

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL.

The annual meeting of the Governors and members of the Corporation of the Catholic High School was held in the public hall of the school on Wednesday evening last. Rev. Father Quinlan, chairman of the Board of Governors, presided. Amongst those present were: Hon. Mr. Justice Curran, Ald. C. F. Smith, Ald. Frank J. Hart, Messrs. William McNally, Michael Burke, Martin Egan, B. J. Coghlin, John Fallon, C. A. McDonnell and William E. Doran, the honorary secretary of the Corporation.

After the reading and adoption of the minutes of the last annual meeting the Rev. Chairman referred at length to the progress which had been made by the pupils during the year now drawing to a close.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT.—The following report from Principal Sanders was then read and adopted:—

Catholic High School, Belmont Park.

Rev. Chairman and Gentlemen: I have the honor to submit to you the second annual report of the Catholic High School. The total number of boys enrolled on our books during the year amounts to 118, as compared with 115 last year; the average attendance 120, being exactly 33 1-3 per cent. over the average attendance of our first session, which was 90. This attendance would have been considerably greater if it had not been for the sickness prevalent throughout the city during the winter.

The work done in the several divisions of the school compares, I think, very favorably with our first year's results. We have, of course, had our troubles and difficulties, and one of the greatest of these arises from a source which might least be expected, viz., the parents themselves. It is impossible to achieve any great results until the parents recognize the importance of the regularity and punctuality of the attendance of their children. We have been forced to refuse the excuses, often of the most trivial nature, sent by parents for their sons' tardiness in the morning. I am glad to say the result has been good.

With regard to the elementary classes, under the charge of the Rev. Sisters of the Congregation of Notre Dame, too great praise cannot be bestowed. The results attained in these two classes might possibly be equalled by other teachers, they certainly cannot be excelled. The attendance of these, their children, although sadly depleted by sickness, has been good, and the labors of the Rev. Sisters—painstaking and unremitted. In the two higher divisions we have established another class, much higher standard of proficiency has been attained than during our first session. We have also started a class for diction and a qualified teacher has been appointed by the Board to take charge. The system of specializing the different branches of studies has also been eminently satisfactory. But what is, perhaps, the best feature of the school is the ever-growing sense of honor and manliness, which is gradually developing itself among the boys. Punishments have been rare, and complaints for the well-being and success of the school. Later, as is usual at this time of the year, we lost some of our pupils, who have attained very good positions in the city.

During the year we had our day of sports, and the great enthusiasm and energy with which they were entered into testify that the boys do not intend to be behind their sister schools in this branch of their education. Owing to sickness, we have only had one entertainment so far this year, but we sincerely hope

that our closing exercises will be as well attended, and have as appreciative an audience, as that which honored us with their presence at the New Year. Within the last few days we have also inaugurated a debating society, which has been played in the initial stages of its formation. We intend associating with this society a library, for which I have already had liberal offers of assistance, and which I am sure will recommend itself to all promoters of education.

I also wish to point out that we have since January last started an elementary course in physics, and have arrived at a stage where it is most impossible to proceed without some kind of apparatus for experiments. I would suggest that the school be equipped with the necessary paraphernalia, giving a course in this branch. With regard to the gymnasium, I have made a beginning by the purchase of dumb bells, etc., and as the expense attached to a regular outfit in this respect need not be excessive, it would be advisable to purchase one as soon as possible. Our grounds are extensive and well patronized by the boys.

With regard to our recreation room, which we have hitherto held our little entertainments, it has now far too small to accommodate our numerous friends, who assemble on these occasions. The want of a proper hall is keenly felt in the school, not only at our concerts, but frequently during the year whenever it is necessary to address the boys in a body. I can only suggest that a graded floor be constructed about one hundred more than at present.

