

The True Witness and Catholic Chronicle.

Printed and Published by the True Witness P. & P. Co., Limited,
178 St. James Street Montreal, Canada.

P. O. BOX 1138.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE

CITY OF MONTREAL, Delivered, -	\$1.50
OTHER PARTS OF CANADA, -	1.00
UNITED STATES, -	1.00
NEWFOUNDLAND, -	1.00
GREAT BRITAIN, IRELAND and FRANCE, -	1.50
BELGIUM, ITALY, GERMANY and AUSTRALIA, -	2.00

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"True Witness" P. & P. Co., Limited, P. O. Box 1138.

TERMS, PAYABLE IN ADVANCE.

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 excellent work.

PAUL, Archbishop of Montreal.

SATURDAY.....MARCH 31, 1900.

News of the Week.

This has been a week of obituary notices in the press; there are periods that come, from time to time, during which it would appear that the Angel of Death made special havoc amongst the prominent people of the world. A despatch from Ste. Anne de la Perade, announces the death of Rev. Canon Bochet, pastor of that parish. The late priest was only ill for a few days. He had just returned home from assisting at the ceremonies of inaugurating the new Seminary chapel in Quebec.

An apparently confirmed report has been received of the death of General Joubert, of the Boer forces. He is said to have died of a stomach disease, at Pretoria. The reverses recently experienced by the Boers greatly affected him, and he has been ill ever since the commencement of the war. He was a sterling patriot and a great commander, as well as a polished gentleman. He came to Montreal some ten years ago.

The parish of Contrecoeur is in mourning for the loss of the venerable cure Dequoy. Two years ago next July, the good pastor of Contrecoeur celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of his ordination. On that occasion he received countless evidence of the love and esteem in which he was held.

The Pope has just named Cardinal Pietro Respighi, Archbishop of Ferrara, as vicar to His Holiness, a position held by the late Cardinal Jacobini.

We would respectfully remind a number of our subscribers that their subscriptions are long over due. It is unnecessary to recall this fact to each individual, because everyone who is in arrears must know to what extent.

Burglars are at work again. It would be well, if our splendid extra-work force of detectives, were to visit now and again the outskirts of the city; such events as that of Cote St. Paul might not take place.

The annual meeting of the Shamrock Lacrosse Club will be held on Monday next, 2nd April, and it is expected that one of the most satisfactory financial reports in the history of the organization will be presented. It is simply wonderful the progress that has been made by the "Boys in green" during the past few years.

We are in receipt of the "Catholic World's" Easter number, and it is a model of Catholic magazine work, replete with fine, and timely articles, splendid illustrations and matter bold yet humble, it must make its way to the front.

There is a grand project on foot for the establishment of a sanitarium for consumptives, some place in the vicinity of the mountain. As yet it is premature to give any details, as the organization is not completed.

Mr. John Peacock, the well-known watchmaker and jeweller, died early this week. The deceased was a native of Ireland, having been born at

Sligo in 1816. He came to Canada in 1832, and after working for some time as a farm boy, entered the employment of Messrs. Savage & Lyman, watchmakers and jewellers. Later Mr. Peacock set up in business for himself on Little St. James street, where he did remarkably well. For over fifty years he regulated and repaired the clocks of the Grand Trunk Railway, and latterly those of the Canadian Pacific and Intercolonial railways.

Mr. Alfred Perry died very suddenly last Tuesday afternoon, at his residence at Outremont. He had been in failing health for the past year, and latterly had been afflicted with asthma, but since about Thursday last had seemed to get much better. About five p.m. yesterday he went to his bedroom to lie down, and while so doing dropped dead. Death was due to heart failure consequent on sickness and advanced age. Mr. Perry had one of the most stirring careers of any man in Montreal. His connection with the burning of the Parliament Buildings in 1849 has made him an historical personage, while, during recent years, his figure was about one of the best known in the city.

English sermon at the Gesù, Sunday, April 1st, 8 p.m., by Father Jones. Subject: "In Christ's Church alone can the intellect find rest in the possession of infallible truth, and the heart find solace in the moral certainty of forgiveness."

