

DOINGS IN NATIONAL SOCIETIES.

The regular meeting of the Gaelic Society Class was held on Monday evening in their rooms on Craig St. The students of the Gaelic are doing well, and many of them are far enough advanced to read the Irish National Anthem. For the short time the class has been in existence this is really encouraging and reflects the highest of credit on both teachers and pupils. While the attendance was not quite as large on Monday evening as on previous occasions, nevertheless, the enthusiasm manifested by those present made up for the few who were absent. The report of the committee of the entertainment held on the 4th of March, was presented after the regular class instructions. A meeting of the executive committee was held at which important business in connection with the Society was transacted.

Now that the Irish people of this city are thoroughly organized, and very few of them are outside the pale of one national organization or another, I think the question of a National Hall should be seriously considered by the different societies. For years past the Young Irishmen's Literary and Benefit Association has been discussing this very important matter, but with no final result.

At the last monthly meeting of St. Patrick's Society, the imperative necessity of such a building was explained by Mr. Patrick Wright.

Personally, I know that its need has been time and again discussed by the members of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, but there is one impediment at the present time, which prevents that organization from taking any active steps in the matter, and that is, the question of incorporation. Some few years ago, when I held an executive position in the Councils of the Order, I strongly advocated the good that would be derived from being incorporated under the Provincial laws; its incorporation was a success in the Province of Ontario, and I could not understand why it would not be a success in this Province. But I suppose wiser heads prevailed, and the views I expressed at that time prompt me now to write on the matter and to explain the opinions I held then. Now supposing the A. O. H. was an incorporated society, and I have it on the most reliable legal authority that for a paltry sum of \$250 of incorporation could be secured, we would have three National incorporated societies, namely, the St. Patrick's, Young Irishmen's, and the Ancient Order of Hibernians. I would propose to unite the three by a joint hall committee of nine members, three from each society, and be under the chairmanship of the pastor of St. Patrick's. This amalgamation would be merely for the purpose of settling the question of proprietorship. With such an arrangement we would, in a very short time, have a hall that would be a credit to the Irish people of Canada, and a monument in after years to the present generation of Irish Canadians. I would like to see some of those interested in building such an edifice discuss the matter in the columns of the "True Witness." We should not let feelings of interest for any particular society, or other matters, interfere with the progress of what in my humble opinion would be the most wonderful achievement of our people on this side of the Atlantic.

A grand concert under the auspices of St. Mary's Conference of St. Vincent de Paul Society will be held in St. Mary's Hall, on the 27th inst. in aid of the poor. Such a charitable and laudable object deserves the highest commendation.

The special committee appointed by Division No. 1, A. O. H., at its last regular meeting in connection with a circular issued by the Catholic Truth Society of Ottawa, in reference to the Coronation oath, met on Saturday in the Hibernian Hall, and prepared the following resolutions. It is gratifying to see that the pioneer branch has taken the initiative in the matter. The resolutions need no comment from me they speak for themselves:

That the members of Division No. 2, Ancient Order of Hibernians, desire to express their regret that there should be required of the Sovereign of the Empire, at coronation, or any other time, a declaration against transubstantiation, by which the sacrifice of the Mass and other doctrines of the Roman Catholic Church are stigmatized as superstitious and idolatrous.

That we sincerely trust that the spirit of broad toleration, which within the reign of Her Most Gracious Majesty, and the two preceding Sovereigns, has removed this declaration from the statute books so far as members of parliament, peers of the realm, and office-holders are concerned, will at the request of humble but

dutiful subjects of the Empire cause it to be repealed in so far as it relates to the supreme head of the state.

That we believe that the removal of this objectionable declaration would enable the Roman Catholics of the Empire to enter with more profound feeling of loyal affection into the spirit of the ceremony, which should be the occasion of nothing but mutual esteem and good will on the part of both sovereign and subjects.

This was signed by the committee on resolutions as follows:

JOHN LAVELLE
B. FEENEY
HUGH McMORROW

The regular meeting of St. Patrick's Court, No. 95, the pioneer of Catholic Forestry, in this Province, was held on Monday evening, in St. Ann's Hall, Mr. M. Shea, Chief Ranger presiding.

