

WORK.

THE WEEK'S ANNIVERSARIES.

(By an Occasional Contributor.)

The seventh of February recalls a number of interesting personal events. On that date, in 1629, the famous Oliver Plunkett, Archbishop of Armagh, was born. In 1812, on the 7th February, Charles Dickens, the most renowned of all English novelists was born. On the 7th February, 1859, Robert Walsh, the well-known author, died. And on the 7th February, 1872, Archbishop Spalding died. Also on the same date, the 7th February, 1878, the great and immortal Pontiff, Pius IX., departed this life.

The 8th February has also its different commemorative events. It was on the 8th February, 1587, that the beautiful and unfortunate Mary Queen of Scots was beheaded at the order of the barbarous "virgin" Queen—the notorious Elizabeth. In 1819, on the 8th February, John Ruskin, the great art critic and literary light, was born. In 1820, on the same date, General Sherman was born: he who has been forever immortalized by his march from Atlanta to Savannah. In 1833, on the 8th February, Launt Thompson, the sculptor, was born in Ireland. On the 8th February, 1847, Daniel O'Connell delivered his last speech in Parliament. That was also the year of his death. The effort of that day, like the last speech of Gratton in the Irish Parliament, was a supreme and immortal one. On the 8th February, 1861, Jeff Davis was elected President of the Southern Confederacy.

The 9th of February, 1789, was the date of the birth of William Carleton, the novelist and writer of Irish character sketches and caricatures. The 9th February, 1814, Samuel J. Tilden was born. On the same date in 1856, General Sheridan received the thanks of Congress. On the same date, 1867, the State of

Nebraska was admitted into the United States union. And on the same date in 1886, the renowned General, W. S. Hancock, died.

The 10th February seems to have quite a number of warlike events associated with it. On that date, in 1685, James II was proclaimed in Dublin, and we all know the tragic ending of the struggle on his behalf. In 1756, Montesquien, the great French jurist, died. In 1776, Boston was sacked by the British. In 1798, Rome was invaded by the French army and a Republic proclaimed. In 1829 Pope Leo XII. died. And in 1885 Cardinal McCabe died. This was certainly a day of important events.

The 11th February, 1650, Rene Descartes, the French philosopher, and the inventor of the system of reasoning that bears his name, closed his career in death. On the 11th February, 1791, took place the first meeting of the United Irishmen. On the same date, in 1847, Edison, the great inventor, whose wonderful discoveries have won him the title of the "Wizard," was born. Another death that had a marbled effect on the world was that of the Emperor Heraclius, which took place on the 11th February, 641.

The twelfth of February has also its list of commemorations. In 1688 the English rebellion against King James II. ended on that day of the month. In 1791, Peter Cooper was born. And in 1809, Abraham Lincoln, was born. In 1844, on the 12th February, O'Connell was found guilty of inciting to rebellion. In 1866, on the same date, Bishop Fitzpatrick, of Breton, died. And in 1871, Alice Carey, the sweet poetess expired after a lingering illness.

misery caused by the improvidence of young girls early married. These mothers argue that their time is so fully occupied in caring for their children that they have no time to teach them these subjects as they ought to be taught. The subjects taught in the half-time classes are cookery, laundry work, needlework, renovating and mending, household upholstery and simple dressmaking. The housewifery lessons include instruction in turning out a room, dusting, sweeping, cleaning various articles of household use, preparing meals, home nursing, the care and management of infants, and household use, preparing meals, home nursing, the care and management of infants, and household washing. The cookery lessons include instruction in the preparing of a meal at a given cost per head, lessons in shopping, the preparation of various dishes, roasting and boiling of meats fish and fowl, and the making of different puddings.

Laundry centres teach the washing of cotton and woollen goods, starching of shirts, collars, etc., the treatment of laces and fine textures, and disinfecting. The teaching of renovating and mending includes lessons on turning and adapting worn garments, namely, a woman's skirt cut down to suit a child; braiding of skirts, etc.

In the upholstery branch is taught the mending and turning of carpets, renovating mattresses, pillows, re-stuffing and covering of chairs, making blinds and curtains.

In the dressmaking department a girl is taught how to cut her patterns, fit and make her own frocks. There are at present 371 teachers in the service of the board, and the number of children who have received instruction during the present year is: In cookery, 4559; in laundry work, 3270; in housewifery, 6432; making a total of 14,261.

THE GREAT TROY BELL AND NOVEL CLOCK.

