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provision that publicity must attended all the proceedings for six months. It is devoutly to be hoped that no such provision may be introduced into these States, since that would cause



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AM Communications should be addressed to the Managing Director, "Trus Wir-

EPISCOPAL APPROBATION.

u If the Anglesh-speaking Catholics of Montreal and of this Province conculted their Best interests, they would soon make of the "True Witness one of the most prosperous and Best interests, they would soon make of the "True Witness one of the most prosperous and Best interest. I heartily bless those who encourage this esseellen guanapat Catholic papers in this country. I heartily bless those who converges the seesalen

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

how members of the press, and men who claim to be honest correspond. ents, can possibly lend themselves to the circulation of trumped-up stories about escaped nuns, and such like. They surely are aware that there is no longer any credit given to them; they are not so stupid as to believe them themselves; they must, then, be very evil-intentioned, or very unfit for their business. We had a recent example of this in an Associated Press despatch from Dubuque, Ia., of to stating that Sister Annette, Burlington, Ia., had applied Archbishop Keane to be relieved from her vows that she might wed one of music pupils, Harold Stevenson. The story has been proven to be an absolute falsehood. The only point approaching truth in it, is that Sister Annette is a teacher of music in Dubuque; but she never had a pupil of that name. Legal action been taken to make one of the papers that published the story retract the same. But, what is most important to consider is the fact that such lies dd thus be concocted and published at this late period in the world's history. Every one knows, who knows anything, that these stories are not now believed by even greatest enemies of Catholicity. The publication of them is a reflection on the honesty, or the sanity, of the writers and pubishers.

CHURCH PREFERENCE. - By this peculiar term the Bureau of Statistics of Labor, of Boston, has designated the different religious creeds of the people in that city. They say that "preferences are expressed for 85 churches or beliefs in recognized standing," by which we suppose they mean that the persons—numbering 241,651—who were questioned expressed their adherence to this number of churches, or religions. Here, however, is a pas sage that we quite understand, and which speaks well for the Catholic Church, her teachings and discipline: "The section of the card relating

to the attendance of individuals was very imperfectly filled, as is evidenced by the report of 78,749, or neurous being pawned off in regard to her and her standing. It is, however, just as well that these is, however, just as well that these after alarm." to the attendance of individuals was one-half of the number canvassed are regular attendants at the church of their preference, and the denomina-tion leading in this respect is 'the Roman Catholic."

Whatever the value of these statistics may be, they certainly point to a fact that needs no great amount of evidence, namely, that as far as church attendance goes the Catholics lead in every part of the world, Boston included.

A COMPLIMENT. - Commenting upon the question of divorce in regard to Canada, an American con-

mporary says : Divorce is very hard to procure in Canada and one of the reasons given why so few divorces are applied for in the Dominion is the Parliamentary

a rush to the divorce mill that a break down the whole machiner

A CRIMINAL ACT.-It is strange | The notice of application for divorce must appear nine tines in the Officia Gazette. Then when the matter comes before the Senate, in the form of a Bill, it is referred to a Select Committee that sits behind closed doors, and all the evidence is taken in private; nor is it ever given to the public. So that we do not see that there is anything like the publicity that attends divorce proceedings in open court, as is the practice in the United States. We admit, however, that it is no very matter to get a divorce bill through the Canadian Parliament. In the first place the evidence must be very powerful that supports the request, and ther, all the Catholic members of both Houses are, on principle, opposed to the Bill-no matter how strong the evidence.

> "BAD AS PAGANISM." -In the New England Southern Methodist Conference, at New Bedford, Mass., held a couple of weeks ago, adverse action was taken on the report of the general missionary cause committee. The report was read by Rev. James Coote, of Norwich, Conn., and it referred to the Catholic religion as a "type of Christianity almost as bad as paganism," and to immigrants from Catholic countries as the "froth and scum of Europe." Present at the Conference was Rev. William F. Butler, of East Weymouth. The report was read amidst ound silence, but once it was Mr. Butler arose to protest. He could not, he said, allow such statements to go without opposition. He claimed it would be injurious to themselves as Christian men to have such a worded report adopted, and moved to have it referred back the committee. His motion was carried without an opposing vcte. The lesson to be drawn from this is not as much for us as it is for those who are ungovernable and inconsiderate both in their prejudices and in the expression of them. As we have remarked elsewhere in this issue the time for blatant bigotry is gone past, the world is now too wise to accept it, and the Catholic Church known to the public, as publicity alone can cure them.

