

## The True Witness

AND CATHOLIC CHRONICLE.

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY

The True Witness Printing &amp; Publishing Co

(LIMITED)

555 St. James Street, Montreal, Canada

P. O. Box 1138.

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WEDNESDAY.....AUGUST 11, 1897

## HIGHER EDUCATION

There is considerable discussion in the Catholic Press of the United States of late touching the higher education of Catholic girls, and there have been many very able articles written on what has already proved to be a very vexing question. The TRUE WITNESS is not disposed to go into the subject at length at present, but would simply point out two views of the case which it seems have not yet struck those interested in the matter.

In the first place, if one glances over the field of American Catholic education, there can be no doubt of the fact that in the matter of higher education the Catholic girl is in an immeasurably superior position than is the Catholic boy. They have their convents where the curriculum is fully equal if not superior to those of the boasted universities, with the added advantage that their faith is kept pure and unadulterated from the world. Almost every town of importance in Canada and the States has one or more of these institutions, whereas there are very few for boys on the continent. Then again it is a question whether all the ologies and other sciences taught in the universities are really beneficial to the female mind. We do not for a moment desire to even hint that the female in powers of retention and acquisition of knowledge or in executive ability is not fully equal to the man, but God has intended them for two different spheres of action in this world. The woman for the home and all that pertains to it and the man for the harder and ruder experiences of worldly life.

One word touching the second point. Previous to this talk of higher education for Catholic girls the scheme of a Catholic University and intermediary educational facilities for Catholic youth was started. The idea quickly obtained a foothold among the public, and there is every reason to believe that the scheme proposed will be carried out successfully. But now the girls, it is said, must have the same thing. It seems to us that the weakness in many movements towards the improvement of Catholic affairs both in this country and the States is that there is a disposition never to leave well enough alone. In the name of common sense let us arrange for the boys first, who may really be called the Church Militant. Fit them out, fit and proper soldiers to march under the banner of the Church, and then, with them entrenched behind the solid bulwarks of a Catholic education, we can find time to see what the girls want, being satisfied while we are fighting the battles of the boys that their sisters are in the noble hands of that thrice noble band of women, the different orders of our Catholic educational nuns.

## NEWFOUNDLAND AND CANADA.

There have been several occurrences of late which have brought the colonies of the British Empire very much to the front in the eyes of the civilized world. The events following the Jubilee celebration, particularly the abrogation of the German and Belgium treaties and the Klondike gold discoveries, have all made a deep impression on the student of current history, and the European press are eagerly publishing every scrap of information or gossip which may tend to throw light on the internal economy of these outposts of Great Britain. Canadians when known as such have been interviewed by old country and European reporters as they never were before, and those of us doing the grand tour have but little difficulty now in rushing into print.

There is rather an interesting interview published in a London newspaper with a prominent Newfoundlander, Mr. P. T. McGrath, editor of the St. John's

Herald, who is now in England. In it Mr. McGrath discusses many of the public issues of the crown colony. Touching Confederation, Mr. McGrath says that although not now a live question, yet there is not now a man in the island who does not believe that it is its ultimate destiny. It would develop the resources of the island and the abolition of the import duties would be of immense benefit to the population. Political annexation with the United States he regards as totally out of the question. There was once a quiet move in that direction, but Cleveland's war message killed the sentiment and made the most enthusiastic annexationist a strong and loyal supporter of the Imperial connection. "You see," added Mr. McGrath, "we Newfoundlanders are of English, Irish and Scotch descent, and we are much more proud of this than you have any idea of. We will remain Britons to the end."

Mr. McGrath puts the conditions of Newfoundland's entering into the political life of the Dominion as follows:—The assumption of the debt of the colony—some \$17,000,000. This includes the railroad which he claims would deserve under the railroad policy of the Dominion in connection with the C. P. R. the same support from the Government. These two matters conceded, then the other points at issue would be easily arranged.