Being a quarterly meeting a very large attendance was present, particularly pleasing was it to notice the great interest manifested by many of the charter members or founders of the Branch, who are most assiduously working for its advancement and who show their appreciation of Forestry by never missing a meeting. The quarterly reports, both financial and otherwise, were read, and notwithstanding the heavy drain which has always been on the parent branch it is nevertheless in a healthy and prosperous condition. Two new members were initiated.

Mrs. Carroll, widow of the late Bro. Carroll, tendered her thanks to the officers and members for the large numbers in attendance at the funeral, and for the prompt payment of the funeral benefit. I may say I was sorry when I heard of Bro. Carroll's untimely death, for by it Ireland has lost one of her truest children.

The regular drill of the Hibernian Knights was held on Sunday afternoon. There was a large attendance; but the enforcement of the fine will add a snug little sum to the treasury. The concert committee are making great progress and indications point to its being a very successful affair. The regular monthly meeting will be held on next Sunday afternoon in the K. of L. Hall, corner Craig and Henry streets, at two o'clock sharp, when important business will be discussed. The full company are requested to be present.

No. 6 Division A. O. H., held a large meeting on last Thursday evening in their hall, 768, St. Lawrence St. The members of this Branch are in sore need of more spacious quarters, and it is to be regretted there is not a suitable hall in the north end for the boys. The Division scarcely nine months old, has a qualified list of one hundred and sixty on the roll, besides forty-three awaiting initiation. A special committee of three was appointed to draw up resolutions in connection with the circular received from the Catholic Truth Society of Ottawa.

The regular meeting of Division No. 2, A. O. H., of St. Gabriel's, was held on Friday evening last, and after a lengthy discussion of matters adjourned until Monday, when the questions were again taken up. Financially speaking this Branch is a strong one. It will celebrate the sixth anniversary of its foundation on the 30th inst with a "smoker."

The annual outing of St. Mary's Court, No. 164, C. O. F., will be held on Dominion Day at St. Lawrence Park, Cornwall, the programme will contain many interesting events. The following committee will have charge of the affair: Messrs. M. Dunn, J. O'Rourke, W. Phelan, A. Bisset, E. Cox, T. Phelan, J. B. Bellisle, W. Smith, J. Robinson, R. Buxey and O. Cardinal.

The Annual Field Day of Irish National Games, under the auspices of Div. No. 1, A. O. H., will be held this year at Otterburn Park, on Dominion Day; new, novel and interesting features will be introduced. A great success is predicted providing the Grand Trunk will be able to accommodate the patrons of this Division, who are a legion and a brother who is well posted on such matters tells me it will take one hundred cars to carry them there. If that be so (I have no right to doubt his opinion) it beats Banagher, and we all know who Banagher beats.

As I predicted some weeks ago the Bells of Shandon Company, with J. W. Reagan in the leading role, will play a week's engagement at the Queen's, commencing next Monday. The return of the "Bro. Jim" will be hailed with delight by the Hibernians of this city. A special meeting of

the County Board will be held on Friday evening, to make arrangements for a Hibernian night. It is also rumored that the Young Irishmen's Society will have a special night, and that the Shamrocks may have another.

The Business manager of the Company, Mr. Jas. F. Merritt, of Brooklyn, N. Y., is stopping at the Albion.

Mr. Merritt has had considerable trouble with the Customs authorities in connection with some portion of his equipment. He is financial secretary of a Division in Brooklyn, and has a host of friends in this city.

THE CONNAUGHT RANGER

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY OF ST. ANN'S PARISH.

The St. Ann's Young Men's Society gave a grand vocal, instrumental and dramatic entertainment on Tuesday evening for the benefit of St. Ann's Branch of the St. Vincent de Paul Society, whose treasury needs replenishing after the severe winter that has just closed.