I have much pleasure in stating that the gentlemen who last year donated a gold watch to the school, has renewed his generous offer for this year. One of our Governors has donated another gold watch for the school, and also a silver one for the school. Grath, another strenuous supporter and worker for the school, has offered ten dollars in gold as a prize for the school. Other gentlemen of the Governing Board have generously contributed to the general prize fund.

In submitting this report, I wish to express our appreciation of the support which has been extended to us by the parents generally, and of the kind consideration and assistance with which our recommendations have been received by the Board of Governors.

(Signed)

A. J. HALES-SANDERS, Principal.

May 30th, 1901.

THE FINANCES.

The report of the treasurer, was submitted, showing the receipts and expenditures during the year, which, considering the fact that the institution has only been in operation during two years, was considered satisfactory. The total assets are shown to be \$84,055.02, and the liabilities \$51,643.55, leaving a net capital of \$32,411.47. The report was adopted. Then followed an interesting discussion on the subject of increasing the number of the pupils, in which Mr. William McNally, Ald. Hart, Mr. B. J. Coghlin, Hon. Mr. Justice Curran and Ald. Smith took part. The retiring Governors were Hon. Mr. Justice Curran and Ald. Hart, both of whom were unanimously elected.

A hearty vote of thanks was proposed by Mr. Michael Burke, and seconded by Mr. B. J. Coghlin. Rev. Father Quinlan and the Governors for the able manner in which they had administered the affairs of the school during the year. The prospects for the future of the institution are most encouraging.

THE TRUE WITNESS AND CATHOLIC CHRONICLE

At the present hour everything, or almost everything, is rotten in Portugal. And, as we shall see presently, the country is just now engaged in a mad effort to get rid of the one really pure and beneficent element it possesses. We refer to the present rabid persecution of the religious Orders. In the first place, the educational system of the country is rotten. A large proportion of the population is quite illiterate; and in the schools the higher classes the education is most Godless and grossly materialistic. The medical schools especially are hotbeds of atheism and anti-Catholic bigotry. The University of Coimbra, the only one in the country, has a number of bigoted anti-clerical pupils of the various public schools in Lisbon and Oporto have been taking an active part in riotous meetings and drafting riots, anti-clerical resolutions, and the convivance of the professors. There are very few Catholic colleges in Portugal excepting the diocesan seminaries, which are exclusively for youths intended for the priesthood. To be perfectly frank, there are only two Catholic colleges of any great importance, and even these have not been by any means as prosperous as they might have been. One of good results as might have been expected. Just now it is not both, of these colleges will be closed by the Government. In the name of liberty. When the young men leave these colleges, either to matriculate in the university, or to enter on commercial pursuits, in either case they have been living in such a deadly atmosphere of immorality and infidelity that very few of them resist long.

What can be expected from a generation trained in habits like these? Nothing, neither faith, nor courage, nor firmness of character, nor loftiness of principle. From the next generation of men in Portugal we can expect nothing but the repetition, in aggravated form, of the intellectual anarchy, the fatuous politics, and the savage anti-Catholic persecutions that we have been accused of for many years past. So much for the rottenness of the Portuguese educational system. We should naturally expect, under such circumstances, that the press of Portugal would be largely infected with infidelity and bigotry, but no words can give an idea of the shameful reality. The infatuated politicians who have governed the country since 1834 could not conceive a press as free as innocent men, to vilify and calumniate ladies, and to outrage religion and public decency. Suffice it to say that the Portuguese press is at perfect liberty to calumniate the most virtuous and deserving citizen, and to publish the most infamous libels about him, day after day, and after year, and the law, as at present administered, allows him practically to redress, if he prosecutes the paper, he will, in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred, be only wasting his time and money, and should he, by a miracle, obtain a verdict in his favor, he will be awarded only a ridiculous trifle in way of damages. Nay, more, he will very likely be called upon to pay the heavy legal expenses of the prosecution, not only his own expenses, but also those of the opposite side. The only person legally responsible for what appears in a paper is the "publisher," and when the "publisher" is a man of humane and generally the case, the unlucky complainant has to bear the costs of both sides in the suit. In this way the journalist who descends to ruffianism can snap his fingers at his victim and go on calumniating him as shamelessly as ever. The Portuguese law of libel is not in itself altogether worthless, but, unfortunately, neither judge nor jury will enforce it. The fact is that the judicial system is hopelessly infected with the prevailing dry-rot. Unquestionably there are men of the strictest integrity among the Portuguese judges and magistrates, but there is good reason to believe that such men do not by any means form the majority. Be that as it may, the prevailing impression is that the administration of justice in Portugal is very far indeed from being carried out with strict impartiality, and that the number of corrupt and time-serving judges is by no means small. This corruption of the judicial system is one of the worst and gravest features of the present situation. I have said enough to give your readers an idea of the mediocrity and bigotry of the Portuguese press, and of the facilities afforded it for calumny and defamation.

