

HOLIDAYS OF OBLIGATION.—A writer in the *Daily News* of the 8th inst., deprecates the observance in Lower Canada of these holidays as too numerous, and as causing a loss of time to the people; he urges strongly that, henceforward, their observance be transferred to Sundays, as it has been proposed should be done in Prussia.

The writer, who, however, honestly avows his ignorance on the subject, estimates the number of Catholic holidays, at about one working day in six of the entire year, that is to say at about fifty:—

"I am not aware of the exact number of week days in the year during which our Christian brethren abstain from carrying on their usual occupations, but I should say about one sixth part of the week days are unemployed in works of industry."—*Daily News*

The fact is, that of holidays, peculiar to Catholics, not necessarily falling on Sundays, whose observance as days of abstinence from ordinary labor is obligatory on Catholics in Lower Canada, there are in the course of the year exactly nine. These are:—

1. The Circumcision, Jan. 1st; 2. The Epiphany, Jan. 6th; 3. The Annunciation, March 25th; 4. The Ascension; 5. Corpus Christi; 6. S.S. Peter and Paul, June 29th; 7. All Saints, Nov. 1st; 8. Immaculate Conception, Dec. 8th; 9. Christmas, Dec. 25th.

But of these nine holidays of obligation in the course of the year, and of which one, sometimes more than one, may fall upon a Sunday, two—Christmas Day, and the Circumcision, or New Year's Day, Jan. 1st.—are observed by Protestants, and can hardly be called peculiar to Catholics. There remain, therefore, exactly seven—not fifty—Catholic holidays of obligation in the course of the year; and instead of "about one-sixth," only about one-fifth "of the week days are unemployed in works of industry," because of the peculiar discipline of the Catholic Church in Lower Canada. The writer, who signs himself C., had, we are ready to admit, no intention to deceive, or to exaggerate; but he should have been more guarded in his statements, and might have taken the trouble of consulting an ecclesiastical calendar before writing on a subject on which he is profoundly ignorant.

OUR ZOUAVES.—On Wednesday of last week, 6th inst., at about 11 a.m., the detachment of Canadian Zouaves whose term of service in the Papal army has expired arrived in Montreal by train from New York. A large crowd of friends and relations of these young men, together with a concourse of our most distinguished citizens were gathered on the platform to greet them on their arrival with cheering, hearty grasps of the hand, and loving embraces. A procession was formed, headed by the pupils of the St. Mary's, and Montreal Colleges, and accompanied by bands of music proceeded to the Church of Notre Dame, the bells of the City Churches ringing out the while a merry peal. An eloquent and most appropriate address was delivered by the Rev. M. Colin after which was sung the *Te Deum*, followed by solemn Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. Our brave Canadian soldiers were entertained to dinner by the gentlemen of the Seminary.

The appearance of our returned Zouaves was highly prepossessing. Their neat uniforms set off to advantage their bronzed features, and lithe active figures. They looked indeed smart soldiers, a credit to any service, and fit for anything. All along the route from New York they were received with due honors by the Catholics of the several places where the cars stopped.

THE AUSTRALIAN COLONIES.—These seem to be in a prosperous condition. Both in New South Wales, and in Victoria, the annual revenue is increasing, and is largely in excess of the annual expenditure, which is steadily diminishing. The revenue averages about \$22 per head of population per annum. In the City of Melbourne alone, of surplus stock, about 50,000 fat sheep are slaughtered every week for exportation to England in the form of tallow and preserved meats. Large numbers of horned cattle share the same fate; but in spite of this large consumption, the *Melbourne Argus* observes that "the supply of meat seems inexhaustible," and that prices have undergone no change, although the "meat preserving business" lately started, "has required some 25,000 fat sheep, and a proportionate number of fat cattle, over and above what used to serve at our weekly markets." Certainly the material conditions of Australia and Canada are very dissimilar.

The Bulls creating the Ecclesiastical Province of Toronto, with Mgr. Lynch, hitherto Bishop of Toronto, as its Metropolitan, have been received at Toronto.

