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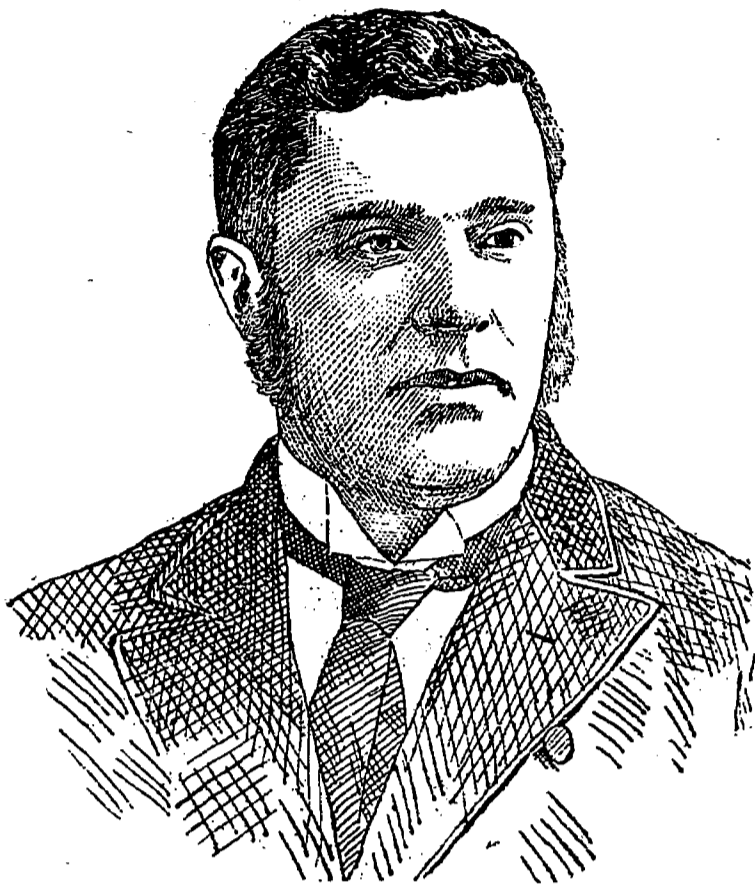
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IN MEMORIAM.



HON. SIR JOHN THOMPSON, P.C., K.C.M.G.

On the 12th December, 1894, Canada met with the irreparable loss of her noblest son in political life, the Right Hon. Sir John Thompson. Today we present once more his genial countenance to our readers. He is not forgotten, nor likely to be. Many public men come and go, and are, seldom, if ever heard of, because they were mere creatures of circumstances. Sir John Thompson will live in the hearts of his people, his memory will be cherished, his virtues extolled. A few extracts from eminent personages have been given as the best tribute to the memory of the great Irish Canadian Premier of Canada.

Search through his life, ask those who knew him best, and there is but one testimony: thoroughness of work, intensity of purpose, singleness of aim, conscientiousness and a prevailing sense of the presence of God, marked all he did and said. Her Excellency the Countess of Aberdeen, in the "Outlook," N. Y.

"When a man is struck by the hand of Death, in the fulness of his years after a long career, after a career of usefulness to himself and to his country, there remains a feeling even above the poignancy of grief, that after all, death has dealt kindly with him. Such was the death of Sir John Macdonald. But when a man is struck down, when he has hardly reached the summit of middle life, when he has achieved the full measure of his power, when his friends and his country could look to him for years of useful work, then, death carries with it a sense of inexplicable bitterness. Such was the death of Sir John Thompson. In that respect it was one of the saddest perhaps the saddest, that our history records. In other respects I look upon it as one of the most glorious. This Canadian Minister, this colonial statesman, died under the roof of the old Norman Kings, when he had just been sworn in, as a member of the Privy Council, of that mighty empire, of which the old Norman Kings laid the foundation, but which has reached dimensions, which their wildest dreams of imagination never contemplated."

