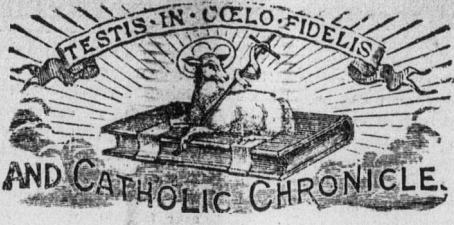


traditions about trifles more vexatious than a position where matters are involved. ... interrupts the man is too hard for speaking of passionate heads—they see all long way.

Every Irish Catholic Should Buy The Golden Jubilee Book, And Read The Story Of The Irish Priests And Laymen In Montreal During The Past Fifty Years. ... Patrick's BSBYTERY, and at MILLOY'S, Catherine St., Telephone to in 1182, WILL INSURE PROMPT DELIVERY OF THE BOOK. CE, \$1.00. ... Agents, ... WITNESS, ... 1138.P.O., MONTREAL

# The True Witness

AND CATHOLIC CHRONICLE.



MONTREAL, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4, 1902. PRICE FIVE CENTS

### THE TRUE WITNESS AND CATHOLIC CHRONICLE

IS PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY THE TRUE WITNESS P. & P. CO., Limited.

255, 257, 259, 261, 263, 265, 267, 269, 271, 273, 275, 277, 279, 281, 283, 285, 287, 289, 291, 293, 295, 297, 299, 301, 303, 305, 307, 309, 311, 313, 315, 317, 319, 321, 323, 325, 327, 329, 331, 333, 335, 337, 339, 341, 343, 345, 347, 349, 351, 353, 355, 357, 359, 361, 363, 365, 367, 369, 371, 373, 375, 377, 379, 381, 383, 385, 387, 389, 391, 393, 395, 397, 399, 401, 403, 405, 407, 409, 411, 413, 415, 417, 419, 421, 423, 425, 427, 429, 431, 433, 435, 437, 439, 441, 443, 445, 447, 449, 451, 453, 455, 457, 459, 461, 463, 465, 467, 469, 471, 473, 475, 477, 479, 481, 483, 485, 487, 489, 491, 493, 495, 497, 499, 501, 503, 505, 507, 509, 511, 513, 515, 517, 519, 521, 523, 525, 527, 529, 531, 533, 535, 537, 539, 541, 543, 545, 547, 549, 551, 553, 555, 557, 559, 561, 563, 565, 567, 569, 571, 573, 575, 577, 579, 581, 583, 585, 587, 589, 591, 593, 595, 597, 599, 601, 603, 605, 607, 609, 611, 613, 615, 617, 619, 621, 623, 625, 627, 629, 631, 633, 635, 637, 639, 641, 643, 645, 647, 649, 651, 653, 655, 657, 659, 661, 663, 665, 667, 669, 671, 673, 675, 677, 679, 681, 683, 685, 687, 689, 691, 693, 695, 697, 699, 701, 703, 705, 707, 709, 711, 713, 715, 717, 719, 721, 723, 725, 727, 729, 731, 733, 735, 737, 739, 741, 743, 745, 747, 749, 751, 753, 755, 757, 759, 761, 763, 765, 767, 769, 771, 773, 775, 777, 779, 781, 783, 785, 787, 789, 791, 793, 795, 797, 799, 801, 803, 805, 807, 809, 811, 813, 815, 817, 819, 821, 823, 825, 827, 829, 831, 833, 835, 837, 839, 841, 843, 845, 847, 849, 851, 853, 855, 857, 859, 861, 863, 865, 867, 869, 871, 873, 875, 877, 879, 881, 883, 885, 887, 889, 891, 893, 895, 897, 899, 901, 903, 905, 907, 909, 911, 913, 915, 917, 919, 921, 923, 925, 927, 929, 931, 933, 935, 937, 939, 941, 943, 945, 947, 949, 951, 953, 955, 957, 959, 961, 963, 965, 967, 969, 971, 973, 975, 977, 979, 981, 983, 985, 987, 989, 991, 993, 995, 997, 999, 1001

### EPISCOPAL APPROBATION.

"If the English-speaking Catholics of Montreal and of this Province consulted their best interests, they would soon make of the 'True Witness' one of the most prosperous and powerful Catholic papers in this country. I heartily bless those who encourage this excellent work."  
—PAUL, Archbishop of Montreal."