The Meneely Bell Company of this city has orders for a 5000 pound bell, upon which will be struck the hours and half hours by a hammer weighing 125 pounds. This bell is to be part of the great floral clock, 16 times larger than any clock in the world. It will prove a very novel feature at the St. Louis Exposition, since nothing so extensive of the kind was ever before attempted. It is erected on the side of a hill. The dial is 112 feet in diameter and the twelve numerals on the dial 15 feet in length, will be formed of various flowers. The hands are iron cantilevers, or overhanging bridge-work style. The minute hand is 70 feet long, and the two pointers combined weigh the same as the bell. A master clock of the astronomical type operates the mechanism which moves the "big hands." The point of the minute hand moves five feet a minute. Also a globe, thirty inches in diameter will revolve every 24 hours. The band showing the equator is divided into hours, so that at a glance one may determine in what part of the earth is daylight, and time at any part of the world. The inclosures are of glass, through which the operations may be watched. The great 5000 pound bell will be the most perfect one ever produced from one so huge. The striking mechanism of the bell will also be exposed to view through plate glass windows. The machinery operating the hammer will be inside the bell. Also an immense hour-glass, one hundred times larger than any one ever used, will be reversed at the first stroke of the clock, and the sand run out the hour, completing in time to turn when the hour is next struck. This novel clock was devised by the Johnson Service Company of Milwaukee, and it will be exhibited by them.—Troy Press.

LADY GEORGIANA FULLERTON

It was on the 7th February, 1812, that Lady Georgiana Fullerton was born. Her books have given so many genuine pleasure and solid edification both in Europe and America, and her literary talent was so subordinated to religious principles, that it is well to recall her name and works to our people. She was one of the Leveson-Gower family. Her father was created a peer in 1838, and was the first Lord Grenville. He was then Ambassador to Paris. That same year she became the wife of Alexander Fullerton, whose family seats were in England and Ireland.

In 1842 her husband became a Catholic. Then began the struggle of her own soul towards the light. The following sketch tells of her career after her conversion. It is well deserving of perusal:

"In 1846—four years after the conversion of her husband—she was received into the Church. "Ellen Middleton" was written before her conversion. It is an interesting study apart from its value as a novel of the condition of a true, pure mind hovering at the gate of truth. Grantly Manor" came next, then "The Old Highlander," and thirty-three years ago the public welcomed "Lady Bird," which, with "Ellen Middleton" and "Grantly Manor," made a trio of unusually successful novels. Unchastened by the discipline of the Church, a heart like Lady Georgiana Fullerton, which never grew old and was always fervent and enthusiastic, might have run into extravagances of which we find signs in "Grantly Manor," and still fainter in "Lady Bird."

Then Lady Georgiana grew more and more devoted to the glory of God. As she grew older the dread, full weight of her vocation would have made her scrupulous, had it not been made so evident to her that one of her duties to God was to write. She trembled for the value of the little seeds she scattered abroad on their tiny wings from her full hands. She wrote for the poor. She looked on all the profits of her literary works as the right of the poor. She founded the "Poor Servants of God Incarnate." She gave all her strength to the getting of the Sisters of St. Vincent de Paul into England, and she succeeded. The list of her works, original and translated, is very long. That which will live the longest is perhaps her masterpiece, "Constance Sherwood."

She thus wrote of the Convent of Helpers at Zi-Ka-Wei, China: "It cannot be denied that the vocation of such a mission as that of China requires in those who devote themselves and apostolic fortitude. The selves to it a more than ordinary warning of St. Francis Xavier might be addressed to every nun who desires to offer herself for the Chinese mission. Continual abnegation must be the watchword, the motto and the daily practice of Christ's helpers in that heathen land. * * * The Orphanage is a most arduous, trying and at the same time interesting work of charity. It shelters hundreds of girls abandoned by their parents."

THE LATE ABBE CASGRAIN

Quebec mourns the death of one of the most gifted and highly cultivated members of the Catholic clergy of this Province, in the person of the late Abbe Henri Raymond Casgrain. Father Casgrain was born in Quebec, in 1831, and was a son of Hon. Charles Eusebe Casgrain, advocate and publicist, and his wife, Anne Elizabeth, daughter of Hon. Jacques Baby. Abbe Casgrain made his classical course at the College of Ste. Anne de la Pocatiere, and then went through his theology in the Seminary of Quebec. He was ordained in 1856. When death came to him he had passed by three years the allotted three score and ten. No figure was more familiar than his in the streets of the Ancient Capital. For half a century his fine, tall, elegant and stately form might be seen moving slowly at stated hours, around the Grand Battery, or up along the Terrace, and all who met him recognized in him a man beyond the ordinary. And so he was. He was a most delightful speaker, whether in public utterance or in private conversation; and as a litterateur he had few equals and no superiors. In 1882 Laval University conferred on him the degree of Doctor of Letters, and when the Royal Society was founded, under the Marquis of Lorne, he was one of the twenty charter members. In 1889 he was unanimously appointed President of that select literary association. His contributions to the literary annals of the Society have been most highly appreciated and generally praised. He was a poet of fine sentiment and exact execution, and his poems will live in Canadian literature as his imperishable monument. But better than all he was a great and humble priest of God, and his reward is to-day that of "the good and faithful servant."

