

OUR PHILADELPHIA LETTER.

The Average Newspaper Reader and His Moods.

AN INTERESTING STUDY OF THE QUESTION.

Something About the Log-Book of the Mayflower—Mr. Patrick J. Coleman's Tribute to Archbishop Ryan on the Occasion of the Celebration of His Jubilee.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT)

PHILADELPHIA, May 3, 1897.—It is not every one who knows how to read a newspaper. The eyes wander restlessly up and down the columns, the attention is caught by a heading here, a name there, an anecdote or a hint, but this is not reading. Still less profitable is the indiscriminate and exhaustive perusal of every line on every page, whether editorial, stocks, markets, gossip or advertisements. Either manner of passing the time is simply wasting it, and results in a state of mental confusion—a curious hodge-podge of fact and fiction of no use to-day, a dead loss to tomorrow, and an endless source of regret hereafter. For wasted time is a blessing cast aside that was intended to shine as a star in the crown of eternity. It is such reading which evokes from so many more or less bitter condemnation of newspapers. Not the use of it, but the abuse, makes the evil of the Press, as of so many other things intended only for the benefit of mankind. Clear-headed students and generous workers along the lines of unselfish thought for others are dwelling upon this failure—often an innocently ignorant one—to make a good use of the news and even the gossip of the day. Very clever hints and well arranged plans are set before the public as guides to the rapid and systematic

STUDY OF THE AVERAGE DAILY PAPER. The trouble is they all teach too much, ask too much, say too much. The tendency in helping others to make the best of their mental powers is always to forget that each mind is an individual mind, has its own likes and dislikes, its own ability to grasp and assimilate, and decidedly its own limits. The one thing to be done is to convince the reader of the duty of reading carefully and with thought, and of never reading anything merely sensational. Those who dwell upon the sensational deliberately submit themselves to be made the fools of the sensationalist, who weaves marvelous stories with the intention of playing upon the credulity and the feelings of the shallow reader. But once convinced of the duty (which is absolutely binding) upon everyone who knows how to read, it is quite enough to leave them to read the newspapers as their taste and interest prompt. Newspaper reading may easily be overdone. There is an endless wealth of information every day, but it is intended for an endless number of people, and for countless and varied tastes. To read what one likes is to remember it without effort. For solid study, go to other sources than newspaper or magazine, where all the thinking is already done and all opinions already formed. It is a proof of intellectual poverty when periodical literature suffices for the reader, and the worst and most degrading slavery is that which accepts opinions on passing topics ready formulated. Of course, there are subjects of which no opinion that is correct can be reached without

A VERY LIFETIME OF PREPARATION, and it is no less wisdom than humility to submit to the guidance of the student well equipped in for it. But in all minor matters all should think for himself, have the courage of his own convictions, read what interests him, and not what one or many tell him he should read. Time and strength are lost day after day trying to understand, to master, to like courses of reading recommended by well-intentioned friends, self-elected newspaper and magazine enlighteners, or even tried and tested authorities. No other can choose for a thinker upon what he shall feed within the boundaries of "good reading." The "best one hundred books" for anyone is that one hundred volumes which lightens care, cultivates kindly feelings, awakens noble impulses, and prompts to such investigations of the past, or other men's life and work, as shall move to healthy emulation. And each may find all these in quite another hundred from the book his neighbor loves, perhaps for no other reason than that they came in his way. There fore, I would say, seek no system, follow no rule, worry over needless advantages, but just read carefully the good things that come in your way, and wait for what may come—what will come as surely as the years wear, the very knowledge for which you are best fitted and in which you will delight. But keep your heart pure. The highest and finest thoughts have never stooped to dwell with the shadow of impurity.

LOG BOOK OF THE MAYFLOWER.

So the log-book of the Mayflower is to come to America. There is a strange grim sort of interest in the account of that graciously formal interview over there in the home of the "Bishop of London," when that prelate put the old keepsake into the hands of the Hon. Thomas Bayard for conveyance to the United States. But to those who have spent such time among the documents and treasures of the American Catholic Historical Society, it seems rather a modern and not very touching relic of the past to the major portion of the Americans of to-day. But the Bishop said one thing which had been said before and been repeated: "Documents that relate to the history of a country should be in the possession of that country," he said, with the further though unspoken meaning that they should be carefully preserved. Every line should indeed be valued beyond jewels. A few upon the

foundations of the past, and without documents and records we find but trackless ruins, vague and formless, without honor or dignity.

