

MR. JUSTICE CURRAN AT PLATTSBURG.

A brilliant assemblage gathered at the commencement exercises of the d'Youville Academy, Plattsburg, N. Y., on Wednesday last. The programme was most interesting and varied. One of the principal features of the evening was an address by Mr. Justice Curran of Montreal, who is still an active and warm supporter of education. After a few preliminary remarks, he said:—

Looking back, in these the dying hours of the nineteenth century, at the rapid strides made in the matter of female education during the era now about to close, we may well marvel at the changes that have taken place, and turning our eyes to the future, who can estimate the still greater progress in store, and the wonderful results to be reached under the influences of that higher education which has now become a fixed essential in our systems on this North American Continent.

Material for deep thought and wide speculation is certainly not wanting, but we must not forget, that for you my young friends it would be out of place, as well as unjust and ungenerous, at this happy moment when your arduous labors and incessant toil are just being crowned with the laurels of victory, to indulge in such theorizing.

You are graduates of an institution bearing the name of d'Youville. This is not a single honor but a double one. The first distinction is, we trust common with most institutions conferring diplomas. That is, a guarantee of proficiency, in the many branches of study, to which your time has been devoted. The second is a further guarantee, not merely of learning acquired, but of an education as Christian in its character, as it is solid in its usefulness.

You have been for years the pupils of the daughters of Madame d'Youville, an order of religious, whose fame has spread far and wide over both sides of the line that separates your great Republic from the young Dominion to the North. You must strive to be worthy of them and of their great foundress, whose virtues ennobled her name here and sanctified it forever in the hereafter. She was a child of La Belle France, that land of heroes and heroines, to whom religion and civilization owe so much under every sky. In your studies you have read of the missionaries who first planted the cross upon the soil of Canada, and the vast territory that now constitutes the United States, whose blood watered the roots of our early civilization, and whose footsteps traced the path, later to be followed by the steam engine from ocean to ocean, over hill and dale, snow-capped mountain and mighty chasm. You have read of noble Frenchwomen like Marguerite Bourgeois, Marie Guyard and many others, and you know that side by side with the noblest and best stands Madame d'Youville in generosity of purpose, in perseverance under the severest trials and persecutions, in absolute self-sacrifice. You now hold in your hands certificates bearing the name of that illustrious and saintly lady. You are about to leave the institution where you have been trained under the beneficent influences of her spirit, manifested in the daily lives of those who have chosen her house as their home. You now go to take your place in society.

Amidst the joyous heart-beats you now experience, at the success you have so meritoriously achieved, do you not also feel a grave responsibility?

ty? Your aim must then be steadily to follow the path in which you have been so far directed. A witty Irishman once said, "If you aim at nothing you are sure to hit it." Your lives cannot be aimless. You have the advantage, yes, the privilege of living in a country where labor is held in honor, unlike other lands where toil is spurned and the toiler looked down upon; lands of effete civilization that crumble when they come in conflict with a nation of workers. Here you have full scope for your abilities, and you will be respected in their faithful exercise. You owe to God, to your country, to your families and to yourselves to make the most of the grand opportunities you have enjoyed. The learning you have acquired, the arts you have mastered, the accomplishments and refinements you have been blessed with, all these must be looked upon as treasures, not to be locked away, but to be brought into daily use without ostentation, but with true earnestness of purpose and with due regard to your family and other surroundings. How many young ladies, once they quit the doors of the Academy discard their books, look forward to a life of mere pleasure and neglect to cultivate even the educational adornments for which they strove so long? Is it because they know not where to seek for guidance as to their future course? That excuse cannot be offered by the graduates of d'Youville Academy. In your late teachers you will always find willing guides, wise and sympathetic counsellors, not merely in your choice of occupation but in all life's trials and vicissitudes. The demure little nun whom you see walking along the street apparently unconscious of all except her task of teaching, is the depository of many a sad secret. She has heard of family joys and family woes. She has rejoiced with the happy, poured the balm of consolation on the bruised heart and cheered and upheld the drooping spirit.

