

OUR PHILADELPHIA LETTER.

An Interesting Sketch of a Thriving Town

Something About Its Parochial School—Talks on New Books.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PHILADELPHIA, April 12, 1897.—Coming as late as it does this year, Easter brings into Spring, not as the almanacs chronicle, but as the flowers blow. More than a week ago, the dandelions were out all over the greenest of banks, and little "Quaker Ladies," prim and modest, were standing thick under the evergreens in the yard. Not in the heart of Philadelphia, but at Conshohocken, a nearby town.

Conshohocken! Some years ago I dined, in classic Boston, to laugh at Billie's Cocitau quobos, etc., as the odd-name I had ever heard. "I think Conshohocken, Manayunk and Mauch Chunk will about equal them," quietly remarked a Boston woman, and, as I heard them from stranger lips, I quite agreed with her. Either of these Pennsylvania Indians names are "as queer as they can be." But use makes us familiar with them, and we speak of them glibly. But Conshohocken is neither an ugly nor an uninteresting place. It is all hills and hollows, but the hills are lofty and the hollows are teeming with life and industry. It has, moreover, a Catholic parochial school (St. Matthew's) which made an impression on the judges of the "World's Fair in 1893, and brought a noble testimony of certificates, diplomas, and complimentary letters to this quiet little town.

THE SCHOOL IS CELEBRATED

for its excellence, and I spent most interesting hours in its school-rooms, proud, and justly proud, of a Catholic parochial school. Good judges (the best of judges, practical, progressive and Protestant) have reluctantly admitted that St. Matthew's school excels the public schools in every essential. I never have seen such wonders wrought with all sorts of pupils. From the Primary grade—the tiniest ones—everyone writes a clear, distinct and beautiful hand; copy-books have no blots, no crooked lines; examination papers or practice papers, called for at irregular intervals, are alike neat, correct and clever. Perfect order is maintained everywhere, and pupils rise as requested and answer quietly and composedly any question they are asked. The teachers are all the product of St. Matthew's in the past, and are all so well grounded in their methods of instructing that they can describe and exhibit them with ease and fluency. Then, the school is marvellously equipped. Beautiful indeed is the collection of rare and costly instruments—unequaled in all Philadelphia, from the university downward. The walls of the class-rooms are hung with maps, original and instructive. There are curiously practical maps of the great divisions of the earth, made—as are nearly all the maps of all kinds—in the school and by the teachers. They are large oil-paintings on canvas of the countries, with their rivers and boundaries; the mountain systems are modelled in plaster and fastened in position, and samples of the different products of each country—such as corn, wheat, wool, lumber, coal, etc., are fastened on the surface of the territory to which they belong. Even some precious stones are there, and tiny bottles of syrup, sugar, molasses, etc., dot the West Indies, South America, and the Southern States of America, together with small bolts of cotton in the latter. It was a most ingenious and clever thought, and has been admirably wrought out. There is another map of Peary's expedition, illustrated with portraits—newspaper cuts—and drawings, and another—a beautiful one—of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, showing the growth of its school system and of the churches and missions. A fine solar camera, and a fine observatory in the school yard, are sure proof that this is no ordinary school. The heart of the reverend pastor has given it of its best for more than forty years, and the name of the

REVEREND RICHARD KIMHAN

is well known as not only an interested but an able friend of Catholic schools. I welcome every indication—and they are constantly multiplying—of the superiority of Catholic schools. What has been done can be done again; what is really doing, is the undoing of ignorance. I come and go, watch and listen, and I am sure we have no cause to be ashamed, much less to be discouraged. What we do in Philadelphia is being done in every Catholic community, to a greater or lesser degree, and I wish to exchange compliments and congratulations with each and all. We are working hard for our young people. Easter-tide is a good time to refer to it. We are helping on the springtime of Catholic youth to a glad and fruitful summer, a full and plentiful harvest, a prosperous and well-filled old age. The years run rapidly at the close of this century. Our lot has been cast in a blessed time for many things, although there are clouds and chill winds, and harsh whisperings out of the caves of doubt and fear and prejudice.

STORIES FOR THE YOUNG.