MR. COLEMAN'S TRIBUTE TO ARCHBISHOP RYAN.

That Catholic poet of whom we may all feel justly proud, Patrick J. Coleman, added to the recent celebration in honor of Archbishop Ryan the delicate finish of an "ode" for the occasion, as strong as it is graceful, as musical as it is scholarly. It was read before a large audience, upon whose attention its fine rhythm could not but produce an impression, although its merit repays the private perusal even more abundantly. It is truly an exquisite poem. The singers are many now, but the poet is rare as ever. Mr. Coleman is a poet.

SARA TRAINER SMITH.

PROVINCIAL ELECTIONS.

Nomination Day in the Various Districts.

The Candidates of the Two Parties Put in Nomination—No General Interest Manifested by the Electors in the Proceedings.

Yesterday was nomination day for candidates seeking election to the Local Legislature of this Province. There was little interest evinced in the proceedings in the six districts of Montreal, except by the usual number of party followers and henchmen, who expect to secure a week of excitement and a few dollars of spending money. Mr. McCarthy, the Independent Conservative candidate in St. Ann's, decided to withdraw at the last moment and the contest is narrowed down to Dr. Guerin and Ald. Connaughton, the former representing the Liberals and the latter the Conservatives. In St. Antoine Ward Mr. Robert Bickerdike was placed in nomination in opposition to the Hon. John S. Hall, while in St. Lawrence, Hon. A. W. Atwater and Major Cooke will cross swords. The following is a full list for the Province:—

Argenteuil—W. J. Simpson, Conservative; W. A. Weir, Liberal.
Arthabaska—George Gendreau, Con.; J. E. Girouard, Lib.
Bagot—M. Macdonald, Con.; J. B. Blanchet, Lib.
Beauce—Cyp. Fortin, Con.; H. Beland, Lib.
Beauharnois—Ls. Beaubien, Con.; E. H. Bisson, Lib.
Bellevue—Castonguay, Con.; A. Turgeon, Lib.
Berthier—Victor Allard, Con.; C. A. Chenevert, Lib.
Bonaventure—J. B. Belanger, Con.; F. X. Lemieux, Lib.
Brome—E. J. Esty, Con.; H. T. Duffy, Lib.
Chambly—L. E. Morin, Con.; Ant. Rochesau, Lib.
Champlain—Dr. P. Grenier, Con.; T. Trempanier, Lib.
Charlevoix—P. D'Auteuil, Con.; Jos. Morin, Lib.
Chateaugay—Wm. Greig, Con.; J. E. Boldoux, Lib.
Chicoutimi and Saguenay—H. Petit, Con.; J. D. Guay, Lib.
Compton—C. W. B. French, Con.; James Hunt, Lib.
Dorchester—L. P. Pelletier, Con.; Gregoire Dumont, Lib.
Drummond—J. U. Richard, Con.; W. J. Watts, Lib.
Gaspé—E. J. Flynn, Con.; Chas. Marcil, Lib.
Hochelaga—H. Laporte, Con.; Jer. Decarie, Lib.
Huntingdon—Dr. Cameron, Con.; G. W. Stephens, Lib.
Iberville—E. Poulin, Con.; F. Gosse, Lib.
Jas. Cartier—Ed. Gohier, Con.; J. N. Chausser, Lib.
Joliette—J. M. Tellier, Con.; F. O. Dugas, Lib.
Kamouraska—Nap. Ennis, Con.; Rudolphe Roy, Lib.
Lake St. John—Jos. Girard, Con.; P. C. Dupuis, Lib.
Laprairie—Cyrille Doyon, Con.; Come Cherrier, Lib.
L'Assomption—Jos. Marion, Con.; Jos. Duhamel, Lib.
Laval—P. E. Leblanc, Con.; Ph. Roy, Lib.
Levis—A. Baker, Con.; F. X. Lemieux, Lib.
L'Islet—J. A. Dionne, Con.; F. G. M. Dechene, Lib.
Lotbiniere—Dr. Lord, Con.; E. H. Laliberte, Lib.
Magdalen Islands—(Election takes place later.)
Maskinonge—E. Desy, Con.; H. Caron, Lib.
Matane—H. Chasse, Con.; L. F. Pinault, Lib.
Megantic—J. W. Mooney, Con.; G. R. F. Smith, Lib.
Missisquoi—E. E. Spencer, Con.; J. C. McCormick, Lib.
Montcalm—Oct. Magnan (Acc), Con. Montmagny—N. Bernatchez, Lib.; Liliols (Ind.)
Montmorency—E. Bouffard, Con.; Dusault, Lib.
Montreal No. 1—Frs. Martineau, Con.; Dr. Lacombe, Lib. No. 2—O. M. Augé, Con.; Lomer Gouin, Lib. No. 3—D. Parizeau, Con.; H. B. Rainville, Lib. No. 4—A. W. Atwater, Con.; Joseph P. Cooke, Lib. No. 5—J. B. Hall, Con.; R. Bickerdike, Lib. No. 6—Ald. Connaughton, Con.; Dr. Guerin, Lib.
Naperville—L. Ste. Marie (Ind.); Cyp. Doris, Lib.
Nicolet—George Ball, Con.; Dr. Turcotte, Lib.
Ottawa—Dr. Ouimet, Con.; C. B. Major, Lib.
Pontiac—D. Gillies, Lib. (Acc.)
Portneuf—L. Stafford, Con.; Jules Tessier, Lib.
Quebec Centre—V. Chateauvert, Con.; Am. Robitaille, Lib. Quebec East—J. B. Thibault (Ind.); Jos. Sheehan, Lib. Quebec West—Felix Carbray, Con.; Richard Barden, D. Griffin, Libs. Quebec County—E. O'Brien, Con.; M. Garneau, Lib.
Richelieu—E. D. Morgan, Con.; L. P. P. Cardin, Lib.
Richmond—Jos. Bedard, Con.; C. A. Miller, Lib.