Right Hon. Sir Wilfrid Laurier, in the House of Commons of Canada. It requires something more than what is commonly called greatness to arrest the attention of this dying century, but when amidst the selfishness and cold calculation, the deceit and the turpitude, by which public life is too often degraded, a character appears that is alike good and great, a character marvellous in its purity, unsurpassed in abnegation of

ful of the high duty and noble purpose of the Irish representation. He did not desire the position of chairman of the conference, but he felt that if he had asked any other gentleman to take his place he would, perhaps, show some loss of faith in the purpose of their meeting. He believed that the heart of the Irish people yearns for some settlement of the question. He believed that the time had gone by long since when it could with any justice be said that any question of principle stood behind this matter. They had differed in the past, but if these differences were going to be continued on mere personal grounds, through mere suspicions or distrust of each other, it would belie the real spirit of patriotism which was wont to exhibit itself in the Irish Party.

Without entering into the details of Mr. Healy's speech we cannot refrain from selecting a couple of extracts that deal with matters immediately connected with this special resolution. After indicating that this was the resolution adopted on the 4th April last at the unity conference he said that: "His view as to the course they took would be one to which no one could take exception—namely, to propose again at that meeting a resolution which had already had the unanimous sanction of the entire body of the representatives who were present—not the resolution as originally passed. The course he suggested was one that could not offend the susceptibilities of anyone. Mr. Power had expressed his apprehension lest some proposal should be made distasteful to him or his friends, and he (Mr. Healy) wished to assure him that he would be the last to sanction anything of the kind being done. He could not support it and he thought the fact that a number of their colleagues had not seen fit to attend the meeting was itself a reason why no resolution of a character obnoxious to them or a gentleman connected with them should be adopted or suggested at the conference. Therefore, his idea was that they should confine themselves practically to the proposal already carried. The proposal was not only a moderate one, but it had secured the unanimous approval of every member of the conference. The resolution had a further merit which it did not possess at the time, and which he confessed was the one which induced him most to recommend it to them now. Since the resolution was passed, Mr. Redmond had stated his willingness to act with his party upon it, but that fact alone would not have induced him

self, brave enough to face every peril in the cause of truth, ready to make any sacrifice for the sake of God and country, then Vice itself pays reluctant homage to virtue, and the self-wrapt bustling world is forced to pause, and pay at least, the semblance of fealty to what it must admire, but has not the courage to imitate.

Sir John Thompson's life cannot yet be written. Twenty years must elapse before the documentary evidence, that will place him on a still higher pinnacle of fame, shall be given to the world. In the meantime his renown will go on increasing, day by day, as his speeches and writings are studied and quoted. He will be known to posterity as a great and good man, a patriot, a statesman, and a devoted son of the Catholic Church. Hon. Mr. Justice J. J. Curran's address at the Catholic Summer School, Plattsburg, New York.

It is a matter for legitimate congratulation that in the public life of this Dominion, one can point to a career which has summed up and embodied all the best attributes of official purity and unbending uprightness, that whilst vast interests were in his keeping and many subtle influences at work to render him untrue to the commonweal, still no duty was neglected, no obligation to the public shirked, and the head which had yielded almost unlimited power were found free from wrong-doing, from oppression, and from taking a bribe at the hands of any man. A life such as that of the late Premier is not intended to be written merely in a family register to be perused only by intimate friends. It is to adorn the annals of a nation and to be an example and instruction to future generations. All through the history of the past we find that the Creator spoke to his creatures not by revelation only, but by the living examples of those in whom general principles of manly virtues, which might be gathered from various sources, had been harmoniously blended. The concrete action of their well-regulated lives was calculated to exercise a greater influence over many. Many lessons may be learned from the life of Sir John Thompson, on which it is well to ponder on this day of our grief, so that we may derive therefrom the consolation of realizing that though the dead speaketh, and though removed from the scene of his earthly activity the magic of his influence survives and is productive of good to his fellow-men: His Grace Archbishop O'Brien—funeral oration at Halifax.

DUBLIN UNITY CONFERENCE.

