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The True Witness



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"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
most useful Catholic papers in this country. I heartily bless those who encourage this excellent
work."
—PAUL, Archbishop of Montreal.

NOTES OF THE WEEK

CHILDREN'S READING.—In the speech which he delivered at the recent meeting of the American Library Association, the president touched upon a subject of great importance to Catholics, as well as to those to whom his remarks were addressed—namely, "Children's Reading." The conviction, he stated, that the best way to make libraries really serviceable was to reach the public of the future through the children of to-day, has taken a strong hold on libraries. It should be brought home to all who are interested in what are known as "Reading Circles." If a reading habit can be implanted in children by the sending of books to schools and to homes, and a "library habit" can be fostered by providing each library with attractive rooms for children, libraries will be well patronized in the next generation. The association, it is interesting to learn, has established a system of "home libraries"—that is, small collections of books placed in the homes of the poor, for use in each neighborhood. These "home libraries" are under the charge of charitable societies. There are no fewer than seventy of them in Boston; and they are increasing in popularity. These facts are highly suggestive.

They show the great importance which non-Catholics attach to libraries and to bringing secular to the young. The great reason for this is to keep them from coming within the sphere of Catholic influence. It is the same with public and common schools. They favor a totally secular instruction in preference to religious education, as we all know. Catholics should keep out of libraries where the works of standard Catholic writers do not find a place. Catholic children should be safeguarded from books apt to weaken their faith or their morals. We have a library question at present in our own city; and the reason why non-Catholic aldermen are opposed to priests having anything to do with the censorship of the books to be bought for it will be evident to our readers from the foregoing remarks.

CATHOLIC SAILORS' CLUB.—A dispute arose at the end of last week between the owners and the crew of a steamer in this port. The crew had joined the ship on the condition that they were to receive half their wages when they arrived here, and the other half when the season would be over. The crew asked for the half of their wages, and the owners refused to pay them, as they did not consider that the men were entitled to the money. The crew left the ship, but very wisely sought the assistance of the Catholic Sailors' Club, which they had visited since their arrival in port. The manager of the Club at once telephoned to the president, Mr. F. B. McNamee, who immediately proceeded thither, and after hearing what the men had to say, advised them to go back to their ship, while he would endeavor to bring about a settlement. The president of the Club interviewed the captain, who in turn consulted the owners; and the differences were amicably adjusted without going any further with the legal proceedings. Thus a dispute that might have caused costly litigation was satisfactorily arranged through the intervention of the Catholic Sailors' Club. This is but one out of many proofs that could be given of the importance and usefulness of such institutions as the Catholic Sailors' Club; and it further emphasizes the fact that the Catholic Sailors' Club enjoys not only the confidence of Catholic sea-

men, but also that of the owners and captains of vessels coming to Montreal. The Club's record is an excellent one. The good work which it has done and is doing is known only to a few enthusiastic workers who unsparingly devote their time and thought to the promotion of the welfare of the Club and of those who avail themselves of its advantages.

BRITISH POLITICS.—Although it was generally understood that, owing to infirmities incidental to old age, and to the need of a well-earned repose, Lord Salisbury would resign the Premiership after the coronation, yet his resignation a few days ago was quite unexpected. The London journals protest that there was no other reason for his sudden resignation than that of health; but it is hardly likely that he would have taken such a step, during the King's illness, unless there was some difference with His Majesty. Probably the King's insistence on the cessation of the war, and on generous terms, being accorded to the Boers, was the prime motive of the step. Color is lent to this view by the rumored resignation of Lord Milner, and by the statement in the London press that the ex-Premier is in good health at the present time. However this may be, the choice of Mr. Arthur J. Balfour as Premier is a popular one. He is a broad-minded statesman, and is eminently qualified for the position in other respects. He has long been in favor of granting justice to Ireland in the form of a state-endowed Catholic University. He is just the man to bring in and pass a Home Rule Bill, as he brought in and passed the County and Parish Councils Bill. He is one of the few men on his side of the House who understand the Irish question in all its bearings.

A BENEFIT SOCIETY WINS.—A law-court decision of importance to American Catholic beneficiary societies, and of interest to such associations in every English-speaking country, has been given at Chicago. The late James H. Barry was a member of the Order of Catholic Knights of Wisconsin. His widow claimed \$2,000 under an insurance policy in the Order, which resisted the claim on the ground that according to its rules, no one is eligible for membership who is not a "practical Catholic," that deceased married a divorced woman, the ceremony being performed by a Protestant minister; that on becoming known he was expelled from the Order, and that his subsequent tendered payment of his assessments was refused. "Judgment for the defendant, the Catholic Knights, is ordered," said Judge Tarrant, "on the ground that the marriage of the deceased to the plaintiff by a Protestant minister is a condition prohibited under the rules and canons of the Roman Catholic Church, the result of which ipso facto, is excommunication, and for that reason the party offending ceases to be a practical Catholic. I hold that provision in the policy is self-executory."

