

THE TRUE WITNESS AND CATHOLIC CHRONICLE

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

225 Bay Street, Montreal, Canada. P. O. Box 1138.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE—City of Montreal (delivered), \$1.50; other parts of Canada, \$1.00; United States, \$1.00; Newfoundland, \$1.00; Great Britain, Ireland and France, \$1.50; Belgium, Italy, Germany and Australia, \$2.00. Terms, payable in advance.

All Communications should be addressed to the Managing Director, "True Witness" P. & P. Co., Limited, P. O. Box 1138.

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.**

SATURDAY DECEMBER 21, 1901.

Notes of the Week.

CHRISTMAS GREETING.

The first Christmas of the new century is at hand, and as that ever glorious anniversary approaches we turn to all our friends, filled with the sentiments of good will that this holy time evokes, to wish them sincerely and fervently "all the compliments of the season." "A Merry Christmas" to all, collectively, and to each one individually is no mere formal or conventional expression with us. It is difficult to say anything new about a festival that has been celebrated, without interruption, for over nineteen hundred years. The story of Christmas is so universally known, and has been told so many million times, that we need not attempt to embellish or render it more effective by any efforts within the range of our capacity. All know that it is the grand central event around which cluster the devotions of entire Christendom.

Christmas is certainly a time of social enjoyment, a period of holiday relaxation all the world over, but pre-eminently it is a festival of religious significance. While it is natural that family reunions in which both old and young participate, should be an ever-recurring feature in the celebration of that day, still the most important element in the observance of the feast is that which belongs to the Church. Hence it is that the Midnight Mass, the celebration of three Masses, and the other exceptional devotions that belong, in a most unique manner to Christmas, give evidence of the unusual fervor with which the Church of Christ commemorates that special event. Consequently while wishing to all, in the language of the world, a merry Christmas, it is appropriate, especially for a Catholic organ, to add thereto a Holy and Blessed Christmas.

When we thus extend our greeting to our subscribers, and all our friends, we do so with feelings that are somewhat intensified by the fact that we address hundreds of fellow-countrymen and co-religionists whom we have never personally met, with whom we have never exchanged a word, whose hands we have never grasped. Yet during all the many long months that they have taken and read our paper, we have held most intimate and soul to soul communion with them. Our sentiments, our ideas, our thoughts, our longings, our hopes, our fears, our joys and our sorrows we have recorded in these columns, and they, our readers, have all participated in our every feeling, have drank in our every expression, and our spirits have consequently roamed in fond companionship over the realms of thought, through the domain of patriotism, along the pathway of religion. A fellow-feeling has thus been created that is all the more intense that none of the differences which will ever creep in where friendship exists, have had an opportunity of marring that ideal harmony. Hence it is that in wishing a merry Christmas to our readers, we are in spirit greeting them individually as old acquaintances and as tried and cherished friends.

There are some to whom, on account of circumstances, the word merry might sound less appropriate than the word happy. There are domestic circles in which it is not to be expected that ordinary Christmas merriment should reign, for there are vacant chairs at the fireside and empty places around the festive board of a year ago. To them we can but wish all the holy joys of consolation that the message of "peace and good will" implies. We trust and hope that every blessing of the season may come to all, rich and poor, great and lowly, and that the goodwill which angels announced and the peace which they declared towards men, may be their reward for the glory that they will render to God in the celebration of this joyous Christmas of 1901.

D'YVILLE SQUARE.—By a considerable majority the City Council has adopted the name "D'Yville" for the new square, formed by the site of the old St. Ann's market, in front of the Grand Trunk offices. Some wanted to call it "Parliament Square," others "Custom House Square," again others "Produce Square"—all names that would be associated with either the political history of that spot, or the present commercial aspect of its surroundings. But the Council has wisely decided to call it D'Yville Square. There is no doubt that the place is rich in souvenirs of the venerable fondness of the Grey Nuns. Every building within view of that space has its associations dating back to various intervals that extend their links between the present and the days when Mere D'Yville set up her grand community in that once central part of Montreal.

