

THE TRUE WITNESS AND CATHOLIC OHRONICLES

180 ST. JAMES STREET. d .. Montreal..

> Fifteen years experience In conne tion with the liquidation of Private and Insolvent Estates. Auditing Books and preparing Annual Report for private firms, and public corpor ations a specialty.

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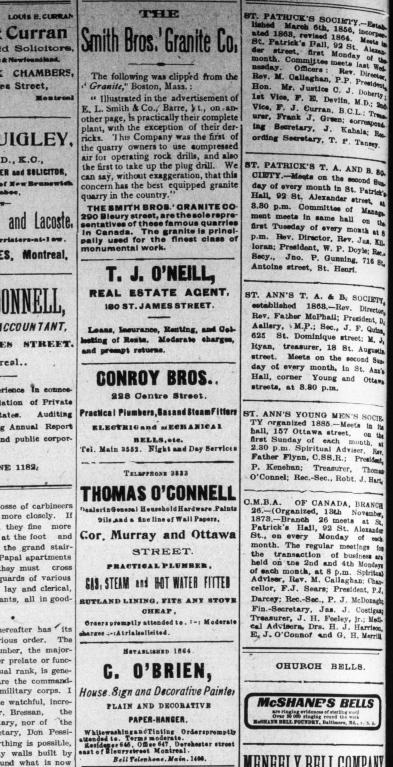
right, they find a posse of carbinee who question them more closely. they can pass these, they fine more carbineers or Swiss at the foot and on the landings of the grand stair way leading to the Papal apartments To enter this last they must cros a redoubling of guards of various sorts, chamberlains, lay and clerical and intelligent servants, all in good ly number. . .

Each anteroom thereafter has its chamberlains of various order. The master of the chamber, the major domo, or some other prelate or functionary of about equal rank, is gene rally on duty, as are the command-ers of the various military corps. I will not speak of the watchful, incredulous eyes of Msgr. Bressan, Papal private secretary, nor of the second private secretary, Don Pessini. Of course, everything is possible even that the lofty walls built by mediaval Popes around what is now the garden villa, should be scaled, but this story of anarchist or similar outrage at the Vatican is one of the commonplaces which are treated expressly as jokes in the telegraph room of the press at San Silvestrao and which have been used as summe time "copy" for English and Ameri

can papers year in and year out .-- W J. D. Croke, in Standard and Times

#### A SAD LESSON. To amuse herself and annoy her threw fellow workers, Beckie Lewis an unfilled squib or fuse into the stove in the Dickson squip factory at Priceburg, Pa., a few days ago. There was a little explosion and the squib hopped out of the stove and into a pail of liquid sulphur close by. Then

there was another explosion, followed by a third, when 200 pounds wder blew up, tearing the building into fragments. Nine employes wer killed, including Beckie Lewis, several were injured, and great damage to



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u If the English-speaks Best interests, they would so possiful Catholic papers in t ork

## NOTES

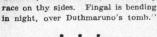
THE PONTIFF'S KI All who visit the Eterna have the privilege of be to a Papal audience, are derfully affected by the g of the present Holy Fath plicity and sweetness his open and unaffected r democratic way of dealin world, his love of the p spect for the laboring cla like of pomp, are all o win hearts and render man truly great, the low ligious priest of God a wer of strength to the throne. Indeed God has worthy successor to t Pope whose record will of the most glorious in t the Church. It is also a dence that the Holy See by Christ's Vicar and n ordinary human potenta was grand, Leo XIII w Pius X is powerful-pow simple and unostentatiou One Pontiff is a descenda ity, another a descendant ry; it matters not. All gust line, from Peter t to Pius X., have been e lible representat5ives of