The mineral development of the Crown Colony, Mr. McGrath adds, has been very marked of late years. The deposit of hematite on Bell Isle, in Conception Bay, is being worked to great advantage, and is practically inexhaustible. There is the same at Baie de Verde, and the shipping facilities at each place cannot be surpassed. Then there is the immense coal deposits at Grand Lake and Codroy, the latter close to the sea, and within thirty miles of Port aux Basques. On the west coast there are large deposits of chrome iron. The great trouble, according to Mr. McGrath, is to succeed in eradicating from the English mind the false impression that Newfoundland is a land of snow and ice.

Touching the new railroad, Mr. McGrath says that it means a new era for Newfoundland. He speaks thus:—"Mr. Reid, the contractor, is establishing a fast steamship ferry between the terminus at Port au Basque and Sydney in Cape Breton, which will really make our island a highway between Europe and America. We can by this route save twenty-nine hours between Liverpool and New York, estimating on the basis of the Campanian's figures. Leaving Queenstown this morning you could on this estimate land in St. John's harbor in 3 days 6 hours. Twenty to twenty-four hours more should carry you across the island. The steamship ferry would occupy five hours and the railway from Sydney to New York twenty-four hours more, making in all 5 days 11 hours. In that one estimate you get a glimpse of the great future which is before Newfoundland if she is only given half a chance to work out her own development."

In conclusion Mr. McGrath adds that the Newfoundlanders are in favor of a vigorous enforcement of the Bait Act.

DON'T FORGET THE TRUE WITNESS excursion to Plattsburg, on Saturday, August 21. Tickets good to go on regular trains on Saturday and return Saturday evening, Sunday morning, Monday morning and Monday evening. Tickets having been placed at the small figure of \$1.25, can be secured at the office of the TRUE WITNESS, where all information can be had.

## HON. JOHN B. RILEY.

The Ottawa correspondent of the Montreal Gazette telegraphs as follows:

Hon. J. B. Riley, United States consul here for the last four years, leaves for his home in Plattsburg to-morrow, his successor, Colonel Turner, having assumed office to-day. Mr. Riley has made himself exceedingly popular here, and this evening, in the parlor of the Russell House, he was made the recipient of a very handsome and valuable silver dinner service and a gold-headed walking stick, accompanied by an address, which was read by Hon. R. W. Scott, secretary of state, and suitably responded to. Mrs. Riley was also presented with a handsome diamond ring.

This tribute to the worth of Mr. Riley and his accomplished wife was fully deserved. It is not too much to say that Mr. Riley is the ablest representative that the United States Government ever sent to the Canadian Capital. In a very short time he had made himself a persona grata with the leaders of both political parties in the Dominion. He became the personal friend of the late Rt. Hon. Sir John Thompson and of his Solicitor-General, Hon. J. J. Curran, now a Judge of the Superior Court. By his honorable bearing in every matter connected with the arduous duties he had to fulfil he won the confidence and esteem of all, and it must be gratifying to him beyond expression to find the Secretary of State in the Government of the Rt. Hon. Sir Wilfrid Laurier acting as spokesman for the many friends and admirers he has won as Consul-General of the neighboring republic. To the zeal, energy, and

administrative ability of Hon. Mr. Riley the Rt. Rev. Dr. Conalty owes much of his success in the establishment of the Catholic Summer School at Cliff Haven, near Plattsburg. Catholic education has no warmer or more enlightened friend than Mr. Riley. It is to be regretted that the fortunes of political warfare in the United States deprives the commonwealth of the services of such a distinguished man, but he is too valuable a citizen not to find some means of exercising his talents and experience for the public benefit in the early future. We wish him and his wife every success.

SPECIAL hotel rates can be had by excursionists remaining over Sunday, at Plattsburg, N.Y.

## THE A. O. H. AND THE CIRCUS

A nation cannot be insulted with impunity, and the time has come when Irishmen, the world over, must demand that the unwarrantable insults and jeers cast against their race must cease. As told in another column, Hon. Edward Blake threw the slander of the "drunken Irish" back in the teeth of those who tried to fasten the lie on the people he so nobly defends, and now the Irish people of Montreal are called upon to rise in protest against one of the most deliberate insults ever offered to Irish motherhood. Every vagrant minstrel troupe, every strolling band of actors, not to speak of the army of barnstormers who infest the cities of the Dominion, think their programme is not complete unless it contains some character calculated to cast a slur on the Irish people.