Lady Jette, the distinguished wife of our actual Lieutenant-Governor, has written an admirable life of the one who founded the Order of the Sisters of Charity, commonly called the Grey Nuns. The work is dedicated to the learned Archbishop of Montreal, Mgr. Bruchési, and contains a preface from the pen of Judge Routhier, which is a little masterpiece in itself. Before commerce came Christianity, and before the spirit of industrial progress came the spirit of robust charity. In the founders of the great financial, commercial and industrial institutions that have contributed to raise Montreal from an isolated hamlet to the rank of a grand metropolis, do we find names worthy to be perpetuated in the nomenclature of the establishments of wealth and strength that adorn our city; in the person of the ever venerable lady whose life-work consisted in one grand display of the profoundest charity, do we find a name that should be preserved in our public places, especially in the region that has been consecrated, for all time by her actual labors. Activity we are told is the order of the day and it is the grand characteristic of our great commercial institutions, Judge Routhier, referring to Mere D'Yville, says: "That which is most remarkable in the Venerable Mother D'Yville, is the activity of her charity. Her love was not of the contemplative, but rather of the active order. The actions of her private life are manifested in her public works, and she practised all the pious industriousness of charity." No more appropriate name could have been selected for that square, the surroundings of which will ever be remembered as the scene of her first labors in a cause that belongs in a special manner to Christianity, and the theatre of those pioneer efforts the results of which to-day are to be found in the stupendous work of the community which calls her Mother. Politics change, commerce changes, Parliaments come and go, industrial firms are formed and are broken, public edifices are erected and destroyed, great warehouses are constructed, occupied and abandoned; but Christian charity never changes, the community founded on that spirit, is perpetual, the faith that inspired such early missionaries of love is immutable, the life and name of the venerable nun have passed into history. It is, therefore, a generous, a grateful, a gracious and an appropriate act to have marked that square with the cherished name of D'Yville.

EPIDEMIC CAUSES.—In this issue our Curstone Observer advances certain reasons why smallpox and like plagues infect our cities more in winter than in summer. Without interfering with our correspondent's statement we might say that since his contribution has come in the members of the Health Board of Philadelphia have given the results of their study of this same question. One reason advanced by them is that heat destroys the virus as it does the vaccine virus. But they advance as another reason that the houses of the poor in winter are closed so tight that the atmosphere becomes impure. Next to heat, fresh air is the deadliest enemy of smallpox virus. When fuel is not

abundant, the house must be kept closed in order that the inmates may be warm; and as a result the wholesome elements are replaced by poisonous exhalations. We would advise the careful reading of our Observer's comments, as he touches the subject more fully and extends his remarks to others than the poor.

A SLANDER NAILED.—Some time ago we made mention of the fact that Father Gerard, S.J., of London, brought action against the "Methodist Weekly," and demanded a public apology from that sheet. Father Gerard had defended his Order against some worn out and baseless accusations that had been renewed by writers whose stock-in-trade must have been of the limited quality. The "Methodist Weekly" published two letters containing statements to the effect that Father Gerard was not to be believed when writing about the community of which he is a member. As long as the anti-Jesuit writers confined their accusations to the Society, no person ever felt called upon to molest them in their work of slander. But the moment one of them became incautious enough to make statements applying to an individual, that individual promptly taught the paper a lesson. The "Methodist Weekly" declined to go to court and made a complete apology to Father Gerard.

BOSTON'S MAYOR.—General Collins has been elected Mayor of Boston. No more splendid selection could the "Hub" have made as Chief Magistrate. He is an Irish Catholic, who has occupied some of the most honorable and important offices under the American Government, and who as Consul-General in London, did much to show the Anglo-Saxon what kind of men Ireland produced, especially when they enjoyed the rights of independent citizens. In speaking of his election a Catholic exchange remarks, "though religious and race issues were very properly ignored in the contest for the mayoralty in Boston, Catholics all over New England, and indeed throughout the country in general, may be pardoned for feeling a glow of pride in the election of General Collins." It is pleasant to learn that race and creed issues play no part in municipal contests in Boston. It is evident that the Irish Catholics go in with all other sections on equal footing to attend to the civic interests, and in the general emulation their talents and their qualifications bring them to the surface. Were the same to be the course taken by all sections of the people here, similar results would follow, and we would have no need of tacit or other agreements to win our way to the front.