Cultivate the talents God has given you and never turn your back upon the institution where they were developed, but look upon it as your second home, the abode of your sincere friends and well-wishers. What you owe to God has already been firmly implanted in your minds and hearts by loving teachers. Lady graduates you are now in a measure the representatives of your country; do your duty then to it; help, in your own sphere, to make of it not only a nation of beautiful and virtuous women, but of intellectual, and highly cultivated ladies as well, with such it must rank amongst the first of all times.

What do you owe to your families? Here in this audience, at this moment many eyes are struggling with the tear of joy that would trickle down the cheek of father or mother, relative or friend at your success and in glowing anticipation of future achievements. Your own true hearts tell you that you can never repay what you owe to father and mother. Your duty to yourselves I have striven for the last few moments, however imperfectly, to impress upon you, but I will ask you to say to one another now in this, one of the happiest moments of your lives:—

Onward, onward, may we press
Through the path of duty;
Virtue is true happiness—
Excellence true beauty.
Minds are of celestial birth,
Make we, then, a heaven of earth.

LORETTO ACADEMY.

The closing exercises and presentation of medals to graduates of Loretto Academy, Niagara Falls, Ont., were marked by a beautiful rendition of classic prose and music by the pupils which was enjoyed by an assemblage of appreciative guests from Buffalo, Toronto, and Niagara Falls, who were invited by the Sisters of the Academy. The spacious assembly hall of the Academy was tastefully decorated with palms, ferns and shrubs for the occasion, and every attention was paid the invited ones to ensure their enjoyment of the following beautifully rendered programme:—

(a) "Rest" Gounod
(b) "Charming Valley" Roberti
Choral Class of 50.

Piano Solo—Valse in A flat .. Chopin
Vocal solo—Gavotte from "Mignon" .. A. Thomas
Garden scene from "Mary Stuart" .. Schiller

Vocal solo—"Venice Sleeps" .. Mattei
"Mary Stuart"—Part II, last scene, "Invitation to the Dance" .. Weber
"Day is at Last Departing" .. J. Raff
Choral Class.

PRESENTATION OF MEDALS TO GRADUATES.

Vocal trio—from "Elijah" Mendelssohn
Vocal trio—"Oh, Merry Goes the Time When the Heart is young" .. Buck

"The Cricket on the Hearth" Dickens
Vocal solo—"Se Seran Rose" Arditi

"The Child's Wish" Liszt
Hungarian March Liszt
Pianos and Violins.

Ave Marie Marchetti
The choral class of fifty well trained voices rendered the opening number on the programme in a manner highly pleasing to the critical audience, and reflecting great credit on the excellent work of their teachers.

The piano solo—valse in A flat—by Miss Ethel Kean, of La Salle, was very cleverly executed.

The vocal solo, Gavotte from "Mignon," by Miss Ferguson, Niagara Falls South, was rendered very prettily, the singer possessing a sweet voice, which was nicely adapted to the selection.

In the garden scene from "Mary Stuart," the pathetic side of this bit

of tragic history, was faithfully portrayed by Miss Josephine Hardin, as Mary Stuart, and Miss Emma Waite as Queen Elizabeth. The young ladies are from Chicago. Both possess fine elocutionary powers with special ability for their respective parts.

"Venice Sleeps" was a vocal solo by a sweet voiced and attractive singer, Miss Pearl Hawk, of Brooklyn, N. Y.

Part II, last scene from "Mary Stuart," shows the unfortunate Mary preparing for death and taking leave of her faithful friends, Melville (Miss Loretta McCafferty, Brooklyn); Leicester (Miss Marie Rogers, Buffalo); Burleigh (Miss Marie Formosa, New Jersey); Mary Stuart, (Miss Josephine Hardin). The sad portrayal was very effectively rendered, showing ability of a high order, with a most careful training, reflecting credit on the patient work of the sisters. Special mention however should be made of Miss Hardin. Too much cannot be said of this accomplished young lady, who in the part of Mary Stuart excelled, and won for herself the unstinted praise of all.

The next number was a piano quartette, by Miss Ethel Kean, La Salle; Miss Alice Lawler, Kansas City, Mo.; Miss Alanna Marmion, Washington, and Miss Jane Smith, Buffalo.

