

## THE TRUE WITNESS AND CATHOLIC CHRONICLE

IS PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY THE TRUE WITNESS P. &amp; P. CO., Limited.

2 Bushy 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. Terms, payable in advance.

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## 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. Thaurly bless those who encourage this excellent work."

—PAUL, Archbishop of Montreal.

SATURDAY JUNE 22, 1901.

## Notes of the Week.

**THE ST. JEAN BAPTISTE.**—On Monday next our French-Canadian fellow-citizens will celebrate with exceptional pomp and circumstance their great national festival of St. Jean Baptiste. It has always been our custom to extend the hand of friendship and good wishes to them on such occasions, and this year, being their first celebration in the twentieth century, we do so with redoubled enthusiasm. There are bonds of sympathy and gratitude which unite us in a particular manner to our French-Canadian friends, and it is on such festivals as that of Monday that the heart seeks to give expression to the pulsings with which it throbs.

Moreover, the feast of St. John the Baptist is one of great importance in the Church, and as Catholics, we cannot but unite with all our co-religionists in doing honor to the one who poured the waters of Jordan on the Sacred Head of Christ.

**AN IMPORTANT VACANCY.**—By the recent death of the late Mr. P. S. Murphy, a vacancy is left in the Council of Public Instruction for this province. It goes without saying that the place must be filled by an Irish Catholic. This nomination lies in the hands of Hon. Dr. Guerin, and we have sufficient confidence in his appreciation of the importance of that office to be assured that no political or secondary considerations would enter into his mind in connection with this duty. In fact, it is obvious that the very best equipped man that our province can afford should be selected to occupy a seat in a council composed of our most learned educationalists and most experienced persons in matters of public instruction. Not only should he be a man of complete education, but he should be one capable of studying and deciding upon the various questions and problems that arise for solution in that assembly.

A man may be a very excellent and practical teacher, or director of an institution, and yet not possess the qualifications required in one who is called upon to consult with the highest ecclesiastical and lay authorities upon matters affecting a whole system—including universities, colleges, convents, academies, and common schools. Apart from the general knowledge required in regard to details, there is a higher level, a broader field of thought which he must be able to occupy. In a word, he should be acquainted with not only the history of education, but even with what might style the philosophy of education. There should be no issue raised upon which he would not be able to form a sound and intelligent opinion, and equally be competent to give expression to that judgment in a manner corresponding with the high intellectual order of those with whom he is associated.

Upon this question we do not deem it necessary to dwell to any more extended degree; we have said briefly and as clearly as we are able to do all that is requisite to impress those concerned with the importance of the position and of the choice to be made. We will simply take the liberty of again calling the special attention of Hon. Dr. Guerin to the matter, and we trust, when the appointment is made, the selection will reflect credit upon our people and upon those who make that selection.

**HISTORIC BOUCHERVILLE.**—Almost within sight of our city, just across the river, lies the historic hamlet of Boucherville. No other spot in all the surroundings of Montreal presents such a number of historical associations as does this quaint primitive and beautiful little town. Great preparations are now being made for a grand and two-fold celebration there. This is the hundredth anniversary of the reconstruction of the Church, as it stands to-day; and the two hundredth anniversary of the establishment by the Venerable More Bourgeois, of the

first mission, outside of Montreal, under the Congregation de Notre Dame. We may expect something exceptionally fine on the occasion of this "double commemoration." It would fill a small volume were we to tell of all the important historical reminiscences that belong to Boucherville. Its many monuments, both inside and outside the Church, tell of days that belong to the far away past—as when Marquette, on his way to the Mississippi, stopped there and baptized the first white child of the district. When comes the celebration and when the much-anticipated "fete de nuit" takes place we will consecrate sufficient space to the events to give our readers an idea of the old town and its memorable past.

**ST. ANN'S PILGRIMAGE.**—For nineteen years past it has been the annual custom in St. Ann's parish to hold a pilgrimage to the far-famed shrine of Ste. Anne de Beaupre. This year the pilgrimage for the women and children, under the able direction of Rev. Father Strubbe, takes place to-day. At half-past two o'clock, by the splendid steamer "Three Rivers," one of the largest pilgrimages ever starting from Montreal will leave for Beaupre. That of the men will take place at a later period during the season.

