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And Catholic Chronicle

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ITEMS OF INTEREST

WORK OF THE BONA MORS SOCIETY.

No more appropriate thought could be suggested this month to the members of the League of the Sacred Heart than that of death. It is the month of the Holy Souls, during which our devotion is directed largely into the channel of affection for the departed, by prompting us to procure for them the rich indulgences which the Church loves to bestow, particularly at this period. But while she desires us to show our love for the departed, she wants us also to exercise our wisdom in our own behalf, and so calls attention to the work of this pious association, whose purpose is to prepare us for the time when we are to be numbered among the dead. The Society does so by putting frequently before the minds of its members by means of prayers, exhortations and various pious exercises, considerations calculated to make that moment which must be the end of our earthly career, an occasion not of terror and alarm, but of confidence and hope. The subtitle of the Society is "Confraternity of Our Lord Jesus Christ." Dying on the Cross and of the Most Blessed Virgin Mary, His Sorrowful Mother, a title which is descriptive of the manner in which we should die, namely: with Jesus and Mary, and trusting in the blood of Our Divine Savior and the intercession of His Mother that when we come into His Presence He will receive us benignly, and grant us, though undeserving, eternal life.

St. Anthony's parish is preparing to hold a monster euchar party, the proceeds of which will be devoted to the purchasing of a carpet for the sanctuary.

Next Sunday afternoon the St. Patrick's T. A. & B. Society will hold its monthly meeting, at which the nomination of officers for the coming year takes place.

The Forty Hours' devotion opened at St. Bridget's Church on Sunday. In the evening the Nocturnal Adoration Society of Notre Dame Church visited the church and held a special service.

On last Saturday morning an anniversary requiem service was held at the Church of Our Lady of Lourdes for the deceased benefactors of Laval University. Rev. Abbe Curotte, secretary of Laval University, celebrated Mass. The students of Laval assisted in a body.

The Union Sts. Cecilia will celebrate the Feast of St. Cecilia on Sunday, Nov. 19th. Solemn high Mass will be sung at the Church of the Gesù. In the afternoon a reception will be held in the hall of the Association, 397 Dorchester street. In the evening there will be a banquet at the Queen's Hotel.

REQUIEM FOR FATHER STRUBBE.

On Monday morning the pupils of St. Ann's School had a requiem Mass offered for the repose of the soul of Rev. Father Strubbe. St. Ann's boys' choir rendered the music impressively.

BLESSING OF A NEW CEMETERY.

On Sunday afternoon last the new cemetery of St. Clement at Beauharnois was solemnly blessed by Rev. Abbe Lusier, former parish priest. The sermon was preached by Rev. Father Jean Marie, of the Franciscan Monastery, Dorchester street. Over two thousand persons assisted.

LECTURE ON FRENCH LITERATURE.

The opening address in the course of lectures on French literature took place on Wednesday evening at Laval University. Monsieur Louis Arnold, who is the lecturer for the year, delivered his inaugural address. A large number of invited guests and friends were present, as well as the faculty and students of the University.

ECCLIASTICAL CHANGES.

His Grace the Archbishop has named Abbe J. A. S. Perrin, cure of St. Basile le Grand. Rev. Abbe H. Bello-rose assistant almoner at the Mother House of the Grey Nuns, Guy street. Rev. Abbe J. A. D'Amour assistant almoner at the Asile St. John of God. Rev. Abbe H. J. B. Latour vicar at St. John of the Cross.

LAW LECTURES FOR LADIES.

On Saturday afternoon, Judge Mathieu, dean of the Faculty of Law at Laval, gave the second lecture of the series on law for sisters, teachers and advanced pupils of the French schools. The learned lecturer held the attention of his audience for an hour while he explained the scope of civil law, and indicated the great divisions of law in general, giving a history in brief of the origin of our laws, going back to Roman law and customs. Next Saturday the subject will be law as it affects the individual and the definition of persons. Ladies are invited to assist at this course, which is gratuitous, and which takes place at the Ecole Bourgeois, 490 Plessis street, on Saturdays, from 2 to 3 p.m.

