

TESTIS IN CÆLO FIDELIS

The Ave Maria and True Witness

AND THROUGH THE

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EDITORIAL NOTES.

EVERY new paid-up subscriber to the capital stock of the TRUE WITNESS Printing and Publishing Company should see that he holds a regular printed certificate, none others are valid.

THE MANAGEMENT have now decided to issue a special souvenir number of THE TRUE WITNESS for St. Patrick's Day. It will contain a full and complete report of the proceedings in connection with the celebration of that national festival. No effort will be spared to make the souvenir number of 1894 the one *par excellence* in the history of the paper. In order the better to accomplish our pleasant task we would ask the co-operation of all the Irish societies, national, literary and benevolent—and request that any historical facts connected with their different careers or any events of importance that they would deem advisable to have recorded, might be sent to the editor during the course of the next ten days, in order to secure therefor space sufficient in our columns. All societies that purpose celebrating the day in a special manner, whether by entertainments, banquets, or otherwise, would confer a great favor by letting us have timely accounts of the principal features that they desire to have mentioned. Our attention will be given more particularly to the exactness of the reports, so that the St. Patrick's Day issue will remain a lasting and exact memorial of the celebration. We are anxious that no item of news and no person connected with the celebration shall be overlooked. It is for this reason that we make the above request.

THE PEOPLE interested in maintenance of THE TRUE WITNESS have now a splendid opportunity of manifesting their enthusiasm and of gaining the perpetual gratitude of an important section of the community for having secured the stability of a truly independent and devoted organ.

THIS YEAR the most prominent Irish-Catholic representatives will deliver addresses, in different localities, on the occasion of the Irish national festival. The Hon. J. J. Curran, Solicitor-General, is to speak at the grand entertainment to be given on St. Patrick's night in Gananoque, Ont., while the Hon. John Costigan, Secretary of State, will deliver the address for the St. Patrick's T. A. & B. Society in Montreal, and Mr. C. R. Devlin, M. P. for Ottawa County, will anticipate the day by pronouncing the oration on the evening of the 16th at the *soiree* to be given by the students of St. Mary's College, Montreal.

THE first number of the March Ave Maria presents a beautiful frontispiece, the portrait of the late venerable founder of Notre Dame University, Father E. Sorin, O.S.C. As usual the issue is full of most highly interesting and instructive reading. Especially the editorial comments of the learned editor are

worthy the perusal of every Catholic who wishes to have an exact idea upon the leading and burning topics of the day. We know of no other Catholic publication that as nearly approaches the ideal of a literary magazine, and we learn with pleasure that the prospects of the Ave Maria are daily brightening. It comes weekly and each time it puts in an appearance one is found imperceptibly expressing a deep pleasure in pronouncing the word Ave!

ONCE MORE we call attention to the splendid drama, "O'Rourke's Triumph; or, Irish Honor Vindicated," which will be put on the boards by the St. Ann's Y. M. S. on the occasion of the national festival this year. The play is written by Mr. James Martin, a member of the Society and author of several very successful dramas. But it is no exaggeration to say that "O'Rourke's Triumph" is also Martin's triumph in the line of stage composition. There is something very refined about the whole play, and the characters, scenes and plot are well chosen. It is outside the beaten track, and is free from a certain amount of overdrawn sensationalism that too often marks the dramatic productions of the Irish stage. In fact the conception of the two detectives, both working up the same case, and each ignorant of the other's identity and intentions, is a master stroke of skill. In this effort we see infallible signs of great promise should Mr. Martin see fit to follow the career of histrionic writer. We trust the success of the representation will be in accordance with the merits of the play.

IN OUR next issue we will close the series of meditations upon the "Exercises of St. Ignatius," and will then proceed to draw therefrom the conclusions that are already obvious to all who have followed them carefully. Numerous persons have asked us for copies of the TRUE WITNESS since the commencement of those articles on "Jesuit Principles," and not a few of those who have sought the back numbers are non-Catholics. It has been a revelation to them. They had no idea of the basis or foundation of a Jesuit's spiritual life; they were under the impression that the order was a kind of fifth wheel to the Catholic coach, and that there was some distinction between a Jesuit and a Catholic—or rather between Jesuitism and Catholicity. They now find that the order is exactly in the same relation to the Church as are all other religious communities. The fact is that the Jesuits owe the particular attention that is paid to them by non-Catholics to the fact that after Luther's outbreak and when the full tide of the so-called Reformation was rising, their founder was the one who raised the most powerful barrier against its encroachments and that it was principally the newly organized body of the Jesuit order that served most to check and roll back the flood of Protestantism. Consequently, the opponents of the Church invested the

Jesuits with a fictitious power, a peculiar mantle of secrecy, cut after their own fashion and according to their mistaken idea of the organization, aims and methods of the Catholic Church. But of all this we will speak more fully later on. Meanwhile we desire that our inimical friend, the Toronto Mail, will be good enough to follow those articles and, perhaps, it may be inspired with a sense of shame, if it does not become more enlightened on the subject.

