

ST. MICHAEL'S SCORES SUCCESS

"Where the Shamrock Grows" Presented by Clever Amateurs of Dramatic Club Last Evening

(From Thursday's Daily) St. Patrick's Day, ever a season of heart throbs to the sons of that glorious Emerald Isle, could hardly be more fittingly celebrated than to reiterate the story of Erin, its smiles and its tears. "Where the Shamrock Grows" is a never-old story of the triumph of true love and justice over the forces of evil and oppression. From beginning to end the play swept on with gripping interest, and the various members of the caste played their parts with a dash and confidence that could hardly be surpassed by professionals. To Mr. Arthur Hebert is due the credit for the excellence of the production: His professional training asserting itself throughout. The stage "business" was never neglected or slurred over as is the case with most amateur productions, and the rendering of the dialogue showed the patience and hard work that Mr. Hebert had put into the rehearsals, also the co-operation between him and the various members of the cast. The result was a perfect amateur production, flawless throughout.

The story deals with that period of Irish History that has given the world so many tales of romantic history, the stirring days of '98. Robt. O'Neill, the owner of large estates has joined the rebel movement and he leaves his estate to be managed by Phillip Blake, played excellently by Mr. Geo. Lee, O'Neill's cousin, Kenneth Griffin, (Arthur Hebert is ambitious to possess O'Neill's estate, and enlists Blake in his nefarious cause, by holding threats of exposure of his past life, over his head. They contrive to have O'Neill's estates confiscated but are unable to himself as he is so well taken care of (played by L. W. Boyle in a very capable manner) by his faithful retainers, amongst whom are Con. O'Callaghan, a rollicking Irish lad, and played by Mr. W. H. Wolff, who by the way, gave about the best rendition of a character seen in amateur play in many a long day. He showed ease and confidence and played his part with a dash that kept the audience with him every minute he was on the stage. Con. is finally arrested in mistake for his master, and after a heart breaking farewell with his sweetheart, Molly McShane, he is released by the arrival of O'Neill who gives himself up and who is in turn pardoned by the General, because of a favor done him by O'Neill. O'Neill's estates are returned to him and he is restored to the arms of his sweetheart, Helen Blake, played in a most capable manner by Miss M. Burke. The villain is denounced and all ends happily.

The various parts are handled most excellently. In Miss S. Keating the St. Michael's Dramatic Club has discovered another bright and shining star in the local firmament. She played the faithful true-hearted lass with a sweet winsomeness that completely captivated the large audience. It is to be hoped that Belleville will see more of Miss Keating's acting. Mr. Thos. R. Barrett played the part of Corporal Kinke, and he put kinks in the audience from laughing at his droll antics. Miss L. Weese as widow McShane took a large share of the honors. She gave a delightful reading of this quaint character. Mr. John Fahey, as General Travers gave a faultless performance, and his singing of "The Daughter of Mother McCee" between acts called for an encore. Mr. John J. O'Brien and Dan Donohue were good in their parts, and Miss Hilda Foltz as the Fairy Queen, gave a delightful reading. Mr. Geo. Lee once again showed his histrionic ability in the part of Phillip Blake, and his strong scenes were much appreciated by the audience. Mr. Harold Barrett, between acts sang "Mother Macree" and was recalled again and again. Also Mr. Tom Barrett's singing of "Little Bit of Heaven" called for encores by the delighted audience. It is to be hoped that The St. Michael's Dramatic Club will continue to give the people of Belleville its annual treat and next year will be looked forward to with pleasurable anticipation.

Mr. E. Guss Porter, K.C. M.P.F., who has been confined to his home, is improving. Lieut. Col. Thomas Stewart, was able to out on the street yesterday for a walk. The many friends of Mr. Walter Soule will be sorry to learn that he was yesterday removed to the hospital.

THE CHURCH IN THE MIDDLE AGES

A Few More Quotations

Editor Ontario.— In submitting those quotations on the 16th, I found I made one mistake in giving the wrong author for the last one, which I said was from the Protestant Professor, F. Y. Powell. It should read, "from the great Protestant English historian, Hallam, from his great work, "Introduction to the Literature of Europe."—page 377.

