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EDITORIAL NOTES.

"J. F. D." from Ottawa, asks for information concerning the pieces for recitation, from the pens of Irish or American writers. A very long list might be given; but our judgment might not meet with the approval of the person interested.

UNCALLED for attacks upon Protestant associations are the fruitful source of much ill-feeling. It seems to us that differences on questions of religion, as well as on all other questions, could be maintained without stirring up the bitterness that is the usual consequence of harsh words.

AS A RULE the Italians are not very epigrammatic in style; but there are exceptions. Recently a statesman of the country described its condition in the following graphic manner: "Italy is united, free and ruined."

In presenting THE TRUE WITNESS in another form and in a new dress, we desire to state that, on account of a certain amount of matter that was over from last week's issue, for which we had no room and which we cannot leave out, it has been necessary to give a couple of columns in the old type.

AN ENGLISH contemporary remarks that "the zeal of Anglican ritualists in imitating Catholic practices has the good result of familiarising the people with Catholic ceremonies, and preparing them for the final step."

IF GERMANY is really a Protestant country it is not without its strong Catholic element. Recently a mission took place in Munich and one hundred thousand persons approached the sacraments.

A CORRESPONDENT from Michigan writes to know what "were the receipts of the Peter's Pence, for last year, for each country?" We are not in a position to give the information at present; but if any of our friends can furnish the figures we will be glad to publish them.

A CATHOLIC contemporary says: "Our Protestant neighbors assert that they believe in the essentials of the Christian religion and divide only on non-essentials. Will they tell us which are the essentials on which they are all united?"

with this dogma, yet he is a Protestant, and according to their own teaching he has as much right as any other Protestant to his opinions on questions of religious belief.

WE CAN easily understand that certain people, of narrow minds and vindictive dispositions, should be jealous of the success of others; but that they should be foolish enough to make the public aware of their prejudice and envy is almost incomprehensible.

A CERTAIN class of citizens of the ultra-loyal brand, especially in Ontario, might take a few lessons in Christian practice from the very Queen whom they profess so loudly to support, serve and love.

IS the Catholic Review of last week a very timely and sensible remark. "If religious liberty," says our contemporary, "were to be so invaded that it could be denied to Catholics, an attempt would next be made to deprive the Jews of it."

MR. G. L. GOMME wants, from the Athenaeum, evidence of the way in which people look on the superstitions of others and of what they think of those who do not believe in their own superstitions.

IT IS EXPECTED that the general Italian elections will take place some time this month. Crispi, who was once the friend of Garibaldi, and the associate of Mazzini, is anxious to have the support of the Catholic element which he so long persecuted.

M. EIFFEL wanted to scale the heavens when he built his famous tower in Paris; it was a greater success, in one way, than that of Babel.

He intends to be ready for the Exposition of 1900. Elevators will carry the public down the shaft, which will go down 2,100 feet. Restaurants and concert rooms are to be established, at regular intervals, which will be arranged to correspond with the temperature.

A CERTAIN Catholic publication considers that THE TRUE WITNESS is a "sanctimonious journal." Perhaps so. We have, however, always tried to make it a thoroughly Catholic paper; and the hierarchy, clergy and laity of our Province, as well as the Catholic press of the neighboring Republic, are unanimous in the opinion that we have succeeded.

THESE "bad Anti-Christian Catholics who preach hatred and abhor the Bible," must be queer people. Strange that in this age of enlightenment there should still exist preachers who seek to paint the Catholic missionary in the colors of a hater of Holy Writ.

"For the benefit of those who are willing to allow that a Catholic knows something about Popery, and who are not afraid of facts, even when they run counter to preconceived notions, I beg to state—"

Yet, we will often hear the old story of ignorance and superstition in Spanish countries and the deadly opposition of Spaniards to the Bible.

STRANGE THINGS will happen as long as this world exists. O'Donovan Rossa, the ex-political convict, the exiled enemy of the British Government, the one-time most dreaded opponent of English rule, lived to return to Ireland, to lecture in the cities of that country from which he had to fly, to even address public meetings in London, and—most wonderful of all—to raise his voice in the Imperial House of Commons.

scene that followed would furnish a splendid subject for the pencil of Bengough or the pen of Mark Twain.

The sixth paragraph in Dr. Bourinot's now famous letter contains a very strong and very reasonable statement. It runs thus:

"That the question at present demanding a deliberate and calm judgment from the Legislature and Government of Manitoba is not a question of sectarian or non-sectarian schools. It is a question of restoring a right and a privilege of the Roman Catholic minority, which, according to the judgment of the highest judicial tribunal, has been improperly taken away by the legislative authority of the province."

In the issue of THE TRUE WITNESS, four weeks ago, we made use of the same argument when editorially treating the subject of the Manitoba schools. Quite a fuss has been kicked up on account of Dr. Bourinot giving his opinion on the constitutionality of the act.

