

VOL. XLVII. No. 18

MONTREAL, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 17. 1897.

LETTER

Great enthusiasm is manifested on all aides in connection with the pilgrimage to the Old Land to assist at the commemoration celebrations of the centenary of '98. This was only to be expected, for Irishmen and the descendants of kithmen in this city have ever been to the fore when any question has arisen affecting the interests of the Old Land The national pilgrimage to the historic battlefields of '98 will be a demonstration, unique, not only in the history of Ireland, but in the history of the world. Thousands and tens of thousands of the some of the "Sea-divided Gael" will throug to the shores of the Emerald Isle from every civilized country under the sun, to attest by their presence their unalterable attachment to the land from which they sprung, to the anconquered and unconquerable spirit of Irish nation-

ality. Gallant Wexford will, of course, be the central scene of the visit of the vast concourse of pilgrims, and Vinegar Hill, whose verdant alopes were once crimsoned with the blood of men, who, illarmed and poorly equipped, fought with the cauntless spirit of heroes against largely superior numbers of trained British soldiers, will be crowded from base to summit. From its summit will te seen Oulart, which battlefield the pilgrims will next visit. Who has not heard of Father Murphy and his bold Shilmaleer, as the ballad has it ? Kindesthearted and most peacefully-dis-posed of men, as beseemed a minister of the Prince of Peace, Father Murphy saw the altar at which he had so often offered up the Holy Sacrifice desecrated before his very eyes by the British soldiers; and realizing at once that the struggle was one not merely for the homes but for the altars of his pecple, placed himself at the head of his parishioners and led them to battle with the intrepidity of the classic warriors of old. As long as valor and patriotism hold a place in Irish history, so long will "Father Murphy and his Bold Shilmaleers" and their prowess at Oulart, be read of with interest and admiration. As Professor Ingram, of Trinity College,

Dublin, well said in his poem, "Who fears to speak of Ninety Eight ?"

All, all have gone, but still lives on The fame of those who died ; And true men, like you men, Remember them with pride.

Yes ; the heroes and martyrs of '98 a e remem ered with pride, as the gigantic national pilgrimage of patriots next year will emphatically testify.

and he may do so again with his final effort in this direction The outgoing Commissioners are ded, to be furnished by Messrs. Banard, Hurlbut, Montant, Irishmen of Illinois. Peaslee, Prentiss, Rogers and Taft.

more than once with his appointments.

In the territory covered by the present Board there are about two hundred and fifty thousand school children, some five thousand teachers and 165 school building». The value of the property in the care of the Board of Education at the present time is about \$20,000 000, and the Board is now building some twelve schoolhous's, which will be added to the Department's equipment in 1898. *

The new Mayor will serve for a single term of four years, and his salary will be \$15 000. The new municipality contains 3,100,000 inhabitants, and covers an area of 359 square miles, with taxable property amounting to \$2 5\$3 324,329 and a debt of \$170,000,000. The annual budget is estimated at \$75 000,000.

* * There is to be another census of the population of the United States. The last one cost Jonsthan \$2,000 000, and it was very poorly done at that. In point of fact it was used as a channel to give patronage to those political friends who could not be squeezed into the regular civil service list. This \$2,000,000 was not the entire cost, but it is freely charged that this large amount was wasted in carrying out the spoils system. Those who are a judge of such matters claim that the cost this time will not fall short of several millions additional to that of the last.

AN EYE-WITNESS.

Mrs. Anno Armstrong Bemembers the Tragic Times of 1798-She is Now 116 Years of Age-Her Mode of Life.

Mrs. Anne Armstrong, now living in Clare, Ireland, bids fair to behold the commemoration of many of the stirring events which she witnessed a century ago. We take the following brief sketch of her life from the last issue of the New York Freeman's Journal :---

In the year 1781, when Lord Corn wallis began in joy and ended in disas-ter his campaign in Virginia against the American colonists, there was born at Fermanagh, Ireland, a girl baby who. living yet, at the age of 116 years, is believed to be the oldest person in the world. While that baby was still in arms Lafayette and Washington were marshalling their forces to check the victorious march of Cornwallis through Virginia, and on October 19 of that year Lord Cornwallis surrendered his army I OTKLOWD.

meeting hall whose auditorium will stat 2,000 people. A commodious and fully equipped gymasium will also be provided, to be furnished by contributions of

AIDS TO BDUCATION.