A sample of that underlying spirit of prejudice and bigotry which animates some of our daily papers, may be found in an article entitled "With the Prisoners in Montreal Jail," which appeared in the "Herald" of the 10th March. Amongst other things the report reads:—

Mr. Vallee has a queer human menagerie. Of interesting characters there is no end. An old reporter—an Irishman who worked on Dublin papers and was for years connected with Montreal papers—is a farce-comedy, and dramatic tragedy, in himself. He is now an habitual drunkard and always in jail. A man once of fine presence and bright intelligence, well connected and well known, but now a pitiable wreck—the butt of jail-birds and practical jokes. But wherever he is his Irish humor saves him still, and when he pleases he is the life of the ward. He knows Shakespeare by heart, and when he strikes an attitude it is amusing, but the man's history makes it tragical also.

One day he fell down in his cell in a fit, and, feeling bad, went to see the doctor. He told his troubles to the doctor, and asked to be put in an open ward.

The doctor, after putting a few questions relative to his symptoms, blurted out:

"What religion are you?"

"Roman Catholic."

"Go see the priest at once and make your peace with God."

We simply ask these two questions—since the reporter wanted a type of prisoner to illustrate something or other—why an Irishman? Why a Catholic?

The regular Lenten sermon, on Sunday evening, at St. Patrick's Church, will be preached by Rev. Father Hallissey.

THE TRUE WITNESS AND CATHOLIC CHRONICLE

ELIZA ALLEN STARR HONORED.

It is with no small degree of pleasure that we learned the following facts from a Chicago contemporary:

"Eliza Allen Starr, the noted Catholic poetess and authority on Christian art, was signally honored last week by Pope Leo, who sent to her with the apostolic blessing, a beautiful medallion. The gift is in recognition of her latest published work, 'The Three Archangels, and Guardian Angels in Art.'"

"The medallion is in the form of a costly cameo, on whose face is a figure of the Blessed Virgin, a reproduction of 'The Immaculate Conception.' The transparent stone is set in gold and the medallion was enclosed in a handsome case. It was transmitted by the Holy Father to Miss Starr's home, St. Joseph's cottage, Huron street, Chicago, through Rev. Mother Cabrini, the founder of the Order of the Missionary Sisters, who is now in Rome.

"The honor is especially great, as women have rarely been the recipients of such valuable tokens of appreciation, and it is devoutly prized by Miss Starr. The friends and admirers of this distinguished writer must rejoice with her in the reception of this testimonial to her efforts in the uplifting of Catholic thought, and her disinterested work on behalf of Catholic art and literature."

What a beautiful soul must not be which animates the now venerable poetess and lover of art in all its most attractive and elevating forms. The Laetare medal, the Pope's gift, and the hundred other tokens of appreciation which Miss Starr—in her long and delightful life—has received must constitute some of the most precious gems to ornament that casket of a home, which she has made for herself in Chicago.

To few women has it been given to do so much for truth—whether as it exists religiously in the Church, or as it is made manifest in the sublimest as well as the truest forms of expression—with pen or pencil. Then where we will, Catholicity can find a mode of conveying its loftiest ideals; and Miss Starr has done even more than could be told in a few columns. Now that 'age has come on with its winter,' it is in her own home, amidst her few chosen friends, and an occasional assembly of outside admirers and pupils that she discourses so learnedly and so simply upon art and all connected therewith.

MONASTIC ORDERS.

The "Contemporary Review" is noted, according to some opinions, for its liberality; in fact, it will open its pages to anything—provided the subject is of present interest and is couched in sufficiently correct English. However, it seems to get a good distance out of its way for infidel and anti-Christian material, especially when the Catholic Church is in question. In the last issue of that publication appears the first of a series of articles on "Monastic Orders up to Date," by Mr. E. Saint Genix. The sub-title of the article is "Roman Catholic Fetishism." When we state that this series of articles is from the French-Liberal standpoint, we said all that is necessary to indicate the virulence with which they attack the Church in general, and religious orders in particular. The recent trial of the Assumptionist Fathers has given rise to this excursion into the English press by a disciple of the worst and most infidel school in France. We have no desire at present to undertake an analysis of this first contribution; but we will await the appearance of the second one of the series, in order to combine them.