As though it were meant for this train of thought, here comes a book of stories for the young, new and dainty, as befits the work of Marion J. Brunow, author of "Seven of Us," "The Sealed Packet," "A Lucky Family," "The Ghost of Our School,"—all favorites with the class of readers for which they are intended. The new book is "Laughter and Tears"—eight different stories, of which my favorite is "Daisy's Vocation." They make a neat little volume. Miss Brunow has done her part well, but there was a proof reader somewhere who needed a few lessons in punctuation. There are a great many gaps that cry out for commas, and too many periods in the wrong places. But the stories themselves are sure to go straight to the hearts of the boys and girls. What mistakes "grow-ups" make as to the book children really like and

profit by, because they understand its morals and its wits! Eugene Field has been spoken of as the children's poet, and they have been called on to do him affectionate homage on that plea. But how much of his exquisite verse can be understood by a child? The pathos, the tenderness, the loneliness, the deathless sorrow—are they for children? Never. It takes a heart tried, tested, scarred by grief and softened by the sorrow of loss to do justice to Eugene Field's poems of children. The mothers and fathers may well do him honor, but the children must have outgrown all their childhood before they can reach him.

The wit, the descriptions, the conversations, of nine-nines of the books planned for children are laboriously written down to children's comprehension, and are still of another sphere. In the meantime, the children show us what they want and like to read—Miss Brunow's books. They neither teach nor preach, are no disguised science nor sugar-coated philosophy. They are natural, simple, child-beloved adventure, rewarded and punished as the children's sense of justice approves. It takes care-worn and trouble-burdened men and women to be scornful and superior to the comedies and tragedies of "Laughter and Tears." The horizon of the children is bounded by its limits.

CHEAP CATHOLIC BOOKS.

By-the-way, one of the prettiest and most interesting of the many tales which have for their scene of action the French Revolution has just come to us in a very "handy" form. It is one of Maurice F. Egan's—"The Heart of Clotilde"—and it is delightful. It came out as a serial in the Rosary Magazine, and now has been put into a tiny volume—No. 5 of the Catholic Library, Charles Wildermann, publisher, 11 Barclay street, N.Y. Each issue of this library costs five cents per volume. So we can get some good Catholic books cheap, after all.

SARA TRAINER SMITH.

OBITUARY.

MR. MICHAEL J. KINSELLA.

It is our painful duty to record the death of one of the most promising young Irish Canadian Catholic business men of Montreal, in the person of Mr. Michael J. Kinsella, eldest son of Ald. Thomas Kinsella, which occurred yesterday morning, after a lingering illness. The immediate cause being heart failure. Deceased was called to his reward in the vigor and prime of youth, as he had only attained his 25th year. He was a young man of rare ability and sterling worth. He had no sympathy for the fretful fault-finding inclinations of a section of the rising generation, and was in the truest sense a lover of mankind, a many man, an enthusiastic lover of the Old Land, a practical Catholic, and one especially hopeful for the future prosperity, in Canada, of the race from which he had sprung.

It falls to the lot of but few young men to enter upon a commercial career and to mount the rounds of the ladder of business success at such an early age without incurring the risk of being led away from the path of duty, but Mr. Kinsella carried his prosperity with easy grace and unassuming manners. Had his life been spared, it is no stretch of imagination to say that he would have reached a pace of distinction in the circle of Irish Canadians, because he possessed all those characteristics of head and heart which are the principal factors in achieving success.

Mr. Kinsella, while being untiring in his attention to his particular calling, nevertheless found time to interest himself in the work of Irish national, literary and athletic associations. For many years, in fact, ever since he quitted the class-room, he had been a leading member of the Young Irishmen's Literary and Benefit Association, and was always noted for his enthusiasm in its undertakings. A year ago the members of the Shamrock Amateur Athletic Association gave tangible proof of their appreciation of his high integrity and business tact in placing his name at the head of the list of eleven members, selected as Directors, to administer the affairs of the organization during the year now drawing to a close.

Mr. Kinsella was, beyond doubt, one of the most earnest supporters of the Shamrocks, as he not alone upon every occasion in or out of office championed their cause, but also evinced the patriotic desire to behold the green colors of the Association carried to victory on every field.

To his sorrowing father and grief-stricken sister, who sat by his side during the months of his painful illness, and by every human means strove to prolong the life of one so dear to them, we offer the expression of our heartfelt sympathy in their sad bereavement, and join with Mother Church in the prayer, may his soul rest in peace.

