

RANDOM NOTES

For Busy Households.

Some twenty years ago there was an enthusiastic desire displayed by the majority of Irishmen, and Irish-women too, to have a home of their own for their families. Through a movement inaugurated by a few enterprising Irishmen, known as mutual building societies, several hundreds of our people were enabled to attain this object. It was of course to be expected that there would be some people who would fail to take full advantage of the inducements offered at the time; who were unwilling to continue to make the sacrifices which their membership imposed upon them, but as a rule, a large number of those who are owners of small holdings of real estate in Montreal and district to-day, owe it in a very great measure to the spirit manifested by the organizers of Irish Mutual building societies. It should be the aim of the heads of our Catholic households to secure for their families, even however modest, a home that they could call their own. It will give them a status in the community. A writer in one of the New York newspapers refers to the increase in the number of purchases of real estate by small investors in that city as follows:—

When it is considered that many of the chief banks for saving in this city are actually overburdened with the increasing millions of deposits and that the financial condition of the average wage-worker is very much better than it was from three to five years ago, some idea is gained of causes which have brought about this tendency of the man with a few thousand dollars to withdraw his savings and to invest them in a home.

A large proportion of depositors in saving banks are persons who depend for a living upon the returns from their daily work. They add to the holdings of the saving banks for their individual benefit until the approach of middle age or a change in their social surroundings suggests the necessity of a permanent home.

Then comes the withdrawal of their savings for years and a visit to the real estate salesrooms to bid on a parcel offered at auction or to the office of a broker, where enquiry is made as to the price and terms, on which a particular parcel may be bought. With this class of investor the favorite purchase is either a flat or a tenement. He calculates that by occupying one of the apartments himself he can keep the building in better order than a janitor, and can also collect the monthly rents with less loss than would result if an employee had charge.

With the head of the family earning sufficient to support the family, and a little more, the returns from the payments by tenants can be applied to decrease the mortgage.

Father Alfred, Franciscan Provincial in a sermon recently delivered at St. Francis, Stratford, England, in speaking of the home said:—

That home should be the model of every Catholic home. As the parents lived so generally the children lived after them, though we did, of course, hear sometimes of good parents having bad children. Parents ought to have little to say to their children, their example should be sufficient. Unless they good example it was useless to tell their children to be virtuous. They knew as well as priests did that it was often the early good impressions of childhood that had brought

back from the ways of sin many an erring youth. Instead of being like the home of Nazareth, how many Catholic homes were the abodes of wretchedness because of dissensions and sin. The parents of such homes would have a terrible reckoning to make before God, not only for their own souls, but for the soul of every child God had committed to their care. The responsibility of the education of a child rested with the parents. Its education might be continued at school, but it must be commenced at home, which was the foundation or background of the school education. And when children left school, then should parents be especially watchful over them, particularly as regarded their companionships and their literature.

In a Christian borough—which was none other than their own borough of West Ham—there was an institute frequented by children which was circulating literature which was so blasphemous it made one shudder which spoke against Jesus Christ, who was God. There was already enough bad literature in the world without public bodies circulating it. It was earnestly to be hoped that all who had their share in allowing blasphemous literature to be read in a Christian borough would be no more supported by the electors.

Red tape may be a good thing in the right place, but there is no room for it in works of charity, says the Church News. When the thermometer is hovering around the zero mark and the streets are rendered impassable by snow there is no time to refer cases of suffering to committees for investigation. At such times it is better to give to the unworthy than to take the chances of refusing the worthy. All that the truly charitable want to know is whether or not men are suffering. If they are, charity should be dispensed promptly and without the formalities accompanying the issuing of rations in the army.

Here is a recipe that should be cut out and pasted in a corner of the kitchen mirror, where it can be seen, for it will save many dollars' worth of time and strength, says the Prince Edward Island "Agriculturist." Shave five cakes of good hard soap into just enough boiling water to dissolve them nicely. Stir constantly until the soap is dissolved, then add two teaspoonfuls of powdered borax, and a scant teaspoon of kerosene. Stir rapidly with a stick or a wooden spoon, and use it whenever anything very dirty, either cloth, tinware, woodwork, or iron utensils, is to be cleaned. Apply a little to the outside of your teakettle, while it is hot, using a flannel cloth for the purpose, and see how bright it will be. Use a little also, when cleaning your windows, and you'll never again regard that task as something to be put off as long as possible. For cleaning sinks, wash basins and slop jars, there is nothing that can equal it, and by its use the dish towels can be kept nice and white without rubbing. Put them into a pan of cold water add enough of the compound to form a good suds, and let them come slowly to a boil. Let them boil until they are sufficiently clean, then rinse and hang them out. Such work it will almost do itself, while one is attending to other duties, and the task of keeping clean is thus robbed of more than one half its terrors.

ANGLO-AMERICAN DOWRIES.

(From the London Chronicle.)

According to an estimate that has been made of the Anglo-American marriages during the past few years no fewer than 152 American women have married European noblemen. The dowries they have brought amount in the aggregate to rather more than £3,330,000, which would give an average fortune of some £20,000 to each of them.

