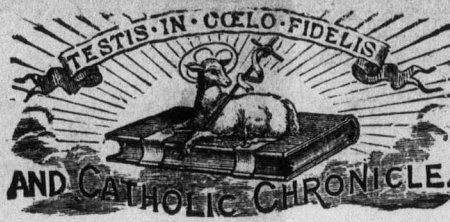


ATURDAY, MAY 9, 1903.
Society Director.
I. DIVISION NO. 6 meets on
second and fourth Thursdays of
month, at 816 St. Lawrence
street. Officers: W. H. Turner,
President; P. McGill, Vice-President;
J. Quinn, Recording-Secretary;
31 St. Denis street; James
Treasurer; Joseph Turner,
Secretary, 1000 St. Denis

The True Witness AND CATHOLIC CHRONICLE



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MONTREAL, SATURDAY, MAY 16, 1903.

PRICE FIVE CENTS

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EPISCOPAL APPROBATION.

"If the English-speaking Catholics of Montreal and of this Province consulted their
best interests, they would soon make of the 'True Witness' one of the most prosperous and
powerful Catholic papers in this country. I heartily bless those who encourage this excel-
lent work."
—PAUL, Archbishop of Montreal.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

THE DAILY WITNESS AGAIN.—
There are times when, under some
special influences, our neighbor, the
"Daily Witness" gives expression to
liberal views; but the reputation for
fairness, which it takes months to
build up, is invariably demolished by
one little pebble that it cannot leave
in its bag of bigotry. Its last
achievement is decidedly of small
credit to its columns, nor do we be-
lieve that it will receive the sanc-
tion of one in fifty of its readers.

There is in man a kindly feeling that
dislikes to insult the dead; there is
a sentiment akin to cowardice that,
in exceptional cases, prompts the un-
reflecting to give ungenerous utter-
ance to slurs upon those whom they
would not, during the lifetime of
their victims, have dared to insult.
We can readily understand that there
is ranking in the breast, or rather
in the memory, of our contemporary
the severe stroke which it received
at the hands of the late venerable
Bishop Bourget, when the latter
was forced to place a ban upon
that paper, in the days of its rabid-
ness and anti-Catholic mania. We
have no doubt that, in those days,
the "Witness" suffered to a certain
extent by the fact that Catholics
withdrew whatever patronage that
had previously extended to it. But
it forgets that the provocation was
such that no Christian patience
could possibly remain a virtue were
it to be passive under the misrepresen-
tations of the Church and the
false statements daily belched forth
both in regard to the doctrines
taught and the discipline enforced by
Rome.

Even were all these bitter feelings
of more than half a century ago
to have been an excuse for the "Wit-
ness" in its fiery articles of that
time, they can in no way justify
reflections of an ungenerous and un-
truthful character when launched at
the dead.

The paragraph to which we refer;
and which is a semi-editorial in last
Saturday's issue of the "Daily Wit-
ness," reads thus:—

OF CANADA, BRANCH
organized, 13th November,
1893. Meets at St.
Hall, 92 St. Alexander
every Monday of each
a regular meetings for
action of business are
on 2nd and 4th Monday
of each month, at 8 p.m. Spiritual
Adviser, Rev. M. Callaghan; Chan-
cellor, J. Curran, B.C.L.; Eng-
lish, J. Seary, Recording-
Secretary, J. J. Cottigan; Finan-
cial, Robt. Warren;
J. H. Feeley, Jr.; Mod-
erator, H. J. Harrison,
and G. H. Merrill.

"Montreal has done her-
self proud" in rejecting the
Carnegie library offer. The
"Journal" attempts to cover
the city's humiliation by
rudeness. It says Montreal
is rich, and can get a li-
brary herself if she wants
to, without aid from for-
eigners, but it is generally
confessed that the reason
why she cannot have a li-
brary is because ignorant-
ism rules. Instead of rear-
ing a library she is going to
set up a monument to the
man who cursed all those
who read in the public li-
brary of this day and who
thus did that library to
death. We are strongly in
favor of ornamenting the
city with educative statues,
but the worst possible be-
ginning has been made in
making a grant to a purely
denominational monument.
A more bitterly sectarian
personage could not have
been chosen on whose shoul-
ders to throw the city's
first wreath."

