

## THE UNIVERSITY QUESTION.

To the Editor of the Catholic Record.

Sir,—Mr. O'Sullivan's letter in your last issue bears the "mint-mark" of Toronto University College training. His whole concern is lest the Protestant school-citizens should be obliged by law to support separate schools as well as their own; he has not a word to say against the actual injustice of compelling Catholics to support schools and colleges which are repugnant to their conscience. It is quite natural for a graduate of the University of Toronto to take the opposite side of the question, and to attempt to throw cold water upon any scheme to promote Catholic education. But, as you point out, no one ever proposed to tax Protestants for separate school purposes, and so your correspondent's solicitude is altogether unnecessary.

Mr. O'Sullivan lays it down as an axiom, that "a defective law will be carried out, more beneficial than a perfect one if allowed to become a dead letter." I do not know what his ideal of a "perfect" act may be, but if the allusion is to an act embodying your projected amendments, I beg to remind him that, as provision is therein made for a deputy minister, to be charged with the administration of the law and the regulations of the department, it is not at all likely that it would ever be suffered to become a dead letter. If the existing act, which your correspondent is free to admit is "not a very good one, perhaps," has managed to remain in force so far, despite the studied indifference and neglect, not to speak of the sometimes active opposition of the Education Office, the measure surely is that an improvement, with a special deputy to administer it, would be more practicable and efficient and lasting.

As a "University man" Mr. O'Sullivan opposes the contention of Principal Grant and others, that the state should provide no more funds for Toronto University; as a Catholic he admires the spirit of fairness which that University has shown to St. Michael's College when negotiating the basis of affiliation. I admire the distinction, I am glad that it is a "University man," and not as a Catholic, he favors the demand for further aid out of the public chest. It is strange, indeed, to find a Catholic supporting such a claim. Upon what terms St. Michael's has been affiliated with the University I do not inquire; it is none of my business to inquire, but I fancy "the spirit of fairness" shown by the latter during the transaction was a mere virtue of necessity. As a matter of fact, the University has gained by the affiliation.

Your correspondent thinks that if it is inconvenient or impossible for any College in Toronto to take the natural sciences or any other department in an Arts course, it is surely open to it to take advantage of the means the University College has for that purpose. Well, perhaps it is, but why should the people at large be called upon to pay an exorbitant bill for the convenience of certain institutions in Toronto? Can Mr. O'Sullivan explain?

He is surely not serious when he pretends that Mr. George Casey's opinion is of more weight among the Methodists than the emphatic resolution of their educational commission; that the fact of the representatives of the affiliated colleges joining in the call for additional endowment, for their own convenience, Mr. O'Sullivan suggests will prevail against the unanswerable arguments and firm protests of Queen's, Victoria, and Trinity, all representing large and influential constituencies, and the resolute opposition that may be expected from those Catholics, who, true to the teachings of the Church, advocate the extension of Separate School principle to higher education.

Yours, &c.,  
THE COMPILER OF THE VIEWS ON UNIVERSITY ENDOWMENT.

## FROM OTTAWA.

Yesterday, the Irish and French Catholic societies of Ottawa presented His Lordship Duhamel with the customary congratulatory addresses of New Year's day. Owing to their great length all the addresses cannot be given, but the only one in English was as follows:

To the Right Rev. Joseph Thomas Duhamel, Bishop of Ottawa.

My Lord,—On this happy anniversary, the opening of the New Year, the Irish Catholic Temperance Society have called to mind one of its most pleasing duties, that of paying your Lordship the tribute of its fealty and the undiminished personal respect of its members.

We therefore approach your Lordship with the greeting proper for the day—not, however, with the coldness of mere conventional usage, but with the warmth which springs from the heart's sincerity, by wishing you a happy New Year.

We come to you as dutiful children of the Church, with the homage due to you as the chief pastor of the diocese; but this motive is strengthened by your personal merits which command our admiration and attract our warmest affections.

When we call to mind all the opportunities for satisfying our spiritual needs placed within our reach during the past year, your Lordship's fervid eloquence in the pulpit on so many occasions, your sleepless vigilance and zeal; in a word, your ardent solicitude that no soul committed to your care shall be lost; it is not surprising that we—and we may venture to speak for your Irish people generally—should be animated by sentiments of profound gratitude and veneration in your regard.