Rimouski—A. R. Drapeau, Con.; A. Tessier, Lib.
Rouville—A. N. Dufrane, Con.; Fregeau, Lib.
Shefford—A. F. Savaria, Con.; Dr. Degrobois, Lib.
Sherbrooke—L. E. Panneton, Con.; L. C. Belanger, Lib.
Soulages—Pierre Doucet, Con.; A. G. Bourbonnais, Lib.
Stanstead—M. F. Hackett, Con.; M. B. Lovell, Lib.
St. Hyacinthe—Dr. A. P. Cartier, Con.; Mayor Dussault, Lib.
St. John—J. E. Molleur, Con.; F. G. Marchand, Lib.
St. Maurice—L. T. Duplessis, Con.; N. Garneau, Lib.
St. Sauveur—D. Marsan, Labor; S. N. Parent, Lib.
Temiscouata—Nap. Rioux, Con.; A. F. Talbot, Lib.; E. Therrien, Ind.
Terrebonne—G. A. Nantel, Con.; Ach. Carrier, Lib.
Three Rivers—Tel. Normand, Con.; John Ryan, Lib.
Two Mountains—B. Beauchamp, Con.; Hector Champagne, Lib.
Valdieu—H. Cholette, Con.; Dr. Lalonde, Lib.
Vecheves—Archambault, Con.; Et. Blanchard, Lib.
Wolfe—J. A. Chicoyne, Con.; H. GauDET, Lib.
Yamaska—J. A. A. Mondou, Con.; V. Gladu, Lib.

MRS. SADLER TESTIMONIAL.

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THE WEEKLY BOUQUET AND ORPHAN'S FRIEND, EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT, 85 VERNON STREET.

Boston, April 27th, 1897.

M. BURKE ESQ., Mountain St., Montreal, Canada.

My Dear Mr. Burke,—Enclosed is cheque for my trifling testimonial to be presented to Mrs. Sadler. I am real glad that the movement has developed at last into definite practical action. Of the circular which you kindly sent me, I quote in an editorial upon the subject, to appear in next week's issue. In it I say that sums sent to you will be gladly received. Wishing the movement all success,

I remain, yours sincerely,
JAMES RILEY.

Subscriptions may be addressed to the chairman, Sir William Hingston, M.D., Montreal, P.Q.; the secretary, Mr. Justice Curran, Montreal, P.Q.; or to the treasurer, Mr. Michael Burke, 275 Mountain street, Montreal, P.Q.

DEDICATION OF A NEW CHAPEL.

The dedication of the new Chapel of Atonement, erected at Point-aux-Trembles, will take place Tuesday, 25th May, instant, at 8.30 a.m. Electric cars of Notre Dame and LaSalle Streets stop a few acres distant from the chapel. A convenient place, and all necessary for lunch, will be found on the grounds. In case of rain, the ceremony will be postponed till Wednesday.

The Time For First Communion Is Near:

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