

If You Believe
In the principles we advocate
kindly pass the paper to your
neighbor and ask him to be-
come a subscriber.
The Senate

The Montreal Witness

Our Paper
Should be in the hands
of every Catholic
Family.

Vol. XLVII. No. 37.

MONTREAL, SATURDAY, APRIL 2, 1898.

PRICE FIVE CENTS

DOINGS IN NEW YORK

The Anti-Catholic Propaganda in Text Books.

The Rev. Father Kelly of St. Mary's and the Pupils of the Training School Protest—Some Important Conversions The Curfew Question Before the Legislature.

New York, March 29.
In my letter last week I had occasion to call attention to the lack of spiritual education suffered by Catholic pupils who attend the public schools, and this week I must refer to a flagrant breach of ethics which has recently occurred in Hoboken. It is a sign of a markedly anti-Catholic propaganda which would have done credit to the days of Know-Nothingism. One of the text books recently introduced into the training school is entitled "History of Education." In this book, under the caption of "Luther and the Reformation," is quoted the Shorter Catechism, which, as everybody knows, is a direct attack on the Catholic Church. Another section is devoted to the Society of Jesus and is particularly obnoxious. It should be remembered that fifty per cent of the pupils in this school are Catholics, and it was only natural that such a direct insult to their religion and their belief should be resented in some way. Rev. Father Kelly, pastor of St. Mary's Church, immediately took the matter in hand, and with the Catholic pupils of the training school, appeared as a delegation before the Commission of Education. Their statement of the case was simple and to the point:—"This book is an attack on our religion and our parents insist that we shall study it no longer." Mr. Demarest is the supervising principal of the Hoboken schools, and he immediately held a secret conference with the School Commissioners. It will be seen by the following statement that this Mr. Demarest is nothing if not condescending. The idea that Catholics should have any rights at all never seems to have percolated through his grey matter. He thinks that the School Commissioners should not very cautiously in the matter and says:—"At first we were disposed to listen favorably, or even with friendly indulgence, to the request of those who felt their religious sentiments offended. We could not, however, yield of hand without investigating, as the book is approved by the State and national authorities, and equally because to have done so might have stirred up ill-feeling among those not of Catholic belief, on the ground that we had submitted to Catholic dictation. It is the easiest thing in the world to stir up sectarian bitterness and very hard to allay it."

Why does not Mr. Demarest tell us how such offensive books happen to pass the scrutiny and receive the endorsement of such professedly learned men as the School Commissioners? Did it ever strike him that a spirit of arrant bigotry is plainly visible in the conduct of the School Commissioners of many states? Any slanderous statement may be put into a school book providing that the slander is on the Catholic Church, and an added spice of venom is always permissible if the libel is on the Jesuits. Now, suppose for a moment some of the real immoralities, tyrannies, corruptions and confabulations which were an outcome of that very much misused word, the "Reformation," and which would be in all cases a more truthful statement of fact—suppose for a moment such statements were incorporated in a public school text book—there would be a howl of indignation that would waken the echoes from California to Maine and go thundering down till it lost itself in the gulf of Mexico. "Pernicious Papists," "Conspiring Catholics," "Renegade Romanists," would be only a few of the milder terms applied to the School Commissioners who had permitted such a book to pass into the hands of pupils, when the mind is easily molded and most receptive of impressions. But if articles distinctly anti-Catholic are introduced then the case is different and we are told that sectional strife would be stirred up by eliminating grossly scandalous teaching and lying statements. Catholics are not asking any favors from the New Jersey School Commissioners. What they demand is a simple act of justice, which they are entitled to under the constitution of the United States and the agitation should never be allowed to flag until the last trace of this sort of pernicious literature has ceased to defile the pages of our school books.

