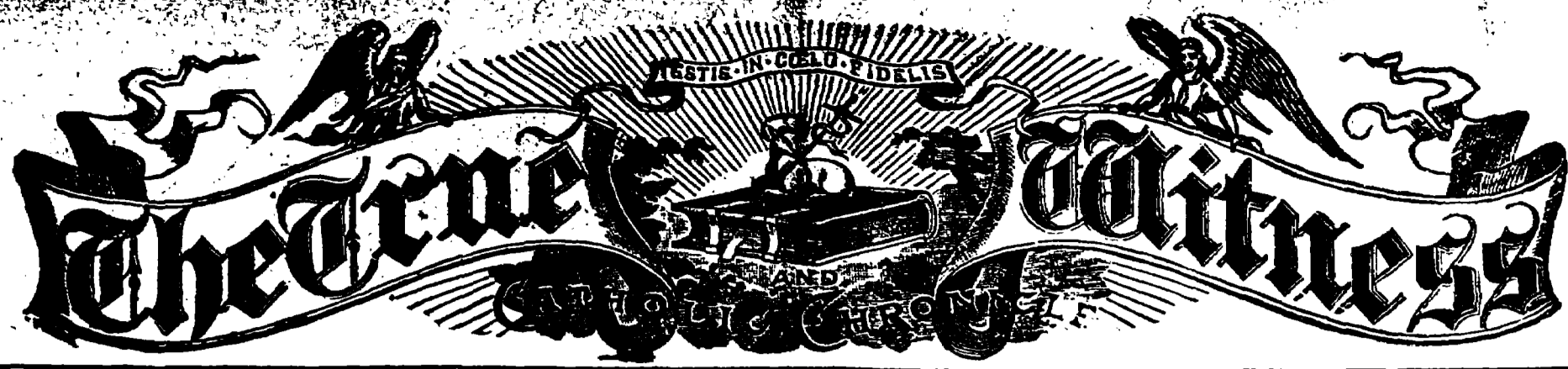


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Our Paper Should be in the hands of every Catholic Family.

IN MEMORY OF EMMET.

Anniversary of the Great Irishman Honored

By the Catholic Order of Foresters of Quebec - Brilliant Lecture by Rev. J. A. McCallen, S.S., of St. Patrick's, Montreal.

[SPECIAL TO THE TRUE WITNESS]

QUEBEC, Feb. 15.—To say that the lecture last Monday evening at the Academy of Music, Quebec, given by Rev. J. A. McCallen, S.S., of St. Patrick's, Montreal, was a decided success in all its features, would still be a weak way of putting it, for it meant more than what is understood by a crowded hall and large door receipts. These material results were highly satisfactory in themselves, but the intellectual and moral effects were of far higher importance.

Of course the chief credit of the financial result of the grand entertainment is due to the officers and members of the Order under whose auspices it was organized. Messrs David O'Sullivan, Chief Ranger; Alexander Kirkwood, Vice-Chief Ranger; William Thompson Recording Secretary; James Collier, Financial Secretary; and J. J. O'Sullivan, Treasurer, comprise the active officers, who left nothing undone that could ensure the entire success of the lecture and all its incidental aids.

THIS FORETHOUGHT IN THE PROMOTERS had its beneficial results, for the Irish Catholic Quebecers needed but to know that Father McCallen was coming to address them, and that fact alone would cause them to fill the largest hall in the city. And this is what they did, for the Academy was literally packed from floor to ceiling with a very select assemblage, who looked gay and happy under the conviction that an evening of real enjoyment was at hand.

Chief Ranger, Mr. David O'Sullivan, introduced Rev. Father McCallen in a very judicious speech, which was pithy, well constructed and highly appropriate. He neatly traced the conception and birth of the C. O. F. in Quebec, and modestly rejoiced in its growth and prosperity, although it is only a little over a year old. He spoke fluently and told the people they were about to be addressed by an eloquent priest, who would put them under his control in less than ten minutes. This is the apt way he spoke of the lecturer of the evening, whose appearance drew from the audience a very warm burst of cheering and applause.

