

## OUR OTTAWA LETTER

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

### THE UNIVERSITY BURNED.

About seven o'clock on Wednesday morning, 2nd December, while all the students were at breakfast in the refectories of the University, a fire burst out that seemed almost like a general explosion. It was certainly one of the most swiftly disastrous conflagrations that Ottawa has ever witnessed. In less time than it takes to write the entire vast edifice was in flames. The pupils could not find exit by the doors, and had to jump from the windows. Some priests who were in the upper stories were forced to jump down, from distances of thirty, forty and sixty feet. The fire moved as rapidly as a man could walk from end to end of the institution. In an hour and a half not one square inch of that magnificent pile of buildings was left. Nothing was saved, and the miracle is that no lives were lost. Three priests, who were in upper stories, and three domestics in the basement, were badly injured, some of them probably fatally. But had the fire taken place during the early morning or the night there is every likelihood that many lives would have been lost. As it is the scene is a sad one. The pupils, most of them far from home, are left without any other clothing than what they had on them at breakfast; the priests have lost all they had of personal effects; the magnificent library and museum are gone; the rich and beautiful chapel, a perfect gem, and representing tens of thousands of dollars, and the grand academic hall, with all its wealth of fixings, are destroyed. The immense ruins that stand there to-day tell a story of fifty years of labor, of sacrifice, of untold privations, of unrecorded energies, of hopes, aspirations, successes, of memories that are fondly associated with the struggles of the Oblate Fathers to build up a Catholic University worthy of Ontario, of Canada, of the Capital; and they also tell the sequel of that story, in the sudden effacing of all the fruits of so much labor and so much talent, so much sacrifice and so much perseverance. It is a blow not only to the good Oblate Fathers, not only to the city of Ottawa, but to the cause of Catholic education in all Canada. The people of Montreal can recall the day when it was announced that the Convent of Villa Maria was entirely destroyed by fire. The scene witnessed in Ottawa on Wednesday morning was one of a like character. But in the latter case nothing was left, no temporary refuge, not even an outhouse wherein the pupils and priests might take shelter from the rigors of the December morning. As a rule, we only learn to fully appreciate something when we have lost it forever. Thus it is that we in Ottawa are now just beginning to learn how great and important to the city was this Catholic University. Its ruins, heaped upon each other in such masses, tell the story of the importance of the edifice that has vanished for all time from sight. It will be replaced some day; but when and at what cost? The calamity is so great that one has no time or inclination, at this moment, to reflect on the future's possibilities.

A local journal estimates the financial loss as follows:—

Loss on building, \$250,000.  
Loss on contents including the handsome chapel, library, according to Rev. Father Emery's estimate, \$250,000.  
Total estimated loss, \$500,000.  
The loss is covered by insurance to the extent of \$200,000.

From the same source we learn of those who suffered injuries in jumping from their perilous positions.

Rev. Father Fulham seriously injured about the back, will likely recover. Jumped from fourth storey window and missed the net.

Father Boyoux seriously injured about the chest and back. Will likely recover. Jumped from fourth storey window and missed the net.

Father McGurty badly burned about the head, shoulders and arms. Ran through fire to get out.

Miss Cordelia Tremblay, an employee of the college, leg broken and otherwise injured. Jumped out of

fifth storey window and missed the net.

Mrs. H. Bastien, St. Hyacinthe street, Hull, left arm and right leg broken. Jumped from fifth storey window.

Father O'Boyle hair and face burned. Ran through fire to get out.

Douglas Collin, student, St. Boniface, Man., eye injured by broken spectacles. Jumped from fourth storey window.

Miss Josephine Dupuis jumped through a window and is now at the Water street hospital. Sustained cuts on the head and face.

Rev. W. P. O'Boyle, secretary of the College, was the one who sent in the alarm. So far as those inside the building were concerned.

"We were all in the refectory at breakfast perfectly unconscious of any danger, when suddenly flames and smoke burst into the room in immense volume. No panic ensued fortunately, as there was only a door to be gone through to let all outside. Being secretary of the college, I, of course, had the registers in my room, and after running out and sending in an alarm, I came back and attempted to reach my room on the third storey. This I could not do, as the flames were rushing down the corridors, filling them with dense volumes of smoke. In attempting to reach my room I had my hair badly singed. When I saw that evidently the building was going, I gave the alarm along the corridors, where a few of the students were still in their rooms. By this time the firemen had not yet arrived, and I telephoned the station asking them to send down all the firemen they could, that the University was going. Father Fortier in the meantime had gone around to the fire station on Theodore street to give the alarm. The building by this time was filled with flames and smoke in the upper stories, and all the students could do was to file outside, none of them being able to return to their rooms for any of their clothes or possessions."

