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Eloquent Sermon
by Rev. I.

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Easter Time is Hat Time

Our New Hat Store opens to-day. All the Newest Shapes and the Best Value in Town. \$2.50 up. 5 St. Catherine East.

BRENNANS'

5 East St. Catherine Street
7 " " "
251 West " " "

could do. A green plant served as a substitute for the Shamrock and a few green ribbons aided in the work. At night we had a little dinner party at the Princess and wondered how they were getting along with the big dinner party in Montreal. Ours was jolly and we felt that we were doing our best.

I wrote that there were Canadians here, I should have said that there are lots of them. Persons one meets in Montreal are to be seen here so that there is no feeling of being strangers in a strange land. It is becoming quite the thing for Canadians to drift this way towards the spring, and of the seven hundred people that landed at Hamilton on the day of our arrival, more than half of them were Canadians. People from the Dominion are welcomed here, indeed there is a kindred feeling between the Islanders and the Canadians. It is said here that the Canadian Pacific intends to build a hotel here and to establish a line of steamships, a move that would be welcomed because it would give a tilt to the enterprise of the country.

MAY HAVE NEW LINE.

They are enterprising people here and as farmers and gardeners they do well. There is a rich soil that is fertile and excellent for vegetables great quantities of which are raised for the American Market, New York being a large buyer. They think here that more trade should be developed with Canada, hence, the suggestion that there will be a direct line of steamships is one that arouses much interest.

Although this is not the height of the season, there is plenty of bloom in the islands. After coming from the snows of the north the flowers seem generous in their profusion. There is a wealth of green and plenty of roses, while the lily fields were just reaching a state of rich bloom. The heavy fragrance of the lilies was at first almost overpowering to us and it took us some little time to grow accustomed to it. The natural beauties of the place are charming and the many drives over the wonderful roads of the islands disclosed amazing pictures to our astonished eyes. We climbed hills and poked into lighthouses and were related wonders of the place until our little brains tired; that is the evil of short visits, one wants to learn a lot in little time. I do remember being told that the moray, an eel-like fish, will get up on his tail and fight. Now that is not my tale, it is merely repeated, but it is one of the things remembered out of a vast fund of geographical, topographical and piscatorial information hurled at us.

CAVES A COMMODITY.

Caves form a commodity here; perhaps, it should not be stated that way, but, at all events, caves have a commercial value. Caves can be visited at so much a visit and one has not seen life here until after a visit to one, or the lot, of the subterranean show places. The caves are really wonderful and well worth visiting. One has a guide and a blazing torch and it is most picturesque. One swaggar cave is lighted by means of acetylene and feels quite proud of itself because of its illumination. I cannot describe all the wonders of the caves because the description would be too tame in cold print.

There is a color line here. Not drawn so sharply as in the southern states, but quite noticeable and people talk about the "Blacks" in no uncertain tones. The latter appear to be a fair type, including, as in the white race, a proportion of industrious, indifferent and idle. One thing we discovered was that the little shavers objected to being photographed and it required diplomatic measures to secure snapshots. One old fellow was huffed because we wanted his picture and became quite angry when it was suggested that he should act as a target for our sharpshooters.

They have a picturesque form of begging here. We were not asked for money in a bold manner, not so indeed. Youngsters would run after the carriage, throw a rose into a lap. The acceptance of the rose demanded a penny as compensation, so that there was a fair exchange between patron and patronized.

THERESA M.



The press has a big mission in modern life. The part of the Catholic press in that mission is not appreciated by all persons of our faith. What Cardinal Mercier, Archbishop of Malines, recently said to a Roman newspaperman, is to the point:

"Talking about newspapers, permit me to express the pain I feel every time I come to Rome and find that the immoral and anti-clerical press is every day gaining ground. This morning I went to celebrate Mass at the Church of St. Francesca Romana, in the Forum. It was early, and near the church stood a news vendor. Every one of the working men who passed by bought his paper and went on his way reading it attentively. They were all anti-clerical sheets. Take my word for it—the necessity of consecrating all our forces to the development of the Catholic press is a necessity of capital importance at the present moment. I, Bishop as I am, would delay the building of a church in order to help in the founding of a newspaper."

ROME AND THE PRESS.

Under this caption Rev. Dr. Horton, who for some years has been telling the world at large that "Romanism" is the real danger in England, recently expressed some opinions on the matter through the columns of the "Daily News," of London. Dr. Horton wrote:

"Very few are the papers on which the apostolate of the press has not apparently secured an agent—not necessarily a writer at all, nor an avowed Catholic—whose business it is to excoise any piece of news, any paragraph in a speech, or any notice of a book which tells against Rome. When once the attention of any man is called to this fact, evidence crowds in almost every day. It is done quietly and subtly, but very effectually. The Protestant feeling of the country cannot get expression in the press."