ST. GABRIEL'S T. A. & B. SOCIETY.

The monthly meeting of St. Gabriel's Total Abstinence and Beneficence Society took place last Sunday immediately after high Mass. The date of the religious celebration was changed from January 6th to the third Sunday in Advent, the new date being fixed by the pastor, Rev. Wm. O'Meara. The nomination of officers for the ensuing year will take place at the next monthly meeting.

CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY DAMAGED BY FIRE.

The interior of the sanctuary of the Church of the Nativity, corner of Ontario and Desory streets, was damaged by fire on Monday night to the extent of \$600. The blaze is believed to have originated from an altar lamp, which was placed in a closet without having been extinguished. The altar decorations which were in the closet were badly scorched. Captain Carson and the firemen of No. 13 station extinguished the fire without difficulty.

VALUABLE DISCOVERY.

Rev. Father O'Leary, of the Dominion Archives Department, Quebec, who is engaged in making researches for the establishment of a branch institution in that city, has communicated by letter with Ottawa reporting that he has discovered a solid silver ostensorium which was presented to a parish by Intendant Francois Bigot. This intendant was in Canada from 1748 to 1759. The gift was to the parish of St. Pierre, in the Island of Orleans, and bears an inscription describing its origin. Father O'Leary made the discovery in an old cupboard. He had the article photographed and sent pictures of it to the capital. The Archbishop of Quebec has issued a circular to all the priests of his diocese instructing them to admit Father O'Leary to all the records relating to early Canada for the purposes of research for the Dominion Archives. This act of the Archbishop is much appreciated by the chief of the archives branch, as it affords an opportunity to procure information otherwise unobtainable. A French work containing a store of interesting information about early fortifications at Quebec was procured for the Archives last week. The work was written by a French engineer, de Lory, in 1716, for the French Government, but was never published. The original manuscript, therefore, remained in Canada. It comprises eight books, illustrated by 132 plates, and is a valuable acquisition to the collection in the archives.—Daily Telegraph, Quebec.

Y. I. L. & B. SOCIETY CONCERT.

The farwell concert in the old hall of the Young Irishmen's L. and B. Association took place on Tuesday evening and was largely attended. Even before the appointed time every available corner of the hall was filled. About 8.30 the proceedings were opened by the President, Mr. Jas. McMahon, who, in a well-chosen address, welcomed those present. He reviewed in brief the life work of the society, and referred, although not without regret, to the fact of their leaving what had proven to each and all to possess the charms of a dearly cherished home for more commodious premises. A choice programme of vocal and instrumental selections was then splendidly rendered.

The speaker of the evening was Hon. W. A. Weir, who handled his subject "Quebec, Past, Present and Future" in such a masterly manner as not only to attract home people to

remain at home and cultivate their many and powerful resources, but also to encourage thrift and intelligence, come from where it may, to seek a home in this, our large, luxurious and beautiful country.

A vote of thanks to the lecturer having been proposed by Mr. E. Hally, one of the founders of the association, seconded by Mr. Jas. McMahon, President of the Society, and unanimously carried, the second part of the programme was proceeded with.

On the whole, this association is to be congratulated upon its great national spirit and numerous good works; and we sincerely wish those who have labored so manfully and well in the past, many years yet to enjoy the fruits of their generous and noble efforts.

Annual Pilgrimage to Cote des Neiges Cemetery.

The annual pilgrimage of all the parishes of the city took place last Sunday. Notwithstanding the unfavorable weather, thousands assisted at the solemn service for the dead. His Grace Archbishop Bruchesi presided at the ceremony, assisted by His Lordship Bishop Racicot, Rev. Canon Roy, Chancellor; Rev. Fathers Perrier, Vice-Chancellor; Luche, S.S., Lelandais, S.S., Duchesne, S.S., Casey, P.P., St. Agnes, and a large number of the different religious orders. At 3 o'clock the sermons were preached, one in French by Rev. Abbe Auclair, P.P., St. Jean Baptiste and that in English by Rev. William O'Meara, P.P., St. Gabriel's Church. Rev. Father O'Meara took for his text: "Remember those that are in bonds, as though thou wert in bonds with them." (Proverbs ix, verse 8).

