

A TOUCHING PASTORAL.

We are in receipt of a copy of Mgr. Begin's touching pastoral letter, addressed to the clergy and faithful of the Archdiocese of Quebec, and ordaining a solemn triduum in honor of Saint Jean Baptiste de la Salle, the founder of the Order of Christian Brothers. We will not transcribe the letter in full, as a good portion of it consists of the special regulations to be followed on the occasion of the triduum; nor is it necessary that we should repeat in English, the account, given in most classic French, of the beatification and subsequent canonization of the new saint. There are, however, a few special passages that bear the impress of Mgr. Begin's elegant and finished style, which are of general interest to all Catholics; and these we cannot refrain from translating.

Speaking of canonization in general, the learned Archbishop said:— "In the canonization of a saint, without doubt, we behold the highest sanction of virtue and of merit. The Church, by her solemn decree, affirms in a practical manner, one of her essential and distinctive notes. She shows herself truly Holy since, by declaring one of her children to be holy—a saint—she must have, by the grace of which she is the guardian, infused into him his sanctity, and have guided him, as it were by the hand, to the very threshold of Paradise."

Here is surely a striking passage. The fact of declaring one of the faithful to be a saint, that is to say holy, is in itself an evidence that the same Church is Holy. It was in obedience to her teachings that the happy one reached that degree of sanctity which Christ's Vicar has occasion to officially pronounce positive. If the waters of the stream are pure, the fountain-head whence they flow must also be pure; if the disciple is holy, the teacher must be the exemplification of holiness.

Turning to the question of education, which naturally flashes upon the mind that contemplates the life of Saint Jean Baptiste de la Salle, or the workings of the Order that he founded, the Archbishop strikes another vibrating note in the following paragraph:— "The order (to go forth and teach all nations), concerns, firstly, faith and morals; it also concerns, consequently, the entire Christian life, in its budding, its evolution and its perfection. And, education and instruction are the indispensable and inseparable instruments thereof. He who trains a Christian life, also, and at the same time, directs him in his social duties; for in him there are not two beings—the Christian and the citizen—rather there is only one, destined to become simultaneously a member of two societies, both of God and equally obliged to obey and serve Him in order to attain their end. An education independent of God and of the Church would be a monstrousity; a worthy fruit of the Revolution, that mother of all errors that are the scourge of our age and the most formidable danger of modern times. It is Christian education that the Church sought to honor in the person of the glorious founder of the Christian Brothers' schools."

In dealing with the work done by these schools, the Archbishop quotes the words of Count d'Haussonville, who was an illustrious member of the French Academy, and who said: "Nowhere are reading, writing, and figures as well taught as by the Brothers; nowhere else are better citizens more devoted to their country formed; nowhere, in fine, is the child better instructed in his duties toward himself and toward God."

In a word, this beautiful pastoral letter is one of the finest tributes—amongst hundreds—paid to the glory of the new saint and to the zeal, ability, devotion, and success of the members of the grand teaching body which he established upon earth. Such pastorals serve even more than their immediate purpose; they become at once bright pages in our history and in our literature, and they deserve to be conserved in the archives of the land.

ANOTHER DREYFUS CASE.—We imagined that long since the world had heard the end of the Dreyfus case. Like all great sensations, it has passed away into comparative oblivion, and has left the world no better and no worse for its having existed. The subject that is now attracting attention is the supposed selling of French artillery secrets to the Washington Government. Whether such took place, or not, is more than we can say, but a Washington, D.C., despatch states that:—

"It was with genuine surprise that the representatives of foreign governments and the Washington public generally learned this morning that the board of ordinance and fortifications in the war department believed that they had secured enough information to enable them to build practically the same gun as that used by the French field artillery. It was equally surprising that the war department had allowed this information to become public, but no one was more surprised at the publication than were the high officials of the department. "What course the French Government will adopt in the matter no one here knows. No fault can be found with the Government of the United States for accepting the information that has been offered. The several civilized governments maintain military and naval attaches at the capitals of other powers for the express purpose of learning all that is possible about the armaments of the countries to which they are accredited. The French Government learns in this way all that is made public in the war and navy departments in Washington, and it is quite probable that the French attaches have from time to time learned details that the authorities of this country have wished to keep secret."

We give all this for what it is worth. In fact, we take but little stock in the whole story.

Notes and Comments.