Since I mentioned the name of Prof. F. Y. Powell, who is a Protestant, and a regius professor of modern history in Oxford, I will give quoted in the Fortnightly Review, Vol. 74, page 217—"The whole story of the Scottish Reformation, hatched in purchased treason and outrageous intolerance, carried on in open rebellion and ruthless persecution, justified only in its indirect results, is perhaps the most sordid and disgusting story that the annals of any European country can show."

To come back to the so-called "dark ages" again, hear another eminent scholar of the Church of England, Dean Maitland—"Monasteries were beyond all price as places where God was worshipped, as a quiet and religious refuge for helpless infancy and old age, a shelter of respectful sympathy for the orphan maiden and the desolate widow, as central points whence agriculture was to spread over the dark hills and deal bread to hundreds, as repositories for the learning which was then, and the well springs of the learning which was to be, as nurseries of art and science, giving the stimulus, the means and the reward to invention, aggregating around them every head that could devise and every hand that could execute, as a nucleus of the city which in after days of pride should crown its palaces and bulwarks with the crowning cross of the Cathedral." ("The Dark Ages," 1st edn., page 2.)

In the same book, page 476, Dean Maitland says: "The writings of the Dark Ages are, if I may use the expression, made of the Scriptures. The writers thought and spoke and wrote words and phrases of the Bible; and they did this constantly and habitually, and as the natural mode of expressing themselves." Lecky, whose name is familiar to all, no lover of the Catholic Church, in his work, "History of Rationalism"—Vol. II, page 37, says: "The Catholic church was the very heart of Christendom and the spirit that radiated from her, penetrated into all the relations of life. By infusion into Christendom a bond of unity that is superior to the division of nationhood, and a moral tie that is superior to force, by softening or abolishing slavery, and preparing the way for the ultimate emancipation of labor, Catholicism laid the foundations of modern civilization."

Hear one more authority—Carlyle, in his "Heroes and Hero Worship." "This glorious Elizabethan age with its Shakespeare, as the outcome and flowerage of all which had preceded it, is itself attributable to the Catholics of the Middle Ages. The Catholic faith which was the theme of Dante's song, had produced this Practical Life which Shakespeare was to sing." (page 138)

Your readers will find the reputation of these men as historians and scholars, in the Encyclopaedia Britannica or Americana, and the quotations from these authors in their works, in a good reference library. Respectfully submitted by A. Reader.

ACCUSED OF THEFT

Frank Edwards, Remanded on the Charge of Stealing Orange-man's Coat

Frank Edwards, a stranger, aged 55 years, was arrested this morning charged with stealing a new overcoat worth \$17 belonging to Mr. H. R. Blakely of Eldorado, who is attending Orange Grand Lodge in Belleville. Mr. Blakely left his coat on the ticket stand at the top of the staircase in the city hall and when he returned it was gone.

Last evening a coat was brought into Ben Sopher's second hand store by a man later recognized as Frank Edwards and sold for \$2.

Edwards this morning was picked up on the street and arrested by Constable Smith. In the pockets of his own overcoat was a pair of gloves said to belong to Mr. Blakely. Edwards claims a man gave him the coat to sell and remained outside while Edwards went into the store. The accused was remanded for a week on Chief Newton's request.

Edwards has been in the station several nights recently for shelter.

Mrs. Ross Paul of Bath has been staying with her aunt, Mrs. Ross and attending the funeral of the late Harvey Homan.

GAIN OF 300 IN MEMBERSHIP

Orange Property Increased During Past Year \$150,000 In Value

At the Grand Lodge session this morning the Past Grand President of the Triennial Council of the British North America, Sir Mackenzie Bowell gave an address which was much appreciated. At the conclusion three cheers were given for the aged former premier of Canada.

A telegram of greetings was read from the Grand Lodge of Newfoundland, now in session at Grand Falls, Newfoundland, from the Hon. R. A. Squires, Grand Master and Attorney General of that colony.

Mr. William Banks of Toronto, secretary of the joint committee on Legislation of British America and Grand Master H. C. Hockin of Ontario West gave addresses.

Other business this morning was the reports of the committees on credentials, petitions and appeals, returns.

There is a net gain of about 300 in membership in this jurisdiction this year and a very large increase of about \$150,000 in the value of property owned by the order.

