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TUESDAY, JULY, 18 1899

CURRENT COMMENT

A very scientific piece of detective work was that of Chief Kircaldy and Detectives Foster and McKenzie in the Brandon murder case. The details, as given in The Western Sun of last Thursday would do honor to Sherlock Holmes. But, now that Hilda Blake has confessed that she alone shot Mrs. Lane, what a "brutum fulmen" that article of The Telegram becomes in which the editor inveighed against the whole race of Galicians because Hilda Blake's lying testimony had caused one Galician "to be suspected."

CONVERTS AND THE ANGLO-SAXON.

An esteemed correspondent writes as follows:

To the Editor of the Northwest

your issue of June 20th—a little hard on our great English converts? You say:

'Most converts of the Tractarian period were supposed lo be a little unsafe on some points: Newman boggled at the definiwas never quite sound on the question of the religious orders. Brownson was often painfully the Catholic Church, never struck a note that was at all flat, his theology was as flawless spoken word eloquent and his regard to the Catholic Church life instinct with simplicity.

The French race saves Canada from the monumental hypocrisies of Anglo-Saxon humbug; the French language is the common property of all educated gentlemen; the French religion is the only logical and true one?

Does it not give a wrong idea? One is tempted to believe that these men, who gave up all for God (as is remarked about Newman elsewhere in the same issue) were slightly heterodox, therefore, naturally, it would be allowable for ordinary Christians, to be the same. We will put it down to their nationality, poor things! belonging as they do (for mortels) to the hated Anglo-Saxon race.

We should be glad to be instructed a little as to the singul-

Church, as by law established. but the French Church is an unknown quantity to us. Up to now, the Roman Catholic Church has seemed good enough for us, but we live and learn. St. Peter, who keeps the keys of the Kingdom of Heaven, and who was himself a great linguist, will never say to waiting souls, without the gate: "Pray Sir or Madam, do you know French?'

Would you be kind enough to send me a copy of the Missionary Record of the Oblates of Mary Immaculate edited by Fr Dawson? I have never seen one but have wished to do so. Is it not a mistake to speak of a neighbor in these terms: bigotted Free Press correspond ent?" evidently Fr. Dawson thinks so. The "suaviter in modo" never detracts from the 'fortiter in re.'

I often wonder if the good people who are so fond of quoting dear Fr. Faber, have ever read those most admirable chap ters on Kindness written by this great master of the spiritual life Forgive me if I repeat it, that 'the most pious people are the most unkind" (not meaning saints, of course).

This will perhaps account for our Catholic papers appearing | last week passed a resolution otten so devoid of fraternal

Dear Sir, truly yours,

M. Tucker.

July 1st, 1899.

EDITORIAL NOTE.—"Ordinary Christians, who would reason as our correspondent fears they might, are what mathematicians call "a negligible quantity," of which no account need be taken. The stating of well-known facts cannot give a "wrong idea." We have given facts about three eminent converts; we could give a multitude of details; but as our correspondent does not question our facts, it is hardly worth while multiplying them.

The unconscious unsoundness, on a few points, of some distinguished converts should not be put down to their nationality, but to the atmosphere of heresy in which they were brought up and which they breathed for thirty or forty years before their conversion. This clung to them the faults of the Anglo-Saxon race, its imperiousness, its assertion of fairplay when it rides roughshod over the rights of tion of the infallibity, Manning "inferior races" (as in the case of our separate schools), its thousand and one shams in politics, erratic; but Rivington, from the in society, in the various phases first hour of his entrance into of Protestantism, in business, in the occult tyranuv of secret societies, in the "monumental hyas his style was luminous, his pocrisies" of its literature with matter.

We pass over our correspondent's little joke about the "French religion." The context Catholique."

very necessary thing to call a spade a spade, to call a bigoted correspondent "bigoted." "Dear Father Faber," with all his kindness, could be severe on occasion. He was no milksop. Read, in his "Spiritual Conferences," all time, being amongst the im- heresy. "I beg of God," he crimes. writes, "in his infinite compas-

cognize as His gift." It was this hatred that made him so supremely sound in doctrine.

The most cruel unkindness is the withholding of the truth through fear of displeasing those who are in error and whom a statement of the truth would have enlightened. It is well to bear in mind that He Who was Kindness incarnate, Who said "Learn of me because I am meek and humble of heart," was more severe than we have ever been on the Pharisees of his time. 'Whited sepulehres," "Ye serpents, ye generation of vipers,' and other amenities were uttered by the Master in the 23rd chapter of St. Matthew against those fine gentlemen of his day, the Pharisees, who were indefinitely more respectable, though not more malevolent, than that bigoted Free Press correspond-

NOTES BY THE WAY.

We notice that the St. Boniface city council at its meeting calling on the company which selves, will join them in their controls the Broadway Bridge to provide a footway for passen. gers crossing the structure, and members expressed the determination of keeping up an agitation until their demand is granted.

soon meet with success. We find it difficult to believe that previous requests of this kind have been ignored by those to whom they have been addressed.

Broadway Bridge in its present condition is a menace to the life of everyone who uses it, and the marvel is that it has existed so long without being the scene of some disastrous accident.