RELIGIOUS PICTURES.—A great help to parents in bringing up their children in the way they should go is the custom of having religious pictures in the home, of teaching the little ones to know and love the Saviour who died for them, and who had a special affection for children; and of implanting in their hearts a fitting reverence for His Holy Name.

THE COLOR LINE.—A novel point has arisen in connection with the New Orleans street car law, which goes into effect on the first of October next, and which provides for the separation of white and colored passengers. The street car company is allowed to have separate cars for negroes and other colored people, and also to have partitions in cars used by both white and colored persons, separating them. The negro committee of the city have resolved to make a test of the constitutionality of the law on this point. A colored nurse girl carrying a white baby will be allowed under the law to enter the section reserved for the whites. If another colored nurse enters the car with her, and she goes into the "white" section, she will be ordered to go into the "colored" section, and if she refuses she will be put off the car or arrested for a breach of the peace. The question is whether such a discrimination between nurses does not invalidate the law. The negroes are determined to push the case as far as the Supreme Court at Washington, is necessary.

Irish Pilgrimage to St. Anne de Beaupre.

The twentieth annual pilgrimage of the parishioners of Irish parishes, this city, to the famous shrine of St. Anne de Beaupre, began on Saturday last, when the pilgrims, accompanied by several Redemptorist Fathers, including the Rev. Father Strubbe, C.S.S.R., and the Rev. Father Holland, C.S.S.R., who were in charge of the pilgrimage, went on board the commodious steamer "Three Rivers," which had been specially chartered for the purpose. It was one of the largest pilgrimages of Irish Catholic women and children seen in Montreal for many years. On the way down the river a stop was made at Cap Madeleine, where the votive Church and shrine are in charge of the Oblate Fathers. Before disembarking, the pilgrims were supplied with lighted tapers; and with these in their hands they marched in solemn procession to the shrine in the Church. The spectacle was a most impressive one, and attracted a large crowd of villagers. When the devotions were concluded the trip to Beaupre was resumed. At the shrine of St. Anne the pilgrims heard Mass and received Holy Communion. They then listened with the utmost attention to an eloquent sermon delivered by one of the Redemptorist Fathers. On Sunday the pilgrims proceeded in the "Three Rivers" to Quebec, where they spent several hours, during which the Fathers Strubbe and Holland accompanied them to St. Patrick's Church, which is under the direction of the Redemptorist Fathers. After this visit to the "Ancient Capital" the pilgrims returned to Montreal, without the slightest mishap, all delighted with the journey. The Redemptorist Fathers are highly pleased with the result of the pilgrimage, which was the largest that they had ever conducted from this city; and the spirit of piety which prevailed throughout the entire journey was a source of great joy to the good Fathers.

LOCAL NOTES.

ST. MICHAEL'S PARISH.—The Rev. Father Kiernan, pastor of St. Michael's parish, in the north end of the city, finds that, out of the 250 heads of Irish Catholic families living within the city limits north of Mount Royal Avenue, quite a number still attend the near-by French churches for reasons of personal convenience.

Preaching on Sunday last he referred to the matter, and pointed out that it was the duty of all Catholics to go to Mass on Sundays, that it was the duty of Irish Catholics to attend a parish church which had been specially organized for their convenience. In going to other parish churches in preference to their own, Irish Catholics were lacking in national spirit and in true religious feeling. He appealed to them to try and see this important matter in its true light.

St. Mary's Tombola.

- List of winners:—
- 2036. 1 ton coal, won by Mr. Gravel.
 - 1752. Barrel flour, won by Mrs. Glennon.
 - 2559. Picture, won by Lizzie Kavanaugh.
 - 1490. Umbrella rack, won by Jno. Chambers.
 - 1388. Cushion box, won by P. Paradis.
 - 3539. Pickle stand, won by E. Lachance.
 - 2486. Album, won by J. Stuart.
 - 695. Basket, won by E. Hayden.
 - 1631. Calender case, won by Mrs. B. Brady.
 - 1345. Flower stand, won by G. Murray.
 - 2306. Ink stand, won by J. Dillon.
 - 1210. Cup and saucer, won by H. Doyle.
 - 2003. Small picture, won by Mrs. Fisher.
 - 1494. Fancy basket, won by Jno. Chambers.
 - 5332. Ton of coal, won by V. Story.
 - 2137. Barrell flour, won by Rev. R. E. Callahan.
 - 3502. Autoharp, won by Henry Martin.
 - 242. Picture, won by F. Drake.
 - 920. Fruit dish, won by Mr. Therien.
 - 155. Set gold studs, won by Halpin & Vincent.
 - 975. Set gold studs, won by T. D. Jennings.
 - 4664. Pair vases, won by T. Rodgers.
 - 915. Pair shoes, won by Mr. Tracey.
 - 869. Red cushion, won by J. Busted.
 - 1571. Gentleman's hat, won by Mr. Showers.
 - 579. Basket, won by E. Vauton.
 - 744. Picture, won by Capt. Dolan.
 - 611. Bouquet stand, won by Capt. Dolan.
 - 874. Ink stand, won by Mrs. Storan.
 - 3864. Basket, won by L. Gorman.

