

The True Witness

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Correspondence intended for publica-
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mark of good faith, otherwise it will not
be published.

**ITEMS OF LOCAL INTEREST SOLI-
CITED.**

**IN vain will you build churches,
give missions, found schools—
all your works, all your efforts will
be destroyed if you are not able to
wield the defensive and offensive
weapon of a loyal and sincere Cath-
olic press.**

—Pope Pius X.

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.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1907

THE NEUTRAL SCHOOLS OF
FRANCE.

The French Government has given
another instance of what it means by
religious neutrality. The Minister of
Education, M. Doumergue, has
brought in a Bill which runs as fol-
lows:

"On the complaint addressed by the
Inspector of Primary Education to a
Justice of the Peace, the penalties set
forth in Article 14 of the Law of March
28, 1882, will be inflicted on the father or guardian
or other responsible person who shall
have been convicted of having pre-
vented a child on the roll of the
public school from receiving instruc-
tion on all or part of the sub-
jects declared to be obligatory un-
der Article 1 of the aforesaid Law,
or from using in class any books regu-
larly inscribed on the list of the
department. To the same penalties
will be liable any person who shall
commit a similar infraction of the
Law, either by a speech or by plac-
ing or distributing writings con-
taining a direct provocation to the
commission of such infraction of the
Law as is specified above."

The immediate reason of this Bill
is that a certain number of parents
at a place called Vivienne laid a
complaint in the Court of Dijon
against a teacher named Morizot,
who declared to his pupils that con-
fession was nonsense, and that God
was nothing but a well-filled purse.
The Court decided that the teacher
had violated the neutrality of the
school demanded by the Law of
1882, and passed censure on him ac-
cordingly. M. Doumergue now de-
clares that any parents having com-
plaints to make against teachers
must lay them, not before the courts
but before the Education Department
and that, in the meantime, any par-
ent who forbids his child to study
certain text-books shall be held guilty
of the offence which the above-
mentioned teacher was convicted of
and shall be subject to the penalties
for violating the neutrality Law of
1882. It is the lamb, not the wolf,
who has muddled the stream. The
Minister of Education excuses him-
self by saying that there is a con-
spiracy of parents against the schools
and that only narrow-minded bigots
could find fault with the text-books.
Here are some of the passages which
M. Doumergue says, none but bigoted
parents would object to their chil-
dren reading in schools: "For a long
time it was thought that God created
man. But the recent con-
quests of evolution," etc. "The Re-
naissance followed the epoch of
Christian barbarism when Christiani-
ty paralyzed the arts, sciences and
literature." "Christianity is the
struggle against the beautiful in na-
ture, since it declares war on all
man's propensities." The Morizot
incident is not the only one which
shows what sort of neutrality is ob-
served by the teachers. A teacher
in a Paris school declared to a class
of children between ten and twelve
years old: "If I offered God 50,000
francs for putting out the sun,

would he be able to win the money?
You see, therefore, very clearly that
there is no God." A school-mistress
at Saint Genard told her scholars:
"All that the Church teaches is ly-
ing and false; the Mass and religious
ceremonies are only shows there is
neither heaven nor hell; all these
things have been invented by the
cures in order to enslave people's
consciences." A teacher in the Nord
district argued thus against the im-
mortality of the soul: "The spirit is
in the brain; at death the brain
dies, and therefore, when one dies,
one is dead wholly." At the time
of the terrible disaster in the Cour-
rieres mines, one of the schoolmas-
ters of the neighborhood asked his
pupils: "If there were a God would
such things happen?" Another Paris
teacher threatened to withhold cer-
tificates from any pupils who went
to Mass or made their First Com-
munion. An Inspector of Schools,
writing in a "New Course of Pedago-
gy," which has just been publish-
ed, boldly declares: "Education de-
stroys more than it builds up. The
child does not come to school a
blank. He brings with him the
prejudices of his parents; the fear
accumulated in the race by religious
oppression. The great thing is to
destroy all that. Conscience is a
tradition. We shall be on our guard
against conscience." In the face of
facts like these the Minister of Edu-
cation has the effrontery to say that
the State schools are neutral, and
that parents wishing to make com-
plaint must do so to the Education
office, that is to the Government of
the day, and not to the Courts which
are in some measure independent of
the Government. If they forbid their
children to attend such schools or
use such text-books, they render
themselves liable to fine and impris-
onment. The Temps and the Jour-
nal des Debats, both of them Republi-
can journals, and neither of them
Catholic, have protested against this
injustice. The Temps says:

