

To the Editor of the True Witness.

DEAR SIR,—I have with much pleasure and satisfaction attended the Christmas Examination of the pupils attending the Male and Female Departments of the R. C. Separate School in this village—the former under the management of Mr. A. J. Campbell, and the latter under that of the Sisters of the Holy Cross.

A respectable number of the parents and friends of the pupils and supporters of the School was present; which manifested the deep interest they have in the good training and religious instructions received in those Schools by the youth of the Parish.

The aptness with which the pupils answered the various questions, and, moreover, the good order and discipline exhibited,—evinced the great care with which those Schools have been conducted under their respective Teachers.

At the close of the Examination in the Male Department, Prizes were awarded to the successful competitors in the different classes; and as the Examination was to terminate Mr. C's engagement, after having conducted the School for over five years, a general distribution of Books took place among the unsuccessful pupils.

The Parish Priest, the Public School Inspector, and Trustees expressed in the highest terms their entire satisfaction with the state of the School; and whilst regretting that Mr. C. had seen fit not to re-engage, sincerely hoped that whatever avocation he might in future choose, happiness and prosperity might attend him.

On the following day the pupils assembled in the Schoolroom, at the request of the Teacher, who was anxious to have a few parting words with them before bidding a final adieu; when quite unexpectedly, the following address was presented by the pupils; and, although not couched in lofty words (the eldest boy not having yet seen many of his teens) it bespeaks the kind feeling and good wishes entertained by them towards their Teacher.

THE ADDRESS.

KIND AND RESPECTED SIR,—It is with sentiments of deep felt sorrow and regret that we, who have been under your care for so long a time, have heard of your intention of leaving us. We take advantage of the present opportunity to offer you our sincere thanks for the great interest you have always manifested in our behalf; also, for the many play-days that have been made so pleasant and jolly for us by our dear Teacher.

As we are not yet far enough advanced to present you with a grand address, we will at least show you our good will to do so, in making this feeble attempt. Be assured that, wherever you may be engaged the boys of our School will always be happy to recall the days spent under your instructions. They hope that in whatever part of our Province you may be situated, you may enjoy good health and prosperity.

Please accept, dear Sir, the good and sincere wishes of your little boys, who before we conclude would also wish you (as Christmas is so near) a merry Christmas and many happy New Years.

From the boys of the R. C. Separate School, Alexandria.

Mr. Campbell then made the following reply:— My DEAR PUPILS,—Although I have some time ago sent in my resignation as Teacher of this School, I did not until the present moment, fully realize that the bond which has united us as Teacher and pupils for the last five years and three months, is now actually to be severed.

The kind and affectionate sentiments contained in your Address, though few and simple in themselves, are to me most expressive and affecting. It is with much regret I now review the past, and call to mind that too often I was under the painful necessity of rebuking and chastising you rather harshly and severely. Although at the time, I considered it necessary for the good government and progress of the School; now that we are about to part, I regret the severity of those chastisements on many occasions, and I sincerely hope and trust they will be forgiven on your part; when on my part I now solemnly assure you that they were invariably prompted by my zeal and anxiety to advance you in your studies.

I sincerely hope that the seeds of education which I have been endeavoring to sow amongst you will bear good fruit; I trust you will continue to make good use of the advantages you now possess, and be assiduous in adding to your store of knowledge during the days of your youth—for remember the words of the poet:—

"Labour for learning before you grow old. For learning is better than silver and gold; Silver and gold will soon pass away, But learning once gotten will never decay."

I will now, without going any further, ask you one favor, and that is, to be obedient and respectful to my successor whoever he may be; to throw no obstacles deliberately in his way, which would prevent him from discharging his duties faithfully. This, my dear boys, will be much to his advantage, and greatly to your own credit and material benefit.

As many of you will, ere many years, have to leave your dear parents and native homes, and go abroad into the wicked world where you will have to encounter many hardships and dangers, I sincerely trust that, fortified by a good Catholic education, you will be enabled to avoid bad company, resist evil temptations, and gain for yourselves respectable positions in Society.

In conclusion, my dear pupils, I thank you kindly for your nice and affectionate Address, which I shall carefully preserve as a memento of you as long as I live. I now bid you all a kind and affectionate adieu, and beg God to grant you grace to lead good and pious lives in this world, and to reward you with eternal happiness in the next.

Hoping you will pardon me Mr. Editor for trespassing so much on your precious time and space, I remain, Yours respectfully,

SPECTATOR.

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SIR,—It may be gratifying and edifying to many of the readers of the TRUE WITNESS to learn that a mission was opened in the parish of Cornwall, on Sunday the 10th instant, by the Revd Jesuit Fathers Langoake and Mc-Nerhaney of Montreal, and by them closed with the papal benediction on the Sunday following. They preached alternately each day at 7 and 9 a.m., and 4 and 7 p.m., to crowded audiences of both catholics and protestants; and by their eloquence earnestness and edifying appearance charmed the hearts of their thousands of listeners, and won among their numerous penitents many a person who for years had absented himself or herself from the sacraments, besides five converts to the Church. The controversial sermons of Father Langoake were eloquent bold, argumentative and exhaustive, and those of Father Mc-Nerhaney convinced all that they were the effusions of an orator of the first order fired with the zeal and clarity of St. Ignatius.

The Holy Fathers were assiduously assisted in the confessional by the Revd Fathers Mead, McCarthy, Masterson and the Pastor of the Parish, and by their united efforts about twelve hundred received holy communion.