DEDICATION OF THE CHURCH OF "NOTRE DAME DU BONS-SECOURS," HULL, P. Q.
(To the Editor of the True Witness)

Sir,—With your kind permission, I will now lay before your readers a short account of a very interesting ceremony which lately took place in the village of Hull. As most of the readers of the True Witness are well aware, this thriving village is but a short distance from Ottawa; and

may indeed be regarded as a part of that city, being closely connected with it by the Suspension Bridge. The Catholic inhabitants are for the most part French Canadians, who may well be proud of the beautiful Church just erected in their midst.

The ceremony of the dedication of this building took place on Sunday, the 3rd inst. By 10 a.m., a large and respectable congregation had assembled within its yet unconsecrated walls. Few moments had intervened when the cheerful strains of the College Brass Band, announced the appearance of the celebrant Rev. Father Tabaret, and assistants in the Sanctuary. Before proceeding with the ceremony, the above named reverend gentleman addressed a few suitable remarks to the devoted people, and then consecrated their noble offering to the Most High.

After Mass, Rev. Father Rayer delivered a long and eloquent discourse, during which he complimented those who were in any way connected with the erection of the Church; and bestowed a well merited praise on the Wright family, who though of an opposite creed, had generously furnished the ground on which the Church was built.

In the evening the Jubilee was opened, and will continue during the present week.

A glance at the building convinces one that it is worthy of a more wealthy congregation; but the zeal of the good missionary Father Reboul, and the charity of those placed under his care, can easily account for its erection.

SHAMROCK.

Ottawa, April 5th, 1870.

THE ST. PATRICK'S SOCIETY.—The annual election of officers for this Society took place at the St. Patrick's Hall on the evening of Wednesday the 6th inst. Two candidates, Messrs. Devlin and O'Brien were spoken of; but the latter, though deservedly popular, and much respected, waived his pretensions, and B. Devlin, Esq., was unanimously elected President for the ensuing year. The other offices were filled up as follows:—First Vice-President—Mr. John Cutler. Second do.—Mr. J. E. Mullin. Corresponding Secretary—Mr. P. O'Meara. Recording Secretary—Mr. M. O'Connor. Assistant Recording Secretary—Mr. D. Coglian. Treasurer—Mr. W. P. McGuire.

At the Adjourned Meeting of the above Society, held in the St. Patrick's Hall on Monday evening, 11th inst., the following gentlemen were elected as the Committee of Management for the ensuing year:—Messrs. P. Donovan, M. Donovan, R. McShane, M. C. Mullarky, J. G. Kennedy, R. McCreedy, T. McKenna, T. F. Fugarty, P. Doran, C. Egan, J. McShane, Jr., M. Murphy, D. Barry, T. Doherty, M. Rooney, P. McCrory, J. A. Rafter, and M. Harrington. Grand Marshal, Mr. Timothy Saulten; Assistant Marshals, Messrs. P. Rooney, Hy Costello, J. Wickham, and W. Heelan.

In consequence of the infirm state of Mr. Patrick Purcell's health, he has resigned the Agency of the True Witness for Kingston; and Mr. James Nolan is hereby appointed in his place. All our subscribers in arrears in and around Kingston, will please remit to Mr. Nolan as soon as possible.

Mr. P. Doyle, Arcade, is our duly appointed Agent for Toronto.

Mr. F. Stewart is our duly appointed Agent for Ingersoll and neighborhood.

Mr. C. Donovan, Printer, is our duly appointed Agent for Hamilton and vicinity.

MONTREAL CITY AND DISTRICT SAVINGS BANK.

The Annual Meeting of the Honorary Directors of this bank was held at its office on Tuesday 5th inst. Wm. Macdonald, Esq., being called to the Chair, and Mr. Barbeau acting as Secretary, the following Reports and Statements were read:—

To the Honorary Directors of the Montreal City and District Savings Bank.

Gentlemen.—The Managing Directors have again the pleasure of meeting you on this the twenty fourth anniversary of the Bank, to submit a Statement which they trust you will find less gratifying than any of those they have previously had the honor of communicating.

