

grievous state it is because of the apathy of the laity. Let men talk all they please about Jews and Freemasons, certainly France is not inhabited exclusively by Jews and Freemasons. In fact they are but a handful in the general population, yet the Government won not only the general election, but keeps on winning the bye-elections. The meaning of this is that either the Catholics are in a minority or they do not do their duty. That the latter is the true explanation of all those who best understand France and French conditions confidently assert.

It may be asked why is such a condition of affairs possible? The answer is the people have not been accustomed to doing their duty. They have forgotten that they have a duty to do, and it takes more than one generation to inculcate such a lesson. The Pope insists that the Church is not made up of the clergy alone, but of the clergy and laity. Each class has its place, its rights, its duties. Neither class can afford to abdicate place or rights or duties. It may be manifest itself at once; but in the long run the balance must be restored or the Church suffers. Thus the condition of affairs in France does not arise from the fortuitous hostility of a fleeting ministry. Its causes lie deeper in the organization of the Church of France. Leo tried and tried in vain to minimize the evil. The result of his failure is the present persecution. There are cases when minimizing fails; the only remedy is the utter destruction of the system. When the husbandman had cultivated the ground about the tree and still it bore no fruits the command came at last: "Cut it down. Why cumbereth it the ground!"

Here in America we are not secure from the same danger. Once upon a time Pope Leo was compelled to send us a "Testem benevolentiae" and we needed it. We were so full of pride and vanity that we thought we were a pattern to all the world, when, as a matter of fact, like the angel of Laodicea, we were wretched and miserable and poor and blind and naked, without a particle of influence on the affairs of our nation, without a rag of organization to hide our shame, without the courage of a chicken to stand by our principles. This bastard Americanism has many forms, but no form is more dangerous than that which strives to eliminate the laity from the Church. Indeed the most exquisite piece of sarcasm is the claim that there is anything American about it. America stands for democracy. Americanism stands for the rule of a clique. Wherever it was begotten and by whomsoever named it is as alien to the spirit of the American people as it is to the spirit of the Church and to the prescriptions of Leo XIII. The Church will never be governed by the ballot box or popular majorities, but she will never consent to see her children of the laity made strangers in their Father's house.

**ENJOYABLE ENTERTAINMENT**

A really entertaining programme was rendered last Tuesday evening in the rooms of the Catholic Club. The generous patronage on this occasion, as on all previous ones given by the Catholic Club, again emphasized the need of more commodious quarters and brought forth an expression of hope from the genial president that with a continuance of present encouragement those much desired conditions might soon be attained.

President Russell opened the concert in his well known graceful style of speech, thanking the people for their attendance, promising them a pleasant evening and hoping that in the near future the Catholic Club would be able to welcome them to a home more in keeping with the dignity and importance of Winnipeg's Catholic population.

The first half of the programme was rendered by pupils of St. Mary's boys' school and St. Mary's academy. The children showed marked ability and great profit from the untiring perseverance of able instructors.

The programme was as follows:—  
1. Masquarrade Waltz—Mandolin, Misses G. Colloton and Pearl Conway; violin, Master L. Meyers; piano, Miss M. Colloton (pupils of

St. Mary's Academy). 2. "Welcome" (recitation and chorus). 3. Piano solo—Miss M. Wilson (six years old). 4. Recitation—"She Never was a Boy," Master C. Forrester. 5. Oration—"Boy's Rights," Master A. Meyers. 6. Dumb Bell Drill—Juniors. 7. Recitation—"Little Dog Under the Wagon," Master N. McInnis. 8. "Alice, Where Art Thou"—Mandolin, Misses G. Colloton and Pearl Conway; piano, Miss M. Colloton. 9. Kaleidoscope Medley—St. Mary's Boys. 10. Piano Duet—Miss M. Wilson and Master C. Forrester. 11. Aunt Jimmima's Money—

**Characters.**

Aunt Jemmima Holdfast.....  
.....Miss H. Perkin  
Kate Lovejoy, Mary Lovejoy (her nieces) ..  
.....Miss V. Julian, Miss F. Brooks  
Sarah Bonner (domestic) ..  
.....Kathleen McPhillips  
Intermission, 10 minutes.  
12. Piano Duet—Misses Maud Kilgour and Florence Brooks. 13. Vocal Solo—"The Blacksmith," Mr. W. Wraggit. 14. Vocal Solo—"The Four Leaf Clover," Miss Chevrier. 15. Vocal Solo—"Just a Flower," Mr. Louis McQuillan. 16. Vocal Solo—"The Warrior Bold," Mr. Kenneth Armstrong. 17. Vocal Solo—"Mignonette," Miss Mabel Holroyde. 18. Comic Song—"Am I in the Way," Mr. A. C. W. Soper. Misses Perkins and Brownrigg and Mr. Tollit played the accompaniments.

**STE. ANNE DES CHENES.**

Seeding is just about finished. The wheat is nearly all beginning to grow; it is very pleasant to look across the fields and see them looking green.