It seems to us that there are many reasons why these pilgrimages should be marked by special fervor and devotion. In the first place, the pilgrims go from a parish that is under the special patronage of St. Ann, and they proceed to a shrine that has the same great and good saint, has honored and blessed in most signal and particular manner. In the second place, the parish of St. Ann's, in Montreal, the shrine of St. Ann at Beaupre, and the pilgrimage from the one to the other are all under the spiritual guidance, administration, or direction of the Redemptorist Fathers. And, in the third place, the Irish-Catholic people have always been renowned for their deep devotion to the Mother of God and to good St. Ann. Something of the natural chivalry of the race seems to have imparted to them a special predilection for Mary and her Holy Mother. No other race has been more remarkable for the number of its daughters enjoying the distinction of bearing these two beloved and sacred names. As a consequence, these pilgrimages have invariably proved successful, and we can confidently say that this year's one will surpass all those of other years in its importance and proportions.

**THE REACTION IN CHINA.**—Any reader who has followed our paper closely during the past two years must have noticed that whenever we referred to the situation in China we spoke of it as a puzzle. In truth it has always been a puzzle to us to find out what good could eventually come of the interference of the Powers in China. If the Boxers created a revolution, after all, it was China's own affair, and unless the Western nations hoped to make use of that uprising as an excuse to step in and divide up the country between themselves, we cannot see what object they could have had in making the exhibition of diplomatic bungling that has characterized the whole affair. To fight amongst themselves for the lion's share of the spoils, or to finally withdraw and leave matters worse than they found them, are about the only two alternative results. And apparently the latter is to be the final outcome of the so-called war. It is thus the Liverpool "Catholic Times" speaks of the peace in China.

"Every day brings its evidence that Europe is sick of the Chinese affair. The Powers are withdrawing their armies and fleets; the Chinese troops are moving towards Peking, which is to be handed over to them; the Imperial Court is preparing to leave Singan-fu; arrangements for the indemnity, however, are not quite settled. Whether those arrangements will ever be carried out, time will show. And what is the net result of Europe's intervention? It is that of sticking your finger into a lake; when you take it out the water closes up, and the lake is as it was

before. With perhaps this difference, that our intrusion into China has angered the people and their rulers, increased their hatred of Christian missions and Christian missionaries, filled them with memories of European plunderers, murderers, and ravishers, and given the 'Boxers' a popular cry with which to carry on their propaganda. Sir Robert Hart, who knows as much of the Chinese as any ten men living, predicts the speedy advance of the people along the lines of progress and reform, and looks forward to the realization of their hopes and aspirations, summed up in the expression, 'China for the Chinese.' Whatever the Powers may have gained from their late enterprise, the churches have been burdened with a heritage of hatred and contempt which will put back their efforts of evangelization for a hundred years."

To this view of the situation we heartily say, "That is right."

**PAY THE PROBATION.**—One of the great drawbacks in our day is the fact that men are not prepared to pay the price of success—which is probation. They want to become rich at a stroke, they wish to have their every enterprise crowned with immediate success. So is it with institutions that are founded; their promoters would have them reach the acme of perfection without ever passing through the necessary stages of probation. In life it is a universal law that this price must be paid beforehand. The religious has his novitiate, the professional man his clerkship, the merchant his years of officialdom. None are exempt. As an example of how one of the greatest universities on the continent—that of McGill—crept up the slope of success, we are told that—

"When the faculty first came into existence in 1829, it had an attendance at its first session 30 students. When it was twenty-one years old, in 1850-51, the number of students was only 53. When it was sixty years old, in 1888-89, the number had increased to 227; and now, twelve years later, when it has completed its seventy-second year, the number has reached 490."

It was perseverance and accepted probation that placed McGill in its now enviable position.

## "THE OIREACHTAS."

Strange as this word may sound to the general reader, the day is rapidly approaching when the "Oireachtas" will be as familiar in all the civilized world, as the "Fourth of July," "Dominion Day," or any other recognized national festival—we were going to say that it will be as well known as the 17th of March. It means the National Festival of the Irish Language Movement. In one of the daily papers of last week we found this short paragraph—

"There was a large influx of Irish-speaking people in Dublin last week in connection with the Gaelic League, or annual festival of the Gaelic League, which was held in the Rotunda, Irish was almost exclusively spoken at the opening proceedings in the Mansion House, and on the following two days various competitions took place, for which prizes were sent from all parts of the world. At the evening entertainments old Irish songs, dances and selections on the harp and Irish pipes figured on the programme; while the speeches delivered by prominent supporters of the movement, were also in the Irish tongue."

