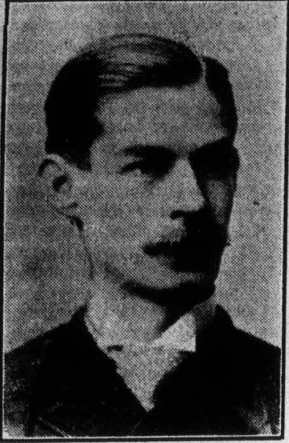


OUR TORONTO LETTER

By Our Own Correspondent.



JOHN A. AYMOT, M. D.

It would perhaps amuse and interest those readers who have been kind enough to follow your correspondent through the "Young Men" series, now and for some time being published in the Toronto letter of the "True Witness," were an account given of the various ways and means by which week after week, information has been obtained; opinion varies so as to the "fitness" of the subject of giving information regarding oneself for publication, and while all seemingly recognize the honor of being classed with the prominent Catholic young men of Toronto, and introduced as such to the people of Montreal and other readers, yet in many cases some diffidence more or less had to be overcome before the desired result was obtained; in the present instance the well known dislike to publicity of any kind outside of that which comes directly and naturally from his work, rendered a broadside attack on Dr. John A. Aymot, something not to be thought of at the same time our "series" would be in no wise complete without him so resort was had to divers side issues, relatives, friends, published reports and so on were consulted, and as a result, we are able to present your readers with the following sketch:—

John A. Aymot, M.D., is a name that should find for its holder many friends throughout Quebec and Lower Canada generally for by both father and mother Dr. Aymot is of French descent. His father, Mr. Aymot, now of St. Thomas, Ont., still lives to enjoy the respect of all who know him, while his mother was Miss Fere, of St. Eustache, aunt to Doctor Gregory Fere, who some years ago gave up his practise in Toronto for the purpose of entering the Jesuit Novitiate, where he now is in Montreal.

Doctor Aymot, of Toronto, has a brother practising medicine in Belle River, and a sister, Madame Aymot, at the Sacred Heart Convent, London, Ont.

Doctor Aymot was born in Toronto thirty-seven years ago, but as the family shortly afterwards moved to St. Thomas, he was sent to the college in charge of the Basilians at Sandwich. His medical course was taken at Toronto School of Medicine, where he took a scholarship and from which he graduated with the degree of M.D.; he also spent a year at the General Hospital, and another at Paris, France, attending lectures relating to the work of his profession. With this equipment it is not astonishing that Dr. Aymot has obtained eminence in his calling, nor that many bodies and institutions have availed themselves of his knowledge and services. He is above all things a student who loves his work for its own sake and for the good that may accrue to humanity through it; he possesses the power of so elucidating a subject as to make it all luminous and beautiful, and what in ordinary hands is merely the dry bones of science, becomes under his skilful treatment not alone science but also art; this being so it is not surprising to learn that he is one of the most admired and popular lecturers in Toronto, and that the students are always interested in his discourses; he on his part is never too busy or too tired to help any who may ask for assistance. Dr. Aymot has been regular lecturer to the veterinary students and at the different city hospitals; he is at present lecturer and professor to the

4th year students in pathology. He is also Government analyst for the Province of Ontario, and in the publication of the Provincial Board of Health for last year is found a report covering forty-seven pages, submitted by John A. Aymot, M.D. The report deals with "Sewage Disposal," and is a resume of the work done by Doctor Aymot, his chemist, and other associates at Berlin, Ontario. The examinations and experiments then conducted occupied the time from May 2nd until Oct. 4th, and the application to various manufacturing districts of the results then obtained have proved wonderfully successful and beneficial; the report was adopted in many places in the United States, even Boston and the great New York itself benefitting by the work of the provincial analyst for Ontario. Doctor Aymot is often called on to lecture across the line, and at the last annual convention of the American Public Health the name of John Aymot was included in those of the executive.

Doctor Aymot is a member of St. Basil's parish, and medical examiner to the C.M.B.A.; he has also lectured before the Canadian Catholic Union. He is married to Miss Kellar, of Uxbridge, and they with their five children, live on St. Joseph's street, near St. Michael's College, and conveniently situated for easy access to the University, Medical Building and other places to which his work calls him. It needs not to be stated that Doctor Aymot has so far done pre-eminently well in his chosen work; that the future has even brighter prospects there is no room to doubt.