Besides the press and the educational system, there are many other things equally corrupt in Portugal. The theatres are only too often schools of vice and indecency, and the novels most widely read are the immoral French novels of the decadent school, the literature of which Max Nordau characterized some years ago as a "sink of filthiness." Several of the serials that have recently appeared in the press have been confessedly written for the sake of attacking religion. In a former article I stated that the present Masonic persecution had been planned several months ago; there is every reason to believe that the main lines of the conspiracy had been definitely laid down so long ago as September last. The only thing that seemed a favorable opportunity for putting the plan into execution. The necessary pretext was found in the famous Calmon case. But, in order that the Masonic plans might be carried out with impunity, it was necessary to form an alliance either with a party actually in power, or with a party that might shortly be in power. The Freemasons were already represented in the existing Cabinet, and Hintze Ribeiro's Ministry, being a weak one, was at the mercy of the clique of speculators seeking for colonial concessions; so there was a sort of triple alliance

formed between the Freemason revolutionaries, the powerful adventurers, and the existing Cabinet. The subsequent dragging of the cart. The post mortem over, the bodies were removed to a new Kaffir hut, rented for the purpose, and both magistrates and doctor proceeded to Tolo to devise means of getting the coffins made. The news of the coffins spread like wildfire; it was flashed to the convents of Umata and Kokovewhere. How was it possible! Sister Berchmans, so young, so cheerful, so full of life a few hours ago, to be brought back dead, to be buried to-morrow! And little Katie, more! Meanwhile they were hard at work at Tolo getting the coffins ready. Mrs. Simpson, the magistrate's wife, drove out to meet the Sisters and render them such help as was in her power. Mr. Payne, a gentleman of Tolo, put his trap and horses at the disposal of the Sisters, and both he and Mr. Cowie kept up apprised by wire of all that was going on. The outbreak of sympathy and kindness was not less at Umata than at Tolo. Many letters of condolence poured into the convent and people who could not believe the sad news came to make personal inquiries. Mr. Harry Lowry, of Umata, who knows everybody, put himself in contact with the aforementioned gentlemen of Tolo, and set the disposal of the bodies were confined at the place of the accident and brought into Tolo towards evening, the nuns following in the cart. Up to this they never lost sight of their dead; they had watched them over night and throughout the day, but a temporary separation had to take place now. Worn out by fatigue they were forced to pass the night at Tolo, whilst the coffins proceeded on their way to Umata. Next morning, at seven o'clock, but there was a fresh outbreak of grief when the coffins were unscrowed, and we were allowed to have a last look at our dear departed. For an riedly coffin received our attention, and at 8 o'clock a solemn Requiem Mass was sung in presence of a large congregation, composed of persons belonging to various denominations. As we have our own cemetery at Bedford farm, between five or six miles from Umata, the burial was postponed till 2 p.m. The Libera was then sung, the bodies removed from the Church and placed on the hearse and the procession of over a hundred people, both on foot and in carriages accompanied the deceased to their last resting-place. May they rest in peace!—Catholic Magazine for South Africa.