ANTI-CLERICALISM.—It is wonderful how the French people are directed and governed by so many anti-clerical leaders. In fact, the "Elder Daughter of the Church" seems to have a very unpleasant and peculiar way of honoring her Mother. In an exchange we read the following striking paragraph on this subject:—

"Some of the folk who are elected members of the municipal councils and other public bodies in France are never so happy as when they are dabbling in ecclesiastical affairs and making difficulties for the clergy. In the Department of the Seine and two or three other places the municipal councillors have taken it upon themselves to issue a ukase against the wearing of the cassock in the territory under their jurisdiction. It is stated that the resolutions of these fussy and intolerant gentlemen are to be annulled. Practically it makes little difference to a priest whether he wears a cassock or is dressed in the same way as ordinary persons. Originally the cassock was worn by laymen. After what the Germans call the wandering of the peoples, the laity took to wearing shorter clothes. The clergy were more conservative, and retained the cassock as a garb distinctive of ecclesiastical state. By a decree of the Council of Trent all clerics who are in sacred Orders or hold a benefice are required to wear it; but exemption is made in cases where the wearing of the cassock in public is prohibited by law or is likely to involve priests in serious peril."

"WHAT'S IN A NAME?"—After all, the fact of signing one's self a "Roman Catholic" does not always constitute an evidence of that person's faith, or practical Catholicity. Frequently, in former issues of this paper, we called attention to many "Catholics," "Irishmen," "Irish Catholics" and such like, who sign articles or letters in the press, and whose right to the "nom-de-plume" assumed is disproven by the very text of their correspondence. An English Catholic exchange has the following, which goes a long way to support our argument. It says:—

"A Roman Catholic" correspondent of the "Liverpool Daily Post," metaphorically speaking, puts Miss Marie Cordell on the back and proclaims to the public that the majority of the priests "show their zeal most in efforts to increase their power and in fleecing the laity." In many parts of Ireland he says, they raise money over the dead bodies of their parishioners, and at weddings—in addition to the marriage fee—they are mean enough to sell the bride cake at so much a slice. It is perverted to "A Roman Catholic," who reveres the lofty character of the present Pontiff, to be told he is worth four millions of money, and that his wealth in gold and silver cups, precious stones, jewelled crosses, and so on is enormous. As Mr. John A. Smith remarks in a letter to the "Daily Post," the assertions made by "A Roman Catholic" have been replied to again and again in our columns. We need but say now that his letter reminds us of a chapter in Victor Hugo's well-known novel, "Les Misérables." Good Bishop Myriel spent his £400 a year on charities, all except £40 for household and personal expenses. Living on £40 a year, he confessed to his housekeeper that he was "dreadfully pressed." Then he begged him to put in his claim for the £120 given by the Department to his predecessor to keep up a carriage. He made the claim and got the money, and it too went in charity—for the relief of orphans, foundlings, and sick mothers. When a Senator, heard of the Bishop's application he wrote to the Minister of War: "These priests are all the same—greedy and avaricious. This one played the good apostle when he arrived, but now he is like the rest and must have his carriage and post-chaise. Matters will never go on well till the Emperor has delivered us from these skunk-caps." That Senator was "A Roman Catholic."

DRUNKENNESS AMONG WOMEN.—It is always degrading to see a man under the influence of liquor, but the spectacle becomes a hundred degrees more fearful when it is the case of a woman. We know too well that even in our own city there is ample room for reformation in this direction. In England the evil is becoming a regular menace to the country. We learn that:—

"Mr. T. P. Whittaker, M.P., told the National Union of Women Workers last week that the Registration General's reports for the past 25 years showed that the number of women from intemperance had risen 125 per cent. in proportion to the

population, and that the demand for something to be done was so widespread that it only needed to be focussed to become overwhelming. His statement, based on such irrefragable authority, should strike awe into every thoughtful mind. When one considers the position of the mother, and her influence upon the present and future well-being of her family, one wonders how the public is so indifferent to this appalling scourge. We support industrial schools and orphanages; we pay for galls and workhouses, and here, under our very eyes, is the cause of that vice and destitution which renders such institutions necessary. Yet we allow the cause to work its course of ruin untrammelled and unchecked. The public house is at every street corner for the temptation of the poor; the grocer's licence offers its facilities for the ruin of the better class. But not all the outcries and efforts of social reformers can succeed in diminishing by any perceptible degree the opportunities which women possess of ruining themselves and the homes and families dependent on their care!"

Local Notes.

ANNUAL COMMUNION.—Every member of the Hibernian Knights is requested to be at their hall on tomorrow morning at 7 o'clock sharp, and proceed in a body to St. Mary's Church, to receive Holy Communion in a body. They will be accompanied by the Hibernian band, which will make its first public appearance.

DIVISION NO. 5.—The progressive euchar party and social, given by the members of Division No. 5, on Halloween night, was a magnificent success. Over 100 couple taking part. President McNichol and his colleagues are to be highly congratulated.