A word or two, My Lord, in reference to the society we represent would not, we feel, be out of place on an occasion like the present, especially as Your Lordship has always taken warm interest in its progress, but on the other hand we are persuaded that our venerable president, the Rev. Father Malloy, has kept Your Lordship so fully advised as to its condition, its working, and its prospects that it is unnecessary for us to say more than that it is still following its old rules and silently, but sure and steadily, doing good in our midst.

In taking a retrospect of the past year we cannot forget the debt of gratitude we owe to the faithful pastors who surround your Lordship and carry out your behests to our great spiritual advantage. Of these it is but natural that our affections should centre upon our young Soggarth

Aaron, Father Sloan; but we desire also to express our thankful appreciation of the services rendered us by the other pious and devoted clergymen of the Palace, who though differing from us in race and language have by their cheerful ministrations done much to make up for the want of another Irish priest in the parish. In conclusion, My Lord, we earnestly and hopefully pray that the arduous labors inseparable from Your Lordship's exalted station may be rewarded by a large measure of success; that you may ever have the consolation of finding your people of every origin appreciative, docile, and responsive to your pastoral voice; that the Divine Lord, who called you to preside over this portion of His vineyard may grant you length of days, with health and vigor to discharge in the future with the same wisdom and ability as in the past the sacred trust committed to your hands.

With these sentiments and wishes, My Lord, we crave for ourselves and our families as well as for our Society, Your Lordship's benediction.

On behalf of the Society, John Heney, 1st Vice President; John O'Reilly, 2nd Vice President.

New Year's Day, 1884, A. D.  
Beautifully illuminated and engrossed addresses in French were also presented to His Lordship by the St. Jean Baptiste Society, L'Institut Canadien Français, St. Pierre Society, L'Union St. Joseph, St. Thomas Society, St. Cecile Society, the orphans of the St. Joseph Orphanage and the Basilica Sanctuary.

His Lordship replied to each address separately, acknowledging in graceful terms the homage paid and assuring all of the interest he took in their spiritual and temporal welfare.

A POPULAR SEPARATE SCHOOL TRUSTEE.  
On New Year's eve a number of the leading separate school supporters of Victoria Ward assembled in the American House, Mr. Dourlay proprietor, and presented Mr. John C. Enright, trustee, with the following address, which explains itself:—

To John C. Enright, Esq.  
DEAR SIR:—We the undersigned separate school supporters of Victoria Ward, (by acclamation) pass without wishing to prove, in some tangible manner, that your services as trustee for Victoria Ward, are duly appreciated; and that your efforts in the direction of school improvements have not passed unnoticed.

Fully aware, as we are, of the many sacrifices of time you are compelled to make for the advancement of our educational interests, we would be ungrateful and unappreciative not to ask your acceptance of the accompanying slight token of our esteem and thankfulness, which we trust you will be spared for many years to enjoy in company with Mrs. Enright and family, to whom we wish many happy returns of the season.

(Signed), Wm. Ahern, P. Dunn, J. Albert, J. Haurahan, T. Hanrahan, J. Dourlay, M. White, A. McCusker, D. Noonan, J. Armstrong, P. Armstrong, T. Grimes, J. O'Malley, J. Keeley, M. Axtell, R. T. Ahern, J. Kennedy, J. O'Leary, R. Quinn, E. J. Kennedy, J. O'Leary.

The gift which accompanied the address was a handsome pair of beautiful tortoise-goggles, and a box of choice Havana cigars. Mr. Enright, although taken by surprise, made an appropriate reply. He expressed his thanks in feeling terms for the presentation of goodwill, and appreciation of his efforts at the board. A pleasant evening was afterwards spent.—Free Press, Jan. 2.

At the election held on the 2nd inst. in Wellington Ward for a Separate School Trustee the vote stood  
G. Marsan 136  
A. Lusignan 73

The result is a complete endorsement of the course pursued by the Rev. Father Whelan in counselling the electors to choose for the office of trustee none but practical Catholics.