## NOTES OF THE WEEK.

### MORE INTOLERANCE.

An English magistrate has granted a summons against the rector of the Assumption Fathers' Church in London, on the application of the Protestant Alliance, which claims that under an old statute these priests have no right to live in the United Kingdom. A similar action was taken against the Jesuit Fathers some time ago under the same obsolete laws; but it was promptly dismissed, on the ground that these laws had lapsed in desuetude. The action of the Protestant Alliance ought to have one good effect. It should bestir the Catholics of the United Kingdom in a common effort to have the vexatious laws repealed. At the same time an attempt should be made to secure the repeal of other anti-Catholic laws which are in full vigor—those concerning the accession oath and the holding of the offices of Lord Chancellor of England and Lord Lieutenant of Ireland for example.

### EMILE ZOLA'S DEATH.

Sudden and tragic was the death of the French novelist Zola. It was unexpected and it created a sensation in Paris, the echo of which was heard all over the continent and on this side of the Atlantic. There is a maxim, old as our era and eminently Christian, that advises us to "say naught but good of the dead." This means that it is not right to say anything that would injure the name of him who has departed from this life. We have made it a rule to obey that injunction in as far as journalistic duties would allow. Consequently, when there is no possible good that we can say of the one whose death we record, the next best thing is to say nothing at all about him. We are not sufficiently acquainted with the private life of Emile Zola to hazard any comments, good, bad, or indifferent, upon his sixty-two years of passage through this world. We have no right to pass any judgment upon him, for we are in the impossibility of knowing the inner workings of his heart.

It might be possible to draw serious lessons from the awful manner in which this most prominent writer of the so-called realistic romances, was summoned from earth; but even in that we might be doing an injustice and we prefer, as far as the man is concerned, to let the veil drop for all time upon his personal life.

But if we are not in a position to pass judgment upon the man, at least we are justified in forming an estimate of the immensity of literary work that he has left as a heritage to humanity. Perhaps the most favorable comment that has been made regarding his works—and it is far from a eulogy—is what a leading French journal of Montreal has said: "It will be admitted that he could have made better use, for his own glory, of those qualities of vigor and strength with which he was endowed and of that exceptional art that he possessed of bringing out in striking evidence the technique of positions, of situations, and of customs. Taking them from certain standpoints, in Zola's romances there is sufficient to frighten our age with its moral infirmities and to suggest useful reflections; to instruct future generations about our century and to impart to them a series of human documents that will not contribute to the building up of our fame."

In an interview of a few days ago, Dr. Frechette said that Zola had of late been living on his former reputation, and that his recent works are not worth reading. Of his no-

vels in general Dr. Frechette said:—"He pretended to be realistic, but he was nothing of the kind; nothing is so false as his pictures of French peasant life. He pandered to the morbid curiosity of young people and strangers, and his pictures are exaggerated and false."

After stating that one could not read certain of Zola's abominations, as they were too revolting, and having pointed out the corruption, sacrileges and anti-patriotism contained in the most of his novels, Dr. Frechette thus sums up his estimate of the life-work of Emile Zola:—

"The idea was, money by all means, at the expense of body, soul and country. When one read a work by Zola, it did not matter which, simply from curiosity, or as a pastime, it was this thought that struck the reader most. Dr. Frechette went on to say that he would not read 'Le Reve.' He had read sufficient of Zola's preceding works to understand the writer and his school, and the reading of twenty new ones would not tell him anything more of Zola's system."

This estimate is certainly not an exaggerated one, and no human mind can calculate the amount of evil that has been wrought, during the past forty years by the products of Zola's pen. He was the master, and we might almost say the founder of that special school of fiction which he sought to dignify with the title of realistic. Happily for the world, and for the future, the days of that school are numbered. Even with all the infidelity that is rampant, and all the lack of moral principles—as illustrated in the increasing number of divorces—that we behold around us, still there is a certain refinement, a certain degree of self-respect, a certain pretence to modesty in the world which will not tolerate the nude, the vulgar, which recoils from the abominations and filthy excesses, as well as from the public parading of indecencies. Hence it is that Zola's works are destined to perish; they will inevitably sink into oblivion. Men and women may be immoral, may lead lives of guilt in the eyes of God and of the world; but they cling to social recognition, and they seek to disguise or to hide their deeds—a tribute of vice to virtue—and they do not relish the publicity of sin. Zola's works bid defiance not only to God and the Church, to the commandments and the precepts, to moral sense of the world and the conventionalities of ordinary society; but they even reject the flimsy and transparent coverings with which the vilest seek to cloak their deformities.