The last number of Part I, "Day is at Last Departing," (Raff) was grandly rendered by the choral class. The rise and fall of the sweet voices formed a perfect ensemble of melody. At the conclusion of Part I, Very Rev. Father A. J. Kreidt presented to the graduating class of '99 gold medals, viz.: Miss Alice Lawler, Kansas City, Mo.; Miss Josephine Hardin, Chicago; Miss Alanna Marmion, Washington, and Miss Pearl Hawk, Brooklyn.

The first number of Part II, was a vocal trio from "Elijah," by Misses Hardin, Marmion and Hawk and was well received.

The vocal solo "O, Merry Goes the Time When the Heart is Young," was nicely rendered by Miss Emma Waite, Chicago, a vocalist of much promise.

"The Cricket on the Hearth," by a class of children, was very pleasing. The little ones deserve great praise for the clever rendering of their various parts.

The vocal solo, "Se Seran Rose," by Miss Alanna Marmion, won the hearts of her hearers by her splendid mastery of a difficult composition. The audience expressed their high appreciation of Miss Marmion's sweet voice by encoring her heartily, to which the young lady gracefully responded. The singer certainly scored a decided triumph and her success is assured.

A very charming bit of elocution, and much appreciated by all, was the recitation, "A Child's Wish," by Miss Maud Morle, of Chicago, a very bright child who won for herself the admiration of everyone by her sweet manner and by her loyalty to the Stars and Stripes. In response to an encore, she reappeared and favored the audience with a fetching little bow.

The "Hungarian March," by Miss Hardin, Miss Lawler, Niagara Falls N. Y., and Miss C. Kean, violins; and Misses Lawler, Hawk, E. Kean and C. Smith, piano, was a fine rendition of this grand march by Liszt. It surely necessitated a great deal of practice to reach the point of perfection to which the young ladies have attained.

"Ave Marie," sweetly chanted by the choral class, brought the musical part of this delightful entertainment to a close.

Very Rev. Father A. J. Kreidt, O. C., addressed the audience at the close, thanking the assembly for its appreciation of the exercises and warmly commending the pupils on their clever proficiency under the excellent guidance of the Sisters of Loretto.

After the entertainment the visitors were invited to the exhibition of art and fancy work in the studio. This department of the Academy is in affiliation with the Art School of Ontario. The course includes freehand, perspective, geometric, drawing from cast, designing and still-life. The exhibition gave evidence of unusual proficiency.

Specially notable, however, were the water color and oil paintings—all the subjects being taken from nature. Some beautiful specimens of the ceramic art were also seen.—F. P. C.

The feast of St. Antoine de Padua, on Sunday, was well celebrated by the Grocers Clerks' Society. At High Mass in St. Bridget's Church, Mazon-neuve street, a feature was the blessing of 400 loaves of bread, contributed by the society to the poor of the parish.

More new buildings for McGill. It is announced that work will shortly be commenced on the new \$50,000 building which the Medical Faculty proposes adding to its present extensive quarters during the coming summer. At present the plans for the structure are in the hands of Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal.

VILLE MARIE BANK.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The Shareholders of the Ville Marie Bank met on Tuesday last for the annual meeting, the presiding officer being Mr. W. Weir, the president. The directors' report, as submitted by the president is as follows:—

The directors have the honor to make the following report showing the result of the business of the year ending 31st May, 1899:—

The net profits after deducting expenses of management, interest on deposits, and the amount written off to cover bad debts, etc., were	\$37,698.25
Profit and Loss Account, May 31st, 1899.....	6,001.04
Making in all	\$43,699.29
Appropriated as follows:—	
Dividend, 3 p. c., 1st December, 1898	\$14,388.60
Dividend, 3 p. c., 1st June, 1899.....	14,388.60
Appropriation for expenses incurred in establishing new branches	2,500.00
Carried to Contingent account	3,000.00
Balance Profit and Loss	9,422.09
	\$43,699.29
	\$43,699.29

The business of the Bank as well as the net profits are considerably in excess of those of the previous year, and there is every reason to believe that the progress made last year will be continued in the future.