CATHOLIC WOMEN. -At the age of ninety years, Mrs. Annie Luramis, of New York, died a few days ago, and it is said of her that she was "the last survivor of the group nen who founded St. Vincent's spital and the New York Foundling Asylum, and originated many other Catholic charities. After a life of four score and ten years -- a score more than the allotted time of man on earth—no more beautiful tri-bute could be desired than that which but could be desired than that which in memory of her deeds, her survivors paid that aged lady. And it is a sad tribute, for it mentions that she was the last survivor of that noble band of women. We are inclined to sak ourselves if it is possible that the great spirit of charity which characterized the Catholic women of former generations has actually died out and that there are no successors to take up the work, when, at the feet of Death's Angel, they are called upon to lay it down. We are inclined to believe that there are still others alive to-day. Their good deeds are estainly not as conspicuous as those of the women in the days of Mrs. Lummis, the reason is

and populations have increased, and the service. But, as a rule, panics the founding of an institution sixty are very scarce in Catholic Churches. years ago stood out conspicuous, while so many institutions exist today that the establishment of one or more may not be noticed. In any case we would be sorry to feel that the spirit of Catholic fervor, which animated those good people should not survive. It seems to us that the duty of the hour, for our Catholic women who are in positions do so, should be to prove by their practical interest in all great Catholic charities, that they are worthy successors of those who have gone before them. There are splendid fields, and to find them we need not go outside our own city, for exercise of that noble spirit. The building, or the maintaining, homes for the indigent, the aged, the

HARD ON BACHELORS. -At the Church of Our Lady, Fordham, New York, a couple of weeks ago, Father Moran, of the Paulist Fathers preached a severe sermon, in which he denounced the selfishness of the bachelor, who is able to support a wife and will not do so, but remained single. He declared that such a man if he refrains from marrying, is self-ish, and not faithful to his duty.

infirm, or the foundling is a

that constitutes, in reality, the erect-

ing of one's own perpetual monument

"Punish them by a tax," said Father Moran. "Lay it according to age; a light tax on a young man and a heavier one year by year. Men whose duty to parents or other dependent relatives prevents their marriage should be exempt."

If this proposition of Father Moran were carried into practice would certainly be very distressing for a number of young men, and pro-portionately pleasing to a host of young ladies. It is decidedly a great virtue, on the part of a young man to refrain from marrying and building up a home for himself, when he does so through duty, and for the sake of parents who are dear him. When such a man does marry it is lucky for the woman who gets him, for she has a good man every sense. It is, however, just as well for the girls that a number of bachelors do not marny; at least such is our humble idea.

PANIC IN CHURCH. - In one of our American exchanges we read of a serious panic in a Church during

Mass. The report says: "A panic occurred at the morning ervice in St. Michael's Italian Church, New Haven, Conn., on Sonday in which almost a score of people were injured. Four of the most seriously injured, two women and two children, were taken to the New Haven hospital. Someone in the congregation shouted "Fire!" during a prayer, and immediately the worshippers arose and rushed for the door at the rear of the Church, the only exit. Women and children were trampled upon and dragged along the floor by the others in their deavor to get out of the building, ne sent in

It seems to us a very extraordinary thing to hear of such a panic taking place under such circumstance A few summers ago we were at Vespers at Boucherville, when the Church was struck by lightning, and the flery balls played around the walls, the altar and the pulpit. The presence of mind of the late lamented Cure Primeau prevented a panic; he continued his instruction as if hothing had occurred, simply interrupt-ing the thread of his remarks to tell the people to remain still, that all the danger was over. Wonderful to say, not one stirred from the Jew. ever, such is quite possible un der certain circumstances, when sudder certain circumstances, when sud-den fear conquers all other senti-ments. In 1820, a Hessian regiment was stationed in Clonmel, Ireland. The soldiers were all Catholics, and they attended Mass on the Sunday after their arrival. When the mo-ment came for the Elevation, they ment came for the Elevation, they all drew swords and presented arms in honor of the Host. The people, who had been so terrorized for generations by the soldiery, thought it was a general massacre that had been prepared, and they rushed mady from the Church. A large number was killed in the crush; and the solliers remained alone—more than as-

SENSATIONALISM. - For some time past the press, or rather a section of it, has been exercised over a despatch from Rome that the London Chronicle published, to the effect that the Vatican palace and gardens were closely guarded on account of a plot to kill the Pope. This we read in a number of papers, and we paid no attention to it, as we were fully aware that it was simply a stretch of imagination of some poor correspondent, who had run out of good material and yet was obliged to find "copy." The latest connected with the story is a despatch of the first of April, which says:

"The report published by the Daily Chronicle of London and cabled to the United States that the Vatican has for days passed been guarded by a large force of Italian soldiers and police, owing to the discovery of a plot against the life of the Pope, is ridiculed by the Vatican authorities, who say that the number of carbineers and police on duty at the Papal palace is no larger than usual. Further investigation developed fact that the rumor of an alleged plot against the life of the Pope originated in a statement that two Italian anarchists would arrive at Genoa from South America next week with the intention of making an attempt to assassinate the Pontiff. But the report, the basis of which cannot be traced, was ridiculed by the

authorities." We have taken the trouble to publish this, not that we attach importance to it, but simply show our readers how unreliable is the secular press in all that concerns Catholic affairs, and especially whatever regards Rome, the Vatican and the Pope.