### THE IRISH SITUATION.

No doubt the press reports of current political events in Ireland are of a sufficiently sensational nature, and have all the appearance of being well founded. But so frequently, in the past, have we found, when our Irish correspondence and exchanges came to hand, that perfect reliance could not be placed in the cabled reports, that we are disinclined, for the moment, to make any comment. Moreover, the situation is too serious to permit of any trifling with its details. We regard it as more critical than it has been at any given moment since 1882. In fact, the entire future of the Home Rule cause may depend upon the events of the coming autumn and winter. Certainly Ireland's case has been strengthened and the instruments of success have been placed in the hands of her leaders by the very men who are most

anxious to wipe out her every hope and aspiration. If it be true that the members of the Nationalist party contemplate a general absence from the coming session, the step would certainly be a radical one; but as to its ultimate success, as a means to an end, there may be room for discussion. However, when we shall have authentic reports of passing events we will be in a position to speak.

### THE IRISH STAGE.

In San Francisco a subject of very great importance is now being discussed. At a recent meeting of the State Board of the Gaelic League, the matter of so-called Irish plays came up in a very pronounced manner. We could not do better than reproduce the report of that meeting, in as far as it had to do with the matter of the "Stage Irishman." The Committee on Resolutions made the following report which was adopted unanimously:—

"The State Executive Committee of the Gaelic League in California having received the character of the having received a number of complaints concerning the character of the Grand Opera House, appointed a committee to attend such plays and report on their nature and tendency.

"The committee has reported that the plays are gross libels on the Irish people, especially on those of the humbler sort, and that the manner in which they are played, the make-up of the characters, and the quality of the acting intensify the original vulgarity and untruthfulness of the pieces."

Acting on this report, the State Executive Committee has adopted the following resolutions and has requested their publication in the local press and ordered them sent to all the Irish societies in America and in Ireland:

"Resolved, That we condemn the plays now being presented at the Grand Opera House in this city—namely, 'Arrah na Pogue,' 'The Shaughraun,' and the 'Colleen Bawn'—as untrue to the great facts of Irish life, as libelous on the Irish character and as contrary to Irish ideals and aspirations.

"Resolved, That the staging of the plays, inasmuch as it represents the Irish peasantry as a low, drunken set of savages, devoid of even the appearance of humanity, is a gross caricature on a class of people who in the midst of their English produced poverty and its attendant evils, never forgot the respect due the dead, and who, in their respect for themselves, far surpassed the persons that presented the plays and the audience that backed them up by its approval.

"Resolved, That the whole tendency of the plays is away from the Irish revival, inasmuch as the English are therein represented as the superior and manly race, whereas the Irish can furnish only informers, vagabonds, blundering fools, weak-minded priests and cheap imitations of English barmaids.

"Resolved, That it is with great regret we see a man of our own kind, from whom we had hoped a greater reverence for his own people, and a tenderer care for his own name, lend himself to the production of plays that cannot but grieve the hearts of true Irishmen and delight only the unthinking or the prejudiced.

"Resolved, That these resolutions be printed and forwarded to the local press and to all Irish societies at home and abroad."

Rev. Peter C. Yorke, State President.

Miss F. X. Barr, State Secretary.

T. J. Mellott, State Vice-President.

B. S. McCarthy, State Financial Secretary.

G. J. Lowe, State Corresponding Secretary.

Jeremiah Deasy, State Treasurer.

Miss M. A. Barry, State Librarian.

Conor Murphy, Rev. J. J. Enright, Rev. William Lyons, T. F. Marshall, J. P. Kelleher, Miss Margaret Clarke, C. J. Collins, State Directors.

Whosoever has followed the "True Witness," during the past few years, cannot but have noticed that these resolutions embody, in one special case, the ideas and sentiments that we have repeatedly expressed in these columns in a general manner.

We need not enter into the consideration of the special comments of "The Leader," the organ in which these resolutions appeared. They are

severe in the extreme upon Mr. O'Sullivan, the talented (but misguided) actor whose successes have been the direct cause of this protest. But we cannot omit mentioning that much of the blame for this anti-Irish system of vulgarizing the national character lies with the audiences. The authors wrote for money; for the sake of a livelihood the actors perform; but the two classes would have to change methods were they to find that their audiences were not sympathetic with them.