DIVISION NO. 1, A.O.H., has generously donated fifty dollars to the Bourget monument fund. The members are also making active preparations for their annual entertainment, which will be held on Friday evening, the 23rd inst., in Her Majesty's Theatre. The drama selected for the occasion is "The Colleen Bawn." The reserved seats were placed on sale Tuesday morning, and judging from the large number already sold, standing room will be at a premium.

CHURCH PARADE.—The annual church parade and religious celebration of the Ancient Order of Hibernians commemorating the 33rd anniversary of the death of Allen, Larkin and O'Brien, will be held tomorrow afternoon at St. Gabriel's Church. It is surmised that the parade will be the largest ever held by the organization in this city. It is expected that fully 1,200 members of the Order will take part. They will be led by the Hibernian Knights and the De Salter Guards, under the command of Col. J. B. Lorge, and St. Ann's Cadets. The sermon will be preached by the Rev. Father O'Meara. After the parade the St. Ann's Cadets will be the guests of the Knights in the Hibernia Hall, where a social hour will be spent by the three military bodies.

C.M.B.A., BRANCH 232.—The second progressive euchar party and social of Branch 232 will be held in Drummond Hall, 79-81 Drummond street, on Tuesday evening, November 27, at 8 p.m. All the arrangements have been completed, and everyone who attends is assured of a pleasant time. The prizes are very handsome, and in keeping with the past entertainments of this popular branch, the committee wish it understood that the tickets for these entertainments are limited. Friends desirous of attending should consult the members of the committee without delay. Bro. W. J. Shea is the caterer for the occasion, and he says it's "up to him" to break all records. Members and friends of the C.M.B.A. don't forget the date, Nov. 27th.

ST. PATRICK'S T. A. and B.—The regular monthly meeting of the St. Patrick's Total Abstinence and Benevolent Society was held Sunday afternoon, Nov. 11th. Mr. J. J. Costigan, 1st vice-president occupied the chair, and there was a large number of members, and four new members were admitted to the benefit branch of the society.

Resolutions of condolence were also tendered to the widow and family of the late Mr. Thos. Godfrey, who up to the time of his death, was a member of the society.

The Tombola being held by the members is meeting with good success. The drawing will be held in the hall 92 St. Alexander street, on Tuesday evening, Nov. 27th, at 8 o'clock sharp. All persons having books out are requested to make returns not later than Tuesday, Nov. 20th, in order to give all purchasers of tickets an equal share in the drawing. On Sunday evening, Dec. 2nd, the society will hold its annual temperance celebration in St. Patrick's Church, and at which the other temperance societies will be present. A special sermon will be preached on the occasion. On Wednesday evening, Nov. 14th, a special meeting of the society was held, and at which the junior branch was inaugurated. Twenty names were handed in and were likewise inscribed in the roll book of the society. During the course of the evening the boys were called upon to say a few words, and done so in a most creditable manner. Nominations were also called for the different officers required in connection with the branch. The election of these officers will be held on Tuesday evening, Nov. 20th, when the

names of the successful candidates will be published in the "True Witness." The Rev. Father McGrath, President of the society, deserves every praise for the interest he is taking in the formation of this branch of the society, and aided by the members, it is hoped that in a short time the membership of the branch will run into the hundreds.

ST. PATRICK'S CHOIR.—On Thursday evening last the members of St. Patrick's choir, assembled in their practice room in St. Patrick's Rectory, and tendered a hearty reception to one of their member, Mr. R. D. Gunn, a member of the first contingent, who recently arrived in the city from South Africa. Prof. Fowler, organist and musical director of St. Patrick's choir, occupied the chair, and in a very happy speech accorded their fellow-member a hearty welcome home, and on behalf of the members of the choir he presented him with a large photograph group of the choir (recently taken by Notman), bearing a silver plate with the following inscription thereon:—

Presented to Corp. R. D. Gunn (5th Royal Scots, Canada), member of the first Canadian contingent, on his return from South Africa, by the officers and members of St. Patrick's Church choir, Nov. 8, 1900.

Mr. Gunn on rising to respond was accorded an ovation. He thanked the members for their gift, and he assured them that he would prize it very highly, and he also thanked them for their kind reception tendered him.

An impromptu smoking concert was here inaugurated, and a very pleasant hour was spent, during which Mr. Gunn gave a very graphic description of all the engagements of which he and his comrades of the first contingent took part. Speeches were given by numerous members of the choir, and the evening's entertainment was brought to a close with three cheers for their returned member in Khaki.