MARONI'S SPARK.—Edison says that he does not believe in Maroni's wireless telegraphy, especially across the Atlantic. Only a few years ago no person would have put faith in any one of Edison's inventions. The Anglo-American Cable Company, that holds the monopoly of telegraphic rights in Newfoundland, seems to believe in him, since it has applied for a writ of injunction to prevent the inventor sending despatches through the air, from Signal Hill, St. John's, to the Lizard station, off the coast of Cornwall, in England. No sooner had he received a message, consisting of the letter "S" repeated twenty times, from England, than action was taken to oblige him to pull up his stakes and get out of Newfoundland with his apparatus. The fact remains, however, that his system has transmitted a message 1,800 miles over the ocean.

THE JUDGESHIP QUESTION.—The little tempest that was raised by the "English-speaking"—that is to say, Protestant members of the Bar, in regard to the appointment of a successor to Judge Wurtelle, on the King's Bench, has blown over without causing much damage to any person. The only fruit of the shiden movement will be the establishment for all time to come of the real sentiment in such matters that our English-speaking Protestant friends entertain. The whole affair assumes a somewhat humorous aspect, when we reflect that, after all the loud protestations made, the strong delegation sent to Ottawa, and the representations brought before the Government, it turned out that Hon. Mr. Justice Wurtelle has no intention of resigning, consequently no vacancy is likely to take place on the King's Bench, at least in the near future. However, the incident will serve its purpose and the lesson that it teaches need not be forgotten.

There may have been a spice of playful sarcasm in Hon. Judge Langelle's remarks the other morning. As he was the judge indicated as

probable successor to Judge Wurtelle, it is but natural that he should feel the purport of the arguments advanced, by the Protestant section of the Bar, against his nomination. When two members of that deputation appeared before Judge Langelle to plead a commercial case His Honor (or Lordship, as judges must now be called) remarked that in view of the commercial nature of the action, and of the recently expressed contentions that French-Canadian judges were not sufficiently competent in that branch of the law, he felt it might be right for him to recuse himself, and hand the case over to another judge. Needless to repeat all the protests against any such idea that came from the gentlemen of the Bar. Evidently the judge was not very serious, and merely wished to teach a lesson. And he has done so, for we can readily conclude, from the incident, what chaos in legal affairs would exist were creed and race questions to be made the sole basis of judicial appointments.

Our correspondent "Crux" deals, in a general way, with this question in our present issue, and we would advise our readers to carefully peruse his calm and logical exposition of the subject. We had intended, and we still intend, to study the situation fully, and from official data, in order to place before our readers the exact proportions of the different national representations on the Bench. We are confident that when exact statistics are to hand, it will be found that English-speaking Catholics—including Scotch, Irish and others—very nearly equal the numbers of the English-speaking Protestants in our city. If we stand far below them in representation on the Bench. Of course, we include all courts, from the Police Magistrates and the Recorder's up. But without the figures, which we have not yet had time to gather, it would be simply beating the wind to enter upon any serious discussion of the subject.

At all events Judge Wurtelle remains where he is; and the Protestant section of the Bar may continue in peace of mind to look upon Judge Cross' successor as their representative. However, when next a judicial vacancy occurs, or is likely to occur, they may find that they have set an unwholesome example that others may follow.