"Everyone knows the real origin of
this crisis. It arises from the im-
permeable language of a certain num-
ber of teachers who have a singular
way of understanding what is meant
by civil instruction and religious neu-
trality. Their theories on military
duty and the fatherland, as well as
the invectives to which they give
themselves not only against the
priest, but even against the very idea
of religion itself, have rightly alarm-
ed parents who are anxious to see
the consciences of their children re-
spected. It has, furthermore, been
more than once fully proved that the
books put into the hands of the schol-
ars with the approbation of the edu-
cational authorities contained pass-
ages which did not always, especially
in the matter of religion, take their
inspiration from the rules of neu-
trality which the legislator has wished
to make predominant in compulsory
secular education."

The Journal des Debats speaks to
the same effect:

"Public opinion complains of an
existing abuse. There are public
teachers who show an outrageous
lack in the matter of neutrality by
putting forward in class teaching
which is either unseemly or even
actually injurious to patriotism, mor-
ality, the religious sentiment or
social order. Families feel them-
selves helpless against these excesses
of language, which, though forbidden
by law, actually enjoy a frequent im-
munity."

But the British press, taking the
keynote from the London Times, has
steadily denied that religion is being
persecuted in France. The solitary
exception among daily papers is the
Birmingham Post, whose London
correspondent wrote as follows on
the occasion of the death of the
Paris correspondent of the Times:

"The sudden death of Mr. William
Lavino, who has been the Paris cor-
respondent of the Times since M. de
Blowitz passed away, recalls the op-
posing attitudes taken by the dis-
tinguished journalist and the Post
in the matter of the hostile legisla-
tion against the Church in France.
Mr. Lavino threw the whole weight
of his influence in favor of M.
Briand and against the French Bi-
shops and the Vatican, and by con-
tinuous treatment of the facts from
one point of view alone, succeeded in
giving a decided direction to Lon-
don opinion and to various provin-
cial journals. The issues were put
in your own columns, alone among
English daily papers, however, in a
sense contrary to that expressed by
Mr. Lavino; and I have reason to
know that this was noted with much
satisfaction at the Vatican, where it
was held that the English press had
allowed itself to be misled by the
high authority of Mr. Lavino. Ener-
getic steps were taken to undo the
effect of his writing, but, as the
Times biographer of his colleague
suggests to-day, Mr. Lavino was
writing to enforce a principle—that
of the supremacy of the French Re-
public over any institutions within
its borders, and that explained much
as to his controversial methods."

OUR DEAD.

The vast throng which gathered in
Cote des Neiges on Sunday last was
an eloquent tribute to the quiet
dead resting there; it was also a
respectful response to the request
of His Grace, who has set aside
the Feast of Our Lady of Seven Do-
lors as a day on which special pub-
lic prayers for the dead would be
offered in the cemetery. There under
a cloudless sky some 30,000 per-
sons assembled to offer a pious sup-
plication; the solemn strains of the
Libera pleading, as it were, for
those in bonds. How can we forget
our dead, when we know that one
day we will share in the solitude of
the tomb? And yet a very hu-
man trait is to forget. Time, the
healer, soothes our sorrow and
dries our tears, so that in a short
while nothing remains but a fading
memory. The eloquent preacher
urged upon the faithful the necessity
as well as the duty of praying for
their dead who could no longer help
themselves. The cross visible at
every grave gave proof of the faith
in tdm, and the hope in a glorious
resurrection. The most unique
sight indeed was that witnessed, a
mingling of the living with the dead,
a most consoling one exemplifying
as it did the belief in the Commu-
nion of Saints. Let us, then, front
time to time give a thought to our
dead, so that when the day comes
when we shall rest in the grave
we will not be forgotten.

