

## POEMS AND LYRICS.

VERY WIDELY REVIEWED BY THE CANADIAN AND AMERICAN PRESS.

## THE METROPOLITAN.

The Metropolitan of last Saturday says: "Canadian poetical literature has been materially added to by a new volume, 'Poems and Lyrics,' just published by Dr. J. K. Foran, of this city." After quoting several extracts and favorably commenting on the same, the critic continues: "Dr. Foran's strength seems to lie in his descriptive poems, and the book should meet with considerable success amongst all Canadian lovers of poetry."

## THE MONTREAL DAILY WITNESS.

The Daily Witness thus refers to the volume: "Patriotism for Canada and memories of Ireland beat through the substantial volume of poetry just issued by Dr. J. K. Foran of this city, through D. & J. Sadler & Co. Among numerous selections which might be quoted to give an idea of 'Poems and Lyrics,' as the book is called, the following is perhaps most representative." After quoting in full the poem "Have you Seen?" the review thus closes: "Historical and descriptive poems have a large place in this work. Religious, domestic and college poems are also well represented. The easy flow and the catchy rhyme mark every poem. Dr. Foran, in his prefatory note, says that these verses were 'written at haphazard and in all manner of places, from the forests of the Black River to the halls of Laval, from the Indian wigwam to the House of Commons; in newspaper offices and government offices; in court rooms and lumber camps; in monastic retreats and election campaigns.' Dr. Foran, though yet a young man, has made valuable contributions to the literature of the day, among his works being 'Simon, the Abenakis,' 'Irish Canadian Representatives,' and 'The Spirit of the Age.'"

## THE SACRED HEART REVIEW.

Boston's new and able Review has the following:

"'Poems and Canadian Lyrics,' by Doctor J. K. Foran, LL.B., the editor of the Montreal TRUE WITNESS, comes to us from D. & J. Sadler & Co., of Montreal, in a neat black and gold volume, which has for its frontispiece a portrait of the poet. Doctor Foran's verse is in turn patriotic, historical, descriptive, humorous, domestic, religious. He has been a very prolific writer, and there are a number of lines in this volume which show no little poetic genius and imagination. Perhaps the average reader will consider the religious poems the best in this collection. Some of the memorial ones are by no means without their merits, however."

## LETTERS OF APPRECIATION.

Dr. Foran has been honored with letters on the subject of his volume from Hon. Edward Blake, Hon. W. E. Gladstone, Lady Aberdeen, and Lt.-Col. Sir Fleetwood Edwards, of the Queen's Privy Purse Office, Buckingham Palace, London.

## A CONCERT BY THE YOUNG LADIES OF ST. MARY'S.

The young ladies of St. Mary's Parish are preparing for a concert that they intend to give on Wednesday, the 15th inst. As is usual with these young ladies, they have worked in the matter with such energy and thoroughness that there is already an unusually fine programme of artists who have consented to lend their talents to the good cause on this occasion. The whole proceeds of the concert will be divided, half being given to the funds of the Lady's Sodality of St. Mary's and half to the Catholic Truth Society, for the benefit of the Catholic Sailors' Club. The concerts will be given in St. Mary's hall, and one of the principal features on the programme will be the chorus of young ladies voices. The chorus will be under the direction of Mrs. Monk and will number some thirty voices. The fact that the concert is to be given by the young ladies of St. Mary's is a sure guarantee of its excellence. Those who attend it will, therefore, not only be contributing to two very laudable objects but they will be sure to spend a very enjoyable evening as well.

## A MOST ENJOYABLE EVENING.

ST. ANTHONY'S CHOIR DINNER—ADDRESSES AND PRESENTATION.