LOSS AND GAIN.—The Vienna correspondent of the London "Times" makes strong efforts to impress the readers of that old-time "thunderer" that Protestantism is making great headway in Austria. There is such a mixture of politics and religion in his statement of the situation that it is very hard to distinguish what are the real actuating motives of some Catholics who have fallen in with the "Los von Rom" movement. It would appear, however, while a few of these joined the old Catholics, others did not actually abandon their faith, but only allowed their political interests to overshadow their religious principles. While so much is so sought to be made of the occasional losses sustained by the Church in some Catholic countries, we find Cardinal Vaughan telling the Catholic Society of England about the marked and rapid advancement of Catholicity in England.

A short time ago the Cardinal asked the priests of his diocese to prepare a statement detailing the conversions that have been made during the past year. To his surprise, he found that the number had increased relatively to the previous year by three hundred. Fifteen hundred converts, a large proportion from the educated classes, was the gratifying record. The Cardinal drew from the situation of to-day the inference that the future of Catholicity in England is assured. He then counselled the use of argument, calmly presented, rather than vituperation and rhetoric.

Thus we have the loss and the gain sides presented at the same time. The difference, however, is that the losses are not the positive, while the gains are rather undetermined than otherwise. It would require a vast amount of perversions to shake the Catholic spirit of Austria. In England, on the other hand, the situation of the Church to-day stands out in such marked contrast with that of a century ago, that every conversion means a gain that must produce a very pronounced effect upon the future of Catholicity in that land. Then, in the case of the losses, we find such a political element mixed up with the religious one that it is difficult to know to which should be ascribed the falling off. In the case of the gains, there is nothing but pure Christianity and honest endeavor to discover the Truth, combined with a determination to accept it when

found. The gains are, therefore, clear and positive, while the losses are doubtful and far from radical.

CELTIC CONSOLATION.—Some writer of fiction causes one of his characters to compare the spirit of the Celtic race to a rubber ball; the harder you strike it down the higher it will rebound; knock it in one direction against a wall and it will fly off with equal force in another direction. There is no doubt that if the Irishman is easily affected by sorrow he is equally prompt in his joyousness of soul. He may be depressed beyond human endurance, but let the burthen be lifted, even to the slightest extent, and he will spring up full of hope and confidence. There is no sorrow, however great, that an Irishman cannot turn into a source of pleasure; his every misfortune can be transformed into a blessing. Melancholy may seize upon him, but it can never cloud his wit, nor affect his humor. He can draw consolation from the very bottom of misfortune.

One of the best illustrations of this fine spirit amongst the Irish people we found in a paragraph contained in an article from an English contemporary. It runs thus: "Whilst regretting the depletion of Ireland's population, painful though it is it can at least be said that other countries are the richer for it. The proportion of Catholics in England and Scotland who are Irish or of Irish descent is unquestionably large, and if the Church to-day in Great Britain and in the United States is flourishing, its success is in great measure due to the influx into them of an Irish population. In the great American Republic, in Australia, in Canada, in South Africa, her clergy are enthroned in the Bishops' Sees or are occupied in the parishes, her daughters help to fill the convents, her men and women to swell the congregations of the churches. They have laid foundations by means of which new generations can take the lead in religious and educational work."

Thus it is that the perpetual hopefulness of the race buds it up in all trials, even as it had kept it from annihilation during the long centuries of persecution that Catholic Ireland experienced. If the Irishman, thanks to the methods of Government, fails to make a success of life in his own land, he is sure, on emigrating, to become a pillar of the state in the land of his adoption. If he can do no good at home, then he will do it abroad, if he quits a home of desolation, he builds up a home of comfort elsewhere. You cannot change his nature, even though seas divide him from his first love; he will go to the end, full of expectations. Whenever a new cloud darkens the horizon, he is the most prompt to detect the silver lining. It is exactly that spirit which has made it possible for the Irish race to survive.

IMMIGRANT'S MEMORIAL.—We are obliged to defer publication of the report of the proceedings of the meeting of the delegates of our Irish national societies and our five parishes, held the other day, as we could not obtain the official report in time for this issue. Next week we will give a full and exact account of what transpired at the meeting, as well as the result of the interview of the deputation appointed by the meeting, with the management of the Grand Trunk Railway.

