

## Feast of Founder of Christian Brothers.

During the week the feast of St. Jean Baptiste de la Salle, the founder of the well known teaching community of the Christian Brothers, occurred. Irish Catholics in this city owe a deep debt of gratitude to the illustrious order. Thousands of our fellow countrymen have received their education in the class rooms of its establishments in Montreal, and elsewhere throughout Canada.

From one of our exchanges we clip the following brief sketch of the saintly founder whose zeal, perseverance, and unswerving courage laid the cornerstone of an establishment which has expanded in a manner truly wonderful to contemplate.

John Baptist de la Salle was born at Rheims, France, April 30, 1651. His father, a fervent Christian, was Chancellor of State to the King of France and president of the High Court of Rheims. His mother was equally noble and pious. At an early age he was sent to the University school of his native city. His progress in study was rapid and pronounced. At the age of eleven he received the clerical tonsure, at sixteen he was named Canon of the Cathedral at Rheims, and at nineteen he completed his course in philosophy and graduated from the University of Rheims. To pursue his theological studies he was sent to the seminary of St. Sulpice. Having received his licentiate in theology, he was ordained to the priesthood on Easter Eve, 1678. Still he discontinued his studies. He prolonged his labors far into the night, in order to consecrate more time to prayer and study. At the age of thirty he brilliantly defended his thesis before the faculty of Rheims University, and received the doctor's cap. All biographers of St. de la Salle have noted his deep intellectual culture. This is his conspicuous trait among educational reformers and founders of religious institutes.

As a priest St. La Salle was untiring in his zeal for souls. He had the gift of touching the most hardened hearts and of bringing them to God. He was always kind to the poor, but in the confessional his tenderness and compassion knew no bounds.

To all he was a father and friend. When at the altar, his face became as radiant as if he were already enjoying the vision of God. Frequently after Holy Communion, he was seen to remain in ecstasy. His mortifications and penances were incredible. The hair-cloth, the discipline, his long fasts, whole nights passed in prayer, bear witness that he realized the sanctity of his vocation.

With true apostolic zeal he was always ready to take up any work in which there was question of saving souls. His spiritual director, Canon Roland, had founded a Sisterhood for the education of poor girls. Feeling his end near, he confided to the care of this young priest the rising institute. Well and faithfully did La Salle acquit himself of his new charge. Having assured the existence of the institute and its schools by

letters patent from the King, he gave them over to the Sisters.

He now directed his attention to the education of boys. Having collected about him a number of zealous young men who desired to become his disciples, he takes them to his home, draws up rules for their guidance, and begins to instruct them in the art of teaching. Thus was established the Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools. His first schools are founded and everywhere they are a success. But his zeal does not stop here. For the benefit of workingmen he establishes special schools where lessons are given on Sunday in those branches required by each one's vocation. Then follow schools for prisoners, and finally the first training school for teachers, known in our day as Normal schools.

Remarkable as was St. La Salle as an educational genius, he was still more remarkable for his heroic sanctity. His charity and tenderness for the weak and suffering were truly admirable. One of his brothers is at the point of death; he wishes to see him. The holy founder undertakes a long journey, sees and embraces the sick brother, who immediately recovers. "From all I know of the Abbe de la Salle," said his spiritual director, "I believe him to rank among the virgins."

His faith was simple and his confidence in God unbounded. On one occasion his community has no bread. He went to the chapel, knelt before the tabernacle and said, "Lord, we have no bread." The bell rings and a basket of bread is found at the door.

His labors were incredible. He generally travelled on foot, slept on the bare ground and fasted rigorously. Often he was in danger of death from overwork, excessive austerities, or from perilous journeys through districts inhabited by violent heretics. His sufferings, like his sacrifices, were truly heroic. Although furiously attacked, dragged before tribunals of justice, deposed from his position and suffering all kinds of pain, from all kinds of persons, his only consolation was the tears he shed at the foot of his crucifix. When the day was done, and another bead added to the chapter of life, he would go to repose at the foot of the altar, where often he fell from fatigue and exhaustion. At length his strength gives way. He is worn out by excessive labors and mortifications. He is on his deathbed and his disciples are gathered around him. They ask him for a Father's blessing. He gives it and leaves them as his last will and testament an ardent love of our Lord in the Most Holy Sacrament, a great devotion to the Most Blessed Virgin, and an inviolable attachment to Rome. Then, making an effort to rise, as if to meet some one, he gave up his soul into the hands of his Creator. It was Good Friday and the first Friday of the month, April, 1719. No sooner was his death known than the people exclaimed, "The saint is dead." The Church has now confirmed their opinion of his sanctity.

