

# The True Witness and Catholic Chronicle.

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## EPISCOPAL APPROBATION.

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 powerful Catholic papers in this country. I heartily bless those who encourage this excellent work.

PAUL, Archbishop of Montreal.

SATURDAY.....MAY 5, 1900.

## News of the Week.

Elsewhere we publish an article upon the subject of donations by Catholics to Catholic institutions; we are pleased to place on record the splendid donation of fifty thousand dollars by Mr. Michael Cudahy to the Catholic University at Washington. The fund which the zealous promoter has been empowered by the Holy Father to raise for the purpose of the institution. The telegram from Chicago which brought the agreeable news added that a confident hope is now indulged in that the desired amount, one million dollars, will be raised within the next year. Besides the splendid contribution of Mr. Cudahy (who is one of the trustees of the University) other prominent members of the Church in Chicago have subscribed handsomely in response to Archbishop Keane's appeal.

Some fruits of the Queen's visit to Ireland; she conferred baronetcies upon the Lord Mayors of Dublin and Belfast, the title of Lord Mayor on the Mayor of Cork and his successors in office, and knighthood upon the Mayor of Cork and the Mayor of Londonderry.

Her Majesty gave £1,000 to be distributed among the poor in the Dublin Hospitals.

By the Queen's command, Lord Cadogan, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, has published the following:

"The Queen is very anxious before leaving Ireland, where she has spent a most agreeable time, to express through the Lord Lieutenant to her Irish people how very much gratified and how deeply touched she has been by her reception here during the three weeks she has spent in this charming place.

"She has been received by all ranks and creeds with an enthusiasm and affection which could not be surpassed. Each time the Queen came before her dear husband, they kindly and warmly welcomed her; but on this occasion, after the lapse of 39 years, her reception equalled that of previous visits, and she carried away the most pleasant and most affectionate memories of the time spent in Ireland.

"The Queen earnestly prays that good will and harmony may prevail among all her people, and that they may be happy and prosperous."

The news comes from Philadelphia, that the Phoenix Iron Company has secured a contract to build the largest cantilever bridge in the world over the St. Lawrence River at Quebec. The cost will be \$4,700,000.

Nine people were killed and seven injured by the fall of a foot bridge in the Champs de Mars section of the Paris Exhibition, on Sunday.

At a meeting of the shareholders of the "Independent" Publishing Company, Dublin, Ireland, held a little over a week ago. Mr. William Field, M.P., presiding, the following resolution was passed: "That it has been proved to the satisfaction of this meeting that the Company cannot, by reason of its liabilities, continue its business, and that it is advisable to wind-up the same, and ac-

cordingly that the Company be now wound-up voluntarily, and that Mr. Thomas Baker, of No. 54, Kenilworth-square, Rathgar, Co. Dublin, be and is hereby appointed liquidator for the purpose of such winding-up."

Judging from reports to the American press, Queen Victoria's visit to Ireland is proclaimed a success.

But it is safe to predict that if nothing substantial in the shape of a concession to the Irish popular demands follows this visit there will be far less enthusiasm for the next member of the royal family who visits Ireland.

Public sentiment in England now would sanction any concession that the present Government might propose. Its sole opponents would be the Irish landlord ascendancy class. But it is feared that the present Government is more anxious to please that clique than to conciliate the Irish people.

An American journal says:—The acceptance of a baronetcy by knighthood by Mayor Hegarty, of Cork, was discounted beforehand, as both were known to be actuated mainly in their demonstration of loyalty by a desire to secure titles. Both are nonentities politically.

A press despatch says:—Royalty's presence in Erin failed to make Irishmen dauntingly English; but, curiously enough, made Englishmen annoyingly Irish.

The lower house of the York Convention, composed of sedate clergy and laymen of the Church of England's northern diocese, has adopted resolutions to put St. Patrick upon the pages of the prayer-book, from which he was unaccountably missing.

On a par with this is the agitation in England over Irishmen's right to wear kilts. Upon this momentous question Hon. William Gibson, son of Baron Ashbourne, Lord Chancellor of Ireland, has been lecturing to large audiences in London, dressed in the picturesque abbreviated garb generally associated with Scotchmen.

