more virtuous citizens. Herself an emigrant, she wrote powerfully of the emigrant's trials and temptations in her new western home. Her virtue was strengthened and her struggle against evil aided in the pages of "Bessie Conway."

The school question gave rise to "The Blakes and Flanagan's." The reformatory question led to "Aunt Honor's Keppake."

Migration—so desirable—from cities to rural districts in the west was earnestly advocated in "Con O'Regan." Patriotic aspirations led to "The Confederate Chieftains."

"Maureen Dhu," "New Lights in Galway," "The Hermit in the Rock," and others, brought back in vivid colors much that was noble and praiseworthy in the history of a virtuous but long-suffering people.

Canadian home life was not neglected, but was pictured in the bright leaves of "Elinor Preston," while in "New Lights" ill-directed ambition and dissatisfaction with our social status received a fitting lesson. Many important social questions of the last half century have been wrought out in touching tale of woe or weal. All her writings tended to make men better in their affection to the land of their birth and truer to the best interests of that of their adoption. Her more ephemeral, but, perhaps, not less important writings are to be found in the pages of the New York Tablet, when she was associated in editorial work with Dr. Brownson, and afterwards with the fervent Dr. Ives.

Notre Dame University, which annually elects a recipient for the Lecture medal—established to recognize excellence—in 1895 wisely selected Mrs. Sadlier for the honor.

When the movement to make a worthy presentation to Mrs. Sadlier was referred to a few months ago the Press of the United States, where Mrs. Sadlier spent many years of her life, took up the question with zeal and enthusiasm. There is no doubt that a generous response will be made to the appeal of the Committee from all parts of the American continent and even from the Old Land. Amongst our exchanges it was gratifying to find a splendid tribute to Mrs. Sadlier in the Midland Review of Lebanon, Kentucky, as late as the 28th January last. Amongst other things our contemporary truly said: "It is conceded that she has saved the Faith to uncounted thousands who

who have come under the influence of her works. Again and again she has related to the Irish of this country and to their children the glories and persecutions of the past, and filled them with a hope inconceivable. Nor has she been blind to the defects of the Irish character; against these defects she has made incessant war, and many lives have been shaped under her teaching." To the gentlemen of the Committee we say with all our heart: God speed!

ST ANNS YOUNG MEN

THE MID-WINTER DRAMATIC PERFORMANCE A SPLENDID SUCCESS.

A NEW PLAY, ENTITLED "THE HERO OF LIMERICK," IN PREPARATION.

The cosy hall of St. Ann's Young Men's Society, at the corner of Ottawa and Young streets, was well filled last evening by admirers of the Society to witness the presentation by the Dramatic section of a happily selected, amusing comedy, entitled "The Upstart." The piece, which was well staged, is an adaptation from the French, "Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme" of Moliere. The members of the society, who formed the cast, must be complimented on the result of their efforts and the manner in which the comedy was put on, developed and brought to a happy and successful conclusion, speaks volumes for the interest taken by the members of the Dramatic section in their work, and the close study which each of them gave to the character he was called upon to portray.

As amateurs in the Thespian art the St. Ann's young men are unsurpassed, and it is no extravagant measure of praise to say that their performance of last evening, even from a critical point of view, compares favorably with the work of professional companies of recognized merit.

The costumes were appropriate, the scenery in keeping with the spirit of the story, and the play ran throughout as smoothly as a piece of well-oiled machinery.

It is needless to say that the audience were charmed and amused, and left the hall with even a higher opinion of the histrionic talent of the young men who had already commanded their universal respect and unstinted praise.

Every member of the cast was good, and all deserve commendation, of course, some had more scope for the exercise of their ability than others. As the ambitious younger Jordan, Mr. R. J. Byrne had ample room to give play to his talents, and it is needless to say that he took advantage of every opportunity offered. His noble, personified by Mr. H. P. Sullivan, would have been a pleasant surprise to the old man himself were he present to witness it. The part of the valet, taken by Mr. Gethings, was played in a manner which showed the happy versatility of that gentleman's powers as an actor. As the Marquis D'Anjou, Mr. M. P. Doherty was right at home. He assumed the title, appearance and actions of "a nobleman of the highest rank" without the slightest effort. Were he to drop incognito into New York, his chances of capturing an heiress would be at a premium. As Cleon, Mr. J. P. McKeown was very acceptable, as evenings proved, and Daranto and Nicholas, the quartette of professors, with the pupil the laces, the tailor and the multi-considered to complete the pleasure of the evening.

The musical selections, rendered throughout the play, were particularly good, and special praise is due to Prof. P. J. Shea, the talented musical director of the Society.

So successful was "The Upstart" as a whole, that it is hoped the society will accede to the generally expressed wish of their friends and reproduce it at an early date.

