As has ever been our inclination t and practice we-rejoice and seak to make others feel a pride when any one of our race has done something to merit reward or praise. Often enough have we pointed out the obstacles with which the young Irish Catholic has to contend and when one of them overcomes, by energy and talent, every difficulty, we feel as if his success reflected upon all of us. It was, therefore, with no small - degree of pleasure that we read, in a recent number of the "Weekly Bouquet" the following tribute to one of our many struggling

fellow-countrymen: "Born in the Golden Vale of Tipperary, so-called because of the beauty of its scenery, and the fortility of its soil. Denis A. McCarthy uttended the Christian Brothers' school in his native town, and subsequently for a short time, went to a private school kept by Mr. O'Shea, a noted

"He was still a mere boy when he came to Boston, in 1886, where he encountered the peculiar difficulties and discouragements which ever beset the young stranger in a large city—particularly emigrant boys of

shy, poetic natures,
"The young Irishman remained in Boston till 1890, suffering much, but learning many a bitter lesson. All the shadows, outer and inner, however. did not prevent him from keeping his mind and heart open to impressions and influences. He haunted the Publie Library, turning his eager mind to the books stored in this treasure house of literature.

. 'A direction was no doubt given to his thoughts at this time by the influence of those hours of study when tastes were formed, ambitions fostered and associations with books established, which left an indelible impression on the boy's mind and heart.

"The privations of this time was the discipline necessary for his training as a journalist in later years. The streets, the parks, the historical by-ways, and the library of Boss ton, were all familiar to him. No phase of the many-colored life of the city escaped his ken. What he did not learn of the city at this period was scarcely worth the knowing, unless, indeed, we except the sweet and gracious sanctity of a home. It is to his credit that he came out from such an ordeal comparatively unscathed, where so many are shipwreaked.

"Some men rail at Fate, and declare that they have gifts and tai' ents which have been crushed and smothered by the force of adverse circumstances. They claim that they have never had a chance or an opportunity to prove themselves at their best.

"But life is full of examples of successful men who have triumphed over all obstacles, and who were strong and brave enough to master Fate. If there is any push at all in a man. he will understand that difficulties and struggles only serve to test his strength, and energy, and when success comes, as come it surely will it he perseveres, he will be a shaing example to other strugglers of "the survival of the fittest."

WOMEN AND THEIR MONEY.

mit to probate curbon copies of what was represented to be the last will of Mis. Rachel Lenox, the original of which was lost or destroyed, charitable institutions and churches of New York and vicinity were cut out of legacies amounting to \$250,000. The entire fortune of Miss Lenox amounting to almost \$1,000,000 will go to her sister, Mary Lenox and her nephew, H. Van Rensselaer.

The bequests to charity and churches knocked out by Surrogate Varnum's decision were: The Presbyterian Rest for Conval-

escents at White Plains, N. Y., \$40,-

The Presbyterian Home for Aged Women, \$20,000. The New York House and School

of industry, \$15,000. The Presbyterian Hospital, this city, 110,000.

The New York Female Auxiliary Rible Society, \$10,000.

The First Presbyterian Church, this city, \$80,000 (trust fund.) Boquests of \$10,000 each to the

Rev. Howard Duffield and the Rev. rrancis L. Patton, of Princeton Uni-\$20,000 to Miss Platt, a friend and companion, share the same fate.

A notable legal fight was made to establish the will by the beneficiary institutions, a strong intimation that a nephew or his secretary had destroyed the original will was a sensational feature of the suit. Elihu Root, Secretary of War, represented the legal heirs of Miss Lenox, and he came here to argue the case be-

fore Surrogato Varnum in November, Mystery still surrounds the disappearance of the will. Miss Lenox who lived at No. 41 Fifth avenue, died at York Cliffs, Me., on July 1, 1898. She was seventy-two years old and her natural heirs were her sister, Mary Lenox, with whom it is said she had not been on the best of terms, and her nophew, H. Van Rensselaer. After her death the will, which it was known that she had executed, could not be found. institutions favored sought to have it admitted to probate, offering carbon copies. The last will, it was claimed, bore the dates March 19th, 1895, and November 7th, 1897.

In refusing to admit the will priobate Surrogato Varnum, in his decision, takes the view that in her last hours Miss Lenox's heart turned toward her family instead of the in-

AGAINST SECOND MARRIAGE. -Yellott Dashiell Dechert, to whom dition that he did not marry again, community.

