UXLIARY. Di-



tion





Vol. LII., No. 23

MONTREAL, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13. 1902.

PRICE FIVE CENTS

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

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE—City of Montreal (delivered), \$1.50; other parts of Qanada, \$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 All Communications should be addressed to the Managing Director, "True Wirgess" P. & F. 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 blass those who canous age this excellent work.

"†PAUL, Archbishop of Montreal."

Jordan, of Queen's University, Kingston, has been preaching in one of our city Presbyterian churches and has given his hearers a sketch of the recent religious movements that have come under his notice. After telling of his own experience from materialism to spiritualism, he expressed the view that people were passing now from agnos. ticism to gnosticism. Having, probably, in his mind the conversions to Christianity, and enjoys the bene-Catholicity of such a number of fits bestowed by a "Living Preeminent Protestants, during the past few years, the learned doctor said:-"Some had lost faith; some had himself to Jesus," not by

fled for refuge to "an infallible words, but actually and positively. church;" that is, in his view, sunk to a low form of faith."

This is an individual opinion to form of faith a low one we cannot fallible, and we would be very sorry to think that, he had gone back to an agnosticism that would estimate situation:the form of faith prescribed by Christ at a low value. He then delivered at a low value. He then delivered himself of the following peculiar assertion:-

"Christianity is more than a belief or a movement; it is a living presence. A church may do the thinking for its people, put the cross on high and hang pictures of Christ on its walls, but that is not the church for men; but the church that inspires men to think for themselves, that breathes of the very presence of God, that is the church of the people. 'The man who gives himself to Jesus finds himself.' "

If Dr. Jordan would take the trouble to study the teachings of that "infallible Church," he would discover that it constitutes Christianity, for it is not only a belief and a movement, but also a living presence-and one that has lived unaltered during twenty centuries. He would find more; that the church is not alone a living presence, but that it contains the Living Presence. The Catholic Church does not do the thinking for its people," any more than Dr. Jordan does the thinking for his hearers when he dogmatizes, or for his students when he lectures. As to the placing of the cross on high, it appears to us that it is more in the nature of Christian act than the putting of the cross underfoot. There is not a nation, or race, or tribe, in world-civilized or uncivilized-that does not "put" its standard "on high;" and the cross being the standard of Christianity we can recognize as purely Christian no church that does not elevate that symbol.

What Church is it that "inspires men to think for themselves?" And what church "breathes the very presence of God?" If Dr. Jordan just brush aside his preconceived prejudices, open his eyes, study the history and dogma of Catholicity, he will be surprised to discover that he has exactly described the Catho-lic Church as the one "for the people." There is a deal of meaningless application in such quotations as "The man who gives himself to Jesus finds himself." Sure that is exactly what the Catholic priest does when he resigns the world to enter upon his sacerdotal career; that is what the members of all our religious communities-men and women when they turn from the enjoyments and advantages of earth to take up the cross and follow Christ in lives of saerifice and intimacy with the Sacred Heart; that is what each individual Catholic does when he approaches the Sacraments of and to follow it with a couple of and to follow it with a couple of

DR. JORDAN'S SURVEY. - I're- Penance and of Holy Eucharist. There are two hundred and fifty million Catholics in the world to-day, all professing to be members of that same "infallible Church," all desirous of honoring the cross as the sign of redemption, and all free to think for themselves-each in proportion to the gifts that he has received from God. And every one of them has belief in Christ, participates in the general movement of sence." And each one of them, who is a worthy Catholic, has "given

which Dr. Jordan has a perfect FEVER IN THE WATER. - The right. If he considers an infallible menace to the health of New York FEVER IN THE WATER. - The city and to the lives of thousands of facily it, nor are we going to dispute its citizens that the unfiltered water his privilege to hold such views. He in constant use constitutes has been certainly does not consider Our Lord brought public quite recently. The following will convey to our readers an idea of the seriousness of the

"One person in every 8,600 in New York city dies annually of typhoid fever. If the city's water supply were as pure as it might be made this death rate would be reduced to 1 in 50,000. These are the grim facts set down for our consideration in an article in the New York Medical Journal by Pr. A. Seibert, Professor of paediatries in the New York Polyclinic and an acknowledged authority in the causes and prevention of typhoid fever and cholera. Dr. Seibert declares that the germs which cause typhoid fever are taken into the system in drinking water in 999 cases out of 1,000, and that New York will continue to lose a large number of its people every until the water that comes from the Croton district is purified filtration. This he estimates might be done for about \$6,000,000. President Lederle, of the New York Department of Health, practically gives indorsement to all these state-

ments." We do not wish to institute any comparison between New York and Montreal, nor do we claim that the water in our city is as dangerous as is not all that it should be, and that a great responsibility lies at the doors of our Health Department and our Water Department, in regard to the safety of the public. Decidedly we pay enough for our year-ly consumption of water to be supplied with the pure article. If it is otherwise the blame does not lie with the public, for the city's yearly revenue from water taxes is simply enormous. And the authorities are without mercy in the enforcement of that tax; but very different is their zeal when it comes 'o question of the consumer's rights.