Grand Lodge will hold a night session tonight and will conclude its business some hours after midnight.

BIG ISLAND

Death has again visited our vicinity and taken our esteemed neighbor, Mr. Chas Peck, (Sr.) His widow and family have the sympathy of the community.

Mr. and Mrs. W. Cole, are visiting Mr. and Mrs. S. Cole.

Rev. Craig, of Demorestville, spent Tuesday with Mr. and Mrs. George Thurston.

Mr. and Mrs. C. Thompson and Miss Anna, left last Wednesday for their home in the West.

The concert given by the 254th Battalion Band of Belleville, under the auspices of the Big Island Women's Institute was a decided success. Bandmaster Hinchey and his bandmen are to be congratulated as the music was so beautifully rendered and all hope to have the pleasure of hearing them again in the near future.

Mrs. S. Mills is visiting her parents Mr. and Mrs. F. Graham, Belleville.

RUSSIA

The glorious name of freedom To Russia now belongs. The people, they are united. And through the streets do throng. Great was the excitement, Increasing every hour; The Emperor was forced to abdicate; To the mass resign his power. Oh, Russia is free! Oh, Russia; oh Russia is free! She's now like us enjoying The pure air of liberty.

Her freedom's been acknowledged Universally by all. She's determined to maintain it. Should e'en her bravest fall. And richly she deserves The laurels now she wears, For bravely has she conquered And now will never fall.

We are bound to her forever, Through adversity and fame, And we glory to assist her, To help retain her name. We sincerely hope she'll ever Enjoy prosperity; And proudly do we hail her, Russia, the brave and free.

'Tis a sight, proud and commanding, The strife for liberty; To rend the chains of bondage, And set the nation free.

The noble Czar! At his command the armed legions of Russia hurled back into ruin and loss the countless hordes of Germans; penetrated into Russia Poland, and compelled the Kaiser to withdraw his troops from the west, and thus saved the Allies from what might easily have been fatal disaster, in their unprepared condition. And now, while we hail with joy the great change in that wonderful country, we feel the deepest sorrow for the Czar—yesterday the absolute monarch; today without a crown, or a vestige of authority. And a prisoner, not permitted to see his own wife, and his children ill of a dangerous disease. No Romanoff will ever ascend the throne. Democracy has triumphed and hateful autocracy been overthrown. German gold had bribed and bought up the advisers of the Czar. He had hurled from power five cabinets. His wife a German, and conspiring against the Allies. He did his best for his country. What a splendid thing it was to free

his country at one stroke, of vodka, and to render her from being a drunken country, to one which sets an example of sobriety to the world. God pity this noble man in his deep sorrow; a sorrow, the death of which we cannot conceive. J. J. B. Flint.

BLACK KNIGHTS OPPOSE COERCION

Of Ulster—Cablegram to Premier Lloyd George—Election and Installation of Officers

The Grand Black Chapter, Royal Black Knights of Ireland, closes their 41st annual convocation on Wednesday afternoon in the Orange Hall Front Street with the election and installation of officers. The attendance of knights was one of the largest in the order's history, about 160 being present.

The resolution committee presented their report at 10 a.m. A resolution was presented expressing appreciation of the splendid services rendered by Sir Sam Hughes, the late Minister of Militia for King and Empire in securing 32,000 men and training and equipping them at the beginning of the war, to render service at the front and his later work of raising and training our great Canadian Army of 350,000 men, expressing the wish that he may long be spared to serve as a valuable servant of the state.

Rebilingualism—It was recommended that a resolution be forwarded to Sir William Hearst commending and congratulating the Government upon their firm attitude in this important question and demanding that they continue to stand firm, expressing the order's determination to resist by all lawful means attempts to control our public schools by any powers other than the state.

Re-prosecution of the war. We desire hereby to state our readiness to give our emphatic support to Sir R. L. Borden and the Federal Government in any reasonable effort by use of the Militia Act or other wise to organize and control the whole resources of the Dominion of Canada, both man and money power to bring the war to a speedy and successful issue.

A cablegram was ordered to be sent the Right Hon. David Lloyd George as follows:—

"This Grand Black Chapter of Eastern Ontario in convention March 21st 1917, miss our many brethren fighting for the Empire, but reaffirm our loyalty to the Empire and our unalterable opposition to the coercion of Ulster."