This process of killing would be merely humorous could one forget the misery, poverty and stagnation of industries in southern and western Ireland; but in view of the conditions the shamrock craze is but another instance of England's failure to grasp the nature of Ireland's needs.

A correspondent in Manila, writing to a New York journal, says:—One of the serious problems which confronts the Government here is the selection of a leper island and the segregation of the lepers. There are lepers scattered throughout the archipelago. In many places they mix with the rest of the people. They may be seen begging at the doors of the churches, and it is hard to tell whether they are not in the markets handling the vegetables and meats which we eat on our tables.

There are, it is said, 30,000 lepers in the Visayan Islands, and the number in the whole country must be upward of 50,000. Leprosy exists to an alarming extent in several of the provinces of Luzon, and Captain Lynch, one of the doctors of the

Health Department, tells me that he saw several hundred cases during his stay in Negros.

The London "Times" correspondent in Paris writes:—

It is no exaggeration to estimate, as preceding statistics prove, the number of visitors to the exhibition at 36,000,000 at least. If the average expense of these visitors be calculated at £5, £180,000,000 sterling will represent the net expenditure of this vast multitude in Paris, the capital alone, and a third at least of this expenditure, £60,000,000, will certainly be made in Paris itself in the shape of cost of living, of transport and of purchases. These figures take no account of the items of railway and steamboat travel from the frontiers to the capital, in which the provinces will reap a profit and the great transport companies. This item may be fixed at £40,000,000.

A despatch from London says:—The Duke of Argyll died a poor man, owing to the heavy mortgages on his estates, together with the great cost of maintaining Inverary Castle.

The Committee on Arrangements for the formation of an Alumni Society at Mt. St. Mary's Seminary of the West, have completed their labors. Letters have been sent to all the old students of the institution, inviting them to attend a meeting, to be held at the Seminary on May 16th, 1900. Archbishop Elder will celebrate Pontifical High Mass, and Bishop Byrne, of Nashville, will deliver the sermon. The morning will be devoted to the formation of a permanent organization and the appointment of general committees. In the afternoon, a grand banquet will be served to the visiting clergy.

Reports from London state: Fighting, heavier than any since Lady-smith, seems to be imminent near Thaba N'Chu. The despatches of Lord Roberts dated Monday and Tuesday, show that the Boer rear guard, stubbornly resisted his advance, forcing the British on Saturday and Sunday to act chiefly on the defensive. General French, who is directing the operations, has at least fifteen thousand men. Some estimates give him thirty thousand. The Boers are estimated to number at least six thousand, and possibly ten thousand.

The Rev. J. P. McQuaid, of San Francisco, who is returning to his home from the Philippines, preached at the Church of St. Paul the Apostle, Columbus avenue and Sixtieth street, New York, on Sunday last.

Father McQuaid's subject was "The Catholic Church in the Philippines," and he took occasion to reply sharply to the criticisms of Bishop Potter and Dean C. Worcester, who was one of President McKinley's commissioners to the islands. He said the Philippine friars were the advance agents of Christianity and civilization. They were men of fine breeding and of splendid education. They voluntarily exiled themselves to work among savages.

"They found slavery, murder, robbery and idolatry in their worst horrors prevailing, yet so thoroughly did the friars work that twenty-seven years after their appearance there were bishoprics and archbishoprics, and peace and happiness reigned over all the islands save those of the Sulu group. The friars brought the Philippines into the light of day."

Two hundred or more lives were lost in the explosion in mine No. 4, of the Pleasant Valley Coal Co., at Seaford, Utah, on Monday. 137 bodies have already been recovered. The work of rescue is still proceeding, although there is no hope that any of the men who are unaccounted for escaped death.

## CATHOLIC SAILORS' CLUB.

No institution of recent formation has exhibited greater successes than has the Catholic Sailors' Club. We all know of its humble origin, and the million and one obstacles that had to be surmounted before it could be brought to a stage of permanent usefulness. Many of those who first assisted in the organization have made way for successors, not a few have passed away for all time; but the work was well commenced; it was a necessity, and as a consequence, it has become one of the most admirable organizations in our city.