This is decidedly characteristic.
Imagine the writer of such a para-
graph daring to refer to a character
of the late great and humble pre-

late's as a "bitterly sectarian per-
sonage." It would be useless to tell
the one who could pen such a piece
of spitefulness of the exalted virtues,
the towering ideals, the profundity
of humility, and the unnumbered
beauties of character, gifts of heart
and graces of mind that went to
weave a halo around the head of the
saintly Bishop. It would be simply
a waste of "pearls;" we cannot place
the old saying in more parliament-
ary form.

It treats as a bigot the man who
had the courage of a Christian ap-
ostle to defend the sheep within his
fold! It treats with insult the mem-
ory of the one whom all but the
narrow-hearted combine to honor.
The statue of Mgr. Bourget will
stand erect, in front of the eternal
monument to his mighty zeal and
his apostolic greatness, long after
the last stone in the edifice whence
issue such diatribes shall have
crumbled; and the memory of the
great Bishop, and all he had done
for Canada, for Montreal, for his
own Church, and for the people of
every origin in our land, shall be
fresh and green in the minds of suc-
ceeding generations, long after the
"Witness" and its writer shall have
gone down into the oblivion that a-
waits the masses of the human fam-
ily.

THE CARNEGIE DONATION.—
After various amendments, and con-
siderable argument the City Council
of Montreal has decided, by a vote
of eighteen to fourteen to reconsider
the acceptance of Mr. Carnegie's
\$150,000 for the establishment of a
public library. The vote stood thus:
For—Ald. Laporte, Robertson,
Clearhue, Chausse, Turner, Sadler,
Ekers, Gallery, Bumbray, Levy, Ric-
ard, Carter, Nelson, N. Lapointe,
Walsh, Sauvageau, Sterns and Her-
bert—18.
Against—Ald. Vallieres, Giroux,
Ames, Lavallee, Couture, Quimet,
Martineau, Wilson, Lariviere, Robil-
lard, L. A. Lapointe, Payette, Le-
may and Dagenais—14.

This simply means that after a for-
mer Mayor having suggested the do-
nation to the millionaire library-dis-
tributor, and after two or three
years of wrangling and worry over
the matter, they have finally come
to the conclusion that "the game is
not worth the powder." And there
will be considerable relief experi-
enced on all sides once it is known that
such a subject of discordant views
has been affectively banished from
the public mind.

Moreover, we have never been able
to see how an institution of the
class could be made a success, not
to speak of its being of practical
utility, in a community such as this.
There was the question of the site
for the library which created no end
of dispute and of difficulty. No mat-
ter what site were selected, in a vast
city like Montreal, it could only be
within reach of a particular section.
And were it in the very heart of the
city, it would be too far from the
residential quarters, be they East,
West, or North. And yet the site
would be a very secondary consid-
eration compared to that of the gov-
erning control or management of the
institution. Even were that finally
regulated, there would still remain
the matter of selection of books for
such a library.

We doubt if it is possible to form
a committee, the members of which
would be thoroughly representative
of their respective elements, and
who could agree upon one page of a
catalogue. That which would ap-
pear perfectly harmless, or even ex-
ceedingly useful, to one member,

would be absolutely impossible for
another. Looking at it from the
Catholic standpoint, we know that
our co-religionists might be repre-
sented on such a committee by men
who would be careful and wise in
the choice of books destined for the
use of the people in general. But
these men could not control the
whole institution, and they would
have to make concessions to others
that would entirely clash with their
own duties; and thus an endless tur-
moil would be the result. In view
of all these considerations, it is a
great relief to feel that there will be
no need of any such animosities, or
wranglings over matters that are be-
yond all range of possible agreement
or harmony.

Besides the "gift" was not such a
free donation as it would appear, at
first glance, to be. The amount
would have to be supplemented by a
very heavy annual sum from the
city, and the corporation would be
saddled with a fresh load, when al-
ready it has about as much as it
can manage to carry. Decidedly there
are gifts that impoverish the recipi-
ents; and of this class may be count-
ed that of a library like the one
Montreal has just happily escaped.

