Charity in Ottawa.

St. Patrick's Asylum of Ottawa, has completed its thirty-fifth year in caring for the orphans and the aged. The annual meeting of the asylum was held last week. The president Mr. William Kearns, occupied the chair.

The annual report which was submitted showed that at the close of the year, September 30th, 1899, there were in residence 77 adults and 51 children. During the year ended September 30th, 1900, 30 adults and 68 children were admitted, making a total in residence during the year of 222. During the same period there were 13 deaths among the adults, and there left the institution 20 adults. Forty-five children were removed from the orphanage branch, 17 of whom have been placed in suitable homes by the sisters in charge, and the others taken by relatives or friends, leaving in residence on September 30th, 1900, 80 adults and 61 children. The collective stay of all the inmates during the year was 51,241 days, and the average stay of each 231 days.

Of those who died during the year in the refuge branch, all with one exception, had passed their seventieth year. There were no deaths among the children, nor was there any serious sickness during the year.

CITY COUNCIL SUBSCRIBED.

The late James Warnock, who during his lifetime had been a generous supporter of the Home, left a bequest of $500, the city council gave $200, this being the first time since the founding of St. Patrick's Asylum that its services in this respect have received the practical recognition of the city corporation. Mr. Howley, Pittsburg, Pa., contributed $100. Nearly $700 was contributed by the Ladies' Auxiliary, being the proceeds of entertainments provided during the year.

THE DEBT.

There still remains a mortgage indebtedness of $4,000, the council of management not deeming it wise to make any reduction in this liability during last year.

Tenders have been accepted for new stone steps, with iron railing, at the front entrance, to the amount of $107.60, and throughout the building there are repairs and improvements to be made which will absorb the amount on hand in addition to whatever can be appropriated from this year's revenue after providing for ordinary running expenses.

The government grant of last year shows a decrease of nearly $400 on the grant of the previous year, and the new council will be obliged to figure on a still further decrease in the amount for this year.

The decrease from this source of revenue is due, of course, to a corresponding decrease in the collective stay of the inmates.

The products at the farm at Hog's Back during the year have been valued as in 1899, at $450.

The council desire to bear testimony to the continued devotion of the Sister Superior and her assistants in the care of the inmates, and to the invaluable services of Dr. Freeland, the honary medical advisor.

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE.

The receipts during the year amounted to $11,009.59, and the expenditure $8,598.45, leaving a balance on hand of $2,506.14.

THE COUNCIL.

The following council of management was selected: William Kearns, James Mundy, J. C. Enright, M. J. O'Farrell, J. C. Young, J. G. Foley, M. Brady, A. T. Gow, R. Gorman.

Archbishop Ireland on France.

Archbishop Ireland gave to the Sun some of his own views upon civic conditions in France, after his latest visit to that country, from which he returned to New York early last week. The Archbishop spoke also of the health of the Pope, and made some observations regarding the protection of foreign missionaries which have a general and particular application in the present situation of the world's affairs. The Archbishop left the Fifth Avenue Hotel yesterday to journey westward. In his statement to the Sun he said;

REPUBLICAN FRANCE.

"I am a firm believer in the perpetuity of the Republic in France. Republican ideas have entered into the souls of the masses of the population, and no other form of government could ever again satisfy them. If by some sudden coup d'etat another form of government were installed in Paris, it were but an appeal to another revolution for the purpose of bringing back the Republic. All who sincerely wish to see the end of the revolutionary period in France—and they are the legions of Frenchmen — understand that the Republic must be retained and sustained. Henceforth no other form of government could endure in France, and consequently no other form of government is desired or will be sought for.

THE MINORITY.