PERILS OF THE WILDERNESS.

(Continued from Page One.)

She wept and did not know for whom; the darkness was so great that no features could be distinguished. Meanwhile Mr. King was to remain with the restless mules to keep the quiet, was relieved by the driver, who badly bruised himself, had crept out, from under the cart. He set at once to work cutting up thongs and removing post bags. In this sad work he was aided by the surviving Sisters. A fainting woman, without saying a word, he quietly removed it out of sight, the surviving Sisters, he thought, would learn it but too soon. All he could do was done; they had to wait for the Kaffirs to be put up the cart, for their united efforts were of no avail to release the prisoners underneath. Striking a match, he held it near the face of the victim on Sister Philothea's lap and they recognized the features of Katie. A fainting woman was on the side of her face near the temple and she had her mouth half open as if gasping for breath. It had seemed to the Sister who held her that she had stirred a little while before, so Katie poured some brandy down her throat to revive her if possible. In the meantime the Kaffirs arrived one by one, and with their help the cart was lifted sufficiently to allow the prisoners to creep out. The two little girls made their appearance one after the other, none the worse for their fright. One of them explained how, as soon as she fell on the ground, she went off to sleep. The poor thing did not know what it was to be stunned. In vain did the nuns wait for the appearance of their fellow sister. Not finding her under the cart, they were about to search for her among the boulders, when Mr. King brought them to the place where she slept her last sleep. Poor Sister Berchmans must have been killed on the spot, for she never spoke a word. Little Katie had asked for help, but just then the mules, free, advanced a couple of paces, dragging the cart after them and she never spoke any more. The bodies were laid side by side on the bank of the road. The surviving Sisters, exhausted by their exertions and three hours' excitement and anxiety, sank to the ground at their feet and wept and prayed. It was just midnight.

Mr. King, the sole comfort in their sad distress, was everywhere and did everything. He gathered some rugs and made a little bed for the two surviving children, who were soon fast asleep; he entrusted the two Sisters to take some brandy out of their flask and was not satisfied until they had complied with his request; he ordered some Kaffirs to proceed at once to Tolo to report the matter to the magistrate and to the doctor. In one word he did everything which could be done under the circumstances. Early in the morning Mr. Simpson, the magistrate, and Doctor Melville of Tolo, arrived at the place of the accident. They offered their condolence to the bereaved Sisters and the magistrate took down their evidence, whilst the doctor examined the victims. Sister Berchmans had her neck broken and her death must have been instantaneous. Katie Walters also had her neck broken, with a fearful crash, the temple, which wound in itself would have caused her death. As I have mentioned, she spoke after the carrying of the cart; she must have been all right then as she could not have spoken, had she had any of the

wounds found on her body. Her death was therefore caused by the subsequent dragging of the cart. The post mortem over, the bodies were removed to a new Kaffir hut, rented for the purpose, and both magistrates and doctor proceeded to Tolo to devise means of getting the coffins made. The news of the coffins spread like wildfire; it was flashed to the convents of Umata and Kokovewhere. How was it possible! Sister Berchmans, so young, so cheerful, so full of life a few hours ago, to be brought back dead, to be buried to-morrow! And little Katie, more! Meanwhile they were hard at work at Tolo getting the coffins ready. Mrs. Simpson, the magistrate's wife, drove out to meet the Sisters and render them such help as was in her power. Mr. Payne, a gentleman of Tolo, put his trap and horses at the disposal of the Sisters, and both he and Mr. Cowie kept up apprised by wire of all that was going on. The outbreak of sympathy and kindness was not less at Umata than at Tolo. Many letters of condolence poured into the convent and people who could not believe the sad news came to make personal inquiries. Mr. Harry Lowry, of Umata, who knows everybody, put himself in contact with the aforementioned gentlemen of Tolo, and set the disposal of the bodies were confined at the place of the accident and brought into Tolo towards evening, the nuns following in the cart. Up to this they never lost sight of their dead; they had watched them over night and throughout the day, but a temporary separation had to take place now. Worn out by fatigue they were forced to pass the night at Tolo, whilst the coffins proceeded on their way to Umata. Next morning, at seven o'clock, but there was a fresh outbreak of grief when the coffins were unscrowed, and we were allowed to have a last look at our dear departed. For an riedly coffin received our attention, and at 8 o'clock a solemn Requiem Mass was sung in presence of a large congregation, composed of persons belonging to various denominations. As we have our own cemetery at Bedford farm, between five or six miles from Umata, the burial was postponed till 2 p.m. The Libera was then sung, the bodies removed from the Church and placed on the hearse and the procession of over a hundred people, both on foot and in carriages accompanied the deceased to their last resting-place. May they rest in peace!—Catholic Magazine for South Africa.