A CHAIR OF HISTO Knights of Columbus see ing great and good work. evidence of their activity ing of a fifty thousand d for the establishment of mstory in the Catholic 1 America. Elsewhere in th be found a detailed repo proceedings connected wi sentation of the amount, place last week. There is sign of the times, and a able one, in this. Of all profane learning, we kno that is more important t Catholic History. To th perfect knowledge on that ant subject, much of the e day are to be assigned. knowledge of the princip tic and moral-of our he the next most essential : the Catholic to fully gras the history of the Church connected therewith. ST. PATRICK'S DIGNI

rrespondent "Crux," in cond last issue, dwelt upo ject of St. Patrick's birth rentage and titles. It w embered that he called the fact that St. Patrick ber of the Order of the stituted by Constantine t and that hence the name one of the most noble in corroboration of this, a lologist, Professor Franz in a recent discourse, said "At the time of the b Saviour, the Irish were surpassed in culture, lear arts only by the Greeks s mans. There language w rude dialect, without a li even an alphabet, as was German and the Saxon. here existed, long before St. Patrick, a regular fo ernment with a well-balar laws and the congress people a ssembled tri-ann halls of Tara-peer of th This indicates that not St. Patrick a patrician, when he came to Ireland there an assembly the me which were of an order as

Ossian sings : stream of years ? Whither do they roll aloag ? Where have they hid, in mist, their many colored sides ? 1 look into the times of old, but they seem dim to Ossian's eyes, like re flected moon-beams on a distant lake. Here rise the red beams of war There, silent, dwells a feeble race. They mark no years with their deeds as slow they pass along, Dweller between the shields; thou that awakest the failing soul, descend from thy wall, harp of Cora, with thy voices three. Come with that which kindles the past; rear the forms - of old on their own dark-brown years.

**Old Publications** 



Uthorno, hill of storms, I behold my

Here comes in Macpherson's queer note, it runs thus :

"The bards, who were always ready to supply what they thought deficient in the poems of Ossian, have inserted a great many incidents between the cond and third Duan (canto) of Cath-Loda. Their interpolations are so easily distinguished from genuine remains of Ossian, that the it took me very little time to mark them out, and totally reject them. If the modern Scots and Irish bards have shewn any judgment, it is in ascribing their own compositions to names of antiquity, for, by that means, they themselves have escaped contempt which the authors such futile performances must neces sarily have met with, from people of true taste. I was led into this observation, by an Irish poem, just now before me. It concerns a des-cent made by Swaran, King of Lochlin, on Ireland, and is work, says the traditional preface to it, of Ossian MacFion. It, however, appears from several pious ejacula tions, that it was rather the composition of some good priest, in the fifteenth or, sixteenth century, for he with great devotion of pilgrimage, and more particularly of the blue-eyed daughters of the convent. Religious, however, as the poet was, he was not altogether moral in the scenes he introduces tween Swaran and the wife of Congcullion, both of whom he re presents as giants.'

. . .

No more need 1 quote for the pre-By this note, however founded in truth, or authentic, the criticism it contains may be, it is clear that Macpherson acknowledges the reality of Ossian. For the stat nent that the ancient poet had modern imitators, who sought to escape the condemnation their mediocrity deserv-ed, by ascribing their faulty comsitions to him, is sufficiently ac knowledgment of the genuineness of Ossian, the reality of his personality, and the great antiquity of his work. Thus does Macpherson, in a ment of honest litarary criticism. clearly upset all the impressions h otherwise has sought to create as to the non-existence of Ossian, and as to his own originality in the poems that he had translated. At the time when Macpherson published his productions it was quite like Chatterton, like Keats, like Poe, possible to make the general reading public believe that there were lden, or pre-Christian Irish or Celtic works of importance. But today, in presence of all the discoveries in the rich mines of Celtic letters, that have been made, and in the prence of the volumes-manuscript and lumined-that are deposited in the Library of Trinity College, in the Library of Trinity College, in the British Museum, and in other great collections (all on the stream) of thing in French-Canadian letters surcollections (all open to the student of to-day) it would be absolutely inihe possible for any man to make



as certain as that, in ancient Greece

there dwelt some men who penned

but one irrefutable fact remains-the

the days when Homer is said to have

lived, did compose the immortal epics

that have come down to us upon the

stream of classics lore from the most

were not fabricated in modern times

and ascribed to a myth called Homer

And the same stands good in regard

whomsoever they were composed, it

certainly was not at the end of the

eighteenth century by Mr. Macpher-

I may add, in closing that it is a

pity, for Macpherson's own sake, that

he should have so foolishly marred his otherwise magnificent work. Had

to Ossian and his works.

remote antiquity.

than either of them.

son.

in

By

They certainly

self-evident fact that some one,

(By An Occasional Correspondent.)