BEATIFICATION OF PIUS IX.

The process for the beatification of
Pius IX., of which much has been
said for some time past, and which
has been especially promoted through
the efforts of the Catholic French
admirers of the dead Pontiff, will be
opened within a few weeks, accord-
ing to the procedure for such cano-
nical processes. The first phase
of the cause will be inaugurated in
the episcopal curia of Imola, the dioc-
eses governed by Pius IX. from
1833 to 1846, the time that pre-
ceded his elevation to the pontificate.
The process will begin with an
examination of the articles presented
by Mons. Antonio Ciani, postulant of
the cause, who will be represented
by the vice-postulant, Doctor Vit-
tozzi; the heroic virtues, supernat-
ural gifts and sanctity of the illustri-
ous Pontiff will be then examined.
The Bishop will preside at all ses-
sions, and if impeded his place will
be taken by his delegate, Mons. Bion-
di. It is impossible to state how
long a time this preliminary pro-
cess may occupy, but it is certain
that it cannot be finished before se-
veral months elapse.

A NOTABLE ESSAY.

Not for years has such universal
favorable comment been evoked from
men of literary standing as has been
occasioned by the posthumous essay
of Francis Thompson, the poet, on
the poet Shelley, published in the
Dublin Review. Men who differ in
many respects have borne willing tes-
timony to the excellence of this pa-
per and its deep insight into the
poetical genius of the great master
of English verse.

The leading English Reviews have
given unstinted praise to this ap-
preciation of a Catholic poet for the
work of a man who was in his reli-
gious beliefs at the opposite pole
from the one who became his most
judicious and valuable critic. They
do not hesitate to proclaim it a
masterpiece of literary criticism; and
they attribute its singular power
of penetration to the fine discern-
ment springing from the poetic ge-
nius which Francis Thompson un-
doubtedly possessed and which en-
abled him, to appreciate, as no
other man could do, the power and
sentiment of the earlier songster. It
is one of the few occasions when the
work of a poet has been properly ap-
preciated by another master in the
same line, and has produced a deep
impression in the literary world.

GREAT PRIEST ASTRONOMER.

Father Guichet, of the French
Catholic Church of St. Vincent de
Paul in West Twenty-third street,
New York, is one of the greatest
living astronomers. Only a few
months ago Father Guichet per-
formed the Foucault experiment for
the first time in this country, in
the great rotunda of the Church of
Our Lady of Lourdes in Brooklyn, the
experiment proving to a mathematical
accuracy the hourly movement of
the earth on its axis in relation to
the latitude of New York.

Father Guichet has also just
completed an intricate calculation to
prove the exact age of the pyramids.
Standing on the little observatory of
the parish church, which he has
practically built himself, he said:

"The more deeply I have gone into
the study of astronomy the more
deeply have I been impressed with
the magnitude of God's wonders.
What is revealed to man by the tele-
scope is almost beyond comprehen-
sion. No further demonstration need
be given the unbeliever than a view
through the telescope on a clear
and starry night.

Curiously enough the greatest of
all the world's astronomers who
have devoted themselves to a study
of the sun was also a Catholic
priest, the celebrated Father Secchi.

Father Secchi devoted a lifetime to
the study of the sun, and the most
important things now known about
the great luminary of the heavens
are due to the indefatigable Italian
priest.

An Interesting Experiment in Ireland.