The following was the cast:— Mr. Jordan, ambitious to associate with "Persons of Distinction." Mr. R. J. Byrne. Old Mr. Jordan His Venerable Uncle... Mr. H. P. Sullivan. Cleon, A Sutor for the Hand of Lucilia, Daughter of Old Mr. Jordan... Mr. J. P. McKeown. Covielle, His Rognish Valet... Mr. J. J. Gethings. Dorimenes, The Marquis, a Nobleman of the Very Highest Rank... Mr. M. P. Doherty. Doranto, A Count in Reduced Circumstances... Mr. J. H. Martin. Nicholas, A Faithful but Saucy Servant in the Jordan Family... Mr. P. J. Burns. Professor of Philosophy... Mr. R. J. Burke. Professor of Music... Mr. F. E. Manley. Professor of Dancing... Mr. J. M. Allan. Professor of Fencing... Mr. E. K. Quinn. John, A Pupil of the Music Master's... Mr. R. J. Hiller. Joseph, A Tailor... Mr. C. F. Mooney. James, } Lackeys } Mr. J. P. Shearon } Thomas, } Mr. J. F. Shanahan } The Mufti... Mr. T. P. Monaghan. Servants, Turks, Musicians, Apprentices, etc. Musical Director, Mr. P. J. Shea. Stage Manager, Mr. W. J. Furlong. Properties, Mr. M. J. O'Donnell.

The Hero of Limerick in Preparation. The young men are about to begin rehearsing a new play, written especially for them by Mr. James Martin, author of "O'Rourke's Triumph," "The Pride of Killarney," and other successful plays. Mr. Martin's latest effort is entitled "The Hero of Limerick" and in the dramatic personae there appears a name dear to the heart of every Irishman, yes, and Irishwoman, one who proved himself to be a true son of Erin—the brave, the noble, the illustrious Patrick Sarsfield.

The new play will be produced on St. Patrick's Night in the Young Men's Hall, and, judging from its predecessors, we can confidently predict a grand success for the "Hero of Limerick."

C. M. B. A. OF CANADA.

Official Visit of Grand President Hackett to Branch 26.

On Monday evening last, Grand President Hon. M. F. Hackett paid his first official visit to Branch 26 of the Association. The Glenora Hall, in which the Branch meets, was filled to overflowing by the members of the Branch and representatives from the other city Branches.

President Michael Sharkey presided and the meeting for the transaction of the business of the Branch was started sharp at 8 o'clock. Chancellor Thos. W. Nicholson opened the meeting with prayer. Amongst the business disposed of was the initiation of two new members, and the reading of 12 applications for membership.

The Grand President arrived about nine o'clock and the scene on his arrival will be long remembered by those who had the privilege of being present. The hon. gentleman was greeted with hearty cheers which were kept up until long after he had taken the seat assigned him. The officers and members of the Association was in full regalia, and surrounding the Grand President were the following officers of the Association:— President M. Sharkey, Grand Chancellor T. J. Finn, Vice-President Egan, Grand Deputy J. J. Costigan, Grand Deputy Joseph Girard, Grand Deputy C. Dandelin, Grand Deputy A. H. Spedding, Grand Deputy P. A. Boucher, Grand Deputy T. P. Tansey; President W. J. McElroy, Branch 41; President M. J. Polan, Branch 50; President J. Coogan, Branch 54; Chancellor M. Murphy, Branch 74; Secretary T. Delisle, Branch 83; Financial Secretary J. A. Deniger, Branch 87; President Spedding, Branch 140; Chancellor Potvin, Branch 147; President A. T. Martin, Branch 226; Chancellor Chartier, Branch 240; Financial Secretary Kimahan, Branch 232; Vice-President Fortier, Branch 240; Chancellors Thos. W. Nicholson, John H. Feeley, Arthur Jones, D. G. McGillis, A. D. McGillis, C. O'Brien, Brothers E. J. Dugan, F. J. Curran, Wm. H. Cox, N. P. Dr. Phelan, J. A. Galois, J. A. Huruboise, J. McGuire, R. J. Neagle, Jas. Manning, J. Hoodlum, W. W. Hulpin, John P. Curran, T. J. Kavanagh and many others.

Order having been resumed a grand chorus was given under the direction of Bro. J. S. Shea. President Sharkey then rose and made a few brief remarks and called upon Grand Chancellor Finn to present the greetings of the Branch to its honored visitor. Bro. Finn on rising to perform this duty was most heartily applauded and eloquently tendered the Grand President the earnest greetings and wishes of the Branch and the appreciation of its members for the honor paid them by his presence.