## ST. PATRICK'S ASYLUM, OTTAWA.

In all our list of charities and benevolent institutions few, if any, in their great usefulness, surpass that of the St. Patrick's Orphanage. Eighteen years ago, a few of the Irishmen met, and, on Church street, organized the base from which the present flourishing institution has taken its rise. At that meeting Mr. D. O'Connor was elected President, and has held that honorable position down to the present date. Amongst the few remain to-day who formed the first council and who are still standing forth, for the great assistance they have ever rendered to the Home, may be mentioned Wm. McCaffrey, vice-president; M. Battle, M. Kavanagh, John Heney, Wm. Wall, treasurer, and R. Devlin, secretary. These gentlemen have every reason to feel proud of the grand result of the, at that date, apparently hopeless task they had undertaken.

At the annual meeting held at the Home yesterday the President submitted the following report:—

The President and Council, in presenting this the eighteenth annual report on the affairs of this institution, have much pleasure in announcing that the progress and success of the asylum during the year has been very satisfactory, that the means available have been used to the best advantage and much distress and misery relieved.

The institution is now permanently divided into two classes; one the care and education of orphans and destitute children, and the other for the support and maintenance in their old age of infirm and destitute men and women. When the last report was published there were in the asylum in all 108 persons, viz., eighteen old men and forty-five old women; twenty-eight boys and twelve girls; during the year now closing forty-two old men, fifty-one old women, forty-eight boys and thirty-three girls were admitted, making 174 as the total admission for the year, participated and enjoyed the benefits of this home. Of this number only two deaths are recorded, and 164 of the inmates were either placed out or taken by their relatives or left of their own free will, leaving in the institution at this date 111 persons, viz.: nineteen old men, fifty old women, twenty-seven boys and fifteen girls.

Appended to this report are the annual statements of the finances of the institution, giving in detail an account of all

moneys received, and the manner in which the same was expended. It is gratifying to be able to announce that the statements are the most satisfactory that any council has been able to present since the first foundation of the asylum.

By reference thereto it will be seen that there is a balance in the treasurer's hands for ordinary purposes amounting to \$65.39, and besides this the sum of \$1,526.75 is at the credit of the new building fund. The council are happy to be able to announce that the current and floating accounts of the asylum have been paid, and that with the exception of the mortgage of \$4,000 to Mr. Pinney, the institution is free of debt, and that even this mortgage could be paid off at once if necessary out of the moneys to the credit of the building fund.

Reference to the accounts show that the bazaar held this year has been the most successful held for many years past under the auspices of the asylum, which realized the large amount of \$3,252.08. In connection with this bazaar the members and friends of the institution are under a great debt of gratitude to the Rev. Father Whelan and the ladies' society. Through the energy of that gentleman and the zeal of the ladies, the bazaar prospered beyond our most sanguine expectations.

The council have much pleasure in acknowledging the receipt of \$513.75 from Mr. D. O'Connor, the executor of the estate of the late Sarah Mulligan of Richmond, which was paid over to this institution in accordance with her last will and testament. The council also gratefully acknowledge the receipt of \$1,413.22 in cash from Mr. D. O'Connor, the executor of the estate of the late James Sweeney, together with a transfer from the same executor to the asylum of five shares in the Capital Mutual Building Society, standing in the name of James Sweeney, and which are valued at \$800, making a total sum of \$2,213.97, which is said in as stated to the credit of this institution in accordance with the terms and directions of his last will and testament. Mr. Sweeney, who was a life member of this institution, was known by almost all the members, and was noted in his life time for the zeal and interest which he always took in the welfare and success of the home.

For many years he was the able assistant of the Rev. Dr. O'Connor in the management of the interior affairs of the institution, and devoted his time to the work gratuitously. It is to be hoped that his name will be kept for a long time in fond remembrance by those who will not directly benefit by his benevolence as well as his many friends in Ottawa and its vicinity. The council also gratefully acknowledge the receipt of \$200 from Messrs. D. O'Connor and G. Goodwin, executors of the estate of the late James Goodwin in payment of a legacy of that amount left by Mr. James Goodwin to the asylum.

Among the many warm friends of this institution who departed this life during the present year none will be more missed and regretted than that of Mrs. William McCaffrey, the wife of the vice-president. During her life she was a zealous and devoted friend to the asylum, and at her death bequeathed to it \$100 should be paid over to the institution in her name. This has been done, and her name, as well as the other benefactors above mentioned, will be inscribed on the marble slab of the asylum in accordance with the rules of the institution. The council also acknowledge the receipt of \$50, being a bequest of the late Charles Rowan.

