(By Our Own Correspondent.)

THE SESSION .- As your correspondent writes, the debate on the Grand Trunk Pacific Bill goes on, or "drags its lengthening chain" It is now fallen into trough of monotony and the members the public have already menced to grow weary of it. However, a vote will likely be reached before these lines are read in print, and then there will not be much left, apart from the budget, to dispose of. The private legislation is rushing through. The Senate met on Wednesday and found a dozen bills ready for the consideration of that House Of the 105 Bills of which notice has been given, the 35 most important are now introduced. All the others are not of a character to cause any Hence we may fairly con clude that the 24th May or June at latest will see prorogation For lack of political news we will turn to some other topics of interest at the Capital.

IN THE CHURCHES -On Sun day last in the various Catholic Churches of the city it was announced, at each Mass, that the quarterly general meeting of the St. Vincent de Paul Society will be held in St. Patrick's Church basement next Sunday aftermoon. The different confer ences will receive Holy Communion in their respective Churches in the mor It is a very pleasing fact to that the St. Vincent de Paul It would be astonishing to cess. It would be astonishing to learn all the good that is done by its members, and the vast amount suffering that is forestalled and prevented.

On last. Sunday seventy-five mem bers of Division No. 2, A.O.H., at eight o'clock Mass at St. Joseph's Church and received Holy Communion—this was the Easter duty performed in a body. It might be pointed out that while each individual had, on Easter Sunday, some day previous, performed Easter duty, this general communion was a kind of performance of the Easter duty as a body.

On Thursday, at eight o'clock, solemn requiem Mass was sung Joseph's Church for the of the soul of the late Mrs. Michael Harrington, one of Ottawa's known ladies of charity and of religi ous fervor. The Mass was requeste by the archconfraternity of the Living Rosary, of which she was member of very long standing.

His Excellency Monsignor Sparretti said the seven o'clock Mass on Sunday at the Water Street Convent. He was accompanied by Rev. Dr. Sinnott the secretary to the Apostolic Dele the afternoon, at four o'clock, His Excellency visited convent of the Sisters of Notre Dame on Gloucester street. Addresses were presented in English and French, both of which he replied. In the the English language he addressed pupils at considerable length on the

'New Woman." He pointed out to them how they should meet he quirements, and he held out to then the example of the "strong woman of the Scripture-Judith-and also the Blessed Virgin; and in conclusion he bestowed on all the pupils Beautiful bou Apostolic blessing. quets were presented to him, and t ore leaving the hall he spoke to and blessed each of the little tots, who dressed in white, forned a circle in front of the dais on , which he had been seated. Proceeding to the Chapel, His Excellency assumed the vestments and gave the Benedic tion of the Blessed Sacrament, tended by deacon and sub-dea The "Tantum Ergo" and the other hymns were sung by the pupils of the choir to instrumental accompaniment At the conclusion of that ceremony His Excellency proceeded down main aisle bestowing blessings he passed.

> In St. Patrick's Church, at High Sunday, the pastor, Rev Mass, on Father Whelan, preached an eloquent and forcible sermon on the Resurre He said that as the Riser Christ had exactly the same as that which was crucified, having been identified by the doubting Thomas, so all men when comes the final judgment will rise with exactly the same bodies as they had in this world, and each one will be recognize ed and will recognize, even casual ac quaintances by their physical tures. The preacher pointed out that the Church does not allow the theo ry set forth by some sects, to effect that "in the next world all will be merged in the one great living Being, thus becoming part of God. This would be pantheistic and would rob the individual creature of his in dividuality. In fine, the sermon was a beautiful. logical and perfectly plain statement of the Church's teaching regarding the future life, both as to our bodies and souls

> > . . .

On Tuesday last the Capital put on again the full robes of winter. No less than two and a half inches snow fell, and the transformation was magical but not of that kind of ma-gic that delights. It certainly gave the Parliament Hill a more see like appearance. It is wonderful how hard this winter dies; it was a stur dy, robust, powerful old winter, and it seems to have conserved its great vigor right to the end. One thing owever, has been noticed lacking these weeks, and that is the socia functions at Rideau Hallf The accident to Lady Minto, who some two weeks ago fractured her leg in two places while skating, and the that played havoc at Rideau Hall last week, contributed to put a check on the usual festivities at this On the other hand, consider able activity is going on in French Canadian circles, since it has beer decided to erect here a "Monument National." It is expected that the edifice will cost \$30,000. On th 1st May His Grace Archbishop Du hamel will lay the corner stone the new Ottawa University. The oc casion will be one of great rejoicing and celebration.

