

ARCHBISHOP BRUCHESE ON SENSATIONAL JOURNALISM.

During recent years sensational or yellow journalism has developed to an alarming extent. It has grown with the rapidity of a poisonous fungus and is about as deadly in a moral sense as the toadstool is in a physical sense. The morbid tastes of the criminal classes have reached what would seem to be the lowest depths of degradation in New York. All that is vile is grist for their mills, and nothing is too holy or sacred to be respected. The disease in a milder form has found its way in to Canada, and the "True Witness" has taken every opportunity to condemn it and warned the public of the dangers attendant upon having such literature within the reach of youth. The evil was growing so rapidly that His Grace Archbishop Bruchesi found it necessary to address a timely and friendly letter to some French Canadian papers, which will be found to be a noble document. The archbishop's letter is as follows:

"Very often, Mr. Director, whole pages of your journal are covered with pictures representing some criminal scene. Everything is there: the assassin, his accomplices, the victim, the scene and the instruments of the crime. Your reporters have also visited everything. They have questioned one after the other, the murderer, the witnesses, the police officers, and a minute report of their investigation complacently appears on the front-piece of your publication. Unconsciously, no doubt, things sometimes go so far as to frame up those pictures and narratives with comments that resemble apologies.

"What a daily food for thousands of readers of all ages and conditions! I tremble at the thought of the images which these pictures and those descriptions place, and, by degrees, profoundly impress in the minds of the people. Indeed there is nothing so degrading as the habitual view of crime and the company of criminals. Experience shows, and numerous judgments rendered by the courts demonstrate the fact. What a number of facts would really come under my pen under this heading were I to undertake to report them here! On this point criminals of all ages and of all countries entirely agree with the judges. Besides, does not Christian honor reject such sad exhibitions of human perversity? Finally, the law of the gospel energetically condemns this kind of loud, demoralizing publicity which is insulting towards the three holy God, who created man to his image and his resemblance.

"No doubt, Mr. Director, you are not forbidden to give a certain publicity to crimes that are committed; that may be indifferent, sometimes useful. But in such matters there is a reserve which imposes itself, limits beyond which one must not go. To announce a murder or a suicide, to allow a few lines for the circumstances of time, of place, and of persons, to seek the motives and the causes of such an odious act, with a view to show the shame and ignominy thereof, constitutes the honest use of a liberty which nobody thinks of contesting with you. But to go beyond that, to repeatedly refer to the details of the worst corruption, to surpass every day the unwholesome illustrations of the previous day, does

this not constitute a degeneration of liberty into guilty license? Does it not debase one of the greatest and most noble professions, that of a Catholic journalist?

"You will then, in future, Mr. Director, banish from the columns of your journal all unwholesome pictures and narratives. You will be in dread of decaying characters, of weakening souls, of arousing the evil instincts that lie dormant at the bottom of the hearts. You will be in dread of corrupting the mind of a larger number of working people, of young men, of young girls, of schoolboys and of children.

"I ask you this in the name of your greatest interests. What would be the use for you to accumulate profits by causing the perdition of souls? I ask it in the name of the honor of the country, in the name more especially of morals and religion. I hasten to add, I pray you also in the name of those fathers and those mothers of families who have come to beg of me to raise my voice in behalf of the so seriously compromised innocence of their children. I pray you in the name of the many citizens whom such a publicity offends in their dignity as men and as Christians.

"Oh! I know the objection, the only objection no doubt, that can be raised against any appeal and my prayer; now-a-days the readers like such reports and such pictures, they ask for them, they want them. Are you more Mr. Director, why they should be absolutely refused. The evil is already great enough; it must not be increased, it must be stopped. Otherwise that perverse curiosity will become more and more insatiable, it will soon exact shameful scandals. W

"If a son were to ask poison from his father, would the latter give it to him? Do not daily distribute to your readers the poison for which they crave, because bad publications are already completing the work of perverting all moral sense in their souls.

Moreover, you cannot ignore it. Those daily recitals of crime and pictures that illustrate them, finally make upon the mind a terribly deleterious impression. A kind of haunting suggestion and obsession follows. Then comes the great misfortune, sad deceptions, jealousy, the thirst for gold, bad passions and more especially intemperance, and suddenly the conscience gets troubled and becomes blind. The scenes of crime so frequently gazed upon then materialize in a way before the eyes of the unfortunate individual. The thing becomes as a living and unavoidable provocation. Finally, the crime is repeated with the same details, under the same conditions in which it had been previously seen. I am just now simply writing history. Is not, in such an instance, the writer and the journalist the first guilty person?