From such misrepresentations until the last crowning insult the gradation was easy. Now, forsooth, for the amusement of a gaping multitude, a brute beast of the field is trotted forth as a specimen of the Irish mother and her child. The City of Montreal is full of the posters. The Ancient Order of Hibernians have taken a dignified stand when they have requested that all the members of their organization should refrain from patronizing the aggregation which hopes to boom its business by holding the Irish race up to ridicule.

By special arrangement with the management of the Grand Trunk Railway System, we are pleased to announce to our readers that an excursion to the Catholic Summer School, Plattsburg, N.Y., will be held under the auspices of the TRUE WITNESS, Saturday, August 21. Tickets are good on all regular trains going and returning Saturday and Monday inclusive. The special price of \$1.25, for the round trip, will enable all persons interested in this new educational movement an opportunity of visiting one of the Catholic Centres of America. It would be well, therefore, for our Catholic people to give this movement serious consideration and their cordial co-operation.

A contemporary published in the United States complains of the growing evil of profanity in language, which is becoming an unmixed evil in the large cities. It is a fact that cannot be denied, and sorrowful to relate the same state of affairs is becoming prevalent in our midst. To the credit of the Irish and the French nationalities, yes, and also the Scotch, there are few examples of the persistent use of bad language which unfortunately distinguishes so many of the English people who come to this country. We do not refer to the educated English person, but the half-educated man who knows enough for the ordinary purposes of life, but whose associations from childhood up have been such as to foster this terrible habit. The man who uses the name of the Lord in vain, if the law cannot touch him, should be shunned by all respectable people and compelled to learn that there are limits of decency across which he must not pass. The law punishes the drunkard who makes a beast of himself by the abuse of liquor, or the woman or man who leads an immoral life. Why not then mete out the same justice to the wretch who offends against God and man in his conversation. The words of the Catholic Advocate on this subject are true and to the point:—

"Leaving moral or religious consideration entirely out of the question, is it not time that this abominable, ungentlemanly practice was abandoned? and can the press fulfil a nobler mission than make its influence felt in aid of its suppression? The vernacular of the blackguard, under all circumstances reprehensible, is especially out of place in the family circle, business or social conversation of friendly greeting; and yet the practice referred to prevails to a greater or less extent in all of them. It is high time to call a halt, to put the penalty of social ostracism on the individual who indulges in it."

CANADA is marching in the path of nations, and every succeeding year brings her more closely in touch with the affairs of the great world. Mr. Eustace Burke, Canadian commercial agent in Jamaica, sends a very interesting report to the Department of Trade and Commerce. He congratulates both Canada and Jamaica on the anticipated

completion of the cable and the improved steamship connection, which he hopes will lead to extended intercolonial commercial relations. He expects Canada to make an effort to prove to Jamaica and the other West Indian Islands the volume of Canadian industry, Canadian enterprise, and, in a word, Canada's progressive path. The bulk of his letter is taken up with the strain of every Canadian agent's quarterly reports, namely, that Canadian producers must put up goods to suit the market. Other nations do it and so take the trade.

In the vast number of foolish schemes and it might be termed, imbecile enterprises which have their theatre in the United States, a really good reform springs into life, one which will have a really beneficial effect on the human race. Such a one comes from Hampton, Va., where the Hampton Institute proposes to mark the opening of its school year by establishing a department of domestic science, or in other words, a school where Afro-American girls, members of the colored race, can be taught the proper principles of housekeeping, so that these girls can go out into the world so thoroughly trained in domestic duties as to command respect. It is a grand idea and a similar institute for white girls farther north would not be a bad idea.