embrace "Accounts of gallantry, pleasure, and entertainment," under the head "White's Chocolate-house"; "Poetry," under that of "Will's Coffee-house"; and "Learning," under that of "The Grecian"; "foreign and domestic news," from "St. James' Coffee-house," and "other articles," "from his own apartments," and sometimes "from Shire-lane." This plan was preserved for a considerable time, until his pen became more accustomed to essay-writing, and the assistance of his friend Addison enabled him to adopt a more regular method.

The dramatic articles are numerous and are said to have been serviceable to the theatre. Cibber acknowledged the force and influence of the Tatler in filling the play-houses; yet Steele had no share in the management of the play-house in Drury Lane for several years after this period. He was a dramatic writer, however, and was always anxious for the improvement of the stage. With Addison and other writers, he wished to hasten the time, all hope of which was later on given up, when the morals of the age should be reformed by what they called "a well regulated theatre."

In Dr. Burney's History of Music, (vol. iv., p. 225 etc.), are some valuable strictures on those papers in the Tatler and Spectator, which Steele and Addison wrote to ridicule operas. It is the opinion of this learned and ingenious author, that some part of the Spectator's severity is to be ascribed to want of skill in the art of music; some to peevishness, and the rest to national prejudice, and the spirit of party in favor of domestic theatres.

"Addison, though he had visited Italy, and was always ambitious of being a judge of music, discovers, whenever he mentions the subject, a total want of sensibility, as well as knowledge of the art." This opinion Sir John Hawkins, who will not allow Addison merit of any kind, had before ventured to express. From Dr. Burney it is decisive.

The articles of public news were of more importance to the Tatler. They were all written by Steele, who was then Gazetteer, and therefore had the advantage of other newspapers in accuracy and perhaps in priority of intelligence. This increased the circulation of the paper, and rendered it important as a vehicle for advertisements, many of which are curious, and illustrative of the manners of the times. The foreign intelligence has been preserved in all editions of the work, though it is not easy to know why. It encumbers the volumes with information which is now of no importance, and delivered in a manner from which the writer can derive no honor.

The character of the author was assumed with sufficient consequence for the purpose of an imaginary censorship. The family name, Bickerstaff, was not altogether fictitious. In No. 3 mention is made of Mr. John Bickerstaff, a player. It was the use of the name by Swift that inclined Steele to give a preference to what had already acquired popularity. This led the author of his life, in the Biographia Britannica, to say that he commenced the Tatler "in concert with Swift." For this there is no foundation, unless a polite acknowledgment of greater services than Steele received from that writer. And still less ground has his biographer for accusing Steele of ingratitude in preferring Addison to Swift.

Next week we will touch upon another phase of this endless subject of classic interest.

## Patent Report.

For the benefit of our readers we publish a list of patents recently granted by the Canadian Government through Messrs. Marion and Marion, Patent Attorneys, Montreal, Canada, and Washington, D.C.

Information regarding any of the patents cited will be supplied free of charge by applying to the above-named firm.

- Nos.  
86,823.—James Gardiner, Neepawa, Man., belt guide.  
86,845.—Joseph A. Meraw, Portage la Prairie, Man., extensible bonnet.  
86,846.—Edward Bell, Teeswater, Ont., beer chopper.  
86,856.—Arthur Labelle, Montreal, Que., snow plow.  
86,936.—Alexander A. Wilson, Montreal, Que., fish way.  
86,941.—Louis Boudrias, Montreal, Que., shears for cutting bolts, rivets, etc.  
86,975.—John T. Crossley, Blythwood, Ont., tiling machine.  
87,030.—Messrs. Harbottle & Robson, Gainsborough, Assa., shock loaders.