Provision is to be made for a system of schools, whose sessions will be at night during the winter months, or from Oct. to April 1. The structure is to measure 75 by 135 feet, the former representing the frontage. Rock faced granite will be used in the construction of the front of the hall and the finest grade of pressed brick will go into its other walls.

One of the artistic features of the new building is to be a statue of Robert Emmet that will stand within the auditorium at the height of eight feet or more. This statue is to be made of Irish marble quarried in Avondale on the estate of the late Charles Stewart Parnell. Four Irish semiptors of fame and skill have offered their services for the fashioning of the statue and a choice piece of art is sure to follow. Many mementoes of the Irish insurrection in 1798 have been offered and will occupy a place in the memorial hall.

THE OLD MONTREAL COLLEGE.

Modern progress has no respect for relics, and memories of the past count for naught, whenever the exigencies of trade and commerce require the disappearance of an old land mark. Our young country is by no means an excep tion to that rule which has been carried out to such an extent in Montreal that our very old buildings of any public in terest have become very scarce indeed.

The above remarks were suggested by a recent view of the old Montreal College, whose back walls can be seen from William street, pending repairs and improvements rendered necessary by the fire in the Mullin building. For the purpose of those improvements, a portion of the old walls will be taken down, and what will remain of the body of the building will disappear, probably for ever, from the view of the public. Before this complete disappearance of the old land mark, a few historical notes on the College may be interesting for the readers of the TRUE WITNESS.

When passing through St. Paul from McGill to Inspector street the average husiness man hardly knows or remembers that, 40 years ago, the whole land on his left, from St. Henry to Inspector street, and for the same distance on William street, was closed in by a heavy stone wall and formed the Montreal College grounds and gardens. That portion of St. Paul street was then called College street, and the college building occupied the ence of ortion of the prop erty exactly behind where Mr. J. E. Mullin's store now stands. A creek parsed through the centre of the grounds, and the college boys knew it under no other name than the mythological ap-pellation of the "Styx." The college was built in 1804 to replace the first city college which had been located in the Chateau de Vaudreuil, at the foot of Jacques Cartier square, and was then under the name of St. Raphael College. The Chateau de Vaudreuil was destroyed by fire in 1803. However, the Chateau was not the cradle of the Montreal College, for a classical course of studies had been inaugurated as far back as 1767, when Curê Curotesu, of Longue Pointe, opened a college in his presbytery, and it was in 1773 that the institution was transferred to the city. The building forming the subject of the present sketch was used as a college until the end of 1861, when the priests of the Seminary of St. Sulpice ceded it to the military authorities for the accommodation of the regular troops then coming to Canada in large numbers. The pupils were removed to the Grand Seminary building on Sherbrooke street, a portion of which they occupied until their present spacious premises were built. Meanwhile, a portion of the old college grounds was sold to the city and now forms the hay market, and in 1871 Mr. Mullip purchased the college building and art of the grounds. Since then the arrounding wall has disap peared, high and substantial buildings have sprung up on all sides, and what remains of the old college is embodied in modern constructions. It would be an interesting study to recall the names of the many eminent men who passed through the old college. Suffice it to say for the moment that the regretted Father Toupin was for many years a professor there at the beginning of his ecclesiastical career, and that, at the time when the building was given up to the troops, the chair of philosophy was occupied by the eminent lrish priest, Father O'Farrell, who later on was made a bishop. Among other students in the college at that date were the famous Louis Riel and Rev. Father Martin Callaghan, of St. Patrick's Church. Adjoining the college was a branch of the Brothers' Schools, known as the College School, and which has furnished a number of leading business men.

OUR PHILADELPHIA LETTER,

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

PHILADELPHIA, November 15, 1897.