The parishioners responded in large numbers to the call of charity; and the St. Ann's Hall was crowded to its utmost capacity. The entertainment equalled any ever given in St. Ann's Hall, and a most enjoyable evening was spent by all present. A very efficient orchestra under the leadership of Prof. P. J. Shea, opened the evening with a few of the latest musical selections which were much appreciated. Miss Marie Hollinshead, Montreal's famous nightingale, then rendered, in her inimitable manner, "The Palms," and received great applause. She also sang "Because" as an encore. Mr. Wm. Murphy, the leader of St. Ann's Choir, sang "My Wild Irish Rose," in a very excellent manner and was also compelled to respond to an encore. Mrs. Parratt, Montreal's favorite harpist, delighted the audience by her rendition of "Moore's Melodies," on an Irish harp. The Orpheus Vocal Quartette, who are always a great drawing card in themselves, gave "The Midshipmite" and elicited great applause. Being recalled they rendered the "Handicap." The Quartette which is composed of Messrs. Wm. Murphy, M. C. Mullarky, J. Penfold and Ed. Quinn, with Prof. P. J. Shea, the talented organist of St. Ann's as musical director, are recognized favorites and have acquired great efficiency in the vocal line. Miss Gertrude O'Brien's rendering of "Tell them that you're Irish," was greatly appreciated and she received much applause. Miss Bennett in a recitation showed that she possesses great elocutionary powers, but we cannot approve of her choice of a subject, as "Jimmy's Exploits" savored very much of a caricature.

Mr. M. C. Mullarky, whose sweet, well trained voice makes him always

a favorite, was greatly applauded for his excellent rendering of "My Sweet Little Girl of Killarney." Mr. A. Jones' Coon songs in costume were also well enjoyed. He sang "My Ann Eliza," and upon being recalled, gave "Leave me bring my clothes-bag home." The musical novelties of those juvenile prodigies, the little Misses Norray and Hildred Coghlan, completely brought down the house. Their various selections upon the guitar, mandolin, banjo and bells; their imitation of the chimes; together with their singing and dancing, were alone a first class entertainment. Their musical talent is something wonderful. Mr. Wm. Daly, treasurer of St. Vincent de Paul Society, then read the financial report for the past year, which showed the vast amount of good that is being done by the society amongst the needy poor of St. Ann's Parish.

The evening's entertainment concluded with a repetition by special request of the side splitting farce "The Nigger Night School," which made such a favorable impression when produced by the dramatic section of the Society, some months ago. Mr. John Penfold, as Dr. Solomon Shoes, Professor of Science and Philosophy, was all that could be desired. Mr. G. Gummerson as Andy White, Mr. J. J. Murray as Zeke Johnstone, Mr. P. Mahon as Sam Snow, and Mr. Ed. Quinn as Pete Persimmon, all promising pupils of the night school were also very good. Their antics were much enjoyed. Mr. J. P. McKenna as Deborah White, Andy's mother, was a veritable Amazon. The sextette kept the audience in a continuous roar of laughter and the farce lost nothing by the repetition.

The St. Ann's Young Men's Society have scored another success on this occasion, and the musical director, Mr. P. J. Shea, the stage manager, Mr. Ed. Quinn, and the rest of the executive deserve much credit for Tuesday evening's entertainment.

Religious Notes and Remarks.

While we always believe in keeping the serious side of life uppermost before the mind, yet we enjoy a good joke, we can appreciate true wit and humor, and we often like to see things by the ludicrous light in which they are sometimes presented to us. Were it not that tampering with things holy, and bringing sacred matters into contrast with the violence of the earth, are matters too important and dangerous to be tolerated, or encouraged, we could amuse ourselves heartily with a certain publication called "The Converted Catholic." A copy of this species of magazine was recently handed to us, and we spent a very amusing, if not instructive hour, in noting the amount of nonsense, the number of lies, and the countless contradictions of a most ridiculous nature, that it contains.

This review is edited by a certain James O'Connor, formerly a priest, now a "converted Catholic." It appears that, for some unknown cause, possibly, as he unintentionally suggests that the Almighty "who feeds the birds of the air" has not had time to consider the question of the O'Connor mission and its needs—there are some \$3,500 immediately required at 142 West 21st Street, New York. If the Church of Rome would only stop the collecting of "Peter's Pence," and if the Roman Catholic priests would cease requiring money to defray the cost of their living and maintenance of their churches, it is almost certain that Mr. O'Connor could succeed in the very laudable design of "securing \$100 each from some friends; fifty dollars each from some twenty of the Lord's people; twenty-five dollars each from some fifty others; ten dollars each from one hundred more; and five dollars each from another hundred." All of which would clear off the debt of \$3,500, and secure salvation for many a doomed priest of Rome.