MRS. MARTIN PHELAN.

It is with profound regret that we are called upon to chronicle the death of Mrs. Martin Phelan, a prominent member of St. Anthony's Church. Deceased was well known in the circles of Irish Catholics, and highly esteemed for her many virtues and zealous work in the cause of the poor and suffering. Her death, which occurred last week, was a great surprise to a large number of people, many of whom saw her but a few weeks ago in apparent vigorous health.

MRS. JAMES FOX.

Last week the parish of St. Gabriel lost one of its most earnest and energetic members by the death of Ellen Doyle, wife of Mr. James Fox. Deceased was a native of the County Carlow, Ireland, and

came to Montreal nearly a quarter of a century ago. She was a woman of extraordinary energy and courage, and ere she had passed many years in her new home, embarked in business on her own account. At the time of her death she was 60 years of age, and had succeeded in accumulating a sum of about \$10,000. In disposing of this amount, as appears by her last Will, she sets aside the sum of \$500 to be devoted to Masses for the repose of her soul. Several bequests to relations in Ireland and one special amount to the esteemed pastor of St. Gabriel's, Rev. William O'Meara, as an evidence of her appreciation of his endeavors to promote the prosperity of the parish, also appear, but the bulk of the amount, however, is given to the Church for the purposes of good works.

Mrs. Fox was a pious and devoted member of the various organizations in connection with the congregation, and was highly respected in the district. The funeral, which was held last week, was largely attended. A solemn Requiem Mass was sung at St. Gabriel's, after which the remains were taken to the Cote des Neiges Cemetery for interment. Mrs. Fox, in devoting the results of her years of toil and sacrifice to the noble purposes of religion, has given an excellent example to Catholics generally, and one which might well be emulated.

Mr. Tobias Butler was named by Mrs. Fox as sole executor.

PETERBOROUGH CATHOLICS

Hold a Successful Social.

Rev. Father Fitzpatrick Delivers a Practical Address to Young Men—The Trend of Specialism in Secular Affairs Pointed Out.

Large and attentive, says the Peterborough Review, was the audience that gathered in the Catholic Association rooms on Monday to attend an entertainment under the auspices of the Association and listened to an eloquent and thoughtful address on the subject "Why Young Men Fail."

The programme opened with an instrumental duet, "Irish Airs," by Misses McCabe and Liberty, followed by a flute solo by Mr. Hodgson and a violin trio by the Misses Maude and Fox.

Rev. Father Fitzpatrick was then introduced and directed his remarks to young men.

In his address Rev. Father Fitzpatrick laid down a few very important rules for the guidance of young men through life, the violation of which would invariably end in failure. Particular stress was laid on the following points: (1) The necessity of an early choice of trade or profession; (2) a fixed purpose and steadfast determination to reach the desired goal; (3) a spirit of self-dependence; (4) good manners, courteous, polite, obliging; (5) a proper use of both time and money. On each of these the speaker dwelt at considerable length, illustrating each by many examples of men, who, though beginning at the bottom of the ladder, yet reached positions of opulence and honor through their perseverance and self-reliance, joined to civility and a proper use of time and money. He spoke of how young men should choose for themselves a calling in life, one for which nature and their attainments best fitted them. "Be what nature intended you and you will be happy; be anything else and you will be worse than nothing." The choice of parents may often be correct, but on this very point, it is surprising how easily parents are deceived. They are the last to see the faults and imperfections of their own boys. A natural tendency and a love for any particular calling is the best and wisest guide, the surest guarantee to success, that follows the determination to succeed in it, to reach the summit. Dare to leave many things unknown for the sake of knowing one thing well. The age of universal knowledge is past and gone for ever. Only specialists are going to succeed. The keenness of competition, and the vast amount to be learned in every calling, have made it necessary to be a man of one thing. Every young man should be able to say: "This one thing I know, and can do well."