MR. BLAKE ON HOME RULE.

Speaking at the convention of the United Irish League of Great Britain held at Bristol, recently, Hon. Edward Blake, M.P., who was most cordially received, proposed the first item of the agenda, which was— "Britain exists to enable the Irish people resident in Great Britain to do their part in obtaining the freedom of their country; the self-government of Ireland is the supreme purpose of the organization, and that purpose all others must remain subordinate until the full concession of the Irish National claim by the establishment of a native Parliament in Ireland." Mr. Blake said he thought the convention would agree in the proposition that nothing more striking could be devised, and that, inasmuch as it dealt with a certain line of action to proceed upon in future, they had a speech at the last convention in Dublin from a

very respectable and most influential member of the organization in moving a resolution in reference to the question of what action the United Irish League of Great Britain should take upon analogous questions. The overwhelming feeling of the convention was in favor of the view which he (Mr. Blake) had proposed, that it was imperative they should keep to the forefront, supreme and solid, the cause of Irish Nationality. They considered it was their duty to draw up that article, which he now submitted. They all recognized the extreme difficulty in which the Irishmen of Great Britain had been placed, and were still placed, in accomplishing their sacred and most important work for the freedom of Ireland. They all recognized the circumstances under which they lived there, the opposition which beset them, the sacrifices which they were obliged to make, the day to day and from hour to hour in the fence of the cause. They all knew that during the period to which the chairman had alluded, the period of disunion, faction, and disorder, which they were now overcoming, of the trouble that that state of things brought upon them. The Irishmen in Great Britain exercising their rights and power at elections in that country held a unique position. They had the advantage of being near their own country; they were within touch of their own people, and were able to feel how the pulse beat in Ireland, and at the same time they were able to reinforce the Irish forces in Parliament by sending them as many men as possible, the fact of their being in the forefront of the dom of their country. That was essential they should all act together as one man, and cast their votes as one man in furtherance of the cause of Home Rule for Ireland.

WEDDING BELLS.

The following presents received by Mrs. W. P. Doyle, nee Miss Reynolds, on the occasion of her marriage were:—An ivory cabinet in last week's issue of the "True Witness"; Mr. and Mrs. A. F. Finlay, silver cake basket; Mr. and Mrs. W. Moore, Toronto, 1 doz. silver knives and forks; Miss L. Smith, North Tonawanda, N.Y., 1 doz. fruit knives.

A PROTESTANT MINISTER'S REMARKS.

A congregational minister said recently to a priest: "My dear sir, we talk about the ecclesiastical tyranny of Rome. Why there is no domination so tyrannical in all the world as what we ministers suffer from the laymen of our churches. There is no man that is so hide-bound by the trammels not only of a narrow public sentiment but by the openly expressed dictation from the pews as a minister is. It is only a fiction when it is said that he is free to preach the Gospel of Christ. Let him do so; let him enunciate the truth as he knows it, and he will be very soon asked to retire. If such a calamity happens he is in a bad way, support, or even the necessities of life, till some other congregation chooses to call him.