But as long as our own people applaud and enjoy these misrepresentations, so long will the so-called Irish stage flourish. In this connection we must quote one paragraph from "The Leader's" lengthy and striking editorial. It says:—

"If this theory be true and the more we think over it the more we are enamored of it, then there is very little use in protesting against the plays at the Grand Opera. Mr. O'Sullivan has a safe constituency and if they like the kind of amusement he gives them, he would be foolish to refuse their money. The Gaelic League resolutions are written in an unknown language to them and Gaelic League ideas can never be comprehended by their minds. The resolutions have only one use. They serve to show to the world outside that all the Irish are not of the type drawn by Boucicault. There are still some descendants of the free clans left. This is the more necessary that Boucicault never put in his play but a character drawn from the lower tribes. His young ladies, his priests, his gentlemen, are all of the same class as his keepers, though their faces are not so gross and their manners not so coarse. The Englishman in the play is the superior animal and the whole action of the piece is founded on the principle that the slow-witted but honest Saxon is dealing with the quick-witted but dishonest Celt. In none of Boucicault's plays is there a character that an Irishman could recognize as natural, none to whose words or deeds he could look up with respect, none that would stir a responsive fibre in his being, none that he might hold up to his children as a specimen of his country-men. But on the contrary all are vulgar, debauched and nauseating and he comforts himself with the hope that after all it is English malice and ignorance that thus libels us to the world."

Here is a great lesson coming to us from the far West. And when we look around us at home, we may very well ask ourselves if we are entirely free from blame in this matter. Have we always, in practice, striven to uphold the glory of our race and to stamp out all vile caricatures and bitter slanders that have been perpetrated on the stage? We know of certain gentlemen, in the past, having on special occasions protested openly against the representations that actors sought to pass off as genuinely Irish; but, on the whole, have we not gone again and again to such plays, and applauded and encouraged them? We may say, frankly, that we side entirely with the Gaelic League in this matter, and we congratulate that organization upon its timely and patriotic resolutions.

### PERILS OF SCHOOL LIFE.

Two questions in connection with modern school life seem to be creating a stir both in America and upon the European continent. They are as follows:—

Is modern school life imperilling the health of teachers and pupils? Why is it that women teachers and girl pupils are especially afflicted with maladies referable to a disordered condition of the nerves?

As an illustration of the statement contained in the last question a special mention is made of Germany; and, referring to that country, as an example, it is said:—

"The proportion of teachers suffering from nervous disorders is extraordinary. In one district where 2,733 teachers are employed 604 in one year were granted various terms of leave to recruit their nerves. In the Berlin district 1,407 women are engaged in teaching science. Of these 504 were granted leave of absence for hysteria and other nervous maladies. Out of 441 women engaged in teaching special branches 190, or little less than half, succumbed in

the same way. The strain is far more marked among women than among men, the proportion suffering from nervous attacks among the former being on an average 25 per cent, among the latter 15 per cent."

What is here said of teachers is made also applicable to pupils. We are not prepared to enter into a discussion concerning the nervousness of the German school teachers and pupils; but we are strongly of the opinion that much of the dangers thus complained of could be avoided by a little more attention to the needs and requirements of those attending schools, both collectively and individually. The authorities, such as a Board of School Commissioners, whose duty it is to direct the schools and superintend their management, should investigate, and having discovered the causes should apply the antidotes. Are the hours of attendance too long, or too continuous? If so let them be changed. Is there not sufficient physical exercise, and outdoor recreation? If so, the remedy is within reach. In fact, as far as general regulations may be considered, there is no difficulty in adopting them to circumstances. If the schools are not perfectly ventilated; if space is not sufficiently ample, in proportion to numbers—there are means of rectifying the danger.