Upon Thursday of last week a conference of the members of Parliament representing different sections of the Irish Parliamentary party was held in the Mansion House, Dublin. It was summoned by Messrs. T. Harrington, J. Jordan, P. J. Power, and T. J. Healy, chairman and secretaries respectively of the Conference held in April last. The object of the Conference was to consider the best means by which unity could be brought about in the Irish Party. The members of Parliament present were Messrs. James Gibney, D. MacAleese, Jeremiah Jordan, T. C. Harrington, T. J. Healy, James P. Farrell, C. Engledev, J. Hammond, Daniel Sullivan, T. M. Healy, T. D. Sullivan, Maurice Healy, James Daly, Murroughan, P. French, Arthur O'Connor, P. J. Power, M. J. Minch, Daniel Crilly. Mr. T. C. Harrington occupied the chair. Numerous letters were read from members of Parliament, who were prevented, for one reason or another, from attending. Although the meeting was small and the results not of any very perceptible im-

portance, still it gave occasion to various leaders to give expression to views and opinions that well deserve publicity. The chairman, after reading lengthy letters, amongst them one from Mr. Redmond, explained how he came to accept the chairmanship of the meeting. And, not the least significant of his remarks, he added that: "He hoped that in what they did—though they were hampered by some difficulties—that still they might do something towards healing up the old sore which was imperiling the National movement, and which to a great extent was losing for the Irish people the friendship and sympathy of all their people throughout the world, who were looking at the struggle and which, above all, was alienating from them the sympathy of their own race in every part of the globe. In the memory of the oldest member there was never a greater opportunity offered to the Irish Party than that presented at the present moment, and in no time had the Irish representation being so hopelessly inefficient and so neglect-

ful of the high duty and noble purpose of the Irish representation. He did not desire the position of chairman of the conference, but he felt that if he had asked any other gentleman to take his place he would, perhaps, show some loss of faith in the purpose of their meeting. He believed that the heart of the Irish people yearns for some settlement of the question. He believed that the time had gone by long since when it could with any justice be said that any question of principle stood behind this matter. They had differed in the past, but if these differences were going to be continued on mere personal grounds, through mere suspicions or distrust of each other, it would belie the real spirit of patriotism which was wont to exhibit itself in the Irish Party. Without entering into the details of Mr. Healy's speech we cannot refrain from selecting a couple of extracts that deal with matters immediately connected with this special resolution. After indicating that this was the resolution adopted on the 4th April last at the unity conference he said that: "His view as to the course they took would be one to which no one could take exception—namely, to propose again at that meeting a resolution which had already had the unanimous sanction of the entire body of the representatives who were present—not the resolution as originally passed. The course he suggested was one that could not offend the susceptibilities of anyone. Mr. Power had expressed his apprehension lest some proposal should be made distasteful to him or his friends, and he (Mr. Healy) wished to assure him that he would be the last to sanction anything of the kind being done. He could not support it and he thought the fact that a number of their colleagues had not seen fit to attend the meeting was itself a reason why no resolution of a character obnoxious to them or a gentleman connected with them should be adopted or suggested at the conference. Therefore, his idea was that they should confine themselves practically to the proposal already carried. The proposal was not only a moderate one, but it had secured the unanimous approval of every member of the conference. The resolution had a further merit which it did not possess at the time, and which he confessed was the one which induced him most to recommend it to them now. Since the resolution was passed, Mr. Redmond had stated his willingness to act with his party upon it, but that fact alone would not have induced him