Herein lies the vital weakness of Protestantism. It first of all prevents the really able man from going into the ministry. Little wonder that from the graduates of colleges only a small percentage goes into the ecclesiastical seminaries. It moreover obliges the minister to seek refuge in the sensational topics of the day. The people are thirsting for the waters of life, and there is none to give them to drink.—The Missionary.

DECADENCE OF PORTUGAL.

A special correspondent of the Liverpool "Catholic Times" writes: "Portugal once held an honorable rank amongst the Catholic nations of the world. The generosity of its kings and nobles, and the piety of its people had obtained for it the well-deserved title of the 'Most Faithful Kingdom.' The Portuguese people a few centuries ago were unquestionably a brave and robust, albeit a somewhat rude, race. In those days Portuguese navigators ranked among the boldest and hardest in the world. Their maritime discoveries, achieved at the cost of heroic sacrifices and in the teeth of apparently insurmountable obstacles, have hardly been equalled, and certainly never excelled, by any nation. The discovery of the Cape of Good Hope, of the East Indies, of an enormous portion of the African Coast—these, together with the first circumnavigation of the globe, rank among the heroic exploits of the early Portuguese navigators. And the Portuguese were no less brave on land than they were intrepid at sea. Their heroic struggles against the Moors, their valiant and successful efforts to throw off the yoke of Spanish dominion, the bravery displayed by the common soldiers during the Peninsular War, furnish sufficient proof of their former hardness and intrepidity. In those days, in the bygone days of the nation's greatness, the Portuguese were as Catholics as they were brave. The zeal and piety of their navigators and missionaries, their burning desire to plant the Cross and spread the Faith of

Christ wherever the Portuguese banner was unfurled, the generosity and devotion which at home erected the splendid piles of Batalha, Mafra, and Alcobaca, and which built and endowed hundreds of convents and monasteries throughout the kingdom; nay, the Portuguese literature itself and the very names and traditions of the people, sufficiently attest the intensity and universality of the Catholic feeling which prevailed during so many centuries in Portugal.

But now, alas! all this is changed. With the decline of Faith came the decline of the national prosperity. Portugal was great whilst she remained Catholic; and as if, by the judgment of God, no sooner did she begin to forsake the Faith than her prosperity began rapidly to decline. Within the last hundred and fifty years the decay of Faith and morality has assumed alarming proportions among the men of Portugal. Not so among the women; they seem at the present day the chief, not the sole, depositories of the former Faith and morality of the country. With the decay of Faith there came about, by a perfectly natural sequence, a corresponding decay of principle and character among the men of all classes of society. A very slight investigation into the characters of the journalists and politicians, or even into the character of the small minority of really Catholic men, will show how far this decay has eaten its way into the heads and hearts of those from whom the most might have been expected.

At the present hour everything, or almost everything, is rotten in Portugal. And, as we shall see presently, the country is just now engaged in a mad effort to get rid of the one really pure and beneficent element it possesses. We refer to the present rabid persecution of the religious Orders. In the first place, the educational system of the country is rotten. A large proportion of the population is quite illiterate; and in the schools the higher classes the education is most Godless and grossly materialistic. The medical schools especially are hotbeds of atheism and anti-Catholic bigotry. The University of Coimbra, the only one in the country, has a number of bigoted anti-clerical pupils of the various public schools in Lisbon and Oporto have been taking an active part in riotous meetings and drafting riots, anti-clerical resolutions, and the convivance of the professors. There are very few Catholic colleges in Portugal excepting the diocesan seminaries, which are exclusively for youths intended for the priesthood. To be perfectly frank, there are only two Catholic colleges of any great importance, and even these have not been by any means as prosperous as they might have been. One of good results as might have been expected. Just now it is not both, of these colleges will be closed by the Government. In the name of liberty. When the young men leave these colleges, either to matriculate in the university, or to enter on commercial pursuits, in either case they have been living in such a deadly atmosphere of immorality and infidelity that very few of them resist long.