AROUSED AGAIN .- In its issue of Tuesday, Dec. 8th, our neighbor the "Daily Witness," has perpetrated another of its old-time false hoods in regard to the Catholic Church. It was quite appropriate that on the feast of the Immiculate Conception the "Witness" should fall into its former evil ways; it has always been in a fidget at that particular time. But this year it has stereotyped blanders concerning the

in view of the fact that the "Witness" knows, or should know, them to be wrong. It is a short editorial; but it is like the poison-tipped arrow of the savage, calculated to ontemporary says:—
"All Christendom should honor the

present Pope for his consistent urgency that all Catholics should study the Holy Scriptures. He urged this many years ago, and he is now making the same instruction his testament to the Church. How different is this attitude towards Holy Scripture from that of his predecessor under whose reign the Bible was a forbidden book in the States of the Church, and to give one to any of the Pope's own subjects was a crime. Though the present Pope has long taken other ground, his attitude towards Holy Scripture has not yet reached the parish clergy everywhere. ome of whom seize Bibles wherever they can as bad and dangerous books and do not supply authorized Roman Catholic editions in their place. What is the cause of this abiding fear of the Holy Scriptures?'

It is exceedingly kind of the "Witness" to think and speak so highly of the present Pontiff, although we are under the impression that its praise will as little affect the Holy Father as its censure will disturb the great Pius IX.

The Church, under Pio Nono was no different in her attitude towards the Scriptures than she is to-day. It was not a crime, in the days of Pius

to have the Bible, nor to give one o any subject of the Papal States. The Bible was not a forbidden book at any period in the history of the Church. The clergy, that is to say the parish priests throughout the world, are not inimical to the Scriptures. There is no "abiding fear," or any other kind of fear "of the or any other kind of fear "of the Holy Scriptures," in the Catholic Church. We make these statements plainly, because they constitute

flat contradiction of every proposition, laid down by the "Witness."
The writer in the "Witness" knows the truth of what we state, but it would not serve his purpose to acknowledge the same.

In the first place, had it not been for the Catholic Church there would be no Bible on earth to-day. It was the Church that preserved from destruction the Scriptures, through the ong night of barbarism that hung over Europe in the ages of struggle between the Pontiffs and the savage hordes of the North, Centuries before the art of printing was known, when learning was confined to the ling out a word, or twisting a schools, and when books were rare and costly, the Scriptures were transcribed by the monks and preserved into lies what would otherwise be in the monasteries throughout the world. That these volumes were not this is invariably done with a view given into the hands of the people to prejudice the reader's mind is a fact; but that fact was not due to any desire on the part of the Church to curtail the diffusion the Scriptures, rather was it be- adopted by a certain Western paper cause it took an immense amount of and exposed by Rev. Father Cherduce each copy, coupled with the fact that few of the laity, even the rich and titled, could read and appreciate these volumes. But ages it had been a custom to have a Bible at the door of the Church, or in the public vestibule of the monastery, chained there, to that the precious book could not le carried off, but open for all who came

and desired to read its pages. After the printing press came to revolutionize all these things, it was found that so many false and spurious editions of the Holy Scriptures and the 'Free Press,' clearly were published, so many errors were made in the translations and even in the transcriptions of them, many portions were suppressed that did not suit the views of innovaters, and so much uncertainty arose from the abuse-not the use - of Writ, that the Church was obliged to protect the faithful against the errors consequent upon the issuing of such mutilated Bibles, and to draw the line beyond which Catholic could not safely step in the

reading of the Scriptures.

