

The True Witness and Catholic Chronicle

Printed and Published by the True Witness P. & P. Co., Limited,

No. 2 Busby Street, Montreal, Canada.

P. O. BOX 1138.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE

Table with subscription rates: CITY OF MONTREAL, Delivered, \$1.50; OTHER PARTS OF CANADA, 1.00; UNITED STATES, 1.00; NEWFOUNDLAND, 1.00; GREAT BRITAIN, IRELAND and FRANCE, 1.50; BELGIUM, ITALY, GERMANY and AUSTRALIA, 2.00

All communications should be addressed to the Managing Director "True Witness" P. & P. Co., Limited, P. O. Box 1138.

TERMS, PAYABLE IN ADVANCE.

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.

PAUL, Archbishop of Montreal.

SATURDAY JUNE 30, 1900.

Notes of the Week.

ABOUT BIGOTRY. — Bigotry has long asserted, in every imaginable key, that the strong rule of priests in Ireland has always been the cause of the poverty-stricken condition of the country and of the people.

"A wonderful little kingdom is Belgium, so populous and so wealthy, considering its superficial area. It is little more than one-third the size of Ireland, yet its inhabitants number over 6,000,000.

If Ireland is a Catholic country, Belgium is more so, because the Protestant minority in Ireland is proportionately greater than the Protestant minority in Belgium.

A DAILY PAPER. — We have frequently been amused at the ease with which a certain class of people talk about establishing a daily paper.

Lord Salisbury explains the apparent paradox that while the British Empire is expanding and improving all the world over, England is making herself ridiculous before the eyes of the great nations of earth.

THE KILKEEVEN PRIZE.

"I desire to do for our young people that which has been done for the youth of England, by many writers. I desire to interest them in their country; to convince them that its history is no wild, dreary and uninviting monotony of interecine slaughter, but an entertaining and instructive narrative of stirring events, abounding with episodes, thrilling, glorious and beautiful.

The above quotation is borrowed from the preface of A. M. Sullivan's story of Ireland. It contains the spirited expressions of a patriotic man. To-day his book is in the hands of youth, thousands of miles away from the land of their forefathers, and the children of Irish exiles are being taught from its pages to love and revere that land.

"Halfpenny journalism in London is not the good thing it looks. Arthur Pearson, whose 'Daily Express' is London's latest halfpenny journal, has informed the public this week that he is losing \$1,250 a day on this paper, that the cost of the plant and preliminary work made the first issue worth \$500,000, that to establish the 'Express' will cost \$1,250,000, and two years' very hard work, and that the next person who wants to establish a daily paper in London must spend two and a half million dollars.

UNIVERSITY OF OTTAWA.

We publish elsewhere in this issue the annual address of the Rector of the University of Ottawa. The Rev. Dr. Constantineau, O.M.I., who now occupies the high office of Rector, and who has reviewed, in such clear and elegant language the year's work, during the fifty-second year of the institution's existence, stands in the foremost rank of educators in Canada.

And all parts of the United States is a very creditable contingent. Situated on the confines of two provinces, it is the only Catholic establishment in Ontario that can bestow degrees, which are equal in every sense to those given by Laval. We in Quebec are so surrounded with admirable and important Catholic colleges that we often lose sight of the fact that our co-religionists in the vast Province of Ontario have actually only this college from which they may take degrees equal to a matriculation examination.

A worthy successor to that great and patriotic man, who left the impress of his life's work upon the little town that has since become the capital of this great Dominion, Dr. Constantineau has every reason to congratulate the pupils upon the progress made during the past term and to receive for himself and the faculty of the university the expression of the public's felicitations.

THE CATHOLIC AND HIS PAPER.

In connection with our somewhat lengthy statement of our intentions concerning delinquent subscribers, in our last issue, we have found in the 'Midland Review,' of the 2nd May last, some language which immediately flashes upon us as very appropriate and most timely.

"It is strange how differently many Catholics treat a journal of their own faith from the way they treat the secular daily. The daily can insult them deliberately, and yet they never write in protesting letters — never once say 'Stop my paper.' But, let the Catholic editor make a mistake, or suffer a fact to be stated overbluntly, and straightway he is assailed as though he had entered into a solemn compact with the gentleman of the forked tail.

We are not given to fault-finding, nor do we allow our pen to dip in the ink of harsh criticism, so we find it most delightful when another organ furnishes us with articles of the class above. We reproduce them with a good heart, for they dovetail into our own oft-repeated expressions. It would seem that the experience of Catholic newspaper men is about the same all over the continent.

THE ELECTIVE SYSTEM.