"Moreover, the minority in the country, who might be tempted to pray for the overthrow of the Republic are at utter variance among themselves as to what should be substituted for it; the several parties among them are really as much opposed to the ideas and propositions of one another as they are to the Republic itself, and this divergence of opinion among the opponents of the Republic forms one of the strong elements of success for the Republic. That there is no serious difference of opinions as to methods of administration and acts of legislative bodies among the upholders of the Republic in France I must not be understood as denying; but there are not differences of like nature among the citizens of our own Republic? That such differences do not mean that the Republic itself is in danger, Frenchmen, as we ourselves, understand that methods of administration and acts of legislative bodies may be changed and improved within the forms of republican government. Frenchmen, of course, are, by nature, more or less excitable and air their grievances in public with more froth than people of quieter temperaments would do, and those who do not take this fact into consideration imagine that Paris and France are on the eve of a tremendous revolution when simply they are giving themselves so to speak, a holiday.

CHURCH AND STATE.

"The relations of the French Republic to the Church may not be in itself all that I, as a Catholic Bishop, could desire; but I am willing to do this justice to the French Republic of to-day—that it is doing about as well for the Church as all the circumstances of the situation permit. I do not believe that there is in the French Government a decisive enmity to the Church or a positive intention to persecute it or take from it its rights, but there are among the members of the Chambers and of the Senate, individuals who are more or less anti-Catholic and anti-religious and who do from time to time bring forward projects of law unfavorable to the Church and who otherwise have to be counted with by the existing Ministry. Certain Catholics in France who complain of this should in my opinion, bear in mind what the remedy is in their own hands, and that this remedy would be in enlightening electors and inducing them by fair moral arguments to send better men to the Chambers and to the Senate, and Frenchmen generally are beginning to understand all this. They were so long accustomed to other forms of government, more paternal in their nature and more absolute than the one under which they now live that they could not have been expected to realize at once the duties and the obligations coming to them from a republican form; but their civic education is being made and the future before them is far from being as cloudy as certain writers who take only a superficial glance at France would lead us to believe.

RELIGIOUS STATE.

"There is of course among some sections of the population of France a spirit more or less pronounced of unbelief and irreligion, but no one should imagine that the disciples of unbelief and irreligion form the large body of the French people or represent France. France is to-day, in heart and soul, a Catholic nation—aye, the eldest daughter of the Church. The war cry which we sometimes hear as coming from France of opposition to clericalism is not a cry against religion. Clericalism to the French mind has this meaning: Undue interference of clerics in politics, especially when such interference tends more or less in favor of reactionary politics.

CLERICS IN POLITICS.

"Against such clericalism I myself am willing to protest, and indeed in so doing I should be only obeying the encyclical letter of the Holy Father himself to the French people, urging them to accept loyally and to sustain for the good both of the country and of the Church, the existing form of government in France. If all bishops and priests in France had rallied more heartly and more openly to the Pontifical policy as proposed to them in the letter, the conditions of the Church in France would be to-day immensely better than they are. There is no doubt but all that the notion prevailed to a too large extent among churchmen in France and among a certain class of French Catholics that the throne and the altar were somewhat inseparably united; that the atmosphere of a republic would be more or less injurious to religion. This notion Leo XIII. has done his best to dispel and his efforts are being crowned already with great success and will be rewarded in the future with further triumphs.

The representative of Leo XIII in France, Monsignour Lorenzelli, the Nuncio at Paris, through his intelligence of the situation in France and by his admirable tact as a diplomatist, is doing much to establish permanent peace between the Church and State in France.

PROTECTS MISSIONS.

"One of the most vital services which France is rendering to-day to the Church, as she has rendered for many centuries in the past, is the protection which she affords to Catholic missions in the Orient, China and other remote lands. This protection, followed, indeed, as a natural consequence from the fact that nearly all the Catholic missionaries in foreign fields of labor have been and are sons of Catholic France, and the protection they needed has always been extended to them by France wisely and generously. Republican France has not departed in this regard from the best traditions of Imperial or royal France.

VATICAN AND FRANCE.