The branches have, as usual, been inspected from time to time, and the directors have pleasure in again bearing testimony to the faithful and intelligent manner in which the Managers and Assistants continue to discharge their respective duties.

All which is respectfully submitted,
W. WEIR,
President.

Montreal, June 20th, 1899.

GENERAL STATEMENT.

ASSETS.	
Specie	\$ 20,965.42
Dominion notes	75,589.00
Deposits with Dominion Government for security circulation	18,540.00
Notes and cheques of other Banks	129,006.00
Due by other Banks in Canada	8,268.83
Due by other Banks in Foreign Countries	6,224.91
Due by other Banks in the United Kingdom	1,296.86
Call Loans on Stocks and Bonds	65,891.00
Canadian Municipal Securities	26,526.30
Immediately available	\$ 352,308.11
Current Loans and Discounts	1,373,333.85
Loans and discounts overdue not specially secured	57,237.12
	\$1,130,500.97
Real Estate, other than Bank premises	52,879.88
Mortgages on properties sold by the Bank	24,714.61
Bank premises	38,597.31
Office fixtures, safes, stationery, etc.,	27,906.35
Other assets, including Bank Stock owned by the Bank	291,044.63
	435,142.86
	\$2,218,042.27

LIABILITIES.

To the Shareholders:—	
Capital paid up	\$ 479,629.00
Reserve	10,000.00
Profit and Loss	9,422.09
Dividend due June 1st, 1899	14,388.60
	513,439.69
To the Public:—	
Notes in circulation	211,865.00
Deposits not bearing interest	232,331.61
Deposits bearing interest	1,256,357.34
Other Liabilities	1,957.60
	1,701,611.58
	\$2,218,042.27

Montreal, 31st May, 1899.

In moving the adoption of the report the president remarked that during the past year there had been a general revivement of business throughout the Dominion, but that so far as the Province of Quebec was concerned that revival had only been noticed within the last few weeks.

The demand for money during the last three months had been more marked than at any time during the

last five years. This was no doubt due largely to the increased importation of British and foreign goods and the large outlay to cover duties and freights, and also the large amount of money invested in mining stocks, a good deal of which, it is to be feared, the investor will never see again.

So far as the Province of Quebec is concerned, these countries still depend

largely upon the hay trade have suffered greatly during the last two years and it is only during the last three months that anything like a fair price has been paid for that article. There is now a general activity in the cheese and butter trade, which with seasonable weather, will likely continue during the summer. The lumber trade is fairly active, but to some extent is interfered with by the unsettled relations between the United States and Canadian Governments. The grain trade, so far as this province is concerned, has moved slowly but is now fairly active.

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to another sister he left a similar share in admiration of the skill with which she has elevated her pecking to a fine art." To show that he was not without sympathy for the sister's husband, he left him twenty guineas and a punch bowl, so that he might drown the misery of his married lot.

One of the most eccentric wills ever made was that of M. Zalesky, a wealthy Pole, who inclosed it in a series of envelopes, one inclosed in the other, and inscribed on each in turn "to be opened one (two, three years, etc.) after my death."

Each year found the curious relations one envelope nearer the will which might mean so much to them, and four years ago the last envelope was opened and the will at last read. It was then found that half of the testator's estate was bequeathed to such of his heirs as had the largest families, and the remaining half was to be invested and accumulated for 100 years, for the benefit of such heirs as then shall be living.

A north countryman who died recently, divided his estate equally between his wife and his sister, who had for years never spoken to one another, on condition that for one month every year they should live together, and that during the rest of the year they should meet six times and embrace each other.

There was a whimsical touch of malevolence in the will of Herr Rober, a wealthy German, whose wife had made his life miserable by her violent antipathy to tobacco, of which he smoked large quantities.

He bequeathed her half his estate on condition that for the rest of her life she never smoked less than six cigarettes a day; and the whole of it from the day on which she married a man who should smoke a certified pound of tobacco a week.—Tit Bits.

Brief Notes of News.