## OUR OTTAWA LETTER.

(By Our Own Correspondent.)

THE SESSION. — The same story is to be told, that has been told for the past two or three weeks: the House of Commons has been occupied with the Grand Trunk Pacific scheme to the exclusion of every other subject. It is useless to occupy the space of the paper commenting upon this issue, as it has been so threshed out that all people are now looking for is the outcome of the entire affair, and it may be some time yet before the same can be appreciated one way or the other. The House adjourns on Friday, the 20th, until Wednesday, the 25th May. Thus almost a whole week will be lost. The Budget speech will not be given until the week after, or the first of June. The debate on that will, in all likelihood, last for six weeks. So, when the estimates are all through, it will be certainly the end of July. The Senate met again on the 18th, merely to adjourn for another week or ten days. It is decidedly a queer situation, and one that defies comment, or criticism, on the part of a correspondent. Having no political news, then, we must turn to something else. There has been a considerable amount of social functions in Ottawa, but these have become a kind of routine and devoid of novelty.

GENERAL GLEANINGS. — On Sunday last a very beautiful ceremony took place in the Saint Jean Baptiste Church (under the Dominicans) here. The Mass was sung by the pupils of the Christian Brothers' schools, at being the feast of St. Jean Baptiste de la Salle, founder of their Order. At the Offertory, Mr. C. Breton sang an Ave Maria of St. Saens. The preacher was Rev. Father Delor, O.P., who preached the Lenten season in the Notre Dame Church, Montreal, this year. The sermon was a very beautiful one. In it the Reverend Father pointed out that all things created are intended to ascend. The plant ascends out of the earth, the animal grows higher with years, and man must ascend physically like the animal and morally and spiritually, like Christ, towards heaven. But he is free spiritually to either ascend or descend—to ascend needs an effort, and in that effort lies the merit that gains the reward eternal.

At the Church of Notre Dame, in Hull, the celebration of the feast of St. Jean Baptiste de la Salle was on a most elaborate scale. The Mass was one of those for which the splendid Hull choir has become famous. In the evening a grand dramatic and musical soiree was given in their fine new hall. It is needless to say that a thoroughly enjoyable and at the same time edifying Sunday was spent in the transpontine city, and the patron Saint of the good Brothers was worthily honored.

On Saturday, at the Monastery of the Precious Blood, at the age of 50 years, Sister Marie de la Croix, whose name in the world was Katherine Bird, died, after a lingering illness. She was a native of Pointe Fortune. The obsequies took place at the Monastery.

The First Communion ceremonies were held at the Rideau street convent on last Sunday, the Apostolic Delegate, Mgr. Sbarretti, officiated. It was a delightful scene, and the usual taste of the good Sisters was evidenced in the decorations of the chapel and in the costumes and discipline of the several hundred pupils present.

On Monday evening, in St. Patrick's Hall, Rev. Pere Delor delivered a most entertaining lecture on "Feminism"—a subject that attracted a vast audience. The lecture was under the auspices of the Institut Canadien d'Ottawa. Needless to say that the eloquent Dominican did full justice to the theme.

DEATH OF JAMES MCGEE. — In our last issue we referred to the sad accident that had befallen James McGee—generally known in athletic circles as "Jim"—and we expressed our regret at the unfortunate occurrence that menaced his young life; we spoke

of him as the son of Mr. J. J. McGee, Clerk of the Privy Council and nephew of the Hon. T. D. McGee. He had been for years a student at St. Mary's College, Montreal, and has ever been noted as a bright student and one of the foremost athletic amateurs in Canada. Death came on Saturday last, after six days of semi-consciousness. As an evidence of the esteem in which the late young Irish Catholic was held, and of the participation of the great public in the grief of his parents and relatives, we subjoin an account of the funeral which took place on Monday last.