From a multitude of standpoints has this important question of an Irish University been treated, and it would almost seem as if it had been exhausted, but still another strong argument has been set forth by the Bishop of Limerick. The Free man's Jaurnal had quoted a pasto-ral letter of His Lordship as being in apport of the Dunraven scheme, and the Bishop recalls that the Pastoral of 1891 called for a college conducted on purely Catholic principles and then he proceeds to point out the objections to Lord Dunraven's scheme The first part of his letter contains ng points, especially on the equality and fairness, and it shows that he would not do to Protestants what they propose to do arding Catholics.

We quote that part of the letter tex

"In the first place, I do not think that this scheme of Lord Dunraven's would ever give the people of Ireland the kind of institution which we want. If you take the list of the

THE IRISH UNIVERSITY Catholic gentlemen who met in the Shelbourne hotel a couple of years mark against those who were ever identified with any Catholic or national movement, I think you will find very few of the kind. They were, for the most part, that class which hang around the Castle. Their yiews are not our views: their ideals are not our ideals. They went behind back of their Bishops to set this movement afoot. They are, many of them, the type of Catholic of who Irish Times wrote lately that very little provocation would them renouce the Catholic faith. I suspected, and do suspect these men They are anti-Irish and anti-clerical, if not anti-Catholic. They want a Catholic edition of Trinity College respectable socially, Unionist in poli tics, liberal in religion. I want and you, sir, want something different -a broad, national Catholic, Irish in stitution, which will be living with the life of Ireland, and throbbing with the same pulse. Then the constitution of the proposed university looked suspicious. I could never see any sufficient academic reason for the but coupling it with the rigid exclusion of episcopal representation

this college for Catholics, I think I can guess its significance. It reads guess its significant.

feetly fair to give a College to Protestants and a college to Presby-terians. Perfect equality, you may think. But when you constitute, a Senate academically of these three you have the Catholics in a perman ent and hopeless minority of one two. Perhaps that view may throw some light on the exclusion of Cork

With regard to the exclusively aca demic government of the university and college, I would ask what is the necessity of it? In Wales they es tablished very recently a national university, and have given representation on the governing body to Urban and County Councils, and headmas ters of schools, and other such local authorities. Why is it deemed necessary rigidly to exclude all such in fluences from an Irish National University? I can see none except that these influences would be predominen ly Irish and Catholic, and whatever else the gentlemen who are behind the scheme desire, it is not to foster sen timents of that kind. Trinity Col lege, Dublin, has no connection with such outside bodies. It never had. It has been an alien institution with no roots in the country. But we want an institution that will strike its roots deep into the soil of Ire-

As an educationalist, too, I do not think it well to condemn Ireland to one university, and that of the fede-There is no precedent as far as I know for a successful institution of the kind. It was proposed to the Scotch universities some years ago to join in "a federation," would not listen to the idea. The plan has broken down in Victoria University, and I really do not see the wisdom of making an exp ment of the kind on this poor coun-Then I think it most unfair to Trinity College. They have a university of the very highest type. If it were a Catholic university, £10,000 a year, nor all the money in the Treasury, would induce me t surrender my charter, and break with my history, give up my status and go into a federation with two colleges one of them a Queen's College and another in nubibus. Well, what I would not accept as a Catholic, am not going to force on my Protestant fellow countrymen. I shall do my best for ourselves, but I shall try to do so, as long as I can, without hurting the interests or wounding the feelings of any section of my fellow countrymen. But if Trinity College or its friends takes up the position that they will not admit a Catholic College into Dublin University, and will equally oppose a university ior a college in another university for Catholics, they must only blame themselves if trouble somes upon

(By a Regular Contributor.)