Erin's Past History was first reviewed, and this carried the mental vision back to the remote centuries before Christ, but the discourse gained in interest and pathos as the lecturer advanced to the period of Ireland's conversion to Christianity. And the fine stereopticon views of Tara's Hall and king surrounded by his chiefs and bards clearly illustrated the

kind of assemblage St. Patrick had to face in introducing the law of the Gospel and the Cross. At this point the forceful speaker dwelt upon the unique case of Ireland accepting the true faith almost spontaneously and without the least drop of blood. England and Scotland and other lands had fallen under its influence gradually, whilst Erin had accepted it with alacrity and religious joy.

This was perhaps the most inspiring part of the lecture, because its theme derived its inspiration from a sacred religious truth, the good fruits of which are everywhere visible down to this day among Celtic Catholic people.

As the entertainment proceeded the audience were made aware that they were listening not only to a priest of rare eloquence of speech, but to one who combined in himself strong elocutionary and vocal musical powers.

The returning Irish exile's salutation to his native land, "Erin, I wish you the top of the morning," was delivered with pathetic force and in harmonious vein, and in the "Dear Little Shamrock of Ireland" he displayed a rich musical voice. These are mere typical examples, for throughout the evening the lecture was seasoned with other selections equally good, and when it is known that the accompaniments were played by such an artist as Professor Fowler, the well known organist of St. Patrick's Church, Montreal, the treat of hearing Erin's richest melodies interpreted by such a master may well be imagined.

At different stages the images of Grattan, O'Connell and Emmet appeared on the canvas, and the names of those eminent Irish patriots stirred the hearts and feelings of the audience.

In the succession of events the lecturer arrived at the unhappy period when the withering plague of heresy began in England and threatened to overspread Ireland. It is called in history the Protestant Reformation, but that is a perverted title, and it appeared hideous in burning words its cruel and inhuman enactments.

In dealing with this branch of his subject the Rev. and learned gentleman was deeply moved, for he exposed with remarkable force and vigor the utter brutality of Ireland's persecutors and their atrocious cry of Irish illiteracy and ignorance, whereas an imperative ban was put upon education in Ireland and it was criminal for Catholic parents to give scholastic instruction to their children.

Estimated in all its phases, Father McCallen's lecture was the most pleasing, eloquent and instructive, perhaps, ever given in Quebec. His are soul-inspiring words, and then he is many-sided in his attainments, powerful as a straight speaker, equally so as an elocutionist and singer, and withal a keen Irish wit, bright flashes of which show through his discourse from beginning to end.

Handsome Bequests to the Diocese of Liverpool—Lord Aberdeen's Successor Again Discussed—An Active Campaign to be Inaugurated By Local Catholic Organizations for Representation on the Board of Guardians—Engineers' Strike Ended—Other Matters.

LONDON, Feb. 5.—At the forty-third annual Catholic reunion, held recently, at Birmingham, the chair was occupied by Professor Windle. Bishop Isley, in introducing that gentleman, remarked upon the fact that the previous day had been the 15th anniversary of his reception into the Church, and said he had proved himself one of its most loyal sons.

Notes on Catholic News.

From gay to grave is the order of entertainment promised at New Orleans. Following closely upon the gorgeous and mirth-provoking pageants and spectacles of Mardi Gras (February 22) comes the third session of the Catholic Winter School of America. On Thursday, Feb. 24, that eminent lecturer, Marion Crawford, will inaugurate the lecture course (his theme being of universal interest and one in which he has won conspicuous distinction, "Leo XIII").