What can be expected from a generation trained in habits like these? Nothing, neither faith, nor courage, nor firmness of character, nor loftiness of principle. From the next generation of men in Portugal we can expect nothing but the repetition, in aggravated form, of the intellectual anarchy, the fatuous politics, and the savage anti-Catholic persecutions that we have been accused of for many years past. So much for the rottenness of the Portuguese educational system. We should naturally expect, under such circumstances, that the press of Portugal would be largely infected with infidelity and bigotry, but no words can give an idea of the shameful reality. The infatuated politicians who have governed the country since 1834 could not conceive a press as free as innocent men, to vilify and calumniate ladies, and to outrage religion and public decency. Suffice it to say that the Portuguese press is at perfect liberty to calumniate the most virtuous and deserving citizen, and to publish the most infamous libels about him, day after day, and after year, and the law, as at present administered, allows him practically to redress, if he prosecutes the paper, he will, in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred, be only wasting his time and money, and should he, by a miracle, obtain a verdict in his favor, he will be awarded only a ridiculous trifle in way of damages. Nay, more, he will very likely be called upon to pay the heavy legal expenses of the prosecution, not only his own expenses, but also those of the opposite side. The only person legally responsible for what appears in a paper is the "publisher," and when the "publisher" is a man of humane and generally the case, the unlucky complainant has to bear the costs of both sides in the suit. In this way the journalist who descends to ruffianism can snap his fingers at his victim and go on calumniating him as shamelessly as ever. The Portuguese law of libel is not in itself altogether worthless, but, unfortunately, neither judge nor jury will enforce it. The fact is that the judicial system is hopelessly infected with the prevailing dry-rot. Unquestionably there are men of the strictest integrity among the Portuguese judges and magistrates, but there is good reason to believe that such men do not by any means form the majority. Be that as it may, the prevailing impression is that the administration of justice in Portugal is very far indeed from being carried out with strict impartiality, and that the number of corrupt and time-serving judges is by no means small. This corruption of the judicial system is one of the worst and gravest features of the present situation. I have said enough to give your readers an idea of the mediocrity and bigotry of the Portuguese press, and of the facilities afforded it for calumny and defamation.

Besides the press and the educational system, there are many other things equally corrupt in Portugal. The theatres are only too often schools of vice and indecency, and the novels most widely read are the immoral French novels of the decadent school, the literature of which Max Nordau characterized some years ago as a "sink of filthiness." Several of the serials that have recently appeared in the press have been confessedly written for the sake of attacking religion. In a former article I stated that the present Masonic persecution had been planned several months ago; there is every reason to believe that the main lines of the conspiracy had been definitely laid down so long ago as September last. The only thing that seemed a favorable opportunity for putting the plan into execution. The necessary pretext was found in the famous Calmon case. But, in order that the Masonic plans might be carried out with impunity, it was necessary to form an alliance either with a party actually in power, or with a party that might shortly be in power. The Freemasons were already represented in the existing Cabinet, and Hintze Ribeiro's Ministry, being a weak one, was at the mercy of the clique of speculators seeking for colonial concessions; so there was a sort of triple alliance