Then came the necessity of self-reliance, a quality which many admired, but which few possessed. And yet nothing was more necessary to the young man just beginning life. He who began with crutches, generally ended with crutches, and children who begin life with fortunes left them by parents began poor ended up where their parents began. Too much money to a young man, like too much leisure, is the devil's blessing, and those who take too much of either generally take too much of something else. The great advantage of good manners, kindness and politeness in making our way in the world was also well pointed out. The speaker would not have young men "crook the pregnant hinges of the knee, where thrift might follow fawning," but between fawning and civility there is a great difference. No man can afford to be impolite, for we are all depending one upon another, for support and comfort, and the polite, obliging man, if he has only a thimbleful of brains, is going to succeed in life, when his ruder, but more talented and clever neighbor is sure to fail. Such is the force of kindness. Next the speaker exhorted the young men to learn early the advantage of both time and money. Both were a blessing if properly used, and both were a curse if squandered. He then pointed out how both might be used, giving many examples from practical life, and concluded a very interesting and instructive lecture by a few kind words of advice which, no doubt, the young men will take to heart and profit by.

A hearty vote of thanks was proposed by Mr. L. M. Hay, and seconded by Mr. Corkery.

The entertainment concluded with a duet by Messrs. Guerin and Simons and a vocal solo by Mr. Thomas Begley.

The various agents of the steamship lines plying between this port and Europe are looking forward to a very good season of business.

EASTER MUSIC.

Programmes of the Choirs in the Irish Parishes.

To be Performed at the Different Services Morning and Evening.

ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH.

On Easter Sunday, St. Patrick's choir will sing Professor Fowler's Jubilee Mass. At the Offertory, Riggs' "Hæc Dies" will be given. The soloists will be Messrs. J. F. Rivan, D. McAndrew, J. Kennedy, F. Cahill, J. Legalle, first tenors; Messrs. O. Brennan, J. Corcoran, G. A. Carpenter, second tenors; Messrs. T. Wright, M. Corcoran, C. F. Smith, baritone; Messrs. W. J. Crowe, J. Murray, R. J. Cherry, A. B. Cowans, bass. Vespers and Solemn Benediction will take place at half-past seven o'clock in the evening. Mr. G. A. Carpenter, conductor. Professor Fowler, organist and musical director.

ST. MARY'S CHURCH.

The choir, assisted by a full orchestra, will perform "Millard's Mass" in G. Soloists: Messrs. C. Hamlin, Paquette, Plamondon, Kelly, P. Phelan, 1st tenors; Messrs. J. Emblem, J. Phelan and J. Ransom, 2nd tenors; Messrs. T. C. and A. F. Emblem and J. O'Hara, basses. At the Offertory, "Regina Coeli," Werner, trio and chorus; soloists, Messrs. Hamlin, J. and T. C. Emblem.

At 7.30 in the evening, Vespers and Benediction, Harmonized Psalms, At Benediction, Millard's "Sanctus," Werner, "Regina Coeli," and "Tantum Ergo," Michelure; soloist, A. Emblem; "Laudate Dominum," Wilson. Leader of orchestra, Prof. Wm. Sullivan; conductor, Mr. J. B. Paquette; organist and musical director, Prof. James Wilson.

ST. ANN'S CHURCH.

The following is the programme for Easter Sunday at St. Ann's Church:

High Mass, 10 a.m.—Fauconnier's Easter Mass will be rendered by a choir of sixty voices and orchestra; soloists, Messrs. W. Murphy, R. J. Hiller, E. Quinn; Offertory, "Regina Coeli," Baughmann, soloists, R. J. Hiller, J. McGuire and E. Quinn; "Marche de Jephthe," Handel, organ and orchestra.

Evening Service—Benediction, "Parce Domine," Gregori, choir; "Sanctus," Fauconnier's Easter Mass, soloist, Mr. W. Murphy; "Ave Maria," (trio) Owens, W. Murphy, R. J. Hiller and E. Quinn; "Regina Coeli," Baughmann's, soloists, R. J. Hiller, J. McGuire and E. Quinn; "Tantum Ergo" (trio and chorus) Rossini, soloists, W. Murphy, R. J. Hiller and E. Quinn; "Laudate Dominum," Billotti, choir; "Marche de Jephthe," Handel, organ and orchestra. Conductor, Rev. E. Strubbe; musical director and orchestra, Mr. P. J. Shea.

ST. ANTHONY'S CHURCH.