NOT A LEGAL WILL .- By a de- and who was conspicuous in Conneccision hunded down last night by thout politics, died in the Pre-byter-Surrogate Varnum, refusing to ad- ian hospital on Thursday, He died exactly one year after his vife's death.

> The wife bequeathed to him and their young son, James Flanagan Dechert, property valued at \$3,000,-000, which was to be held by the husband as sole executor and trustee so long as he remained unmarried. In the event of his second marriage the United States Trust Company, of this city, was named as co-executor. The property was to have been equally divided between husband and son when the boy reached the age of twenty-five years. Mr. Dechert married Miss Lillian

Flanagan, daughter of James Flanagan, of the brewing firm of Flanagan and Wallace, eleven years ago. He bought a summer home m Middlebury, near Waterbury, Conn... obtained a legal residence in that State and took a prominent part in politics.

A year ago his name was thrust into the contest for the nomination for Congressman at the Democratic convention. Not a delegate in the hall know Mr. Dechert, but he beas the "man with the versity, as well as a bequest of bar'l and almost captured the convention. He came within a few votes of being nominated.

> FAMILY TREE FAD. - From Norwalk, Conn., comes the intelligenco that after a hard and bitter fight in court, the two brothers of Miss Sarah F. Adams, succeeded in placing her fortune where she can no longer squander it in hunting up family trees, her hobby. Judge William Seymour granted the application liam Seymour granted the applicaof John and Francis Adams that a conservator be appointed to take charge of Miss Adam's estate to prevent it being spent on geneologies. Frank H. Merrill, a rich young bachelor, will probably be appointed.
>
> The trial lasted five weeks. Miss

Adams, who is fifty-eight, was the foremost member of the local daughters of the American Revolution. She herself came of one of the most famous families of New England. So great was her interest that she frequently travelled over country investigating family trees. In her searches she wrote to nearly every country in the world and spent half her fortune it is said.

Her brothers, who were more matter of fact, finally decided to make an effort to stop her squandering stitutions to which she had been so money in this way. After vainly appealing to her they applied to the courts. They testified at the trial that they feared if Miss Adams were allowed to go on spending her money his wife left a large fortune on con- she would become a charge on the

CHRISTMAS AT ST. MARY'S BOYS' SCHOOL.

}

The Xmas exercises in connection | that brought out the beautiful and exercises partook of a double event. which the bountiful hand of Santa Claus was shown, and the second of a presentation and an address to the beloved pastor Rev. P. F. O'Donnell. The class-rooms were tastefully decorated with flags, lanterns, overgreens, flowers, mottoes, and speci-mens of the pupils' work in the different branches taught. The decorations were a credit to the papils who showed wonderful ability and neatness in such work. The programme was a long and varied one. It commisted of choruses, solos, recitations, readings and an examination of monthl arithmetic, pennaliship and reading. It would be usoless to particularize as one and all acquitted themselves in a manner worthy of the highest praise, but in justice to those concerned wo think that the chorus singing deserves more than

with the above named school were rich voices of the choristers. The of unusual interest this year. The principal event consisted of a wellworded address, and a presentation of a beautiful gold-headed umbrella, The first consosts of an Xmas treent to the worthy paster of St. Mary's The address was read by Master Percy Reynolds, and the presentation made by Master A. Lauzon. The address was an follows:--

To Rev. P. F. O'Donnell, P.P., St. Mary's Church,

Rev. and Dear Father,-The second thousand years, the end of the nine-teenth century, and the anniversary of Our Blessed Saviour's birth are near at hand, a few hourst hence and they are here, yet while the hours are passing, how momentous are the events taking place throughout the world. At this time two thousand years ago, when all the world was at peace, the Saviour of the world was born. We are assembled here to-day to commemorate the memory of that glorious birth not by anger, hatred, or ill-will, but rather by Christian brotherhood which is the a passing word. The hymns and Christian brotherhood which is the inns consider his condition critical, songs were well selected and were common platform of Our Holy Cath ospecially since he shows the greatest given with a vim and enthusiasm olic Faith. We the teachers and put obstinacy in still refusing meat.

pils of St. Mary's Boys' School, celebrate the joyous festival of the Redeemer of mankind, by testifying our respect, love and worship of Ilim through His priest and heloved friend and pastor.