Meanwhile we may profitably reproduce some of the remarks of the Liverpool "Catholic Times" on this vile attack upon the religious orders of the day. Our trans-Atlantic contemporary says:—

"The principal charge brought against monks and nuns by the French Liberals, as here set forth, is that trades, industries, and professions are invaded by them to the detriment of lay tradesmen and professionals, but the worst evidence that the writer can bring against the convents is that they succeed in a manner totally unattainable by their lay competitors. That prayer is the secret of their success does not occur to M. Saint Genix, whose article next month is to deal with the charge of sweating the orphans committed to their care by nuns in order to increase the funds of the communities to which they belong. This month he is principally concerned in making cheap fun of a magazine called the 'Propagator of Devotion to St. Joseph and St. Anthony of Padua.' Devotion to St. Joseph is denounced as 'Roman Catholic Fetishism,' and because some pious souls like to acknowledge the favors they have received by subscribing to this little periodical and publishing their an-

swers in it M. Saint Genix says the 'Catholic Church in France keeps tens of thousands in intellectual thralldom and material poverty that its own ministers may wax fat,' and 'Catholicism is being methodically turned into crass Fetishism.' Poor French cures will not wax very fat on the centimes the subscribers to the 'Propagateur' send them. But it is a relief to know M. Saint Genix could not this month find any worse charge to bring against the religious Orders."

We will see what he has to say next month.

THE HOTEL DIEU.

We have, at the present moment, the painful spectacle of a considerable portion of the English section of the press of the city, howling and shrieking at the prospect of the Hotel Dieu receiving a few acres of land from the city for the purpose of increasing hospital facilities.

Interviews with more or less important physicians as to the inadvisability of granting any portion of the Park for such a purpose have been published.

Let us go back a little: A few years ago the Council was asked for several acres of city property for a new hospital about to be erected by the then Sir George Stephen and Sir Donald Smith. The English-speaking press was either silent or expressed its approval; neither the medical gentlemen in question protested, nor the English-speaking public protested as they now protest, against the iniquity of despoiling the people's playground of any portion of its breathing space; no active, energetic woman self-constituted guardians of the city's interests uttered a word of condemnation; the faithful adherents drilled into action by press and people, without a murmur donated a part of our picturesque mountain side for what was afterwards the Royal Victoria and McGill University had soon the advantage of seeing erected, in close proximity to its medical school, a beautiful building for the sick, and, at the same time, material for clinical instruction. The Medical Faculty of McGill became the medical staff of the Royal Victoria, and everything went as pleasant as a marriage bell.

What was then the attitude of the citizens of French origin? There were no protests on their part; no opposition from the French-speaking physicians of the city; no blocking the way by the French-speaking aldermen who formed the large majority in the City Council; no spoke in the wheel by the Finance Committee of the Council, or its chairman, a French-Canadian gentleman, and the French press was silent.

We thought, at the time, it was a mistake to give any portion of the Park for other than Park purposes—but we said not a word to thwart the desires of our English-speaking fellow-citizens. We confess to not a little disappointment when we learned that, in the charter of this new hospital, a clause had been introduced of a nature to give such offence to the Catholic citizens of Montreal as to preclude the possibility of securing a vote of thanks from the City Council to the two founders for their princely generosity. To-day, the circumstances are changed, but the principles are the same, and much as we regret the curtailment or diminution by a hair's breadth of our beautiful playground, a becoming sense of fairness—nay of simple decency and of the fitness of things—impel us to do in 1900 what we did in 1887. Why should it be otherwise? Had the institution—even before its construction, thirteen years ago—a greater claim on our favor and generosity than has that founded in this city two hundred and fifty-six years ago? From January, 1644—when the contract for the establishment of the Hotel Dieu was passed before notary—to 1823, when the Montreal General Hospital, to which all classes of our citizens are so strongly and so justly attached—was incorporated—a period of 179 years—the Hotel Dieu was the only hospital in Montreal for the reception of the sick and the suffering. Does her venerable age diminish her claims to fair and impartial consideration? She has kept pace with every advance in medical science. Her attending staff has ever been chosen from amongst the best talent of the city; Catholic, Protestant, Jew, have their names enrolled on the attending staff of the institution. The Hotel Dieu, in its early life, ministered to the Iroquois and the Huron, and suffered in turn severely at their hands. Then French settlers became its inmates; then, later, those of British origin, whatever their religious faith, always found and yet continue to find a welcome asylum within its walls.

We repeat: We may doubt the wisdom of the precedent created a few years ago—but, with that precedent existing, we

see no fair, just or honorable course open to us, than to counsel the doing to others what has been so generously done by them.

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL CONCERT.

An artistic and financial success is the only just qualification for the second grand concert given, under the able direction of Professor Fowler, for the benefit of the Catholic High School, on Wednesday evening. Apart from Professor Fowler's talents, which constitute him a host in himself, the chorus which was composed of the various city choirs, was the largest that ever appeared on the Windsor Hall stage, while the magnificent voice, unimpaired by lapse of years, of William Ludwig, the great Irish baritone, imparted a strength as well as an artistic value to the entertainment. The reception accorded the great singer can leave no doubt upon his mind as to his popularity in Montreal, and the keen sense of musical enjoyment that the people of this city possess.