A most important experiment—if
experiment it may be called—in edu-
cational affairs in Ireland has been
begun by the establishment of St.
Enda's School, Rathfarnham, Dublin.
It is a bilingual residential school
for Catholic boys. The teaching
staff, and the "atmosphere" will be
thoroughly Irish. Ireland, Pupils,
whose parents so desire it, will be
educated for the intermediate exami-
nations, but the object of the teach-
ing imparted at the school will not
be to secure a high place in the pass
lists. The object will rather be the
formation of character, and the in-
culcation of a true spirit of patrio-
tism.

The following is an extract from
the prospectus of the school, and
gives an idea of its aims and pur-
poses:

"St. Enda's School has been found-
ed with the object of providing an
elementary and secondary education
of a high type for Irish-speaking
boys, and for boys not yet Irish-
speaking whom it is desired to edu-
cate on bilingual lines. St. Enda's
will bring the experience of its
founders to bear in an effort to ex-
tend the scope and improve the meth-
ods of secondary education in
Ireland. The central purpose of the
School will be not so much the mere
imparting of knowledge and not at
all the 'cramming' of boys with a
view to success at examinations—as
the formation of the pupils' charac-
ters; the eliciting and development
of the individual talents and traits of
each; the kindling of their imagina-
tions; the giving them an interest
and an aim in life; the placing be-
fore them of a high standard of con-
duct and duty; in a word, the train-
ing up of those entrusted to its care
to be, in the first place, strong and
noble and useful men, and, in the se-
cond, devoted sons of their Mother-
land. Half an hour each day will
be devoted to the teaching of the
Christian Doctrine. In addition to
this formal doctrinal teaching, the
school staff will constantly exert it-
self to promote amongst the boys
an active love and reverence for the
Christian virtues, especially for the
virtues of purity, temperance, fortitude,
truth and loving kindness. A
spirit of chivalry and self-sacrifice;
gentleness towards the weak and
courage and charity towards all;
kindness to animals, and respect for
their lives and well-being, as also a
love of inanimate nature and of
everything in the world that is fine
and beautiful—these are amongst the
virtues and sentiments which the
teachers of St. Enda's will endeavor
to implant in the hearts of their
pupils. A manly self-reliance and
a healthy ambition to plan and
achieve will be not only inculcated
in theory but fostered in practice by
the system of organization and dis-
cipline which will be adopted in the
schoolroom and on the playground.
The school staff will direct earnest
efforts towards the awakening of a
spirit and the formation of a sense
of civic and social duty."

Every subject will be taught by
means of Irish as well as English.
It has often been stated that the
Irish language, having been arrested
in its growth, is deficient in scienti-
fic and technical phrases, but the
existence and curriculum of this
school will disprove that statement.
Christian Doctrine, History, Geo-
graphy, Science, Mathematics, Manu-
al instruction, Music, Dancing, etc.,
will be taught in both languages.

The building consists of a large
and commodious manor house, equip-
ped with every modern requirement
as regards education and sanitation.
The house is delightfully situated in
its own grounds, which are sheltered
undergrowth of brushwood. Gardens,
orchards and spacious playground are
attached.

The establishment of this school
is an effort to put into practice the
theories propounded by the Gaelic
League and its official organ.

The professors and instructors will
include the ablest and most brilli-
ant intellects in the Irish language
movement.

REV. MR. TROOP AND THE EU-
CHARIST PROCESSION.

To the Editor, True Witness:

Sir,—Interviewed by the Montreal
Star respecting the order issued by
the British Premier forbidding the
carrying of the Host in the process-
ion held recently in connection with
the Eucharistic Congress, Rev. Os-
borne Troop declared that the ap-
pearance of the Host being carried
through the streets of London would
be an outrage upon the Protestant
convictions of the nation.

I dare say I could find many
among his brothers in the Anglican
ministry who would question the
veracity of his assertion.

There are thousands of Anglicans
who hold the doctrine of the Real
Presence as taught by the Catholic
Apostolic Church, just as firmly as
Catholics do and such are not cor-
porals to England either I would not
be obliged to leave the city in which
we live to prove my claim.