The Provincial Inspector of Asylums having decided to report that other accommodation should be provided for the care of the old people than that afforded by the present institution, it becomes necessary, if we wish to retain the annual grant given by the Government towards the support of the House of Refuge branch, to erect a suitable building for the purpose. The council, with that end in view, have had plans prepared, which will be laid before the members at this meeting.

It is proposed to construct this building during the coming year, provided the council can see their way clear to do so without embarrassing the institution too much. The building proposed is estimated to cost about \$12,000. When the present asylum building was first commenced the late Rev. Dr. O'Connor took up a special subscription for a building fund, and was highly successful in his efforts.

The council recommend that a subscription list of a similar character be opened and request that all friends and members of the institution shall give it all the support possible.

The present and council desire to bear testimony to the zeal and energy which the ladies and friends of the institution take in all works bearing on its success, and to their devotion much of the success of the home depends.

The council have again much pleasure and satisfaction in reporting that the internal administration of the home is carried on admirably, and that due economy, consistent with the health of the inmates, is rigidly practiced; that under the direction of Sister Martha and her assistant sisters, the affairs of the home are carefully and prudently managed, and that too much praise cannot be bestowed upon them for their untiring devotion to this work of charity. We trust that Sister Martha may be long spared and permitted to rule over the institution.

The president regrets that owing to pressure of outside business matters, he finds out that he cannot devote that time and attention to the asylum which should be done by one occupying that position; that when the institution was founded in 1866, he became vice-president for that and the succeeding two years, and for the last fifteen years he has had the honour of occupying the position of president of the asylum.

After his service of eighteen years in the management of the institution he feels that he is entitled to be released from further duty; for these reasons he gratefully acknowledges the kindness of the members of the Council in having elected him to the position he has occupied, and in consequence will not be eligible for election to the council for the present year. In his position as a simple member of the institution he shall be happy at all times to render the council all possible aid and assistance. In looking over the history of the asylum for the last eighteen years he

has the satisfaction to know that he has been one of those who from the first assisted at the foundation of the institution which from small and humble beginnings has grown to be a great work of charity established and resting on a solid basis. In accomplishing this result he contributed his best energies.

In concluding the report the council have to bear testimony to the valuable service rendered by the Rev. Father Whelan, spiritual director, on whom, to a large extent, devolves the duty not only of looking after and providing for the spiritual but also for the temporal wants of the home.

Thanks are also rendered to Dr. Kelly for his professional services rendered gratuitously.

To the public generally for the liberal subscription and general support at all times freely given, the council and the orphans and the old and infirm inmates are duly grateful, and trust that in the coming year the same support and sympathy will be accorded.

D. O'CONNOR,  
President of the St. Patrick's Asylum of Ottawa.

Ottawa, Dec. 29th, 1883.

It is proposed that a subscription list similar to the original one be put in circulation for the purpose of adding to the present building, so that its usefulness may be spread and its beneficent effect in caring for the unfortunate waifs and the aged and infirm, and it is to be hoped that the efforts will be crowned with that success its evident merit deserves.

After the reading of the report the Rev. Father Whelan addressed the meeting, and in the start made a happy allusion to a particular incident which occurred during the reading of the report. Just as the President read the report of the successful issue of the late bazaar, a cock came up the window at the back of his chair and crowed. This was taken as a favourable omen. He extolled the labours of the President and members of the council for the good work done, and showed the great necessity for the immediate carrying out the work of erecting the new building for a home for the old people.

Rev. Father Coffey made a stirring appeal to the Irish hearts, and hoped that they would not now relax in their energy, but go on in this great, noble charity.

Mr. John Heney also complimented the members on the great results of their labours.

Mr. M. Battle made a very telling and heartfelt appeal to Mr. O'Connor not to retire.

The president then gave his reasons for retiring, when it was  
Moved by Mr. M. Battle, seconded by C. Conroy, that the following gentlemen do compose the Council of the institution for the year 1884, viz.:—Wm. McCaffrey, Wm. Wall, Kavanagh, Geo. Backerville, J. B. Brannen, J. Heney, R. Devlin, E. T. Smith and Thomas Burns, together with the several clergymen provided for in the act of incorporation.—Carried.