NO SHAMROCKS. - In a New 18,k public school, No. 18 in the Bronx-on the eve of St. Patrick's Day, the principal warned all the pupils "not to display shamrocks and emerald ribbons on the following day." And he threatened to expel anyone who would disobey. On the following morning all the Irish pupils came in with fine shamrocks on their coats. William F. Hodgins, son of Police Captain Hodgins, of the Oak street station, was the first to pear, and he was at once demanded to explain why he dared to disobey the orders of the previous day. He made a characteristic reply:

"Because my father is an Irish man and because I am proud of it; and, also, because you have no right to dictate to me in the matter." He and the other Irish boys were sent home. What eventually became of them we do not know; whether they were taken back to chool or not we have not heard; But they had a holiday for St. Patrick's day, and the honor of having done a patriotic act, and their conduct may result in bringing to the atten tion of the authorities the narrowness and mean prejudice of the poor fellow who is principal of that se

A TIMELY HIT. - There is small note, in the form of a reply to an anti-Catholic sheet, that offers to "pay \$100 to the first person who can find a text in the Roman Catholic Bible forbidding children and adults to eat meat on Friday, taken from the Freeman's Journal and it is so striking that we repro duce it exactly as it is given. It runs

"As an offset to this, and to show that it is a game that two can play we hereby offer to pay \$100 to th first person who can find a text in the Protestant Bible forbidding children and adults to work on Sunday or any text abrogating the divine do no work on it. The Catholic finds samelent authority in the Photo-male it obligatory on him to abstain from meat on Friday. In Matthew 18.7, our Lord said: 'If he will not hear the Church, let him be to thee hear the Church, let him be to thee as the heathen and the publican. The Church forbids the use of meat on Friday, and the Catholic, not wish-ing to be classed as a heathen, hears the Church, and abstains from meat on Friday. He has the same reason for keeping the Sunday, namely, the

LOCAL NOTES.

ST. PATRICK'S SOCIETY .- Dr. Frank E. Devlin, son of the late Mr. Bernard Devlin, advocate, and for a long period a conspicuous figure Irish Catholic ranks of Montreal, was elected to the office of President of St. Patrick's Society at its annual meeting held on Tuesday evening last, His selection for the honored office was unanimous. Other gentlemen elected on the executive of the old organization were:

First Vice-President- F. J. Curran, B.C.L.

2nd Vice-President-W. P. Kearney. Treasurer-F. J. Greene. Corresponding Secretary-W.

Crowe.

Recording Secretary-T. P. Tansey. Assistant Recording Secretary- T. L. Rogers.

Marshal-P. Lloyd. Assistant Marshal -P. Connolly.

Committee of Management -Joseph O'Brien, H. J. Trihey, B.C.L., M. Delahanty, J. P. O'Leary, F. Casey, J. Rogers, T. P. Crowe, Peter Kearney, Wm. Tracey, F. Langan, Jno. M. Guerin, Jno. Fallon, F. L. Laverty, B.C.L., B. Campbell, M. H. O'Connor, E. J. Quinn, D. Furlong,

Physicians-Hon. Dr. Guerin, Dr. E. J. C. Kennedy, Dr. F. E. Devlin, Dr. W. Prendergast, Dr. F. J. Hack. ett, Dr. O'Connor, Dr. Scanlan and Dr. Mullally.

Chaplains-Rev. Father Martin Callaghan, P.P., and the reverend clergy of St. Patricks.