"I have been made to say by a paper in England that I considered the Vatican as being absolutely opposed to the idea of a French protectorate over Catholic missions in foreign countries. I did not make such an assertion. What I did say was, that Catholic missionaries should as much as possible identify themselves with the customs and political ideas of the countries in which they were laboring, and appeal, first of all, for legal protection to the governments of those countries, in so far as such governments were disposed to be fair and just; but this did not and could not mean that when their lives and property are attacked they have no right to turn for protection to other countries. Simple international law and usage give them such right. In her protection of Catholic missions France has rendered to the Church invaluable service, for which the Catholic world at large is grateful to her, and which the Catholic world at large hopes she will continue.

THE POPE.

"In Rome I found the Holy Father in excellent health; indeed his condition was a surprise to me. At the age of ninety his mind is most lucid, his memory most precise, and he forms plans for the future as if he were to live many years to come. You feel more that the Pontifical speaks than Leo, and the Pontifical knows no old age. Of course his position in Italy is most distressing. He is able only by constant protest against the existing political order of Italy to maintain his independence and to keep himself in a position to govern the Church from the high pedestal of universal and Christian teacher to which his dignity is among all the Catholics in all nations, the Father of the faithful. To be the sole judge by one power is to limit his authority and his prestige and to predispose against his judgment and teachings subjects of other States. To subjects of Italy he will be taken as speaking as an Italian, with Italian bias, and Italian prejudice, as he would be taken as speaking with German bias and German prejudice were he a subject of the Emperor of Germany. He must be independent, nor can the independence, such as is absolutely required for the fulfilment of his high office be secured in any other way than by the position of temporal sovereignty.

TEMPORAL POWER.

"Hence the question of temporal power is, for the Papacy, a vital matter. It is a vital one for all Catholics, and consequently such a question can never be rated as an Italian question. It is, and will remain, a world question. The question is an Italian one only to this extent—that historically and providentially, the Papacy having been located in Italy and having been for ages, as it is to-day, the chief glory of Italy, Italy in a special manner is bound to see that the Pope is possessed of temporal sovereignty. Italy deprived him of his temporal sovereignty; Italy must in justice restore it to him.

"Whether the day is near or far when the political situation of Italy will be such that the temporal sovereignty may be restored in a sufficient degree to meet the spiritual needs of the Papacy, it does not matter. The duty of the hour is to maintain the high principle, and that is what Leo has done and will do until death. He is the martyr of principle, and as such he will be considered in history."—New York Sun.

CHICAGO'S FINANCIER.

It is safe to say that "The Catholic Bishop of Chicago" has a tolerably clear idea of the value of investments.

All the property belonging to the Catholic church in Chicago is vested in him. He is a corporation in himself, and at the present time holds over $40,000,000 of property.

It was in 1861 that a law was passed making "The Catholic Bishop of Chicago" a power in both the religious and civil courts, Bishop Quarter being the first to have absolute control. Five Bishops have in turn been a corporation sole—since the death of Bishop Quarter. All of these have made such exertion in behalf of the Church that the present incumbent the Most Rev Archbishop P. A. Feehan, finds himself the controller of sixty-six English-speaking Catholic churches; three French Catholic, six Bohemian Catholic, one Italian Catholic, twenty-two German Catholic, eleven Polish Catholic, one Lithuanian Catholic, and one Syrian Catholic church in the city.

MAKING CONVERTS.

Rev. Thomas Plunkott, who is at work in the Pine Bluff, Arkansas, Mission, relates an incident which shows very strikingly the great value of religious books in the conversion of infidels. Father Plunkott was once asked by an old negro if a certain religious work which he had in his possession was "authentic," or not. He could give no very clear description of the book except that it was a "powerful" expositor of religious truths. He had not been content to merely read the book, but he had begun to talk of it and to discuss its doctrines in the public meetings of his colored congregation. He had read the book over and over, and had learned by heart long passages which he was in the habit of reciting, verbatim, in support of his religious arguments. He had in a very short time become very troublesome to his negro religious teachers. Through the knowledge that he had gained from the study of the book he was able to ask many questions which the preachers and deacons could not answer. So insistent did he become that the book was made an issue. He was told that he must either give up the teachings of the book or leave the church. After deliberation he chose the book and was expelled from the congregation. Every effort was then made to steal the book from him, but somehow he managed to keep it in his possession. When Father Plunkett asked to see the book, the old negro went to his home and brought back a well-worn volume, very dirty, and full of thumb-marks. He could not tell how the book had come into his possession, or who its author was, but he wished the priest to pronounce it "authentic." The book was a copy of one of the earlier editions of "The Faith of Our Fathers," written by His Eminence Cardinal Gibbons. The negro was baptized and became a truly religious man.—The Josephite.