The writer of this note was once the witness of a very exciting incident, namely, a runaway team attached to a heavy wagon thundering across the bridge and only by a hair's-breadth missing some ladies and children who happened to be on the Dear Sir,—Is not this—from in spite of their efforts to get rid structure and who, in the face their able manager on the sucof it. It is this pestilential at of their appalling danger, could cess they have met with this mosphere that has intensified net help themselves, but simply year. At the moment of writing had to stand still and take their chances. We say that if the the attendance compares with Bridge Company still persists in that of previous years; but, judgdisregarding the petition of the ing by appearances, we think Council they will render themselves liable to the very gravest tion of last week was more largecensure and, should a fatal ac- ly patronized than any of its cident occur, a coroner's jury would doubtlesss prove to them we are right in saying that in that they have a legal as well the matter of enjoyment it did as a moral responsibility in the not fall one whit behind the

> Speaking of a coroner's jury brings to our mind what seems to us a very grave state of af-but it is a proverb that of our remarks shows that we fairs, and that is the frequent oc- "you cannot please everybody" were alluding to the well known currence of sudden and violent and we feel confident that this saying: "Qui dit Français, dit deaths which take place in our year's experience will induce class authority in the home of midst and are duly chronicled those who visited the city from In Catholic journalism we in the papers, but which are alloutside points to return next is consequently supposed to be think it is not a mistake, but a lowed to pass by without any official investigation.

details they are able to gather larly extend our congatulations impossible to reach a conclusion, he has done in gaining for the when they should bring in a verdict to that effect, This is the practice followed in the British Isles, and it is one of the greatest safeguards of human existence there. The practice here is a monstrous one and no time should be lost in copying the customs and laws of the mother country in this respect.

We notice that the store clerks are agitating for a continuance during the summer months of the Thursday half-holiday which they had during Exhibitiou week. We trust they will be successful in their endeavours, and we think they are entitled to expect that those employed in the building and other trades who, by reason of their organization, have been able to secure Saturday afternoons for them effort to obtain the privilege of weekly spending a few hours of the summer in more congenial surroundings than counters and merchandise. We have not seen that any merchant so far has taken any notice of the move-We sincerely trust they will ment; but we hope, before this note is read by the public, that at least one will have been found courageous enough to give his employees an afternoon's holiday each week, and we feel sure that the first one who does so will gain the sympathy of the working classes of the community and meet with substantial reward. Others will then be anxious to follow his example and this would soon lead to its being made a general practice with only a few exceptions, and an indignant public would soon compel these to fall into line or

put up their shutters.

We heartily congratulate the Directors of the Exhibition and we have not heard exactly how that in this respect the Exhibipredecessors. And we believe shows of previous years. We course, heard criticisms regarding platform attractions, year and bring others with them. As everyone knows a We are confident that we large measure of the success of voice the opinion of more than our exposition is due to Mananine-tenths of the citizens when ger Heubach who has now we say that such lax methods as proved to all the people of the now prevail in this particular country and to our thousands of must inevitably lead to a great visitors that he is exactly the what he says of the hatred of increase in the most serious man for the position and that under his able superintendence Every sudden death, and es- the exhibition is bound to go on sion, to keep alive in me to the pecially every one in which from success to success until it last hour of my life the intense violence is apparent, should be takes its inevitable position as ar merits of the French religion. hatred of heresy with which He investigated by the officials of the foremost show of the kind in We have heard of the English has inspired me, and which I re- the police department and the Canada. We, therefore, particu- ection.

should be fully laid before the Manager Heubach and in doing coroner and a jury properly em- so would place on record our panelled, who should continue opinion that not only the Directthe enquiry until they are either ors of the association but the satisfied as to the cause of death whole city are under obligaor convinced that it is utterly tions to him for the good work exhibition, and through that, the city and the province, such widespread popularity.

THE SHORTCOMINGS OF A COMMERCIAL EDU-CATION.

How inadequate a merely commercial education is to give one a thorough mastery of his own language was vividly borne in upon us the other day when we received a pamphlet written by one af the best business experts in the smartest business country on the face of the earth. The Sadler-Rowe Company, of Baltimore, Md.. has issued a very interesting pamphlet, setting forth the plagiarism of a rival Rochester firm, which, on the evidence of these 36 pages of deadly parallels and comments of both firms, seems really to have copied from the Baltimore house. The case is very clearly, logically and temperately stated in language which is generally grammatical. Clearly, the Baltimore firm, which claims to have originated an entirely new scheme for teaching bookkeeping, is putting its best foot forward and keeping a vigilant eye on its grammar and style. And yet a rapid perusal of only some of the pages reveals such faults as these: "The present statement of the rules ARE inaccurate" (p. 13); "a mere abstract memoranda" (p. 11); "it is addressed to the student in the third person, WHEREIN (for "whereas" our statement is in the first person." But the most amusing blunders occur when the bookkeeping expert ventures on the slippery ground of words borrowed from the Latin; for instance, he speaks of "an outright verbatum copy" (p. 35), and serenely informs the public that "our original parallel quotations and comments with the rebuttal and comments of Williams and Rogers, followed by our comments on their rebuttal are given 'ad seriatum,'" carefully italicizing this huge bar-

Now one advantage of a good college or university training is that it takes cocksureness out of of a man and inclines him to mistrust his own knowledge and supplement it by the revision and correction of all-round scholars. No well-trained college man would ever have used such words as "verbatim" and 'seriatim," unless he understood all about them thoroughly. But here we have a master in bust ness rules and methods, a first bookkeeping experts, a man who fully equipped for his profession, yet betraying unwittingly the inevitable shortcomings of 8 merely business education. The royal road to accuracy and discrimination in the use of words is early training in translation from dead languages. Nothing else will give a correct, not 10 say a polished style.

A second retreat for the Grey Nuns was concluded to-day, Eighteen sisters took part in it under Rev. Father Gravel's dir