

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

The regular monthly meeting of St. Ann's T. A. & B. Society will be held next Sunday afternoon.

The retreat for the pupils attending the Catholic Commercial Academy closed Saturday morning.

A retreat for the sisters of the Third Order will be opened at the Franciscan Church on Saturday, Oct. 7th, closing on Saturday, Oct. 14th.

An anniversary requiem service was sung at St. Anthony's Church on Wednesday morning for the repose of the soul of the late Rev. T. E. McDermott.

A meeting of St. Michael's church wardens was held last Sunday to consider the purchase of a school site. Several sites were proposed, but no decision was reached.

The euchar held last Thursday evening by the St. Gabriel's Ladies' Auxiliary of the Hibernalia was a success, over 230 participating. Refreshments were served.

The new iron railing and two sets of large gasoliers have been placed in front of St. Gabriel's Church, completing the new stone steps, which give a very fine appearance to the massive building.

St. Patrick's T. A. & B. Society will hold its regular monthly meeting next Sunday afternoon, when the final arrangements for the celebration of Father Mathew's anniversary will be announced.

The pilgrimage for the English-speaking members of the Third Order of St. Francis took place last Sunday afternoon to Cote des Neiges Cemetery. At each station Rev. Father Christopher preached a short discourse. Sunday afternoon the French-speaking members of the Order will hold a similar pilgrimage.

The night schools opened on Monday of this week with large attendances. In several of the churches on Sunday the pastors spoke at length on the benefit to be derived from them, and strongly urged working boys and young men whose early education had been neglected to take advantage of the night classes.

Rev. Cure Decarie, P.P., of St. Henri, was presented with two addresses by the boys of the Christian Brothers' and the girls of the convent school on last Saturday, on the occasion of his feast. The Cure was accompanied by the curates of the parish and the church wardens. He made happy replies to both addresses.

CATECHISM ATTENDANCE.
The attendance at the catechism classes is increasing each Sunday at St. Anthony's, and nearly 700 children are now in attendance.

RETREAT AT VILLE MARIE.
Rev. Father T. Heffernan preached a three days' retreat to the English-speaking pupils of Villa Marie Convent. The retreat closed Saturday evening.

ST. MICHAEL'S PARISH.
Next Sunday the first anniversary of the opening of the new church will be celebrated, it being the solemnity of the feast of St. Michael the Archangel. Very Rev. Canon Valliant, of the Archbishop's Palace, will sing solemn high Mass and the sermon will be preached by Rev. Father Ethelbert, of the Franciscan Order.

SMOKER AND EUCHE.
Last Monday evening witnessed the reopening of the winter amusements by the St. Gabriel's Young Men's Society, and took the form of a euchar and smoking concert. For nearly two hours euchar was played by about sixty players, after which they retired to the larger hall, where an impromptu concert was given. The gentlemen taking part in the concert were Messrs. Underdown, Deegan, Buckingham, O'Dowd, McCarthy, Murphy, Hennessy, Collins and Harding. The prize winners were Messrs. T. Donohue, J. Kavanagh and J. Stanford.

On the whole the young men of St. Gabriel's are to be congratulated on their grand opening, and we wish them every success.

ST. JOSEPH'S HOME.
This most worthy institution, although doing fairly well, is handicapped by the forgetfulness of those who should give it a helping hand. Winter is coming on and the wants

of the boys will be great, for it takes quite a sum to provide for all. As matters stand now, sixteen of the boys go to school, and the bulk of the expenses is on the shoulders of the bigger ones, only five of whom are working and paying what they can to the funds. They are helped occasionally by the charitable, a few of whose names we give as an example to people of more means. The sale is becoming more known and consequently more appreciated. Orders have been received from several outside towns, and seemingly wonderful cures have been effected. It is not on sale, but given to any benefactor who is afflicted with long-standing sores, corns, chafed members. It is a rapid cure for eczema and piles. If the remedy should desire a speedy cure of any skin disease let him send a little contribution, however small, and by return mail he will receive a box of Salve Sancte Joseph. The following kind persons have contributed since last report: Mrs. O'Donnell, Mr. John Mantell, Almonte, \$1 each; Hon. Justice Curran, Mr. James Evers, Miss Kate Farrell, New York; Mrs. Prescott, Mrs. Doyle, Herbert's Crossing; Miss Mary Scannell, Swanton, Vt., \$2 each; Rev. Father Harkin and Mr. James Devine, Almonte; Mr. Gallagher, Water Works Department, Quebec; Mr. Frank O'Grady, city, \$5 each; Mr. W. Logue, Maniwak, P.Q., \$7. Miss Wall, of Crescent street, donated a bed. The secretary, Mr. W. Francis, lately appointed, hopes to be able to acknowledge shortly the receipt of the winter's coal from different charitable people of means, who will undoubtedly take the hint when they read this week's True Witness.

HIS LORDSHIP THE BISHOP OF SHERBROOKE BACK FROM ROME.

Right Rev. Paul Larocque, Bishop of Sherbrooke, was at the Archbishop's Palace on Sunday last on his return from Rome. He stated that he had been able to report to the Pope that the Roman Catholic population now numbered 75,000, as against 29,000 when Mgr. Racine first took possession of the diocese. His Holiness expressed gratification when informed of the mutual respect and harmony existing between Protestants and Catholics.

Regarding the alleged rapprochement between the Vatican and the Quirinal, Mgr. Larocque noticed that a better feeling at present existed.

