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ITEMS OF PASSING MOMENT

As an evidence that Doctor Drummond's fame was cherished abroad as well as at home, we quote from the New York Sun, than which there is no more representative American newspaper:

"By the death of Dr. Drummond Canada has lost her most popular citizen. Our people join with their neighbors on the other side of the line in mourning the passing of a writer who put into his books, as no other did before him, everything that was characteristic of the most interesting side of the old life of the Dominion. Dr. Drummond never regarded himself as a professional man of letters. But there was no snobbery in this. He wrote to amuse himself, and because he could not help it. His friends had the greatest difficulty in persuading him that French-Canadian poems that had passed from hand to hand, and were known everywhere, from the clubs of Montreal, Quebec and Ottawa to lodges in the vast wilderness, had any permanent value. At last, out of sheer weariness and good-nature, he consented to empty his desk. The result was the volume entitled 'The Habitant,' which, to the astonishment of the author, were reprinted in this city no less than twenty-six times in ten years. The popularity of that volume had no effect upon Dr. Drummond. He never wrote a line because there was a demand for it. He went on as before. A hard-working medical man, and then highly successful in mining, he was to the last the same kindly, genial, modest giant who deserves a high place among doctors who have been great writers as well. The bell of none of these country churches that he loved ever tolled for a man who will be more justly or longer mourned."

One of the doctor's friends tells this little story: "My introduction to Drummond came a dozen years ago or more. A big, brisk man ascended the stairs with heavy tread. Safely tucked under each arm were roly-poly black objects as big as half-grown cocker spaniels. I looked inquiringly. 'Bears,' he said, in a deep bass voice. 'Ar't they fine ones, though,' and he gazed first at one and then at the other admiringly, as he held them by the scruff of the neck—they were wicked and wanted to bite. Some one had killed the mother up on the St. Maurice somewhere and Dr. Drummond had rescued the babies. He had climbed the stairs to show them to the 'boys,' far prouder than if he had found a diamond mine. I went to his office one day with an ache and a pain. 'Hello,' said he, 'glad to see you; sit down. Haven't seen this book of poems, have you? Irish best thing published in many a day.' He began to read forthwith. Between the book, an Irish terrier and some pictures I spent an hour, and forgetting all about the errand which had brought me. I left. He had lost a patient, for I was cured."

Joseph Chamberlain, the leader of the Unionist party in England, one of the most bitter opponents of home rule, is reported to be a physical wreck. The precise nature of the malady which afflicts him has never been divulged by his family, but it is known that it has made of him a mental and physical wreck. That wonderful memory that enabled him so often to score over an opponent in debate is almost a blank. That he will ever again be able to take his place in the political arena in which he was such a brilliant figure there is not the remotest chance.

One of the most beautiful spots in America is Cliff Haven (near Plattsburg) on Lake Champlain. This spot sixteen years ago was selected for

the Catholic Summer School, and Montreal people appreciate more and more each year the advantages of combining with their outing this intellectual treat. The school will open July 1 and continue ten weeks. An elaborate programme of lectures and evening entertainments has been arranged by the board of studies. A special subject has been assigned for each week and the lectures on these subjects will be divided in five parts to occupy the five school days of each week. Among the subjects assigned are "Relation of Church and State from the Earliest Times, Contrasted with Present Conditions in the United States"; "Gaelic Literature"; "The Reconstruction of Religion in France After the French Revolution"; "The Old and the New Philosophy of Life," and "The Dream of Equality and its Realization."

Rodolphe Forget, who for three months past has been in France completing arrangements for the opening of a Paris branch of the house of L. Forget & Co., has returned. He comes back more impressed than ever with the huge sums of money which the French people have for investment. Once started this way Mr. Forget thinks that there is practically no end to the amounts that they will invest in Canadian enterprises.

McGill University suffered a severe financial loss the other day in the burning of its engineering building. The total insurance of this structure and contents was in the neighborhood of \$340,000, while it will take to replace it something like three quarters of a million. The old adage "it never rains, but it pours" seems to be applicable to old McGill, for on Tuesday morning the University was again visited by the fire fiend, and the medical building, one of the best equipped in America, including the valuable museum, was gutted. Money cannot spell the loss which will be caused to the university by this second disaster, but a conservative estimate, made while the fire was raging by one of the professors, estimated the damage at nearly half a million, with a strong probability of it running far beyond that.

What's the matter with "old McGill." A strict investigation seems to be in order.

R. G. Dun & Co.'s deductions on Canada's industrialism for last week tells us that bad roads limit country trade, and collections are still slow from the West, but great impetus is expected to all lines when navigation opens. There is a large quantity of grain to move in the Northwest; heavy-machinery men, car factories and railway material men report an immense volume of business booked, and immigration is already very heavy. At Montreal navigation will open a week or two later than last year. Wholesalers are behind on shipments because manufacturers are backward in deliveries. Re-orders are good. At Toronto hat jobbers are talking of advancing prices, hardware shipments are large but poor roads affect provincial trade. At Winnipeg retail trade is good and a heavy trade is expected throughout the Northwest. Money is firm and collections are slow, owing largely to the congestion in grain shipments.

