

The True Witness

AND CATHOLIC CHRONICLE

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NOTE WELL.—Matter intended for publication should reach us not later than 5 o'clock Wednesday afternoon.

CORRESPONDENCE and items of local Catholic interest solicited.



THURSDAY, JULY 25, 1907.

Bishopal 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.

PAUL, Archbishop of Montreal.

FATHER BERNARD VAUGHAN.

The world is beginning to know Father Vaughan. London has known him for some time past. The "Four Hundred" of the big city has received some heavy blows from him.

James O'Donnell Bennett, the correspondent of the Chicago Herald, has this to say of Father Vaughan: "Everybody in London loves and honors Father Vaughan, and yet he is the pulpit scourge of the town."

For the first fifteen minutes his matter is extremely commonplace and he will tell, with a simplicity so perfect that a child could follow him, some familiar gospel story.

toes, then descends with a crash upon his heels. His body sways backward and forward. Sometimes he folds both hands together and lays them against the lower part of one cheek.

CATHOLIC FEDERATION.

The Apostolic delegate took part in the convention of Catholic Societies in Indianapolis last week. This is ample proof that the great movement known as the Federation of Catholic Societies is approved of by the Holy See.

The movement is receiving great impetus in the United States. This is as it should be, and we hope that the proper alertness and zeal will guide the movement in Canada, which starts in a small but auspicious way.

The New World puts the situation concisely thus: "Time was when it was believed, and there are still individuals who think that Catholics should cringe and cower to the State and beg their rights as Lazarus begged the crumbs that fell from the table of Dives."

IN OLD NEW ENGLAND.

When President Elliot, of Harvard College, was in Montreal, last spring we were a little surprised at some of his remarks. One in particular to the effect that American educators were growing more and more indifferent to religion.

"There is one Church which makes religion an essential in education, and that is the Catholic Church, in which the mothers teach their faith to the infants at the breast in their lullaby songs, and whose Brotherhoods and priests, Sisterhoods and nuns imprint their religion on souls as indelibly as the diamond marks the hardened glass."

MARRIAGE BROKERS.

A matrimonial agency called the "Christian Home," which has headquarters at Elmira, N.Y., and doing a "marriage-made-quick" business, is sending circulars broadcast, some of which have been called to our attention.

"What, therefore, God hath joined together, let no man put asunder." "Devoted to the interests of unmarried Catholics."

"The 'Christian Home' is a circle formed for the sole purpose of introducing Catholic men and women who feel themselves called to the married state."

"Some of our eloquent, far-seeing priests are decrying the prevalence of bachelorhood and spinsterhood of the present day. Marriage is a fitting state in life, and it is a sorry sight to see an old bachelor cooking."

"Likewise is the fair bachelor girl out of place in her club or den."

"The brokerage house requires \$2 as a requisite for membership in the charmed circle. Then the old bachelor boys and bachelor girls are entitled to receive all kinds of flamboyant literature and alleged photographs of would-be grooms and brides."

EDITORIAL NOTES.

In reply to the announcement from the Archbishop of Quebec that he was inaugurating Catholic social work in his diocese and hoped to establish a daily paper in connection with the same, the Holy Father has written a Brief warmly commending Archbishop Begin's zeal in this matter and approving in a special manner of the establishment of a Catholic journal non-partisan in politics.

Dr. Alphonse Baudelin, of Worcester, Mass., whom the President has made chief commissioner of the United States to the International Maritime Exposition, which begins October 31 at Bordeaux, France, is a graduate of Assumption College, where he was a schoolmate of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, and through his mother, is a nephew of Charles Thibault, the great French Canadian tribune.

Qui Vive ?

(By Llarretaw.)

THE ABSENTEE LANDLORD. "Fine country this," said the tourist to his car driver, as they were rattling along a country road in County Wicklow.

"It is, sorr," replied the jarvie, "And quare names they've got hereabouts. Ye see this bit o' water fornicist yez? 'The Devil's Punch-bowl' they call it. Quare names! Ye see that gap in the mountain side? 'The Devil's Staircase' they call it. That rock yonder? 'The Devil's Armchair.' Quare names they've got."

"Your friend seems to have a great deal of property in the neighborhood," suggested the tourist. "True for ye, but, like the rest of the blaguard, he's an absentee landlord."

THE EFFECTS OF THE CO-CALLED REFORMATION.

On the occasion of the village feast, the Vicar preached from the church tower at Selston (Notts). The people crowded the churchyard and roadway to witness the novel sight. While inspecting Bangor Cathedral, a party of trippers adorned their coats with beautiful flowers from the communion table, and were with difficulty persuaded to give them up by the vergier.

ENGLISH CATHEDRALS.

Whoever retains a due veneration for sacred antiquity, or desires to honor the memory of our renowned ancestors, may yet trace out their magnificence, their love to their country, their immense charity, their piety and devotion to the great Mother of God (to whom the majority of the churches are dedicated). In those stupendous structures, which they erected to the service of God, and where Holy Mass was expeted to be said for all time.

KNEELING AT CHURCH.

We have gone from one extreme to the other. Formerly the laity had nice soft cushions to kneel on, now we haven't an apology of a thin carpet. I know a lady suffering from a swollen knee through kneeling so often on hard bare wood. Some superior to rheumatism and household's knees, would say, "O, let the worshippers kneel anywhere, on the cold bare floor," same as in many churches in the Emerald Isle to-day, but bare boards are the cause of suffering and many a lounging, irrelevant attitude.

J. K. Foran, the Irish-Canadian poet laureate, was similarly honored some years ago by the Catholic University of Ottawa when he was editor of the official organ of the archdiocese of Montreal, the True Witness.