Conversions to Catholicism.
The many conversions recently recorded have provided much food for thought to Protestant clergymen. One of the most notable is that of the Rev. George M. P. Bown, formerly of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Commenting on Mr. Bown's change of faith a leading journal says: "The conversion of Mr. B. was to the Roman Catholic communion is especially remarkable because of his natural inclination, both by education

and hereditary influence, to the church in which his forefathers and immediate family have gained considerable distinction in the past. One of his ancestors was a disciple of the founder of Methodism, and was one of the early preachers under him. Others among his relatives have been prominent in the Methodist pulpit for nearly half a century. Mr. Bown's conversion may be looked upon as a direct result of the recent mission to non-Catholics held in the Church of the Parliat Fathers, although he had had the subject under investigation for the best part of two years before he finally decided to change his faith. Mr. Bown is still a young man. He was fitted for the ministry in the Methodist Episcopal Church, and preached for four years in Montgomery County, this State, where his family resides. Mr. Bown is uncertain as to his future. In entering the Catholic Church he again becomes a layman. He is unmarried, and may possibly study for the priesthood.

Two young ladies, who have hitherto moved in the most fashionable and exclusive circles in New York and Philadelphia, have also joined the Church recently. Miss Elizabeth M. Gurney was a member of the Episcopal Church of the Redeemer, under the pastorate of the Rev. William Everett Johnson. She was a very active leader in the work of the Church Settlement House, did indefatigable work among the tenements and the Settlement House was fast becoming favorably known to the people on the upper East Side, when, to the great surprise of her friends, Miss Gurney renounced Protestantism and embraced the Holy Catholic Faith. This was a couple of months ago. During her work among the tenements Miss Gurney made the acquaintance of Miss Emma Arnold, whose family recently moved from Philadelphia to this city. Miss Arnold, from early childhood, had always been identified with church work and was very devout. She comes of a family long prominent in the social world in Philadelphia, where they were members of St. Mark's Episcopal Church. She was an earnest worker there, and after removal to New York became a member of the Church of St. Mary the Virgin. After Miss Gurney's conversion she attended the Church of St. Francis Xavier, and here the two friends frequently met. The impression made upon Miss Arnold was so great that two weeks ago she was received into the Catholic Church by Rev. Father John F. X. O'Connor, S.J., in the presence of a few Philadelphia friends. Her intention of changing her faith was not known by her relations until after she had become a Catholic.

The Curfew Question.
The question of whether Curfew shall not ring to-night is just at present agitating the breasts of the Legislature at Albany and it will probably not ring for a good many years in the city of New York. In his annual report State Superintendent of Public Instruction Skinner, advocates the adoption of a "Curfew Law." Mr. Skinner says: "The working of the curfew ordinances in many cities is attracting attention," he says in his annual report. "Over 300 cities and towns in the West have adopted a curfew ordinance, which requires all children under 15 years of age, unless accompanied by parents or guardians, or absent with leave to be at home at 9 o'clock in the evening in the summer and at 8 o'clock in winter. The result has been a decrease of from 50 to 75 per cent, in the number of arrests of children for crime. Teachers report that boys who formerly were behind in their studies by reason of late hours on the street are more punctual and regular, and keep up with school work. There has been a reduction of from 50 to 100 per cent, in commitments of youths to reform schools. The curfew is opposed by those who consider it an infringement upon personal liberty, but it may well be asked whether society and the state should not have the power to protect themselves against vicious tendencies in street education. Statistics tell us that last year there were 179,000 arrests of children under 16 years of age. There may be no sentiment in favor of a street curfew ordinance, but there should be a remedy for reducing juvenile crime. May not the state properly supplement the efforts of philanthropic aid order loving citizens in the organization of local associations to provide elevating amusement and reasonable instruction to those who naturally drift toward the streets for excitement and change? In many communities this plan is followed with excellent results. It is urged that the curfew may well apply to others than children who make the streets at night the scenes of evil operations." The report recommends that after 1899 the school census be taken every four years instead of every two years, and calls attention to attempts made by unprincipled parties to use the public schools for the purpose of distributing vile literature among the young.

Mr. Skinner may be very able with his statistics, but for all that his proposed legislation would be of the grandmotherly type and distinctly out of date. A statistical question by the way he has not treated on is—just how many children whose only crime was playing on the street after 9 o'clock on a sweltering summer night would be contaminated by contact with prisoners of the vilest and most degraded kind into whose company they would be thrown when taken to the police station. Leaving out the question of personal liberty entirely, Mr. Skinner may find a few crumbs to stimulate thought on this side of the question.