The Easter Musical Service at St. Anthony's will consist of: "Kyrie," "Gloria" and "Credo," Riggs' Mass, and "Sanctus" and "Agnus Dei," Nicom-choron Mass. Offertory, "Hæc Dies," Leprovost. Soloists: Tenors, H. P. Brinyere, W. Kydd, J. Foley, Basses, A. H. Hamilton, R. Bissonette, J. F. Scanlan, F. W. Casey. At Vespers and Solemn Benediction the following programme will be carried out: "Ave Verum" Dubois; "Ave Maria," Massage; "Tantum Ergo," Dubois. Soloists, J. Foley, J. T. Scanlan, R. Bissonette, A. Hamilton. Organist, Miss Donovan. Choir Master, E. F. Casey.

THE OLD REGIME.

THE YOUNG IRISHMEN'S L. & B. A. TO HOLD REGULAR MONTHLY ENTERTAINMENTS.

For many years in the early days of the Young Irishmen's L. & B. Association, it was the custom to hold regular monthly entertainments, and it is in the memory of the old guard that at no period of the existence of this splendid organization was there such real progress made in every department, as during the time such a course was adopted.

The present executive it appears has decided to inaugurate the old order again, and the first of a series of these enjoyable evenings will be given on Wednesday, the 23rd inst., in the hall on Dupre street, when the dramatic section of the Association will present a one act drama entitled "The Violin Maker of Cremona." There will also be a select programme of vocal and instrumental music in which appears the names of well known local talent.

ST. ANN'S YOUNG MEN

TO REPRODUCE THE "SIEGE OF LIMERICK," FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE POOR.

The splendid manifestation of sympathy which the St. Ann's Young Men's Society have shown in offering to reproduce the stirring military drama, "The Siege of Limerick," which scored such a triumph on St. Patrick's Night, for the benefit of the poor and needy, under the auspices of the St. Ann's section of the St. Vincent de Paul Society, is deserving of recognition, not alone by the parishioners of St. Ann's Parish, but also by the parishioners in the other four Irish parishes of Montreal.

Young Irish Catholics having the inclination to indulge in such a generous display of Christian sympathy, as that which now characterizes the members of the St. Ann's Young Men, should be encouraged in such laudable undertakings. The entertainment which will be held at the St. Ann's hall, on Ottawa street, should be well patronized, as, apart from its special object, the drama reflects many stirring features of an important historical event, and the members of the dramatic section do it full justice.

Mr. C. R. Devlin, the recently appointed Canadian Commissioner to Ireland, will, with his family, be passengers on the Vancouver, which will probably sail about the 1st of May.

A deputation of the unemployed at Toronto waited upon the Hon. Mr. Hardy, and in answering the appeal of the workmen the Premier detailed the roads and railways to be built to open up the mining country, the enlargement of the Dominion canals and other public works which would give work to thousands of men. The times, he said, were

looking brighter. Something might also be done in the way of helping men to get back to farming. Not at first, perhaps, upon the wild lands of the province, which were free to settlers, but by the establishment of colonies near the cities, where farmers could be learned, after which the difficulties of going into a new country would be less.

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

The regular monthly meeting of St. Patrick's T. A. & B. Society was held on Sunday afternoon, April 11th. Rev. J. A. McCallen, S.S., President of the Society, conducted the religious exercises in the church and administered the pledge to a large number. The business meeting of the Society was held immediately after in the hall adjoining the church, Mr. John Walsh presiding. Several new members were admitted to the Benefit Branch.

The newly elected officers for the ensuing year were duly installed at this meeting, and considerable other business of importance was transacted. The annual reports of the various officers presented at the annual meeting showed the society to be in a most flourishing condition. The officers of the society for the coming year are:—

Rev. President, Rev. J. A. McCallen, S.S.; 1st Vice-President, Mr. John Walsh; 2nd Vice-President, Mr. John H. Feeley; Secretary, Mr. Wm. P. Doyle; Asst. Secretary, Mr. John I. McCaffrey; Treasurer, Mr. James Tierney; Financial Secretary, Mr. John Howard; Asst. Financial Secretary, Mr. J. J. Walsh; Grand Marshal, Mr. James Milloy; Asst. Marshal, Mr. W. Barnes. Committee of Management—Chairman, Mr. Jas. J. Costigan; Messrs. M. Sharkey, Jas. H. Kelly, P. Doyle, T. P. Tansey, J. J. Bolster, Jas. E. Brown, Thos. R. Stevens, M. J. Doyle, T. O'Connor, M. Durcan and J. Barry.