The public in general is aware of how much sacrifice has been made to carry the project of the Catholic High School to a successful issue. Now that this magnificent establishment is in working order, and that the good it is calculated to do is already being felt, we are glad to see that the people seize upon every opportunity of aiding in its maintenance and the development of its resources. The success of the concert alone should suffice to encourage all who have been or are yet intimately connected with the school.

If, however, it was a pleasure for all of those who attended the concert on Wednesday to contribute to such a useful and necessary object, it certainly was an enjoyment for them to feel that while doing such a good act they were securing for themselves a musical treat such as is rarely experienced in Montreal. His Grace Archbishop Bruchesi was present, as well as a large number of the clergy of the city parishes. Prof. Fowler and his splendid choral organization scored a great triumph.

PROGRAMME.

1. Chorus, "Venite".....Carlyle
2. Song, "Kathleen Aroon".....Abbott
3. Violoncello solo, "La Sirene".....Thome
4. Baritone solo, "Les Ramoneux".....Faure
5. Solo and Chorus, "O'Donnell Aboon".....McGann
6. Song, "For all Eternity".....Mascheroni
7. Baritone solo, "Irish Reapers".....Harvest Hymn, Irish Song
8. Reading, "The Going of the White Swan".....Sharpe
9. Miss Marguerite Whitten.

PART II.

1. Waltz Chorus.....Kode Koven
2. Soprano solo, "Ever be Happy".....From "The Enchantress".....Balfie
3. Miss Louisa Morrison.
4. With male quartette—Messrs. J. J. Rowan, J. A. Blanchfield, W. J. Walsh, J. J. Walsh.
5. Baritone solo, "The Boys of Westford".....Joyce
6. Part song, "Let Not the Heart".....From "The Bohemian Girl".....Balfie
7. Miss M. McAlly, Miss M. L. Delaney, Miss A. Sullivan, Messrs. J. F. Cahill, Ed. Quinn, J. H. Muiden, with Cello solo, Prof. J. B. Dubois.
8. Tenor solo and chorus, "Jerusalem".....Gounod
9. Mr. J. J. Rowan and Chorus.
10. Violoncello solo, Irish Melody.....Moore
11. Prof. J. B. Dubois.
12. Solo and Chorus, "The Cruiskeen Lawn".....Moore
13. Mr. William Ludwig and chorus.
14. Prof. J. A. Fowler, director; Mr. J. I. McCaffrey, accompanist.

ST. ANTHONY'S CHURCH CHOIR.

In order to worthily mark the inauguration of St. Anthony's new presbytery, the young ladies of the church choir are making extensive preparations for a grand entertainment, which will be held in St. Anthony's Church Hall, on Wednesday, April 25th. The programme is being carefully prepared, and will embrace solos, duets, concerted pieces of music by talented musicians, and a musical cantata by the senior pupils of the St. Agnes Academy.

The new presbytery is closely adjoining the Church and its splendid appointments and its superb arrangements together with the beauty of its architectural finishing is, indeed, an additional triumph for its designer—Mr. Karch.

It is to be hoped that the efforts of the young ladies will be fully appreciated by their many friends.

LECTURE ON "ROBESPIERRE."

On Wednesday evening next, the 4th April, Dr. J. K. Foran will deliver a lecture on "Robespierre, and his role during the French Revolution." The subject is one of the most attractive in history, and affords an opportunity for both thrilling descriptions and useful lessons. The lecturer has made a special study of the theme, and we may expect something instructive and highly entertaining under the circumstances. In 1897 Dr. Foran commenced to read up the story of the Irish Insurrection of 1798, with a view to preparing a lecture for the occasion of the 98th centennial. This necessitated a study of the situation in France at the same period. Attracted by the various histories of the great French Revolution, he devoted about a year to a critical examination into the causes as well as the effects of that terrible social upheaval. This lecture is, in part, the fruit of that serious historical research. We may, therefore, predict with safety a fine literary

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treat for all who may have the pleasure of hearing Wednesday night's lecture.

