

QUEBEC IRISHMEN AND THE CHURCH.

In reading the report of the St. Patrick's Day proceedings in Quebec city, we were most favorably impressed with the new departure, taken by the Irishmen of the Ancient Capital. While the day is one of national rejoicing and patriotic demonstration, yet it is impossible to dissociate it from the religious aspect of the celebration. Above all is the Irish Catholic true to his faith; and it was that fidelity that preserved his nationality throughout long centuries of gloom and almost utter despair. Consequently it is but just that after offering up the glories of the day to God, he should pay tribute to the head of the Church, and to the representative of religious authority in his own locality. Religion knows no limitations of nationality; therefore, the Irish Catholic seeks to associate with his celebration the ecclesiastical leaders of the people.

The following account of the address presented to the Archbishop of Quebec, and then of the one presented to the pastor of the central Irish parish—the popular and beloved Redemptorist, Father Henning—will illustrate how truly the Irishmen of good old, Quebec have preserved the most sacred traditions of the race, and have set an example that we trust may create imitators throughout this Dominion, on future occasions. The report reads:—

Upon reaching the Archbishop's Palace the procession halted and Mr. F. Carbray, M.L.A., president of the Irish National Association, who was accompanied by the presidents and secretaries of the different Irish societies, read the following address to His Grace:—

To His Grace L. N. Bégin, Archbishop of Quebec.

Your Grace, — The Irish Catholic men of Quebec have decided to celebrate their national holiday by a public demonstration, make it their pleasing duty, in passing by your Archbishop's Palace, to call on you, to salute you, and in your person also the worthy representative of our Holy Father, the glorious Leo XIII., God's Vicar on earth.

We tender to Your Grace the homage of our respect, our loyalty and our obedience. In doing so we desire to prove to your Grace that we are not unworthy children of St. Patrick; that we wish to follow in the footsteps of our Irish forefathers than whom no other people, or race, have been more unswervingly faithful and true, in the good day and in the evil one, to God's Church and her ministers. No people have made greater sacrifices than the Irish to prove their fidelity to God. We are proud to be men of that race, and hope to do honor to it by continuing and perpetuating that same fidelity and loyalty to God and His Church.

We salute in your Grace a distinguished son of French forefathers — that noble race towards whom every Irish heart warms; which has always proved the true and faithful and sympathetic friend of Ireland in her darkest days, and which, especially has given us the grandest Irishman that ever lived—our glorious Apostle St. Patrick, who is honored to-day by every Irish man, woman and child the world over.

We thank Your Grace for your endless deeds of kindness to your Irish children, and for your constant solicitude for their welfare. We shall do our best to merit the continuation of the same.

Our unceasing prayer shall be that God may long spare you over your flock, and we promise you that no portion thereof shall surpass us in humble submission, respect and loyalty.

(Signed),

M. H. Brophy, M.D., L., President Ancient Order of Hibernians, Division No. 1.

John E. Walsh, President St. Patrick's Literary Institute.

P. Kervin, President Catholic Mutual Benefit Association, St. Patrick's Branch, No. 108.

Eugene P. McKenna, President Catholic Benevolent Legion, St. Alphonsus de Liguori Council, No. 206.

F. M. Collier, Chief Ranger, Catholic Order of Foresters, St. Patrick's Court, No. 620.

Bro. Williams, F.C.S., Director, St. Patrick's School.

Edmond Conway, President St. Patrick's Total Abstinence and Benefit Society, C. T. A. U. of A., No. 1191.

Felix Carbray, M.P.P., President Irish National Association.

The following is His Grace's reply:— My dear friends— Your words of reverence and devotedness are welcome on this auspicious day which shines so brightly on the celebration of the patronal feast of your truly Catholic nation.

You have halted in your triumphal march to pay homage to the spiritual chief of your diocese. In so doing, you are surely prompted by that

lively spirit of faith and of submission to religious authority, which is the most precious heritage your forefathers have bequeathed you.

Such marks of filial piety to Mother Church are most consoling for the pastor of the flock of which you form not the least cherished portion. Such consolation you have often given me—and I hope you will continue to do so—by the sight of your ardent, yet practical devotion, of your faithfulness to your priests, of your generosity in behalf of works of charity, and the embellishment of the house of God.

Your happiness your conduct gives me, your chief pastor, need I tell you how fully it is shared by the devoted fathers who minister to your souls?

Last Sunday I had the joy of blessing and anointing four magnificent bells, which are the latest fruit of your liberality. If, like the famed bells of Shandon, their sounds be not sweeter

Than the dome of Peter Flings o'er the Tiber Pealing solemnly.

yet these "birds of bronze"—as church bells have been styled—when from the steeple of St. Patrick's they will sound forth the glories of the illustrious apostle of Ireland, will likewise proclaim to all this fair city and its surroundings—and the banks of the broad St. Lawrence will echo the message to the all country far and wide—the generous and undying faith of the Irish citizens of Quebec.