ELSEWHERE we publish an extract from a circular of Mgr. Bégis, of Quebec, to the clergy of that archdiocese, on the question of Benefit Societies. The words, "Grand Council of Canada," that appeared in parenthesis in the last paragraph of that extract, are not to be found in the original circular, the words of which are:

However, we have, in this archdiocese, benefit societies that have already given proof and satisfaction in every respect. It suffices for me to mention L'Union St. Joseph (which already exists in many parishes), the Catholic Mutual Benefit Association (C.M.B.A.), and the Catholic Order of Foresters.

ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH.

The Gazette, referring to the renovation of St. Patrick's, recently said: "One of the most exquisite Roman Catholic edifices in the city will undoubtedly be that of St. Patrick's when it has undergone its extensive repairs, that are expected to be quite finished towards the first of October next."

The old organ gallery is being turned into a general gallery for the congregation, while above it again is another gallery in course of construction, which will be occupied by the new organ now being built and the choir.

The total cost of the improvements will be in the vicinity of \$40,000, the church improvements costing alone some \$25,000, and the new organ \$6,000.

CATHOLIC SAILORS' CLUB.

The first weekly concert of the season took place last Thursday evening and was largely attended by citizens and seamen. The programme was well executed and loudly applauded, several of the performers receiving well merited encores.

ST. PATRICK'S T. A. & B. SOCIETY.

The regular monthly meeting of the above society, which was held on Sunday afternoon, was largely attended. At the religious meeting Rev. Father McCullen preached a short sermon on the power of good example.

special committee, composed of Messrs. Feeley, Walsh and Costigan, was appointed to arrange dates for regular quarterly attendance in a body at Holy Communion. It was decided to hold the annual picnic of the society at Otterburn park on Saturday, 3rd August.

OBITUARY.

THE LATE MRS. A. RAJOTTE.

On Friday last, at noon, there passed away in this city a most estimable and worthy lady, in the person of Elizabeth Murphy, the beloved wife of our esteemed fellow-citizen, Mr. Alexis Rajotte, passenger agent at the Dalhousie Square Depot.

ST. GABRIEL'S T. A. & B. SOCIETY.

RESOLUTION OF CONDOLENCE.

At the regular monthly meeting of St. Gabriel's T. A. & B. Society, it was moved by Mr. James Kane, and seconded by Mr. Patrick Pellan, and unanimously adopted:

Resolved: That a copy of this resolution be sent to brothers John and J. J. Harrington and family and recorded on the minutes of this meeting, and a copy be sent to THE TRUE WITNESS.

AT ST. PATRICK'S.

The First Communion will take place in St. Patrick's Church on Ascension Day, the 23rd instant; and in the evening of the same day, at 7.30, Confirmation will be administered by His Grace Archbishop Fabre.

THE PUPILS OF ST. ANN'S.

On Friday, the 17th inst., the pupils of St. Ann's School will present a five-act drama, "Edward, the Confessor," in St. Ann's Hall.

STUDENTS CONFIRMED.

Thirty students of Mount St. Louis College were confirmed in the chapel of the institution on Sunday. The Sacrament of Confirmation was administered by His Grace Archbishop Fabre, who delivered a short lecture at its conclusion.

LABOR DIRECTORY FOR 1895.

A most neat, handy and useful little book, compiled by Mr. R. Keys, and printed by L. Z. Boudreau, of this city, has come out for 1895. It is called the "Labor Directory."

WHY THEY COULD NOT BEGIN.

At the football grounds, North End, they began to play. The game was in progress when the whistle blew. The players were in a state of confusion.

CORRESPONDENCE.

PAUL BOURGET.

To the Editor of THE TRUE WITNESS.

DEAR SIR.—Not for the sake of argument, but rather for the sake of justice, do I wish to pass a few remarks on a recent editorial in a Montreal paper entitled "Paul Bourget's Views." Now if, indeed, these were really his views, P. Bourget is more to be censured than pitied.

Montreal, May 9, 1895.

A CLASS-MATE OF MGR. FABRE.

DEATH OF THE REV. ABBE PIETTE AT BOUCHERVILLE.

The Rev. Abbe Maxime Piette, former curé of the parish of St. Bruno, died on Tuesday last week at Boucherville, at the age of 76 years. The Rev. Abbe Piette had retired from the active ministry some years ago, on account of illness, and lived on his private property at Boucherville.

THE ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE.

The annual pilgrimage of the young men of Notre Dame to the shrine of Notre Dame de Bonsecours took place on Sunday morning and was largely attended. Rev. W. Hebert officiated at Mass, during which a large number partook of Holy Communion.

MGR. FABRE AND MGR. O'BRIEN.

His Grace Archbishop Fabre has gone to Boston, to be present at the festivities in connection with the sacerdotal jubilee of the well-known prelate, Archbishop Williams, of that city.

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