

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.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

JOAN OF ARC.—The Holy Father has ordered the Congregation of Rites to hasten its decision in regard to the matter of the beatification of Joan of Arc. This cause was forcibly neglected during the last months of Pope Leo XIII.'s life. Mgr. Lorenzelli, the Papal Delegate at Paris, has received instructions to the effect that when he returns to his post he should assure President Loubet that the Pope hopes to soon announce the beatification of Joan of Arc, and that it will be looked upon as a peace-offering to France by the Vatican. It is to be hoped that nothing further will arise to delay this very important cause from being carried to a final issue. In fact, a great deal depends upon it to clear up a matter that, from the standpoint of history, has been more or less a subject of contention in the past. That the 'Maid of Orleans' was inspired by God everything would tend to prove; and her martyrdom in no way takes from her claims to sanctify, but, if anything, adds to them. It is quite an evident fact that Pius X. is determined to carry out in a vigorous manner, and in all detail, the grand policy of Leo XIII.

ART AND RELIGION.—Last Monday afternoon a very interesting lecture was delivered in this city by Rev. W. S. Barnes on Art and Religion. He defined art as the surplus energy of man over and above the utilitarian standpoint. But the most serious view of art he said is the expression of the soul. He quoted Dr. James Martin's definition, that art is the striving after the ideal perfection. What most interests us, however, is the manner in which the lecture associates Art with Religion. In the course of his remarks he said:

"Art and religion have gone hand in hand throughout the ages, each has helped the other; art aided religion in that it enabled the people of the Middle Ages to read the Bible on the walls of the monasteries, while religion has helped art, in that it has given art most of its noble themes."

Here we have in a few words a grand tribute, unintentional perhaps, but nonetheless true, to the Catholic Church, who has been the mother of art, the preserver thereof, and has been from the beginning the inspiration of the greatest artistic minds of the ages—furnishing them with subjects so grand, so sublime, so truthful, that they have been enabled, through her to carry art to an ideal of perfection. Mr. Barnes divides the art periods into four, as follows: "Art history, excluding Egypt and Syria, covers about 2,000 years, which may be divided into periods of relatively 500 years each. The first 500 years covers that of glorious Greek age of Phidias and the rise of Roman art. The second period covers the art of the catacombs, after the great Greek and Roman pagan art had died. The third, 500 years covers the period of Byzantine production. The fourth 500 years, from A.D. 1,000 to 1,500 is the great Renaissance age, when such great names as Cimabue, Giotto, Leonardo da Vinci, Raphael and Michael Angelo, illumine a page in art history."

Here again do we find the exact same tribute, and certainly it is one that is well deserving of note. The subject is capable of unending development, but for the moment, we are thankful to the lecturer for having brought out so clearly that which we have so often sought to impress upon our readers that to religion

and the Church art owes its greatest merits and triumphs.

INDIAN WARFARE.—We were under the impression that the days of Fenimore Cooper's heroes were over, and that the tales of Indian warfare, once the subject matter of the dime novel series of publications, had gone with the passing of the red man. But it would seem that out in Wyoming they have still a taste of the old-time struggles between the aborigines and the pale-faces. At New-Castle, in that State, on Monday last, a regular battle took place between the United States civil authorities and members of the Sioux tribe. Sheriff W. H. Miller, of Western County, and one of his men were killed, at a place called Beaver Dam. The Indians came from the Pine Ridge and Rosebud reserves, in South Dakota, and violated the hunting laws of the State. They were surrounded by a posse of white people under Sheriff Miller and sub-Sheriff Fossenburg. Both of these were shot dead, and it is believed that a number of the Indians were killed. In a second battle ten Indians were killed and eleven others were captured. This certainly would form the basis of a sensational story of the "Leather-Stocking" character. It is also to be hoped, however, that the days of the Indian sensational novel will not come back. We believe that, some twenty or thirty years ago, these stories contributed more to send young boys half crazy and to cause them to perform more mad and dangerous acts than any other kind of literature. It is also to be hoped that Uncle Sam will be able to get his Indians in hand and to keep them upon their reserves. But the day of the poor red man is setting; in fact, the twilight has already come upon his race. There was a great deal of romance in the past on account of the "noble Indian;" and, perhaps, there have been examples of nobility amongst them. But it is not at all likely that the savage race that once roamed the forests of the New World had ever much of those characteristics which the pen of romance lent to them. Even in our modern civilized state, the few that remain of them are "savage;" and the few that are tamed are but dull creatures. It would be better to Christianize them than to make war on them.