THE ARCHBISHOP'S VISIT.

At the High Mass on Sunday last, at the Church of the Holy Family, His Grace the Archbishop presided; the Mass was sung by Rev. Father Coyle, and despite the exceptionally cold weather and slippery side walks, a goodly congregation assembled. At the conclusion of the Mass, His Grace addressed the people, telling them that he had not found it convenient to visit them before since the coming of their new pastor; he had promised them a good priest, and though he had not come there to praise him, he believed they would find he had kept his word. On their side it was their duty to give their priest financial and moral support, to pray for him and always to speak kindly of him—all of which he—His Grace—had no doubt but would be faithfully observed. He also wished in the name of himself and those present to thank the late pastor and his assistants—Fathers Walsh and McGrand—for the work they had done in building the church and in connection with the parish. "I must also," said His Grace, thank one member of the congregation, who is one of many who have done what they could for the interest of the parish, and it is owing to this gentleman that are able to have a resident priest here to-day. The gentleman referred to is Mr. J. J. Walsh, who has given a house for a year as a residence for a priest. His Grace then preached on the Immaculate Conception, taking for his text the definition of the dogma as defined by Pope Pius IX. The Archbishop afterwards gave his blessing to all present.

RECEPTION AT ST. HELEN'S.

At St. Helen's Church on Sunday evening last, the day was marked by the reception into the Sodality of nineteen young ladies of the parish. Rev. Father Walsh sang Vespers, and a sermon was preached by Rev. Father McGrand, who entering warmly into the spirit of the time, outlined the Immaculate Conception and the life of the Blessed Virgin, paying a loving tribute to Mary Immaculate as the highest of God's creatures, the only one worthy to become the mother of God Himself. After the sermon the aspirants for the Sodality advanced to the altar rail where the ceremony of reception was performed by Father Walsh, the hymn "On this day, O beautiful Mother," being sung by the members of the Society, who occupied the front pews in the church; a procession which gave an impressive finish to the work of the evening then took place: first came the cross-bearer and acolytes in black soutane, lace surplice and red garnishings followed by the Sodality of the Holy Angels, each veiled and wearing the scarlet insignia of the society, these were followed by the long line of sanctuary boys who immediately preceded the Sodality of the Blessed Virgin headed by its beautiful banner; on they came row after row each enveloped in spotless veil and wearing her blue ribbon badge of Mary Immaculate; lastly, came four altar boys robed in white soutane, lace surplice and blue sash, bearing on their shoulders a stand artistically adorned with natural flowers in the midst of which stood

the statue of the Blessed Virgin, the parish priest closed the procession which as it wound in and out the aisles of the church sang the Litany of Loretto each alternate verse of which was sung by the choir. Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament closed the devotions of the evening which so fittingly began the jubilee year.

CHARITY SERMONS.

At St. Mary's Church on Sunday evening, the Vicar-General, Very Rev. J. J. McCann, P.P., preached a sermon on the Blessed Trinity, ending with an appeal for the object then especially before them. This was the Ladies' Aid Society, which provides clothing and other necessities for the children and those in need during the trying months of winter. The Ladies of the Society then took up a collection for the cause they represented.

DEATH OF MR. P. J. GRIFFIN.

On Wednesday, the 9th inst., at his late residence 196 St. Helen's ave., the death occurred of Mr. Patrick J. Griffin, who was thus released from the sufferings occasioned by a long and severe illness arising from an affection of the throat. Mr. Griffin was the head of the Griffin Curled Hair Company, and had business connections with Montreal, Winnipeg and other centres throughout Canada. He was only forty-four years of age, and were it not for the untimely setting in of the painful disease, might have looked forward to a long continuance of a successful career in the business in which in connection with his brother, Peter, he had been engaged for eighteen years; it was only eight months ago that he had bought out his brother's share, and the entire business has been since, altogether in his own hands, and under his own name. The quiet and unassuming manner of the deceased brought him the respect of all with whom he came in contact. He was the son of the late Michael Griffin, and is survived by an aged mother, who together with a widow and three young children, are left to mourn his loss; he is also survived by four brothers and three sisters, to all of whom the sympathy of the community is extended.