On Saturday afternoon last, the fifth annual opening took place. His Grace, the Archbishop, was present. The rooms were tastefully decorated for the occasion. The annual report showed 20,357 visits made by sailors to the club. Addresses were delivered by Mr. W. E. Doran, Hon. Dr. Guerin, and Rev. Father Turgeon. The season opens with great promise, and we trust that it will be as prosperous as its magnificent aim deserves.

## THE HULL-OTTAWA CATASTROPHE

There are cities that seem to have been marked out by Providence for special ordeals; some are repeatedly visited by plagues, others by inundations, and still others by fires. Yet no cause apparent to the human eye can be assigned for such catastrophes. In the United States the cities of Boston and Chicago have especially suffered from the burning element; in Canada, Quebec and Hull have suffered repeatedly and in a most severe manner from the same dread scourge. Three times has Hull been swept by the flames; each time it appeared as if the city was destroyed for years to come, but each time, like the phoenix, it sprang up from its ashes. The numerous and magnificent mills of the Chaudiere, furnished labor to fully one thousand persons, and, even if their dwellings were destroyed, they always had the work awaiting them, while the hand of generosity furnished material to rebuild their humble dwellings. But this, the fourth time, no such resource has been left. The city of Hull has been practically wiped out, and with it have gone all the mills and manufactories between that city and Ottawa. The result is that destitution reigns supreme on the site of that busy, lively, industrious town.

By this time all our readers are familiar with the harrowing details of the terrific conflagration. So complete has been the work of destruction and so universal the distress and misery that have come to thousands of people, that the sympathy of the whole Dominion, of the United States, and of Great Britain, has been awakened in a manner so keen, that it seems to have permeated every strata of society and to have touched the hearts of all the world—from the Sovereign Queen down to her humblest subject. To attempt any adequate description of the scenes enacted last week in Hull and Ottawa would demand a volume and a pen of fire. Imagination falls entirely short of the reality, no matter how strained its effort to picture all that took place. One hour before noon a prosperous city, with its splendid public buildings, its miles of streets of various kinds—rich and poor—united to a large section of the Capital by a magnificent suspension bridge and a series of islands covered with the most splendid mills and manufactories on this continent; the hum of industry drowning the roar of the great cataract; long before evening all that remained of so much wealth, so much comfort, so much industry was a field of ashes, marked here and there by a solitary building, a tottering wall, or a lone chimney. So fierce was the attack of the flaming enemy, that no opportunity was given even to save household effects; in many instances the most that people could do was to save themselves from the fiery furnace. On former occasions, when the scourge came upon devoted Hull, the ravages of the element were principally confined to the wooden structures inhabited by the poorer class. This time everything was swept away: Court House, Prison, Post Office, Registry Office, lawyers' offices, City Hall, Anglican Church, and presbytery, the palace-like residences of E. B. Eddy, Dr. Graham, L. N. Champagne, M.P., A. Rochon, C. C. Charles Leduc, the prothonotary; then the entire Eddy establishment—saw mills, pulp mills, match factory, pail and sash factory, and the splendid series of offices; worse still, millions of feet of lumber, the grand suspension bridge, all the bridges over the slides, J. R. Booth's offices and mills and piling-grounds, the whole of the thickly populated district of the Flats, the C.P.R. Depot, everything between the Ottawa river and the Richmond Road, including the convent of the Sisters of Mercy; in a word, seven miles of densely populated streets on both sides of the river.

An idea of the loss may, perhaps, be gauged from the fact that the losses incurred by thirty-two insurance companies amounts to \$2,810,000. The consequence is that the actual loss must have mounted into the millions. Severe as the blow may be to such a merchant-prince as J. R. Booth—who loses \$1,500,000, equally as severe is the loss of his home and all his belongings for the laborer who earned his dollar each day in the mills. Starvation, cold, nakedness, misery in every form fell to the lot of fully eight thousand individuals. As we said the magnitude of the catastrophe awakened a sentiment of sympathy in every direction, and that sympathy immediately took a practical form.