THE VATICAN FIRE.—The announcement of a fire in the Vatican Palace, and of the danger to which the precious objects therein have been exposed, is something that bears the stamp of novelty about it. Fires are rare in Rome, for there is so much solid stone structures that it is scarcely likely to occur. It was a novel sight to witness the mayor and civic authorities of Rome inside the Vatican, and to behold the city's firemen vying with those of the Vatican in efforts to save the grand palace and its treasures. A recent despatch says that:

Mgr. Merry Dei Vai, Papal Secretary of State, acting under the personal instructions of the Pope, has written a letter to the commander of the Italian firemen, thanking him for the work done in extinguishing the fire, and enclosing a contribution to the Firemen's Mutual Assistance League. The damage caused by the fire has not yet been precisely estimated, but it is supposed that it will not exceed \$50,000. The Pope has ordered an increased force of firemen at the Vatican, in order to be able to face any situation of the kind in

the future and protect the Vatican treasures.

It is a matter of congratulation that the harm done has not been greater and that there is a hope of being able to rectify the loss that the Palace of the Popes has suffered. All stories to the contrary notwithstanding the fire was accidental, and not the result of incendiarism.

A Week's Anniversaries.

(By An Occasional Contributor.)

November is certainly a month of commemoration. Beginning with the great and general commemoration of the dead by the Church, we find that in other spheres there are also events of grave importance recalled as the days of November come and go.

The first of the month in the religious world, recalls to our minds the great army of God's saints in heaven. In the sphere of history we find that it commemorates some of the most interesting events recorded. Amongst them we mention, the 1st November, in the year 467, when occurred the death of St. Benignus, the eminent successor of St. Patrick in the See of Armagh. This Irish saint was a son of Segnen, a man of wealth and power in Meath. He and his family had been converted by St. Patrick in 433, and thirty-two years later this son became the successor of St. Patrick. It was on the 1st November, 1755, that the great earthquake at Lisbon took place. That fearful catastrophe destroyed over fifty thousand lives. Ten years later, on the same day of the month, the famous Stamp Act went into operation. In 1835, on the 1st November, Archibald Hamilton Rowan died. The name of Hamilton Rowan was famous during the entire first quarter of the nineteenth century, and it was his feat of walking to London for justice that gave rise to the old song:

"We'll venture to foot it,
Like Hamilton Rowan."

On the 1st November, 1841, O'Connell was installed as Lord Mayor of Dublin. And on the 1st November, 1867, the "Manchester Martyrs," Allen, Larkin, O'Brien, Maguire and Condon, were sentenced to death. This is an event that culminated in the execution of the first three, three weeks later.

On the 2nd November, 1148, Malachy O'Moore, Bishop of Down and Connor, closed his eventful and grand career. On the same day, in 1755, Marie Antoinette, the ill-fated and beautiful Queen of France, was born. On the 2nd November, 1783, George Washington, after triumphs such as few men have ever had to their record, bade a last farewell to the army. It was on the 2nd November, 1841, that the rising against the British in Cabul took place. And on the 2nd November, 1843, the Repeal State Trials in Ireland began. These were but the prelude to the long series of State trials that were to continue until 1848.