The warm weather these last two weeks, with the rain on Sunday and Tuesday, have worked wonders, the trees are all in leaf, and the fruit trees in flower.

There was a bad accident up the C.N.R. line here last week. We have not been able to obtain the particulars, but we understand that severe damage was done, and some lives lost. Rumor says that two freight trains collided.

Talking of trains, we are all exercising our imaginations to find out the reason, if it is wicked to run passenger trains and tram cars on Sundays; why the C.N.R. should be allowed to run as many freight trains as it likes on that day. The traffic is as frequent on Sundays as on any week day. Some of us think there is rather more than less of it.

**LETELLIER NOTES.**

Rev. Father Jutras has left on a two months trip for Montreal. It is a well earned rest, as it is seven years since the Rev. Father has taken a vacation.

Mrs. Longeon is visiting her aunt Mrs. J. Parent.

The Catholic Order of Forresters are building up a flourishing court. They purpose holding a grand celebration on June 24. There will be an excursion from Winnipeg. All kinds of field sports will be indulged in. With such men as Mr. W. Fraser, Dr. Belanger and Mr. J. Parent at the head of committees, success is assured. The court was opened in February with twenty-two charter members; now there are fifty-three members in good standing.

Mr. Parent leaves on June 8th to attend the grand convention.

**HER LOST LADDIE.**

Written for the Northwest Review.

My Willie went awa' to sea,  
He never s'all come hame to me;  
His dear, dead face is turned fra' me,

My Willie's face, that went to sea.  
The laddies come to talk at eve,  
An' ask to wed wi' me that grieve,  
I canna' hearken what they say—  
The waves ring in my ears alway,  
The waves that roll where Willie lies,

Wi' sea-weed on his sweet, dim eyes. —M.T.

**THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA AND GAELIC.**

(Leader, San Francisco.)

There are still some Irish who smile a pitying smile when the Irish Language is mentioned. In their minds the subject is low, inexpressively low. It is connected

with vulgar persons engaged in the menial occupations or with certain half-obscene expressions for which the English is too genteel. For those who advocate its study and cultivation they have a contempt that rises sometimes into exasperation. Why should we be forced back into the cradle? Have we not left Ireland for good, why then try to perpetuate the smell of the turf.

To such as these the remarks of President Wheeler of the University of California at the Patrick's Day Banquet must have been a revelation. He is the head of an institution to which these people look as the fount and source of culture. To them the training at Berkeley is the very antithesis of what their minds connect with the idea of Gaelic. Yet Dr. Wheeler most emphatically laid down to the banqueting Irish their duty to study and cultivate their own language. Again and again he came back to this point. He warned them that their heritage was too precious to be neglected. In his own person he is an example of the valuation outsiders put on the study. It was as a student of the Irish that he spoke, and the shame of it all is that it was necessary for him to speak to the sons of Irishmen.

We are heartily glad of the aid from this source. The influence of the University is growing every day. The Irish have their share as well as all the other races that make up our population. They pay a fair share of the taxes that support the institution. It is only right that they should get some return.

Indeed, it may be safely said that if they have not received recognition it is their own fault. German, French and Italian, Chinese and Japanese, Hebrew and Polish and Russian and Bohemian are all taught in Berkeley. If Gaelic is not taught, it is because the Gaels have not asked it.

We hope that President Wheeler's words will be an inspiration to our people. It is their cause, their honor. Again and again and again we must go over the old truism, our cause can be successful only in our own hands; our honor is only safe when we ourselves take the trouble to care for it.

**RECORD FEAT IN STENOGRAPHY IN THE FAIR WILL CASE.**

The statement recently published throughout the country, for which the New York Sun is authority, that the reporting of the proceedings of the anthracite coal commission was the greatest job of shorthand transcription on record, is expected to be by San Francisco stenographers, and with good grounds. They claim that the world's record for any single job of reporting and transcribing was made in that city during the trial of the famous Craven-Fair case in 1879.

The records show that the trial of this last case lasted ninety-two days, while the coal commission was in session only fifty-six days. The record itself consists of 11,000 pages of type-written matter, or 2,860,000 words, as against 10,057 pages and 2,500,000 words in that of the commission. Furthermore, while three reporters, who relieved each other at frequent intervals, were employed in Philadelphia, one only, George W. Smith, the official court reporter, took the proceedings in the Craven-Fair case. His only assistants were two typewriters, who transcribed from a graphophone into which Smith dictated from his notes during the noon recess and after court adjourned each day.

It is claimed, and with justice, that this feat far surpasses that of the stenographers in Philadelphia, who were re-inforced by a corps of expert assistants, with the most approved machinery always at their disposal. Some idea of the magnitude of Smith's task may be gathered from the fact that on several occasions the day's session resulted in a transcript of over 42,500 words, all of which was reported, dictated, transcribed, indexed and arranged in seven separate parcels, bound and delivered to the several counsel in the case before 9 o'clock at night.



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