We have long contended that, a the fundamental principle of Protestantism, which is individual interpretation, is of itself false and illogical it would eventually end in having the Scriptures ignored, discarded and ridiculed. It is even now evident that this is becoming the result of such emancipation from all authority matters of faith and revelation. Canon Henson, one of the chief dignitaries of Westminster Abbey, and a se lect preacher both at Oxford and Cambridge Universities, has raised a fearful storm of criticism by an arti cle in the Contemporary Review, in which he has predicted a very quesinterviews and resolutions by Church and lay bodies denouncing Canon Henson have poured in from all sides. In addition to this, we have Sir Oliver Ledge, a great scientist, who comes out with an article entitled "Sugge tions towards the re-interpretation of the Christian doctrine." Between all these it would seem that eventually the Catholic Church, which has so long been accused of being the enamy she did in the Middle Ages, and once more save the Holy Scriptures from being entirely wiped out by those who have claimed so long to depend entirely upon them for otheir salva-

Canon Henson finds little in New Testament to offend reason conscience, "but," he says, "whether much or little it will have to go th way of the Old Testament prodigies." He commends supplementing the reading of the Bible in Church with ristian compositions which have secured the approval of general acceptance," declaring that "indiscriminate reading of the Bible in public is an extremely perflous proceed And he adds that "the rigidity

to canonical Scriptures is as intrinsically indefensible as it is practical if the Infallible Head of the Catho any more either from Canon H or from Sir Oliver Lodge, both whom advance theories, though not agreeing with each other, that are severe blows at the public use of the Scriptures. These outspoken utterances have

caused public and private appe be made to the Archbishops of Canterbury, but so far no action Henson's bold declaration that "cur rent and generally accepted version of Christian truth are becoming adequate and unsatisfactory awaited with keen interest, says large London publication; and do not doubt it. We would be surprised if it were otherwise. what is the strangest part of all, is the uncertainty, the goubt, the wa vering. Even though the Archbish of Canterbury were to say that Canon Henson is wrong, what author has he for so saying, or can he oblige others to accept opinion as being of superior worth to that of Canon Henson? Has not Canon Henson just as good a right as the Archbishop of Canterbury to interpret the Bible after his fashion and according to his own lights? It is merely a question ndividual interpretation, and that is the basis of their common Protest antism. There is where the whole system comes to a crash, and in that does it stand out in contradis tinction to the unity and authority of Catholicity. There would be no incertain sound on any such subject if the Infallible Head of the Cathe lic Church were appealed to. In fact there would be no anxiety as to what his decision would be, for, knowing the tenets and principles of our faith, we are very certain the nature of his judgment. Thus it is that in every case, union and cer tainty abide with the Church, while confusion and doubt reign outside

## THE RUSSIAN ARMY.

All that is as the coming months will show. Russians who never exected great things from their fleet will not have it that their army can fail. To questions as to its ability to cope with the most modern fire the great length of range, flat trajectory of the bullet and the smokeless powder-they answer ways that numbers, bravery and endurance are bound to prevail.

Beyond this general assertion they have little material to go upon. Th high average of physique is tioned. None of the European con scripts armies shows such chest velopment and such serviceable feet for marching. It is not contended that this is a national superiority, but the enormous population enable for mere family reasons to more than half the young men each year as they are due for conscription.

An official handbook, which is now

out of print although it is only eight years old, gives the most reliable in ormation on Russian army organiza The Czar had it edited English by the "Chancery of the Committee of Ministers" for his newly married Empress, who cannot read Russian. It deals with all the institutions of the country. Under the head "Military Service," which be-

came compulsory in 1874, it states: "All the male population capable of service, from the ages of 21 43, enter into the composition of the of the State. Some. armed forces however, belong to the regular permanent troops, while others are councalled out only in time of war, and the then principally for service in rear of the regular army. The gene ral term of service in the regular army is eighteen years, four of are passed with the colors, and fourteen in the reserves.

"The term of active service is diminished in proportion to education, the shortest term being one year There are in Russia a great many ex vice as the full number of conscripts not necessary to complete the cadres in time of peace. For instance, the cadres of the Russian army on peace footing represents about 900, 000 men, called out for four years consequently 226,000 conscripts are required annually, but in view of required annually, but in view of completely filling up the ranks of the army in case of war, the yearly contingent is fixed at 265,000 men. The population furnishes yearly 880,000 men of 21 years of age, which is three times the required number. The remaining two-thirds, therefore, have to be relieved in some way or other from the duties of active service.

"The principal ground for exemption is physical incapacity and for

## NOTES FROM QUEBEC.

(By our Own Correspondent.)