The report comes from Tacoma, that the steamer City of Tacoma, passed Port Townsend last week bound for Tacoma with 200 Klondikers, who bring out \$500,000 in gold dust and \$500,000 in drafts as the first instalment of the spring clean up.

It is said that Sir Richard Webster purposes to present England's side of the Venezuelan question in a speech that it will take him sixteen days to deliver. This means that he will utter close upon 750,000 words, or enough to fill six copies of the World solidly.

Rev. Thomas Burke, for nearly forty years pastor of St. Columbkille's Church, Chicago, died Saturday, June 3. He was seventy-two years of age. He was the last survivor of the priests ordained by Bishop O'Regan.

A New Jersey butcher went into his ice-box recently and shut the door behind him. When discovered he was almost at the point of collapse, being nearly frozen to death. One should always keep on the right side of the very hot weather.

A despatch from Rouen says:—Archbishop Sourrien died on Friday of last week. He was born in 1825, and was successfully superior of several houses of missionaries.

A young lady asked a butcher for a dollar toward paying for a temperance lecture. She didn't expect to get it, but the butcher said: "There's your dollar. I've sold more meat in one day since this town went non-licensing than I used to in a whole week when we had saloons." What better temperance lecture than that could be delivered?

One isn't permitted to forget for an instant that this is June, the bride's month, remarks an exchange.

One day last week there were over one hundred bridal couples registered at one of the hotels at Niagara Falls.

"The blood is the life." Science has never gone beyond that simple statement of scripture. But it has illuminated that statement and given it a meaning ever broadening with the increasing breadth of knowledge. When the blood is "bad," or impure it is not alone the body which suffers through disease. The brain is also clouded, the mind and judgment are affected, and many an evil deed or impure thought may be directly traced to the impurity of the blood. No ed to the impurity of the blood. No one can be well balanced in mind and body whose blood is impure. No one can have a wholesome and pure life unless the blood is pure. Foul blood can be made pure by the use of Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery. When the blood is pure, body and brain are alike healthy and life becomes a daily happiness.

Free.—Dr. Pierce's Common Sense Medical Adviser, 1008 pages, 700 illustrations, is sent free on receipt of stamps to defray expense of mailing only. Send 21 one-cent stamps for paper covers, or 31 stamps for cloth, to Dr. R. V. Pierce, 663 Main Street, Buffalo, N. Y.

Toothache stopped in two minutes with Dr. Adams' Toothache Gum. 10 cents.

SOME CURIOUS WILLS.

There is a world of humor, often of a grim character, it is true, buried in wills which come to us for probate, said a man through whose hands hundreds of wills pass every year; and some of the most interesting bequests are those that are inspired by feelings of spite against a testator's kith and kin.

The late Mr. Sydney Dickinson takes high rank among testator humorists of this type. He bequeathed \$60,000 to his widow on these grimly ironical conditions:—"When I remember that the only happy times I have ever enjoyed have been when my wife sulked with me, and when I remember that, as she was nearly always sulking, my life with her has been fairly happy, I am tempted to forget the repulsion the sight of her face inspired me with, and leave her the sum of \$60,000 on condition that she spends two hours a day at my graveside for ten years in company with my sister, whom I know she loathes more than she does myself."

It was a similar sense of gratitude that inspired Mr. William Darley, of Ash, in Hertfordshire, to leave his

wife a shilling, "in admiration of the skill with which she was in the habit of robbing me of all small sums she could lay her hands on."

A Frenchman, of the name of Louchat, could scarcely have harbored much affection for the cousins to whom his fortune was left, for he left a life interest in his estate first to a tortoise, a favorite pet of his, which, under ordinary conditions, will long outlive the youngest of his legatees.

There was an element of Providence and common sense in the legacy of an Odessa merchant who recently left four million roubles to his four nieces on condition that, before claiming his inheritance, they must each work for fifteen months as domestic servants.

The will of Mr. Dunlop, a famous eye doctor, was conceived in a very mischievous spirit, and is perhaps one of the most ingeniously insulting wills on record.

To an indolent son he bequeathed his books, "that he may know that there are such things in the world." To his sister Mary he left an eighth part of his estate, "as she had had the good sense not to marry"; while