FUNERAL OF MR. MCGEE. — The cortege left the family home, Daly avenue, shortly after nine and proceeded to St. Joseph's Church, where a solemn high Mass of Requiem was chanted for the repose of his soul. Rev. Father Wm. Murphy, the pastor, officiated, being assisted by Rev. Father Thomas Murphy as deacon and Rev. Bro. Kunz as sub-deacon. Beautiful and appropriate music was rendered by the choir under the direction of Emmanuel Tasse, the Voni Jesu by Cherubini being sung with particularly good effect. The altar and sanctuary were heavily draped in black, and the sacred edifice was thronged to the doors, there being many ladies among those present. The chief mourners were the deceased's father, J. J. McGee; his brothers D'Arcy, John, Frank and Walter; other mourners being: M. P. Davis, W. P. Davis, Michael Davis, Daniel O'Connor, sr., Willie O'Connor, P. Baskerville, Arthur Fitzpatrick, Fred. White and D. Jos. McDougall.

Hundreds gathered at the home, at the Church, and at the graveside to pay a last tribute to one who was popular with all, and to show their willingness to share in the overwhelming grief of the bereaved family. The members of the Rough Riders football team, the Ottawa Hockey Club, and the Ottawa Rowing Club attended in a body. The students of the higher classes of Ottawa University were also present in a body out of respect to him who once attended the institution and played upon its football team.

The floral offerings completely filled the mortuary chamber at the family residence, and it took four cabs to convey them to the Church. A large number of them were brought into the edifice and laid upon the coffin and the altar rail.

The flowers were as follows: Large cross of roses, Lord and Lady Minto; wreath, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Courtney; wreath, Sam McDougall; cross, Staff Privy Council Office; spray, Madge and Clare McCullough and Mabel Ferguson; cross, Mr. and Mrs. John J. Heney; spray, M. P. Davis, cross, Mr. and Mrs. M. J. Griffin and Miss Griffin; football, Rough Riders team; wreath, R. Gormully; wreath, Gladwyn McDougall; sheaf, Mrs. W. J. Lynch; cross, Ottawa University Athletic Association; cross, Artie Fitzpatrick; wreath, Hon. Mr. and Mrs. Fielding and family; anchor, Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Cannon, Quebec; star, Alice and Mary Fitzpatrick; spray, Mr. and Mrs. Simpson; wreath, Mr. and Mrs. D. H. O'Connor; spray, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Brophy; cross, Mr. and Mrs. Fred. Booth; anchor, staff of Geological Survey; heart, Mr. and Mrs. G. Goodwin; cross, L. N. Bates; pillow, J. N. Brownlee; hockey stick, Ottawa Hockey Club; pillow, Mr. and Mrs. B. M. Armstrong and family; wreath, A. C. and family; pillow, Mr. and Mrs. Marler; cut flowers, Percy B. White; spray, Hector Dion and J. J. Gallagher; W. T. Davis, W. J. McCool; spray, Mr. and Mrs. B. H. Pulford; anchor, Col. and Mrs. Coutlee; wreath, Mr. and Mrs. H. B. McGivern; spray, Miss Ethel Fleming; cross, Col. and Mrs. Gourdeau; wreath, Edith Power; wreath, Mr. and Mrs. J. Roberts Allan; cross, Mr. and Mrs. A. Power; anchor, Baskerville family; cross, Nannie Girouard; violets, Marion and Bee Lindsay; pillow, Chateau Vesta; cross, O. A. C. cross, Mr. and Mrs. Lemoyne; wreath, Mr. and Mrs. Toller; cross, Morna Claudia and Morty Bate; cross, W. D. Hogg; cross, Ottawa Rowing Club; star, Phil. and Vera Toller; cross, A. Panet; cross, Mr. and Mrs. Fred White; cushion, Aggie Davis; spray, Cissy Moore; pillow, Wamossee Camp; cross, W. H. McAuliffe; cross, Mr. and Mrs. M. P. Davis; spray, Ethel and Rossy Chadwick; wreath,

Mr. and Mrs. M. P. Davis; wreath, Mr. and Mrs. David McLaren; cross, the Gilmour boys; wreath, Mr. and Mrs. D'Arcy Scott.

Spiritual offerings were sent by H. Tache, Mary A. Scott, Mrs. O'Gara, James O'Gara; Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Scott, James T. Foley, Mrs. Michael Kavanagh, Anna and Joseph Sadlier, Mr. and Mrs. M. J. Gorman; Mrs. M. P. Davis, Ernest Butterworth, Mr. and Mrs. F. Choquette; Mr. and Mrs. John Heney, Mrs. D'Arcy Scott, Arthur Fitzpatrick, Mrs. J. Percival Brophy, Miss Faustina M. Sullivan. Many sympathetic telegrams were received from different cities in Canada.