MISS FANNIE PRINGLE, one of the most accomplished and most charming vocalists in Montreal will be tendered a complimentary concert at the Karn Hall on November 22. Miss Pringle is well known in all our Catholic parishes, having in her generosity of heart aided many parish organizations in their endeavor to secure financial assistance to carry on their work. It is therefore, to be hoped that the readers of the "True Witness" will make an effort to assist the promoters of this most worthy undertaking and at the same time enjoy the rich musical treat which is in store for all the patrons of this talented artist. The Ladies' Auxiliary, A.O.H., and St. Lawrence and St. Patrick's Courts, C.O.F., are working most industriously for the success of the concert. We sincerely wish that a bumper house will greet Miss Pringle.

ST. PATRICK'S ORPHAN ASYLUM.

The grand banquet in connection with the Golden Jubilee of St. Patrick's Orphan Asylum, which will take place at the asylum on Wednesday next, under the auspices of the Ladies of Charity, should be well attended. A large number of tickets have been sold.

MR. W. E. DORAN MEETS WITH AN ACCIDENT.

The many friends of Mr. William E. Doran, the well known architect, will regret to learn that while engaged in making an examination of an old building on Dorchester street, a few days ago, he fell a distance of nearly ten feet, and was seriously shaken up by the fall.

CHRYSANTHEMUM SHOW.

A rare treat was given to the flower-loving public, when the Montreal Gardeners' and Florists' Club held their annual chrysanthemum show in Windsor Hall. The formal opening took place on Monday evening, and the music was furnished by the Victoria Rifles' orchestra. Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal, the honorary president of the Club, with a number of prominent citizens and ladies, occupied the platform. Mr. James McKenna was chairman, and in a neat little speech, introduced Lord Strathcona. This introduction, Mr. McKenna said, is really surprising, as His Lordship is so well known in Montreal, or in fact, anywhere in the British Empire, to need an introduction. Lord Strathcona spoke in very complimentary terms to the gardeners and florists of Montreal, and congratulated them on their splendid exhibition of this beautiful flower, "Queen of Autumn," which, he said, was one thing for which we are indebted to China. He then declared the exhibition formally open. Principals, Peterson, of McGill, and Mr. Wilson Smith, also made some very timely remarks.

The chrysanthemum blooms were exceptionally beautiful this year. The most remarkable feature being their immense size. One "Mun" plant, which was worthy of particular notice, was exhibited by C. A. Smith, gardener to Mr. Dawes, Lachine. Plant showed 175 blooms. In the mantle decoration competition, Wilshire Bros. took first prize. This decoration consisted of exquisite "Liberty" roses, intermixed with smilax and ferns. The effect of the red and green was perfect. A very unique design in a funeral wreath was exhibited by P. McKenna & Son, and was greatly admired.

Prizes were awarded to Messrs. Bennett, McKenna, Wilshire, Smith, Eddy, Walsh and others. This exhibition was not devoted exclusively to chrysanthemums. A large number of ferns, palms, orchids and carnations were noticed. The show closed on Wednesday the Windsor Hall during those three nights, and all who paid a visit to days were well repaid for their trouble.

"CHRYSANTHEMUM."

FIFTY YEARS IN LABRADOR.

Fifty years of missionary labors, travels and privations among the lowest and most degraded Indian tribes of the North American continent, in the far frozen north of Labrador, have just been completed by the Rev. Father Arnaud, of the Oblate Order, says an exchange. The wonderful career of the venerable missionary is intimately connected with some of the most sensational experiences of the Montagnais, and he has seldom been heard to complain of his lot, but the Jesuit Father Crepeul has graphically described the life of a Montagnais missionary as a prolonged martyrdom, and a continual practice of patience and mortification. In winter the missionary lives in an Indian hut formed of sticks covered with skins and boughs of trees and banked around with snow. He lies upon the frozen ground with his clothes on, the hut being usually full of smoke, and if he persists by day he is almost frozen at night. Sometimes he is forced to go without food.

Father Arnaud has experienced all these and even greater miseries. After his return from Hudson Bay in 1849 he was sent to labor among the Indians of Labrador, from the Saguenay to the Atlantic Ocean. He has carried on his wonderful work until the present time, and will probably continue it until the end of his life. Nothing can exceed his affectionate regard for his Indian flock, many members of which he has converted from paganism.