PHYSIQUE AND PHYSIO.

(From the Maryland Medical Journal.)

We are often too ambitious in ordering our patients change of air in lung troubles. They do not need to go a thousand miles to obtain fresh air and that change in their way of living which their health demands. They need more hygiene, more exercise, more sunlight and probably a better diet. Regular systematic, not too severe, exercise in the open air every day is what is needed to establish and develop such a constitution in the growing child that he will not be liable to phthisis. Let us be content with smaller doses of climate and supplement them with larger doses of hygiene, moral and physical. The chest is the keystone of a fine

physique. No one can perfect the capacity, bony frame and muscles of his thorax without also developing back, loins and limbs. A good chest means good arms and like enough good legs. Take care of your chest and your limbs will take care of themselves. What is the need of a capacious chest? The answer is that a roomy thorax and strong heart are no mean allies in resisting the assaults of disease. Every inch a man adds to his chest measure adds to the measure of his days.

An Ottawa Singer Praised.

The Denver, Col., Sunday News has this to say of one of Ottawa's talented musicians:—

"Few strangers have made so warm friends in so short a time in Denver, as Mlle. Helene de Rideau, and it is with sincere regret that they learn that she will return this week to New York, to resume the musical life which was interrupted when she came to Denver to care for her brother. The latter, Mr. William O'Reilly, has improved marvellously since his arrival here, and will remain, staying in the family of Judge and Mrs. Sumner. Mlle. de Rideau's sweet disposition and gentle presence have

endeared her to many, and her magnificent knowledge of musical art, combined with the quality of her soprano voice, have made her an acquisition to musical circles in Denver, which it is a pity they must lose. She hopes to spend the summer vacation here." Miss de Rideau and Mr. O'Reilly are children of Mr. John O'Reilly, of this city.—Ottawa Free Press.

BOUNTY MISAPPLIED.

(From Punch.)

Philanthropic Duchess (who has taken several tickets for amateur concert, to two young ladies)—would you like these tickets? I am not going myself, and I'm afraid you'll be awfully bored.

First Young Lady—I thank you so much, Duchess! But my sister and I are going there—to sing!

A WOMAN'S WIT.

A lawyer defending a prisoner on trial for stealing money, began his cross-examination of the principal witness, a woman, by saying:—

"Tell me my good woman, what sort of money had you?" "I had 8s in silver and a sovereign in gold." "Tell me, my good woman," continued the lawyer with a sneer, intending to confuse the witness, "did you ever

see a sovereign in anything else but gold?" "Oh yes, sir," answered the woman with a calm smile, "I saw Queen Victoria." "Madam," said the coarse lawyer, baffled in his attempts to make a cool witness contradict her statements, "you have brass enough to make a saucepan." "And you have sauce enough to fill it," she retorted.

A WAY TO WEALTH.

(From London Telegraph.)

Upon one occasion the late Earl Poulett was paying his physician, and on handing the medical gentleman 400 guineas in gold, asked him if he knew how to grow rich. The doctor replied in the negative, and the Earl advised him never to pay an account by a check, but always in coin, "for," he added, "the more you look at your money the less inclined you will be to part with it."

A LESSON FOR BACHELORS.

The Bachelors' Club of Chicago has closed up its affairs and gone out of existence. There were only three members. They died on February 10—all on the same day—and were buried side by side in Calvary Cemetery. These members of the Bachelors' Club were John Durrens, 92 years old; Matthias Caas, 79 years old, and Mi-

chael Nolan, 87 years old. Although it was nearly half a century ago that the club was in active existence, these three members were true to their early vows and remained bachelors to the end. They were cared for by the Little Sisters of the Poor.

BICYCLISTS HAVE RIGHTS.

A French Court has just made a decision that establishes the point in France that when a bicyclist is attacked by a dog, and in attempting to drive it off meets with an injury, the owner of the dog is liable. The plaintiff in the case lost his balance in chastising the dog that pursued him, fell off, hurt his wrist and smashed a valuable cigarette case that he was carrying in his pocket. He claimed damages of \$100 and \$40 was awarded to him.

Money for Lord Kitchener.

London, Feb. 17.—In the House of Commons on Friday last, Mr. John Dillon, asked if it was true that the Government intended to give the sum of £30,000 to Gen. Lord Kitchener to enable him to support his new fleet. Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, Chancellor of the Exchequer, replied that it was. He added that the money was given in recognition of the victory at Omdurman, and that Parliament would shortly be asked to vote the amount.

The Experiment of Workmen Directors.

Some interesting statements appear in the half yearly report, just issued, of the South Metropolitan Gas Company, and particularly in regard to the addition of working-men directors in the board of the company. The directors state that the profit-sharing system, which was introduced in 1889, continues to justify its existence, as it induces a generally intelligent interest in the welfare of the company on the part of its officers and men, who by their better work earn the profits that are distributed among them annually. The greater part of these profits during the past nine years has been invested in the company's stock. In October last the workmen shareholders elected two of their number to sit on the board, and, with the addition of these directors, the report states that the "result so far has proved satisfactory." As a result of the half year's working there is a net revenue balance of £190,422, of which the directors recommend the same rate of dividend as was paid in the previous half year—namely, 5 1/4 per cent. The balance added to the reserve fund brings that fund up to £106,043, while the insurance fund now amounts to £46,017. — (St. James Gazette.)