THE MANCHURIA AFFAIR.—The
phantom of war looms up in the
East. It is the Russian that has
conjured the fell demon into exist-
ence. It is not long since the Czar
surprised the world in his great ef-
forts to establish the Hague Peace
Tribunal. And even Mr. Carnegie
wants now to erect a statue of
Peace in that quaint town. It would
be well if the man of Library-fame
would wait for further developments;
it might so happen that his statue
of Peace would be shattered by the
projectiles of war. But, it seems to
us, that no person was deceived by
the Czar's great pacific demonstra-
tion. It had been whispered, even in
diplomatic circles all over Europe
that behind the battlements of Peace
the mighty Russian was massing the
phalanx of war. It was hinted that
the Bear was only slumbering, that
he had merely retired to hibernate,
and that some spring day would see
him rally forth in quest of prey. And
that is exactly what has taken
place; exactly what is going to take
place. Russia's progress westward
over Europe is impossible, consequ-
ently she is grasping for corners
whereon to get a foothold in the
East. The sea-board of the Pacific
is what she wants, and what she
will yet have. The vast trans-Sibe-
rian railway is nothing more or less
than a tremendous "Roman Military
Way," a vast highway to China,
Japan, and India.

Russia asks that China should cede
to her the entire sovereignty over
Manchuria. Along her immense rail-
way she had set an army of guards,
it is presumed not less than one hun-
dred thousand; and all for the pur-
pose of protecting that road. The
road can now take care of itself the
army of guards suddenly find that
their presence is needed on the Chi-
nese frontier. And all this time,
from St. Petersburg, the nations of
Europe hear messages of peace and
friendship. The great ruler in the
snow city, apparently knows nothing
of what is taking place beyond the
Tartar steppes.

The cloud is gathering slowly,
but surely along the horizon of the
East, and even as we pen these
lines, and possibly before they come
under the eye of the reader, there
will be either a bursting of the
thunder storm, or else a silent rolling
back of the tempest below the rim
of the sky. The latter is not likely,
for the Russian is too stolid and de-
termined to give up that for which
he has been long preparing, simply
on account of a sentiment of a little
bit of international courtesy. The
chance is that it will be the storm.
And a storm of any kind has a tre-
mendous effect in the regions of
Manchuria.

The fact is that Russia has plain-
ly and openly set at defiance all in-
ternational regulations, and has fig-
uratively snapped her fingers at the
Powers. With the Tartar, might is
right, and Napoleon was correct,
when after the terrible experience of
Moscow, he said: "Scratch a Rus-
sian and you will always find a Tar-
tar." For the present we can do no
more than await developments; it is
useless speculating; but it seems to
us, no matter how optimistic we
would like to be, that the Peace

Congress of Nicholas II., was merely
the calm before the storm that was
anticipated and long in preparation.

VATICAN GRIEVANCES.—There
is a publication called "Plain Talk"
which undertakes to propagate reli-
gious opinions and to criticize aught
that appears in connection with af-
fairs spiritual. We suppose that the
publication in question is within its
rights when it does so, nor have we
any fault to find, in this age of free-
dom, with any person assuming the
office of commentator. Sometimes,
however, it happens that critics
omit the very necessary precaution
of studying the subject before pro-
nouncing upon it. Under the above
heading there is a special article in
the last issue of "Plain Talk." The
subject is brought about in a very
roundabout way.

The London "Tablet," recently
commenting upon the attitude of the
Holy Father in regard to the meth-
ods adopted by Methodist mission-
aries in Rome, said:—

"The Holy Father was moved by
his own pastoral solicitude to give
such prominence to Catholic defense
against the heretical propaganda. He
acted on his own initiative, and his
words were a source of agreeable
surprise to those who are directing
the work. It is the lowest form of
proselytism that is practiced by Eng-
lish and American Methodists in
Rome—bread and butter and blan-
kets for the poor people in return for
their apostasy from the faith of
their fathers. They take advantage
of the extreme poverty which pre-
vails, and use unblushing bribery to
induce destitute families to silence
the admonitions of conscience."

The "Literary Digest," comment-
ing upon the foregoing, drew a con-
trast between the attitude of the
King of Italy and that of the Pope
towards the proselytizing missionar-
ies. We know, from experience, how
unsatisfactory and un-Christian this
species of work is; and we do not
feel astonished that the Holy Fa-
ther should seek to prevent his child-
ren from giving way to the tempta-
tion—at best a mere play upon the
needs of the hour, that without
drawing them into any other accept-
able form of religion, takes them
away from the one that is theirs.