It is exactly the same thing that
Lee XIII, is now doing, and that awakens so much favorable com-ment on the part of the "Witness." The "Gazette," more stupid, if not more mistaken, than the "Witness," pretends that the Holy Father has finally discovered that the old mine still contains material worth dig-

very false statements—the more so ging for. The old mine contains abin view of the fact that the "Witsolutely nothing that the Catholic Church has not long ages ago unearthed; and they who base their faith on the Bible only should know that the Catholic Church possesses do more deadly work than would a the whole Bible, while they only battering-ram. We could not allow have a portion of it, and that porit to pass unnoticed. Our Protestant tion is lacking in whole books—each of which is of the utmost import ance. What thus applies to the Church, at any period in history, is equally an explanation of the attitude of the clergy towards the unauthorized editions of the Holy Scriptures. Decidedly, in many country districts, the priests will permit the faithful to accept Bibles from the proselytizing preachers who make it a business to undermine the faith of their parishioners. And this is not only because the Bibles presented are unauthorized and positively false editions of Holy Writ but principally because it is sought to have the Cathelic accept the un-explained book, that he cannot understand, instead of the Church that was commissioned to explain

The Church was ordered by Christ to teach and preach-not to and print, and distribute Bibles. But every Catholic has in his prayerbook the portions of the New Tes tament that apply to each day of the year; and in the Mass of each day there are the Gospels and Epistles appropriate to the occasion which, in a year, cover the entire New Testament. Besides every sermon in a Catholic Church is preached from a text of Scripture, from either the Old or the New Testament, and the sermons of the vent constitute a series of clear explanations of the Bible. In a word, the Catholic Church alone possesses the Bible; and that which Protestantism hands around is merely a portion of the Scriptures, and a disjointed one at that. All this our contemporaries know; but they would prefer not to knov it.

A PERTINENT LETTER.-It has long been a practice with a class of writers, antagonistic to the Catholic Church, to make use of a certain class of misrepresentation of Catholic doctrines and discipline. Above all does the confessional come in for a goodly share of this false representation. We cannot exactly characterize the statements as lies, for they are generally 'acts- but they are presented in such a manner that they convey impressions and ideas that are absolutely wrong and that are the more dangerous since they are based upon what appears to be truthful assertions. Either by leavphrase, or by suppressing a necessary explanation that actually twist mere statements of old facts. And gainst the Church. Atl exceedingly good illustration of this fowardly system is to be found in the &burse that which is above described; but labor and no end of time to pro- rier, parish priest of Winnipeg, in the following letter:-'To the Editor of The Telegram.

"Sir.-Speaking in this morning" ssue of "The Telegram" tal murder, you have it, in heading, that 'confession to a priest led to the finding of a man's body in a well;' then again, under the heading of 'The News in Brief,' you say that as a result of the confession to a men were arrested at Williston. as published in both 'The Telegram' that the murderer confessed to a priest and later on made a confes sion to Sheriff Nelson, of Bottineau. From the dispatch it seems clear to der came from the confession mode to the sheriff, rather than from the one made to the priest, but not so according to 'The Telegram's' way of giving the news. That, sir, forces me to ask you what kind of a confession to a priest, led to the finding of a murdered man's body! Confession to a priest, as a rule, means sacramental confession. But, you ought to know, if you do know anything concerning such a confession in the Catholic Church, that it

that sacramental secret. That, sir, is a reflection on the priestly dignity that I cannot allow to go unchallenged. If a priest could be found to lower himself to the baseness of such a sacriligious deed, he certainly deserves to be pilloried; but if the charge cannot be substantiated, then the culprit must be hiding in some corner of 'The Telegram's' sanctum, and he it is that should be pitilessly put into the pillory for his malign insinuations a gainst a minister of the Catholic Church. Had this been the first insinuation of the kind published in the columns of 'The Telegram, might let it pass unnoticed, but it is becoming so frequent with the writers of 'The Telegram' thus to malign everything Catholic, that I feel it my duty to ask you, sir, either to withdraw the charge or prove it.

A. A. CHERRIER, P.P. Winnipeg, Nov. 28, 1902.

CIVIC HOSPITAL .- The question of the establishment of a civic hospital for contagious diseases has already been discussed at length in the columns of the "True Witness." A good deal of time has been spen: over the subject by the aldermen since; but no practical step in fur therance of the much-needed institution has yet been taken. Whatever may be the general principles on which an agreement may ultimately be reached, it would be idle to pretend that any satisfactory arrangement can be devised which will not accord full justice to each of the three great sections into which the population of the city is divided the French-Canadians, the Englishspeaking Catholics, and the English Protestants. Each section must have its own nurses, and every facility for the visits of its own clergymen and the practice of religion in the language and the form to which its members are accustomed. This is the only way in which the harmony which has so long prevailed in our mixed community can be maintained. Certain aldermen are we are aware, strongly opposed to this idea; but they are in a small minority. The general question of the establishment of a permanent civic hospital for contagious diseases has now been before the City Council for over a dozen years; and it is surely time that some practical steps were taken to erect one. The danger of an epidemic is ever pre-

OBITUARY.