The procession then marched through the streets of the upper town and Montcalm Ward, and entering by St. John street and Stanislas street, again halted when Dr. M. Brophy, president of the A. O. H. read the following address to the Rev. Father Henning:—

To the Rev. Jos. Henning, C. S.S.R., Rector of St. Patrick's Church, Quebec.

Reverend and dear Pastor, — St. Patrick's Day — the day of all days dearest to the hearts of every Irishman — has come again, and, like our brothers at home and abroad the world over, we do what we can to honor it.

To show our undying love and gratitude to the beloved Apostle of our race, we have begun the day by first rendering our testimony of love and veneration to that good God whom St. Patrick was the Ambassador, and who taught us to know that God and serve Him, and whose labors, for Ireland, we feel sure, have won for him a high place in Heaven.

It is said St. Patrick before his death besought of God, for his dear Irish people, that never until the end of time would they, as a race, abandon His Holy Church, come what come woe. God heard St. Patrick's prayer. Never has race, nor people, shown more undying fidelity to God's cause and His Church, and what sacrifices and sufferings have they not endured to that end.

The dark pages of history, for the past seven hundred years, only too vividly and painfully portray them. We are still, thank God and St. Patrick, the faithful and devoted children of God's Church. No where in the world are the Irish people of our Old Rock City—dear old Quebec—surpassed in their fidelity and devotion to her teachings and her pastors.

We come to greet you, therefore, dear Father Rector, as our Pastor, to thank you and all the good Fathers for all you have done and are doing for us, and trust we shall repay you by increased affection, if possible, and devotion. We pray God may spare you many long years over your Irish Catholic flock in Quebec.

Father Henning replied as follows:— Please to accept in my name, and that of my rev. confreres, our sincere thanks for your kind address. When the glorious patron and apostle of Ireland prayed that the sons and daughters of Erin might forever remain steadfast in the faith which he had brought to them his prayer was cheerfully heard, for Ireland has never swerved from that faith. Her children have never hearkened to the siren's song of heresy, though persecuted and crushed under the iron heel of tyranny. They have remained true to the successor of St. Peter, the rock upon which Christ built His Church. They have always respected and loved their clergy. Among their priests I must say that the sons of St. Alphonsus all over the world have come in for a goodly share of Irishmen's love. For in England, in Scotland, Ireland and Australia, the United States and Canada the work of the Redemptorists has been chiefly among the children of St. Patrick. May the aegis of your glorious apostle's protection be always extended over you; may you continue firm in the faith, and obedient to its teachings, true to its interests, devoted and faithful to your priests; may brotherly love and

harmony reign among you, so that for many a year to come you may celebrate, united, and strong, the festival day of your tutelary saint. May the blessing of God be and remain upon you and your families. This is my heartfelt wish, and that of all the fathers of St. Patrick's Church.

WINDSOR HOTEL FIRE IN NEW YORK.

Apart from these dreadful conflagrations that at times reduce whole cities, or large districts to ashes, we know of no fire, within recent years, that affords more subject for reflection than that which destroyed the Windsor Hotel, in New York, recently. One of the dailies of the Empire city remarks:—

"The destruction of the Windsor Hotel, was perhaps the swiftest, the most fatal to human life and the greatest loss of property of any hotel fire in the history of New York. The building was erected a quarter of a century ago, before either the fire-proof or "slow combustion" system of construction had been adopted here. That a fire starting in plain view of a crowd of people, in the daytime, enveloped the whole of the great building in so short a time and caused its complete collapse and destruction in less than an hour, shows the flimsy character of the structure. In any one of the palatial hotels built in this city within the last five years such a fire would hardly have extended beyond the room in which it started."

The universal expression of the press is one of censure, regarding the hidden dangers that such an edifice as the Windsor Hotel contain. It is almost incredible at this moment, and at this distance, to the ordinary reader, that, in daylight, in one of the leading avenues of a great city surrounded by all that modern science and improvement can afford in the way of fire protection, waterworks, brigades, electric communication, and what not, a building of such dimensions could be entirely wiped out before the people within had time to even thoroughly grasp the situation—much less effect their escape. The New York "Herald" very wisely remarks:

"When the fire, occurring at three o'clock of a warm spring afternoon, with the streets and hydrants free of obstructions and with no end of willing hands within reach to render whatever assistance was possible—when in such circumstances there was such a loss of life what might have happened under adverse conditions? Suppose the fire had occurred at 3 o'clock of a winter morning—during the blizzard, for instance—when guests and servants were all asleep. Imagination refuses to conjure up the added horrors of the situation. "It will not do to sympathize with the sufferers, mourn over the dead and then accept the calamity as "the act of God," taking no steps to trace responsibility for it or to prevent its repetition in some other part of the city."