OUR IRISH LETTER.

A Unique Memorial to the Manchester Martyrs

Proposed to be Erected at Manchester—An Interesting Secret Society Case in the Courts—The '98 Centenary Demonstrations and Other Notes on Various Subjects.

DUBLIN, March 20th, 1898.
It is a matter of remark to see so many European notabilities in Ireland now for the hunting season. There is His Royal Highness Prince Miguel of Braganza, and before the revolution heir to the throne of Portugal; Count F. L. Von Stolberg, one of the greatest noblemen in Germany; Count Mensdorf, of the Austrian Service, and Baron Nagel, of high rank in Prussia. It is a matter of comment even among foreigners, that while Ireland is so appreciated by themselves and their friends as one of the finest hunting countries on the earth, that its own people of note should prefer to spend their time and money in another land.

An Interesting Secret Society Case.

There is an interesting case on trial before Mr. Justice Darling, in the Queen's Bench Division of the High Court of Justice. It is entitled *McKenna v. Everden and others*; the plaintiff is Capt. John McKenna, a retired officer of the Royal Artillery, and he sues Everden and De Jersey and Co. to recover £800 advanced by him for shares in the Lewisham Theatre Company, and which he claimed he had been induced to buy under false representations. All parties are Ulstermen and brother Freemasons. The plaintiff stated in evidence that Everden had written him that he would be true as an Ulsterman and a brother, and he added, "I trusted more because he was a brother than because he was an Ulsterman." The correspondence between Everden and the captain was read in Court and produced roars of laughter. In one passage the noble captain wrote to his friend, "The Roman Catholic Church must come down—Ulster Forever." Again he wrote: "As a brother Mason, I trust you God help us Ulstermen. We will do our work and look the whole world in the face." Affairs took a different complexion, however, when later Capt. McKenna wrote his brother Mason and Ulsterman, "if you disregard this warning look out. Be aware of a revolver or a knife. Your life is not worth sixpence." Judgment was rendered the plaintiff in full, the defendants appealing.

Peculiar Escape of a Lunatic.

On Sunday forenoon, John Jansson, a native of Kildare, and confined in the Carlow District Insane Asylum, made his escape. He went on the track of the railroad, deliberately lay down between the rails and let the whole down express pass over him. When the train passed he jumped up and ran away, but was captured almost immediately, when it was found that the ash-pan of the engine had scalped the back of his head and had carried away a small portion of the skull.

Preserving the Irish Tongue.

The annual report of the Society for the Preservation of the Irish Language has just been issued, and is indeed very gratifying. The demand for Gaelic books has greatly increased, bringing a total distribution to date of 140,380 volumes. Twenty teachers passed a successful competitive examination in the language, showing themselves fluent speakers and writers in the grand old tongue, and not only is the movement spreading in Ireland, but on the continent of Europe, and particularly in France.

An Appeal to all Ireland.

The following appeal has been sent broadcast over all Ireland and is already meeting with a hearty response:
FELLOW COUNTRYMEN—We, your exiled brethren in Manchester and Salford, having resolved not to allow the beloved names of Allen, Larkin and O'Brien to lie in the cold shade of forgetfulness a moment longer, issued a few months ago an appeal to Irishmen and women the world over to contribute their mite towards bringing our idea to a successful issue. The response to that appeal up to the present has been magnificent and encouraging. From all parts we have received contributions and letters of encouragement, many of which contained invocations to heaven to bless our work. We have secured a plot of ground 12x12 feet in the Catholic cemetery at Boston. The foundation stone we desire to be in position at a very early date. That stone ought to come from Tara, Tara of the Kings, to represent the ancient glory of Ireland's greatness; the place from which her monarchs ruled; the home of the brave and the free; and from which Malachy, who wore the collar of gold which he won from the proud invader, sallied forth to do battle

against the foreign foe on behalf of his native land. The men of Meath therefore we ask to supply this requisite. Then the four corner-stones should be from Ulster, Leinster, Munster, and Connaught. We request Belfast to act on behalf of Ulster, Dublin for Leinster, Cork for Munster, and Galway for Connaught. The intervening spaces between those corner-stones to be made up with stones from the 32 counties—that is, eight stones on each side, and every stone to have the name of the county from which it comes deeply cut on in Irish, those from the provinces and Tara to be similarly treated.