The first annual dinner of the St. Anthony's choir was held last week at the Queen's Hotel and was largely attended. Mr. E. F. Casey, the talented director of the choir, presided, and Mr. F. E. Donovan was vice-chairman. Amongst others present were T. W. Casey, J. H. Ryan, J. Penfold, J. Campbell, W. Hammill, M. A. Phelan, J. J. Foley, A. Barrow, P. J. Evans, W. Fleming, Philip Sheridan, B.C.L., A. Goyer, L. U. Charlebois, A. P. McGuirk, J. Bissonette, Capt. Kydd, F. Bissonette, J. M. Hainault, A. Hamilton, L. H. Barbeau, J. Lynch, J. T. Scanlan and others. The menu was most elegantly printed in gold letters upon a neat and fancy card in the form of a scroll. After full justice was done to the new and most delicious dishes, amongst which might be mentioned such suggestive dainty morsels as "Cream of chicken a la Donnelly," and "Consomme St. Anthony," "Saguenay salmon a la Casey" and "Sweetbreads a la Donovan," "Wild turkey a la Scanlan" and "Roast beef a la Charlebois," the toasts of the evening were proposed and replied to in a most hearty and pleasant style. The chairman, on arising to propose the first toast, "Our Pastor," made a few preliminary remarks regarding the work of the choir during the past year. He stated that seven Masses had been studied and prepared as well as very many solos, choruses and quartettes, suitable for Vespers and evening services. He then paid a high tribute to the Rev. Father Donnelly, the pastor of St. Anthony's parish, for the zeal and devotedness he always displayed in everything connected with the success of the choir, as well as the interest he manifested in providing them with many amusements and entertainments, such as the banquet of the present evening. In reply, the Rev. Father Donnelly delivered an eloquent address, in the course of which he reviewed the important services rendered to the church and her ceremonials by the ever-improving music that assists the pastor in the grand work of instilling devotion into the hearts of his people. He particularly praised the director, organist and members of St. Anthony's choir. The next toast was that of "Our Organist," who, by the way, is Miss Donovan, one of Montreal's most talented young lady musicians. The chairman paid her well merited praise for the energy and ability which she has always manifested since accepting the position of organist of the church. Her brother, Mr. Frank Donovan, replied on her behalf, and while the dinner was in progress, the committee sent a beautiful bouquet to her residence, as a further testimony of the appreciation of the choir. The other toasts were "Our selves," "The Director," and THE TRUE WITNESS to which speeches were made by Messrs. Philip Sheridan B.C.L., T. W. Casey, J. M. Hainault, J. H. Ryan, J. J. Foley, P. J. Evans, W. Fleming and the representative of THE TRUE WITNESS. During the evening solos and choruses were rendered by several members of the choir, in a manner which proves that the organization occupies a place of distinction in the front ranks of the city choirs. Mr. L. U. Charlebois, who has done yeoman service, in his time, in the cause of Church music, expressed a wish, some short time ago, to retire from active service, and the director and members of the committee, on behalf of the choir, in order to mark the high esteem in which they ever held him, as well as a recognition of his past services, presented him with a handsome gold headed cane, bearing the following inscription: "Presented by the members of St. Anthony's choir to Mr. L. U. Charlebois." The chairman, in making the presentation, expressed the wish that it would be the means of assisting Mr. Charlebois to find his way up the stairs to the choir for long years to come. The recipient was very much affected and surprised; and it was quite evident that such a testimony was as gratifying as it was unexpected. The committee in charge of the dinner were Messrs E. F. Casey, F. E. Donovan, J. T. Scanlan, L. U. Charlebois and L. H. Barbeau.

Uncle George: I trust, Henry, that you are out of debt? Henry; No, I haven't got quite so far as that; but I am out of everything else.

## OPENING OF THE CATHOLIC SAILORS' CLUB.

The Catholic Sailors Club room has been opened again for the season. The energetic members of the Truth Society who undertook the management of affairs at the inauguration of the club have this year displayed their usual great interest in the society by introducing new games, having the rooms completely renovated and making other arrangements for the comfort of the Catholic seamen who visit this port. The action of the members of the Sailors' Club is the more commendable when it is remembered that the work done is not done by the rich men of the city, but, generally, by those who labor for their income. The first concert of the year will be given to-morrow evening, and judging from the names already on the programme it promises to be a most excellent entertainment. The concerts will be continued every Thursday in the usual manner.

## A CHANCE FOR LITERATEURS.

The Dr. Williams Medicine Co., of Brockville, which does nothing by halves, is out with a scheme which is not only praise-worthy in its inception, but which is liberal in its terms. In order to develop the latent literary ability of Canada, and at the same time afford ample encouragement for the efforts of those who may successfully participate in the competition, the proprietors of the celebrated Pink Pills have decided to offer \$300, divided into five prizes, for the best five original stories, of not more than 3000 words. The amount is a liberal one and will be divided into sums of \$100, \$75, \$60, \$40, and \$25, according to the merit of the story. The competition will be open to all who have never won a prize in a competition of the kind, and the results will no doubt prove the recklessness of those who assert that Canada has no literature of the higher type.

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## ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

IRISH CATHOLIC BENEFIT SOCIETY.

At a meeting of the society held in their hall, 223 McGill street, last Thursday night, the following were elected office bearers for the ensuing six months:—President, Mr. T. Kinsella; 1st vice-president, Mr. Daniel O'Neill; 2nd vice-president, Wm. Grace; secretary-treasurer, James McVey; collecting-treasurer, Mr. John Davis; assistant collecting-treasurer, Mr. Wm. Inskip; grand marshal, Mr. Thos. McAnulty; assistant marshals, Mr. Wm. Burke and John Kehoe; auditors, Mr. Arthur Jones, Patrick Corbett and Joseph McCann. The auditors' report showed that after paying out \$162 for sick benefit, the society has to its credit in bank \$1,657.54. A vote of thanks was moved by A. Jones, seconded by Thos. McAnulty, to the president and officers, for the able manner in which they conducted the business of the society for the last six months.

A sculptor who is now attracting public attention here is Commendatore E. Ximenes, a descendant of the celebrated Spanish Cardinal, and who, on his mother's side, can also claim affinity with Ireland. This artist has just completed a very remarkable piece of work entitled "La Renaissance," which bears out his already high reputation as a revolutionist in art and hatred of all academic teachings and ancient scholastic traditions.

Wales has obtained national independence, so far as the Catholic Church is concerned, Pope Leo XIII. having first separated the Welsh counties from the English diocese to which they belonged and united them under a vicar apostolic.