CIVIC AFFAIRS IN ST. GABRIEL WARD.

A large and enthusiastic meeting of the electors of St. Gabriel Ward was held last Monday evening in the interest of Mr. P. Monahan, candidate for Seat No. 2, in opposition to Ald. Turner. Mr. John Quinlan and Mr. Adolphe Serio acted as joint chairmen. Mr. Quinlan in introducing the candidate, dwelt upon his fitness for the position. He said he had known Mr. Monahan for many years, and could vouch for his honesty, and assured the meeting that if he was elected St. Gabriel Ward would be proud of its young representative.

The candidate, Mr. Monahan, was the next speaker, and in the course of his remarks he contradicted the statements which appeared in the press that his friends urged him to oppose the French candidates, and assured the electors that under no consideration would he assume that position. He also spoke of the very unsatisfactory condition of the ward at the present time, and promised that if elected he would support honest administration, and try to obtain for St. Gabriel Ward a fair proportion of the distribution of the civic revenues expended in the administration of our civic affairs.

Mr. Lassier, the next speaker, in a vigorous and eloquent speech, said that Mr. Monahan had attained his present position by sheer ability, and challenged any man to point to one act of his that was not honest. In conclusion, he called upon every elector to support Mr. Monahan who, if elected, will look after the

interests of the ward with credit to himself and every elector in St. Gabriel.

Ex-Ald. Tansey followed, and spoke of Mr. Monahan as a well-made man, whom he had known since childhood. He referred to the unsatisfactory condition of the ward, and said if Ald. Turner would push out one thing he had accomplished for the ward, he would support him. He repudiated the statements that had been put forth by Ald. Turner's friends, that it was Ald. Turner who got for the ward the square which was bounded by Mullins and Grand Trunk streets. Mr. Tansey declared that it was he who got that piece of land set aside for a square some years before he left the Council. He called the notice of the electors to the fact that the money which he had voted for the asphalt of Centre street, from Laurier street to the limits, had been spent in the east part of the city. He also remarked that the opening of the Grand Trunk Railway tracks, which the city of Montreal guaranteed would be made after St. Gabriel's village was annexed to the city had not been accomplished yet. As it was now, the people who worked in the Grand Trunk Railway Company's shops were deprived of a short cut to their work of a distance, he said that as Mr. Monahan had made a successful business man, he would, if St. Gabriel Ward elected him as their representative, which he was sure they would do, make an honest, able, and efficient alderman, who would be a credit to the ward.

Mr. J. Connor next spoke. He dwelt upon inefficient management which Ald. Turner had looked after the ward, especially in the matter of streets and sidewalks, which were a disgrace to a city like Montreal. Many of the sidewalks had been down for over eight or ten years, and they were dilapidated in many places parts of the sidewalks had been torn up. He also referred to the dumping of the city refuse on Rutledge street, which was breathing disease in the ward. He called the notice of the electors to the question of the over-taxation of St. Gabriel Ward. In conclusion he called upon the electors to elect a man who would be a credit to the person of Mr. Monahan.

The candidate, Mr. Monahan, thanked the speakers for their kind words, and the electors for their large attendance in such inclement weather, and promised that if they conferred upon him the honor of representing them in the City Council, he would do everything possible for the ward. A vote of thanks was extended to the chairmen for presiding, and the meeting closed with cheers for the candidate.

BY A SUBSCRIBER.

MULVHILL, THE STOKER-MAYOR.