The large increase of business mentioned in our last Statement has continued during the past year and you will observe by the figures contained in the accompanying Statement that the Institution is steadily growing in importance.

To show the magnitude of the transactions of the Bank we may mention that our Cash Book adds up over a million and a half of dollars every month.

The profits this year after paying all expenses, amount to \$20,608.86. Out of this sum we have again appropriated to various city charities the sum of \$6,035, forming, with previous donations a total of \$62,610.

We beg to call your particular attention to the full and able Report of your Auditors. We will add nothing more to the various items of interest which these gentlemen mention; but it is a pleasure for us to advert to them as being of a very gratifying nature.

The contracts for our New Building are signed, and we hope to be able to avail ourselves early next year of the extra space it will afford, and of which we are so much in need. We trust it will be considered as a credit to the Institution and an ornament to the City.

We have to submit for your approval a Bye-Law passed by the Board on the 31st January last, to allow of the closing of the Bank on the last day of the year. The enormous labour now required to make up the interest accounts of over seven thousand depositors has suggested this means to avert dangerous haste and avoid confusion.

You are now called upon to elect an Honorary Director to replace N. Dumas, Esq., an old and esteemed friend of the Bank now deceased.

Messrs. Mulholland, Judah and Starnes term of office as Managing Directors, and that of Messrs. Bristow and Palgrave as Auditors, expires this year. These gentlemen are eligible for re-election.

The whole respectfully submitted.

HENRY STARNES, President.

April 5, 1870.

Statement of the Affairs of the Montreal City and District Savings Bank, the 31st Dec, 1869.

By City of Montreal, Provincial & Champlain, & St. Lawrence Railroad, 1st Mort. Bonds.....\$ 480,351 66

By Bank Stocks, viz., Ontario Bank & City Bank.. 27,252 16

By loans on short dates, with the Collateral Security of Bank Stocks & Bonds, such as required by law.. 1,077,361 80

By property occupied by the Bank, and Office Furniture..... 25,267 45

By Amt. due on sale of portion of the above..... 2,453 32

By property corner of St. James and St. John Sts., for new building..... 29,126 43

By Deposits on call and interest in the Banks of the City..... 844,197 35

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closed on the thirty-first day of December each year; and whenever the thirty-first falls on Sunday the Bank will be closed on the thirtieth.

Messrs. O. A. Leblanc and N. R. Corse having consented to act as Scrutineers, the elections were then proceeded with when the following gentlemen were declared unanimously elected: As Managing Directors for the term of office required by law:—Messrs. Henry Starnes, Henry Mulholland, and Henry Judah.

As auditors for the ensuing year:—Messrs. W. Bristow and O. T. Palgrave.

As Honorary Director:—F. P. Pominville, Esq.

The meeting terminated after voting on motion of A. M. Delisle, Esq. seconded by O. A. Leblanc, Esq., the usual thanks to the Chairman.

E. J. BARBEAU, Secretary.

At a meeting held immediately after the Board of Directors unanimously elected President the Hon. H. Starnes, and Hon. L. H. Hooton, Vice-President for the current year.

Mr. Octavius H. E. Clarke received the degree of M. D. C. M. on Thursday, March 31st, at the Convocation of McGill University. To Mr. Clarke was awarded the prize "for the best final examination for the degree of M. D. C. M.," and the prize in Clinical Surgery. At previous sessions Mr. Clarke took the first prize of Botany, the prize in Practical Anatomy, and obtained two honorable mentions at the Convocation of the University.

On Saturday evening, about 10 o'clock, orders were received from Ottawa by Capt. Muir, of No. 1 Troop of Cavalry, instructing him to turn out his men at once for active service on the frontier. Accordingly No. 1 Troop paraded at the Drill Shed yesterday afternoon, received saddles, &c., and were ordered to be prepared to march at 10 o'clock this morning to the front. The troop turned out very strong, only one trooper being absent. The men were well mounted and all appeared ready and almost anxious for service. In addition to the present members of the Troop, old members of the squadron who had sons in the Troop mustered and expressed their intention again to volunteer if necessary, and generally the most patriotic feeling existed. The No. 1 Troop, it is understood, proceed either to St. Armand or Huntingdon, most probably the latter. Our readers will doubtless be aware that for some days the Fenians have been gathering round the frontier, and at some points have brought arms and ammunition across the lines. The Volunteers have been called out all along the frontier, and have been under arms ever since Saturday, and it is probable that all our corps will be ordered out at once.—*Mont. Herald*, 11th inst.