The first appeal made on behalf of the victims came from His Grace the Archbishop of Montreal, who at once issued a circular letter to his clergy ordaining a collection in all churches of the archdiocese for the benefit of the destitute. The beautifully worded letter, which was at once reproduced in all the press, both French and

English, was backed up with a subscription of five hundred dollars. The Government, by special Order-in-Council, donated \$100,000. The ever generous and whole-souled Lord Strathcona cabled \$25,000. And thus we find the list commenced and hourly has it augmented since. The railway companies have offered to transport free of charge all objects that are addressed to the Relief Committee; car-loads of clothing, provisions and other necessities have poured in all week, and the destitute have been rescued from starvation and cold. But all these donations do not give back their homes to the laborers, nor rebuild the mills that were their source of livelihood. If there is any consolation under such circumstances, it is the fact that the season is on the verge of summer, instead of winter. Were it otherwise, and had we a Canadian winter ahead, the situation would be almost beyond control. It is to be hoped that before the summer is over the majority, if not all, of the victims will find themselves again in homes, at least, as comfortable and happy as those from which they have been driven by the fire.

One building alone of importance in Hull remains—it is the magnificent Catholic Church. Although surrounded by a sea of flame, in some miraculous manner, the sacred edifice escaped the scorching element. During the fire of 1886 the Church, which occupied the place upon which the present one stands—was entirely destroyed; spectators from the Parliament Hill in Ottawa beheld the falling of the steeple, and witnessed many of the harrowing scenes of the occasion. This time, however, the temple remained alone erect—like the Church of which it is a symbol—a fit guardian over the ruins spread on all sides. We desire to unite our humble voice with those of all our fellow-citizens in expressing heartfelt sorrow for the numerous victims of this terrible visitation and the hope that soon again out of the gloom that hangs over the populations of both cities, rays of promise and beams of prosperity may flash forth. We subjoin an imperfect list of the subscriptions gathered in various Catholic churches on the appeal of the Archbishop. These being all the returns so far to hand, we can merely form therefrom an idea of the widespread feeling that exists in regard to the sufferers:—

St. Louis de France, \$700.  
St. Pierre, \$624.25.  
St. James, \$435.  
St. James Cathedral, \$400.15.  
Gesu, \$153.  
St. Patrick's, \$228.  
St. Henri, \$225.  
St. Jean Baptiste, \$106.  
Maisonneuve, \$47.  
Ste. Cunegonde, \$200.  
St. Louis du Mile End, \$133.  
Viauville, \$20.  
St. Vincent de Paul, \$170.  
St. Joseph, \$225.  
Sacred Heart, \$185.  
St. Mary, \$100.  
St. Bridget, \$160.  
Hochelaga, \$70.  
Immaculate Conception, \$97.  
St. Edouard, \$40.

These twenty churches gave \$4,618. Notre Dame and the country churches have yet to be heard from, and it is expected that the total collections will range all the way from \$10,000 to \$15,000.

## A SUCCESSFUL YEAR.

As usual the Montreal City and District Savings Bank has shown a most successful financial year, and its encouraging report has been accompanied by a deed that eloquently speaks the merits of the institution. At the meeting of the Board, held on Tuesday, one thousand dollars were donated to the fund for Ottawa and Hull sufferers.

In addition to the regular yearly donations to educational and benevolent institutions, this gift to the suffering people of Hull is a guarantee that one financial establishment of our province is unshaken in the least, and is capable of teaching the world how business and charity can go hand in hand.

According to the fifty-third annual report, which we publish in full elsewhere in this issue the year closing Dec. 31, 1899, was a most prosperous one. The net profits of the year were \$122,660.54, which added to the balance at the credit of profit and loss account of the previous year, (\$117,979.58) brings this account up to \$240,640.12. From this amount two dividends and a bonus have been paid, and \$50,000 has been carried to the reserve fund, making it \$550,000. The amount at the credit of profit and loss is now \$100,040.12. The volume of business transacted during the year amounted to \$84,000,000, or \$6,000,000 more than in the preceding year. The increase during the year in the amount due depositors was \$992,113.87.

The number of open accounts on Dec. 31 last was 54,053, being 2,527

greater than in the previous year. The average amount due each depositor was \$204.23, as against \$195.98 for 1898. Much of the success of the bank is due to the vigilance exercised by its enthusiastic, faithful and able manager, Mr. Henri Barbeau.

