

The True Witness

CATHOLIC CHRONICLE. WEEKLY EDITION OF THE "EVENING POST" IN PRINTED AND PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY.

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MONTREAL, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11.

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Selling Liquor to Minors.

Our telegraph advices tell us of an important case just decided in the Supreme Court of New York. A man was convicted of selling liquor to a minor and was fined \$25. He appealed, but affirmed the judgment, and held that the selling of liquor to minors was, in almost all cases, a much crime and was universally enforced. It is a destination which should be avoided. It is in youth that the passion for drinking is generally contracted, and once contracted, it becomes difficult to give up. If our authorities here took the hint, some good would arise to the public, and the cause of many a man's ruin would be prevented.

Desecrating the Sabbath.

It is proposed to build a railway from somewhere in the neighborhood of the top of Bleury street to the summit of the mountain. This is all right, but there is one point in which the public have a right to insist, and that is that this railway will run on Sundays. What the plan is we know not, beyond the fact that the railway will be run up the side of the mountain, and that all kinds of safeguards are provided against accident. The ascent and descent will be five cents each way. To all this we have nothing to say, but the proposed railway will be of no benefit to the masses of the people unless it runs every day.

Lacrosse.

The Toronto Lacrosse Club has the advantage of the Quebec clubs, in being able to practice for about six weeks before them. In Toronto the men are at work for weeks while the snow is still on the ground all over this Province, and the result is that the Toronto men are in good condition much earlier in the season. If the Toronto club had been able to play the Shamrocks for the championship three weeks ago, the Shamrocks would have been placed at a disadvantage. When the championship is held by a club in this province, the first match of the season for the championship should be played between the champions and a club from the Province. This would give the champions a few weeks practice before they would be obliged to measure weapons with an Ontario team. Each Province takes a good deal of interest in the championship and a generous rivalry prompts both sides to wish that the champion should grace Ontario or Quebec. With the safeguards and precautions which now surround Lacrosse, it has become the noblest and most exciting game in the world, and everything that tends to make it free from objections, tends to make it the premier game of the athletic world. It is for that reason that we point out an injustice under which the Quebec clubs labour, when one of their number holds the championship.

Disgraced.

Montreal is disgraced. This affair of \$10,000 has brought the city into contempt. The richest corporation in the Dominion repudiates its charity, and the people of Canada look with feelings of contempt upon the award of so mean a policy. Toronto gave \$20,000 to the people of St. John, and gave it promptly. Montreal promised \$10,000, and did not give it at all. But we hear that the voting of the money was not legal. What of that? It was not legal for Toronto and other cities no more than it was for Montreal. If other cities said, "It is not legal," and let the people of St. John die of starvation and cold! Would they have been a humane policy to pursue? "Not legal" is all fiction. The sum and substance of it all is that Montreal repudiated its charity and stands disgraced in presence of the country. The Mail says that Montreal has dishonoured herself and disgraced the Province of which she is the capital. The Telegram is equally pronounced against the city, and the press in general cries "shame," it is idle to avoid the issue which is so plain to be put aside. This city has disgraced itself and it will be well for the people if that disgrace is not remembered, if ever Montreal wants assistance itself.

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Le Canadien exhibited bad taste in allowing its political antagonism to the Governor-General to betray it into the mistake of sneering at a guest. When a paper published in Quebec maliciously attacks the Governor-General while he is a guest in the city, and ridicules the loyal enthusiasm which was evoked by his presence, it stoops to demagogism of the lowest type. Le Canadien supposes the Governor-General to be hostile to the Conservative party. It was one of the papers that made these wild, and indeed, silly attacks on the Governor-General when he refused to dismiss the Lieut.-Governor of this Province. In doing that the Governor-General did wrong. He should have taken the advice of his Ministers, for they, and not he, are the judges of what is best. We thought the advice of the Ministers was wrong, too, but no matter, it was their advice, and right or wrong the Governor-General should have obeyed it. The best way, and the only constitutional way of settling the difficulty, is for the people of this Province to decide, and we hope that is the way in which the question will be finally settled. But why a presumably respectable journal should assail the Governor-General at a time when he was a guest in the city where the presumably respectable journal is published only proves to what insane lengths party can carry its devotees.