Mr. R. Devlin then read the following ADDRESS:

To Mr. Daniel O'Connor, President of the Council of the St. Patrick's Asylum:  
Dear Sir,—The members of the Council of the St. Patrick's Asylum cannot permit you to sever your connection with the asylum without expressing their warm appreciation of the many valuable services you have rendered this institution since its foundation, and especially during the fourteen years of your presidency.

You were foremost among those who, eighteen years ago, with the blessing and encouragement of the Venerable Bishop of Ottawa, inaugurated the good work of providing a home for the fatherless and friendless of the Irish race. With its rise and progress you have ever since been identified, and to-day, at the close of your administration, you can point with pardonable pride to its past success and present prosperity, without parallel, we believe, in the history of this city and diocese.

You will, indeed, say with us, and truly, that a kind Providence has smiled upon the asylum since its inception; that under Him—blessed be His Holy Name! it has been sustained chiefly by the patient and loving solicitude of the good nuns, the untiring zeal of the charitable ladies of the city, and the constant exertions and faithful care of your lamented and fatherless son, the late Rev. Dr. O'Connor, whose memory will never fade from our hearts. At the same time we cannot forget all that is due to your wise direction as President of the Council and your ready and hearty promotion of all our undertakings, and how, in the discharge of your duties, you have retained the confidence and esteem of every member of the Council, and the confidence of that large constituency, the friends and supporters of this institution.

Your retirement from the office you have so long and so efficiently filled is deeply regretted by all. To us, your old associates, there is a pang in the parting which is only alleviated by the assurance we feel that your interest will not be withdrawn from your presence, and that we may always rely upon your sympathy and support.

With this feeble expression of our sincere regard, we offer you, dear sir, a slight souvenir of the many pleasant evenings we have spent together doing good; wishing you and your estimable wife and family a happy New Year, long life and abundant prosperity.

Signed by the Council of the St. Patrick's Asylum.  
Ottawa, Dec. 29th, 1883.

The Vice-President then presented Mr. O'Connor with a massively carved, gold-mounted ebony cane. The president made a suitable reply, and the meeting adjourned.—Ottawa Citizen, Dec. 31.

## PARIS LETTER.

Paris, Dec. 29th, 1883.

To the Editor of THE RECORD:

Sir,—It is not often you hear from Paris, and yet for the last twelve months there has been no town in the diocese of such interest as ours, not only on account of the progress of religion amongst us, but chiefly because of the many happy returns of the Very Rev. Administrator, who is therefore frequently visited by the Reverend Clergy of the Diocese of Hamilton.

As you have already published a description of our church and of the ceremony of dedication on the occasion of the visit of the Archbishop of Toronto, last September, I shall now refer to the im-

provements that have taken place since. It was expected that the statutory which was to adorn the interior of the building would have arrived for the opening, but, being very elaborate, the artist found it impossible to have them ready so soon. They have since arrived and are now placed in position. They consist of life-like statues of the Twelve Apostles, and of St. Patrick, the apostle of our fatherland. The three apostles favored with the vision of Mt. Thabor (Saints Peter, James and John, together with St. Paul) occupy places in the sanctuary, whilst the remaining eight, with their appropriate emblems, are ranged on either side of the nave over the pillars and between the arches, resting on iron pedestals cases in gothic plaster of Paris moulds.

The lofty figure of St. Patrick, with golden Crozier and Mitre, in purple soutane and cape lined with green, (his feet crushing the serpent, on the broad pedestal fringed with shamrocks), occupies a most prominent position directly over the gallery-arch facing the painting of the Sacred Heart and adoring Angels, over the High Altar.

The statues are all painted in life-like colors with appropriate drapery and symbols, and, looking down as they do on the worshippers, give additional solemnity to the church services, bringing back the mind to early days and making the congregation realize that their church is truly apostolic.

## THE CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL.

As a means of honoring our Pastor on the occasion of the completion of our church and aiding him to meet the expenses incurred, it was resolved to tender him and the Reverend Clergy of the diocese a banquet on the evening after Christmas and to hold a concert and Christmas Tree festival the following evening. Both entertainments were entirely successful. The ladies worked most energetically and, as usual at all Paris festivals, supplied a superabundance of good things for the banquet; so much so that the day following a grand dinner was given to the parochial children and the remainder distributed among the poor. The banquet, which took place in the Town Hall, was attended by about four hundred guests.