The thanks of the congregation are due to the Jesuit Fathers in being so charitable as to come among us, and also to the other Fathers who so kindly and effectively lent their assistance.

I cannot conclude without saying that the zeal of Father Murray in procuring a mission, which was much needed in Cornwall, conferred a lasting benefit on his parishioners which should not be forgotten by them.

Yours, etc.,

A PARISHIONER.

Cornwall, Dec. 21st, 1871.

We have to acknowledge the receipt of the Weekly Budget of Quebec, a paper devoted to Agriculture, Manufactures, and Commerce.

TAXATION OF CHURCHES.

(To the Editor of The Globe.)

SIR,—I am directed by His Grace the Archbishop, to answer a communication of Ald. Hallam's which appeared in this morning's Globe on the "abolition exemptions."

His Grace the Archbishop had not certainly Alderman Hallam in his mind when he spoke of irreligious men wishing to tax churches and charitable institutions. He would be very far from suspecting a kind and liberal Alderman who from year to year cheered the hearts of the Orphans with a generous Christmas feast, to be the instigator of the petition. Alderman Hallam reads his Bible and no doubt found that our Divine and meek Redeemer Christ, used such expressions as "Whited Sepulchres." Woe to you Seribes and Pharisees, hypocrites; because you are like to Whited Sepulchres, which outwardly appear to men beautifully, but within are dead men's bones and of all filthiness. St. Matt. xxiii, 27. St. John called many of the hypocritical Jews "broods of vipers," and our Blessed Redeemer made a whip of cords and drove the buyers and sellers out of the Temple. Christ and his disciples, when the occasion required, did not hesitate to call persons and things by their proper names.

The Archbishop, in his reasons why churches and charitable institutions should not be taxed, confines himself especially to those subjects of exemption. The Archbishop knows full well from experience that both he and his priests pay their fair share of taxes as private citizens both directly and indirectly, and fully equal to any amount of protection received. This answers the first reason of the Alderman, besides, as it has been already remarked by His Grace in his letter, the churches by their action, do more service to the State, than in their absence, taxation could accomplish. Our clergy and charitable institutions, though not supported by the State do more to lessen the burden of the State than can be recompensed by exemption from taxation.

The Alderman speaks of fraud; but as fraud implies deception, there can be no fraud where the community is quite willing to have their churches and charitable institutions exempt from taxes.

Mr. Hallam, in his third reason, speaks of privileged classes; but the Archbishop speaks of privileged institutions, not classes. The worthy Alderman assumes that the taxation of the mechanic would be diminished by the taxation of church property. This we deny, except in case the mechanic should be an infidel or unbeliever; for if he attend any church whatever he will have to bear his proper share of its taxation.

It is a tax, then, on religion, and an inducement to abandon public worship. Every one can see that the alleged benefit of the proposed taxation would be employed by a certain class of the community not overburdened with piety.

The remaining reasons of the worthy Alderman have all been met in His Grace's letter which he has so ably touched, much less disapproved. I have the honour to be, Yours sincerely,

JOSEPH MCCANN, Priest, Secretary.

St. Paul's Toronto, Dec. 12, 1871.

HOW TO SELECT A SEWING MACHINE.

Not long ago the prominent question among the intelligent housekeepers was:— Shall I buy a Sewing Machine? That question has latterly become obsolete, and in its place this has been substituted:— "What kind of Sewing Machine shall I buy?" It is absolutely settled that a Sewing Machine of some sort must be domiciled in every well-ordered family.

I believe myself quite competent to give advice on this subject, and if I am interested in the matter, as I admit the fact to be, I insist that my interest lies in giving such advice as will lead the public to lay out their money judiciously for good Machines; and I, therefore, respectfully submit the following remarks:— It will not always answer to trust implicitly to the exhibition of Machines. Operators of very great skill, with a pocket full of useless attachments, are generally employed to show such Machines off; and the materials best adapted to the capacity of the Machines are carefully selected. Moreover, it does not by any means follow that because you witness the operations of a worthless Sewing Machine in the hands of those persons, that you will be equally successful when employed upon the work you have to do. Really good Sewing Machines will work well in the hands of an operator of ordinary skill. It is not entirely safe to trust to the gratuitous recommendation of professed friends, as there are many who occupy very fair positions in society who are ever ready to sell their influence, and will not scruple to persuade their friends to buy a particular kind of Sewing Machine, and then claim from the dealer a commission for having introduced a customer.

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TESTIMONIAL FROM THE SISTERS OF MERCY. The card, signed by the Sisters of Mercy, of Mercy Hospital, Omaha, November 14th, should satisfy everybody of the charitable object of the Grand Gift Concert in aid of the Mercy Hospital. Here is truly a chance to do good, and at the same time you have an honest shot to win \$50,000 in gold coin.

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MONTREAL RETAIL MARKET PRICES.

Table with 4 columns: Commodity, Retail Price, Wholesale Price, and another price column. Includes Flour, Oatmeal, Indian Meal, Wheat, Barley, Pease, Oats, Buckwheat, Indian Corn, Rye, Flax Seed, Timothy, Beef, Pork, Mutton, Lamb, Veal, Pork, fresh, Potatoes, Turnips, Harves, Woodcock, Snipe, Plover, Butter, Cheese, Onions, Maple Sugar, Honey, Lard, Eggs, Ham, Haddock, Apples, Hay, Straw.

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