It is a common saying that any respectable man can cause a run on a bank. Judiciously managed, no doubt any respectable man could cause such a run, provided he exacted "secrecy" from some "friend" to whom he said that such and such a bank was "shaky," but "not to tell a soul." These men are black spots on the community—mischief-makers who too often have only private ends to serve, and who do much to undermine the commercial community at large. The public should be on their guard against such men. They do much mischief, and it is not because of any desire to help the public that they spread the rumors, but because they like to be at mischief. In some cases, no doubt, the rumors are circulated without the authors of them meaning any harm. But the harm is done, the mischief is circulated, and the community is injured in its good name, and in its commercial standing. The result is public confidence is shaken, doubt takes possession of the people, and uncertainty paralyzes the enterprise of all. Without confidence there can be no prosperity, and the men who circulate unfounded rumors are the very men who create want of confidence, and destroy trade. We write now of "rumors," unfounded insinuations of failure, talking of banks being "shaky," and all the rest, and not being able to give any reasonable foundation for the suspicions which the "rumors" create. In a commercial community nothing can be more damaging than this, and the public should set their face against it.

Cheverons or Medals. In the Irish Constabulary, which is, perhaps, one of the best policemen in the world to go by, policemen are given a badge to wear on the arm when it has been duly proved that they did a brave and meritorious act. Whether there is a pension or not accompanying the badge, it is not of so much importance, for the principle to establish is that a badge of some description on the arm, is a more becoming recognition for bravery in the police, than a medal. We see, however, that the Police Committee have decided to give medals to the Montreal police, and they have manifested their desire by voting two gold medals to men, for doing what? For doing nothing but their duty, and so far as we can hear, for exhibiting no more bravery than policemen must exhibit in the discharge of the duties for which they are engaged. To give "gold medals" to placard the Police Committee as a mark of honor. The soldiers of Her Majesty's service who see hard service in the field, go through a Crimean campaign, an Indian mutiny, or a Zulu war must be satisfied with silver medals but Montreal must give gold medals to men whose danger, at the worst, are but trifling, and who fortunately are seldom—very seldom, called upon to exhibit that valour which would win a Victoria Cross. Our policemen are brave enough, because most men are brave when a duty lies on them, but to give them gold medals is to deck them with unbecoming gewgaws. A small pension and a badge to wear on the arm, would be more acceptable to the force and more appropriate too.

The Consolidated Bank. The shareholders of the Consolidated Bank had a stormy meeting the other day. The result of the meeting proved that the bank was as sound as a bell, but not quite as prosperous as it might be. There was no dividend and the shareholders were angry, and some of them personally abused that "bad" man, Sir Francis Hincks. It was all his fault, they said. The old man who has passed through life with honor to himself and credit to his country, had to listen to his traducers and to hear their calumnies over again. One person, a man named Hamilton, has eight shares in the bank, and these shares give him the right speak, and to denounce, if he is so disposed, the veteran statesman, the able financier and the stainless old man who is now President of the Consolidated Bank, and whose reputation is so far above his calumniators that those who assail him beat the air. But what is the secret of Mr. Hamilton's personal attack on Sir Francis Hincks? Virtuous indignation? No, for Mr. Hamilton is not known as a moral preceptor. Keen appreciation of finance? No, for Mr. Hamilton has no knowledge of finance, save that which he picks up as a clerk in the Witness office. The public weal? No, that is not it, either, for it was not the public weal, but Sir Francis Hincks personally that Mr. Hamilton had in view. What was it then? Here is the secret—the Mr. Hamilton who attacked Sir Francis Hincks is the Hamilton of Orange notoriety! That is quite enough to account for his personal attack on Sir Francis Hincks.

country, but if one party tried to ride hobby horse over the other, we would be quite sure that the fight will continue. Meanwhile, so long as the Government of Mr. Mowat stands by those who have stood by them, they should receive an independent support. Mr. Fraser, we rejoice to see, was elected. Defeated for one constituency he was elected for another, and thus a true and tried friend takes his place at the helm again.

Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. The tenth annual meeting of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals took place on Saturday. An annual report was, as usual, adopted, and from that report we learn that during the year there were fourteen prosecutions. A more direct admission of the negligence of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals than the fact that there had only been fourteen prosecutions during the year it would be impossible to make. With an Inspector engaged at a salary of \$500 a year, yet we have only fourteen prosecutions in Montreal! With the daily evidence of the brutal treatment of animals before our eyes, yet the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals sum up fourteen prosecutions as the amount of their labour for 365 days, or one prosecution every 26 days. This is a farce. And even of the fourteen prosecutions two were dismissed; so that we have a society, with a paid Inspector, getting one conviction every month, and for this one conviction every \$41 are paid. Surely this is absurd! But what does a morning contemporary say of the Inspector in its introduction to the Annual Report? Here it is: "The Inspector of the Society, A. Galey, has discharged his duty in Montreal and its neighbourhood in a very satisfactory manner." Now, the way we would put the services of Mr. Galey would be different. We think the Annual Report proves that he is not attending to his business at all, and unless he can do better the Corporation should withdraw the annual grant of \$200 it gives to the Society, and try and reach the evil-doers by some other means. Here is a Society in existence for ten years, with an Inspector not badly paid considering the class of man required, and it comes before the public with an Annual Report showing 12 convictions! It is a waste of the public money to continue a grant to such a Society as this, and unless the Society does better the Corporation should withdraw the grant, and give it to people who will carry out what they profess to undertake—prevent cruelty to animals.

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The Carters. The carters have been subjected to a great deal of odium owing to their supposed connection with the fire at Mr. Morey's, and the murder of Alphonse Quenneville. That there is some ground for suspecting the antagonism of the carters to Mr. Morey there is sufficient proof. Mr. Morey was the principal rival in business, and monopolized much of the trade. He pushed himself to the front, as he had a perfect right to do. He did no more than any other in the city would do, if circumstanced as Mr. Morey was. It is the right of every man to push his own way to the front, and the carters but injure themselves by giving erratic opposition to legitimate trade. If the carters can beat Mr. Morey down by legitimate combination they are justified in doing so, but it would be a mistake to suppose that they can intimidate him. Nor do we believe that the majority of the carters intended such intimidation. That they would rejoice at the accidental destruction of Mr. Morey's carriages we believe, but that they would as a body conspire to destroy them, we cannot credit. The chances are that a few carters knew of the contemplated arson, but the chances are greater that the overwhelming majority of them are morally as well as legally irresponsible for the crime. To blame all because of the crime of a few, would be manifestly unjust. There are, among the carters, many, very many, respectable, well educated and industrious men, and the catalogue of crimes of which carters have been found guilty, just as good as their neighbors. More care should, no doubt, be exercised in giving carters licenses, and no doubt will be in the future. Meanwhile it is not fair to blame them all for the act of a few.

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The G. T. R. at Belleville. Some time since we published a letter from Belleville attacking the authorities of the G. T. R. for their alleged bad treatment of Catholic employees. At the time, we said that the attack was too general, and did not specify one case in which the Catholics were badly treated. In reply to this letter, we have received the following communication:— W. J. SPICKS, Esq., Superintendent, Toronto.

DEAR SIR,—In regard to attached, I do not think this refers to the traffic department at this station. If so, I can only simply say there is not a word of truth in the statement, and I hope I will never lose my senses enough to show any partiality to any of the employees of their creed or otherwise, and in proof of this I would refer you to the Rev. Father Farley, the leading Catholic priest of this city, who would be in a position to know if any of the Catholic employees are unjustly dealt with by me. I might here add that there has not been a Catholic discharged at this station since I took charge, which is now four years and a half ago. As for the other departments, I know very little about their business. As to their dismissing or employing men, I do not think there is any such feeling existing. My private opinion of the "Observer's" letter is that it has been written by a young man by the name of Cummins, who was employed in the locomotive office here and was dismissed, and now is chief clerk in Mr. Davis' office, Montreal. This is only supposition on my part, although it might have been some one else.

Yours truly, DAVID GINN. BELLEVILLE, May 28, 1879.