Messrs. Benziger Brothers (New York, Cincinnati, Chicago) have nearly ready "The Taming of Polly," an original American story by Ella Lorraine Dorsey, to which all American girls will give a glad welcome. Polly is a real live girl, but not a local girl; she is of the common side order, for her prototype may be found in every part of the country. She has something of all girls in her; she is loving and lovable, cross and mischievous. She has her trials, her temptations, her audacities; in fact is very much of a girl, and for that reason her young friends will be warm, and she will become part of their every-day life. The best in a story as fresh and honest and good as "The Taming of Polly" is that it gives our girls a standard by which they can judge themselves. The tendency of nearly all English books for young folk is to make them look at everything from the merely human point of view. But, though Miss Dorsey never preaches she accentuates the supernatural in life. She makes us see Polly, her friends and acquaintances and everything about her, in a series of pictures from life which make those who study them brighter—and better. Catholic American girls can no longer complain that boys have a monopoly of the best stories—for here comes Polly.

The Boston Republic says: The able and accomplished editor of the Buffalo Union and Times is about to celebrate his silver sacerdotal jubilee. Father Cronin enjoys a national reputation as an orator, a poet and an editor. He was out at St. Louis on St. Patrick's day making a speech, and what a hit! He made there may be judged from the fact that capable judge of post-prandial oratory, Rev. D. S. Phelan, editor of the Western Watchman, and himself no small apple in the oratorical line, said of his Buffalo brother's effort that "the speech of Father Cronin at the Knights' banquet was the gem of the evening and was received with rapturous applause."

A curious will was recently filed with the Register of Wills, Wilkesbarre Pa. It bore the signature of Mrs. Anna Miller. Among its provisions was one bequeathing to her husband, John Miller, the sum of one cent, to be paid him five years after her death. All the rest of her estate, including her policy in a life insurance company, is left to Mary Morrell, who, Mrs. Miller said, was very kind to her in her illness. Mrs. Miller, it is said, held that her husband lived for himself, did not help her in any

way to accumulate any property, and he was not entitled to participate in the distribution of her property. The husband will not contest the will.

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Ladies' Chamois Gloves in Tan, White, Cream and Black Points, size 5 to 7. Price 60c. Ladies' Kid Gloves, with two pearl studs inlaid with Rhine stones, in pearl and white, with black points. The very latest in gloves. Ladies' Kid Gloves, Weirheimer's 4 buttons, in Tan, Green, Ox Blood, Fawn, Brown, Black, Price \$1.50. Ladies' Kid Gloves, with fancy points, in White, Black, Tan, Primrose.

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Just put into stock a fine lot of Real Irish Lace Handkerchiefs, Carrickmacross, Irish Point, Limerick and London, Lawes. Ladies' Fine Lawn Embroidered Handkerchiefs, with Fancy Open Work Edge, at 12c, 15c, 16c, 20c. Gent's Fine Pure Linen Handkerchiefs, Tape Border, size 4, from 12c to 25c.

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Choice, Fancy and Staple Groceries, Provisions of all Kinds, and Pure and Genuine Wines and Liquors, for THE EASTER HOLIDAYS.

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The Kaiser German Lager Beer, in quarts, \$2.50 per dozen; in pints, \$1.50 per dozen; \$9.00 per original case of 4 dozen quarts; \$11.00 per original case of 8 dozen pints.

The Schlitz Milwaukee Lager Beer, the Beer that made Milwaukee famous, in quarts, \$2.40 per dozen; in pints, \$1.40 per dozen; \$13.00 per original case of 6 dozen quarts; 13.50 per original case of 10 dozen pints.

Bass's Burton-on-Trent English Pale Ale, bottled by Cameron & Saunders and C. G. Hibbert & Co., in quarts and pints. Casks of 4 dozen quarts or 8 dozen pints. Guinness' Extra Foreign Stout, Burke's bottling, in quarts and pints. Casks of 4 dozen quarts or 8 dozen pints.

Wm. Dow's & Co.'s Celebrated Domestic India Pale Ale and Stout. A full stock, in perfect condition, ready for our Easter Trade.

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