Now, while we deeply sympathize with Mr. O'Connor in his difficulties, we scarcely think it reasonable on his part to expect the Pope to give up to him any share of the "Peter's Pence," were he the Pope—which he is not likely to be—it is not probable he would feel inclined to devote the Church's stipends to such an object. But this is not the worst! This

unfortunate Mr. O'Connor—we mean unfortunate in pecuniary and social matters—has been deeply insulted. It seems, according to his statement, that he has sent several letters to "James Gibbons, of Baltimore," to "John Ireland, of St. Paul," and to "Satoli," an Italian gentleman, who represented the Pope in America, and none of these parties have had the politeness to even acknowledge receipt of such letters. In consequence Mr. O'Connor's feelings have undergone several severe shocks—all of which are merely so many attempts of Rome to persecute and destroy him mentally and bodily.

However, there is always "a silver and even a golden lining to every cloud"—evidently it is lining of that material, to the extent of \$3,500, that he is after—and in his difficulties, his wrestling with spirits of evil, and his acrobatic feats of religious activity, this new martyr for his faith has been consoling by letters of encouragement from such eminent sympathizers as "D. J. B., of Massachusetts," "J. C. W., of Jersey City, N. J.," "Mrs. J. W. of New Haven, Conn.," and "J. A. L., of Lynn, Ind." It must be a great relief to the "Converted Catholic" to know and feel that, while Cardinal Gibbons, and other high dignitaries of the Catholic Church, neglect his "inspired" correspondence, there should be on earth authorities of the prominence and respectability of the universally recognized, D. J. B., J. C. W., J. A. L., and possibly the renowned N. Y. Z., to proclaim their faith in Mr. O'Connor's divine mission.

What pity one feels for such a man! It is a pity akin to that which we feel for Bedlamite!

In the course of a sermon, on the Seventh Commandment, recently preached by Rev. Dr. Herridge of Ottawa, that eminent—if not always strictly orthodox—minister, made use of the following very strong language:

"Marriage is essential to the world's greatest growth. And the one thing essential to married life is love. Marriage without love is nothing more than a legalized immorality. Love, not money, rules the world. One thing noticeable to-day is the age at which young people marry. In

times past young people married before they were of age, but now, on account of their luxurious habits, they do not marry until they can live in ease and comfort. They want to begin where their fathers left off. Better far is it to enter married life with a small home, where love reigns, than to wait for a more luxurious one, when the dream may be over. The length of happiness of married life is not measured by the length of purse, but by the love which the husband and wife have for one another. Some cynics may laugh at love, but the world cannot afford to laugh. Glad am I to see that though many attacks have been made on the marriage laws, it is one of the institutions which Christian nations have so far held sacred and it is well that we keep it so."

Dr. Herridge is certainly right, as far as he goes. Love is essential to a happy marriage, and the absence of love is the cause of many a sad case of domestic misfortune. But the Catholic Church goes farther than Dr. Herridge, and she lays down as conditions in really happy marriages, the existence of a vocation—or a call from God to the marriage state—and the presence of Divine Grace, which alone comes through the channel of the sacrament of matrimony. It is in this that the Church safe-

guards the participants in Christian marriage.

It is, indeed, wonderful to note, how those sincere, learned and zealous men, who wish to regenerate society and save human souls, make use of every imaginable and every laudable means to attain their end—always excepting the powerful and only effective means which the Church affords us. It would seem as if they constantly hovered around the centre of Truth, but always feared to singe their wings by coming in too close a contact with its light. We cannot possibly understand how any devoted Christian can expect to have marriage respected when, at the same time, denying the sacramental qualities of matrimony. Alone, the Catholic Church stands out as the practical and effective defender of the home, the family, the marriage tie, the sacred relations that are the consequence of the reception of her sacrament. She, alone, has made it possible for that sacrament to become for its recipients the joy of the present, the promise of the future, the innocence of enjoyment, the sanctity of passion. Yet we are ever happy to meet with any attempts made, no matter from what direction, to purify the social atmosphere, and destroy the demon of divorce.