MR. HENRY HEATON .- Word has reached us of the death of an old and valued reader of the "True Witness"-one who had been, in fact, a regular reader of it for over half a century. Mr. Henry Heaton, whose death at Central City. Mich. is announced, was for several years a resident of Montreal, where he was highly esteemed by a large number of friends and acquaintances. Mr. Heaton was born in the County of Meath, Ireland, seventy-three years His demise is deeply regretted by all who knew him.-R.I.P.

CONDOLENCE .- At a recent meeting of St. Ann's Young Men's Society, a resolution of condolence was passed to the family of a late valued member-Mr. Thomas Walsh.

MISS ELLEN DREW .- The death of a well known and esteemed mem-ber of St. Ann's parish occurred ber of St. Ann's parish this week in the person Miss Ellen Drew, sister of Mr. John Drew and Mrs. Penfold. Miss Drew was a most enthusiastic worker in parish undertakings some years ago. At bazaars and entertainments she held a prominent place and spared no effort to do her share of the work to make them a success .- R.I.P.

IN RUSSIA.

In Russia no meetings of private citizens for any purpose are permitted; the privilege of holding ed corporations or associations. All ment or worship, are dispersed the police. No premises can be hired for the purpose of holding a meeting without a permit from the 1s

Mission for English Speaking Catholics

On Sunday evening next a mission for English-speaking Catholics will begin in the Church of St. Jean Baptiste. It will be preached by the Rev. Father Devlin, and will close Sunday evening, December 21st.

MR. M. J. F. QUINN ILL

His many friends will regret to learn that Mr. M. J. F. Quinn, K. C., has had a serious attack of lung trouble, caused doubtless by the recent severe weather. The latest news from his home at St. Anne de Bellevue is, we are glad to state, of a reassuring character.

Our Fraternal Societies

C.M.B.A., Branch No. 232, Grand Council of Canada, held a very important meeting on Tuesday ing, in their hall, Empire building, which was largely attended, the occasion being the election of officers for the ensuing year, which resulted

Spiritual Adviser, Rev. Canon

Chancellor, Bro. T. R. Cowan. President, Bro. R. J. Cherry. 1st Vice-President, Bro. F. J. Mc-

2nd Vice-President, Bro. A. Mc-Garr.

Rec.-Sec., Bro. W. J. Elliott. Asst. Rec.-Sec., Bro. J. Gillis. Fin. Sec., Bro. T. Emmett Quinn. Treasurer, Bro. W. E. Durack. Marshal, Bro. J. Farrell.

Guard, Bro. P. J. Donahue. Trustees, Bro. Chancellors, T. M. Ireland, T. A. Lynch, and G. A. Carpenter, Bro. J. T. McDonald and J. D. Cherry. Medical examiner, Dr. J. A. Mc-

After the election of officers a very important announcement was made to the enect that this popular branch Intends, during the coming new year to hold two monster progressive euchre parties and socials in the Windsor Hall. The first of these will be held on Friday evening, February

This is quite a new departure for this branch, but the well known enterprise and energy of the members leaves little room to doubt the success of the undertaking. The officers have found it necessary, owing to the desire of the large number their friends to secure the commo-dious Windsoc Hall for their social entertainments. The committee hard at work, making all preliminary arrangements. Tickets are limited to 200, and are now in demand. They may be had from the members of the committee.

Death of a Patriarchial Priest

In the death of the Rev. Thomas H. Shahan, pastor of the Church of the Sacred Heart at Malden, Mass., a patriachial priest, has passed away, the oldest priest in the archdiocese of Boston. He was born in Ireland 82 years ago, and was only a twelve month old boy when he reached this side of the Atlantic with his parents. His early education took place in Boston, made most of his ecclesiastical studies in the Seminary of Montreal. where he remained from 1836 until 1845, when he went to complete his sacred studies in the Seminary of St. Sulpice, Paris, where he was ordained on June 2, 1849. Returning to the United States, he worked on tae mission at St. Albans, Vermont, whence he was sent to Salcm, Mass. He labored zealously in many New England parishes, and he had the reputation of having built more churches than any other priest. —