The "Evening Journal" says: There was not a priest or a student who saved a thing. Trunks, clothes of every sort, even overcoats, went to the flames. Many students had money in their trunks. Very few have even enough money to get home with. Seventy-five per cent. of the boarding students come from the United States and far away points in Canada. These for the present are homeless. Most of these till they get money from home will go to hotels. Not a few have already been offered the shelter of hospitable homes in the vicinity of the college.

The cause of the fire will probably never be known. But it is suspected that it started in the amusement hall, where the students held an entertainment the previous evening.

### The School Question In St. Anthony's

Rev. John E. Donnelly, P.P. of St. Anthony's parish, made it quite plain to his congregation on Sunday last, that he is of the opinion that his parish is being ignored by the Catholic School Commissioners. He made a strong appeal to his parishioners to secure their rights for school accommodation for their children.

Father Donnelly is reported to have said:—A few years ago the Sisters of Notre Dame rented a building on St. Antoine street for school purposes. At the present time the building has become unfit for school purposes, and has been condemned several times by the health authorities, and is just now overcrowded. Last year Father Donnelly requested the commissioners time and again to lend a helping hand and build a school for the girls. After waiting patiently for some encouragement, he received an answer lately that the commissioners would do nothing in the matter, as they did not build schools for the girls.

"Were it not for the good Sisters of Notre Dame and other orders," said the pastor, "the education of our girls would be sadly neglected. What do they receive from the commissioners? A miserable pittance, scarcely enough to keep body and soul together. The commissioners have direct and full control of seven schools in Montreal—not enough to educate one-third of our children."

Speaking in reference to the education imparted in the schools, the dual system of languages, he wished it understood that he was not speaking from any antagonism toward the French element. He strongly condemned such a system from personal experience. The child should be best

educated towards the object in life he is striving after. Many of the children leave school at the age of fourteen years, and with their little knowledge of both languages are sadly handicapped.

"A boy of fourteen who masters both languages, French and English, to be able to speak and write both languages grammatically, is a prodigy," he remarked. A thorough knowledge of their own language was an absolute necessity for English-speaking children. The English-speaking boy was often rejected when he applied for a position in an English house on account of his poor education in his own language.

In conclusion he exhorted the taxpayers of the parish to demand their rights from the commissioners. It was the people's money that was being used, and the people should get the best value for it. While other parishes were well provided for in the matter of school buildings, St. Anthony's parish was ignored and neglected.

St. Anthony's parish, which has grown to large dimensions in the past six or seven years, has a large school population. The boys and girls of the parish attend no less than seven or eight different schools in the vicinity, whereas two schools, one for boys and the other for girls, would give the parishioners what they are entitled to as their share of the tax money.

### Father Kiernan Pleads in Behalf of St. Michael's.

(From a Correspondent.)

The members of St. Michael's desire to record their sincere gratitude to their friends and sympathizers in the older parishes of the city for the good will and support they have given them in the difficulties with which they have had to cope since the organization of their separate parish.

On assuming the responsibilities of a new parish, they had no reasons to expect the untoward obstacles that have strewn their path and which would have been sufficient to discourage others.

It was, as is well known, owing to the inconveniences from which they had to suffer and which were due to their being so much outnumbered by five French parishes, every one with its swelling congregation and its own independent school board, that they were urged to petition His Grace the Archbishop for a parish of their own in which they could advise with priests of their own language and thus forward both their religious and secular welfare. His Grace acceded to their request, erected St. Michael's, and appointed priests to direct it.

Begun under most favorable auspices, the thorns in its way were smothered, but with time they made themselves be felt. Energy and determination dulled them, not however without anxiety, detriment and suffering. God was its friend and having laid the foundations, the labor has not been in vain. The moment has come for its supreme effort. Plans and specifications have been prepared for an humble Church and work will begin in a few weeks. Indebtedness will be incurred, and it is to meet this that this appeal is made to the generous English-speaking population of Montreal.