In the 'Catholic World' magazine, for June, Rev. Father Burns, of Notre Dame, Indiana, has an elaborate contribution in which he sets forth the advantages of what he calls the 'Elective System of Education.' If carried into practice Father Burns' method would upset all preconceived and long practised systems. Every styled of accepted curriculum, would have to vanish. We know not by whom Father Burns may be answered or criticized; but we will anxiously await the July issue of the same publication—it may contain

some criticisms. We will now give our readers an idea of the newly proposed system. We need not remind the subscribers to our paper that we do not give these explanations of Father Burns as our own ideas on this subject; we have not yet had time to fully investigate the matter; but, in common with all others who have a special interest in educational affairs, we will follow the question to its very solution. The article above referred to contains these paragraphs:—

"The cultivation of special aptitudes, if right and desirable at all, should not be neglected in the college. The college cannot shift the responsibility onto the university, on the ground that the latter is the proper place for specialization. The reason is, that only a very small proportion of college graduates, ever go to universities; and, moreover, the university courses themselves presuppose, on the part of the college student, some degree of concentration of studies. I have been informed, on very trustworthy authority, that no graduate of a college in which the uniform curriculum obtains may hope for admittance to most of the courses in Johns Hopkins university, without an extra year or so of preparation; and this, not from prejudice, or any desire of discrimination, but simply from the student's unfitness for the highly specialized work of the university, through lack of necessary preliminary concentration.

"In determining the ideal, the life-purpose of the student must be taken into consideration. This is a practical age, and the college of to-day must not only turn out cultured gentlemen, but must enable a young man to fit himself, if need be, for some useful career in life. Since the great majority of college graduates never go to a university or professional school, it is plain that, in their case at least, the college must do this work, if it is to be done at all. With the onward march of civilization, and the increasing diversity of intellectual occupations, the demands upon the college in this way will be also likely to increase. It is to the merit of the elective system that it lends itself readily to any special preparation of the kind that may be desired."

NOTES OF THE A.O.H.

The veteran Hibernian Division of Montreal held its annual meeting on Wednesday evening, when the following officers were elected: President, Mr. B. Feeny; vice-president, Mr. J. Connolly; recording-secretary, Mr. M. Birmingham; by acclamation; financial-secretary, Mr. J. McIver, by acclamation; treasurer, Mr. Scullion, by acclamation; chairman of standing committees, Mr. R. P. Crampsey; county president, Mr. McMorrow. Afterwards the officers were installed. Provincial President Turner and Provincial Secretary Coffey were present, and addressed the members on various matters concerning the organization.

A very largely attended meeting of Division No. 9 was held in their hall, 244a St. Catherine street, on Wednesday evening, 27th June. A lot of important business was transacted. The election of officers for the ensuing year took place, and resulted as follows: President, Wm. James Clarke, re-elected by acclamation; vice-president, Wm. P. Stanton, re-elected by acclamation; recording-secretary, John P. Hogan; financial-secretary, M. J. Doyle; treasurer, A. J. Hanley; chairman of standing committee, D. McNulty; sergeant-at-arms, F. Larkin; sentinel, M. Clarke. Quite a few brothers from the different Divisions were present, including Brothers Brogan and Stafford, of No. 3; Brothers Nolan, Kane, Brennan, McAleer and Neville, of No. 8, and many others. The Division is holding a smoker on Wednesday, 11th July. Every member in the County should now help the baby by taking it by the hand, as it is beginning to walk. Being present at the smoker will do this.

PERSONAL.

Sir William Hingston and his son, Donald, will sail for Europe on July 7. Prof. Fowler, organist of St. Patrick's Church, intends to make a trip across the ocean this summer. He will probably go about the end of July. Principal Sanders, of the Catholic High School, has taken passage on the Allan liner which sails on Saturday morning. He will be absent about six weeks.

RECENT DEATHS.

MRS. THOMAS SEXTON.—An old and well known member of St. Patrick's Church passed to her reward a few days ago in the person of Mrs. Thomas Sexton, of University street. Mrs. Sexton was highly esteemed in Montreal among a large circle of friends. To her son and daughters the 'True Witness' offers its most sincere sympathy in the great loss they have suffered.—R.I.P.

PATRICK GANNON.—A despatch received by Mrs. Thomas Moore from Minneapolis, yesterday, announces the death of Mr. Patrick Gannon. The sad event occurred after a brief illness of about one week. Mr. Gannon was well known in Montreal.

MRS. DANIEL SULLIVAN.—It is also our melancholy duty to chronicle the death of Mrs. Daniel Sullivan, of Peterboro, which sad event occurred a short time ago. Deceased had attained her 71st year at the time of her death. To her husband, who survives her, an old and loyal subscriber to the 'True Witness,' we offer our deep sympathy.—R.I.P.

Christian faith is a grand cathedral with divinely-pictured windows. Standing without you see no glory, not can possibly imagine any; standing within, every ray of light reveals a harmony of unspeakable splendor.

THE WAR IN CHINA.