The old Board of Directors was elected as follows: The Hon. Sir W. H. Hingston, M.D., Mr. R. Bolemare, the Hon. James O'Brien, the Hon. Judge J. A. Ouimet, E. J. Barbeau, F. T. H. Judah, C. C. Michael Burke, Robert Mackay, H. Markland Molson and Chs. P. Hebert. The Hon. Sir W. H. Hingston, M.D., was re-elected president, and Mr. R. Bolemare, vice-president, H. Barbeau, manager.

## THE HOTEL DIEU GRANT.

We publish this week a translation of an article, on the question of the proposed grant of land to the Hotel Dieu, from the pages of "La Semaine Religieuse." We did not deem it at all necessary to comment upon that article, as all comment would be superfluous. The situation is clearly explained, and the subject is placed before the reader in a proper and easily understood manner. We are not at all surprised that such a masterly exposition of the matter should meet with severe criticism on the part of the "Daily Witness." Yet we had anticipated something more logical and effective in the form of a reply. In its lengthy editorial of Monday the "only religious daily" has not removed one stone from the pathway of unreasonable opposition. It takes it for granted that His Grace, the Archbishop of Montreal, wrote the article in the official organ of the archdiocese. We have no evidence that the contribution came from the pen direct of Mgr. Brodeur; moreover, His Grace is generally in the habit of signing his own writings. But we agree that it conveyed the sentiments and views of the Archbishop—since these sentiments and views are held by all the Catholic population of Montreal. Consequently, it does not advance the cause against the Hotel Dieu to suppose His Grace to be the author. No more does it benefit the "Witness" to agree in so many points or details with the writer of that article, since it merely wishes to cover its real motives with a veil of apparent disinterestedness. Its sarcasm at the close, in regard to the Archbishop's influence upon "his" aldermen (as it calls those civic fathers of Catholic faith), is just as poor a substitute for argument as could be imagined.

All that we can glean from the elaborate editorial of the "Witness," is that the organ of Protestantism is opposed to the grant, but that it has no better reasons for its opposition than that the land accorded the "Royal Victoria" was useless, while that proposed to be accorded the Hotel Dieu, is part of a playground, and that a home for consumptives should be up in the Laurentians. If these be all the weighty reasons brought to bear in opposition to the article in question, we may confidently assert that the case for the Hotel Dieu and the grant has been clearly set forth, and that no one has been able to refute the arguments in their favor.

## A SECTARIAN SPIRIT.

At the meeting of the Parks and Ferries Committee, during which the appointment of a successor to the ex-superintendent of Mount Royal Park was discussed, the spirit of religious controversy came nearly as summing control. However, it is a lesson that we should take to heart, and learn to keep an open eye to business when there is question of civic patronage. We cannot well style it bigotry, but certainly the non-Catholic element is ever ready to bury all differences, and to act as one man the moment Protestant interests are at stake. We are not disputing their right to seek to retain amongst themselves every office once occupied by an English-speaking Protestant. We are neither unfair, nor unreasonable in these matters; we are perfectly prepared to grant to every other element the rights and privileges which it should enjoy, and we can appreciate the sentiment that causes others to insist upon whatever they consider to be their just claims. All we ask, in return, is that we be granted the same consideration. We have noticed that whenever it became the turn of an Irish Catholic, either to fulfil the duties of a public office, or to receive an appointment to some civic or otherwise public position, there were scores of arguments raised against him—amongst others, that it should not be a question of creed or race, but rather one of the most competent aspirant. This is very fine in theory, and with the principle we are in perfect sympathy; but in practice the day has yet to dawn when we will behold simple merit, apart from other considerations, to be a passport to preferment.

Our English-speaking Protestant friends have shown that they are actuated by the same motives that sway the actions of each attention element. We do not call attention to these facts for the purpose of intruding upon the aspirations of any section of the community; we simply wish to lay stress upon them for the benefit of our own people. We have long preached the necessity of greater harmony, more concentrated action on the part of the Irish Catholic of Montreal; now we hold up a striking example of the practice amongst others of what upon our been striving to impress upon our fellow-countrymen and co-religionists. We need support in action—not in mere words—and we must not in mere words—and the shift either act in accord with the besting elements or else bravely breast them. At all events we need more and more clearly the necessity of some organization; and until such time as a person can see about where we stand in all municipal and political matters, our element cannot expect either success or victory.