The lecture will be given in the fine street. Tickets, 25c. No reserved seats. Tickets may be had at Mrs. Molloy's, St. Catherine street, D. & J. Co.; and Wm. Curries, Notre Dame street; Wall Brothers, Bloor street; the Rev. E. J. Devine, St. Mary's College; and at the "True Witness" Office, St. James street.

THE LAETARE MEDAL.

We can all recall the great pleasure felt by our Catholic population when, a few years ago, the late Archbishop Fabre, in the name of the University of Notre Dame, presented the venerable authoress, Mrs. Sadlier, with the Laetare Medal; never was it generally acknowledged, did that coveted decoration adorn a more deserving person. Last year the medal went to another woman—the fourth to receive it—in the person of the foundress of the Catholic University at Washington—Mary Gwendolen Caldwell, Marquise de Meriville. In connection with this event, it may be fitting to give the names of those who have heretofore been selected by the University in this regard. We quote from an extensive and beautiful article on the subject now before us—

"In 1883 it was conferred on John Gilmory Shea, the historian, who was known throughout the United States as an authority on Indian antiquities and dialects. In 1884 it was bestowed on Patrick Keefe, the noted architect of church edifices in the country. In 1885 it was conferred on Eliza Allen Starr, famous as a lecturer and artist, a lady whose services in popularizing Catholic art have been most valuable. In 1886 Gen. John Newton, of Canada, his country with industry and efficiency, as well in peace as in war, and was notable for his attainments in engineering and the sciences. He received the medal in 1887 for his distinguished German work, which once stood high in fame and prominence as a clergyman of the Catholic Church. In 1888 it was presented to P. V. Hickey, whose special abilities as editor were constantly called into defence and furtherance of faith, education and morals. Mrs. Anna Hanson Dorsey, whose services entitled her to a conspicuous place in the domain of Catholic literature, received the medal in 1889. In 1890 it was conferred on Dr. William J. O'Mahon, whose exceptionally bright mind and capable hand have for many years been at the service of his co-religionists and aidful in raising the standard of Catholic aspirations to high ideals of duty and effort. In 1891 it was bestowed on Daniel Dougherty, famous for his oratory, and ever a faithful son of the Church. Major Henry F. Brownson, a soldier, scholar and gentleman, who has ever been true to his standard of duty, and whose edition of the voluminous works of his gifted and distinguished father entitles him to the grateful acknowledgment of both the hierarchy and the laity, received the medal in 1893. It went to Patrick Donahoe, the veteran editor and publisher of a leading Catholic newspaper, Mr. Augustin Daly, who deserves well of the public on account of his conscientious services in elevating and purifying the drama, received it in 1894 in recognition of his services to God and country. It was bestowed in 1895 on one of the truest of Americans and most devout and faithful of the laity, General William Stark Rosecrans; the following year it was conferred on Mrs. Sadlier for meritorious services in the line of Catholic literature; in 1897 it was presented to Dr. Addis Emmet, a faithful son of the Church, and one of the ablest physicians and surgeons in the country; in 1898 it was bestowed on the Hon. Timothy E. Howard, in view of his honorable record for fidelity to religion, service to country, ripe scholarship, educational work, trustworthiness in official life, efficiency in legislative circles, and high standing as a jurist; the fourth woman to receive the Laetare Medal was Mary Gwendolen Caldwell, Marquise de Meriville, the foundress of the Catholic University of America."

The story of the medal and its origin and aim are all well-known to our readers, so we will not enter into any details in that connection, but only to express our sense of admiration for the only one of our own, whoever carried off that grand token of merit, and to convey to her the expression of our prayer that she may be granted many more years to work away in the cause of Catholic truth, and to enjoy that repose which we must have in declining years.

THIS YEAR'S RECIPIENT.—The University of Notre Dame has hitherto conferred the Laetare Medal on distinguished Catholics in recognition of high personal worth; but especially because of notable services to religion in the different lines of public duty. Historians, journalists, architects, engineers, artists, writers, have been recognized and honored by this distinction. In the present instance the University pays its tribute of homage to a magnificent benefactor of charity and Christian education in the person of John A. Creighton.

Perhaps no name among the Catholics of the West stands out more prominently as being that of one who worked earnestly in behalf of charity, than does the name of John A. Creighton of Omaha. Especially is this true if we look among those persons who have contributed generously to the support of Christian education. In Mr. Creighton's life there are many evidences to substantiate these statements, and they will show even go further, for they will show that not only Mr. Creighton himself, but his family as well, has been not only these splendid characteristics of generosity and munificence.

Continued on Page Eight.