

OUR CURBSTONE OBSERVER.

On Morbid Curiosity.

All the peculiarities of the human mass there is none that has more frequently attracted my attention...

the "gallery of horrors," she being desirous—from an artist's motive—to examine the reproductions...

A STRIKING EXAMPLE.—There exists, however, another power that caters more than even the "gallery basing instinct, and that stirs up in the minds of the people...

OTHER CASES.—It may be very natural for people to rush out at the first alarm of fire, for there is a sense of self-preservation associated with that feeling of curiosity...

STILL WORSE CASES.—There are other circumstances that are still more to be deplored, in which people exhibit a spirit of morbid curiosity that is quite repulsive...

to remedy the state of things then existing, and the result of his two years' labor and the generosity of his flock and other friends was seen on Sunday last...

The behaviour of this congregation of workmen has been admirable. In a short time the widely scattered flock has formed itself into a compact body...

Last Sunday came as a reward to the people when for the first time they saw with grateful wonder the interior of the new school-chapel.

Bishop Spalding On Labor Problems

Bishop Spalding, who was a member of the Coal Strike Commission, in a lecture on labor problems at the Coliseum, Peoria, on May 2, spoke in part as follows:—

Laws are not made for the great corporations. What a gain for the entire world if all dehumanized men should get out! We have means enough. We can do without capitalists who come among us and live on the blood of human beings...

OUR OTTAWA LETTER.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Ottawa, May 5.

Before turning to any of the political or social matters that have made a stir during the past week at Ottawa, we will commence with a few items of interesting religious news...

The grand concert and drawing in connection with the tombola will be held in the hall Thursday evening.

On Sunday St. Joseph's Church celebrated its patronal feast. Solemn High Mass was chanted by Rev. Father Fortier, assisted by Rev. Fathers Kerwin and Oufinet as deacon and sub-deacon respectively...

Rev. Father Harkin sang High Mass at St. Bridget's Church last Sunday. Rev. Father Harkin was the celebrant of High Mass in St. Bridget's Church...

The Irish societies still keep energetically at the work of organization for the great banquet to be given on the 30th May, to Hon. John Costigan...

Death has been busy at late and one of the most lamented cases is that of Mr. S. Fisher, of the Militia Department...

In military circles there is quite a flurry. From the Parliamentary standpoint, I will tell what has occurred, after making mention of return on Monday...

The boys detained speedily and were immediately greeted with joyous salutations from their many friends. The contingent marched over Duferin bridge to Wellington street, thence along O'Connor,

Sparks, Metcalfe and Maria to the drill hall. The boys marched with all the ease and regularity of regular troops. At the drill hall Lieut. Col. Sherwood addressed the officers and men, and complimented them upon the admirable way in which they had conducted themselves...

We will now turn to Parliament Hill and to some of the doings in the House of Commons. Since the Budget debate has been over, few matters of absorbing interest have arisen. But on Tuesday, Mr. Bourassa, member for Labelle, moved a motion, in which he criticized the attitude of Lord Dunsford...

This brought forth a very characteristic war-whoop speech from Col. Sam. Hughes, M.P., but it also evoked from Mr. Monk one of the most distinctly delivered and logically constructed speeches of the whole session. In fact, Mr. Monk's was probably the best he ever delivered on any subject...

The weather has become very charming, but for lack of rain all the farming country around Ottawa is suffering. The bush fires that have raged in the vicinity for two weeks back have played general havoc with the farmers, their fences, barns, and standing timber...

Charity is a fire, but three things can extinguish it: the whirlwind of pride, the inundations of gluttony and luxury, and the dense fumes of avarice.—St. Anthony.

Be patient in adversity and humble in prosperity, and thus you will triumph in all your struggles.—St. Francis.

NOTES FROM CHICAGO

St. Mary's Catholic Church, Wabash Avenue and Eldredge court, Chicago, the mother church of the Chicago archdiocese, celebrated its seventieth anniversary on last Sunday. In 1833 Chicago numbered among its population about 100 Catholics...

The young priest began immediately to look for a church. Many were offered, but the price was too high for the struggling congregation. At last he was given an option on a canal lot, with the privilege of buying at the canal commissioners' valuation...

Catholic Indians assisted at the first services, and the Indian women cleaned the church and made it ready for dedication. Rough pine tables were used for altar and pulpit, the walls were not plastered, and the church had no belfry...

Father St. Cyr was recalled to St. Louis in 1837, and was succeeded by Father O'Meara, who planned to build a new church on a lot purchased at Madison street and Wabash Avenue, which was started by his successor, Father de St. Palais, in 1843...