NOTES ON ATHLETICS.

The sixth Annual meeting of the Shamrock Amateur Athletic Association was held at the Young Irishmen's Hall a few days ago, and it was a most successful gathering. Mr. William Snow, the veteran executive officer in connection with the green and white colors, for more than a generation, occupied the chair.

After reading the minutes the secretary-treasurer, Mr. William P. Lunny, read the report of the directors and his financial statement. Outlines of both appeared in the last issue of the "True Witness."

The election of five directors, to act in conjunction with the representatives of the affiliated clubs, created a great deal of enthusiasm. The report of the scrutineers showed that Messrs. C. M. Hart, H. McLaughlin, C. A. McLaughlin, W. J. McKenna, and Wm. H. Kearney were the successful candidates.

The other directors elected at a previous meeting of the Lacrosse Club were Messrs. Ed. Quinn, Wm. Stafford, Thomas O'Connell, John P. Jackson, Henry J. Tisley and A. Thompson.

The first meeting of the new directors was held at the office of the secretary-treasurer on Wednesday evening.

The following officers were elected: President, Mr. C. A. McLaughlin. Vice-president, Henry McLaughlin. Secretary-treasurer, Mr. William P. Lunny. Auditors, J. P. Jackson and W. H. Kearney.

CATHOLIC YOUNG MEN'S SOCIETIES' TOURNAMENT.

The Young Irishmen's L. and H. Association, the St. Ann's Young Men's Society, and the St. Mary's Young Men's Society on the 19th of January entered into a triangular competition which was practically finished a month later. Billiards, pools, euchre, whist and checkers were the battle grounds well selected, with all the eyes of good generalship in the make-up of the small armies. An analysis of the work done by the competitors would take up too much space, and outside the real figures it may be put this way:

St. Ann's won in billiards and euchre. St. Mary's won in pool, whist and checkers, and the Young Irishmen were satisfied in being close runners up. But there was only one prize, a very handsome clock, the gift of Rev. Father O'Donnell, pastor of St. Mary's and this was presented in St. Ann's Hall, on the 13th inst. The occasion was a gala one, for everybody appreciated the pleasure which had been got out of the season and everybody equally recognized that

there could be only one winner. And that clock will beat not to the large tempo of "forever, never," but to the more vivacious one of now or never. Congratulations are due to the winners for their achievement; congratulations are also owing to the unsuccessful for their efforts. A necessarily abbreviated score, however, will tell the whole story. Here it is:

Societies.	Games Won.	Games Lost.	Points.	Per cent.
BILLIARDS.				
St. Mary's	3	5	15	375
St. Ann's	6	2	30	750
Young Irishmen	3	5	15	375
POOLS.				
St. Mary's	5	3	25	625
St. Ann's	4	4	20	500
Young Irishmen	3	5	15	375
EUCHE.				
St. Mary's	21	18	29	538
St. Ann's	25	13	35	658
Young Irishmen	12	27	5	306
WHIST.				
St. Mary's	15	4	25	652
St. Ann's	7	12	15	382
Young Irishmen	0	11	29	450
CHECKERS.				
St. Mary's	19	6	30	750
St. Ann's	8	29	10	286
Young Irishmen	14	14	20	500

ELECTRICALLY PUT TOGETHER.

Ornamental glass, such as is so common in church windows, is held together generally with cement and soft metal. A soft metal because, to be worked together, the metal must be soft. Cement or glue is then used to make the joint weatherlight. This glue works loose and cracks in time. It is only a question of time when such a joint, exposed to weather, will work loose. There has been a joint recently invented, for putting ornamental glass together, in which neither cement or glue is used, and soft met-

al is replaced with a hard metal. An electric process is used and the joint is entirely of copper and will not get loose. The Luxfer Prism Company, 1833 Notre Dame Street, put their prisms together by this process, and also make up ornamental glass work by the same method. Such a joint will not let the glass work loose and will remain weatherlight. Sheets put together in this manner are solid, as if of one piece of glass. What with this joint and the daylight effect, Luxfer Prism sheets are wonderful.

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