(Mr. Healy), to repropose it: but Mr. Redmond had added in a public letter what he considered a remarkable thing coming from him, and it certainly was the first phrase of the kind he had ever known Mr. Redmond to use. Since the unhappy split occurred he had said he was anxious and willing to co-operate in the restoration of unity amongst the Irish Party, or some words to that effect. Having referred to the fact that they had no official announcement of the cause of the absence of Messrs. J. F. N. O'Brien and T. P. O'Connor, he said: "Mr. Redmond's party might be small or they might be great; they might not represent the people or any section of the people, but hitherto it had been found that however small a party may be for good it was always extremely dangerous for mischief against a cause such as theirs. Consequently they had a right to decide upon their own judgment, and not upon the judgment of Mr. O'Connor or Mr. O'Brien, however respectable their authority may be. He repeated that there could be no possible objection to the course he had suggested and following up his action in April last, he begged to move the adoption of the resolution." "Mr. Arthur O'Connor said in the course of his speech that he came there to support anything that would be for the rehabilitating the National movement. There were many kinds of unity, but in his opinion there could be only one true unity, and that unity should have a special purpose. It should be a unity depending upon some object worthy in itself externally, and independent of all parties. In conclusion, he said that if they wanted a united party, they should be a united party on Home Rule lines, and Home Rule should be foremost. He suggested that if the committee were approached for the purpose of rehabilitating the National political situation, it would be on the distinct understanding that the claims of Ireland and Home Rule should be made the immediate object of pursuit in so far as and out of season, and that were done they could successfully inaugurate their difficulties. The chairman then put the proposition, which was carried, Mr. Healy being the only dissenter. On the proposition of Mr. Healy the following gentlemen were appointed to the committee: Messrs. Healy, Blake, Finlayson, Curran and Harrington. Mr. Mangan also emphasized the remarks made by the previous speaker regarding the unity question. Mr. Power tendered his resignation as secretary, which was accepted with regret. What the result of this conference will be is hard to tell, but, if it only secures an approach to political unity amongst the Irish representatives, it will have done much for the cause of good.

THE TRANSVAAL WAR.

Mr. James O'Leary, of Ottawa, brother of Rev. P. M. O'Leary, Roman Catholic Chaplain with the Royal Canadian Corps in South Africa, has received an interesting letter from the chaplain. After briefly describing the leave-taking at Quebec, Father O'Leary goes on to say: "Every one seems to be in good humor with himself and with everyone else. Though we often run up against one another on deck—the dear old Sardinian rolls so—still there has not been the least unpleasant friction. Our first trouble came just south of Newfoundland on Wednesday morning, when a heavy sea arose, which broke over the vessel time and again, smashing in two boats and knocking things about generally. The deck offered a most pitiable sight, almost impassable and dangerous, the rain coming down in torrents. Seasickness was the order of the day, the great majority of us being down. Still in the very worst storm I had to abdicate at the first burial at sea. A poor fellow, Deslauriers, of Captain Rogers' company, was found dead from heart failure early in the morning and was buried in the afternoon. It was a most impressive sight, despite the dangerous lurching of the ship, the lowering black clouds, the wind howling and the sea running mountains high, even sweeping the deck now and then. I shall never forget it. I read the usual prayers over the body, which was sewed up in a canvas bag and shrouded in the Union Jack. After the last words, requiescat in pace, a blast of the trumpet, 'the last post,' then a plunge into the sea, and the first victim was gone.

On Sunday, the weather being a little clearer, we had service at 9.30 attended by about 120 or more. It was very simple, morning prayers, the reading of the Gospel of the day, followed by a sermon in English and French. Unfortunately, an allusion that I thought proper to make to those dear ones, already so far, far away, whose prayers were undoubtedly being offered up in many a church for our safety, almost brought the ceremony to an abrupt close. During the recital of the rosary which followed, many a husky voice made a brave effort to respond, but in most cases

it was a decided failure. We closed with the blessing, which all received bareheaded. Last night we had an operatic concert, most enjoyable and above all picturesque. It was the Ottawa company's turn, and our friend Rogers managed everything to the greatest advantage of his company. Tomorrow will be our second Sunday out, and as I have to prepare an appropriate instruction I shall have to say an revoir for another few weeks.