In connection with this we may recall that a couple of weeks ago we made reference to the fact reported in the New York "Herald" to the effect that while the publication of new books, in London, this season is very meagre, the output of works in the Irish language is enormous. It is evident that surely, if slowly, the movement for the revival of the Irish language is forging ahead. A couple of years ago the one who would predict a successful and universal issue such as is now evident, would have been laughed at and held up to the public as an example of the eccentric. However, there is nothing to be wondered at in this; for the same may be said of almost every great movement, every wonderful or unexpected invention. Fifty years ago an Atlantic cable service would have been ridiculed as the dream of some visionary; twenty-five years ago the telephone and the electric car would have been considered the results of some madman's ravings; the automobile would have ranked with the 'headless coach' of fairy lore. Yet all these are so familiar to-day that we wonder how the world ever got along without them.

Now, the revival of the Celtic Tongue is less extraordinary than any one of the facts just mentioned. There is no invention, no innovation, no creation of anything new; it is simply the reestablishing in usage of a language that dates back beyond the first days of the Latin, that had for long centuries been the vehicle of thought for the wisest men and the greatest educators of those ages, that is richer than any

modern language in elasticity of expression, and that is still spoken by hundreds of thousands, while it is the only language that is spoken by at least ten thousand people. Provided such a movement be commenced in earnest and that at its head are men of learning, station, and determination, there is no reason why one decade should not suffice to rendered a recognized National language—equally as much so as the Flemish in Belgium, where the French is universally spoken.

When such eminent Celtic scholars as Dr. Douglas Hyde, Cardinal Logue, and Dr. O'Donnell, the Bishop of Raphoe, have placed themselves at the head of the movement, and when such success, as that indicated by the recent assembly in the Dublin Rotunda, has already been attained, there remains nothing but a steady perseverance in the work to insure a complete restoration of the Irish language, and re-establishing of it amongst the living, spoken and written languages of the world to-day. The accomplishment of this work will be the greatest factor in future revival of the Irish nationhood; and we hope to live to see that grand triumph.

## CLOSING OF THE SCHOOLS.

Once more have we reached that period of the year known as the long vacation. Within the next few days all the schools will have closed the scholastic term, or year, that now elapses. It is a time of great relief to the pupils and of happy anticipations. Visions of freedom from daily class-routine and the constant grind of lessons dance before the eyes of the young lads and girls. It is equally a period of anxiety and happiness for the parents. Anxiety to learn the results of the last ten months of study, and pleasure in the knowledge that their children will again be at home with them for a considerable period of time. And for the professors, the hard-working teachers, it is a period of well-earned rest from the long and almost unbroken ordeal of instruction and supervision. The absence of a responsibility which during ten months weighed upon each of them must, in itself, be a relief of no small consideration.

For the teacher it is merely a brief—often too brief—breathing-space when he halts to rest after a long and continued strain, just sufficiently to enable him to recommence in September the same ordeal and labor, and to undergo the same strain for another ten months. His life is truly one of sacrifice. For the pupil a day comes when the school sees him no more, when the end of his studies is reached; but for the teacher there is no such anticipated emancipation. He takes a set of pupils at the foot of the ladder, guides them year after year until they reach the top, and then he descends to recommence with another set the same tasks; and so it goes on, until the day when he descends to leave aside his burden and to ascend no more.

For many of the pupils this will be the last closing. They will leave the school to enter the great university of practical life. Be it in the commercial, industrial, professional or other sphere, their vacations as well as their school days are over. For them it is a most important period, a real turning point in life. They will feel for a time that they are free from the discipline of the school, but they will very soon learn that they have now to undergo the more severe discipline of the world. As in their school days they struggled to carry off honors and prizes, so in their future lives they will have to work, to study, and to struggle in order, that when the day of the long and eternal vacation comes, they will be able to say with England's great Cardinal, as he felt himself gradually slipping from him: "I feel like a school-boy going home for his holidays."

We cannot attempt an appreciation of all the work that has been done in our various schools this last year, but we are happy to be enabled to state, that, without exception, the results have been satisfactory in every case. And we write from the heart when we wish to pupils and teachers—one and all—a happy, a pleasant, a profitable and a merry vacation.