Mr. Troop seems to forget that his
church is High, Low, Broad and Li-
beral or as an Anglican prelate re-
cently put it "She is not hampered
in her creed." She is elastic enough
to quit the belief of all comers.

Does Mr. Troop not remember, that
but a short time ago a minister of
his church, speaking from the pulpit
of one of the leading Anglican Churches
of Montreal, declared his belief
in the doctrine of the Real Presence
and moreover affirmed that he failed
to understand what other interpre-
tation could be put upon the plain

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able dresser. Prices
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words of Scripture. I might add for
Mr. Troop's benefit, that the preach-
er in question was not called to ac-
count by his Bishop for preaching
heresy.

I am glad to hear that the Rector
of St. Martin's has come to the
conclusion that what the Roman am-
phitheatre failed to do, Protestant-
ism can scarcely hope to accomplish.
It had its trial at the "force" meth-
od of overcoming "Romanism" and
history tells the story of its fail-
ure.

As for his reliance "on the sword
of the spirit, which is the Word of
God," Protestants must first deter-
mine among themselves what the
"Word of God" really is, if they
knew, there would not be a thou-
sand warring sects enrolled beneath
the banner of that modern Babel—
Protestantism—to-day.

Mr. Troop expresses the hope that
as a result of the Eucharistic Con-
gress "Churchmen and Nonconformists
will unite in a true Evangelical Catho-
licism."

His hope will be in vain. St. Cy-
rian tells us that "a branch once
broken from the tree can bud no
more." Decay must surely set in,
and the result be that branch will
crumble to pieces.

Such is the case with Protestant-
ism—broken from the Apostolic Tree,
it is to-day divided into hundreds
of parts and the work of decay
goes constantly on. As well try
to stop the rush of the mountain
current as to hinder that division.
The logical outcome of the Congress
will be a return of thousands of
stray sheep to the Master's fold.

The result of the Oxford movement
is yet green in our memory—when
some of the brightest lights of Angli-
canism left that House of Con-
fusion, and cast themselves upon the
bosom of Mother Church from which
their forefathers had been ruthlessly
torn at the point of the sword.

The after effect of the Protestant
Episcopal convention recently held
in the State of Virginia was the re-
ception of nineteen Protestant min-
isters into the Catholic Church. Such
must be likewise the case in old
England when thousands of Brit-
tain's best shall sit down to the
Wedding Feast. Perhaps Mr. Troop
will be among the number—who can
tell!

M. F. C.

Sept. 20, 1908.

Catholic Journalists.

At a meeting of the American Catho-
lic Press Association, held at the
office of the Catholic Union and
Times, Buffalo, on September 12,
1908, the following resolutions were
adopted:

Resolved, That the Catholic Press
Association invites all Catholic so-
cieties to pass a resolution pledging
the patronage of their members to
business men who advertise in Catho-
lic papers.

Resolved, That it is the right of
the Catholic press to be the first to
get strictly Catholic news, and this
particularly from the hierarchy and
clergy.

Resolved, That we express our con-
viction that the Catholic Press is
the very best kind of an advertising
medium. We also protest against
the discrimination practiced by ma-
ny lines of business against the Catho-
lic press, and hereby declare our de-
termination to resent in every legiti-
mate way a continuance of such
discrimination.

Resolved, That we remind the
Catholic people that the Holy Father
and fathers of the Council of Bal-
timore, and the clergy in general,
have spoken of the necessity of the
Catholic newspaper in the Catholic
family and as a continuous mission
in the parish. In harmony with
these declarations we respect-
fully appeal to the hierarchy
and clergy to take steps to make
these sentiments practically effective.

Resolved, That the American Catho-
lic Press Association encourage
Catholic writers and foster Catholic
literature.

The Story of "Father O'Flynn."

Alfred Percival Graves tells in a
little book just published the story
of the origin of his famous song "Fa-
ther O'Flynn." The story is a very
curious one.

Which his charming words are
wedded, and which has long en-
joyed wide popularity in this coun-
try, is stated to be the Kerry ver-
sion of "The Top of Cork
Road."