Whatever the commercial agencies tell us, we know that Canada is serenely sailing along to her goal. The only trouble that she is experiencing is the dearth of labor to boost along her magnificent commercial undertakings. We are told that applications for help still continue to pour in by hundreds to the immigration officials, who are taxed to their utmost in providing suitable

situations for the new comers. With the approach of spring great anxiety is being felt by the farmers to get help, and the wages being offered show a substantial increase over the figures of a few weeks ago. Even as it is the number of men available is not nearly so great as the quota of applications.

The Peace Conference is on in earnest in New York. Nearly every nation has representatives in attendance. W. T. Stead, the indefatigable proclaimer of peace, reached there with the usual loud report. In addressing a gathering of Methodist clergymen in New York the other day advocating the cessation of war, he expressed some sentiment of which his hearers approved, and they, after the habit of their kind, emitted a series of fervent "Amen's." Mr. Stead silenced them with: "Nobody cares a d— for your Amens, unless you do something." When he concluded his address one of the brethren arose and moved a vote of thanks to the visitor. Before the motion could be seconded, Stead jumped up. "I don't want any vote of thanks," he said, "I want to know whether you are going to do anything to help in this work. Don't give me the mockery of thanks and then go away and forget all about my message." The preachers then did the usual thing, appointed a committee to consider what should be done.

The constitutionality of the law passed by Congress holding railroads responsible for damages to employees when caused by neglect of fellow employees or deficient appliances, and known as the employers' liability act, is being tested in the Supreme Court of the United States. One woman seeks to recover \$25,000 from the Southern Pacific for the death of her son, who was a locomotive fireman, and another is trying to recover \$20,000 from the Illinois Central for the loss of her husband. It is evident that the settlement of the point of constitutionality will have far-reaching results.

In the Star symposium of events of thirty years ago, we find the following: "Mr. Mullins informs the Star that he will be unable to find time to accompany the Irish Catholic pilgrimage to Rome, which Rev. Father Dowd, of St. Patrick's Church, is to have the charge. He would have much liked to have formed one of the party, but regrets that he is unable, for several reasons, to do so.

The pilgrims, with the late Father Dowd and Mr. Bernard Tansey at their head, sailed during the early summer from Boston. The machinery of their ship broke down in mid-ocean, delaying them at sea for a few weeks before being seen or reported, causing much anxiety to relatives and the whole community. After making port the party travelled through France to the Holy City and were cordially received by the late Pope Pius IX. Mr. Tansey is still in the land of the living, but good Father Dowd, the incumbent of St. Patrick's, and Ald. J. E. Mullins have long since passed to the unknown land."

This little historical sketch will bear a few corrections. The expedition was known as the Irish-Canadian Pilgrims. Alderman J. E. Mullins, contrary to the Star, did accompany the party. The pilgrims embarked from New York, not Boston, on the steamer Brussels, and it was just 30 years ago to-morrow (Friday) that the party left Montreal. When out from New York one and a half days some gear on the steamer broke and badly delayed the trip. The party was gone four months, pretty much covering the continent.

PERSONAL.

Mr. D. M. Quinn, publisher, has been appointed by the Dominion Government to the Canadian Commissioners' staff at the Irish International Exhibition at Dublin, which opens May 1st. Mr. and Mrs. Quinn leave on the Allan liner Tunisian, which sails from St. John's on Saturday next.

Holy Week at Home for Incurables.

The Home for Incurables was busy during Holy Week. I am sure we were not the least in our share of devotion during this holy time. Our kind and devoted Chaplain, Rev. Father Bibau, announced the opening of a retreat on Wednesday morning to last for three days. The recital of the beads and a sermon

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PROVINCE OF QUEBEC, District of Montreal. Superior Court. Dame Exilda Conant, wife common as to property of Francois Xavier Robert, hotelkeeper, both of the City of Montreal, has this day instituted an action for separation as to property against her said husband, in the Superior Court at Montreal, No. 2351.

Montreal, April 4th, 1907. BEAUDIN, LORANGER & ST. GERMAIN, Attorneys for Plaintiff.

at 9 o'clock in French by the Rev. Father Couture, a Dominican. In the afternoon the repetition, in English for the benefit of the English portion. Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament followed.

I am pleased to mention that we had the happiness of having the Holy Week services in our chapel, being the first year the Home has been so favored and privileged.

Holy Thursday was also the closing of our retreat. We assisted at the Mass. The procession of the Blessed Sacrament was attended by our kind sisters carrying lighted tapers and singing appropriate hymns. The Repository was very tastefully decorated with flowers and lights. The inmates, both Sisters and the sick, could be seen all day devoutly visiting and praying before the Blessed Sacrament.