My dear friends, how fitting may we apply these beautiful words of Holy Writ to that practical Catholic devotion of praying for the holy souls in purgatory. The belief of a third and middle state of souls is an article of faith grounded not only upon Scripture, but also upon the perpetual tradition and constant practice of all ages and nations since the earliest years of Christianity as appears from the unanimous testimonies of the Holy Fathers, the most ancient liturgies, and the most venerable monuments of antiquity both in the Greek and Latin Church.

The Old Testament proves the existence of Purgatory. It is true, indeed, the last sentence in the General Judgment only mentions Heaven and Hell because these are the only two great receptacles of all men both good and bad for all eternity, as there will be no Purgatory after the last judgment.

It is also an article of our Holy Faith, that the souls who have gone before us, and who have not departed from this world sufficiently pure to enter Heaven direct, are detained in an intermediate state until they are purified and rendered fit to stand in the presence of God; and that these holy souls may and can be assisted by the prayers and suffrages of the faithful on earth. The practice of this Catholic devotion of prayers for the Holy Souls in purgatory is an act of Divine Charity, and act of the most sublime charity that man can perform on earth after the love of God Himself. This Catholic doctrine glorifies and pleases God, assists the holy souls, and helps us when we cannot help ourselves. By it God is pleased and glorified. To all men He has said: "I have loved you with an everlasting love." Then great indeed must be the love of God for just souls. We know that Christ died for these souls, and His Sacred Heart is yearning for them because He has already paid the price of their salvation. When we, therefore, by our prayers and suffrages, alleviate their sufferings and help them to obtain their eternal happiness, God is greatly pleased thereby. When we, therefore, by our prayers and suffrages, hasten their entrance into Heaven, God is glorified.

We should practice this devotion for the sake of the souls themselves. What souls are in Purgatory? If we except the souls of children who die in their baptismal innocence, if we except the souls of the martyrs who seal their faith with the effusion of their blood; if we except the renowned Saints and illustrious penitents who by their extraordinary rigor and penitential austerities fully expiate all their faults and the temporal punishment due to them, there is reason to believe that perhaps not one in ten thousand adults depart this life so pure, so spotless, so perfectly purged from all the dregs of sin as to be fit to go straight to Heaven.

What souls are in Purgatory? The souls of the just who have departed

GOLDEN WEDDING.



MR. AND MRS. J. AMES McMENAMIN, Who Celebrated their Golden Wedding.

On Monday morning, 6th instant, the grand ceremony of the golden jubilee of Mr. and Mrs. James McMenamin took place at St. Gabriel's Church, where Mass was celebrated by their son, Rev. D. P. McMenamin, P.P. of St. Patrick's Church, Bid-dulph, Ont.

Rev. Fathers O'Meara and Fahey, of St. Gabriel's, and Rev. Bro. Prudent, of St. Patrick's High School, and others, assisted in the sanctuary. At the end of Mass Rev. Father McMenamin received the renewal of the marriage vows of his parents, and announced that through the kindness of his own Bishop, of London Diocese, and of the Archbishop of Montreal, the Holy Father had

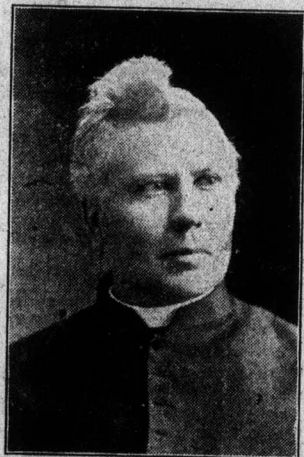
sent the Papal blessing to the jubilarians and to their family. The Archbishop also sent his blessing, and the gift of a large and beautiful medal bearing the likeness of the Pope.

During the Mass very fine selections were rendered by St. Gabriel's choir, accompanied with organ. A large congregation was present, testifying to their feelings of good wishes and congratulations towards the ones who were celebrating the first golden wedding that ever took place in St. Gabriel's Church.