Mr. Graves first heard
it played on an old fiddle by a cele-
brated Munster fiddler named James
Duckley, and the great delight of his
early boyhood was to dance a jig to
its accompaniment. The air lingered
in his thoughts with many recollec-
tions of his Munster home, and it
was when he met an Irish priest, who
was of the old school and who pos-
sessed the cumulative humanities of
the old stock, that he penned his
colloquial eulogy, and twined it with
that air which put his feet in rhyth-
mic movement in the days of his
youth. In the spring of 1875, Mr.
Graves first conceived the idea
of writing "Father O'Flynn." The
words came into his head as he
walked to the Home Office on
Bathurst terrace. On reaching his
desk he wrote down the verses and
sent them to the Spectator, by which
it was first printed. It was not pub-
lished until 1892, when it appeared
in its author's well-known collection
"Songs of Old Ireland." The success
thereafter was assured.

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fession of the pen, and illustrated by dia-
grams, and plainly illustrated by dia-
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progressive grading. Thorough drill in
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OBITUARY.

THE LATE MR. JOHN POWER.

The funeral of the late Mr. John
M. Power took place from his fa-
ther's residence, 228 Park Avenue,
to St. Patrick's Church and thence
to Cote des Neiges Cemetery at
8.30 on Tuesday morning, and was
largely attended. At the church the
remains were received by the pastor,
Rev. Gerald McShane. Rev. Father
Elliott celebrated Mass, assisted by
Rev. Father O'Reilly as sub-deacon
and Rev. Father Singleton as sacristan.
The chief mourners were Mr. Martin
Power, father; Master Frank Power,
nephew; Messrs. Joseph Gall, James
Ward and Frank Cahill. Among
others present were Mr. Justice Gu-
erin, Messrs. Patrick Reynolds, F.
A. Routh, Captain Reid, F. Lane,
don, Percy Quinn, A. McGarr, J. A.
Mercier, R. C. Wilkins, W. F. Ke-
ney and James O'Connor.

Field Day
rick's Bo

The fifth annual
Patrick's Boys' s-
enjoyable program-
gathering of pupils
their friends at the
yesterday afternoon
looked as if the little
afternoon, who won
caused no discom-
and slightly limp
of the track.

The races for
proved the most
surprisingly good
made by the little
the mile, the boys
boys under 14
time than the 14
time open to
O'Shaughnessy, w-
three races in 6
ghnessy, who won
time 13 2-5 sec-
that, while the s-
in the slow time
competitors in the
it easy, while the
out to run their
In the mile, 1
Little F. Brady
prize for his good
ville Harrier mee-
out only in
by a boy much of
This was one of
the day.

Another little
was W. Lukeman
lad, who won the
for boys 14 year
youngster is a br-
man, the M.A.A.
Roland Gormey
acted as referee.
bers of the M.A.A.
rious official cap-
programme was
The results were:
100 yards, 1
final heat—1, G.
3, A. Casey.
100 yards, 14 y
al heat—1, D. Br-
E. Dupuis.
100 yards, open
O'Loughlin, 2, O.
Bogue.
220 yards, 12
G. Gould, 2, W.
Mahoney.
220 yards, 14
D. Brown, 2, W.
son.

220 yards, open
O'Loughlin, 2, O.
Lynch.
High Jump, 1
1, W. Lukeman.
High jump, op-
McDonnell, 2, R.
440 yards, 12
L. Bogue, 2, W.
son.
440 yards, open
Bogue, 2, R. Ly-
vin.
Broad jump, 1
1, F. S. McGuir-
J. Cooney.
Broad jump, 2
O'Loughlin, 2, O.
Lynch.
J. Gould, 12
J. Gould, 12
L. Carr.
Half mile, 14
J. O'Shaughnessy,
3, W. Coyle.
Half mile, open
Lynch, 2, J. B. Ly-
lin.
Hop, step and
under—1, D. Br-