"You will not, Mr. Director, consent to assume such a responsibility. I am convinced that you have already taken the resolution to provide against this invasion of dangerous pictures and reports of crime.

"I bless that resolution with all my heart, and all fathers of families, all the mothers of families, all those who have at heart the honor of the Canadian name and of Christian morals will bless it with me. God himself will reward you therefor.

"Accept Mr. Director, the assurance of my respectful and devoted feelings."

A. Carey, Portland; A. E. Lepretre, A. M. Gul, Franciscans.

As may be seen from the foregoing list, another name has been added to the illustrious band of Montreal's Irish clergy, in the person of Rev. Patrick A. McDonald. The Rev. gentleman, who is a son of the late Patrick McDonald, was born in St. Hyacinthe, in 1874. Two years later his parents came to Montreal, and took up their residence in Mount Royal Vale, where the family is still remaining.

His early education was received at the parish school of the Vale, which he attended until 1889, when he entered the Montreal College. The young priest completed his classical and scientific studies at St. Laurent College, and shortly afterwards, entered the theological department of the Grand Seminary, where he spent three years in preparing himself for the sacerdotal ministry.

His dream of twelve long years is at last realized, and his many friends and relatives have taken occasion of this memorable event to extend to him their sincere wishes that he may meet with glowing success in his new career, and that he may be spared many years to sow and reap in the vineyard of the Lord.

The name of P. J. Heffernan also appears amongst the list of those upon whom the holy tonsure was conferred. He is the son of one of the staunchest supporters of St. Mary's Parish, in the East End, and brother of Rev. Father Heffernan of the Montreal College.

ST. MARY'S BAZAAR REALIZED THREE THOUSAND DOLLARS.

The bazaar in aid of the decoration fund for St. Mary's Church closed on Tuesday evening, and the handsome sum of \$3,000 was realized. Rev. Father O'Donnell, the able and energetic pastor, and his enthusiastic assistant, Rev. M. L. Shea, as well as the ladies of the parish are certainly deserving of the greatest praise for the courageous effort they have made to carry out their laudable work of beautifying the sacred edifice in which the English-speaking Catholics of the eastern section of the city worship.

Father Shea speaks in terms of great praise of the generosity of those liberal-minded Protestants whom the "True Witness" has always recognized to be a kind of sheet anchor, so to speak, to their co-religionists of extreme views. By the liberal donation of prizes to the bazaar, this class has earned that gratitude so characteristic of the majority which constitute the worshippers at St. Mary's Church. Father O'Donnell in the course of an interview with our representative said that his parishioners responded nobly to his call, as did others from the different English-speaking Catholic parishes in the city.

There were many pleasing and interesting features to mark the event, and among the number none created greater enthusiasm than the contest for the title of most popular young woman in the parish, in which Miss B. Smith and Miss G. Logan were the contestants. The result of the contest was announced showing that after a most exciting and well conducted struggle for the prize, which was a magnificent gold watch, Miss Smith was the fortunate one.

A number of the valuable prizes were held over at the suggestion of many parishioners to be disposed of at a Tombola to be held after St. Patrick's Day. The attendance was very good throughout, and in addition to the financial success achieved there was much good done in the direction of creating a greater spirit of sociability among Catholics generally.

FUNERAL OF MRS. E. R. GUNNING

The funeral of Mrs. E. R. Gunning, who dies on Friday last, took place Sunday afternoon, and was attended by a large concourse of people. The chief mourners consisted of Mr. Gunning, Messrs. Archer and Harold Gunning. The floral tributes were numerous and beautiful. Among the gentlemen who were in attendance were Messrs. A. W. Atwater, M.P.P.; Stanley Bagg, Father M. L. Shea, L. G. A. Créspe, Thomas Heffernan, Edmond Clarke, Aid. Ekers, Aid. Kinsella, Bernard Tansey, Wm. Glendinning, Frank Gormully, P. McGovern, J.B. Caverhill, Robert Cooke, William Kiscook, P. F. McCaffrey, Jas. Doolan, Joseph McLoughlin, M. Downes, Rene Buset, Duncan McDonald, James Quinn, Aid. Canale, John Scanlan, M. P. Laverty, Enoch James, Thomas Love, and many other prominent citizens.

I have often read and often heard of the distrust and jealousy that accompany love; but I think that such a love must be a vulgar and low sentiment. To me, there seems a religion in love, and its very foundation is in faith.

EUROPEAN NOTES OF INTEREST.