## CONVENT EDUCATION.

We have had some experience as a teacher and we do not hesitate to say that the training received in convent schools is far superior to that given in other schools. The influence of a school dominated by the spirit of sanctity and gentleness is inseparable from the religious state, is necessarily and essentially elevating and refining. The chief ends of education are to develop the faculties of the soul, to broaden and es-

tablish the character, train the mind to harmony with a carefully nurtured heart. In this view of the subject, as applied to the education of girls, the conspicuous requirements, it will be perceived, inherently belong to the system controlled by orders of religious teachers. The convent-bred girl invariably possesses a "manner" that distinguishes her from the less favored of her sex in all surroundings, and a "manner" means a great deal to a woman, no matter what her sphere, especially that product of the high and sympathetic element of Christian culture, engendered in the genial irradiance of the religious academy. The future of the Catholic world depends largely upon the preservation of the faith and cultivation of the character of the women. The greatness of the work of convents in training and elevating those who, as the Catholic wives and mothers of the future, are to contribute such a large share in the shaping of destiny cannot be over-estimated. Intelligent Catholics of to-day must appreciate the fact, and should act accordingly. —New York Sunday Democrat.

## A CATHOLIC DAILY PAPER.

Writing from Baltimore Mr. William I. Cork, a special correspondent of the New York "Freeman's Journal," thus refers to the question of establishing a Catholic daily newspaper. He writes—

In a number of ecclesiastical quarters, and in some of the Catholic weekly papers, has been proposed the necessity of having a Catholic daily paper in one of the principal cities of the country. This project is not a new one. It was born long ago, and never has advanced to maturity.

Why? That a Catholic daily paper would prove a most effective factor in the interests of the Church in America can hardly be doubted. The field is not only inviting but fascinating, and the rewards seem ready to be plucked. But let us see if these newspaper enthusiasts and zealous know what they are talking about.

The writer of this, in the course of his over fifty years' experience with the secular press and his desire to promote the interests of the Church in every possible way, at various periods believed that the establishment of a Catholic daily paper would be a very thing. A few years ago a number of his journalistic friends gathered around him imbued with the same belief. The plans submitted, after careful consideration, were these:

Baltimore, as the Metropolitan See, the seat of the Cardinalate, the Archdiocese in which was located the capital of the nation, the great Catholic university, St. Mary's Theological Seminary, etc., etc., was the very place from which to issue such a paper—not a paper local in its intents and purposes, but in the broadest sense national, and discussing every important question from a Catholic standpoint. Intellectually, the paper editorially and in its correspondence, and indeed in all of its departments, was to have the very best class of administration and trained talent in the writing of the press, the cost of cablegrams and telegrams, for rent, gas, and hundreds of other things that enter into the cost of a great daily paper.

The highest ecclesiastical authority gave grave consideration to this matter, which was duly submitted to him; and in substance he said this: "I sincerely appreciate, gentlemen, your enterprise and zeal. But the time has not yet come for a Catholic daily paper in this country. As to dogmas and doctrines, there is the amplest facilities for knowing them. A Protestant need not be in the dark as to the truth of religion, unless he chooses to be. As to our position on current affairs, we discuss them as they seem proper to our views, in whatever direction they may call for, demand or defence. The secular daily press, throughout the country, is kind to us. It opens its columns to us to present every religious question we may desire, and there is hardly the slightest Catholic news but that it seeks to place in print, sometimes not, perhaps accurately, but as fairly and correctly as could be expected." Besides, a Catholic daily would be brought in direct competition with the secular dailies, in a business point, and such competition would inevitably lead to the injury of church interests. Another thing, a Catholic daily could not expect to subsist upon the fact that it is a great representative sheet. It is first, and all the time, a commercial enterprise, from whence its stockholders would expect profits, as they would from any other investment. Failing to realize this, the enterprise would go to pieces, and the church might not escape censure in such a calamity. It does not strike me that such a project is politic or feasible at this time, and I would prefer to see a more widespread support of our weekly papers and magazines, than is now extended them."

The counsel of the Cardinal, on the subject of a new Catholic daily, is not in his exact words, but I am quite sure as to his views, and he is right.

It is a fact that cannot be gainsaid, that even politically, there is now no rigidly party organ, among the great dailies of the country. Of general welfare, and is untrammelled by party interests, has but a restrained influence and small favor with the people.