Where, to our mind, the greatest difficulty exists, is in the consideration of individual cases. No two pupils have the exact same physical constitutions. What may prove injurious for one may not injure twenty others. This is the point that demands special attention and considerable experience. And it is exactly this that Dr. Richard Cole Newton, of Monclair, N.J., must have had in his mind, when, in the "Medical Review," for last September, he wrote as follows:—

"There is no question that they are often far less to blame for pushing their scholars too fast than the parents, and, in some cases, the children themselves. The giving of prizes and marking the scholars competitively so that the spirit of rivalry and emulation is excited is distinctly bad; and as this has apparently always been a prominent feature of our public school education its evil influences are everywhere apparent; although fortunately the pernicious practice of inciting seniors to do well for the sake of surpassing their colleagues is now being superseded; publishing graded marks, giving prizes, etc., having been so largely abolished.

"Now, however, the parents and the children are constantly menaced with the fear that the latter will not be promoted at the end of the year, and if any one fails of promotion he fears that the finger of scorn will be pointed at him, and his parents act as though they feared a loss of social prestige if their offspring should be set back a year.

"Instead of condemning and antagonizing the teachers, parents should co-operate with them. By carefully watching their children, and by conferring with the teachers they can ascertain whether the former are working up to the limit of their strength of beyond it, or whether, on the other hand, they are slighting their work. This, I am satisfied, only comparatively few parents do systematically, and much of the dissatisfaction which is expressed against the schools is really the fault of the parents; and, furthermore, the bitterest and most vehement complaints come from parents who really understand least about the matter."

There is, doubtless, very much truth in these remarks. Yet, we are not prepared to go as far as the learned Doctor, in the matter of prizes and rewards. We do not believe that the many should be sacrificed for the few. We cling to the believe in the prize system. We know from experience the stimulus that it gives to the ambition and the aid it is to teachers in stirring into activity the indolent. But, here, again, the observation and judgment of those in control should be brought into play. The subject is a vast and a very important one, and we cannot dismiss it with these few remarks. Still we did not wish to allow the foregoing comments and opinions to remain unnoted. We will take advantage of this revival of the subject to present our readers with further comments. We have at heart the good of our teachers and our young pupils, and we know that it always serves a good purpose to remind all who are interested in edu-

national matters of the grave duties that their positions impose upon them. Consequently we will come back to the question from other standpoints, pleased us we are that such a widespread attention thereto has afforded us an opportunity of giving expression to some of our ideas on the vital matter of education.

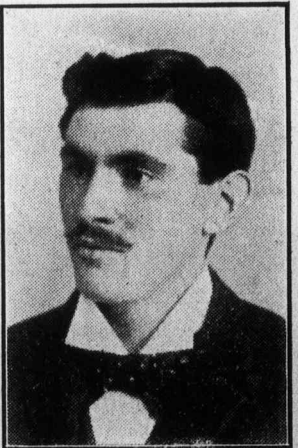
### A NOTE ABOUT OURSELVES.

The meeting of the Catholic Hierarchy of Canada at Ottawa this week has been seized upon by the secular press as a fitting event on which to indulge in columns of sensational speculations, not one of which is based upon facts. One of the writers of these purely imaginary articles accidentally admitted that the proceedings were secret, and then went on to describe with wonderful amplitude of detail what took place.

Some persons have criticized the silence of the "True Witness" in respect of this meeting, especially as it is rumored that matters affecting Irish, English and Scotch Catholics were discussed. The explanation is simple. The "True Witness" publishes only reliable, authentic and official reports of such meetings as concern the Catholic laity. If the proceedings are private, and archbishops and bishops who took part in them desire that they should be kept secret, it would be obviously improper for us to attempt to give them publicity. Any reports which our spiritual superiors deem it advisable to be made public will be published in these columns as soon as their publication is sanctioned. We do not insert unauthentic and unofficial accounts of ecclesiastical occurrences.

## New County President A. O. H.

We present this week a portrait of Captain P. Keane, who as we announced last week, has been elected County President of the A.O.H. The administrative offices of the A.O.H. have been occupied by many men noted for their ability, energy and enthusiastic patriotism, whose portraits have been published in these



MR. P. KEANE.

columns; but we can safely say that none have exceeded in these qualities, and in practical capacity, the present occupant of the county presidency. His record in connection with the Hibernian Knights would alone entitle him to the gratitude and esteem of the members of the Order and of Irishmen in general. The interests of this great Order are safe in his hands; and we look forward in confidence to its increased prosperity under his wise and practical leadership.

If a letter should come to you from an emperor or a king, you would not rest until you had possession of it. What, then, are the lives of the saints but the Word of God and a letter which he sends to his creatures?—St. Gregory the Great.