EVERY DAY, on the street, we hear it asked: "Why cannot English-speaking Catholics subscribe \$10,000 within ten days, in a Catholic city like Montreal, for such a noble and praiseworthy object as the support of the TRUE WITNESS?" It is a question more easily asked than answered. However, we anticipate that before long it will be beyond the power of any one to make the enquiry, for we hope to see that amount subscribed very soon.

WE HAVE just received Sadlier's "Catholic Directory, Almanac and Ordo" for 1894. It contains full official reports of all the Dioceses, Vicariates and Prefectures in the United States, Canada and the British West Indies, Ireland, England and Scotland. Also the list of the hierarchy in Germany, Austro-Hungary, and Australia is given. This is the sixty-second annual publication. The price is \$1.25, and it may be had from D. & J. Sadlier & Co. of Montreal, or their branch house in Toronto, Ont. It is a volume that should be in the hands of every member of the Catholic clergy, as well as those of all Catholic professional men, and particularly the journalists of the country. Besides the list of the clergy in each Diocese, it contains a fund of other important information, such as astronomical data, moveable feasts, holy days of obligation, days of abstinence, ember days, indulgences granted to the faithful, calendars, and a fund of other information that is generally required by the public. It is a most valuable publication.

IN THE current number of the Century Illustrated Monthly Magazine appears an able article from the pen of a staunch Protestant, Washington Gladden, on the subject of "The Anti-Catholic Crusade." It is an admirable review of the question, and is from a broad and lofty standpoint. The reasoning is close and exact; and it is characterized by a truly Christian spirit. After referring to Leo XIII. and his policy, in terms as highly eulogistic as ever fell from the pen of Catholic, and having exposed the humbuggery of those false documents—purporting to be Papal letters—and the childish rumors about armed and drilled Catholics, which the A. P. Aists set afloat and circulated, he appeals to the Protestant clergy to denounce from the pulpit an organization that is destructive of the best interests of Protestantism and hostile to the well-being of every citizen, as well as dangerous to the State. We would gladly re-

view the whole contribution if our space would permit. However, we give the closing paragraph, as it contains the essence of the article. He writes:—"That the prevalence of this insanity (A. P. Aism) will be brief is certain; but it may spread widely enough and last long enough to do incalculable mischief. May I not venture to call upon all intelligent Protestants, and especially upon Protestant clergymen, to consider well their responsibilities in relation to this epidemic? Can we afford, as Protestants, to approve, by our silence, such methods of warfare against Roman Catholics as this society is employing? For the honor of Protestantism, is it not high time to separate ourselves from this class of 'patriots?' In any large town, if the leading Protestant clergymen will speak out clearly, the plague will be stayed or abated." We are glad to note these expressions, for they correspond with our own sentiments and ideas; but they come with much greater force from such a source.

IN THE February number of the Ottawa University Magazine, "The Owl," the very Rev. Father Aeneas McD. Dawson, V.G., LL.D. has an able article on "Ultramontanism and Modern Civilization." The writer shows most clearly that there is actually no such thing as Ultramontanism in the proper acceptance of the term. In fact many writers make use of the word and have only a vague idea of what it means. In speaking of secret societies Dr. Dawson has the following very wise and very comprehensive paragraph: "Of all the secret societies, the Freemasons' society is the only one that has won any measure of respect. There are varieties of it. It differs according to the countries in which it prevails. In France it is atheistic; in England, on the contrary, it acknowledges belief in God and reverences the holy scriptures. This fact became manifest when the Prince of Wales succeeded Lord Ripon as grand master in England. On that occasion French Freemasons made advances to the English and invited them to fraternize with those of France. The Prince declined on the ground that the British Freemasons could not associate with infidels. Instances could be referred to in which the former, in conformity with their belief, helped to build up the broken altar. Notwithstanding all this the fact cannot be got over that they are a secret society, the chief lodge directing the action of the less initiated, and thus exercising power greater than that of the most despotic monarch. Such power governments cannot but consider as an *imperium in imperio* which it is impossible for them to recognize." The whole article is well worthy of careful perusal and, like all Dr. Dawson's works, is exact and clear.

The Rev. Abbe J. Elie Letourneau has been appointed vicar at Stanbridge, and the Rev. Abbe F. X. N. Boulais vicar at St. Liboire.