Things Dangerous To Public Health.

In the "Boston Evening Transcript" of April 28th we find from an address to the United States Senate on April 25th, on a bill before the Senate to prevent adulterations, etc., in the District of Columbia and our U. S. territories, that the Hon. Senator P. J. McCumber, of North Dakota, stated that deleterious (dangerous) food products to the value of more than eleven hundred millions of dollars were placed on our markets for sale last year, while the total amount of adulterated food products would come nearly up to four thousand millions of dollars. In other words, that we are paying at the rate of over \$50 per head of our whole population for spurious goods, and about \$15 per head for products positively harmful. Believing, as we do, that prevention of disease is vastly more important than cure, we add that while hundreds of thousands of animals have been vivisected in trying to discover cures for disease, it seems wonderful that more is not done for its prevention. We have no doubt that some of our Boards of Health are doing all that can be reasonably expected with the very small means placed at their disposal, and in consideration of the fact that if they become too troublesome to men who have large influence with the press and in legislation, they may lose the power they already have. But it seems to us that in this country, where rich men and politicians have so much influence both with the press and in legislation, there should be independent organizations like our societies for the prevention of cruelty to animals, which (without fear or favor) will be constantly endeavoring to protect public health. Or if not independent organizations, then that rich philanthropists should establish in our cities independent laboratories, which

An Anniversary Gift To Bishop O'Connell.

Catholics of the diocese of Portland fittingly marked the first anniversary of Bishop O'Connell's appointment by presenting His Lordship with an illuminated address and a purse of \$2,500. Bishop O'Connell said that he received the magnificent purse which had been given him with surprise and gratitude, since he had been their Bishop only a year, and yet on his first anniversary they made him so large and generous a testimonial. He accepted it as a token of their esteem and regard for him, and pledged himself to employ every penny of it for purposes which would meet the approval of the clergy who had given it.

NARROWLY ESCAPES

Indianapolis, Ind.—Mrs. Ellen Crosby has had a narrow escape from being buried alive in Crawford County. She had been pronounced dead and preparations for the burial were being made. While this was in progress her daughter, 19 years old, worn out by exhaustion, lay down to rest, but her eyes had scarcely closed before she sprang up and peremptorily insisted that her mother's body be returned to the bed. She remarked that her mother had called to her in her sleep, saying: "Mary, don't let them bury me alive!" The undertaker complied with the daughter's request, saying it was but a dream, but the daughter stoutly claimed the contrary and would not be denied. Nearly eight hours passed, when Mrs. Crosby slowly opened her eyes and looked at her daughter, who had remained by her bedside, constantly watching for a return of life. Mrs. Crosby is now considered in a fair way of recovery. We receive the above from a Denver (Col.) lady, and, by same mail, a case in which an East St. Louis lady barely escaped being embalmed, and a New Haven man in a New York hospital recovered after being pronounced dead.

Collected a Thousand Dollars a Month.

St. Ann's parish, Worcester, of which the Rev. James P. Tuite is rector, is now free from debt. Not only that, but the church is in the best of repair and has been newly painted, which in itself adds more glory to the work of the rector. Father Tuite undoubtedly has the record for clearing off a church debt. His work is without doubt the greatest that has been accomplished, not only by any priest in the city of Worcester, or diocese of Springfield, but also in New England. Meanwhile running expenses have been paid to the dollar. He has been in Worcester thirty-four months and has raised over a \$1,000 for each month he has presided over the destinies of St. Ann's parish.

When Father Tuite assumed charge he found the parish was indebted to the amount of \$32,000, and there was also an interest charge, which was \$2,149.75, which made a total indebtedness of \$34,149.75.

The property is now valued at \$100,000, and is in one of the best locations in Worcester, as it holds a commanding position on Normal Hill. The church was originally erected by the Rev. Denis Scannell, who was the predecessor of the present rector.

The Rev. James P. Tuite was born in Blackstone, Mass., and received his preparatory education in St. Charles' College, Ellicott City, Md., and in Nicolet, Canada. He afterwards entered the Grand Seminary, Montreal, where he was ordained to the priesthood.

DEATH.

BOUTHILLIER.—In this city, on the 18th inst., at the age of 87 years, Joseph Bouthillier, gentleman, formerly of Laprairie, and father of Madame Frs. Martineau, merchant of St. Catherine street, and of Messrs. Joseph, Eugene, Alphonse, of Alfred, Ont., Prudent Bouthillier and of Mme. Antoine Legault, of Curran, Ont., and grandfather of Mr. Victor Martineau, advocate, and of Messrs. Mederic and Joseph Martineau, iron merchants, and of Mme. Gustave Meunier.

Funeral will take place Monday, 21st inst., and will leave the residence 12 Allard street, at 8.45 a.m. for St. Peter's Church, Visitation street, thence to Cote des Neiges Cemetery. Relations and friends are requested to attend without further invitation.

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