In the absence of Daniel O'Neil, Esq., (who was to have acted as chairman but who was prevented by illness) the chair was taken by his son, Thomas O'Neil, Esq., Mayor of Paris. The 1st vice chair, Mr. O'Neil, was to have been occupied by Edward Duffy, Esq., our new and popular parishioner, who was also laboring under a severe cold, was ably filled by Mr. Patrick Skelly, and the 2nd vice chair by our popular and portly town-councillor, Mr. Thomas Murray.

Fourteen members of the diocese were present, whilst many others wrote expressing their regret that duties or distance prevented their attendance, which manifests their love and esteem for our Very Rev. Administrator, in whose honor the banquet was given. Letters of apology were also received from the Hon. Mr. Hanly, Provincial Secretary, Dr. Bart and others, all of whom gave tangible proof of their sympathy by sending contributions in aid of the building fund.

All the ladies worked well under the direction of a committee, Mrs. T. O'Neil being President, assisted by Mrs. Murray and Mrs. Duffy as Secretary and Treasurer. During the banquet several elections were played on the piano and organ. Miss Ealand, the Misses O'Brien, Miss Nelson, Miss Bentley, Miss Maier and others, for Paris is noted for its local musical talent, several of the young ladies of the congregation being pupils of a Toronto professor, himself a pupil of the celebrated Abbe Litz. Immediately after the banquet ten young ladies of the diocese appeared on the stage and presented a dialogue entitled "The Rose of St. John," at the end of which they presented a bouquet of flowers to the Pastor. The ladies having now retired the toasts of the evening then began, the Mayor remarking that the guests were free to choose between pure grape wine and pure cold water, the latter being his own choice, although perhaps the dearest of the two, since it had lately cost the town some thirty thousand dollars. Taking for granted our loyalty to church and state he would pass over the Pope (always said he, first with us) and the Queen and other loyal toasts, and propose the health of the new bishop, Dr. Carbery.

Very Rev. Father Dowling responded in the bishop's name, pronouncing Dr. Carbery a distinguished churchman who would doubt make an able prelate and shed new lustre on the diocese, whose priests would extend him a hearty welcome. Next followed, "the Administrator of the diocese," the Mayor enumerating the many good works accomplished since his advent, which told far better than words the respect and esteem entertained towards him by his devoted parishioners and fellow townsmen. Father Dowling replied in a short speech, attributing any success that attended his administration to the kind co-operation of the clergy, and any parochial improvements in educational and church matters to the zeal and generosity of his united congregation, on whose sympathy and assistance he could always depend. The 1st vice chair then gave the "Clergy" and "Our Guests," which called forth eloquent and witty speeches from many of the reverend clergymen and prominent citizens present. Then the 2nd vice president gave, "The Mayor and the Clergy," and lastly the "Ladies" on whose behalf James Gardiner, Esq., of Bradeside, made one of the happiest speeches of the evening. Songs were sung at intervals followed by volunteer toasts, including "Daniel O'Neil, Esq.," the oldest parishioner, "Edward Duffy, Esq.," "Mr.

P. Skelly and Mr. T. Murray" etc. The entertainment closed with the singing of the National Anthem and was pronounced one of the pleasantest and happiest reunions of the congregation that ever took place in the town of Paris. Next week I may refer to the Concert and Christmas Tree Festival. Yours respectfully,  
M. S., "Enfant de Marie."

## HAMILTON LETTER.

THE PIETY AND ZEAL OF A WOOLLY PRIEST

On Christmas Day the young Ladies of St. Mary's Sodality assembled in the parlour of St. Joseph's Convent for the purpose of doing honor to their good director, Rev. Father Cleary, by presenting him with one hundred dollars in gold, a valuable silver tray and gold medal, beautifully engraved with cross embossed on surface, around which was inscribed the glorious motto, "In hoc signo vinces." A very nice programme was prepared for the occasion by the Sodality, consisting of Adeste Fideles, opening chorus, Song, the blind girl to her harp, sweetly sung by Miss Mary De Lorne, musical accompaniment by Miss Sarah Halloran. Vocal Duet, "Whispering Hope," this beautiful song was well rendered by Misses Charlotte Bastien and Miss Fromm. Duet, the grand March, by the Misses Bastien, was very pleasing. The following distinguished personages were present: Very Rev. Chancellor Keough, of St. Patrick's, M. J. Cleary, Director of the Sodality, Rev. Fathers Slavin, St. Mary's, Bergin, St. Joseph's, Cleary, St. Patrick's, and Kennedy, Dundas. Good Father Cleary was then addressed on behalf of Sodality, and presented with testimonial by Miss Long, 1st Assistant of Sodality.