In glancing over the most attractive works that we have in the splendid French-Canadian literature of the past fifty years, one cannot help being struck by the remarkably large number (proportionately speak ing) of Irish names that the most popular writers possess. Especially is it so in the domain of poetry. Apart from Cremazie, in the "fifties" and Frechette in the last half of the past century, few of the poets have risen to the first rank. Not that many of them have not written as delightful, as poetic and as perfect verses as these two, but because none of them wrote as much as Frechette

In passing we might mention "Francoise," the eloquent and brilfiant editress of that inimitable literary publication-"Le Journal the Odyssey. Homer he is called; that may or may not have been his Francoise." She, as all know SC well, is Miss Barry. It is true, or name; he may or may not have been her father's side, there is genuine blind in later years, as was Ossian Irish blood-but her education and he may or may not have begged his her lofty ideals learned from her bread from town to town; he may on mother, and at the knees of the best may nor have died in misery on the and most religious teachers in our Island Chaio; cities may or may not have contended for the honor of beland, have enabled her to do miracles for French-Canadian literatur ing his birthplace. All this may be historically true, or it may be legend

#### and journalism. There is not a more popular, more charming, more versitile pen in all Canada to-day than that which is wielded by that sweet and loveable "chronicler" of La Patrie," the now famous "Madeleine." She is Miss Gleason-pure Irish on her father' side, and having, as she delicately ex pressed it, "three lands to love-Ire land, France and Canada." When we peruse the delightful lives of the poet Gill, and think that his young spirit ranges the hills of poetry wrapped in the golden mantle of the beautiful language of old France, we bause and ask how comes he by such a name ? Yet' he is a French-Cana dian poet, and a son of the soil in the truest acceptation of the term. It was only the other day that all literary France arose to acclaim and honor the morning star of French-Ca nadian'letters—Mr. William Chapmar His success, which culminated in honors from the French academy and decorations from the French Govern ment, as his magnificent volume "Les Aspirations" appeared in Paris, is the most astounding in this cen tury. With his English name, hi Catholic principles, and his Canadian genius, he landed amongst the infidel litterateurs of France, and forced hem to bow down in acknowledg nent of his superiority. Nor did h ose aught on account of his glorious songs in honor of Christ.

As we reflect on all these things, we think what a golden bond of union these facts should establish be tween our two races in Canada

### **ENTRANCE TO** THE VATICAN

As to the facility or the reverse o obtaining entrance to the Vatican, it is a curious fact that a Protestant lady, one of the many who have undertaken the arduous task of converting the Pope, did actually pene-

### he been satisfied with the honestlywon credit of a translator, his name would have gone down to posterity side by side with Pope and Lafontain -he being greater as a translator

and none had the happy combination of pioneer circumstances that surrounded Cremazie to help them fame. But there is a long list of them, and none of them have published anything mediocre; they all have risen, at given moments (if only for one short flight) into the atmosphere of the sublime.

During the past few months the Canadian press has been filled with extracts from the works of Emile Nelligan, and with biographical sketches of the young poet, whose bright spirit tool. too early a flight from earth to heaven. Like Davis, the poet Nelligan died very young ; not until he had left behind him infallible proof of the genius that he possessed, and evidence of what he might have become if he had only lived to maturity. What a pity such

a flower should have perished under the chill breath of spring frosts. His was a genuine Irish nam

passes his wonderfol poems. They were the admiration and the astonishment of all who read them, as same guard. If those world agree with such an assertion. I they appeared. But Donnelly, up the stairway of Pius IX, on the

trate into the sanctum of the apart, buildings do ment of Leo XII. (1823-1829).

Almost as incredible as the thin may seem, it is vouched for by Cardinal Wiseman in his "Recollections and, I fancy, by Artand de Mentor None the less, as things are, proach to the Pope is not easy. The Vatican has its bronze door and gate of entrance opposite the Mint and besides these two it has communicating with St. Peter's; that of the sculpture galleries and others Of the two public entrances, one for carriages, the other for pedes Outside the latter, th trians. bronze door, there are Italian carbi. neers and Roman police in uniform and in civilian's clothes; doubtless the police take note of Vatican ad herents from what they see, but their principal and obvious duty is that of public order, and they exercise it regularly.

At the door stands always a Swiss who, unless he recognizez a person inquires the purpose of each tering. Near him is a picket of the Montreat ; and Washington, D.C., U.S A.

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