James McMenamin was born of Irish parents in the city of Glasgow, Scotland, in 1837, and his much esteemed wife was born in the town of Letterkenney, Donegal Co., Ireland, in the same year. Both arrived in Montreal in 1854, and were married by the late Rev. Father Dowd in 1855 in the Church of Notre Dame. At the age of sixteen James McMenamin was engaged in Scotland by the present Sir George A. Drummond to come to the Redpath Sugar Refinery, which was then about to start. He has worked for the same company ever since, celebrating last year his fiftieth anniversary, and is at present the popular and efficient manager of the establishment he entered a boy.

They had seven children, three of whom are living to-day, namely, Rev. Daniel P. McMenamin, Ellen, wife of Joseph A. Cartier, of the Canada Sugar Refinery, and Susan, wife of John S. Shea, of the Merchants Bank of Canada, and twenty-one grand-children, who all assembled at the old home to offer their good wishes. In the presence of a host of relatives they presented their parental jubilarians with an illuminated address and a purse of gold.

The numerous and valuable wedding presents received indicate the high esteem in which Mr. and Mrs. McMenamin are held.



REV. D. P. McMENAMIN, Who Officiated at the Golden Wedding Ceremony of His Parents.

this life either in venial sin or who have yet to make some satisfaction to the justice of God for those sins which have been forgiven by the Sacrament of Penance or by an act of perfect contrition. "Nothing defiled can enter into heaven." He who dies in venial sins which have not been forgiven, goes to Purgatory, and must suffer there till he has atoned for them. Those souls also go to Purgatory which have obtained the remission of their sins, but have not yet completely cancelled the temporal punishment due to them.

Who are those souls who suffer in Purgatory? They are those whom we have known and loved on earth. Many of them are our relatives, benefactors and friends. How many of you may have the beloved father, or a dear mother in eternity. Consider what they have done and endured for you, and for the love of you. Can you have the heart to shut your ears to their entreaties in their great need? How many of you may have a wife, a husband, a brother, a sister, a son, a daughter, a near relative or a dear friend numbered among the dead? A short time ago they were still in your midst, sat at table with

you, prayed and worked with you and did you many acts of kindness. They now suffer the greatest torments in Purgatory; it is in your power to release them. They cry to you: "Have pity on me, have pity on me, at least you, my friends, for the hand of the Lord hath touched me." But how often is the proverb fulfilled: "Out of sight, out of mind." They have taken possession of their goods and property without troubling themselves any further about the fate of their benefactors. It never occurs to them to have a Mass said for the repose of their souls. It never occurs to them to apply an indulgence, or to offer a good work in their behalf, and what is more, they often neglect and even refuse to pay the legacies which the departed person made for the benefit of his soul. The Church has not yet defined what manner and nature of torture these holy souls suffer, yet saintly men have held and held that the greatest sufferings of this world are nothing compared to those of Purgatory. They are deprived of the sight of God. To enter into His presence is their one great desire, yet they are banished for a time and

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cannot help themselves. In Purgatory there is no confession to which they can go for forgiveness; no Mass of which they can avail themselves. Hence they look to us, they cry to us: "Have pity on me, have pity on me at least you, my friends, for the hand of the Lord hath touched me." We benefit ourselves when we help the holy souls. They will be our champions, our intercessors before the throne of the Most High.

Charish, then, a great love for this beautiful Catholic devotion. But stop not at desires. Be earnest in practice. Continually pray for these poor souls, have holy Mass said for them, gain indulgences for them, ask Mary to help them, and place all your good works for them in her hands. Remember that by doing so you glorify God, help the holy souls themselves, and make friends who will pray for you. "Remember those that are in bonds, as though thou wert in bonds with them."

The singing of the Libera by the students of the Montreal College brought the service to a close.

Rev. Abbe Corbell, P.P., presided at the monthly concert of the pupils of the Belmont school, which was held on Wednesday afternoon. The singing of several selections was a feature of the proceedings.

ST. MICHAEL'S RUCHE.

The euchar party held on Wednesday evening at the Town Hall, St. Denis street, by the parishioners of St. Michael's was very successful, both socially and financially.