Mr. G. K. Chesterton undertook to suggest to Dr. Horton some reasons why Rome should occupy considerable space in the press, and in a letter, also to the "Daily News" writes:

"Dr. Horton and Mr. Hooking seem to have two main accusations against the modern press. The first is that the facts about Catholicism are mentioned; the second is that the facts about Catholicism are not mentioned. Touching the first of these charges, there is surely nothing that needs explanation. That Catholicism should be often mentioned is as natural as that America should be often mentioned; it is a very large thing. What would Dr. Horton say of me if I complained that the United States, with extraordinary cunning, got itself alluded to in many magazines, encyclopaedias and atlases? He would reply that a man talking freely can hardly help mentioning America. Neither can he help mentioning Europe. And Catholicism simply means Europe for one thousand years and half Europe for nearly two thousand. Such an institution could not hide if it wanted to; it is like recommending social self-effacement to an elephant. You do not say that the Eiffel Tower has been very successful in getting itself admitted into most photographic views of Paris. If Rome bulks large in newspapers (which has not been proved) it is not because of Rome's cunning and perfidy nor because of Rome's courage and wisdom. It is because Rome (both pagan and Christian) must bulk large in the mind of any intelligent man.

The second count is not gossip about the Catholics, but silence about them; the alleged suppression "anything unfavorable to Catholicism." Though not the most commercial of men, I am worldliness itself compared to Dr. Horton, and I will give him upon this point the plain answer out of Fleet street. If it is true that London editors and sub-editors are by this time somewhat shy of printing anti-Catholic scares, it is for the quite practical reason that they so often turn out to be untrue. The truth is quite the reverse of the present accusation. It is not that some fact is found against Catholicism, but is not published. It is that it is published, and is then found not to be a fact. This has been the history of a hundred exposures of Romish evil, of the dirty half-wit "Maria Monk," of the fugitive profligate Achille, and numberless others. So when Dr. Horton says sternly to the practical sub-editor, "You have not had enough anti-Popery revelations in your paper," the practical sub-editor laughs, and says, "Thank you, we have had quite enough."

Perhaps Dr. Horton will find in the fact that Mr. Chesterton has interested himself in the matter, proof positive of the assertion that Rome has control of the press.

An Irish Traveller.

St. Patrick's Day Remembered by Enthusiast in Bermuda.

Caves a Commodity.

(From a correspondent.)
Hamilton Bermuda, March 24:—We remembered St. Patrick's Day and did our best to aid the few kindred spirits we met in maintaining our enthusiasm, not a difficult matter for those in whose veins Irish blood flows. There were not many of us, and there was but little we

defend yourself by pointing out the benefit to the poor, to agriculture, and to the revenues of the country. Silly, what are these things compared to the inherent right of an Englishman to ride after the frisky fox or blaze his gun through fenced preserves? Is it not evident that foxes are more precious than forests?

EFFECT OF PUBLIC OPINION.

Unified public opinion is a powerful matter, and that Mr. Oscar Hammerstein agrees in this is quite evident by his action in withdrawing "Salome" from the programme of grand opera to be given in Boston. When his intention to give the opera was made known, numerous prominent persons became immediately active in protest. Chief among them were Mayor Hibbard, Governor Draper and Vicar General George A. Patterson. The Vicar-General said: "To produce 'Salome' at any time outrages public decency; to produce it during Holy Week is doubly outrageous."

The Mayor said: "If Mr. Hammerstein does not stop it, I will." Governor Draper wrote to Mr. Hammerstein: "I am one of your patrons and was much pleased when I heard you had decided not to produce 'Salome' during your Boston engagement and I sincerely hope you will keep to your original purpose."

After hearing these protests, Mr. Hammerstein decided that Boston did not want "Salome," and that work was withdrawn. Boston has made a precedent which will be useful for the future.

JAPANESE OPINION.

Dr. Anezaki, a member of the University of Tokio, has made a study of "modern" religions and upon that subject was a recent contributor to the Japanese Weekly. His observations on religious life on the continent are interesting, but his observations of religious life in England are decidedly more so. He writes:

"Religious life in England is so complicated that it is not easy to make a definite classification. One noteworthy feature, however, is the renaissance of Catholic influence. English Catholicism is not characterized by superstition to the same extent as that on the continent, but its followers observe absolute obedience to the Church and apparently remain indifferent to the teachings of science.

"The natural Church of England is said to be Protestant, but in reality it is Catholic in all but name. The Church is organized on Catholic principles, and its creed and ritual are conservative. But in the bosom of this Church not all its bodies are so proximate to Catholicism. Those which are so are known as 'High Church.' Among the 'Low Churches' are some so liberal as to doubt the divinity of Christ. Methodist churches seem to place great value on their own tenets, and we can discern among them the spirit of intolerance. Congregationalism and other religious sects embraced in the new theology hold quite liberal views.

That English Catholics are faithful followers is true enough, but that they are indifferent to the teachings of science is not correct. Doubtless, what the worthy critic desired to state was that they declined to allow their belief to be influenced by dabblers who seek to pervert science to unholy causes.

PRINCELY GIFT.