We wish to testify by the humble means in our power that loyalty and respect which we owe to Holy Mother Church in the person of Christ's representative, our spiritual ruler, our friend and our priest the Rev. Father O'Donnell.

In our humble display of the sincerest love and duty which it is in our power to offer you on this eventful occasion, we refer with pride to the long and happy years wnich you have labored in this parish. Yes, reverend Sin, before many of us were born, you were His faithful servant and colebrated the Divine Mysteries at the Altar of Our Lady of Good Counsel. From most of us you have lifted the curse of Adam in the holy Sacrament of Baptism, and how many poor souls have been ushered into the presence of God in the holiest manner by your priestly hands during your long and faithful service. The teachers and these dear boys-dear to you and they know it, gather around you to-day with glad and happy faces, thanking God in their hearts that you are preserved to them. The arduous duties of your ministry, the many cares which strew the pathway, even of the saints here below have not entirely left your path. But thanks to Rim your efforts have prospered. Your firm will has its reward. The night was dark and dreary, but the dawn is glorious. God bless dear Father Shea, who aided you so well, and Heaven bless the efforts of Father McDermott.

Our hearts are too full to express all we should wish to say, and this crude attempt at an address can hardly give a fair idea of the devotion of your boys and their teachers to one who has been always the true friend of all. We offer you this slight token of friendship, happy in being thought foul-weather friends. In conclusion reverend Father, we extend to your reverend assistants, the heartiest of greetings. Long may you be spared to St. Mary's, and may you have many merry Christmases and Happy New Years.

Rev. Father O'Donnell on rising to reply was greeted with loud applause. He thanked the boys for their beautiful address and presentation. He said that as long as the boys were carefully looked after in school there was no fear for the future, for the young man who was to be the hope of the parish was trained in all the essentials necessary to make him a joy and a consolation to his paster. He reviewed the work of his labors in St. Mary's during his long career, and then gave some necessary advice to the pupils on how to spend the holidays in a worthy manner. The Rev. Father Me-Garry, C.S.C., Superior of St. Laurent College, also gave a brief address, as well as the Rev. Father McDermott. It was to be regretted very much that the able, energetic and devoted principal of the school Mr. W. J. Brennan was unavoidably absent, owing to a severe attack of aca swax alder fill. ed by his assistant, Mr. J. J. Fahey seconded by Mr. F. D. Daly, and upder whose able guidance the affair was such a great success.

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STE, ANNE DE VARENNES,

A difficulty recently arose in the parish of Varennes, concerning a picture of Sainte Anne. This picture, which has received special blessmas from the Holy Father, was placed in small chapel purposely bunit, in 1862, for its reception. Some of the parishioners desirous of payinggreater and more public homage to the good Saint, wished to have the picture placed in the Church; others contended that its proper place was its own chapel. Not being able to come to any agreement, the care was submitted to His Grace the Archbishop. After due consideration, M.r. Bruchesi decided letter sent to in par-

the ish of Varennes, that the chapel having been erected for that special purpose-was the proper place to keep the picture. But, in view of the legitimate desire, to cultivate more generally the holy devotion to Ste. Anne, His Grace has ordanied that towards the end of June, each year, the picture shall be carried in solemn procession from the chapel to the church, where it will remain, publicly exposed, during the entire month of July—the month specially dedicated to Ste. Anne. Then, after the month of July, it will he carried back, again in solemn procession to the chapel. It may be remarked that this wise decision has perfectly satisfied all parties, and its execution is calculated to add greatly to the devotions paid in that parish to the Mother of Our Blessed Lady.

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ABOUT CENTENARIANS,

More people over 100 years old are found in mild climates than in the higher latitudes, says the Indian Medical Record. According to the last census of the German empire, of a population of 55,000,000 only 78 have passed the 100th year. France with a population of 40,000,000 has 213 centenarians. In England there are 146, in Ireland 578, and in Scotland 46. Sweden has 10, and Norway 23; Belgium 5, Denmark 2, Switzerland none. Spain with a population of 18,000,000 has 401 persons over 100 years of age. Of the 2,250,000 inhabitants of Servin, 573 have passed the century mark. It is said that the oldest person living is Bruno Cotrim, born in Africa, and now living in Rio Janeiro. He is 150 years old. A coachman in Moscow has lived for 140 years.

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