Reports from Chefoo, June 28, say the foreigners everywhere are urging the immediate concentration of an army of 100,000 men, or at least 50,000 men, for an advance on Peking. Many persons familiar with the Chinese character think the foreign Ministers and Vice-Admiral Seymour are held as hostages for good terms of settlement. They also believe that the whole Chinese army is joining in the movement, under the leadership of the Tun-Fu-Hsiang, who crushed the Mohammedan rebellion. He was nominally degraded recently for the purpose of quickly organizing an anti-foreign uprising.

It is estimated that 60,000 soldiers, well armed but poorly disciplined, are about Peking and Tientsin. The Chinese officers boast that they have 400,000 soldiers. Admiral Seymour's force carried a week's rations, and the men had an average of 150 rounds of ammunition. The Russians' conduct at Taku, according to the other officers, inflamed the natives. The Russians are reported to have been shooting the Chinese indiscriminately and driving away the peaceful Chinese who would have procured transportation and provisions, and looting the town. A great naval demonstration at all treaty ports is also desirable in order to influence the wavering Chinese merchants who are friendly to foreigners.

The masses are becoming excited at the reports of their countrymen's successes against the powers. Merchants arriving here report that the Boxers are drilling in the streets of New-Chwang, and that when the officials inspected the soldiers with the view of suppressing the rioters they found the soldiers had sold their rifles and equipments to their friends. The military school at Moukden is reported to have been destroyed.

The British Consul at Poochow is asking for war ships. The arrival of the British first-class cruiser 'Terrible' and two Japanese cruisers at Chefoo to-day relieved the strained situation. Two Chinese forts, equipped with Krupp guns, command the foreign city. The only protection was the United States gunboat Yorktown, with 150 sailors. As an outbreak was reported last night, the sailors slept on their arms, and the foreigners prepared to take refuge on the ships.

A despatch from London, June 28, says—The German Consul at the Foo cables that the relief column entered Tien-Tsin on the afternoon of June 29, and started again on June 24 to rescue Vice-Admiral Seymour, who, with the foreign Ministers, was said to be occupying a position twelve and a half miles from Tien-Tsin, where he was surrounded and hard pressed by a great force of Boxers and Chinese regulars.

Possibly the Japanese report that Seymour is a prisoner, and that the Ministers had left Peking guarded by Chinese soldiers is merely a distorted version of the Berlin story. But, in any event, definite news may be expected speedily, and it is confidently believed here Seymour and his companions will be safely delivered from their plight.

According to the report of a Chinaman refugee, who has arrived at Shanghai, the condition of Tien-Tsin is horrible. Everywhere in the streets are the bodies of massacred men and women, Americans as well as all other nationalities. The Hong Kong and German banks, he adds, were both destroyed early during the bombardment.

Shanghai also reports that the American-Russian relief force was so badly ambuscaded that the forces were obliged to abandon several field guns and much ammunition. About 180 Russians and eleven Americans were killed or wounded.

The German gunboat Itis and a Russian torpedo-boat-destroyer are patrolling the Pei-Ho River and taking, with machine guns, the native villages on the river banks, which were filled with concealed 'snipers.'

A telegram from the Governor of Kiao-Chow, dated June 25, which has reached Berlin, announces that, according to reports from Chinese sources, Vice-Admiral Seymour's force has reached Peking. This is probably merely a reiteration of the previous reports on the same subject.

The Parliamentary Secretary of the Foreign Office, Mr. William St. John Brodrick, said in the House of Commons:

"We have no direct information from the Legations or Admiral Seymour's force or from Tien-Tsin. Our last information from the officer in charge at Wei-Hai-Wei is that 3,000 of the force for the relief of Tien-Tsin was encamped within nine miles of Tien-Tsin on the evening of June 28. From private credible sources we are informed that the relief force subsequently entered Tien-Tsin and marched north, and that the Legations were not harmed up to June 28. We earnestly hope this is true."

Paris, June 28.—M. Delcasse, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, informed a Cabinet Council to-day that the French Consul at Shanghai telegraphed French Consul at Tien-Tsin, that all was quiet in the southern provinces, in the Yangtze-Kiang Valley and in Szechuen province. The Minister added that no news had been received from Peking, and that eleven Chinese war ships were lying off Shanghai.

The Chinese Ministers here communicated to M. Delcasse, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, this evening a telegram which he received to-day from the Viceroy of Yunnan, saying that those with him at Yunnan-Sen started June 24 for Tongkin. The Viceroy had added, had a number of well-officered soldiers accompanying the entire party for protection over the entire route, and it was believed they would be able to leave the province without difficulty.

The Minister also said he had received a despatch saying the Europeans at Peking on that date were well and safe, but its importance was lost, as it was not dated. The French cruiser Admiral Charner left Brest to-day for China and the 'Fiant' will sail to-night.