PRESIDENT MCKINLEY is taking a rest at Hotel Champlain, on the borders of the beautiful lake. This is how he does it according to the Plattsburg Free Press: First thing in the morning—grand review of the troops from the military post at Plattsburg.—Review of the bicycle corps. Then inspection of golf tournament. Friendly conversation with Hon. Smith M. Weed for two hours!!! Interview with Lieut. Governor Fisk, of Vermont, to arrange for a fish and game blow out. A drive in and around Plattsburg. Interview of an hour with Hon. John Winn. Another interview with a General, and a reception to Vice-President and Mrs. Hobart and family at night. If this be the holiday season of the President, what must his busy day include?

"LA MINERVE" states that its sister journals have recently been complimentary in their remarks touching its golden jubilee of fifty years. The kind things so well said are very gratifying, La Minerve frankly acknowledges, avowing at the same time that every old lady likes to be told that she is at least ten years younger than the baptismal certificate vouches for. Yet, says our old friend, "the cause of truth, which we have always upheld, and justice to the memory of our founder, Ludger Duvernay, compels the confession that 1826 was the date of our birth."

THE Women's Park Protective Association, representing twenty-five thousand petitioners, has, through its president, Lady Hingston, communicated to the Mount Royal Park Committee a vigorous protest against the proposed tower to be erected on the mountain.

It would be in order now to hear from the Good Government Association. We have been led to believe it was instituted in the interests of the citizens, and as this is a question of vital importance to the taxpayers of our city, its attitude will be looked forward to with much interest.

"BUDDHA" is becoming a fashionable cult in New York. In the search for new sensations, the irreligious New York faddists are rapidly drifting into paganism. The latest news from the Cult is that the disciples of Buddha and Nirvana have got together in New York and are about to establish the American Ethico-Psychological Society, the purpose of which is to study Buddhism and follow it as a religion. We must now look forward to a new crop of Mahatmas.

THE Hon. Gavan Duffy has visited his native city, where his father was once a State prisoner on the charge of having written a seditious libel on the Government of the day. Sir Gordon Spragg is also expected there as the guest of one of the Jamesons, the great distillers of the famous Irish whiskey.

## UNITED STATES BARRACKS AT PLATTSBURG.

Among the places in and about Plattsburg, probably none possesses more interest to the visitor than Plattsburg Barracks, situated only five minutes' walk from the town. The garrison now consists of 1,000 officers and men. Plattsburg, on account of its close proximity to the Canadian border, being one of the most important military posts in the east, a visit to the Barracks by one unfamiliar with army matters is both instructive and pleasant.

Arrangements have been made so as to enable those who attend the Excursion, to be given under the auspices of the TRUE WITNESS, to visit this important Post.

Chiniquy is back and he is telling everyone of the grand success he had in England. It would seem from the following paragraph, taken from an English

exchange, that for some mysterious reason his absence was thought better than his company. No doubt he has explained his return as the result of another Popish plot:—

How is it that Chiniquy has been got rid of in such a mysterious manner? When certain questions began to be asked, he disappeared under plea of requiring "a warmer climate." But he was to return—the Protestant Alliance could not do without him. They were to be blessed with another dose of his wicked fables, and now all of a sudden we read these few words:—

"Chiniquy left Liverpool yesterday (July 31st) on his return home to Canada."

Was not the "money up to the mark," or is there anything else which has hurried the hoary old sinner "over the sea"?

## CANADA AND THE JUBILEE.

In a recent issue the Catholic Standard and Times of Philadelphia had some strictures in its columns touching Catholic papers in Canada and the Jubilee celebration, and has been taken to task by a Montreal Catholic, as will be seen by the following letter which that paper prints:—

Editor Catholic Standard and Times:

SIR,—In your issue of July 24 you insert a short editorial in reference to Catholic papers in Canada and the Jubilee parade, as you call it. I may say the American Catholics who happen to live in Canada north of line forty-five are no more guilty of "hypocrisy and toadyism" than their coreligionists who live south of that line.

Whilst enjoying all the rights (mind, I do not say privileges) which we as Catholics and citizens can claim, we are not forgetful of the miseries and misfortunes of poor old Ireland, and are always willing to give a helping hand, not by sympathy only, but in a more practical manner—by money. In regard to our civil liberties, we have Home Rule in its fullest extent, and can compare favorably with any country in the world, not excepting the United States.