ST. ANTHONY-S PARISH .- Rev. Father Shea, of St. Anthony's, is to congratulating himself on the magnificent success of the progressive chre which was held in St. thony's Church hall, Easter Monday night. The affair was under the patronage of a committee of yourg tic and noble Irishwoman, Mrs. Jas. president, and being Scholars and being Scholars and being scholars and being scholars and being scholars. president, and being a leap year party, and privilege, they took tickets, distributed the tally cards and read the rules; punched, and served out a recherche collation. Fully 500 persons from the different quarters of the city participated in the games The hall, in its new decorations, the artistic arrangement of the stage, the elegant and expensive costumes of the ladies, the quality of the misic, the shaded lights—all made a perfect and most harmonious blend-

It was indeed a brilliant affair, and one that should be memorable both to the guests and the young ladies who left nothing undone to score the success attained. The successful prize winners were: Mrs. W. P. Mc-Vey, a mantle clock; presented Rev. Father Donnelly; Mr. S. O'Neil, a set of carvers, presented by Mrs. M, Hicks; Miss Eva McGuire, a silver fern dish, presented by Misses Mulcair; Mr. Geo. A. presented by Mr. P. Wright; Miss

McEvoy, a silver spoon and knife, presented by Mrs. W. L. Mc-Kenna; Mr. J. A. Dawson, a gentheman's mirror.

ST, GABRIEL'S PARISH-Among the many young women who on the 18th of March received the religious habit of the Sisters of St. Joseph, and made their final vows at St. Joseph's Academy, St. Paul, Minn., may be mentioned the name of Miss Annie McCarthy, of 90 Chateauguay street, Montreal.

Miss Annie McCarthy (now Sister Leonarda) is the second youngest daughter of Mr. John McCarthy, a well known and much esteemed re sident of Point St. Charles. Sister Leonarda is a graduate of

Holy Cross Convent on Centre street vocation were so well fostered by While a pupil Sister Leonar-her exemplary conduct and da, by her exemplary conduct and persistent application won the eseem and appreciation of her supe-lors. Among the pupils Sister seonarda was also a favorite and had the good will of all with whom she came into contact.

That Sister Leonarda may be spar-ed for many years of usefulness in

her holy calling is the earnest wish of her many friends in Montreal. We also avail ourselves of the present opportunity to congratulate her rents who have the honor of having two of their daughters members of the same religious community.

ST. GABRIEL'S BAND. -At a regular meeting of St. Gabriel's band on Sunday afternoon last the following officers were elected : President, Mr. B. A. Conroy; Vice-President and Sergeant, Mr. J. J. Kelly: Drum-Major, Mr. J. M. Lamont; Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. Chas. McMenamin: Leader, Mr. James Burns; Assistant Secretary, Mr. M. Johnson; Libra-rian, Mr. Jos. Gaudry.

The retiring officers were congratulated for the manner in which they carried on the affairs of the band during the past year. Three new members were enrolled. The band's affairs are in excellent condition; they have a large stock of popular music, a new uniform, a first class bandroom, and one of the best leaders in the city. The band would be pleased to have some of their Catholic confreres join them of a Sunday afternoon practice in their hall on Laprairie street.

NEW PRESIDENT S.A.A.A.-Mr. William P. Kearney, a well known-Irish Catholic in commercial and social circles of this city, has been elected to the office of President of the Shamrock Amateur Athletic Association. Mr. Kearney has long been associated with Catholic benefit and national organizations of Montreal, and enjoys the esteem of a large circle of citizens. He is a young man of ability and enterprise, and the great Irish athletic organization of Canada should make much progress during the coming year under his leadership.

IN MEMORIAM Last week the anword in Catholic homes in Canada, was fittingly commemorated by the celebration of Masses for the repose of her soul at St. Patrick's, Gesu and Loyola College chapel, this city.

Late Sister M. Monica.

Who was known in the world as Miss Bertha Bordeau, surrendered her pure soul into the hands of its Maker at the hour of His death on Good Friday. She was a member of Community of the Sisters of St. Joseph, of the Diocese of Detroit, and head of the commercial department at Nazareth Academy, Nazareth, Kalamazoo Co., Mich. complaining more or less from the beginning of Lent, she was able Mr. Geo. A. Pre-be about her work, and spent a good share of Holy Thursday in the Chapel rendering her loving services at the Repository. Death came very suddenly, as a result of heart ease. She was greatly beloved. pecially by those who intimately knew her. An ideal religious, a faithful servant of the Master, kind, ever ready to lend a helping hand, with the happy possessions of such faculties as always renders the one so endowed, a seeming necessity. God knew best, and called her to Himself in her thirty-fourth year. Her funeral was largely attended on the 4th inst. The burial took place at Nazareth Cemetery. A number of clergymen were in attendance, the sermon on the occasion being preached by Rev. T. Ryan, of Pontiac. Please for the repose of her soul. R.I.P.

DANGER OF DELAY.

When there is anything to be done the demand of common sense is to go at once and do it. Delay is dangerous on any grounds. A postponed duty becomes hard and irksome. To put off a task from day to day is to invest it with fictitious and imagin-ary difficulties. Men frequently waste more time in dreading their duties than it would take to perform them. This fact is worth noting.