Election of officers for 1917 resulted as follows:—

- Grand Master—Sir Kt. T. K. Allen, Kemptville. Deputy Grand Masters—Sir Kt. T. H. Thompson, Madoc; Sir Kt. L. E. Stanley, Ottawa. Grand Chaplain—Sir Kt. (Rev.) G. Nickle, Myrtle. Deputy Grand Chaplain—Sir Kt. J. Pattenham, Finch. Grand Registrar—Sir Kt. W. J. Rhodes, Queensboro. Deputy Grand Registrar—Sir Kt. W. E. Tummson, Crookston. Grand Treasurer—Sir Kt. Geo. Brown, Tweed. Deputy Grand Treasurer—Sir Kt. Jas. Moore, Eganville. Grand Lecturer—Sir Kt. Wm. Reynolds, Foxboro. Deputy Grand Lecturer—Sir Kt. H. Wood, Kingston. Grand Standard Bearer—Sir Kts. J. B. Lowery, Frankford; R. A. Wood Madoc. Grand Censors—Sir Kts. W. C. Reid Belleville; W. H. Cook, Foxboro. Grand Pursuivant—Sir Kt. W. J. Montgomery. Grand Committee—Sir Kts. J. B. Cooper, W. J. Hall, S. Kerr, E. Grobe, Thos. Downey, Jas. Clark, J. H. Blackley.

COOL PRESTON WELCOMED

Col. J. A. V. Preston, of the 39th Battalion, just returned from the front, was in the city last evening attending Orange Grand Lodge. He was welcomed at the City Hall last night with rousing cheers.

BURIED IN ELMWOOD CEMETERY

The funeral of the late Harvey Homan took place on Wednesday afternoon from his late residence, fifth of Thurlow, to Carmel Methodist Church, where Rev. W. D. P. Byers, Hoffman, Hooper and M. E. Wilson. A large attendance of friends, and numerous floral tributes were tokens of the esteem in which the departed was held in his community. The interment took place the church choir attending and singing "Rock of Ages." The bearers were Messrs. J. Reynolds, G. McCoy, B. Clark, M. Jones, J. Patterson, and H. Gerow.

Your Spring Suit

In thinking of your New Spring Suit, don't forget to think of us. If you are out to save money we are in a position to help you. If you will have a look at our \$15.00 and \$20.00 Suits you will be convinced we are still offering you old value. By careful buying, stocking ahead and cutting profits "to the bone", we are taking good care of our customers.



Our Motto for This Spring 'Suits at Old Prices'

OAK HALL C. H. Vermilyea

THOUGHTS BY THE WAY

Cheerful Optimism.

Written for The Ontario by "Wayfarer."

A cold, bleak November day with a high wind sweeping the brown, dead leaves from its path and whirling them through the air like brown birds on the wing! It was not an inviting scene on which I gazed from my spacious window, when compared with the cosy brightness of the room within. But in a moment a farmer drove to the door in an open buggy in which were crowded a bevy of bright merry, laughing school-girls, who seemed not the least discomfited by the cheerless, shivery November day. Their eyes shone like stars, their faces glowed with a brightness that rivalled my fire in the open grate, their curls were blown by the wind over sparkling eyes and rosy cheeks, and above the roar and tumult of the wind their merry laughter pealed forth musically as they waved me a greeting as I sat by the window. One of these bright maidens alighted, and taking from the school sack a book, vainly turned its leaves in the wind, seeking a written message which she carried. Her vain attempts to find the note in the fluttering leaves blown to and fro by the wind, was further cause for merriment, and even the staid farmer, whose weather-beaten countenance gave evidence of many a winter's buffeting, joined in the merriment, so contagious is good-humor. Thus the merry group made sport of the cruel November blasts, and I could not help to learn a lesson from their cheerful optimism. How much better to laugh in the face of trials that beset us, than to have them overcome us! It is not always easy, but undoubtedly it is the best, and reveals not only strength of will but a firm faith. "For it's easy enough to be pleasant When life flows by like a song; But the man worth while, is life man with a smile. When everything goes dead wrong. By this is not recommended a happy-go-lucky existence, that, without aim or high ideals, drifts onward with the tide. Of such a life, Cardozo speaks disdainfully when he describes those "who feed life on a diet of broad grins." It is true that life should be attuned to the note of joy but only a high ideal or purpose can so attune it. The writer once knew a lady, the brightness of whose life was darkened by the intemperance of an otherwise kind husband. Through years of trial she never lost heart, but hoped on, praying for the time to