Our reverend chaplain came in the evening. The nuns sang hymns, prayers followed, and the Act of Reparation was said. Good Friday morning the Passion was read and the Adoration of the holy cross took place.

In the afternoon at 3 o'clock the blessing of Calvary, in St. Peter's ward (gift from an inmate of that ward). An instruction was given on the Passion and death of our Lord; the sorrows of His Immaculate Mother, and the beloved disciple St. John. At the conclusion of the ceremony we went to the chapel. The Way of the Cross was said by Rev. Father Bibau, Holy Saturday the same Father said the Mass. Easter Sunday, early Mass with Holy Communion at 9 o'clock. A

THE S. CARSLY Co. LIMITED THURSDAY, APRIL 18, 1907.

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BOYS' WHITE COMMUNION SHIRTS, dressed fronts, in sizes 12, 12-1-2, 13, 13-1-2, 14. Price 50c and 75c each.
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The prices of our FIRST COMMUNION DRESSES are from \$1.50 up to \$15.00. We have a larger range this year than in previous years. Our stock is full and complete, with CHILDREN'S UNDERWEAR FOR FIRST COMMUNION.
EXTRA FINE ORGANDIE MUSLIN DRESSES, made with very wide skirt, and a wide hem and two rows of Val. lace insertion, round yoke of Val lace and insertion, running down waist. Special \$2.45
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solemn high Mass was said by our own chaplain, Father Btau. I need not mention how devoted he is to all, and how indefatigable to give his time, and services to any ceremony which takes place in our institution. In the afternoon about four o'clock a sermon was delivered, then Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. Afterwards we all congregated for the blessing of a statue of St. Vincent de Paul in the ward of the patron of the same name. Hymns were sung by the Sisters, and a short but very nice instruction given by a rev. Dominican. After the closing of this very impressive ceremony the crowd dispersed, let us trust with better sentiments of piety and love for Christ; thanking God for all blessings. Let us also add our very sincere gratitude and thanks to our good and devoted Dominican Fathers who so kindly gave us their sacred ministry. Also to our good Sisters who added their part in promoting the advantages derived from the closing of the Lenten devotions. L. E. S.

SURPRISE A PURE HARD SOAP QUICKNESS. THREE TIMES A DAY the year round is too often to do anything anyway but the easiest way, so we recommend everybody to use "SURPRISE" Soap for dish-washing. It loosens up the grease and dirt so that they slide off the dish easily. Any child can wash the dishes in a few minutes with "SURPRISE" Soap. And it doesn't hurt the hands or make them sore and rough. There is nothing harsh about "SURPRISE" Soap, and it takes so little of it to do a big lot of work that it is the most economical soap you can buy. "SURPRISE" costs no more than common soaps. See the red and yellow wrappers.

Vol. LVI., No. The French A correspondent of the Sun, J. Causade, a French Catholic, sets forth a position regarding the Church in France: In the first place, in form associations (cultuelles) as the Minister of Public Instruction, did the Catholics refuse to obey the law. And who says so? Br. On December 9 last in the said: "The law imposes certain duties; impose on him the exercise of them. The Catholics will not form associations; have accordingly not reviewed law, and they can stand as long as they Government will not get them." This was in some Radical-Socialist who urged that fresh taken against the Church. Secondly, having acknowledged the right of the Church no associations - cultuelles, to interfere with its organs. Br. Briaud brought forward of 1881 an association of the Catholics to make a declaration of their wish to establish worship, would then be authorized declaration having to every year. In refusing this declaration did the revolt against law? No! Once more, says Br. Briaud at the same session the law on public meetings it was not intended worship. It did not intend worship in public meetings was a special thing. I have shown the formal associations cultuelles were that the declaration required of 1881 was not intended worship, and that according to law has been infringed by the Catholics, why did I refuse to submit to the law? First, because the provisions of this law were open to schismatic organizations Catholic Church. To my opinion I refer your reading following: "Human spirit all diversities. Liberty them to spring up again; the infallible Pope it grows less, and from that the associations cultuelles will arise." And what thus? The actual Prime Minister, Clemenceau! Why does the Church, Catholics refuse to make for worshipping, and year? Because they have ranted that the law was interpreted later on in the spirit of Briaud; did not completely transform Waldeck programme? History myself. We know the spirit of the French Government know the meaning of it taken. France at present shown their hatred for a Speaking on the education of the English Frim. "We want to form a new element of the educational general basis of common ty." Here the Government to take as a basis "common." If the law of separation of the Church and the State by men having intelligence respect for religion, the would be avoided. In England, Edward VII. His Ministers in their speech fear to apply to God for the prosperity of France. In the United States the President is essentially Christian. Roosevelt in all his France the President of the Fallieres, is an atheist; C. Prime Minister, is an atheist; Minister for Worship (a mockery), is an atheist; Minister of Labor, is an atheist. It is true that Briaud Government is not anti-religion, but only after the Briaud had voted that the