It was opened for services in December, 1843, and when Bishop Quarter arrived on May 5, 1844, it became the first cathedral in Chicago, holding that distinction until the Chicago fire, in 1871, when all was lost in St. Mary's except the parish records...

After the fire Bishop Foley purchased the Plymouth Church property, at Eldridge court and Wabash avenue, and fitted it up for St. Mary's congregation. The first services were held in it Oct. 6, 1873. Owing to the destruction of the Cathedral of the Holy Name, St. Mary's was again used as the cathedral or technically the pro-cathedral until 1876, when the cathedral was rebuilt.

The new St. Mary's was dedicated on Wednesday, Oct. 9, 1872, being the anniversary of the great fire, by Bishop Foley, and was intended for use by the old congregation of St. Mary's and that of St. Louis's, the latter church also being destroyed by fire.

Father E. A. Murphy is the present pastor of St. Mary's congregation, which is composed almost entirely of transients at downtown hotels, the skyscrapers and great business structures having driven the descendants of the first families further south, north, or west.

Premium TO Subscribers.

We offer as a premium to each Subscriber a neatly bound copy of the Golden Jubilee Book, who will send the names and cash for 5 new subscribers to the True Witness.

This is a splendid opportunity to obtain a most interesting chronicle of the work of Irish Catholics Priests and laymen in Montreal during the past Fifty years.

City and District Savings Bank

The annual meeting of the Districts Savings Bank was held Tuesday last, and the financial report and the financial statements were submitted and the directors took place.

The president, Sir William P. Lesperance, occupied the chair, and P. Lesperance, manager of the bank, acted as secretary, and reported of the directors.

The Directors, and the Mr. A. P. Lesperance, are gratulated upon the success of the past year. The report of the year ending December 31, 1907, shows an increase of the Reserve Fund of \$700,000, which now totals \$1,000,000. This speaks well for the administration. Mr. Lesperance's elevation to the office of manager, has great energy and ability, shown himself to be a worthy successor of the Messrs. Barneault and Messrs. Barneault as able administrators.

The report of the Director follows:—

Your directors have presented the fifty-sixth report of the affairs of the bank, the result of its operations for the year ending December 31, 1907.

The net profits for the year ending December 31, 1907, amounted to \$150,511.72, which, added to the profit of the year ending December 31, 1906, of \$751.57, brought forward year's profit and loss account to the latter, \$276,263.29.

Statement of the affairs of the Bank on the 31st December 1907.

Cash on hand and in the Dominion of Canada Government and accrued interest Provincial Government City of Montreal, and School Bonds and Other Bonds and Debentures Sundry Securities, etc. Call and Short Loans, etc. Charities, etc. Municipal Securities, etc. Dominion Government

Bank Premises (Head Office) Branches, etc. Other Assets, etc.

TO THE PUBLIC. Amount due Depositors Amount due Receivers Amount due Charity Donations Amount due Open Accounts

TO THE SHAREHOLDERS. Capital Stock (Amount 1,000,000) Reserve Fund Profit and Loss Account

Number of open accounts Average amount due each

Audited and found correct. JAS. TASKER, A. CING-MARS, Auditors.

On the motion of the President, the report and financial statements were unanimously adopted, which a resolution of the bank, manager and other officers.

Mr. Nolan Delisle submitted an amendment to the by-laws, to credit interest on accounts semi-annual June and 31st December, annually, as heretofore, and to vote the existing by-laws on the closing of the bank in each year.

This was agreed to, and Mr. Delisle made fitting reference to the death of Mr. Hennessy, manager of the bank for a century, and subsequent rector, and expressed the sympathy of the shareholders with the family.

Mr. James Tasker, a Cing-Mars were re-elected for the year, and Mr. W. and Mr. Louis Barbeau pointed scrutineers for the directors.

Catholic Progress In London.

Another evidence of the progress the Church is making in London, Eng., says the London "Univers," was afforded on a recent Sunday morning last, when a new school-chapel was opened at East Ham by the Hon. and Right Rev. Monsignor Stanley. Within the past few years the district has grown at an enormous rate; green fields have given place to row upon row of houses, mostly inhabited by the working classes, many of whom have been

driven further out of the east end on account of the influx of alien Jews. Naturally amongst this vast number of toilers were many Catholic families, for whose spiritual welfare the Cardinal has for long been very anxious. Some two years ago His Eminence appointed the Rev. A. Maes to the chaplaincy of the Industrial School at Boleyn Castle, and the rev. gentleman saw how necessary it was that at least a school-chapel should be erected without delay. Through the kindness of the Brothers of Mercy he was enabled to gather his flock together on Sundays in the chapel of the castle, but the children who were attending non-Catholic schools had to be considered if their faith was to be saved. Father Maes set to work in earnest