come when he would free himself from the bonds of strong drink. Often at night, when in a drunken frenzy he was raving like a madman, she would be compelled to leave the house, and looking up at the stars, exclaim, "Oh God! how long; how long?" After years, her prayers were answered by her husband's complete reformation and conversion, and her last days were those of happiness. The burdens of life had not bowed her to the earth, nor had her temper been soured or her mind weakened by trouble and sorrow and hope long-deferred. Her countenance displayed no token of worry, but a steadfast hope and faith gleaming from the patient eyes and an expression in which patience had had its perfect work. As one looked upon her in the quiet and calm at the peaceful close of life's rough voyage, one was forcibly reminded of the words, "And his name shall be in their forehead." The possibility of being able to retain a cheerful optimism, though strongly buffeted by the winds and waves on Life's rough sea, is aptly expressed by John Burroughs in the following lines:— Serene, I fold my hands and wait, Nor care for wind, nor tide, nor sea. Crave no more 'gainst time or fate, For lo! my own shall come to me. I stay my haste, I make delays— For what avails this eager pace? I stand amid the eternal ways, And what is mine, shall know my face.

Asleep, awake, by night or day, The friends I seek are seeking me; No wind can drive my bark astray, Nor change the tide of destiny.

What matter, if I stand alone? I wait with joy the coming years, My heart shall reap what it has sown And gather up its fruit of tears.

The stars come nightly to the sky, The tidal wave comes to the sea, Nor time, nor space, nor deep, nor high, Can keep my own away from me.

The waters know their own, and draw The brook that springs in yonder heights— So flows the good with equal law, Unto the soul of pure delights. Wayfarer.

DEAF PEOPLE

"FRENCH OIL" absolutely cures Deafness and Noise in the Head, no matter how severe or long-standing the case may be. Hundreds of persons whose cases were supposed to be incurable have been permanently cured by this New Remedy. This Wonderful Preparation goes direct to the actual seat of the trouble, and One Box is ample to effectually cure any ordinary case. Mrs. Rowe, of Portland, Oregon, Leeds says: "The Orie has completely cured me after twelve years' suffering. Many other equally good reports. Try one Box today. It only costs \$1.00, and there is nothing better at any price." Address: "ORLENE" Co., 115 SOUTHVIEW WATLING ST., DARTFORD, Kent.

MONEY

PRIVATE MONEY TO LOAN ON Mortgages on farm and city property at lowest rates of interest on terms to suit borrowers. F. S. WALLBRIDGE, Barrister, Esq. Corner Front and Bridge Sts., Belleville, over Dominion Bk.

NEWLY-ELECTED GRAND MASTER

R. W. Bro. O. W. Landon, Receives Highest Gift at Hands of Orangemen.

The new Grand Master of Orange Order of Ontario East is R. W. Bro. O. W. Landon, of Lansdowne, who was born August 4th 1856. He is one of the best known residents of the township and follows the most ancient and most honorable occupation of man, the tilling of the soil. He is tall in stature and impressive in appearance and will make a worthy success or to Grand Master Ewan H. McLean.

Although only 51 years of age the newly elected Grand Master, has a record of 37 years association with Protestant orders, for at the age of 14 he joined the Orange Young Britons. He has been twenty years with the Grand Orange Lodge, in which he has held the following offices—Grand Lecturer, five years; Grand Director of Ceremonies, two years; Junior Deputy Grand Master two years and Deputy Grand Master two years.

He is a member of the Presbyterian Church and his municipal experience dates over ten years, during which time he has been in the Lansdowne council as councillor, deputy and reeve.

Grand Master Landon is a member of the Masonic Order and of Harmony Preceptory, Royal Black Knights of Ireland, Lyndhurst.

Lt.-Col. W. N. Ponton was in Toronto on Tuesday evening and delivered an address before Masonic brethren at the Masonic Temple on a subject associated with St. Patrick's Day.