But the important point to us is
in this contrast between the Quirin-
al and the Vatican. It is at this
point that "Plain Talk" comes in.
And here is the comment:—
"This is interesting as showing
the tolerant attitude of the Italian
Government—Catholic, of course. It
refutes the assertion so often made
that Catholic governments will not
tolerate Protestant evangelization.
In fact, all enlightened governments
are growing more tolerant, and this
tendency is quite as pronounced in
Catholic as in Protestant coun-
tries."

Does the reader catch the point?
Firstly, there is an insistence on the
Italian Government being Catholic.
Now what ground is there for such
an assumption? It is decidedly not
Protestant; but the Italian Govern-
ment consists of a majority of illu-
minati, of radicals, of anti-clericals,
of anti-Catholics, all of whom are
at perpetual war, and at short
range, with the Vatican; and all of
whom are prepared to adopt any
line of policy, in any instance, pro-
vided, it will tend to counteract the
Papacy. Where then is the Catholi-
city in this?

But the aim is to bring down
Catholic principle to the level of
Protestantism by means of what is
intended for a compliment—the toler-
ation of Protestant evangelization
by the Church. Either the writer of
the foregoing does, or he does not,
know that he is absolutely wrong.
If he does not know it we have no
object to enlighten him on the sub-
ject; if he does know it he is playing
the part of a deceiver of the reading
public.

While in a spirit of Charity the
Catholic Church must treat even her
bitterest enemies in the affairs of
life, still in matters of faith it is
not possible for her to tolerate any
other evangelization than that which
Christ ordered her to carry on. To
do so would simply mean to acknow-
ledge that one religion was as good
as another; and that would be
radically subversive of her very fun-
damental principles. Protestantism
can afford the luxury of such a tol-
eration, for after all the tenets of
one sect are as good as those of an-

other—they all being wide of the
Truth. But the infallible custodian
of Truth cannot acknowledge any
other teaching than that with which
the Holy Ghost inspires her—under
pain of being false to the mission
given her by Christ and consecrated
by twenty centuries of uninterrupted
propagation.

HISSING IN THEATRES.—In
the Municipal Court of Boston, a
very unique and very pertinent judg-
ment was delivered by Chief Justice
Brown, in April last. The decision
was to the effect that a spectator
had a right to express condemnation
of a theatrical performance by hiss-
ing. In discharging the defendant,
the judge remarked that hissing in
a theatre is not a crime any more
than applause. The case was this:—
Jacob Weiner, a sexton of one of the
churches in the South End, was a
visitor at a West End playhouse re-
cently. He did not like the perform-
ance, according to the policeman
who arrested him, and hissed so
loudly as to disturb the persons on
the stage. Weiner had a witness to
show that he did not hiss, but the
Justice said there was no need of
entering a defense, as Weiner did no
harm if he hissed, "good," groaned,
or said sarcastic things.

The press of the United States
seems to approve of the judgment,
and very wisely. Decidedly if it is
not a breach of privilege for one in
an audience to give expression to ap-
proval of a performance, it cannot
be out of place to equally expression
disapproval, especially when there
is a manifest reason for so doing.
Persons go to theatres for enjoy-
ment, and if the actors say or do
that which is calculated to give of-
fense rather than create pleasure,
there is an inalienable right on the
part of the person present to resent
the action.

For example, when a gentleman
accompanies ladies to a theatre and
an actor presumes to use offensive,
filthy, or immoral language; or the
persons on the stage dress or act in
a manner repulsive to the feelings
of the gentleman and insulting to
those of the ladies, it is only just
that a marked disapproval should be
expressed; and such may have the
effect of bringing about a discon-
tinuance of the undesirable exhibi-
tions.

Hence, in the case of the "stage
Irishman," to which we refer else-
where, if it is the privilege of those
who are anti-Irish in sentiment to
applaud the low caricaturing of their
race, it is decidedly the right of the
sensible and sensitive Irishman pre-
sent to mark, just as emphatically,
his dislike for and disapproval of
the representation.

Therefore, we can all rejoice in the
decision of Chief Justice Brown, and
we only trust that it will yet be
woven into an act of legislation that
will leave no doubt for all time to
come on the subject.