The manhood of Ireland we address in this matter, and ask them not to forget the intrepidity, the heroism, the bravery and self-sacrifice of those gallant men, who sacrificed their lives, relinquished tender associations, surrendered the affectionate ties of home and relations, and placed their very lives on the altar of their native land. Will you not, then, send the best stone you can procure to adorn the monument that is to be erected to their memory in the city where their bones rest and their memory is ever dear? Erin can boast as no other country can that, whither her sons and daughters may be located by the hand of fate, their hearts always turn to Motherland with love and good wishes, and in the silence of their soul exclaim—

We love thee—oh, but words are weak to tell
The love that in the Irish heart doth dwell;
The warm, deep, earnest love that, fading never,
Thy wandering children bear to thee forever.

E. GRIFFIN, President.
REV. M. P. RYAN, Treasurer
(St. Michael's R.C. Church).
M. MULLIKENS, Secretary.

Preparing a Welcome.

All over Ireland, the different local centenary committees are preparing a warm and hearty reception for the visiting Canadian, American and Australian Irishmen who are coming across to help celebrate '98.

In the Historic Nine Acres.

There was a grand gathering in the Nine Acres, Phoenix Park, on Sunday last, under the auspices of the '98 Centenary Committee. The day was beautiful and attracted many thousands of the country people, as well as a great outpouring of the citizens of Dublin. There were four platforms, one for each province, and a dozen bands which played the good old Irish airs. Among the airs were "The Shan Van Voort," "The Boys of Wexford," "Who Fears to Speak of '98" and "The Rising of the Moon." Among the speakers at the Leinster platform were Messrs. J. M. Johnson, Mr. Aird, of Maryborough; Mr. J. Simons and Mr. Hutton Hanson, of Abbeyleix. Mr. H. Courtney spoke in Irish at the Munster platform, and on the Ulster platform were Mr. Henry Dublin, of B. East; Mr. James Ward, of Glasgow; Mr. Hugh O'Donnell, of Liverpool; on the Connaught platform were: Mr. J. P. Hayden, M.A.; Mr. W. B. Yeats, and Mr. E. Leahy, of Galway. Several of the speeches here were in Irish. At all the platforms resolutions were submitted speaking for unity, and all were carried unanimously.

Church Bells Blessed.

Two new church bells were blessed by His Eminence Cardinal Logue during the last few days. The first was at St. Quirry Chapel, in the parish of Cocks-town, and the other at the Church of Our Lady of the Assumption in Magnanville. The ceremonies on both occasions were solemn and impressive.

The Movement of '98.

Several new Ninety-eight Clubs have recently been formed in Munster, and they have all affiliated with the Cork Committee, which includes all sections and parties. This is significant. It indicates that the right spirit animates the Munster men. Among the clubs formed last Sunday was one in the country parish near Mallow, where Thomas Russell, the friend of Wolfe Tone and Emmet, who was executed in Ulster in 1803, was born.

They Had His Sympathy.

A deputation of the Irish Horse Breeding Association waited on the Lord Lieutenant on Monday last to enlist his aid in steps to be taken to improve the Irish horse. They asked that a commission be appointed and a grant from the Treasury. He refused to recommend a grant, but assured the deputation that it had his fullest sympathy.

Fatal Sewer Explosion.

On Thursday a serious accident occurred at some sanitary works connected with the Highgate Hotel at Bandon. A man named Gallagher lost his life and a fellow laborer was seriously wounded. They were using dynamite to blast out the solid rock and the explosion of an overloaded cartridge which had failed to explode when the blast was set off was the cause of the sad fatality.

Starvation in Portrel.