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Sunday, Nov. 12.—I thought I have got off my letter this morning, but we passed on by Cape Vincent, after signalling all well. I had time to make a sketch of each of the two islands, which I send you. Keep them carefully as I have none others. The scenery is volcanic, wild and grand in the extreme, no traces of vegetation whatever. In the harbor of St. Vincent was a British man-of-war and several transports, including also a French warship, and many other vessels. The weather is steadily growing warmer as we approach the equator. Temperature of water 81 degrees, temperature of atmosphere 86 degrees this morning at 8.30 o'clock, most of the day close on 90 degrees. We can hardly realize we are in mid-November, and what will it be next week. We had our different services in the following order: 9.30 o'clock, Roman Catholic; 10.30 o'clock, Presbyterian; 11.30 o'clock, Anglican. Will try to send this by some passing transport returning Sunday night. We have just been told that we may expect to meet transports returning to-morrow so here goes. It is now 11.20 o'clock, and we are all about adorning for the night after a quiet impromptu concert among the officers. Needless to say that the 'Old Folks at Home' was the theme. Your affectionate brother.

P. M. O'LEARY. A POINTER.—The Irish people in particular, and the English-speaking Catholics in general, cannot assist the "True Witness" in a better way, particularly at this season of the year, than by patronizing those who advertise in its columns. Mention the "True Witness" in making your Christmas purchases.

THE CONNORS ELEVATOR PROJECT.

The result of the deliberations of the Harbor Board in connection with the Connors' elevator scheme, furnish ample evidence of the importance of this port and of the magnitude of the undertaking now under consideration. To briefly tell the story of the proposition made to the Harbor Commissioners of Montreal by the conditions laid down by the former in considering the proposal, we could not do better than reproduce the offer made. The proposal reads as follows: "We hereby respectfully apply for sites at Montreal, on which to erect and operate first-class modern grain elevators, and first-class modern freight warehouses, with suitable appendages, improvements, and equipments, the enterprise being for its object the development of the St. Lawrence trade route to the sea. We respectfully submit that all the space asked for is necessary and will be required so as to provide prompt and satisfactory accommodation for the trade generally, which adequate facilities and proper ways will attract to this route, and in aid of which we propose to provide a number of specially adapted steamers and barges. We ask for the lower portion, about 1,200 feet and including the end of the Windmill pier lying between Windmill Point Basin or slip and the canal and canal basin, with privilege of unloading and loading vessels and barges in the canal basin without interfering with the proper and ordinary use of the canal for the purpose of erecting thereon a first-class steel or combination elevator of 3,000,000 bushels capacity, and a first-class modern freight warehouse, so that the full space will be required and utilized in one operation. The cost of which we estimate, based on the present prices of materials, will be about \$1,000,000. The cost of the \$1,000,000.

Class No. 2, made. Also as the opposite side of the end of Windmill Point Basin, for the construction of 2,000 feet of quay, with water front, with sufficient depth to allow about 200 feet of water front to increase and to be used for the work of unloading and loading vessels and barges, and for the construction of first-class modern freight warehouses, and for the whole space granted. Said structures based on present prices, it is estimated will cost at least \$1,500,000.

The above clause was entertained provided the plans be submitted to the Minister of Public Works for approval. It was proposed to offer the syndicate 1,000 feet front and 200 feet in depth, reserving a roadway of 40 feet in the Commissioners' water front. THE EAST END SITE.—As regards the east end of the harbor the following clause was entertained, the space, location and capacity of the elevators and freight warehouses, to be determined by the commissioners. Also space for at least one large elevator and freight houses, on or in connection with one of the already erected or proposed new piers in the eastern portion of the Harbor of Montreal. Said structures it is expected will cost, at present prices, at least \$1,500,000. The next clause had reference to the length of the lease, and read: "For those purposes and uses we respectfully ask a grant by suitable conveyance for the term of at least forty years, of the sites and spaces above described generally, with the privilege of renewal for a further term of years, the Government or Harbor Commission, at the expiration of the term or extended period, or sooner if the public interest so demands, to take over the property and improvements at a valuation to be agreed or fixed by appraisal or arbitration."