A RUMOR.

It is rumored in the Eternal City that Archbishop Bourne, of Westminster, will be raised to the Sacred College of Cardinals at the next consistory.

OUR TORONTO LETTER.

From Our Own Correspondent.)

LENTEEN REGULATIONS -- The regulations to be observed during Lent were read at the Masses on Sunday last. They are much the same as those of other Lents during late years. The advice given to all to abstain from intoxicating liquors during this period of penance and mortification, in memory of the Holy Thirst of our Divine Lord, was impressed upon the different congregations. The particular devotions, beginning on Wednesday with High Mass and distribution of the ashes, morning and evening, were also announced; public recital of the Rosary and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament on Wednesday evening, and the Stations of the Cross on Friday, together with daily recitations of the beads by the family, were advised from the pulpits.

The "Forty Hours" for the different parishes of the Archdiocese, begins at St. Michael's Cathedral on Sunday next; during each week of Lent this beautiful devotion will be in progress in one of the Churches of the city.

ST. VALENTINE'S DAY -- That the primary significance of a thing is often lost sight of in the obscurity of the past is illustrated by the passing of St. Valentine's Day. Originally, and until the changes made by the Gregorian calendar, the 14th of February was kept as the feast of St. Valentine, an early Christian martyr put to death in the reign of the Emperor Claudius. His connection with the many styled creations, missives and illustrations known under the general name of "valentines," is sometimes accounted for by the legend that on one occasion three beautiful but poor maidens came under his notice and evoked his pity; those he charitably dowered and they were soon after happily married; ever since he has been called upon to see that the course of true love be made smooth. It is more probable, however, that the custom of sending valentines, like many customs preserved in Christian times, had its origin in pagan ceremonial, and that it is a survival of the practice connected with the feast of Juno which occurred on or about that day. The practice in connection with St. Valentine's Day is probably purely accidental.

REV. FATHER LABOUREAU -- The news of the sudden prostration of the Rev. Father Laboureau by paralysis will be learned with regret by a large circle of those who know Father Laboureau personally, or through the Memorial Church at Penetanguishene, on which for some years the rev. gentleman has been engaged. The stroke occurred only a few days ago, and at present it is said the condition of the patient is not hopeful. Knowing Father Laboureau and his work well, one can speak with assurance, and it can be said without exaggeration that no individual priest or layman could possibly have worked harder or done more for the accomplishment of the work he has taken upon himself—that of erecting a Memorial Church at Penetanguishene, on the site of the spot where the early Jesuits to Canada were martyred when on their missions to the Hurons. The work of Father Laboureau was spoken of before in this column, but it may not be amiss to briefly refer to it again—it may suggest to some one to endeavor in which the priest of Penetanguishene has been engaged for some years, hampered by many deprivations and discouragements. In pursuit of the accomplishment of his plan, Father Laboureau travelled through many parts of Quebec and Ontario; he also visited England and France in search of funds. Hundreds of generous spirits came to his assistance, and the autographs of each of those friends is preserved in an album, the value of which is incalculable in the eyes of Father Laboureau. I had the privilege on one occasion of looking over these autographs; amongst them were the names of many of our Canadian statesmen, Protestant and Catholic; also names of many bishops, priests and laymen, and, if I remember rightly, it was the signatures of Cardinal Manning and Cardinal Newman that were pointed out with particular pride by the owner of the album. Funds, however, are still wanting, and any coming at this juncture might cheer the priest at present suffering under the heavy affliction of paralysis.

Father Laboureau has been parish priest of Penetanguishene for over thirty years, and during part of the

time at least has led a life exactly similar to that of his Jesuit predecessors; canoeing in summer, travelling over the frozen lakes in winter; housing amidst the smoke and insects of the Indian villages were part of his daily life; at home in the ever growing Penetanguishene he has been and is, the friend of all, irrespective of nationality or creed; for several years too of this time he has performed the duties of chaplain to the boys at the Government Reformatory. The hope for the speedy recovery of Father Laboureau is heartfelt and general.