The parishioners of St. Michael's come from the five Irish parishes of the city. They are favorably known throughout for their sterling character and noble aspiration in the pursuit of their object and they have decided to request an offering from their better circumstanced friends. Their fellowmen in the city will not overlook the fact that they had to ask for help in the beginning of their parochial work, and that for the honor of their race, they should not allow themselves to be outdone by their French fellow-citizens. As they help one another in securing churches and schools, so will our fellow-countrymen help us. With their co-operation the people of St. Michael's will leave the "hall" in which they worship at present for their own Church. "Be it ever so humble," it will be their own and bring fruit in due season. Alongside its spire, we will see its proselytism and its schools, "additional monuments" to the proverbial generosity of our people.

God bless our helpers, as long as St. Michael's will preach the Gospel their memory will be held in benediction.

Two Masses a month, will be said in St. Michael's for "four" years, according to the intentions of those who contribute twenty-five cents "yearly."

Contributions may be paid at the Presbytery, St. Michael's, Montreal, December, 1903.

### RAILROADS.

## CANADIAN PACIFIC

World's Fair, St. Louis, Mo.

April 30th to Dec. 1st 1904.

### OTTAWA TRAIN SERVICE

Lv. Windsor 8:45 a.m., 6:40 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 2:00 p.m., 5:10 p.m.  
Ar. Ottawa 11:45 a.m., 12:40 p.m., 1:25 p.m., 7:00 p.m., 11:10 p.m.

Lv. Place Viger, 8:20 a.m., 5:40 p.m.  
Sundays included. (Sundays only.)  
Other trains week days only.

Quebec Service From Place Viger, 12:30 p.m., 11:00 p.m.  
Week days, 1:50 p.m., 5:10 p.m., 7:00 p.m., 11:10 p.m.

SPRINGFIELD, Mass. Through Coach from Windsor St., 7:45 p.m. daily except Sunday  
City Ticket and Telegraph Office, 129 ST. JAMES STREET, next Post Office

## GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY SYSTEM

"INTERNATIONAL LIMITED" daily at  
Ar. at Toronto at 4:40 p.m., Hamilton 5:40 p.m.,  
Niagara Falls, Ont., 6:45 p.m., Buffalo 8:00 p.m.,  
London 7:45 p.m., Detroit 10:30 p.m., Chicago 7:20 p.m.

### Elegant Cafe Service on Above Train

FAST OTTAWA SERVICE  
Lv. 8:40 a.m. week days; 4:10 p.m. daily.  
Ar. Ottawa 11:40 a.m., 7:10 p.m.

### MONTREAL AND NEW YORK

Shortest Line, Quickest Service.  
3 Day Trains, daily except Sunday each way.  
A Night Train, daily each way.

Lv. MONTREAL 8:45 a.m., 11:10 a.m., 7:40 p.m.

Ar. NEW YORK 7:00 p.m., 7:10 p.m., 7:30 a.m.

Sundays, 1:50 p.m., 5:10 p.m., 7:00 p.m.

Through Coach, Parlor and Sleeping Car Service.

Trains leave Bonaventure Station at 9:01 a.m. week days and 8:40 p.m. daily.

CITY TICKET OFFICES, 87 St. James Street. Telephones Main 460 & 461, and Bonaventure Station.

### The Montreal City and District Savings Bank.

Notice is hereby given that a Dividend of eight dollars and a bonus of two dollars per share, on the Capital Stock of this Institution, have been declared, and the same will be payable at its Banking House in this city on and after SATURDAY, the 2nd JANUARY next.

The Transfer Books will be closed from the 15th to the 31st December, both days inclusive.

By order of the Board.

A. P. LESPERANCE,

Manager.

Montreal, 30th November, 1903.

### BRODIE'S CELEBRATED SELF-RAISING FLOUR

Is the Original and the Best.

A PREMIUM given for the empty bag returned to our Office.

10 BLEURY ST., Montreal.

### LATE MRS PATRICK MULLIN

During the year now drawing to a close death has visited many homes of the older generation in Irish parishes of this city, and in none of them has the grim reaper's visits been so frequent as in those of the mother parish, St. Patrick's.

This week we are called upon to add the name of Mrs. Patrick Mullin, of Sherbrooke street, a devoted and much esteemed member of St. Patrick's, to the obituary roll of the year.

In every charitable and social undertaking associated with that parish deceased was, during her all too brief career, a most enthusiastic figure, while in all that related to her spiritual obligations she occupied a place second to none in her love for and her loyalty to her parish. A constant attendant at the parochial Mass and at various exercises, missions and celebrations, Mrs. Mullin silently and nobly did her duty.