While the syndicate which offer to begin work this autumn is not entirely satisfied with the several resolutions imposed by the Harbor Board, still fair progress has been made towards a settlement of the matter, so much so that at the close of the last meeting of the commissioners, the Mayor, seconded by Mr. Crabb, moved that the Harbor Board should meet on the 15th of December to consider the proposals of the syndicate, and to determine whether or not they should be accepted. The Board will meet on the 15th of December, and it is expected that a final decision will be reached by that time.

RECENT DEATHS. FALLON.—The many friends of Mrs. Agnes Fallon, sister of the Rev. P. Fallon, and of Mr. J. Fallon of the Montreal Water Works Department, will regret to learn of her death, which occurred at Alton, Ill., on December 10th, after a brief illness. The remains were brought to Montreal, and deposited in the City Cemetery. A solemn High Mass was chanted at St. Patrick's on Tuesday last, at which a large number of parishioners assisted. Deceased was well known in this city and highly respected for her many noble qualities of mind and heart. To Rev. Father Fallon, and members of the family of deceased the "True Witness" offers its deep sympathy in the loss they have sustained.—R.I.P.

MRS. PATRICK O'BRIEN.—We regret to have to chronicle the death of Mrs. Patrick O'Brien, formerly of Sutton. The sad event took place at the residence of her son, Mr. Frank O'Brien, West Fairham. Deceased was in her sixty-sixth year and had been ailing since July. Still her death was a surprise to a large number of her friends. The funeral was held at Sutton, which was the home of the deceased for many years. The parish priest, Rev. Father Brassard officiated. The chief mourners were her sons, Messrs. John and William O'Brien, Worcester, Mr. Mark O'Brien, Sutton, Frank O'Brien, West Fairham, and her daughter, Mrs. P. Cronin, Worcester, and Miss L. O'Brien.—R.I.P.

CASEY.—There passed away at the residence of her son-in-law, Mr. P. J. Casey, an estimable old lady, Mrs. J. Thompson, nee Ellen Kehoe, at the ripe old age of 87. She was one of the early pioneers who emigrated to Harbor Grace, Nfld., from County Kerry, Ireland, nearly fifty years ago. A few years since she came to this city, where she made hosts of friends. Until lately she was in the best of health, and had fondest and brightest recollections of the dear old Emerald Isle, having remembered seeing and hearing in her younger days, Ireland's great emancipator, Daniel O'Connell. The funeral which took place on Wednesday morning, was very largely attended. The remains were brought to St. Anthony's Church where a solemn Requiem Mass was chanted for the repose of her soul, by Rev. Father Sinnott. Among the chief mourners were, Messrs. John Joseph and P. J. Casey, jr., P. J. Casey, sr., E. and P. Casey, J. Holland.—R.I.P.

McDONALD.—The death of Dr. Walsh.—During the past month another of the noble band of the old Irish priests, who did so much in spreading the faith in the missionary country of Newfoundland, and proved such a Christening and uplifting influence, passed to his eternal reward in the person of the Rev. John Walsh, P.P., Portugal Cove. The deceased gentleman was a native of Monocoin, Co. Kildenny, and was born in the year 1829. In 1855, he offered his services for Newfoundland to the late Right Rev. Dr. Mullock by whom he was ordained to the priesthood. In his early years in the ministry he was stationed in the external parts of the diocese of St. John's, where he underwent all the hardships which fall to the lot of those clerics who spread the Word of God and the consolations of religion among the fishfolk, scattered in their humble cabins along Terra Nova's rugged coast. Father Walsh was an ideal "Soggarth Aroon," and in open boat or over the trackless barren, amid the winter's snows, or the autumn gales, he was ever ready at the call of his flock. Wherever he went he made hosts of friends for he spent himself in the Master's cause, and when he was transferred to the comparative calm and comfort of Portugal Cove, on the demise of the late Father O'Connor, some fifteen years ago, everyone felt that it was a fitting recognition of his quarter-century of unsparring self-sacrificing labors. For years past Father Walsh was in poor health, but still the call of duty always found him ready; twice within the last few weeks he had to be conveyed to his carriage and supported therein while he attended two sick calls. During his last illness he was the recipient of the constant ministrations of Rev. Father Clarke, of Torbay, who prepared him for death, the harbinger to him of eternal joys.