Mr. Griffin was a member of the C.O.F. The funeral took place from St. Helen's Church, where a Mass of Requiem was sung by Rev. Father Walsh. The pall-bearers were Messrs. F. B. Morrow, Chas. McCabe, J. Glynn, J. Simpson, J. Barlow and W. Crampsey. The interment took place at Mount Hope cemetery. May he rest in peace.

RETREAT AT ST. FRANCIS.

The first retreat given to the members of the Blessed Virgin's Sodality since the organization of the parish, took place last week. It was conducted by Rev. Father Murray, of the Cathedral, assisted by the parish priest, Rev. Father McCann. The exercises began on Wednesday, and were formally concluded on Sunday. Mass at six o'clock, Benediction and instruction in the evening together with the reception of the Sacraments of Penance and Holy Communion, made up the order of the retreat. The attendant success was satisfying to all concerned.

AT ST. PATRICK'S.

The jubilee spirit has already taken possession of all our churches throughout the city. On Wednesday last when the odors of the great Feast of the Immaculate Conception were yet pervading our sanctuaries, a retreat was begun for the young women of St. Patrick's parish. Rev. Father Shule, C.S.S.R., was to have taken charge of the exercises, but a sudden indisposition prevented this, and his place during the first days was taken by Rev. Fathers Heydon and Orben. Father Shule, however, was able to appear on Sunday afternoon when the exercises were solemnly brought to a close.

CATHOLIC MISSIONS.

The society known as the Deep Sea Missions was founded in 1895 in Paris, under the auspices of the French Congregation of the Assumption. Its aim is to give material, medical, moral and religious aid to French seamen and those of other nationalities, but more especially to deep-sea fishermen. It proposes to fit out hospital ships to cruise during the season on the fishing grounds, each vessel carrying a doctor and a chaplain. These vessels will respond to the signals of fishermen, taking to them, free, the necessary aid, and devoting themselves entirely to their service. It may also found sailors' homes. It renders aid regardless of creed, and strictly respects liberty of conscience.

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OUR OTTAWA LETTER

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

In the religious world there is little of importance this week. The fact that had been made by city representatives and municipal should be done to a city in the present tion in which the faculty. It was Council would be a sum of \$50,000 to the institution. As did not seem to be by all the members was decided to take upon it. At this juncture of the University, in Faculty, wrote to declining the offer. As animously supported a great delicacy in a gift, and he naturally matter would not be the ordeal of a plebeian be regretted that in there should have been ant voice. It seems the Ontario Government something for the University in the circumstances. The precedents, and one should stand out in the "eighties" the Toronto city was burned, the Moment of Quebec, voted 000 for its reconstruction. There was a rumor as after the fire at the University. Rev. Father Fallon, J. tor, would be recalled tion in Buffalo, and ship of the University, gentleman made a clear regard to the rumor, follows:— "The rumor is absolute. There is not a word in it. If the law could such a case, and I could thor of the rumor, I would the law. The affair has many reasons, and above personal reasons."

It is exceedingly unfortunate persons who their personal predilections and prejudices into such a course have no conception of the amount of worry, annoyance and the very people admire and love. Not of dread, not one in five hundreds, of the people in world, has a practical knowledge of the inner community in a religious generally a case of "save my friends." Your correspondent had twenty-five years of intimate acquaintance with our religious communities often has he not found them begging, praying, with their eyes and trepidation hearts, to have their names of print, to be saved from to be protected against but over-zealous and worldly friendship that me real and only happiness at ment in life. It is to be the plain statement of Rev. Fallon will put an end to any such inopportune

On Saturday morning a long and painful illness, Rev. Lavan, the popular-gifted versally beloved parish priest of Packenham, Ont., died. He was born on the 2nd June, 1842, and was ordained June, 1864. For over thirty years Lavan has been parish priest of Packenham; but his name fame as a truly noble priest were not confined to his own nor yet to his own province. In his last days he had the honor of a special visit from Grace Archbishop Duhamel tawa, and Vicar-General. He was one of those great in the ranks of the Church whose deeds are not all recorded, but whose heroism is known to God who rewards it.—R.I.P.

NOTES OF NEWS.—After university the rector took quarters in the beautiful residence of Dr. Chabot, that gentleman some of his best rooms at the rector's disposal. On Saturday was rung and the brigades