Paul de Cassagnac during a sitting of the French Chamber recently, delivered a spirited speech against a proposal having for its aim the abolition of the Free Catholic Institutes of Higher Education, from which we take the following extract:

Do not forget that we also have convictions as respectable as yours, and if you happen to have no religious beliefs—and in this I pity you—it happens that the greater part of the country, the immense majority of Frenchmen, have them, firm and inviolable, religious convictions which we proudly plant in this tribune as our standard. If it be praiseworthy in you, from your point of view, to fight for the denial of our religious beliefs, it is for us an imperative duty not to yield, not to recede a single step, in the affirmation of them. We, as well as you, have children to come after us, children whom we wish to bring up in our principles and our faith. Now, is it allowable that a government, a regime, a republic should do violence to the immense majority of the nation, which believes and prays, and whilst free-masonry is only a small minority of that nation? Is it allowable that that regime should rob us of our children, rob us of them in what relates to the heart, the soul, the mind, and the conscience, after the manner of mountebanks who pass by and take them from us to debase them to the level of their vile trade. In our country, France, we are in the same degree as you, free citizens. We pay the tax of our gold and of our blood, and you would go the length of voting a law which would make the children of this old Christian nation slaves, perishes, and outcasts! Yes, you wish to drive us from every liberal career, from all the professions, from the army, from the navy, from the administration of the country, with all that, because the Republican Party is so laudatory, to greedily take all the leaves and fishes of the public service are barely sufficient for them. And then all who will be brought up Catholics will be dismissed and hunted, with the unholy and shocking result that we shall become strangers in our own country, and even lower than strangers in having to pay out of our pockets and out of our veins, and yet have no rights and receive no protection!

A social gathering of the Catholics of Bliston, was held at the Town Hall recently, to accord a welcome to their new rector, the Rev. G. Bunce. His Lordship the Bishop of Birmingham, Dr. E. Hillyer, presided, supported by Fathers Bunce, Hanley (Wolverhampton), Doran and Karney (Wolverhampton), and O'Toole (Bloxwich), Councillor R. A. Harper, J.P., and Messrs. F. W. Plant, C.C., and F. Cremonini. His Lordship in the course of an address said he had a special regard for the Catholic congregation of Bliston. "And what is there in the Catholic of Bliston calling for special regard from the bishop?" may be asked. He must tell them why he cherished this regard. He was given to understand on the last occasion of his official visit that there was a strong element of public spirit among the Catholics of this town; that they were fully alive to the duty of taking their full share of the public work of the town, and that they strove with might and main to get representatives on the public bodies, and to those men who were best qualified to discharge the duties of their position. On this account he considered the Catholics were worthy of special mention.

Rev. Father Nicholson, S.J., preaching recently at Birkenhead, Eng., in referring to the late Sir Stuart Knill, said that there had just passed away in London a man who occupied the highest position in the metropolis. He was in every action of his life an earnest Catholic. When he was about to be elected Lord Mayor of London the question was put to him as to whether he would attend churches other than those belonging to his own faith. He at once answered that he would not, but that his place on such occasions would be taken by a deputy. His chances of Lord Mayor for a time hung in the balance and it was thought he would not be elected to the high position. Englishmen, however, admired his honorable action, and he was, in spite of all, chosen for the civic honor. During his term of office he gave an example as a good Catholic to all, and men of all creeds honored and respected him for the honesty of his convictions. He remembered on one occasion some years ago seeing this gentleman approach Holy Communion on the Feast of the Assumption in the Church of the Jesuit Fathers in Liverpool. He afterwards learned that this earnest Catholic gentleman had travelled that morning from Scotland fasting in order to receive Holy Communion on that particular feast. He was an example Catholics would do well to

imitate, and he asked his hearers to say a prayer for the repose of one to whom they owed a debt of gratitude for the noble Catholic example he gave to all during his life.

News comes from Chung King, China, that business is paralyzed throughout the western Chinese province of Szechuen because of the depredations of Yunnanese and his band of five thousand rebels, who are thoroughly disciplined and wear a uniform having for its distinguishing feature the Chinese character meaning "avenge." They are determined to rid China of all foreigners, and to stamp out the Christian religion.

There are 6,000 Catholic refugees in Chung King, and the province is troved by the rebels is estimated at 5,000,000 taels. During their raids they have rendered twenty thousand people, mostly of Chinese, homeless, and sixty-two lives have been taken, including those of several European missionaries.

Yunnanese recently beheaded two Catholic missionaries whom the city of Yuh Chuan gave up to him as hostages. He offered them their lives if they would renounce their religion, but they refused.

J. Fleming, an English missionary, has been killed by the natives and soldiers at Tsing Ping.

France demands 5,000,000 taels damages for the destruction of the French property.