The people of Springfield, Mass., had an opportunity of witnessing a novel sight last Tuesday morning. The Ladies' Catholic Benevolent Association held their national convention in that city. On Tuesday morning 1000 lady delegates formed in line and marched in procession to St. Michael's Cathedral, where Rt. Rev. Bishop McQuaid, of Rochester, celebrated Pontifical Mass, invoking the divine blessing on the deliberations of the delegates.

More than 600 teachers of Catholic schools in Ontario are this month taking the course of pedagogics prescribed by the province for those who wish to have certificates. The course began July 1 and will continue till the 1st of August. At Toronto 800 Christian Brothers are in attendance and courses are also being given at Hamilton, London, Ottawa and Berlin. At Ottawa 205 religious are attending.

The Dominican Fathers of this country are preparing to entertain a distinguished visitor, in the person of Very Rev. Father Desqueroux, procurator-general of the order. He comes on a visit of inspection to all the houses in America, and will be accompanied by Rev. Father Horn, O.P., a member of the Biblical Commission, who has resided in Rome for many years. The visit of inspection was to have been made by the Master-General, Father Cormiere, but owing to advanced age he deputized his procurator to represent him.

A German-American priest, writing in Mr. Preuss' Fortnightly Review, makes about the strobogest suggestion we have met with on the duty of supporting the Catholic press: "The subject," he says, "is of such supreme importance that I think mention ought to be made of it in the catechism, by adding to the command to support the pastors, obligation, or at least a recommendation, to support also the Catholic press."

Referring to my remarks last week re the pleasures of the British, I came across the following appropriate tid-bit, which illustrates what I mean to the very letter: "Overheard in the Slums.—Woman: 'Lor', Bill, 'ow tired I do feel. What a world this is. 'Bill: 'Why, Bet, w'at's the matter v'iv yer now? 'Woman: 'Don't I tell yer I'm tired, and I'm miserable, and I wish I was dead? 'Bill: 'Tired? Miserable? Why, yer was drunk on Monday, and drunk again Wednesday, ye've 'ad nearly enuf ten-day; and if that ain't pleasure enuf fer yer in one week, I don't know w'at is. 'Dyer want to be a downright hangel 'ere on earth?'"

THE CURFEW.

The apt editorial last week suggests the following, with no apology to the late Mr. Gray: The Curfew tolls the knell of parting day, Warning the children to leave their play, 'Tis eight o'clock, and time for bed After the Rosary has been said. Then when this plan has been happily tried, We shall then see the old proverb verified, 'Early to bed, and early to rise, Makes a man healthy, wealthy and wise.'"

ST. LAURENCE. Why is this beautiful Catholic and Christian name spelt with "w" instead of "u"? Thus we have River St. Lawrence, St. Lawrence Boulevard, etc. St. Lawrence, the deacon-martyr, St. Lawrence O'Toole, the great Irish Saint, are both spelt with "u" and Lawrence is always written and spelt so. I expect the early settlers here, who were in those days mostly Protestant, on being asked how Lawrence was spelt, not knowing any better, replied with a "w" and so it has remained ever since. It is high time it was altered, if only on account of our bewildered children, who are puzzled at seeing the Saint spelt with a "u" in their books of devotion, and with a "w" in their geography book.

LONG SERMON.

A little while ago a parson beginning to preach, split his sermon into twenty-four parts. One of his hearers ran home for his night cap and slippers.

THE RITUALISTS.

When we speak with the Ritualists of the Church, we are not so much as talking about the same thing. There are not two concepts in the whole range of human thought more radically opposed, no two more mutually destructive than the Anglican and the Catholic view of the Church of Christ. They do not support, but exclude one another. They have no more identity than light and darkness, than coincide like life and death.

WESTMINSTER ABBEY.

Old Abbey of a thousand vicissitudes of fairy-like architectural decorations, of innumerable chapels, of ancient tombs all stamped with the impress of ages, you still tell the traveller what you once were when you preserved unbroken the teaching of St. Augustine and the faith of St. Edward the Confessor.

ST. FRANCIS. The other day I saw a picture of St. Francis by Guido, the face with the paleness of death—a book open before him, a crucifix behind him, an unrolled volume before: the head reclining, an expression of great anguish, the hand pierced, bent backwards—the whole a grand masterpiece.

THE OLD RELIGION.

"No man, having drunk of old wine, straightaway desisteth new: for he saith the old is better."

FRENCH AFFAIRS.

How would it do to perpetuate the memory of the French crisis by paintings from the following illustrative symbols from fabulous and modern history? Such as: French Liberty—Saturn devouring his children. Parliament—Tigers fighting, and the Chaos by Ovid. French Equality—Circus transforming the companions of Ulysses. French Freedom—Eolus blowing a trumpet. The Catholic Religion—Artemis in mourning. The French People—Clouds carried by the wind. The Present Prospect—Snow before the sun. The Future—The head of Medusa.

HOMELY PROVERBS.

The more you speak of yourself, the more you are likely to lie. There is a mode of presenting that gives a value to anything. Insure your own pleasures by pleasing others.

AN IRISH YARN.

One day an Irishman sat by the roadside enjoying his dinner. A priest passing at the time exclaimed: "Now, Pat, don't you know it's wrong to eat meat on a Friday?" "Sure," says Pat, "this is not meat, it is a sausage."

The priest assured him it was meat, and went on his way. A few days later he ordered Pat to bring him a load of wood. Pat arrived in due time with a big load of sawdust. On seeing it the rev. gentleman became very angry and asked: "Did I not order you to bring me a load of wood?" "Ah, sure," says Pat, "you did, but you said sausage was meat, so I thought sawdust was wood."

ENGLISH JOYS.

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