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STABAT MATER DOLOROSA

BY JACOPONE DA TODI, THE "FRANCISCAN POET"

A NEW TRANSLATION.

Stood the doleful Mother weeping,
By the dark Road, vigil keeping,
While, uplifted died her Son,
Grief his sword relentless driving
Through her soul, smote keenly riv-
ing,
And she moaned, with pain fordone.

Oh with what deep sorrow laden
Was that blessed Mother-Maiden
Who God's One-begotten bore
When she saw her offspring peer-
less,
Hands and feet nailed, could she
tearless,
Look on agony so sore.

What man living so hard-hearted,
As to feel no grief imparted,
By th' excess of Mary's woe?
Who could witness her great anguish,
While she saw Him bleed and lan-
guish,
And could curb the hot tears' flow?

She beheld Christ's agonizing—
Victim scourged, Priest sacrificing—
For His people's debt of sin:
On her Son she gazed with moaning,
When with Death He struggled groan-
ing,
When he died our love to win.

Mother, fount of love o'er flowing,
Ah! may I, thy colors knowing,
In thy bitter grief have part:
May my spirit cold, unruled,
Burn with love of Christ, God truly,
And console His Sacred Heart.

On mine heart be graven solely
Jesus' deep wounds, Virgin Holy,
Wounds of Jesus crucified,
All His pains, my Lord and Brother,
Borne for me—a loving Mother—
Those dread pains with me divide.

Pity for thy tears so tender,
May I feel until I render
At my death the last faint sigh.
By the Cross, where thou art ever,
Place me, and desert me never—
Hear, oh, hear my longing cry!

Virgin, all chaste maids excelling,
Grant this wish, that aye is welling,
From mine heart, to mourn with
thee.
In my soul Christ's death to carry,
In His wounds all days to tarry,
This obtain from God for me.

Be those bleeding Wounds my treas-
ure,
And His Cross my holy pleasure,
Be my drink His blood Divine,
Virgin by thy prayer defend me,
In the Judgment hour befriend me,
Lest Hell's dreadful doom be mine.

Christ, when I through death am
speeding,
Give, by Thy dear Mother's pleading,
Give to me the victor's palm.
When at last my flesh shall perish,
Oh, do Thou my tried soul cherish,
In Thy Heaven's all-blissful calm!

—Sonnets and Lyrics by Rev. Michael Watson, S.J., Melbourne, Vic., Australia.

MRS. CHARLES ST. JOHN.

A Well-Known Dressmaker in Providence, R. I., is Well and Strong Again, After Being So Weak that She Could Not Walk Without Help.

Four out of five women in America are not perfect women in the sense of being perfectly healthy. Nearly every one has some peculiar ailments of the menstrual organs. Just look around when you go along the street. You will see the pale, the weak, the run-down and the sorrow-faced everywhere. Some of these girls and women are rich and don't have to work. Others are poor and must toil for a living. The poor are most to be pitied. They must work away with their heads, backs and sides aching. They must toil regardless of their paleness, weakness and nervousness. Day after day the drains of leucorrhoea sap away their strength and life becomes a round of misery. Women can be healthy if they wish. No doubt about it. They can be well, strong and rosy-cheeked. Read the following as proof:—

Mrs. Charles St. John, 255 Charles St., Providence, R. I., testifies as follows: "For six years I suffered from female weakness, headache, pains in the back and in the legs. At times I was so weak that I could not walk without help. For two months I was under special treatment in the hospital, but came out as pale and as weak as I was when I went in there. Having seen so many women cured by Dr. Coderre's Red Pills, I tried them, and was at once greatly benefited. My doctor afterwards told me to keep on taking them. I am a dressmaker, and am well known to many women in Providence, who have frequently remarked how much better I am now looking." (Signed) Mrs. CHARLES ST. JOHN, 255 Charles street, Providence, R. I.



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a medicine with such a remarkable number of cures to its credit.

While taking these pills it is well to follow certain health rules under reliable professional advice. All women ought to get such advice by mail from our celebrated French specialists. Simply write us a letter, and full advice will be sent you free of all charge. For personal consultation, call at our Dispensary, 274 St. Denis St., Montreal.

Be very careful about getting the genuine Dr. Coderre's Red Pills at the drug store. They are always sold at 50 cents a box—fifty pills in a box—or six boxes for \$2.50. There are many harmful imitation red pills sold by the dozen, the hundred, or at 25 cents a box. Beware of them. It is not quantity that you want. It is good health you are looking for, and you will find it if you take Dr. Coderre's Red Pills. A 50-cent box lasts longer than a \$1 bottle of liquid medicine, and the pills cure. It is the druggist's business to give you what you ask for, not to substitute something else for the sake of his profits.

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