In her home she presided with all the natural grace of an ideal Irish Catholic wife and mother. More than a year and a half ago she was stricken with paralysis and during all the intervening long, weary months of suffering, she was patient and resigned. The end came quite unexpectedly but peacefully.

The funeral was held on Wednesday morning at St. Patrick's Church, and was attended by citizens in every walk of life. The sacred edifice was in deep mourning, altars, sanctuary, pillars, pulpit, organ loft and other portions were hidden in mourning draperies and banners. In the body of the Church were nuns of

## S. CARSLY Co. LIMITED

### A Comprehensive Range of Ladies' Stylish Wraps

We know these values are not duplicated, because an investigation preceded committing the prices to paper.

LADIES' FRENCH FAWN BEAVER CLOTH JACKETS, 1 length, deep applique, shoulder cape, Kimono collar, new sleeves with self applique, loose back ..... \$17.00

LADIES' GOOD QUALITY GRAY BEAVER CLOTH JACKETS, 1 length, deep cape and stole, with self applique, French back, newest sleeves ..... \$21.75

LADIES' EXTRA QUALITY FRENCH FAWN BEAVER CLOTH JACKETS, deep pointed caps, piped with fawn satin, long stole with cord ornaments, three piece sleeves, lined with colored silk, French back ..... 29.50

### LADIES' NECKWEAR.

Several quite attractive features:

New Silk Stocks, white edging, trimmed with lace applique, fancy stitching, in turquoise blue, red, pink, black and white ..... 75c

White Chiffon Stock, embroidered with silk, with one tab ..... \$1.10

New Chiffon Stocks, colored silk edging, trimmed with applique and silk, with one tab, in white, pale green, pink and blue ..... \$1.65

### WINTER GLOVES.

Good styles and values in varieties suitable for ladies

Ladies' Kid Gloves, wool lined, fur top 2 stud fasteners, in good serviceable shades of tan or brown, also in black. Sizes 6 to 8. Per pair ..... \$1.35

Ladies' Reindeer Gloves, wool lined, fur top. Sizes 6 to 8. Per pair ..... \$1.45

Ladies' Reindeer G. oves, wool lined, fur top, extra fine quality, 2 stud fastener, in gray or black. Sizes 6 to 8. Per pair ..... \$1.95

### Men's Overcoats for Winter Wear

The Big Store's assortment possesses attractions for the man who wants style and yet cannot afford to purchase such at the expense of quality, or isn't willing to forego personal comfort.

OVERCOATS, made of Dark Gray Cheviot, in the Raglan style, lined with Italian cloth, velvet collar, 3 inside pockets, slanting outside pockets, finished in first class style throughout. A regular \$10.00 Overcoat that, because of a fortunate purchase, we are enabled to sell for ..... \$7.90

MEN'S AND YOUTH'S GRAY IRISH FRIEZE OVERCOATS, Ulster style, storm collar, back with belt, lined with a splendid wearing grade of Italian cloth ..... \$16.75

### Boys' Overcoats, Better Grades for Less Money

That is the reason so many mothers are purchasing the Boys' Outer Wraps at The Big Store.

BOYS' BLANKET COATS, made of Navy Blue Woolen Fabric, coat lined with check tweed, hood lined with red flannel, piping to match, high storm collar. Sizes 22 to 28 in. chest measure. Our Special price, ..... \$3.85

BOYS' ALL WOOL DARK GRAY FRIEZE WINTER OVERCOATS, Raglan, Ulster style, velvet collar, slanting pockets, lined with farmer's satin, full back, well made and finished garments. Special Prices, \$3.15, \$5.60 and ..... \$7.00

## S. CARSLY Co. LIMITED

1765 to 1783 Notre Dame Street, 184 St. James Street, Montreal

## THOMAS LIGGET

Is making a Special Drive in

### TAPESTRY CARPETS

for one week, at 25c, 28c, 33c, 39c, 45c, 52c. Bordered or without. Also, Beds and Bedding.

THOMAS LIGGET, 247 and 247 1/2 ST. CATHERINE STREET

DENTIST.

Walter G. Kennedy, Dentist,

883 Dorchester Street, CORNER MARSHFIELD

Specialty: — Crown and Bridge Work and Plates.

educational and charitable houses of this city, prominent among them being those of St. Patrick's Orphan Asylum and the children inmates, of which institution Mr. Patrick Mullin, the bereaved husband, has long been a sincere friend and member of the Trustees; the Congregation de Notre Dame, with two classes of St. Patrick's School; the Superioresses of Villa Maria, St. Urban's Academy, and many other establishments.