Nearly a month ago Denis Mulvihill was elected Mayor of Bridgeport, Conn., because the people believed he was honest. For twenty-eight years, ever since he came from Ireland, he was coal shoveler in the Wheeler & Wilson sewing machine factory. Every morning, during those years he went to the factory at 4.30 o'clock to start the fires, and worked until 6 every night. His wages were never more than two dollars and a half a day; but he supported his family and saved money, which he invested in building lots and cottages. About six years ago he was elected alderman and served the city without pay. As alderman he became known as the "watch dog of the treasury," he was independent of wrong influence, and continuously opposed every scheme that tended toward unnecessary expenditure of city funds. The result was that he gained the respect and confidence of the people, and, although a Democrat, the Republican city elected him mayor by a majority of 3,000. Since his election he has shown the people that they have made a mistake. One of his first official acts was to block the plans for the erection of a new city hall. "We can fix up the old building so that it will last for another ten years at least. It is an injustice to the taxpayers," he said. "I would not have a house built for myself if I had to borrow all the money, and I shall apply the same principle to the expenditure of the city's funds." This is the kind of a man the American people want to-day; and the kind of a man who must necessarily succeed. Competition has become so sharp, ability is so much needed, and the difficulty of acquiring a comfortable maintenance has become so great, that success can only be attained by the man who is strong-minded, independent, honest, who sees clearly the way he is going, and who has the force of character that will make him go ahead and do what he thinks is right. To succeed in life there cannot be hesitation any more. There are too many ready to take a man's place if he slips. The qualities of strength of character, of sincerity and of honesty are the qualities, too, that attract and that make the leader; for every one trusts the man who is not afraid to say and do what he thinks is right, who means what he says and who is thoroughly honest.—New World, Chicago.

A criminal court in one of our Western cities was cruel enough to send a poor preacher to the penitentiary for ten years for bigamy; and that notwithstanding the singular fact that both wives pleaded for his acquittal, and he clutched in his hand his Bible while the judge read the sentence. He declared that what was right in the patriarch of old in far-off Judea could not be evil in him laboring to save souls in the wilds of Indiana. Evidently United States courts do not believe in private interpretation of the Scriptures.—Western Watchman.

SATURDAY, December 21, 1901.

LIEUT.

On last Tuesday, Hon. Sir John Thompson, accompanied by the medical staff of the Mayor of Montreal, crossed the Atlantic to visit the Hotel Dieu, one of its class in this admirably interesting or romance. It is the day of the day to the hour of the day to admit the authority in our have associated every forward city of Montreal on the threshold of the name of the community, by the direct representation civil authority, sketch of the development of the address was "Your Honor, al superior of Montreal it is duty to offer you the religious by tion is conducted and most cordial. "This is not the doors of this ed to admit the royal authority, cession, General realized his passion the sisters, who of returning to ment of all their two princes of the Governors-General, est in our work, aged with their gushed appreciation. "But this is the has been our pi one of our own ad of His Majesty a expression of our Permit us to say if at all times, our sentiments in thority which you been for us both easy task, it is the present occasion, the office is honored as incumbent and bined straightforward intelligence and eter, all qualities respect and admiration. With the histo Jean Yvon Honoré, versant; it is the Marie itself. We at the same hour, wherein Divine Pr so many grand ex as over ours, ma with equal sollicitu tured touching and ures of our colored Jeanne Mance. Si number of those in siders and distin who, on May 17, the spot destined the Virgin Mother her house, which served as an asylu rest for those in the first hospital ing seventeen year life to its interest joy the privations belong to all such under God, dreami true greatness of God reserved for satisfaction of behi assured, when, dur 1659, three religio tal Order of St. Je Canada. These reli France, from La Fl three years earlier tion was founded la Dauversiere and the were the three of our Hotel Dieu. "From that day tel Dieu forms p of Montreal, and of progress we can tr ment along parallel lines. "When the Hospit their work here, I gained scarcely for about 260 inhab Montreal is a city whose financial res able situation guar grand future. But forget the sacrifices that all this prospere. "The Hotel Dieu be better able than bear testimony in it shared to a great sacrifices, and since during two centur a large number of ferings were associ with that progress, able to shelter 35 1826 to 1842 it cou 50, from 1843 to 1 during which the St. Paul street to c on the slope of th placed 150 beds at To-day there is roo tients. The hospital 2,500 poor people, without distinction or nationality. Since added a dispensary, new of which is w desired, and is wit