Among those noticed in the cortege were: Sir Wilfrid Laurier, Hon. Chas. Fitzpatrick, Hon. W. S. Fielding, Senator Power, Martin J. Griffin, Judge McTavish, Col. Coutlee, Col. Gourdeau, Col. Pineault, Hon. John Costigan, Sir Adolphe Caron, James White, D'Arcy Scott, Justice Girouard, N. A. Belcourt, M.P.; W. J. Lynch, E. J. Daly, Barry Hayes, W. Kehoe, Dr. Bell, J. G. Foley, J. F. Whiteaves, J. McLaren, George McLaren, John Roberts, Allan, Thos. Smith, Arthur Moore, Arthur Fitzpatrick, J. R. Booth, Jackson Booth, A. D. DeColles, M. C. McCormick, J. L. Plunkett, Fred. Carling, Tom Clancy, Denis Murphy, Geo. P. Murphy, Harvey Pulford, W. M. Southam, Lt.-Col. McPherson, W. Scott, Daniel O'Connor, Walter Mackay, A. E. Frapp, Gordon Henderson, M. P. Davis, J. L. McDougall, Michael Kavanagh, Joseph Kavanagh, Wm. Kearns, John O'Leary, J. Navina, H. O'Connor, Michael O'Leary, J. Copping, Dr. Freeand, W. H. McAuliffe, Hector B. Verret, John Gorman, R. McCready, R. Clarke; Howard Hutchinson, F. Fallon, Dr. Kearns, J. D. Grace, Charles Murphy, Harry Kedchum, Joseph Pope, J. McC. Clarke, J. M. Mulkin, W. O'Neill, W. Rogers, T. P. Foran, B. P. Dewar, W. Bate, Dr. O'Brien, Gladwyn McDougall, P. Toller, I. W. H. Barry, J. B. Brophy, P. Connolly, D. Renihan, Wm. Baskerville, P. Baskerville, D. J. A. McDougall, R. Sims, J. Foran, Fred Lee, A. D. Caron, Alex. Simpson, W. L. Marler, Capt. Benoit, R. Devlin, N. Sparks, James Davidson, Barry Fielding, Patrick Hart, Augustus Power, D. Burke, G. L. Plunkett, J. Larose, R. Shillingford, Fred. White, R. Lyons, Chief Powell, M. Rosenthal, T. Godfrey and many others.

## IN MEMORY OF

MRS. WILLIAM KENNEDY,

Who Died May 8th, 1904.

"Eternal rest and light," we pray  
Around another new-made grave,  
Oh, may the blessings that we crave  
Be hers we love and mourn to-day!  
Well she labored to the end,  
Shedding sweet influence around,  
True to the last to duty found,  
Ready to aid, instruct, befriend,  
Instilling with a mother's love  
Faith's teachings in her children's  
breast—  
And toil that sweetened all the rest,  
Within a quiet peaceful home  
How very few there are who could  
In life so noiseless and retired,  
Have such a wide influence acquired—  
And found such ways of doing good.  
When in her eve, as God saw best,  
Her service was no more required,  
He called her gently to her rest;  
Yes, "rest and light," she has them  
now;

Dear loving mother we are sad,  
To miss her from our midst, yet glad  
The crown of life has reached her  
brow.  
Consistent in life's smallest deeds,  
A devout Christian mother she,  
'Twas fit her latest act should be  
To cleanse her soul from all misdeeds  
Unite with God in sweet embrace,  
Before "to see Him face to face."  
Faithful to friendship's holy ties,  
Forgetful of herself alone,  
Grateful for every kindness shown,  
God blessed her humble pious life,  
And sent her grace in richest store,  
To bear life's pains, which all must  
bear,  
Of pains, indeed, she had her share,  
But all her pains for God she bore.  
Dear mother, rest in holy peace,  
Among our household of the dead,  
Around your little flowery bed  
Our thoughts and prayers shall never  
cease,  
Still aid us in our daily fight  
Against temptation, vice and sin,  
Teach us to live for God, and then  
One day in bliss we'll reunite.  
Montreal. S. T. B.