IF THE SOUL BE NOT IMMORTAL.

Camille Flammarion, the great French astronomer, says;—"To speak plainly, if we will not believe in the immortality of the soul we must abandon all search for the meaning of the universe. It must be considered the work of chance, more bad than good, and life is nothing more than a tremendous fraud of which we are the victims. At the same time all of those lofty ideas which have been and are still the glory of humanity disappear. Virtue, courage, art, science, are no longer anything but empty, hollow sounds. They represent nothing but the vain amusements with which we try to employ the time of life without glory or purpose, or devices which serve the most adroit for making their fellow-men the victims of their passions.

"We cannot say too often; For the man who reflects and thinks logically if the soul does not survive the body there are but two courses between which to choose—immediate suicide or deliberate, unscrupulous determination to enjoy all the pleasures in this life."

Just the Thing That's Wanted.—A pill that acts upon the stomach and yet is so compounded that certain ingredients of it preserve their power to act upon the intestinal canals, so as to clear them of excreta, the retention of which cannot but be hurtful, was long looked for by the medical profession. It was found in Parmelees Vegetable Pills, which are the result of much expert study, and are scientifically prepared as a laxative and an alterative in one.

REVIEWS.

SUCCESS.

The November issue of "Success" reflects the international scope of the success idea and, incidentally, its own growing constituency. A representative group of foreigners, including Joseph Chamberlain, W. Waldeck-Rousseau, Emile Zola, William T. Stead, Count von Waldersee, and the late Lord Russell, contribute their critical views of American success. The French premier declares that the heaviest American crop is millionaires, as another says he has seen Japanese. While Joseph Chamberlain expressed his fondness for everything American, Count von Waldersee gives the serious criticisms of several others regarding our deficiency in matters of art are refreshingly interesting, if not altogether complimentary.

Of the twelve articles which make up the November Forum, the leading two, by Charles Dick and Charles A. Town, namely, "Why the Republicans Should be Endorsed," and "Reasons for Democratic Success," will undoubtedly be taken up for first reading on account of the impending election. Mr George E Roberts, the director of the United States Mint, follows these two gentlemen with an article, "Can There be a Good Trust?" "The Next Pan-American Conference" is the title of an article by Hon. Williams C. Fox, Chief Clerk of the Bureau of American Republics, and Mr H. W. Wiley, Chief Chemist of the Bureau of Chemistry, Department of Agriculture, has a most interesting excursus on Bread and Bread-Making at the Paris Exposition, which contains some views upon bread-making which are novel and surprising. M. A. Maurice Low discusses the question of mounted infantry; Sir Robert Stout, Chief Justice of New Zealand, compares the constitution of the United States and the new Australasian Federation; and the Revival and Reaction in Iron is commented on by Mr. Archer Brown. Major Arthur Griffiths describes the English Intelligence Department; Mr. Llewellyn James Davies considers the present Taming of the Dragon, that is, China; Mr. Budgett Meakin writes of Yesterday and Today in Morocco; and the 500th anniversary of the death of Geoffrey Chaucer calls forth a very appreciative and interesting essay from Mr. Ferris Greenslet.