MY RELATIONS WITH PARNELL AFTER THE SPLIT.

By JUSTIN MCCARTHY, in the "IRISH PEOPLE."

My personal relations with Parnell never ceased to be friendly. The great split which for a time broke up the Irish National Party, kept Parnell and myself much asunder during the short remaining term of his life, but there was no quarrel between him and me—I mean no personal quarrel—and when we met we met still as friends.

We had several opportunities of meeting, for there were many matters of business connected with the Party which had still to be arranged with confidence between us, and these involved several quiet talks. There were two or three distinct funds belonging to the Irish people—that is to say, to the Irish people at home and abroad—for which Parnell and I and one or two others were joint trustees, and the disposal and arrangement of which needed frequent consultation. Parnell was generally in good spirits when we met on these occasions, and he talked freely and pleasantly over the details of the business for which we had met, and we often digressed into general talk, and he made shrewd and characteristic remarks about passing political events and about some of the men concerned in them.

One day I remember we had to go into the city together to see the manager of a bank, and arrange with him about some of the accounts entrusted to us. The House of Commons was then sitting, and we had both of us to attend the house that evening. We drove in a hansom cab, and as we were approaching Westminster Palace, it suddenly occurred to Parnell's mind that a good many people would be greatly astonished and bewildered to find us

DRIVING UP TOGETHER

in a hansom cab, and alighting at Westminster Hall, and passing up the Members' entrance together, just as if there never had been such a thing as a split in the Irish National Party.

The idea greatly amused Parnell, and he was in one of those moods of quiet observant humor which were not uncommon with him and when they came were always delightful to his companions. He positively lingered a little on getting out of the cab and before we passed up the Members' entrance, as if to give curious bystanders an opportunity of observing that we two had driven up together in friendly companionship.

"Did you observe that policeman," he said to me as we entered. "He could hardly contain his surprise; I really thought he was going to ask us how we came to be on such good terms again so soon."

We mounted the flight of stairs together, and made our way into the Members' lobby, and among groups already assembled there, one of the first friends we encountered was William O'Brien. Parnell instantly got into talk with him, and told O'Brien in pleasant and animated tones about the interest and the curiosity which he felt sure would be excited by the appearance of Justin McCarthy and himself driving into Dalkey Yard together. William O'Brien entered into the spirit of the joke, and professed himself a sharer in

PUBLIC AMAZEMENT.

In all our arrangements concerning the business affairs of the Party, Parnell showed himself thoroughly reasonable and good humored. He always seemed willing to agree to a fair settlement. We had many differences of opinion, as was but natural, over this or that arrangement, and sometimes I had to say that I could not agree to this or that suggested compromise without consulting some of my colleagues, but this seemed quite always to understand, and even when most inclined to hold persistently to his own views he was willing to listen to argument and to allow time for further consideration.

As the time went on, and the intervals during which we did not meet became longer, and Parnell threw himself more and more into the work of agitation in Ireland, I could not help observing each time that we met again how his face was becoming thinner and paler, his manner more nervous, and that a certain physical irritability was growing on him. I call it a physical irritability, because it did not appear to affect his ordinary demeanor or his manner of transacting business. He was just as quiet and good-tempered as usual in his conversation with me, but it appeared to me that he was wearing himself out with over-work, that he was taxing at once his mental and bodily strength, too much, and I told him so more

than once. He took my remarks in the most friendly spirit, and assured me that he was not working more than he could avoid, and that he was taking all possible care of himself.

When speaking of the good temper with which our discussions were conducted I should say perhaps, as I do not want to claim for him or for myself any extraordinary sturdivy of mood, that our only discussions were over matters of detail and had nothing to do with any question of Party organization. On the great differences which had divided the Party we never

SPOKE A SINGLE WORD.