## ADDRESS.

REV. AND DEAR FATHER:—The joyous strains of the Gloria that first awoke in Paradise, and from angelic lips rang out their silvery echoes to herald the Nativity of our infant God, once again make earth vocal with gladness and beauty and unspeakable joy! Every sigh of the wintry breezes seems to breathe of the fragrant sweetness, the hallowed peace of beautiful Christmas! Its cheer and sunshine beam upon the rich and lowly, and enfold, with rare benedictions, the hearts of every Christian home. Yes, Christmas is grand—yet tender and holy—sweet in its revelations of divine love. It tells us the glorious truth that we are commemorating the happy festival of the commencement of our redemption. Is it not, then, Dear Father, an appropriate occasion for the children of the Sodality to express a little of their appreciation of your inestimable kindness to them? This evening you find us gathered around you, with affectionate felicitations, to testify our deep esteem, and sincere gratitude for the ardent zeal, the untiring devotion you have always evinced for our progress on the golden path that leads to our heavenly home, and for your generous efforts to render our association worthy of its immaculate Patroness, the Queen of Heaven. The pious counsels wherewith you have enlightened our youthful minds and made impressive our duties as children of Mary, shall ever treasure to us, and like the precious treasure of a mother, so refreshing in childhood, so refreshing in old age, they will ever prove a potent incentive to virtue. Then, Dear Father, please accept the accompanying little testimony of our esteem for you, our revered Director, and we ask you to receive and cherish it as a loving tribute of respect from your devoted sodalists. Would that we could tell you of our measure the depth of our veneration and gratitude, or that we could present you with a suitable recompense for all your noble kindness to us! But feeling that we are unable to do so, we raise our hearts to our bounteous God, whose gifts are magnificent, whose reward for every good work far surpasses, with exceeding splendor, all the transient glory of the world, and which shines with un fading beauty through an eternity of joy! Long may you rule over our Sodality, dear Father, with your kind interest and zeal; and we send to Heaven the fervent prayer, that the coming New Year may bring you its benison of health, happiness and grace.

Father Cleary replied substantially as follows:—

My Dear Friends,—Your address and presentation have deeply moved my feelings to-day. Were I conscious of myself having deserved even a little of the kind expressions contained in your address, I would feel more at ease; but reflection shows me at once that I cannot lay claim to your imputed merit. When I took charge of the Sodality, I found the ladies thereof numerous, and ready to continue the good work to which they had devoted themselves; and thanks to God, I am happy to be able to say to-day, that the members are fast increasing in numbers, and giving that edification worthy of children of Mary. There is one thing that I have at least attempted to do, and that is my duty; but although having endeavored to act according to the best of my ability, still I must confess that I have fallen far below the standard of a good and zealous director. But the kind words of your address and the generous offering that has accompanied it, give me much encouragement to day, and move me to the resolution of making greater exertions in future for the advancement of your spiritual welfare. Always shall I cherish these mementoes of your liberality and kindness; and should it be God's will for me to soon bid adieu to the friends I have met with in Hamilton during the past few years, I have now to express the pleasure I ever shall afford me to remember the ladies of St. Mary's Sodality in my prayers, and to preserve with gratitude and happy recollection the proofs they have given me of their esteem and respect on the Christmas of 1883.

Rev. Chancellor Keough, Rev. Fr. Slavin and other kind friends expressed their delight at being present to witness the devotion and regard that existed between Father Cleary and his charge, and passed high encomiums on the noble zeal that was his prominent characteristic. The gratifying entertainment was concluded by Long, fellow's charming song "The Bridge," sang with deep expression and fine taste; the accompaniment was also delightfully executed.