formed between the Freemason revolutionaries, the powerful adventurers, and the existing Cabinet. The subsequent dragging of the cart. The post mortem over, the bodies were removed to a new Kaffir hut, rented for the purpose, and both magistrates and doctor proceeded to Tolo to devise means of getting the coffins made. The news of the coffins spread like wildfire; it was flashed to the convents of Umata and Kokovewhere. How was it possible! Sister Berchmans, so young, so cheerful, so full of life a few hours ago, to be brought back dead, to be buried to-morrow! And little Katie, more! Meanwhile they were hard at work at Tolo getting the coffins ready. Mrs. Simpson, the magistrate's wife, drove out to meet the Sisters and render them such help as was in her power. Mr. Payne, a gentleman of Tolo, put his trap and horses at the disposal of the Sisters, and both he and Mr. Cowie kept up apprised by wire of all that was going on. The outbreak of sympathy and kindness was not less at Umata than at Tolo. Many letters of condolence poured into the convent and people who could not believe the sad news came to make personal inquiries. Mr. Harry Lowry, of Umata, who knows everybody, put himself in contact with the aforementioned gentlemen of Tolo, and set the disposal of the bodies were confined at the place of the accident and brought into Tolo towards evening, the nuns following in the cart. Up to this they never lost sight of their dead; they had watched them over night and throughout the day, but a temporary separation had to take place now. Worn out by fatigue they were forced to pass the night at Tolo, whilst the coffins proceeded on their way to Umata. Next morning, at seven o'clock, but there was a fresh outbreak of grief when the coffins were unscrowed, and we were allowed to have a last look at our dear departed. For an riedly coffin received our attention, and at 8 o'clock a solemn Requiem Mass was sung in presence of a large congregation, composed of persons belonging to various denominations. As we have our own cemetery at Bedford farm, between five or six miles from Umata, the burial was postponed till 2 p.m. The Libera was then sung, the bodies removed from the Church and placed on the hearse and the procession of over a hundred people, both on foot and in carriages accompanied the deceased to their last resting-place. May they rest in peace!—Catholic Magazine for South Africa.

CLARET WINES.

MARGAUX CLARET.
\$3.50 per Case of 1 Dozen Quarts.
\$4.50 per Case of 2 Dozen Pints.

"CLUB" CLARET.
\$4.50 per Case of 1 dozen Quarts.
\$5.50 per Case of 2 dozen Pints.

Pontet Canet, 1890.....\$6.75 per Case of 1 Dozen Quarts
Chateau Leoville, 1890.....\$10.00 per Case of 1 Dozen Quarts
Chateau Lafite, 1890.....\$13.00 per Case of 1 Dozen Quarts
We bottle the "Pontet Canet," "Chateau Leoville" and "Chateau Lafite" only in quarts.

FRASER, TIGER & CO.

Patent Cut Irish Oatmeal.
FROM THE BEAUFORT HILLS, DROGHEDA.

We have it in 5 lb. and 14-lb. tins.
McCann's Irish Oatmeal.....5-lb. tins.....60c each
McCann's Irish Oatmeal.....14-lb. tins.....\$1.60 each

Pillsbury's "Best" XXXX Flour.
Direct from the Pillsbury-Washburn Milling Co., Minneapolis, Minn.

PILLSBURY'S "BEST" FLOUR, in barrels.....\$6.00 each
PILLSBURY'S "BEST" FLOUR, in half barrels.....3.25 each
Delivered free to any spot on the Island of Montreal.

"Poland" Water
From the Poland Springs, "Poland" Water
South Poland, Maine.

CARBONATED (SPARKLING) POLAND WATER in pint bottles.
NATURAL (STILL) POLAND WATER in quart and half-gallon bottles.
116 Cases, each 24 half-gallon bottles Still Poland
36 Cases, each 12 half-gallon bottles Still Poland
10 Cases, each 50 quart bottles Still Poland
10 Cases, each 100 pint bottles Sparkling Poland

Our prices for Poland Water to consumers are as follows:—
STILL POLAND WATER—50 cents per half-gallon bottle; \$5.00 per case of 1 dozen half-gallons, \$6.00 per case of 2 dozen half-gallons, \$2.60 per dozen quart bottles, \$10.00 per case of 50 quarts.
SPARKLING POLAND WATER—\$1.65 per dozen pints; \$12.50 per case of 100 pints.

The Trade supplied at Trade prices

FRASER, TIGER & CO., Importers, Italian Warehouse, 207-211 St. James St.