That there are "many men of many minds " is an ever reiterated fact, and. surely, it is a most satisfactory state of affairs to each and all of us. In the face of such an evident truth, the serene assurance of many critics that their opinion is law and must be taken as such is a singular manifestation of an over. weening belief in self. A criticism should be counted as nothing more than the expression of individual taste, which is useful as a thought provoker, and as an incentive to lazy thinkers to put their thoughts, impulses and indolent fancies into clearer form and firmer adherence. To be led by an ther's criticism. to like or dislike at another's dictum, is a miserable submission. It is even better to be "on the rampage" and systemati cally, doggedly, insistently disput- andreluse the opinion of every other man, woman and child, while obtruding one entirely different. There is no slavery more degrading than that which pens, to one man's utterance the taste, the judgment and the instinct ive likes and dislikes of another. "Why, how can you say you do not like Stank's novel? So and so says in his review that it is a master piece. I wouldn't like to say I didn't care for it." I happen to know several of the Stand so's who de c de on the merits and demerits of the latest literature, and such knowledge only more and more convinces me that the opinion of the read r of the review in usually as sensible and as well founded as the opinion of the writer of it. Also, that the writer of the review or notice simply and modes ly sets downs an opin ion, in nine cases out of ten, for the pleasure of expressing it, for the satisfaction of coming in touch with those who agree with it, and ith a perfect understanding that these who do not agree are fully entitled to quite another. The aggressive and domineering critic is nrh in the ascendancy as to numbers. The more a man knows the more he does not know, and the more is he convinced that almost anyone can teach himsome thing worth knowing. He is ready to learn, and cously ready to admit his mistake-for what is a mistake now and then where much learning is correctly and carefully amassed and made use of in daily life? It is not well to take the judgment of any critic unquestioningly; neither is it just to the critics as a whole

Religion of Don Quixote," by the Rev. G. Lee, CS.Sp., which stirs up admiration and understanding together as though it had never been wakened before It is not the story of Don Quixote, surely, that is powerful. Will any of the labored concections of the present be either remembered or valued a century hence? Is there anything that pleases and interests beyond the curiosity of "something new?" Why do novelists wear their lives out for the poor return of half a year of gossip ab ut them, their

Foreign Language Teaching.

SABA TRAINER SMITH.

looks and their manners?

"Foreign Language Teaching" is at present engaging the attention of the different Boards of School Commissioners in the United States. The matter is a particularly live question in New York at present on account of the strong the population. For some works a proposition has been pending in the former board to cut down the time of studying German and French from nominally two and a half years, but really three years. to two years, and to require, in order that any foreign language shall be taught that it must be a language foreign to at least fity per cent. of the pareuts who make application to the board for the teaching of that lan Previous to the propositi a guage. taking this form the desirability

OF TEACHING ANY FOREIGN LANGUAGE

at all in the schools was questioned again, as it has been so often in the past. while also was raised the question whether to make the teaching optional or obligatory. The latter question is still decidedly an open one ; the former was referred to the Board of Superintendents for an expression of opinion. The answer to this question was very promptly and decidedly made, that in the opinion of the Board of Superintendents the study of at least one foreign language in each of the public schools was highly desirable from a pedagogical point of view. With this conservative reply the board de mitted the question to the Board of Commissioners, who, after a long debate ast Wednesday, again invited the Super intendents to help them out on the two main questions now pending-the time reduction and the requirement as to appligation for instruction in a given language.

The superintendents will meet shortly to sgree upon a report and its outcome is waited for with great coriosity and some anxiety by educationalists A SUPPRINTENDENT'S VIEW.

Assistant Superintendent Marble said that one view of the subject was that a this, and that is that our intermediate large number of pupils went to the to suspect them of the mean vanity of schools for only a short time, and that Government from concation to which

JR IRISH LETTER.