Harriet Knapp, the ex-Grand Trunk conductor, who recently killed a man named McGowan at Brompton Falls, has been found guilty of manslaughter.—*Montreal Gazette*.

REMITTANCES RECEIVED.

Ormslow, P. Bessie, \$2; Penetanguishene, M. Quinn, 2; Meaford J. Ward, 2; Fort William, E. O'Brien, 2; West Wingham, P. McMahon, 2; Playfair, J. Sheridan, 2; Smithville, T. McKough, 1; Dixons Corners, T. Houlahan, 2; Lowe, J. Martin, 2; Rev. F. J. Prudhomme, St. Sophia, 2; P. O. Fraser, Maitland, T. Burns, 5; Per W. Moore, Norton Creek—J. M. Nulty, 8.50; Per W. H. H. Lacombe—Self, 1; M. Lyons, 2; T. Blanchard, 2.50; Per D. Walker, Lindsay—Rev. B. Coyle, Downeyville, 2; Per Rev. J. M. Nulty, Seneca—M. Donnelly, 2.

Died.
In this city, on Sunday morning, 10th inst., Patrick McShane, aged 32 years.

In Kingston, Ontario, on Tuesday morning, the 29th of March, Bridget, second daughter of Mr. John Kavanagh, aged 25 years—May she rest in peace.

At Prescott, on the 23rd of March, Thomas James Feeney, of typhus fever, youngest son of the late Farrell Feeney, in the 27th year of his age.

At Prescott, on the 29th of March, Mary Lavin, relict of the late Farrell Feeney, in the 64th year of her age.—May she rest in peace.

April 9th, at Albany, Brigadier-General, aged 28 years, a native of the County Wexford, Ireland, formerly a resident of Montreal.

CANADA. } SUPERIOR COURT.
Pro. of QUEBEC, }
Dist. of Montreal. }

No. 1115.

DAME MATHILDE LEVILLÉ, of the City and District of Montreal, widow of the late Francis Xavier Piche, in his lifetime of the town of Joliette, in the District of Joliette, and now wife of FRANCIS MURRAY, of the said City of Montreal,

vs.

The aforesaid FRANCIS MURRAY, Defendant.

NOTICE is hereby given that the Plaintiff has instituted an action for separation of property against the Defendant.

O. AUGE, Plaintiff's Attorney.
Montreal, April 1870.

INSOLVENT ACT OF 1869.

In the matter of Dame Christina McPherson, of the City of Montreal, widow of the late Samuel Miller, in his lifetime of Montreal aforesaid, Merchant, and Miss Christina Miller of the same place, Spinster, *fille majeure et usante de ses droits*, and Charles D. Miller of Miller aforesaid, Confectioner, her heirs and heirs at law of the late John Ogden Miller, deceased, in his lifetime of Montreal aforesaid, Coal Merchant and as such carrying on the affairs, business and concerns of the estate and succession of the said late John Ogden Miller, Traders.

I, the undersigned, Andrew B. Stewart of the City of Montreal have been appointed Assignee in this matter. Creditors are requested to file their Claims before me within one month, and are hereby notified to meet at my Office, Merchants Exchange Building, St. Sacrament Street in the City of Montreal on Monday, the ninth day of May next, at the hour of four o'clock in the afternoon, for the public examination of the Insolvent, and for the ordering of the Affairs of the Estate generally.

The Insolvent is hereby notified to attend.

A. B. STEWART, Assignee.
Montreal, 5th April, 1870.

WANTED
A STOUT BOY as an Apprentice to the BLACK-SMITH business. Wages liberal. A Boy from the country preferred.