Advices from Bullensho and Mayo declare that starvation is rife in Portrel and Achill. There are so many people out of employment, the crops are so poor, and influenza and its attendant evils so widespread that urgent steps have to be taken to relieve the wants of the suffering people. There is no stock to be seen in the place, and although the fields are prepared for sowing the unfortunates

have no seed for potatoes to plant. All the people had gone to the landlords and now they are starving in their nakedness. The same stories come from Swinford and West Clare.

Good for County Carlow.

The Right Hon. Mr. Justice Gibson arrived at Carlow from Kilkenny on Monday morning to open the Spring Assizes. Instead of a long docket he found a pair of white gloves awaiting him, there not being a single case before the Grand Jury. In addressing that body Mr. Justice Gibson said that it was the first time in his life he had been so honored and he congratulated the people of the county for being so law abiding.

Notes on Catholic News.

The Archbishop has made the following appointments: Rev. J. Ducharme, vicar at St. Joseph of Montreal; Rev. J. Lavallee, vicar at Napierville.

Mgr. Januarius de Concilio, late pastor of St. Michael's Church, Jersey City, is dead. The Freeman's Journal, N. Y., referring to his career, says:—He was an Italian by birth, but a genuine American and a man of strong Irish affiliations. In Land League times he was ever ready with his purse, tongue and pen to reinforce the cause of Ireland. His parish hall was ever at the service of our dear but unfortunate nation, who, in her ages of freedom and light, did so much to carry Christianity and civilization to other nations, not excepting sunny Italy itself. Mgr. de Concilio, who was a deeply read historical student, and with the heart of an honest man and a true priest as he was, he cheerfully and gratefully recognized the world's indebtedness to Ireland.

In the death of Father de Concilio a great scholar and an able champion of the Catholic faith has passed away. He was the author of "Catholicity and Pantheism," "The Glories of Mary," a "Treatise on Logic," "St. Thomas' Opinion on the Land Question," and the learned compiler of the Baltimore Catechism, which is the authorized expression of the doctrines of the Catholic Church, in compendium form, used in this country.

Several of Father de Concilio's works are used as text books in our educational institutions, and his "Catholicity and Pantheism" has given him high place among men learned in ontology. May his soul rest in peace, and may priests after his heart and mind be multiplied in our land.

The following appear in the editorial columns of the West Australian "Catholic Record": Bishop Gibney's paper—Catholicism in these colonies is particularly connected with Ireland. From Ireland came originally the great body of the Catholic population, and with it we recognize the great services done here by Bishops and priests and members of the religious Order belonging to other nations the vast majority of the hierarchy and clergy, and the members of religious communities have been Irish. A multitude of Irish settlers remain who retain touching memories of their native land and an interest in all that belongs to it. The children of Irish settlers, besides, are interested in the country of their parents, and, as a rule, if you find a native-born Australian who takes an interest in Ireland you find also a good Catholic. Sometimes we have met with instances, and instances by no means isolated in which the reverse was the case, and an indifference towards Irish sympathies was accompanied by an indifference towards religion. We refer, endeavor to foster a union that experience has taught us to be productive of good.

An American exchange, in referring to the arrival at St. Louis last week of a band of forty-five postulants from Ireland for the Order of St. Joseph, says:—

"The young women who arrived in St. Louis were selected with great caution by Sister Mary, and represent some of the best families in the Old Land. They have already been educated in the secondary branches, and some of them are girls of great refinement and much cultivation. The life work of the order of St. Joseph is the education and curing of orphan children, and the training of young religious is directed along the lines which will make for the best results among the friendless children of the poor. The St. Louis house has already in successful operation three asylums for boys, two for girls and one for deaf mutes. After two years in the novitiate the young women desire to devote themselves to a life of self-sacrifice and religion will make their first vows. Three years later they will be made finally and the Sisters become literally dead to the world, and ultimately separated from the things of this life.

"The party of postulants left Liverpool about two weeks ago, on the steamer Pennland, and came direct to St. Louis. Every member of the happy party is delighted with what has been seen of America, and the Sisters superior at the local institution are delighted with the promising qualities of the young women chosen."