To JOSEPH HICKSON, Esq., General Manager. DEAR SIR,—Regarding letter from "Observer" in Montreal Post, you will admit, I am sure, that it is a very useless and unsatisfactory thing to have to reply to "general charges" of such a nature as this. I can only ask you to take my word about this in the matter when I tell you that it is simply a falsehood, and I believe the writer is a young man named Cummins, who was discharged by us, and who occupied a position in this department at Belleville as storekeeper. This young man got into bad company, and became very irregular and unreliable in his work, and in order to cover his discrepancies he made away with and concealed store-books and forms which he had in his charge, and was responsible for. It is a usual thing when one railway company takes a man into their employment, who has recently left another company, to enquire as to his antecedents, general character, etc. In Cummins' case, however, he was taken into the employment of Quebec, Montreal, Ottawa & Occidental Railway without any enquiries being made of us. No man that I have control of on the central division is discharged without proper cause, no matter what creed he may belong to. When we have occasion to reduce staff, the books could show you, if you required any proof, that men were discharged without reference to their religion, and Catholics have been taken into the service quite recently at this station, as well as at other stations on the central division. In fact, a man's religion is a thing that is not considered at all in these matters. There are a great many Roman Catholic workmen on the road, who are occupying first-class positions, and are as well treated and as much respected as the others. I can also say that there are Roman Catholics under my control that rank as amongst the best and most reliable servants that the company has.

Yours truly, E. BLAKEWELL. BELLEVILLE, June 4, 1879.

THE WAY OF THE CROSS. Consecration of the Stations of the Cross at the Catholic Cemetery Yesterday—An Impressive Ceremony. From two o'clock in the afternoon Sunday the roads converging on Cote des Neiges cemetery were literally black with people flocking from all parts to witness the solemn and impressive ceremony of the consecration of the stations of the Cross by his lordship Bishop Fabre. So great was the crowd expected that Chief Parade thought it necessary to have a posse of police on the ground to keep the people from blocking up the avenues of approach, but there was no disorder apparent, notwithstanding the immense numbers. At 4 o'clock the bell of the cemetery chapel rang out, and announced the arrival of his lordship, accompanied by a goodly number of clergymen. The stations are niches solidly constructed, being made of iron, skillfully colored in imitation of marble and granite so naturally as to deceive a number of persons. The stations, fourteen in number, are moulded in bas relief, and represent with great clearness the various stages of our Saviour's sufferings, from His birth at Bethlehem to His dying agonies on Mount Calvary, where He atoned for the sins of the world. The cemetery is a most appropriate site for the stations of the Cross, as thousands daily visit her, and silently offer up prayers for the repose of the souls of the dear departed. At the base of the blooming flowers and soft verdure lies a population of 20,000 persons who died during twenty-five years of age, and here found their last asylum. Adjoining the platform on which the clergy were accommodated, was a table decorated with flowers, on which lay the fourteen crosses which his lordship was to affix to the different shrines. Monsignor Fabre, previous to proceeding with the ceremony, addressed his flock, explaining the ceremony. Since the death of Our Saviour Catholics had made it a special duty to follow Him in His pilgrimage from the Mount of Olives to Calvary. In ancient times Catholics looked from all parts of the world to Jerusalem where they followed in His sacred footsteps, but now circumstances have altered, and it would be impossible for the one-hundredth portion of the Catholic population to embrace an opportunity to faithfully perform this religious duty. Considering this the Church had instituted the stations of the Cross in churches, monasteries and cemeteries. Here the faithful visited the pictures or figures serving to bear them in spirit to the scene of our Lord's sufferings. No place could be better chosen for this purpose than a cemetery where lay so many of our dear and sacred dead, as the Church granted indulgences in their favor, which indulgences were to be obtained by the prayers of the faithful following the stations of the Cross. The benediction of the crosses was given by Monsignor Fabre. At the last station Canon Duressne offered three Pater and Ave for his lordship, as being one of the chief workers in having the stations erected. After receiving the episcopal benediction the devotees dispersed, and the choir of pious chanters returned to the chapel singing the Te Deum.