The case of Barkowiak versus one Rev. Anthony Bogacki has created much interest throughout the State of Michigan and other parts of the Union, and general satisfaction will be felt by those who know anything of the circumstances, that a verdict in favor of the Reverend gentleman was given by the presiding judge. A local paper says:—The plaintiff sued for \$10,000 damages, claiming the priest was the person who shot him at the time the Polish paragonage was stormed by angry Poles.

During the Lenten season, the pulpit of the parish church of Notre Dame will be occupied by the Rev. Père Hébert, of the Dominican Order. As the Reverend Father is one of the most accomplished pulpit orators in France, a rare intellectual, as well as spiritual, treat is in store for not only the congregation for which his services have been especially enlisted, but for the Catholics of the city generally.

A San Francisco doctor performed a successful operation for a rich woman, and when asked for his bill presented one for \$50. The woman smiled and said, "Do you consider that a reasonable charge considering my circumstances?" The doctor replied, "That is my charge for that operation; your circumstances have nothing to do with it."

The wily "Pigtail" seems to have played his cards well, for both England and Russia are seeking the privilege of being his bankers and are actively thrusting their money upon him. Both countries threaten their eternal displeasure if he refuses the money of the one and accepts that of the other, and John Chinaman cutely proposes to take \$ million from each power on the terms on which the whole loan is closed.

OUR LONDON LETTER.

A Catholic Association for Birmingham

LONDON, Feb. 5.—At the forty-third annual Catholic reunion, held recently, at Birmingham, the chair was occupied by Professor Windle. Bishop Isley, in introducing that gentleman, remarked upon the fact that the previous day had been the 15th anniversary of his reception into the Church, and said he had proved himself one of its most loyal sons.

The diocese of Liverpool has benefited materially by the will of the late Mr. James O'Byrne, an architect of Liverpool. The testator's unique collection of books, coins, arms, pictures, mazzotti, engravings, photographs, curiosities, and art furniture, is bequeathed to the Catholic Bishop of the diocese of Liverpool (Right Rev. Dr. Whiteside) so that it may form a nucleus for a museum at the Catholic Diocesan Seminary of St. Joseph at Walthow Park near Upholland. The total value of the collection is said to be about £20,000.

Chamberlain Speaks.

From the tone of Mr. Chamberlain's Birmingham speech, the belief is encouraged that the Government are thoroughly in earnest in the matter of the Irish Local Government Bill, and if the character of the measure realizes the anticipation ministerial utterances have served to create, it is thought the principle of the Bill will receive the undivided support of the Irish members, who will of course be free to suggest and press any details they may think necessary.

Engineers Resume Work.

The voting of the striking engineers upon the terms offered by the Federated Employers resulted in 25,588 yeas and 13,727 nays.

Lord Aberdeen's Successor.

The rumor is revived that Lord Aberdeen's position will fall to Lord Ashbourne, in which case the Lord Chancellorship, it is thought, will be given to Lord Justice Fitzgibbon, who will probably be succeeded by the present attorney general, Mr. John Atkinson.

The Chinese Loan.

The trouble about a self-made man is that he very seldom ceases to praise his maker.

DOINGS IN ROME.

Preparations for the Coming Consistory.

ROME, February 5. Preparations for the forthcoming Consistory engross much of the Holy Father's time and thought, but, nevertheless, he receives numbers of distinguished persons in audience daily, and on Sunday last he admitted a number of pilgrims to his private Mass. It is announced that, if the weather permits, he will descend to St. Peter's on Sunday week, (13th February) to celebrate Mass and to receive the pilgrims who are coming to Rome to honour the twentieth anniversary of his Pontificate.

Representation on Board of Guardians.

In the course of a few days an active campaign will be commenced by the Catholics of London in connection with the forthcoming Guardians' election. It is the desire of the Catholics to secure representation on the Board of Guardians in each division. Of several of the divisions at the present time Catholics are represented, but such representation is considered to be totally inadequate. In South London particularly the vote is thoroughly organized and recently a canvass of the various districts was made by the officials of the Catholic League of South London. In those districts where Catholics will not stand candidates irrespective of creed, it is proposed to support only those who guarantee to safeguard the interests of the Catholic poor.