THE LONDON BUDGET.

The Grand Old Man Nearing the End.

Lord Salisbury Said to be Seriously Ill—Mr. Redmond's Move in Regard to the Financial Question—Echoes of the St. Patrick's Day Celebration.

LONDON, March 24.

It is a peculiar coincidence that the two leading statesmen in England should during the same week be announced to be so seriously ill that their friends seem to fear that their earthly race is run. The heartfelt sympathy of every Irishman goes out to the family of Mr. Gladstone, the first Englishman who ever had the courage to formulate and advocate a bill for Irish Home Rule, not as a mere parliamentary expedient—for it was patent to all that it would mean the end of his political life—but as a matter of justice to a mistreated people. Of course even the Gladstone Home Rule Bill was a long time coming; but the changes proposed in it were so drastic and the amount of freedom of government in Ireland so great that the Irish people could not appreciate the genuineness of the Grand Old Man's intentions and forever remain grateful to him. Mr. Gladstone, however, finds some degree of comfort in his old age in seeing brought before Parliament by a political opponent a certain measure of relief. Mr. Balfour's bill is neither as broad minded nor as acceptable to the Irish people as its predecessor, but it is a very long stride in the right direction, and no one recognizes the fact better than Mr. Gladstone.

The bulletins received here in London regarding his health were startling in their brevity. Something very curious must be the trouble when from the sunny shores of Bournemouth Mr. Gladstone was removed to his northern home at Hawarden. It seemed like a message of despair that the great statesman was being sent home to die. Various and conflicting reports were immediately scattered broadcast over the land. One thing was unanimously agreed on—that no matter what was the nature of his malady, Mr. Gladstone was suffering excruciating pain. Notwithstanding this, however, he could not let the great St. Patrick's Banquet pass without sending what he probably thought would be his last message to Irishmen, and it thrilled the hearts of everyone who heard it. It came as a word of sympathy and it preached the old moral—'Let Ireland be one in spirit and your cause is irresistible.'

Mr. Gladstone's health, however, is no longer a potent factor in politics, whereas that of his great political opponent, Lord Salisbury, hangs the fate of ill-considered peace, or disastrous war, whether in the far East or in Africa. His friends say that he is suffering from "brain fog," a feeble condition which has followed in the wake of a recent attack of influenza. Naturally, in the present state of affairs the Cabinet refuse to give any information as to whether he would resign either the premiership or the first secretaryship. Then again the Cecil party fear a shifting of periphrasis. They remember how on the formation of the government Mr. Chamberlain manoeuvred almost every Liberal Unionist family relation and political friend he had into positions of prominence, to the exclusion of Tories with established claims on the Unionist party. The Duke of Devonshire must succeed in the premiership should Lord Salisbury retire, and how could Mr. Chamberlain, with his record of pugnacity in West Africa and elsewhere, be kept out of the Foreign Office? It is chiefly this dread of too rampant Chamberlainism which will bring Lord Salisbury back, unless the state of his health absolutely forbids. It is this same dread that has made Mr. Balfour Lord Salisbury's *locum tenens* at the Foreign Office, despite his already heavy responsibilities as leader of the Commons and the First Lord of the Treasury.

Redmond's Clever Move.

The clever tactics adopted by John Redmond, the Pariah leader, will force a hearing on the subject of Ireland's over-taxation from the House of Commons. He put down his motion about the financial relations between Great Britain and Ireland for the evening of the budget. He obtained priority, and by his action the budget is blocked, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sir Michael Hicks Beach, will be unable to make his annual financial statement until the Irish debate has first taken place. It is generally believed that this action will force the government to provide facilities for a discussion of the question, which up to the present the Ministers have refused to do.

St. Patrick's Day Celebration.

There was a very decided improvement in this year in the celebration of St. Patrick's day here. All sorts of amusements seemed to have given way to friendly feelings, and the dear little trefoil was everywhere in evidence, from the button hole of a prince royal to the

CONTINUED ON PAGE EIGHT.