DUBLIN, November 5 - His Eminence Cardinal Legue, in a letter to the secretary of the Anti Gambling Association, says :-- I believe that of all the evils which threaten; the well-being of society at the present day gambling is one of the worst. Unfortunately it is not confined to any one section of the population, but pervades all classes, from the highest to the lowest. The facilities lurnished for betting by agencies, bookmakers, newspapers, and even by a department of the public service-the postal telegraph-brings the evil home to every fireside. It something be not done to put an end to this permicious practice it will infallibly lead to the rain, not only of individual, but of large sections of the community. I believe, however, that it will be quite German, Italian and French element of hopelees to attempt to stamp out thiscurse among the people while it is enconraged and fostered by persons in high places. It is ludicrous to prosecute and? punish the working man who bets hishalf-cr. wn on the result of a race while: the leaders of society can bet their thousands with impunity. If gambling, and particularly betting on horse races, bis not swept away root and branch, any attempt to deal with it amongst the people will be a mere farce.

CHRISTIAN BROTHEBS.

The Most Rev. Dr. Sheehan attended the annual distribution of prizes to the pupils of the Christian Brothers'schools, Mount Sion, Waterford, lately. In the course of an interesting address his Lordship said :- I hope the day will never come when the Christian Brothers will give themselves to the working of the intermediate system to the injury of that far larger class of boys who seek no intermediate education, and who are striving within their own means and with the talents that God has given them to prepare themselves to take their place not amonust the more britliant of their countrymen, but amongst those masses who by their energy, by their industry, and by the exercise of their abilities, make the class out of whom will spring a happy and a contented Ireland (applause.) There are in the Christian Brothers' schools—and let me say it. again, for I, for one, an proud and glad to know it-for every one boy competing; in the system there are fifteen others who are not competing, and it would to my mind be a bad day for this country if the rank and file of our boys were drawn into the system. There is one thing that I will feel it my duty never to be silnt on such an occasion as boys are shut out by the injustice of the

The Tribune, which has been devoting a great deal of space to interviews with business men during the past few days, 88Y8 :

In the opinion of some of the most prominent merchants of this city, the trade of the coming Spring bids fair to surpass that of any season since 1892 Manufacturers, commission merchants, and importers of many lines of goods report an unusually heavy demand for goods for future delivery, notwithstand ing the fact that November, which is, as a rule, considered a dull month in trade, has been a poorer mouth this year than it was expected to be. As a reason for this is given the mild weather and the yellow fever scare in a considerable por tion of the United States, which combined to make the movement of goods in the retail stores slow, and left the heavy stocks laid in during the early part of the season comparatively un broken.

For the coming Spring season, however, the prospects are considered to be most favorable. Several lines of goods, principally woollens, have in fact, nearly been forced out of the market, the mills refusing to accept any more orders.

Mr. John Daly, the well-known Irish Nationalist, whose release was announced about a year ago, has been made the recipient of many receptions from different organizations since his arrival in this city. Mr. Daly was arrested in 1883, charged with being a dynamite conspir ator, and is the only one who had suc-ceeded in saving himself from being a lifelong invalid owing to the prison rule. Mr. Daly was recently candidate for mayor of his native city-Limerick. His visit is in connection with the '98 centenary.

One of the most important duties that Mayor Strong will have to perform before the reins of office pass from his hands and he steps from the chair of Mayor of New York into private life will be the appointment of one third of the School Commissioners who are to preside over the education of the children of the enlarged city of New York. There are twenty-one School Commissioners on the Board of Education. Of these seven retire from the Board on the last day of this year, by reason of the exnitation of their terms of office. Under the provisions of the new charter. Mayor Strong is to appoint their successors. In certain quarters speculation is already, r le as to the action the Mayor will take in the matter. In view of his past appointments to the Board, and the satis-

what is now the United States of America was assured.

That girl-child whose life began al-most with that of the United States is Mrs Anne Armstrong, now of County Clare, Ireland. She grew up in Fer-mansgh and married there. Her hus-band was a member of the Royal Constabulary. When she was 26 years old she and her husband moved to Miltown Malbay, in County Clare That was ninety years ago. In a little thatched cottage at Spanish Point, just outside Miltown Malbay, Mrs. Armstrong lives, all alone, waiting for the time when she shall be called to join those who were dear to her, who died years and years

The days that she has lived through have been fraught with the most wonderful events of the world's history, but the particular period that impressed its events most firmly upon Mrs. Armstrong's memory was that of the great Irish rebellion of 1798, when she was a lass of 17. She tells still of how Irishmen were hanged or shot or imprisoned without trials and of the reign of terror which held for years.