His Lordship spent some time in Paris, and while there saw little to hope for in the immediate future for the friends of the Church. Without doubt the French Senate would soon ratify the abolition of the Concordat. A visit to a charitable institution in Paris convinced Mgr. Larocque that the days of persecution were not yet over. The Little Sisters of the Blind, as the order was known, had just emerged from a lawsuit directed against them questioning their right to hold the property where they lived.

THE UNDISPUTED CHAMPIONS.

The Shamrock lacrosse team have won the championship of the world, yet a Toronto contemporary, who, after the Minto Cup matches, termed them the greatest exponents of Canada's national game, and unquarable, has started a tirade of abuse against them because the champions did not follow the whims of a few disappointed players of the Toronto professional teams, and with the thoughts of several bad defeats administered to them during the season by the St. Kitt's team, still haunting them, they thought they would take revenge by trying conclusions with the Shamrocks and try to defeat them, as the Athletics, the C.L.A. champions, were unable to do. The Shamrocks are wise and shrewd in the science of the game, and can teach any of their opponents as many ways of playing it as there are days in a year. They play lacrosse all the time, and the real brand of lacrosse that no other team can approach. Two years ago, when all the stars of Canada came to play for the Minto Cup, what was the result? The Shamrocks simply smothered them, and now others, inferior players to them as well as to the St. Kitt's team, claim they could defeat the champions of the world, and call them cowards because they would not condescend to play them. Must the boys in green win the championship six times over before they can be justly entitled to it? It looks that way with our Toronto contemporary, who would have them playing clubs from here to the Pacific Coast from now until next Christmas. The Shamrocks are the undisputed champions of the world today, and the greatest exponents of Canada's national game.

Archbishop Bruchesi Consecrates Hospital at Caughnawaga.

The hospital blessed last Friday by His Grace Archbishop Bruchesi at the Indian village across the river marks another epoch in the march of progress. It was not with war paint and feathers and armed to the teeth that the braves—what are left of a fast disappearing band of red men—came out to meet the pale faces who invaded their usually quiet settlement. No, they came to pay respect to the representative of the Great White Father, and proclaim again their allegiance to the Church that had made of them peaceable, law-abiding people. The whole village was en fête, flags fluttering from every point and an avenue of trees marking the road to the hospital. The necessity of the hospital has been pressing through many decades. This year Madame Perrenno, of France, with some other ladies, becoming interested in the needs of the village, purchased a large hotel by the riverside, and at an outlay of about \$5000 the building was enlarged and brought to its present excellent condition. Wide verandahs and balconies add very much to its advantages for the sick. The hospital contains two public wards for men and women and several private and semi-private rooms, in all accommodating 40 persons. No charge whatever is to be made to patients.

The doctors of Caughnawaga have offered to give their services to the hospital free of charge for the first year, whilst a prominent East End druggist of Montreal has volunteered to supply the dispensary. Various friends have assisted to some extent in furnishing the different wards and rooms, which, though not quite complete, present a cheerful bright appearance. A system of steam heating, and further provision for consumptives will be provided as soon as means permit. The hospital staff includes Madame Perrenno as Superintendent, Miss Dalpey, graduate of Notre Dame Hospital, as head nurse, Miss Brady and a couple of other ladies who will join the hospital later.

At the edge of the village the party was met by the Caughnawaga band, while the old church bells, gifts in the 17th and 19th centuries of a French and an English king, pealed a merry welcome. Rev. Father Melancon, pastor of Caughnawaga, received his guests. At the Church a procession was formed on foot to the hospital. The Oblate seminarians of Lachine, the choir, the school children and villagers of Caughnawaga, and various clergymen from the city accompanied His Grace. In the line of procession was seen: Abbe Lecocq, superior of the Sulpicians; Father Filiatrault, superior of the Jesuits; Father Benoit, superior of the Oblates; Rev. Gregory O'Bryan, S.J., rector of Loyola College; Canon Savariat, and Fathers Auclair and Demers of the Archbishop's Palace. To the delight of the Iroquois there were also Rev. Father Mainville, the venerable missionary and author of the Iroquois Hymn Book, and Rev. J. Q. L. Forbes, of Ste. Anne de Bellevue, formerly pastor of Caughnawaga and author and compiler of an Iroquois Prayer Book. The order of Christian Brothers and Sisters of Ste. Anne were represented by prominent members. Rev. Fathers Lesard and Granger were also in the procession.

After Benediction an interesting ceremony was witnessed on the lawn in front of the Presbytery, when Miss Dalpey was made a member of the Iroquois nation and given the name of Tekakwitha. In a handsome dress of skin and beads and high feather headdress, Martin Tehaiase sang the rubric of Indian song and gave her the name while she was led about by two elderly Iroquois women, who acted as sponsors. She was, later, introduced to His Grace as Tekakwitha, and Father Forbes, in a brief speech, recalled the virtues of the saintly Kateri Tekakwitha, the Iroquois virgin of the 17th century, whose name has already been presented at Rome as a candidate for recognition among those canonized.

WANTED TO PLEASE HER.

A little girl was preparing to say her bedtime prayers, says the Big Rapids Bulletin. Her grandmother, sitting near, said she must ask God to make the weather warmer, so grandma's rheumatism would get better. The prayer was ended with this sentence: "And, O God, please make it hot for grandma."



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