Father Arnaud's descriptions of the sufferings of his "poor sheep," as he calls the Indian members of his flock, often resemble some horrible fiction. They are corroborated, however, from other sources. He tells, for instance, of the disasters that befall the members of his mission at Mangan some winters ago, when 32 of his Indian converts died of starvation at the height of land in which the St. Jean River has its source. About 20 Montagnais families left the coast during the previous summer for the part of the interior already described, taking no provisions with them, because they had counted upon finding plenty of caribou there. In this they were entirely disappointed, however, while an exceptionally early fall of snow found many of them without their snow-shoes, and they could not even find the porcupines, hares and white partridges which are usually so abundant in Labrador. A few families among them contrived to reach Eskimo Bay, but most of the others miserably perished in the woods before Christmas. News reached the missionary the same year that two families had been abandoned to their

fate at the head-waters of the St. Augustine River, and that a number of other Indians belonging to the same place, who had crossed to Newfoundland, had been massacred by the Mic-Macs.

Many times Father Arnaud has narrowly escaped death from starvation, drowning and exposure to the wild animals that roam the woods of Labrador.

THE CZAR'S ILLNESS CAUSES ALARM.

London, November 16.—The impression exists in most European capitals that the illness of the Emperor Nicholas is more serious than is represented to be, but this is probably based upon knowledge that the Czar's constitution is not strong and is little likely to resist a serious attack.

In Copenhagen the illness is attributed to overwork in connection with the Chinese crisis, and there is also a suspicion that hygienic conditions and water supply at Livadia may be faulty.

The Dovagor Carina receives news by courier twice each day. Her departure from Fredensborg had been officially fixed for November 26. Preparations have since been made for her to leave at any moment, and the fact that she has not started indicates that there is no immediate danger. It is feared, however, that even if no complications ensue, the attack may be of long duration.

There is no news from St. Petersburg on the subject beyond the official bulletins, which indicate that the attack is only slight, no high temperature having yet been reached. Rome, November 15.—A rumor is current in Rome that the illness of the Czar is due to poisoning, and it is asserted that cipher telegrams have been received at the Vatican saying that an attempt was made to poison both the Emperor and Empress, but that the latter was not affected. This story, however, is not believed.

A ROYAL MATCH.

New York, November 15.—Prince Victoria of Wales is engaged to be married to Prince George of Greece, Governor-General of Crete, says a London despatch.

Prince George spent some time recently at Windsor castle with the Queen and the Prince and Princess of Wales. The marriage was arranged by them.

KARN PIANOS.

I have been associated with several of the leading piano houses of America, and as manager for a number of the best foreign Court Orchestras, am familiar with the best pianos. I consider the KARN piano in tone and mechanism superior to any piano manufactured in Canada.

Yours very truly,

(Signed) GUIDO DE VAULTIS, Manager of Orchestras, Imperial Russian Court and Vienna Ladies' Court Orchestras, Russian National Band.

A choice stock of CHICKERING and KARN pianos always on view in our warehouses.

THE D. W. KARN CO., LTD., Karn Hall Building, St. Catherine Street.

The teacher arose and placed her finger on the map. "Which is the most important of the solar systems?" she asked. "The solar system," yelled the lad with the discolored eye.—Baltimore American.

Healthful * and * Delicious * Fruit.

Nova Scotia Fall and Winter Apples.

All specially selected, and carefully packed, by one of the best growers in the province, for our FAMILY TRADE.

50 bbls Selected No. 1 "Gravensteins," 18 "Selected "Blenheim," 10 "Selected "Baldwins," 10 "Selected "Golden Russets," 112 "Selected "No. 1 Kings," 200 barrels in all.

A finer lot of apples has not been shipped from the "LAND OF EVANGELINE" this season.

Selected No. 1 "Gravensteins," 80 cents per basket, \$4.50 per barrel.

for city delivery, and for country delivery, anywhere in the Province of Quebec by freight train, \$3.75 per barrel. All freight charges prepaid by us.

"The Benhems" 75 cents per basket, \$4.50 per barrel.

for city delivery and for country delivery anywhere in Ontario or Quebec by freight, all charges prepaid, \$4.70 per barrel.

"The Baldwins" 80 cents per basket, \$4.50 per barrel.

for city delivery, and for country delivery, freight prepaid as above, \$4.85 per barrel.

"The Golden Russets" Same price as the Baldwins 80 cents per basket \$4.50 per barrel.

and to outside points in Ontario and Quebec, freight charges prepaid, \$4.85 per barrel, and the

Selected No. 1 Kings 75 cents per basket, \$4.50 per barrel.

for city delivery, and delivered by freight anywhere in the Province of Ontario and Quebec for \$4.85 per barrel.

Prices are net cash.

Remit by Express or Post Office Money Order or in cash.

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We beg to draw the attention of consumers throughout Ontario and Quebec to this magnificent fruit.

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