The Catholic religion is the only religion that can keep its identity without losing its life, and that can keep its life without losing its identity.

## Random

ELECTRICITY. — One of the rapid growths of electricity in our life is the remarks of Hon. A. C. sident of the Railways will cause no surprise, foresees a great career in railroading, but not in future.

"One thing that will tract the period before of electric power, is the vestment of capital system. The complete afford to relegate their to the scrap-heap until clearly shown that can be acquired by new good deal is being an experimental way, more than experiment

LAYMEN NOW. — made public in our can exchanges that lay in Church and State to look after the financial general progress of the cent meeting, the report trustees of the in course was decided upon

ELECTION EXPENSES temporary remarks: I charged by Bourke \$16,000,000 were expected National Republican the last Presidential election where did it come from did it go.

A MEMORIAL. — tional memorial to and Sam McAlister with Balminglass, County Sunday, May 8. The performed by the Rev. nagh, O.S.F., the his The Lord Mayor of I on the occasion.

REMOVE DISABILITIES Roman Catholic disabilities has been introduced tish Parliament, who the disabilities under lies might be placed Kingdom if certain la forced. The object of repeal certain penal affecting only Catholic nunities of men in and Ireland, and to p bers of those commu same position, in respo to acquire property, a cupied by the member communities of we It was enacted by th Excellent Majesty, by advice and consent of Spiritual and tempora mons, in this present sembled, and by the a same, as follows:

1. Notwithstanding Parliament to the cor be, and shall be de then, lawful for Jesuits of other religious ordies, or societies of th tholic Church (descri Acts of Parliament, Roman Catholic Relief the Church of Rome) be tic or religious vows, the United Kingdom.

2. It shall be lawf be deemed to have been Jesuits and members orders, communities of the said Church men, and bound by religious vows, to take ar perty in like manner as extent as, but subject tions and disabilities the members of any r community or establish ing of females bound t monastic vows: Prov that nothing in this A tend to any property i been judicially determi was illegal for Jesuits other religious orders, societies as aforesaid tquire the same: Provid nothing herein containe to any property given

CATHOLIC EDU Rev. Father A. Fretz Church of the Holy G Bethlehem, Pa., writes view, St. Louis: "It seems to me tha

## OLD PUBLICATIONS.

### THE BRITISH ESSAYISTS.

(Continued.)

(By a Regular Contributor.)

In the last issue I gave an outline of the life of Sir Richard Steele. It has rarely happened that political writings, unless eminently mischievous, have long survived the cause which gave birth to them, and the contests which swelled them into importance. The best performances of this kind are preserved with little care, and read, if read at all, with little interest. If they settle a date, or illustrate a minute point of history, it is as much as can be expected of them in an age which has forgot the zeal of former parties in the turbulence of its own. It must be added, however, that the most scrupulous inquiry into Steele's political character has left him the merit of being useful to his party, formidable to his opponents, and frequently too honest to be friendly to his own interest.

The "Tatler," like many other eminent superstructures, rose from small beginnings. It does not appear that the author foresaw to what perfection

this method of writing might be brought, when he should by the aid of his illustrious colleagues be able to reject his first plan. By dividing each paper into compartments, he appears to have consulted the ease with which an author may say a little upon many subjects, who has neither leisure nor inclination to enter deeply on a single topic. This, however, did not proceed either from distrust in his abilities, or in the favor of the public; for he at once addressed them with confidence and familiarity; but it is probable that he did not foresee to what the continued practice of writing will frequently lead a man whose natural endowments are wit and eloquence, superadded to a knowledge of the world, and a habit of observation.

The first paper of the "Tatler" made its appearance on Tuesday, April 20, 1709, and the days of publication were fixed to be Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. In the selection of a name for the work, Steele affords an early instance of delicate railery, by informing us that the name "Tatler" was invented in "honor" of the fair sex; and that in such a character he might indulge with impunity the desultory plan he first laid down, with a becoming imitation of the tattle and gossip of the day. His paper professed to