On the 3rd November, in the year 461, Pope Leo the Great—one of the grandest figures in the history of the Church—died at Rome. On the same day of the month, one hundred years before, in 361, Constantius, the Roman Emperor, closed his earthly career in death. On the 3rd November, 1815, was born one of the most memorable patriots of Ireland, the famous John Mitchel. The third of November was also the day on which William Cullen Bryant was born, in the year 1794.

The 3th of November brings to mind the birth of William of Orange, who was born in 1650. He was a child destined to do more than any other of his century to upset the

state of affairs in Great Britain and to bring about a series of disasters to Ireland, the aftermath of which is still green and hard to weed out. On the 4th November, 1786, the first Mass was said in St. Peter's Church in New York city. On the 4th of November, 1873, two deaths took place very different in character, and at the very same hour, that of Laura Keane, the great actress, and that of General Ryan, who was shot.

The 5th November is a day of many and important events. It was on that day, in 1688, that William of Orange landed in England to depose King James II. On the 5th November, 1771, Dr. Charles Lucas, the patriot, died. On the 5th November, 1800, King George III. dropped "King of France" from his titles—and did so because Napoleon was then in the ascendant, and all Europe trembled before the conquering Corsican. The 5th November commemorates the famous "Gunpowder Plot." The Orangemen of the present still celebrate the occasion, although in the light of facts that have been most incontestably proven, we cannot see what they have to celebrate. It was on the 5th November, 1854, that the great battle of Inkerman was fought. This battle had more to do than even Balaklava in the results of the Crimean war. On the 5th November, 1867, Count Leopold O'Donnell, of France, closed his grand career. He was one of the descendants—like late Marshal McMahon—of the Irish exiles who took arms in the cause of France, when driven from their own land by persecution.

The 6th November, 331, beheld the death of Julian the persecutor of the Christians. On the 6th November, 1406, Pope Innocent VII. died. On the same date, in 1641, the inhabitants of McGee Island, in Ireland, were all massacred. On the 6th November, 1649, the great Owen Roe O'Neill was killed at Benburb. The death of "Owen Roe" gave matter for one of the finest and most touching poems written by Thomas Davis. On the 6th November, 1789, the See of Baltimore was founded. To-day the city of Baltimore is about the most Catholic in America, while the See is the central one and the home of America's great Cardinal. On the 6th November, 1547, Don Juan, the hero of Lepanto, was born.

On the 7th November, 1307, William Tell, the hero Switzerland, and the one on whose life, bravery and skill the most thrilling drama of modern times was based, died in his native village. On the 7th November, 1811, the famous battle of Tippecanoe was fought. On the same day of the month, in 1861, two great battles were fought—that of Belmont, Md., and that of Port Royal, S.C.—Two years later, on the 7th November, 1863, General McClellan was removed from command.

Pilgrimage to City of the Dead.

The annual pilgrimage of the parishes of this city and district to Cote des Neiges cemetery was held on Sunday last.

Mgr. Racicot, V.G., who presided, was attended by a large number of the clergy. The attendance of the laity was variously estimated at from 30,000 to 40,000. The sermon in French was preached by Rev. Father Aime, O.F.M., and in English by Rev. John P. Kiernan, P.P., of St. Michael's parish.

Father Kiernan in the course of his eloquent effort said:

"The cry of relief comes from all classes, priests, parents, children and strangers." He paid a glowing tribute to the memories of Rev. Father Quinlivan, formerly pastor of St. Patrick's Church, who died in a distant land, but whose works would not be forgotten, and also Rev. Father McDermott, who died less than a month ago in his infancy in the priesthood and in the warmth of his zeal.

Father Kiernan closed by exhorting his hearers to pray and assist the dead so as to shorten their release in the fires of Purgatory, that they may be admitted to enjoy the beatific vision.

Catholic Sailors' Club.

Despite the fact that the season of navigation is now nearing a close, the attendance at the weekly concert of the Club, on Wednesday evening, was a record one. Every available seat in the large hall was occupied, when Hon. Mr. Justice Curran, the chairman of the evening, arose

The programme, which was arranged by Mr. Samuel Dunn, was much appreciated, and its various numbers most heartily applauded.