Mrs. Armstrong is still able to walk and to care for herself and her little cottage by the aid which her kindly neigh-bors give her. She is thin and slightly deaf, but her sight is good and her memory clear. Her dress is simple, but a cap and apron of snowy whiteness are always parts of it. Her habi s are also simple. At 4 or 5 o'clock each afternoon her day is finished, and she locks her cottage door and retires for the night.

BMMET HALL MEMORIAL.

Chicago Irishmen Will Breet a Great Memorial to the Patriot.

The Catholic Citizen says : Irishmen in Chicago and the west will be interested in hearing that the Emmet Memorial Hall, soon to be crected in that city, is to be one of the most beautiful and architecturally perfect buildings in the country.

The Ancient Order of Hibernians of Chicago is anxious that all Irishmen, of all classes and creeds, who reside in the middle west or beyond the Rockies, lend assistance that will ensure the early materialization of their plans. If the re sponse is as general and generous as counted on, a large and handsome struc ture will soon be reared that will be a credit to Chicago and to its creators faction which he has expressed publicly and a lasting monument to Robert Em-

The Japanese have organized a society to make life pleasant for visitors to their faction which he has expressed publicly and a month of the work his appointee have done, met. it is possible that Mayor Strong will read the hall, is to cost \$100,000 and is to be delight of the people to make life in teresting. for everybody who drops in terms of chics critics critics critics and a large homelike. country. We have read of certain other | ity of aspirants for literary honors, and | For this purpose he line i-sued, circular foreign lands where it is the particular one of them is Don Quixote. How end delight of the people to make life in] less are the comments, and how ever vember has a delightful paper o

always convey the insistance that you shall make it yours, in spile of facts or fancics.

emanding that you shall. The em

There is no more emphatic expression of opinion than is four times a year folded in very taking style between the covers of the Globe Review and hurled doubtedly, a great many good things are very sharply said in those pages-so good that one cannot but wish they were less sharp. "Vinegar catches no flics," as the old nurse quaintly teaches her nurslings, and as the "child is father to the man," so the method of the nurse's wisdom stands over for the child's successor. How often, in reading those cutting, stinging phrases, one wishes they might create a calmer atmosphere. that there might come with them a sense of clear-eved justice and patience with wrong doers and foolish members which might permit the good seed to linger and take root! As it is, so with and so pointed are occasional comments, so apt, yet so ridiculous, the crowling similes, and so bitterly unjust a charge now and then, that no good ever comes of what might work wonders.

Unless it is the good that comes of rare praise If Mr. Thorne can sparkle cruelly on the brow he flouts, he can no less softly and clearly halo the head he crowns. And, for once, he beams upon the favorite of the many, for in the latest number of the Globe Review he pays court to a man whom everyone speaks of with gentle, yet fervent praise - Charles Warren Stoldart. Those who meet him-I have never met him-have only good words for the man; and those who read his works send them on with a meed of wholesome praise and sympathy Certainly, he possesses the "art of putting things" delightfully. For instance, could anyone expect to find a new charm in any telling of the story of our ever dear St. Anthony of Padua Yet, to-day, a rainy Sunday, has taught me that I have never yet read until today that story as I would like most to learn it. "The Wonder-Worker of Padua" is a small brown covered volume It has a placid and unassuming look. But it is exquisite, and the teller of the "South Sea Idylls" long ago has not lost his cunning with words in the practice and intercourse of years. There is fervor and delicacy in the treatment of the old, old, too often mangled incidents of the saint's wonderful career, and there is auch beauty, too. A book that marks a Sunday is always a book one treasures, and this is such a book.