Canon Doyle's New Book.

The prolific pen of Dr. Canon Doyle is again to the front with a new book, the scene of which is laid in the Studium, of whose desert life he gives some graphic pictures, one of the principal characters being an Irish Catholic. He has also drawn a stirring picture of the gallant conduct of the Irish brigade in the defence of Cremona in some verse in a late issue of MacMillan's Magazine.

HORRORS OF THE PLAGUE.

Nearly 60,000 Deaths—From 1,500 to 2,000 a Week Reported to the Government in the Bombay Presidency.

The Bombay Gazette, of Bombay, India, says that the opening of the year 1898 finds the Bombay Presidency in the grip of the plague to such an extent that the death reported to the Government each week have for some time past ranged between 1,500 and 2,000—totals only exceeded in the worst days of April and May last.

At the end of June the deaths fell to 107 in a week, and the lull continued well into July, when fresh areas of infection were reported, and since then the mortality has steadily increased. From September 1896 to December 31, 1897, the Gazette says that, according to Government reports, there were 58,174 deaths from the plague in the Empire, as follows:

	Imported	Indigenous.
Cities.....	21,885	21,885
Presidency districts.....	2,402	24,009
Sind.....	203	1,124
Political agencies.....	347	7,514
	3,042	55,132
Total of mortality.....		58,174

Out of the total of nearly sixty thousand deaths there have only been twenty-two fatal cases among Europeans, sixteen of those have occurred in Bomba, two at Karachi, one at Cutch Mandvie, two in Poona Cantonment and one in Kirkee Cantonment.

The claims of the Irish evicted tenants were brought forcibly before the public by the remarkable Convention which has just been held at Portumna. Chief among those who fought and suffered that the tenant-formers of Ireland might be freed from the tyranny of felonious landlords were those whose fate placed them under the thumb of that distinguished evictor the Marquis of Clanricarde.

Owing to the scarcity of work and dearth of bread great distress exists amongst the laboring classes and much anxiety is felt by the authorities. On Sunday, 8th January, a public demonstration was to be held, and troops were drafted in from the neighboring towns, which act excited great excitement and consternation, as the city had the appearance of being in a state of siege.

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An important discovery has been made on the Palatine Hill, being a rough drawing by Sigmund Marunchi, disciple and successor of the great Christian archaeologist, Giovanni Battista de Rossi, lately deceased, while attached to the Papal service. It was found on a wall of the chamber in the Palace of the Emperor Theodoric, and represented a scene in the Crucifixion of our Lord. There the cross is surrounded by soldiers, and under each is inscribed the name in Latin. The picture appears to have been the work of the men present at the Crucifixion.

This is the bright of Rome's gay season and much public and private hospitality is being dispensed. In this respect few have entertained on as handsome a scale as the American Ambassador and Mrs. Draper. At a reception given at the Embassy on Thursday last they opened their magnificent apartments to all that is most brilliant in the Italian diplomatic and aristocratic world, and dazzled their guests by the sumptuousness and elegance of New World methods of entertaining. Mrs. Draper, who is a lady of great personal charm, was very richly dressed, and won highly flattering opinions for her quality as a hostess.

The nuns of the English Convent, via San Sebastiano, Piazza di Spagna, have brought out a second edition, enlarged and revised, of their excellent and useful "Catholic Pilgrims' Guide to Rome," which no one visiting or intending to visit should be without. It is dedicated to the Cardinal Vicar, Cardinal Parocchi, as a slight expression of deep gratitude for his fatherly kindness and constant encouragement during the twelve years of their foundation in Rome, and his Eminence has given his blessing to the work of these nuns, the Poor Servants of the Mother of God, which they carry on in their public church, in their admirable school, and among the poor who attend in this city.

The trouble about a self-made man is that he very seldom ceases to praise his maker.