After each St. Patrick's Day for many years, remarks the London University, there have been lively rows in parliament over the punishment of Irish soldiers for wearing a sprig of shamrock on their patrol saint's festival. In the new orders just issued the question of emblems is settled by a provision that no officer or soldier will be allowed to wear any unauthorized ornament or emblem when in uniform, unless expressly permitted by his superior officer. The complaint Irish members made, and which was based upon fact, was that, whilst Scotch and Welsh soldiers were allowed to wear their national symbols the Irishman alone was penalized, sometimes with vindictive severity. One of the worst cases happened last St. Patrick's Day, when an Irish soldier of many years' excellent conduct was not only ordered into the cells, but was deprived of his stripes and of his right to promotion. It was a piece of blackguardism on the part of his superior officer—a contemptible calumny of the power his brief authority gave him to "make Paddy know his place." The new order puts a stop to such outrages on Irish soldiers we welcome it with satisfaction.

FROM THE OLD LAND.

Dublin, Dec. 16.

Catholic education in Ireland is now the topic above all others which occupies minds of men who are looked up to by the people as their leaders, and prelates as well as press are speaking with no uncertain sound in the matter. With some people who mistake rudeness for bluntness and then mistake the mixture for honesty, there is nothing that decent people might advance which would have perceptible effect on a grey matter protected with osseous walls of surprising thickness. This has especial reference to the alleged Irishmen who travelled to Bristol to take part in the conference of conservative associations. The principal point of discussion was the introduction to the House of Commons of a Catholic University Bill. This gives an opportunity to Mr. Hall, of Cork, to make the astounding statement that ample provision had already been made in Ireland for the education of every man. Mr. Hall's own education does not seem to have profited him much, for a statement of this sort could only be the outcome of dense ignorance, opaque vision, intense bigotry, or perhaps an accumulation of all three. He seemed to have one appreciative admirer, in the person of Mr. Hope of North Sussex, who remarked that it would be safe to leave the matter of Catholic education in the hands of the Irish government, after which brilliant remark he lapsed into his own forgetfulness and dreamt that he had settled the fate of nations.

How different is the example shown by such noble hearts as the Bishop of Limerick in his letter to the Irish Times, the organ of the Protestant landlord party. He writes:

Will you permit me to point out to you that a distinct pronouncement from you on the question of a University for Irish Catholics would be very important and most opportune just now; you represent largely the Irish landlords—the class that you think ought, to some extent at least, be elected in Catholic constituencies to the County Councils.

Now you must allow that a predominant Catholic constituency by such

vote would show in Ireland at the present time an astonishing liberality. Just consider how absolutely impossible it is to get a Catholic elected by a Protestant constituency. You have all Ireland before you of the history of the country to choose from, and with so large a field I invite you to inform us in how many instances did a majority of Irish Protestants in any constituency, in any Province of Ireland, ever elect a Catholic? When you have investigated this subject if you publish the result of your inquiry, I think that you will allow that you are making a rather severe demand on Irish Catholics when you ask them to rise above all the feelings that are so strong amongst the very people for whom you wish them to vote. Again, there is nothing so galling to a high spirited people as a sense of inequality. It cuts a man to the quick to be told, "Stand down, you are a Papist." Yet is not that what you Protestants now tell us when we ask for a university. You say to us, "You have Trinity College, that suits us, therefore it must suit you come in there, or if you will not, then remain as you are."

Do you think, sir, that such an answer, which breathes nothing but the spirit of ascendancy and insolence, can have any other effect upon Irish Catholics than to rouse feelings of anger and retaliation? Read the proceedings at Bristol on Wednesday last. There you have tried Irish Protestants, one of them from this Province of Munster, going over to England to rouse the lowest feelings of bigotry against our humble appeal for justice and fair play. You report these proceedings, you give the speeches of the anti-Catholic Irish Protestants with great fulness, but not one word of comment. May I ask you if you are not taking our generosity too far in taking us not only to put up with such treatment, but to transfer to the party that dictates it the power over our own local affairs which at long last come unto our hands.

But I beg of you not to mistake. I do not desire to see the gentry and Protestants excluded from County Councils, but I beg to tell you plainly that your own attitude, and that of men like Mr. Corbett and Mr. Hall, make such a result inevitable.

If there is to be peace in Ireland between men of different classes and different creeds it can never be founded except on the firm basis of perfect equality. As long as Catholics are deprived of a single privilege that Protestants enjoy they would be contemptible slaves if they submitted to it with patience.