Again, the same organ says:— "Touching the Windsor Hotel, it is asserted that fire escapes ordered ten years ago were never placed in position. If this be true somebody is guilty of a flagrant violation of the law, and the blood of those who yesterday jumped into despair from the windows of the doomed structure cries out for punishment upon those guilty of this fatal crime of omission. Former lessees of the hotel are quoted as saying that they realized the flimsy and dangerous nature of the structure and were in constant fear of a fire occurring."

Certainly, indirect, if not direct responsibility rests somewhere and on some person, or persons. It is not for us to investigate that matter; but it is certainly for us to point out the danger and to assist those concerned in drawing some salutary lessons from that awful calamity.

Although, in Montreal, we have few hotels that approach in size and form the Windsor Hotel of New York, yet we have not a few that are proportionately as dangerous, as far as human life and safety is concerned. How many of our ordinary hotels—especially those principally constructed of wood and brick—are supplied with all the necessities in case of a serious fire? How many of the fire-escapes, the ladders, and the various other apparatus in these buildings are in perfect working order, and to be relied upon at any moment? How many, even of the best equipped of the hotels, are free from the dangers of their surroundings, the wooden sheds, the old buildings, the combustible-filled lanes? In a word, what guarantee has any guest, going to his room in one of these hotels, that he may not be awakened by a cry of "fire?" And should he be so awakened, what security, or certainty has he that he has one chance out of ten to escape death? These are hard questions to answer; and yet the safety of our citizens, and of those who visit our city, requires that our fire-department, at the City Hall, be able to reply to them in a satisfactory manner. We hope that this sad lesson, from the great centre of the Empire State, will be taken to heart, reflected upon, studied carefully, and utilized for the benefit of our own city of Montreal.

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*Signifies daily. All other trains run daily except Sunday.

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Leave Ottawa 8:25 a.m., 4:10 p.m., 6:35 p.m.
Arr. Montreal 11:30 a.m., 6:45 p.m., 9:45 p.m.

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NOTICE is hereby given that Albertine Brabant, wife of Edward Kiernan, of the City of Montreal, in the Province of Quebec, will apply to the Parliament of Canada, at the next session thereof, for a Bill of Divorce, from her husband, Edward Kiernan, of the said City of Montreal, on the ground of cruelty, adultery, and desertion.

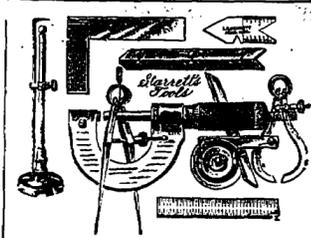
Dated at the City of Montreal, Province of Quebec, this ninth day of March, 1899.

WM. E. MOUTRIE, Solicitor for Applicant.

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SUPERIOR COURT, DISTRICT OF MONTREAL, No. 1295.

Dame Marie A. Normandin has today sued her husband, Joseph A. Martin, for separation as to property. Montreal, March 1st, 1899.

BEAUDIN, CARDINAL, BERARD & BRODEUR, Attorneys for Plaintiff.

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC, DISTRICT OF MONTREAL, No. 769.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT. Dame Emma Dufresne, of the City and District of Montreal, has this day instituted an action in separation as to property against Albert St. Martin, of the same place.

Montreal, 28th February, 1899.

BEAUDIN, CARDINAL, LORANGER & ST. GERMAIN, Attorneys for Plaintiff.

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC, DISTRICT OF MONTREAL, No. 2502.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT. Dame Alphonsine Chouinard, of the City and District of Montreal, has this day instituted an action in separation as to property against Louis Honoré Dassylva dit Portugal, of the same place.

Montreal, 28th February, 1899.

BEAUDIN, CARDINAL, LORANGER & ST. GERMAIN, Attorneys for Plaintiff.

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC, DISTRICT OF MONTREAL, No. 1363.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT. Dame Aurore Bouthillier, of the city and district of Montreal, wife common as to property of Fernand Paradis, wife-writer, of the same place, duly authorized a cetera on Justice aux fins de presentes, Plaintiff.

The said Fernand Paradis, Defendant.

An action in separation as to property has been instituted this day against the defendant. Montreal, 8 March, 1899.

CHARBONNEAU & PELLETIER, Attorneys for Plaintiff, New York Life Building.

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC, DISTRICT OF MONTREAL, No. 1464.

SUPERIOR COURT. Dame Emelie Riendeau, of the Parish of St. Hubert, District of Montreal, wife of Jean Baptiste Charron, farmer of the same place, duly authorized a cetera on Justice, Plaintiff.

The said Jean Baptiste Charron, Defendant.

An action in separation as to property has been instituted this day against the Defendant. Montreal, 15th March, 1899.

GLOBESKY & LAMARE, Attorneys for Plaintiff.