The Grand President rose to reply and was greeted with a repetition of the rapturous applause which he received on his entry. It was some moments before he could proceed. Hon. Mr. Hackett spoke as follows:—"No one better than I appreciate the hearty applause with which you have just greeted your Grand President, the genuineness of its metal, the truthness of its ring and the warmness of the hearts and the soundness of the heads from which it emanates. It is but a continuation of that rapturous applause which in the early autumn last made the Music Hall and Opera House at Ottawa resound with cheers when I had the honor of the choice of your duly appointed delegates and was elected to the high position which I occupy to-day. It is but the continuation of that round of rapturous applause, from the Province of Quebec, from the Province of Ontario, and from the Provinces down by the sea; and I hope, before my term of office expires, to have an opportunity of visiting them all. I am not e-tistical enough to attribute the warmth of this reception to myself as an individual, but to the high office which I hold by your choice; nevertheless, upon looking on all the faces, old and young, before me to-night, I will say that it is for me a degree of pleasure and pride to be at the head of this association."

"I am here to-night, not for the purpose of addressing you at any length. I am here, in the first place, to know the rank and file of this great army of which I am the head, to meet the brothers face to face, to shake them warmly by the hand, in order that the relations between the private and the general may be more of a brother than that of a commander. And, I am here, sir, more than that, for the purpose of giving you encouragement in your noble work, and to aid you, if possible, in the work of bringing in new members to our glorious association."

Mr. Hackett continued, pointing out that the C.M.B.A. was a band of brothers in the truest sense of the word. They do not ask of any young man wishing to join of what race or political party he is a member; they require but one thing, that all kneel before the same altar, and that we go hand and hand and heart to heart in union and friendship, and in brotherhood and in reciprocity of affection, and bound together for the mutual protection of the Catholic masses, their education, their prosperity and welfare. This is the badge, the aim and motto of the C.M.B.A. It is not simply an insurance association; for though it is just fitting and proper that we should provide for our wives and little ones, there is another, and to him, a greater object, to unite from sea to sea and from pole to pole the Catholics that form no small part of the population of the country. The Grand President reviewed the critical period of the separation of the Canadian from the United States Supreme Council, and pointed out the advantages which accrued from the division. He exhorted all to be brothers in prosperity but more especially brothers when the dark clouds hover overhead. He suggested that the wealthier members, who could without feeling it, should offer one or two hundred dollars towards the formation of libraries in the different branches. He considered the three great duties of members of the C.M.B.A. to be, to give an example of loyalty to God, which would shed lustre upon their organization, to make known the con-

stitution and the advantages of the Association to their friends, and to cultivate the virtue of patriotism, the hope of this grand country of Canada. He expressed the hope that the numbers would go on increasing, so that the C.M.B.A. may continue to be the most solid financial Association in this Dominion.

On resuming his seat the cheers and applause of those present went forth in volumes.

Mr. T. Emblem followed with a song and had to respond to a hearty encore. Brother Deniger, of Branch 87, made a brief address in French.

Messrs Chambers and Howard gave a banjo duet in a finished manner.

Brother Chartier, of Branch 210, sang a song composed by himself in honor of the Grand President, and his effort was greeted with a hearty encore.

Grand Deputies Dandelin, Girard, Tansey and Costigan made brief addresses, in the course of which they dwelt upon the progress being made by the Branches under their charge. Brother J. J. Curran, advocate, also made a brief address which was well received.

A series of choruses and quartettes were given by the St. Ann's Young Men's Quartette, Branch 226; Glee Club and Branch 26 Glee Club, under the direction of Prof. P. Shea, Brothers F. X. Payette and J. S. Shea. Bro. R. J. Neagle, of 26, and Bro. Morninge, of Branch 1, Quebec, also contributed to the programme.

The good night chorus, Auld Lang Syne and God Save the Queen, sung by the entire meeting, brought one of the most successful events in the history of Branch 26 to a close.

OBITUARY.

MR. JAMES FEE.

The staunch and brave Irishmen who came to Canada in the first quarter of this century, and bore the trials and perils associated with the lives of early settlers, are gradually being called to their reward.

One of their number, Mr. James Fee, of Colongue, Ont., succumbed last week, after only a few days of illness.

Mr. Fee was an excellent type of the Irish pioneers; earnest, straightforward, and courageous, true to the principles of his religion, and always mindful of the Land from which he came. He was one of the oldest subscribers of the True Witness.—R.L.P.

MR. TERENCE MARTIN.

Another of the old members of the St. Patrick's congregation of Quebec has just passed away in the person of Mr. Terence Martin, master carter. Mr. Martin was one of the most popular and respected local workmen, whose honesty and courtesy were as proverbial as his whole-souled geniality, which rendered him a favorite with all classes. His familiar figure will be missed from his old haunts.

MRS. A. BELLA.

On Sunday last the funeral of Mrs. A. Bella, so well known to Irish Catholics in Montreal, took place from the residence of her daughter, Mrs. Harvey, on Ottawa street. The deceased was an estimable and lovable character, and was esteemed by a large circle of friends and acquaintances. She was an excellent representative of a true, generous and warm-hearted Irish woman.

"Darling," said she, "do you love me as much as ever?" "Yes, dearie," said he, with his nose buried in the newspaper. That ought to have satisfied her, but she had to ask "Why?" "Oh, I dunno, Habit, I guess"—Cincinnati Enquirer.

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