There are a few books in the past that certainly ought to discourage the major vember has a delightful paper on "The this object.

that period was of much great r service to them afterwards than the little they

seemed injudicions to provide a for ign language even as an option, when the time that might be given to it could be defiantly before the reading public, Un- so much better employed on English subjects. It had also been said by a me that pupils who took up a foreign lang uage in addition to their regular Erglish studies could not do justice to the latter, and would be at a disadvantage in all examinations on English subjects as compared with those pupils who took only the English studics. In Cincinnati, however, statistics upon this very point had been gathered, and they showed that the pupils taking the foreign languages not only stood as well in English subjects as those who had confined themselves to the lat ter, but, on the whole, better. This was easily explained upon the reasonable assumption that the more ambitious in telligent and energetic students were these who desired the more extensive curriculum For his part, he affirmed strongly the pedagogical value of a

foreign language in connection with the study of the mother tongue.

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC YOUNG MEN'S SOCIETY.

GRAND CONCERT AND DRAWING FOR ORGAN.

A special Concert is now in course of preparation by the St. Mary's Young Men's Society, which will be held on (Thanksgiving Evening) Thursday, No vember 25 in St. Mary's Hall, cor. Craig and Panet Streets. A special feature of the Entertainment will be the Drawing for the Organ kindly donated by Messra. Willis & Co., which was left over from the Braas.

The musical portion of the entertainment will be the best ever presented, as the services of some of the brightest talent in amateur circles has been secured.

The St. Mary's Young Men's Society. which comprises a large number of young men in the East End, is one that city; as they have always contributed to any movement having for its pur pose the advancement of our faith and nationality, it is to be hoped that they will receive the practical support so necessary towards making their enter tainment a gran i success.

An exchange says: Bishop Wigger wants to build a \$1,000,000 cathedral. to "well to do and influential, as well as intelligent Catholic men of the diocese," teresting" for everybody who drops in new the interest such comments on asking them to meet him on a given of a woman of 200-lbs, with whom he that work enkindle: Donahoe's for No day to deliberate on ways and means for 10

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phatic expression of an opinion does not what they learned of English during they are on every ground emira ntly entitled. Every day that passes over our heads only brings more and more into could acquire in the same time of a light the permanent injustice we suffic foreign language. Hence, to some it by the want of a proper system of University education.

* * *

THE UNIVERSITY QUESTION.

The report that the Government have under consideration the Educational question is again being revived. The-Times says there is reason to believe that the system now represented by the Royal University, and creating two denominational Universities-one Roman-Catholic, to include the Queen's Colleges of Cork and Galway, the other for Protestant dissenters, is to be established in the North. The rumor is causing much anxiety in the West. where Protestant students who are now educated in Galway College will, it is feared, be deprived of University educaion, as they cannot afford to enter the University of Dublin. Strong double are telt as to the willingness of the Northern Presbyterians to accept a denominational University.

INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION.

The Irish Industrial League are receiving very encouraging replies to their circular anent the holding of an Industrial Exhibition concurrently with '98 celebrations. The Most Rev. Dr. Walsh. Archbishop of Dublin, has expressed his sympathy with this move-ment. The circulars requesting the Lord Mayor of Dublin to call a public meeting at the Mansion House have been signed by the Most Rev. Dr. O'Dwyer, Most Rev. Dr MacCormack. the Primate of All Ireland, and several other bishops. The Lord Mayor Electof Dublin, the Lord Mayor of B liast, the mayors and corporations of many provincial towns, M P.'s of every party, the Earl of Mayo, President of the Irish Industrial League; some hundred D L.'s, and agreat many boards of guardians all unite in warmly approving of the proposal.

News comes from Quebec and Ottawa that Quebec Citadel is to be fortified on would do credit to any parish in the modern war principles The idea is a good one, for as the Citadel stands to day a few dynamite shells would make it. very uncomfortable. The New York: press is also publishing the fact that thedefences to New York harbor are to be placed on a more satisfactory footing. Are these signs of the times or only chosen as an opportunity to spend more. of the people's money ?

> Another reason why dancing should be discouraged comes from New York, where a young man died from the result was dancing, falling upon nim and inj iring him internally. $\sqrt{2}(1, \frac{1}{2})$