A LESSON IN PATRIOTISM.—In
a recent issue of Catholic American
contemporary, we notice a cut repre-
senting a group of some fifty girl-
pupils, ranging from children of
three or four years of age up to
young ladies of sixteen or eighteen.
Each one of the tiny children car-
ried a hand banner of the Stars and
Stripes; between each two of the
older ones was a large standard of
the same device. The picture meant
very little to us, as far as the spe-
cial school or the individual mem-
bers of the group are concerned, for
the locality and its inhabitants are
strangers to us. But we looked up-
on it as a delightful lesson in patri-
otism, and one that could be imitat-
ed with benefit in many of our own
schools.

It was clear, from what we saw of
that cut that these young girls, and
even the little tots, were taught a
deep and patriotic respect for the
flag of their country. And to a great
extent, such training explains the
wonderful attachment of American
womanhood for the flag of the Re-
public. The seeds of patriotism are
planted in their hearts in their ten-
der years and they naturally grow
up with them developing in the di-
rect ratio of their physical develop-
ment. There is room for a like sen-
timent here in Canada—both as re-
gards the flag of our Dominion and
that of our motherland. The time
has come when it is something to be
recognized as Irish, and the day has

gone when the nationality furnished
subject for the caricaturists pencil
and the ballad-singer's burlesque. We
could not do better than instill, in
our schools, these sentiments that, if
fostered by the young womanhood
of the land, will eventually turn to
the glory of the coming generations.

A STERLING PRELATE.—While
the Emperor of Germany has been
visiting Leo XIII., and has since
been requesting the Holy See to send
a Nuncio to Berlin, we find a certain
fanatical German professor, by the
name of Pastor Schwartz, publishing
in his journal, "The Banner of
Truth," a series of articles defaming
the Pope and the Catholic Church.
This was more than the spirit of the
Archbishop of Freiburg could stand,
and His Grace has taken legal pro-
ceedings against the pastor-profes-
sor-journalist. It will be interesting
to note the application of German
law in such a case. Whatever uphill
fight the Archbishop may have it is
certain that his case will stand a
better chance of fair play than were
it in France that he had appealed to
the courts on such a subject.
Moreover, as we have shown in for-
mer issues, Germany is apparently
anxious to gain whatever ground
France has lost in the good graces
of the Church.

POPE AND UNITED STATES.—
While the crowned heads of Europe
are paying tribute, in one way or
another, to the illustrious Pontiff
now seated on the throne of Peter,
the President of the United States
appears to wish to be in the proces-
sion towards Rome. He has dis-
patched, through Cardinal Gibbons,
a jubilee present to His Holiness.
All that President Roosevelt does is
characteristic and peculiar; he does
nothing like other men, and hence it
is that his words and acts bear the
stamp of originality. In this case
the present takes the form of a com-
plete set of copies of the messages
and other official documents of the
American Presidents, from Wash-
ington's day to this. The great knowl-
edge His Holiness possesses of Am-
erican political questions is neatly
handily bound set of volumes.
Needless to say that the Holy Father
fully appreciated the compliment and
returned his thanks in an autograph
letter that the President will cer-
tainly consider as a relic of rare
value. 'Tis this is that true great-
ness—such as that of Leo XIII.—is
universally acknowledged.

CATHOLICITY IN ENGLAND.—
There are more signs than those that
exist of increasing churches and of
freedom of worship to indicate—the
effect that the revival of Catholicity
in England is producing. According
to the London "Times" the number
of marriages solemnized this year
during Lent, in the various churches
in England, Wales and Ireland, was
only one hundred and ten. The low-
est ever recorded so far. Eight years
ago there were more than four hun-
dred weddings during the penitential
season. From this we can safely
conclude that even among Protestants
the meaning of the season of
Lent is being gradually understood.
And, to us, it is quite potent that
this slow, almost imperceptible
change is being effected by the more
widespread influence of Catholicity
upon the people. It is this that
the work of Truth goes on, and that
like the coral reef in the ocean, the
structure is being built up, till one
day it appears above the waves, an
island, verdant and for all time
habitable.

RECENT DEATHS.
This week we have to chronicle the
death of an old and esteemed mem-
ber of St. Ann's parish, in the per-
son of Mr. Michael Davin, a native
of Queen's County, Ireland. The fun-
eral, which was held on Wednesday
last to the Church in which he had
worshipped so long, was attended by
a large concourse of friends and ac-
quaintances. Mr. Davin was a splen-
did type of the Irish pioneer, true to
his religion and nationality. To the
members of the family the "True
Witness" offers its most sincere sym-
pathy in their bereavement.—R.I.F.