Those taking part were: Mrs. Albert Liney, who sang Killarney, and as an encore "Ave Maria;" Mr. R. McLaughlin gave a humorous recitation, Mr. Dunbrill sang "Queen of the Earth," and Mr. Brown, "The Highwayman." Vocal duets were contributed by Miss Clark and Mr. S.



HON. MR. JUSTICE CURRAN.

to open the proceedings. His Lordship, who has always manifested an active interest in the affairs of the Club, eulogized the members of the executive for the practical and enthusiastic manner in which they were performing their duties. He dwelt at some length upon the good work which the Club was doing in behalf of visiting seamen and of the co-operation it had received from the clergy and various sections of the laity.

Dunn, and Messrs. Brown and Dunn. Several seamen also assisted in the programme. Mr. Williams, S.S. Ionian, scoring in his impersonation of a lady. Mrs. S. Dunn and Miss Orton kindly assisted as accompanists.

Rev. Father Coffey, S.J., chaplain, and Rev. Isidore Kavanagh, S.J., occupied seats near the chairman.

The next concert will be under the direction of Miss Bertha Ferguson.

Our National Societies.

Y. I. I. AND B. A.—At the last regular meeting of this association feeling references were made to the death of a fellow-member—Mr. Mark Duffy—and a resolution of condolence was passed and ordered to be sent to the bereaved family.

THE MANCHESTER MARTYRS.

The Ancient Order of Hibernians are making special arrangements for the due celebration of the anniversary of the death of the Manchester martyrs. The programme mapped out by the committee on arrangements thus far is, that the various Divisions will meet at the County Board Hall 2042 Notre Dame street, on Sunday, the 22nd inst., at 9.00 a.m., and proceed to St. Ann's Church, where solemn High Mass will be celebrated, and a sermon appropriate to the occasion by a distinguished divine. It is the intention of the A.O.H. to extend a cordial invitation to the various Irish societies of the city to take part in keeping green the memory of Ireland's martyred sons.

ST. ANN'S YOUNG MEN.

This well known and progressive organization in St. Ann's parish, had its inaugural social meeting last week, when through the generosity and thoughtfulness of an old friend of the society, the members enjoyed an oyster treat. After full justice had been done to the delicious food, solos and choruses were rendered, under the leadership of Prof. P. J. Shea, organist of St. Ann's, and musical director of the society, with an enthusiasm and artistic finish which was most delightful.

Rev. Father Caron, C.S.S.R., rector of St. Ann's Church, Rev. Father Flynn, spiritual director of the society, and a number of professors of parish schools, were also present.

and were amused and pleased to behold the enthusiasm and genuine spirit of good fellowship which prevailed amongst the young men.

Father Flynn delivered a brief and spirited address to the members at the close of the proceedings, which was frequently punctuated by cheers. He also announced that a meeting would be held to make arrangements for the regular entertainment and dramatic performance of St. Patrick's Day, and for the blessing of the new banner for the society.

PERSONAL.

The "True Witness" telephoned to the residence of Mr. M. J. F. Quinn, K.C., shortly before going to press and was informed by a member of the household that Mr. Quinn was making excellent progress, and would soon be equal to task of attending to his professional duties.

MORNING PRAYER.

The neglect of morning prayers is sadly general. The excuse usually offered is forgetfulness or the necessity of hurry. But the most absent-minded as well as the busiest people seldom neglect to take breakfast. —Ave Maria.

A COVETED POSITION.

The position of medical inspector in Greater New York is a coveted one, if we may judge from the fact that 800 candidates presented themselves for the last examination. Of this number 200 received 25 per cent or more of the marks allotted, the first on the list being Dr. Henry C. Keenan, with the score of 91 per cent. Dr. Keenan is a graduate of Manhattan College, New York. —Exchange.