As regards religious liberty, a Catholic can rise to the highest position in the Dominion; for example, the late Sir John Thompson, and the present Premier Hon. Wilfrid Laurier. Has a Catholic any chance of becoming President of the United States? In the Province of Quebec the Provincial Premier is almost invariably a Catholic. Mention, if you can, one State in the Union to compare with that. Its chief city, Montreal, the "Rome of America," is renowned for its Catholic institutions and the public celebration of its religious festivals. I doubt if you can mention another large city in the world in which the Blessed Sacrament is carried publicly through the streets and attended by thousands in procession, civil and military, like the "Fete Dieu" procession in Montreal.

I may mention that the Papal Delegate, Mgr. Del Val, some scores of priests and about 12,000 persons were present at a religious ceremony in the great Cathedral of Notre Dame on the occasion of the Jubilee.

Not wishing to trespass too much on your space I have endeavored in a few words as possible to show that the Catholics in that part of North America called Canada are guilty of neither "hypocrisy nor toadyism." They understand how to "fear God and honor the King." To honor the King, not with a servility of a Cardinal Wolsey, but with the dignity of a Thomas à Becket or the patriotism of a Cardinal Langton. I am, dear sir, yours respectfully,

A MONTREAL CATHOLIC.

MONTREAL, August 3, 1897.

[The phrases which seem to have hurt our correspondent did not refer to Canada. They were descriptive only of what the action of American Catholics of Irish birth would deserve to be called were they so base as to join in the self-glorification of a country which had wrought the ruin of their own.—Ed.]

It would be uncharitable to hint that the popularity of cremation, with the Illuminati of France and Italy, and among the infidels and civilized pagans of the world, is due to the fact that they are anxious to seal the compact by the surrender of their bodies as well as their souls to the all-devouring flames, but the fact remains that wherever irreligion predominates there also prevails that idea of cremation. In a well written article on the subject in the Australasian Catholic Herald, Rev. Father Y. A. Fitzgerald, O.S.F., claims that the advocates of cremation are gradually diminishing in number. He says:—

"If, as Saint Paul reminds us, our bodies are temples of the Holy Ghost, surely, even when the immortal spirit has winged its flight to another sphere, the human frame that had been dignified by its presence and even deified by the indwelling spirit of God cannot be confounded with the carcass of an unreasoning brute. 'No,' says Saint Augustine, 'the bodies of the dead belong to the providence of God,' and Tobias was rewarded because he left his dinner to decently inter those bodies."

The brilliant and patriotic Irishman who edits Old and New in the Montreal Gazette, over the initials of R.V., says:

Those who have read "La Légende d'un Peuple" may recall a poem in that rich volume which Mr. Fréchette has dedicated to "Le Drapeau Anglais." A father directs his son's attention to the British flag as the symbol of an influence that has made his country prosperous and free. The boy listens eagerly as the man recounts the glories of that triple-crossed emblem until in fancy he sees it floating over a large portion of the globe, a guarantee of progress and liberty to millions. Often in its career it had faced in conflict another flag no less renowned; at last France's proud banner was furled and the flag of England waved over the ramparts of Quebec. But it waves, at least over a free people who have to deplore the loss of none of

their cherished rights. "Therefore, my child," enjoin this wise parent, "since this flag waves above our heads, it is our duty to salute it with respect."

But the boy is not quite satisfied with his father's prudent loyalty. He wants to know, if his instructor will excuse the question, whether there is not another flag. And the father proud for once of his son's audacity, replies:

"Ah! celui-là, c'est autre chose. Il faut le baisser à genoux!"

It would be difficult more faithfully to portray the French-Canadian's love of the French flag than in those two lines.

## REV. BRO. PRUDENT

Honored by His Former Pupils of St. Ann's School.

On Wednesday evening last, a number of young men, former pupils of St. Ann's School, presented Rev. Bro. Prudent, the Director of the school, with a beautiful illuminated address and a well filled purse.