REV. JAS. MINNEHAN -- It was with much reluctance that the people of St. Peter's parish found themselves obliged to part with Rev. Father James Minnehan. For some months he had been with them as assistant to his brother, Rev. L. Minnehan, and they had learned to love him for his disposition and to value him for the work he was doing among them. His sermons, too, were much admired, they were spoken of lately by one of the parishioners as "polished essays"; those too will be missed. Father Minnehan has gone to Penetanguishene to take charge during the illness of the pastor, Rev. Father Laboureau.

A CARNIVAL OF MUSIC -- Lovers of music in Toronto have been fairly revelling in a carnival of music. Beginning on Wednesday and ending on Saturday, the Mendelssohn choir under Mr. Vogt and the Pittsburg Orchestra directed by Mr. Victor Herbert, gave a series of concerts which demonstrated from beginning to end a proficiency seldom attained by a large body of singers or players. The numbers presented made up a varied programme, and while the masters were well to the fore, yet many works of modern British composers were given place. The local papers have devoted columns to the details; here one may only add a word of praise; praise for the beauty of the ensemble which at one moment sank to the very breadth of a sound and again rose into a glorious symphony carrying with it the very soul of the listener and leaving one thrilled and satiated; praise too for the conductor Mr. Herbert, whose directing evinces the true artistic temperament. At one time light and dainty in its strokes, then mighty and virile in its wieldings, the baton of Mr. Herbert led a body of musicians sympathetic in every movement. The chorus too—our own Toronto chorus—was excellent, and left nothing in the way of execution to be desired; Mr. Vogt may with justice be highly proud of his musical children. The result all round, added fresh laurels to those already won by conductors, chorus and orchestra.

ST. JOSEPH'S COMMUNITY -- Death has been busy amongst the members of St. Joseph's Community in this city. Last week two Sisters received their last earthly call. Sister Mary Agnes, who had been ill for four months with cancer of the lungs died on Monday morning and was buried on the following Wednesday. The deceased Sister was one of the well known Mulcahy family, and was born in Orillia about sixty years ago; she had been in the community for thirty-seven years and was one of the best known linguists and teachers of the French language. Sister Mary Praxedes was engaged at the House of Providence, and had been suffering about two months when the summons came. Nearly twenty-seven years out of the forty-four of her life had been spent in the work of the community; the father and mother of Sister Praxedes are now living in Scaforth and the death of this daughter is the first that has occurred in the family. May they rest in peace.

DEATH OF MR. JOHN QUIRK -- Of more than ordinary sadness was the death which occurred on Tuesday last, of Mr. John Quirk, conductor on the G.T.R. The deceased, who was only twenty-seven years of age, had been ill for about two months, when by accident his night-clothes caught fire from a gas-jet, and he was so severely burned that death resulted. Mr. Quirk had been on the road from a boy, and by the many who knew him personally, his sad end is much regretted. The funeral took place from St. Basil's Church to St. Michael's Cemetery. May he rest in peace.

DOMESTIC INSTRUCTION

One of the leaders, Mrs. Honan, of London, Eng., in a movement in that city for Domestic Instruction, recently visited Montreal. She explained the methods adopted in London as follows:

The department of domestic instruction consists of three branches, cookery, laundry work and housewifery. Each is taught in a separate centre by specially qualified teachers trained in schools established for the purpose and recognized by the Board of Education. The syllabus is so arranged that two courses can be given during the educational year, while the complete course as outlined in the syllabus covers a period of three years.

All girls over 11 years of age who are attending the ordinary elementary schools are required to attend one of these domestic centres one-half day each week. Exceptions are made in cases of girls training for special examinations. The instruction is supervised by a superintendent and girl assistant superintendents. The instruction is free, but a grant is payable to the board for special subjects. Thus for cookery, four shillings for each girl over 11 years of age for not less than 40 hours of instruction during a school year, of which not less than twenty hours must have been spent in cooking with the pupil's own hand; for laundry work two shillings for 20 hours during a school year, of which not less than 10 hours must have been spent in practical work; household management, seven shillings for every 100 hours of instruction.

In some instances parents who are respectable artisans have asked the board of education to allow their children to attend the classes for a longer period than the ordinary course. To meet such cases the board has organized half-time classes that is to say, the children have been allowed to attend half their time in the elementary schools and half in the domestic centres for periods of one or two years.

The cookery and laundry centres are built on land adjoining ordinary schools, and a few of the housewifery centres are built in the same way, but as a rule they are ordinary dwelling houses adapted for the purpose. The housewifery centres are arranged on the plan of the ordinary artisan's house with the addition of

This has come about through the strong feeling of the wiser mothers who have seen the extravagance and