The remains were received at the main entrance by Rev. Martin Callaghan, P.P., who also officiated at the solemn Requiem Mass, assisted by Rev. James Killoran as deacon, and Rev. Mr. McCrory as subdeacon. The choir, under the direction of Prof. Fowler, assisted by Messrs. G. A. Carpenter and Mr. Lamoureux, soloists, rendered the musical portions of the service.

At the final absolution the scene was most impressive as the files of boys in their white surplices walked down the centre aisle, followed by members of the clergy who had occupied seats in the sanctuary, during the Mass, and by the officiating priests.

The spectacle, around the bier, where the coffin was placed, which greeted the gaze of mourners, and friends in its various solemn phases was a sermon more eloquent than human lips could pronounce and

must have touched every mind and heart of those present. After the service the remains were transferred to Cote des Neiges cemetery, where they were interred in the family plot.

To Mr. Patrick Mullin and family of five daughters—Mamie, Margaret, Mrs. Kavanagh, Lillian and Emma—and two sons—John F. and Patrick, Jr.—the "True Witness" offers its most sincere sympathy in their sad loss. In an especial manner do we sympathize with the bereaved husband, who now is deprived of the love, and the tenderness which has been his happiness to have enjoyed through long years with the good and gentle soul that has gone to its reward.—R.I.P.

### CONDOLENCE.

At a recent meeting of St. Ann's Court, No. 149, C.O.F., reference was made to the death of Mr. James Guilfoyle, esteemed brother of Chief Ranger William D. Guilfoyle, and a resolution was passed expressing sympathy with the latter in his bereavement.

## ST. PETER AT

Two hundred and years ago—on the 2nd of the Feast of St. Peter the Church, or Basilica, in Rome, was dreds of pens, in vers have described Rome and yet that mighty monument to Angelo the most glorious tem by the hands of man God, has never ceased spiration. It was only that we met with a glo thy pen picture of the and of the greatest Ch from the pen of Geale, enthusiastic writer. S does it seem, at this ture, and so admirabl its details, that we ma for inserting it in full umns this week. It is we meet with the old treated in the freshest and when we do come thing really new in the scription, upon well-w we feel that we have a thus that Geale writes especially of the great

"Rome, imperial R still looks imperial—the Peter's, the mole of Ad yellow Tiber, burst up reflecting, with their ow of an Italian sunset. W reflections occupy the heart emotions stir the heart holding Rome. There grandeur in the sight, I thought that we beheld as if ennobled by the de has brought us hither to idst scenes so renowned "Rome, still seated on hills, stretched away bef city—the vicissitudes of times involve the history the fruitful mother of her perial mistress of the wo by the loftiest achieve ment and patriotism; and ad most varied and consumm till, degenerate and sel became the victim o unary crimes and lus which she herself had eng other city on earth has be are of such events, or s matesman, the philosopher of letters, all alike regar the deepest interest, altho the feelings which belong t ferent characters; but it vout and believing in infal who beheld her with or feeling of enthusiastic and enter her gates with e as the 'Holy City,' hallow blood of martyrs, and the of the fisherman and his "But let us turn and be Colosseum—the enormous erected by Vespasian to c the destruction of J ... But what were the ments for which this vast are was destined? The he ders at the recollection, a Christian derives another armation of the desperate v and depravity of unconver ... The Colosseum was erected, and Christian p and constancy soon furnis with abundant victims to ferocity. Here came, twice we are told, the most disti not only of the men, but of trons and daughters of Rom terrible was the butchery of the great Roman holidays tquired aqueducts to supply necessary to cleanse the are these bloody exhibitions. "When wearied with the strife between man and ruler of these terrific shows signal, and man was seen co with the wild beasts of the We would fain turn away ously from such recitals; but finomy of the Roman histori the very ruins themselves, l no room to doubt of the scenes. Never was the faith stancy of the first Christian displayed and tried in an or terrific. Their inhuman pers amazed by a fortitude whic could not appreciate, attrib devotion to madness; for the not understand why men shou for death to a denial of the when, like Pontius Pilate, the themselves ignorant even of v mas."

St. Peter's, the noblest tem mented by human hands, to "Rome's marvel was a cell," dfully and beautifully de how magnificent is the app