After its presentation lunch was served to the boys; they then went to the Hall, where a well arranged program of music, song and speech was heartily enjoyed. Messrs. Thomas McGregor and Joseph St. John fairly delighted the boys by their exquisite performance on the guitar and mandolin. At the close, Rev. Bro. Prudent congratulated the boys on the success of their entertainment and thanked, in a special manner, all those who had taken an active part. Mr. James Fitzgerald called for three cheers for Bro. Prudent, which were heartily given. The boys went home delighted with the successful issue of what they are wont to term "their scheme," and happy in the conscious feeling of having performed an act of generosity and kindness towards one they loved.

## THE ADDRESS

DEAR BROTHER DIRECTOR,—Our object of meeting you on this occasion is a most pleasing one. As former pupils of St. Ann's School, we wish to publicly express our gratitude to you for the many blessings and favors we have received at your hands—blessings and favors which cannot be estimated by earthly coin or worldly riches. We may, perhaps, have been thankless children but, with mature years, we have learned to be grateful. We have, also, learned to admire your exalted virtues, sterling worth, high personal accomplishments and to appreciate your enlightened direction and wise counsel. To us, indeed, St. Ann's School has been an Alma Mater. The souvenir of our school days is enshrined in our hearts and will ever remain treasured up as the cherished recollection of our youth.

But, dear Brother Director, it is especially since we left the sacred precincts of the school room that you have shown yourself our "friend in need." You fully understood the extent of the teacher's mission. You do not believe it to be limited by the classroom; you spare no pains to secure positions for your pupils when they are thoroughly prepared; and it is to your efforts and influence that most of us are indebted for the remunerative positions we hold at present.

Yes, dear Brother Director, you have been a most faithful guide to us over that most perilous portion of the sea of life—those thoughtless years between school days and manhood. These are years of dangerous sailing to the unguided and inexperienced youth, during which many young men are shattered on the rocks of temptation, or irretrievably lost in the whirlpool of vice.

For nearly a quarter of a century you have devoted yourself to your sublime calling as Christian educator. The host of young men that you have trained up in the paths of virtue and science, and whose greatest pride is to have been your pupils, is your highest commendation and best proof of success. We feel proud to be numbered with this gallant band of former pupils, and, like them, we hope to prove beacons of light to all around us by the bright example of a truly Christian life.

Dear Brother Director, please to accept our renewed expression of thanks for all you have done for us. We are still young and need direction; we sincerely trust you will still continue to be our guiding star.

As a tribute of our gratitude and high esteem, kindly accept this little token of affection from your former pupils.

In reply, the Brother Director said that this was for him a very pleasing and, he believed, a very profitable surprise. He thanked the boys for their kind and thoughtful act, and only wished he was worthy of half the praise they bestowed upon him. He assured them that it was not necessary for them to have recourse to such means to testify their gratitude. Their exemplary conduct since they left school he regarded as an abiding act of thanksgiving, and more than recompense for any interest he had taken in them. Their happy remarks regarding the boys for whom he had labored in far off years pleased him very much. He was glad to hear that the lives of these young men had attracted their attention and he begged of those present to imitate this good example and win for themselves the respect of their fellow-citizens and honorable places in society. He watched with jealous care the career of his boys after they left the class room, and he observed that all those who remained true to themselves are false to no man; but, to remain true to themselves, they must remain true to their God, and never forget nor forego the pious practices of their school days.

## THE OLD FAITH ALIVE IN ST. ANN'S.

Mr. Jas. Fitzgerald, the former President of St. Ann's Junior Young Men's Society, has this week given up his position in the Montreal Street Railway Co., and entered the Novitiate of the Oblate Fathers in Ottawa. Mr. Fitzgerald was a particular favorite among the young men, and he made himself hosts of friends. He bears with him to his new home the best wishes of all.

Last week four of the most promising boys of St. Ann's School entered the Juvenile of the Redemption Fathers at St. Ann de Beaupre.

St. Ann's Parish has more than twenty students preparing for the priesthood. This is a fair illustration of what can be done by zealous priests and hardworking Christian Brothers.