Joliette College. A special meeting of the St. Patrick's Literary Association of Joliette College was called on the 2nd instant to draw resolutions regarding the death of its late deceased and faithful member, John Joseph. It was held in the hall of the college, and was attended by a large number of the members of this association to mourn the loss which they have sustained in the sad departure of their brother.

Resolved,—That it is a just and meet for the members of this association to mourn the loss which they have sustained in the sad departure of their brother. Resolved,—That it is paying but a slight tribute to the memory of the deceased to say that he was one of the most prominent members of this society, ever obedient of its rules, faithful and punctual in the discharge of his duties. Resolved,—That this society sincerely condole and deeply sympathize with the afflicted parents of our beloved member, on the bereavement which the Almighty has seen fit to inflict. Resolved,—That these heartfelt testimonials of our sympathy and sorrow be sent to the parents of the deceased, as a token of our esteem for his noble qualities and our appreciation of his talents. Resolved,—That these resolutions be transmitted to the New York Tablet and the Montreal Evening Post for publication. WALTER J. LAMARCHE, Sec. June 4th, 1879.

Desecrating the Sabbath in New York. The elevated railway runs near some churches in New York. In consequence of this some of the clergymen are trying to prevent the railway from running on Sundays. The New York Sun thus describes one of the meetings held for this purpose:— The round robin in the shape of a petition that was sent out as a feeler last autumn, before the first conference was determined on, was signed by the pastor of each of the churches except one. Father Farrell, of St. Joseph Catholic church, on the corner of Waverley place and Sixth avenue, withheld his name. He says he did not think it wise for a comparatively small representation of the people (as the congregation of St. Joseph's, for instance), to oppose the wishes of the public generally. If the Sunday trains were necessary, they would be run; if not, they would not be put on. A very great many people will use the road on Sunday to get into the country; they will take their children to the park. It is necessary for the public health that this holiday and fresh air should be enjoyed. Perhaps it would be worse for the morals of the people if their liberty were hindered and they were kept stewing at home. Father Farrell, however, believes the running of Sunday trains will prove a nuisance to worshippers along the route. He thought perhaps it could be arranged so that the trains would be stopped during the hours of church service. The hours during which the heaviest traffic is carried on would not then be interfered with. For the reason that prevented his signing the petition, he did not attend the meeting of clergymen.

The only churches that were not represented at the meetings in Trinity Chapel were the Roman Catholic churches. The Redeemptorist Fathers in South Fifth avenue, who support the Church of St. Aloysius, next to their house, say that they are heartily opposed to the running of Sunday trains, and signed the petition that was brought to them, but it is not in accordance with their habits to attend or take part in public meetings, except those of a religious character.

The Grain Crop in England. The reports from all parts of England are that the grain crops are backward, and in many districts thin and poor, and that vegetation is later than has been remembered for many years. The genial change in the weather that has just set in, should it prove permanent, will soon doubtless repair much of the damage that has been done.

South American Wheat. The Buenos Ayres Standard of April 17 states that the Magellan takes 13,000 sacks of wheat to Bordeaux, and adds that "these wheat" they are the pioneers of a trade which will, in all probability, after the lapse of a few years, displace tallow, coffee, etc.—America—wool, hides, etc.—stated that forty foreign vessels are loading in the River Platte with wheat for Europe; and the shipment alluded to above is considered of greater significance for the future of the country than a cargo of bar gold would have been.

The destruction and carrying away of game, lambs, etc., by foxes at Lochearnhead, and the other northwestern districts of Perthshire, has for some time been severely felt. At one den at Balquidder the remains of about forty lambs, and large numbers of grouse and other game, were discovered. The gamekeeper lately succeeded in capturing eight old and young foxes, besides destroying a litter.

Mr. H. McLenn, Warden of the city of Ottawa, has returned to that city from Montreal, where he had been in relation to the action pending between the old Quebec, Montreal & Ottawa Company and the county. The County Council resolved to sign the debentures for \$150,000 of the \$200,000 bonus voted originally in aid of the road. The company, after the Quebec Government took hold of the road, brought action against the various Warrants to recover the amount stated above, but the cases were dismissed. The action is now brought against the court for damages, and an appeal has been made therefrom. The appeal will be heard on the 12th of June.

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