It may be in the remembrance of a number of people who read this

that the New York "World" was started as a semi-religious paper. It was goodly goodly in a general, not a sectarian sense, and its discussions were of a highly elevated intellectual and religious tone. From year to year it made money, an aggregate, I have been told, of two millions of dollars. Then Pulitzer got it, and what he has since made of it, pretty much all the world knows. Up to this time, we want no Catholic daily. When that time arrives, I am quite of the opinion that the New York "Freeman's Journal" will be best to decide it, and will have the amplest qualification to run it from the most influential metropolitan see.

## Local Notes.

**FEAST OF THE SACRED HEART.**—The parochial processions in honor of the Feast of the Sacred Heart, held in St. Patrick's, St. Ann's and St. Gabriel's, on Sunday last, were most impressive. The decorations in the vicinity of the churches in all the parishes were most elaborate.

**THE LAWN PARTY.** held during this week by St. Patrick's parish, in the recreation grounds on the west side of the stately old edifice, was a grand success, financially and socially. The parishioners, men, women and children, assisted at the delightful function, afternoon and evening, in large numbers. There was amusement for all, and the committees in charge of the arrangements have every reason to be proud of their efforts.

**MR. JAMES O'ROURKE.**—The sad death of this genial and warm-hearted Irishman, which occurred on Sunday evening while he was enjoying his accustomed drive, awakened a profound feeling sympathy in many homes. Deceased succumbed to an attack of apoplexy. Mr. O'Rourke was widely known and highly esteemed in Irish Catholic circles.—R.I.P.

**OUR BOYS IN GREEN** are doing well this year. Last Saturday they whipped the Toronto's in a finished style. A few days ago they visited the leading city of the neighboring Republic and administered a defeat to a very capable aggregation of Canadians and Americans, and this afternoon they will likely add the scalps of the National contingent to their wigwag.

## CONGREGATION DE NOTRE DAME.

It is a well known fact that the musical training imparted by the Nuns of the Congregation de Notre Dame is of the highest order of merit. The recent success of five pupils of the convent of Pointe Claire, one of the establishments of this most excellent teaching order, who passed brilliant examinations before two professors of the Dominion College, only serves to prove that the Order is abreast of the times. The names of the young ladies who acquitted themselves so admirably and secured certificates of high proficiency in piano-forte playing are: Misses Anna Soguin, Mathilde Dyer, Liliosa Mayer, Annie Slattery and Bessie Slattery.

## C.M.B.A. OF CANADA.

The regular meeting of St. Anthony's Branch No. 50, C.M.B.A., was held on Wednesday evening, June 19th, in the hall of the Branch, 93 Fulford street, and was largely attended. President W. P. Doyle presided. A large amount of important business was transacted. After the regular order of business had been gone through and as the meeting was about to close, Chancellor T. P. Tansey rose, and in a well-worded address, presented President Doyle, on behalf of the officers and members of the Branch, with a beautiful and complete dinner service, also a writing desk. During the course of his remarks Chancellor Tansey stated that in view of other presentations being made to the President previous to his recent marriage, the members of Branch 50 decided to offer their tribute at this the first meeting of the Branch after the happy event. He also alluded to the services rendered the Branch by Mr. Doyle, who he stated, was the youngest President of the association in Canada. President Doyle, who was completely taken by surprise on rising, was tendered an ovation. He replied in a most feeling manner. Short addresses were also made by Bros. H. H. Sait, M. Neher, J. Fallon, P. Doyle, T. Tansey, W. Francis, W. H. Thompson, C. J. Devlin, Secretary J. P. Gunning, Bro. F. Hackett, and other members present, after which the meeting was brought to a close. President Doyle has also been elected to represent Branch 50 at the C.M.B.A. Convention to be held at Niagara, Ont., in August.

## COURTESIES THAT PAY.

The small courtesies of business are worth their weight in gold. A polite acknowledgment of a favor shows appreciation and cement friendship. A word of commendation for conscientious work brings more of it. Taking time to be cordial, even when there is no immediate prospect in sight, is an investment never lost. I remember a manufacturer upon whom I called in New York. I told him there was nothing he could sell to me then, and perhaps there never would be, yet he invited me to his private office, where he had a pleasant ten-minute smoke and chat. He impressed me as being a thorough business gentleman, and it has since been a pleasure to me to send my orders to him and to place considerable business with him. —Continued.