The readers of St. Nicholas will be glad to find in the November number, beginning a new year, the opening pages of an American serial by John Bennett, author of that popular Shakespearian story, "Master Skylark." It is called "The Story of Barnaby Lee," and is a tale of the transition from Dutch to English dominance in the city of New York nearly two and a half centuries ago. Another new serial is "A Frigate's Namesake," by Alice B. Abbot, with pictures by George Varian. Short stories in this number are: "Sergeant McTigue's Twins," by Lieut. Charles Dudley Rhodes, U.S.A.; "An Angel Unawares," by J. L. Harbour; "The Story of Three Dogs," by Mary Dameron, and "How the Shoes Fitted the Baby," by Sophie Swett. Benjamin E. Smith describes, with illustrations, the mechanism of the chariot race in the stage performance of "Ben Hur." "A Baker's Dozen of Wild Beasts are rounded up by Carolyn Wells, aided by Fanny Cory. The "Yoshien," of which Anna Benjamin writes, is nothing stranger than a Japanese kindergarten. Mrs. Joseph Pennell tells how children behaved four centuries ago, and Edward F. Bigelow, in Nature and Science, tells how young foxes behave today, and how the dodder robs the goldenrod; and the doings of wolves, birds and insects are described in illustrated letters "From Sharp-Eyed Girls and Boys." Pictures, poems and useful hints to readers abound.

Atlantic Monthly.—A Defense of American Parties, by William G. Brown, opens the November Atlantic, a notable and discussion-provoking article, maintaining the necessity for parties in a representative government. Two brilliant serials will be widely welcomed: Miss Jewett's The Tory Lover—a Revolutionary tale from a new (the Loyalist) side—and Mrs. Wiggin's Penlope's Irish Experiences—completing the foreign travels of that lively lady. Fresh and pertinent to the vexed Eastern question are Edmund Noble's The Future of Russia, and Whitelsey's Sir Robert Hart and the Chinese customs. Among other articles are Thorrey's Edward Fitzgerald—of Rubaiyat fame; Crother's The Gentle Reader—full of gentle humor; Daniel's incisive Letter to John Stuart Mill; Vida D. Scudder's Ill-Gotten Gifts to Colleges—a pressing topic; Simon Newcomb's An Astronomer's Friendship—the rehabilitation of an illustrious predecessor, and Tomlinson's Reading for Boys and Girls. Lively fiction, much poetical variety and an attractive Contributors' Club complete a notable number.

St. Nicholas.—During the past year St. Nicholas Magazine, which has been for nearly thirty years the leading children's monthly magazine of the world (and now the only one), has introduced several new departments, which have been extremely attractive and have greatly increased the circulation. One of these is "Nature and Science." The editor of Nature and Science gives careful attention to every question asked by his young readers. This department contains many interesting articles, beautifully illustrated, telling of four-footed animals, birds, insects, water animals, plants and whatever pertains to nature. St. Nicholas' League is an organization of those who read the magazine (whether subscribers or not), without dues, and it offers prizes each month for the best drawings, photographs, poems, stories and puzzle answers. Some of the work sent in by young folks shows surprising talent. No one who does not see St. Nicholas can realize what an interesting magazine it is, and how exquisitely it is illustrated; it is a surprise to young and old. Of literature it contains the choicest, and in art it has never been surpassed by any grown folks' periodical. The new volume begins with November, 1900, and the subscription price is $3.00 a year. The Century Co., Union Square, New York.

Good Cheer—A monthly magazine for cheerful thinkers, published by Forbes & Co., Boston, will be a monthly offering of pleasing, wholesome reading, written in a cheerful strain by optimistic authors. That Nixon Waterman is to have entire editorial supervision is proof positive that it could not be otherwise. Every number will contain some contribution from Mr. Waterman's fellow poets, and include occasional aphorisms in the original style of his "Home-Made Heterodoxy," and frequent verses of the kind which have placed him among the leading American humorists. The typography will be neat and artistic. Subscription price is one dollar a year, ten cents a copy. The first number is now ready and will be mailed on receipt of ten cents.

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