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term of the Criminal Court op on Monday, the CRIMINAL COURT .- The spring Judge Bosse presiding. The docker is a very light one, there being but six cases to be tried, the most seri ous of which is that of Richard Mur ray, for manslaughter. This case was transferred from Bonaventure to ebec. As there has been 'no term of the Court since last April. small number of cases speaks well for the morality of the city. The Crown prosecutors are Hessrs. A. Malouin, K.C., M.P., and J. Dunbar, K.C.

SALE OF LIQUOR. -The Municipal Council of Limoilou, which embraces quite a large territory, at its last meeting decided to abolish all tavern licenses in that municipality. The members of the Council have be led to take this action from the fact that much disorder has occurred from the abuse of intoxicating liquor. Two licenses have been granted to grocers which the Council deemed sufficient.

STILL OUT. - The painters still on strike and no advances ward a settlement have been made by either side. It looks as if the em ployers could not hold out much longer, as many of the men have found employment doing jobbing on their own account.

PRIZE FIGHTING. - Notwith standing the fact that prize fighting is strictly prohibited by law, it has been tolerated in this city for som time past under the guise of boxing On Wednesday evening, the 6th instant, another of these fights occurred between Geo. Wagner Louis Drolet, which had a fatal termination. In the sixteenth your Drolet received a knock-out blow, and despite the efforts of physicians revive him, he never regained cons ciousness and expired early next mor ning. He leaves a widow and two small children in poor circumstances These fights were attended by num bers of young man, many of then still in their teens, upon whom must have a decidedly evil influence. How they were allowed to place under the very eyes of the authorities many are at a loss to know. It is earnestly to be hoped that the regretable termination Wednesday night's fight will put a end to the so-called sport, and that Quebecers have seen the last of practice which it is difficult to cha racterize as it deserves.

DRAMATIC ENTERTAINMENT. St. Patrick's Amateru Dramatic Club will repeat "Fag a Bealac" on the 15th inst. This beautiful drama was last presented on St. Patrick's night to a crowded house, and the proceed of the present entertainment are be devoted to a charitable purpose and it is expected the hall will again be packed.

this reason about 290,000 conscript are made free of military service every year. In the next place, privilege is granted for domestic rea ons; as, for instance, in the case of an only son of a family, or an eldest son assisting his father when his brothers are not ready for work chemists, teachers, etc., are at once included in the reserves for eighteen years. The remainder of the super fluous conscripts are exempted by drawing lots. Out of the yearly con tingent of 265,000 men, about 6000 are placed in the navy.

As transportation is Russia's hardest problem in this war, she will have to make the fullest use of the whose permanent homes are on eastern frontiers. This means the Cossacks will be put to the first test. The word "Cossock" is Turkdefinitely, a free lance. The funds mental idea of their military service is that the entire population must undergo it. In return they are given considerable allotments of land and various privileges which the peasantry have never enjoyed. In several respects the mingling of civil and military in their rural commune governments resembles the Boer political system.

ratem.

Each separate Cossack body is uner the immediate command of a
cputy Ataman—the title of Ataman
Commander-in-Chief, and is at pre-

UNITED IRISH LEAGUE. eting of the Quebec branch of the United Irish League was held in Wallace College on Sunday afternoon for the election of officers and the transaction of other important busine The newly-elected officers are as fol-

President-M. J. Ahern. 1st Vice-President-J. J. O'Flaher-

2nd Vice-President-M. Monaghan. Treasurer-J. M. Collier.

Secretary-J. W. M. Wallace. Committee-F. Carbray, W. J. Breen, J. Gallagher, J. W. McDermott, P. Evoy, D. Coveney, P. Ho-

gan, J. A. Collier, P. W. Brown,

Several stirring addresses were delivered, and much enthusiasm manifested. It is the intention of League to invite Mr. Connor O'Kelly M.P. for North Mayo, to visit the Ancient Capital while on his tour of Canada. Strenuous efforts he made to boom the League in this city, and to this the newly elected officers are pledged.

CLERICAL RETREATS. -The retreats for the clergy of the Diocese of Quebec will be preached by the Very Rev. Father Le Dore, Superior of the Order of Eudistes. The first of these retreats will take place from the 31st July to the 6th August, and the second from the 15th to the 20th August.

FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY -The eremonies attending the fiftieth an niversary of the arrival of the Oblat will commence on the evening of the 20th inst. There will be devotions in the Church for young ladies, when sermon will be preached by Rev. Abbe Faucher, of the Basilica. 7.15 p.m. on the 21st there will religious exercises for men and sermon by Rev. Abbe Morrissette of St. Jean Baptiste Church. Friday evening at the same hour there will be devotions for married ladies and sermon by Rev. Abbe Roy, Cure of Notre Dame de Jacques Cartier. Mgr. Marois, V.G., will be the celebrant of the solemn Grand mass on Sunday, 24th, and Rev. A. Gauvreau, of St. Roch, will be the preacher. After Mass there will be a banquet at the presbytery, and in the evening Solemn Benediction and presentation of ses. On the 25th there will be Grand Mass at 9 o'clock for the children and sermon by Rev. Abbe Bouffard, Cure of St. Malo, after which there will be a banquet at the presbytery. A Requiem Mass will be celebrated on the 26th for all benefactors of the Church for the past fifty years, and a sermon preache P. J. Lefebvre, Provincial of the Oblat Order in the United States. In the afternoon the pupils of the convent will hold a reception, which will bring the ceremonies to a close.

also governs the local civil adminsitration. It is akin to the Transvaal field cornet, who was county coroner and Magistrate in peace time, and local enlisting officer and Colone w there was war.

In time of war the various Cossack populations furnish 146 cavalry rents, 39 separate squadrons, 201 infantry battalions, 38 horse artillery batteries representing a regula-tion total of 176,000 rank and file. In peace only one-third of these are in service, the rest are exempted.

Kouropatkin, though actually comanding in the field, remains Minis of War. His office here is filled by a locum tenens. This gives him an olutely free hand, but it does not follow that it will improve the working of the military bureaucratic de-partments. The Czar's handbook admits that after the Turkish war of 1878 "all the materials and armaents of the troops were found to be or very imperfect. Kouropathin did all he could to im-

DO NOT BUY THRASHY GOODS AT ANY PRICE. . . .

Cowan's Cocoa ... Chocolate Are the Best, Notice the Name on them

Asked what things he wou see done to advance the in the Church, Rev. J. Phelan

SATURDAY, APRIL

Ia., writes to the Mor 1. I would like at least of tic paper in every Catholic A Catholic paper is to the h

window is to a room.

2. A united, earnest, inte fort on the part of the lai nce the interests of the ( eking the conversion of n cs. The clergy are regar rejudice by outsiders, while can favorably dispose t wards our religion. A mi arnest workers could be and a million of earnest, orkers would do a world The press should work up, Apostolate of the laity.

3. As the Church has I ear from whisky than here tholic ought to be opposed ssive drink, for drunkenn posed to the law of God, t nan, the law of one's own the welfare of one's home, nal interests and the intere Church.

4. I would like to see a iety, a Catholic Truth Se tablished in every Cathol big and little, throughout. try. The duty of the mem light and easy, such as each plying a non-Catholic with chism, or other Catholic b as "What the Church Teach tholic Belief," or the Rox." occasionally lending Catholic paper, and praying version or edifying him

5. I would like to see th Central Verein establish a watch over German non-Cat ications poisoning their res untruths about the Church rocure authorized translat Reformation literature. Th seen how the world w over Luther, a man who, living in our day, would pr an inmate of a lunatic asyl cording to the opinion of non-Catholic writer. that the Verein would have missions to non-Catholic

6. Each Catholic to she non-Catholic the injustice taxation in order to get a education for their children an effective way to educate ses, and in a couple of yes our claims. Catholic schoo ood work for the State ou recompensed by the State. volunteer regiment is as to fight for the nation as vied by the State, and is much entitled to regular wa me principle holds good battle against vice and loreover, these volunteer s what the State schools car under existing circumstance schools are a help to the educating the children, and the State money. We want so rendered, and this mone

ed to be recognized. The State wishes top pay education of the child, that its secular education. The school, however, does not gi plete education to the child a secular, but not a relig cation, and this it says give. But both are necess. Catholics have to establish where both are given. Bu State pay for the secular i therein imparted and over religious training.

Let the State designate thes to be taught, determin dard to be reached, exami pupils annually, and when dard is reached, pay for it is what is called the Result It should make no difference ligion is taught there, or i Such a school should ed not by denomination bu

7. To promote the interest thurch mixed marriages n