The announcement comes that the Home for Incurables is the recipient of a munificent gift from Lord Strathcona in the form of a cheque for \$10,000. How pleasing and at the same time how consoling must this be to His Grace Archbishop Bruchesi, to whom the Home appeals in a particular way. The needs are many, the financial support very limited, and the space anything but sufficient to accommodate the great numbers who daily seek admission, and it would be well for those who have a surfeit of riches to generously remember the Home for Incurables.

St. Patrick's Society has done its share in the endowment of a bed, it remains for the other societies and organizations to follow the very good lead. There would then be no need of anxiety on the part of His Grace to whom the problem of sustaining this very laudable work must be a matter of great concern.

THE SCHOOL QUESTION.

Critics of our present system of administering the affairs of Catholic schools and who seek to strengthen their position by pointing to the United States Public Schools, will be surprised by a rear at-

tack; in other words, the system which they would fashion ours after is itself under fire. In last week's issue a former chairman of a Board of Education was quoted in critical mood. Now we find a Jewish Rabbi, Dr. Emil G. Hirsch, of Chicago, taking the system to task. He declared that the improper education imparted in public schools "makes delinquents and dependents" of pupils. And Dr. Hirsch compared public school education to a crazy quilt, because, as he asserts, a child "gets a little of this and a little of that, not much of anything." The system, says the Rabbi, employed in state endorsed education of the young "provides but little for the boy or girl whose talents do not lie in the line of intellectuality. The curriculum does not appeal to those who care little for memorizing, and does not interest the boy with other mental faculties."

Dr. Hirsch scored in his address those graduated from Public schools who are unable to spell or punctuate. He said that orthography and arithmetic are almost unknown to some business men; who were pupils of the public school system, and that they depend on hired help to supply their intellectual deficiency in understanding the "Rs," a school qualification that our forefathers were proud of. He asserts that children should be given a course of instruction that appeals to them and that by doing so there would be less "truancy, delinquency and dependency."

One may judge from Dr. Hirsch's expressions that all is not happy in the vaunted public school system of the United States. Why then should Montrealers desire to follow such an imperfect model?

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Dublin papers have proven that Lieutenant Shackleton, who has gone furthest south, is Irish. May we venture to suggest that the pole itself is an elegant blackthorn?

When Archbishop Ireland reached New York from Europe he was asked if the illness of the Pope is serious. His Grace laughed and suggested that the questioner should read the cables, because the correspondents know everything. Was that a tribute?

St. Patrick's Society has done a great deal of good work in a quiet way. It is in that way that good work is usually done. There is a wide field for the usefulness of the Society and it should receive full encouragement from all Irishmen. It should be remembered that the organization is national, not parochial.

The synopsis of the Irish Land Bill, which will be found in the news columns, is not as complete as the members of the Irish party desire, yet it shows a considerable advance over previous measures. It is quite evident that the policy followed by John Redmond and his associates is bearing good fruit and that each year adds to the comfort of the Irishman at home.

Think of trying to pawn off clover as shamrock on an Irishman. Yet in an extenuating plea put forward on behalf of a young girl charged with larceny before the Carlow Petty Sessions. She had been accused of the theft of a quantity of clover and said that she had intended to sell the trefoil as shamrocks on St. Patrick's day. The incredulous Bench frown against the girl, and the reporter comments that the attempt to traffic in popular sentiment by imposing clover instead of the genuine chosen leaf upon Carlow people hardly improved the defendant's case. How could it?

Are wealthy Catholics alive to their opportunity? This question is suggested by the criticism of Rev. James B. Curry, pastor of St. James Church, New York, who, in an address recently delivered, castigated wealthy Catholics, who refrain from giving their help to the poor. "In the fulfillment of the law of Christian charity," said Father Curry, "I do not believe that the last will and testament fill the bill." He pointed out that the most successful work to-day among Catholics is done by the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, and yet there is scarcely a rich man in it. "What are the rich Catholics doing?" he asked.

That it should be necessary for a priest to speak from the pulpit regarding attendance at theatres on Good Friday is really remarkable. Of all days in the year there should be no room in the thoughts of any Christian for worldly entertainment on that day. Yet experience is that there are many who are so steeped in indifference as to forget that it was on Good Friday that Christ died for sinners. The tawdry theatre but little suggests the sacrifice, and more often savors of the sin.

The True Witness

is published every Thursday by
The True Witness P. & P. Co.
316 LaSalle Street, West, Montreal
P.O. BOX 1138

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE
Canada (City Excepted) and New-
foundland..... \$1.00
City, United States and Foreign.. \$1.50
Terms: Payable in Advance.

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ITEMS OF LOCAL INTEREST SOLICITED.

In vain will you build churches, give missions, found schools—all your works, all your efforts will be destroyed if you are not able to wield the defensive and offensive weapon of a loyal and sincere Catholic press.

—Pope Pius X.

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.

THURSDAY, APRIL 8, 1909.

FORESTS OR FOXES.

Which is of more benefit to a country, forests or foxes? Doubtless a Canadian would answer forests. In view of the demands being made upon the government of the Dominion to assist in forest preservation, there is no hesitation in suggesting that the Canadian would hold up his hand for the forest. Poor Canadian. His answer would prove that he