Now, sir, an influential Protestant journal, such as the Irish Times, can do much towards bringing about the state of peace which we all desire. Much more influential for the same purpose is the great body of Irish Protestants. Let them speak out—not a few isolated individuals, whose motives on the eve of County Council elections may be misunderstood, but the whole body of Protestant gentry. Let the grand juror assemble, and state, with all the weight that must attach to their words, that they are in favor of granting Irish Catholics what they want in education on the sole condition that no one interfere with Trinity College, with which the Protestants are entirely satisfied.

In any case, for or against, I think we have a claim to ask you to speak out plainly and unequivocally, be you for or against us.

If you are for us your very declaration to that effect will go a long way to solve the question in Parliament, and a longer way to remove all feelings of rancour and distrust from Catholic minds. If you are against us we have then to consider how far, consistently with our own interests, we ought to help to perpetuate the power of men who are ready to use us as tools, but not to approach us as free men—I am, sir, your obedient servant.

All over the country have meetings been held expressive of opinion on the question, and here at least all Catholics are united, and the better class of Protestants recognize the justice of the demand. The action taken by the corporation of Limerick is typical.

At a meeting of the corporation the Mayor presiding, Mr. Clune, J.P., asked permission to move the following resolution, observing that it was of the most urgent importance:—"That the denial to Irish Catholics of a University in which they might give their sons the advantages of higher education under conditions as fair to their faith as are at present enjoyed by the Irish Protestants in Trinity College, is as effectual a means as the greatest enemy of this country could devise for her impoverishment and the destruction of her hopes of material prosperity, and it is at the same time a gross offence to 8,000,000 of the population inasmuch as it tells them that because they are Catholics they have no right to equality with their fellow citizens."

CHRISTMAS ORDINATIONS.

On Saturday morning of last week, one of those solemn and imposing ceremonies so characteristic of the holy season of Christmas, took place at the Holy James Cathedral, when His Grace Archbishop Bruchesi presided at a large ordination.

Those elevated to the dignity of the priesthood were:—

P. McDonald, J. B. Aubry, J. J. Brien, J. B. Michaud, J. Racine, G. H. Chartier, A. J. Oumette, J. F. Lafrance, B. Brunel, M. Clermont, B. Lachapelle, F. X. Toussignant, Montreal; T. F. Brown, Burlington; John Whetjen, Chatham, N.B.; T. Conroy, L. Donlon, G. J. Ehl, B. J. Rehnert, F. X. Roseler, A. J. Wagnier, Dubuque; C. M. Brohman, J. P. Cummings, W. C. Gehl, Hamilton; James Doolan, Hartford; A. A. Sylvestre; Manchester, N. H.; J. J. O'Brien, Peterboro'; H. C. Sylvestre, Providence; B. S. Desourdy, St. Hyacinthe; J. T. Delahanty, P. J. Meahan, E. Roy, Springfield; W. A. Doyle, Syracuse.

Deacons:—L. E. Dubuc, A. Lesard, S. J. Renaud, D. E. Dufault, Joseph Jette, J. Jodoin, Montreal; M. P. Bart, Hartford; T. P. Fay, Ottawa; P.

E. Desjardins, A. J. Lafamme, Portland; W. Frehli, Providence; T. S. Flynn, Syracuse, N. Y.

Sub-deacons:—Edmund F. Aubertin, Alphonse Desjardin, Jos. Godin, H. Labelle, A. A. Ethier, A. Picotte, M. J. Cadieux, F. X. Plette, Montreal; M. A. McAdam, Antigonish; H. J. Loosbrook, J. Murtagh, A. S. Pelkart, Dubuque; J. B. Able, J. T. Reid, A. Studer, Grand Rapids; E. M. Donnelly, H. E. Quinn, Hartford; W. J. Guillet, St. Hyacinthe; G. H. Gagnon, J. J. Hussey, Springfield; A. Jouve, G. Peltier and A. E. Spinasse, Franciscans.

Minor Orders:—D. F. Couvrette, J. Hebert, Z. Dufort, J. Lachapelle, Z. Lippe, T. Marechal, A. Roch, Montreal; J. W. Molesac, Antigonish; T. G. Brady, M. H. Carey, B. W. Felder, J. H. Friedman, F. C. Renier, A. Schaefer, J. E. Schlimmoller, Dubuque; Cornelius Emperor, Grand Rapids; J. F. Crofton, J. A. Lenhard, Hamilton; J. F. Forde, Hartford; J. Hanlon, London; T. Reddin, Manchester, N. H.; J. J. Quilty, Pembroke; J. Hayes, St. John, N. B.; P. T. O'Connor, Springfield; J. M. Phaneuf, W. J. Vinyet, Valleyfield; R. Maynard, Franciscan.