There seemed to be from the first a common understanding between us that the whole subject was never to come up in our discussion. We had come to no agreement of the kind; it simply appeared to be assumed between us as a matter of course, and as a necessary part of our business.

Parnell told me nothing of his projected movements in Ireland, nor did I ask him and question on the subject; but on two or three occasions he related to me some odd or amusing incident which had come under his notice during his campaigning, just as any one might have told of something that had happened to him on a journey; but nothing was ever said by him which brought into question any of the subjects on which he and I were compelled to have opposing opinions.

At the same time it must be said that we had to meet more than once under conditions which might have seemed likely to lead to ill-humor, on the one side or the other. Parnell in his speeches throughout Ireland frequently made severe attacks on some of those who had withdrawn from his leadership. When he felt inclined to denounce an opponent he had a decided gift of expressive denunciation, and he employed his gift pretty freely against several of the Party to which I belonged.

I dare say I came in for some disparaging allusions myself. All his speeches were fully reported in the Irish papers, and the spicy passages were carefully reprinted in most of the London journals. On the other hand, some of those who acted with me were not sparing in their denunciations of Parnell, and in one or two instances the style of the attacks on him went beyond anything which most of us

COULD HAVE APPROVED.

These attacks too, it is almost needless to say, were faithfully rendered in most of the papers. Therefore it so happened that Parnell and I met more than once just at the time when the papers were full of these flowers of controversy. But Parnell never said a word about them to me nor did I ever say a word to him. He assumed, I have no doubt, that I could make allowance for the conditions under which he was carrying on his struggle, and that I was not likely to take offence at every extravagance uttered during the passion of so bitter a controversy. I felt sure that he could make the same allowance for me, and so the quiet of our consultations was not disturbed by anything going on in the world around us.

I mention all this chiefly in order to do justice to the spirit in which Parnell conducted his part of our negotiations. On my side there was no particular merit. Nature had endowed me with a temper not easily stirred up to excitement, and I had been in the woods a good deal longer than Parnell, and I had been accustomed to the atmosphere of political agitation since my childhood, and I could not claim any praise for not attaching too much importance to every angry word spoken on either side during so fevered a controversy.

But Parnell was in many ways a sensitive man, with a highly-strung temperament, and just at that time his whole future seemed to be at stake on the issue of the struggle that was going on. I could well have made allowance for any occasional break down in the genial tone of our conversation if any such had occurred, but he was always just the same, quiet, business like and friendly. Our dealings were much like those that might have gone on between partners in some company when the junior partner finds that he cannot work with the predominant partner any longer and a dissolution becomes inevitable, but the two are still

ABLE TO MEET TOGETHER.

and wind up the business in a fair and friendly spirit. An interval came during which I saw nothing of Parnell, and heard

nothing from him. I was spending some days in Yorkshire, at the country seat of an English friend, and I received there one day, forwarded from my home in London, a telegram from Parnell. The telegram came from Ireland, and expressed an urgent desire to see me in town on as early a day as possible next week. I wired an answer suggesting a day, and received another telegram from Parnell accepting the suggestion, and telling me that he would call at my home in London at a late hour of

the day named. Many of my meetings with Parnell, both before and after the events that led to the split, were arranged for hours of the night when out talks were not likely to be interrupted by a call from the ordinary visitor.

I brought my holiday to a close not over-willingly, for London is dreary in September, but I knew that Parnell would not have sought a meeting without good reason for it. I shall tell of the meeting in my concluding article.

OUR CHRISTMAS BOX.

As there is a great variety of Christmas boxes, each according to the taste, or whim of the one selecting the gift, so there are many ways of making a box, after happy during the festive season. Of course the principal, and most acceptable, means of presenting a genuine Christmas box to your own organ, is to pay the year's subscription. But, while we do not care to mar the pleasures of the approaching holiday feelings by undue insistence upon this point, we wish to point out to our readers another method of doing us a like favor. Glance over our advertising columns—especially those containing new Christmas advertisements, and note the names of the various firms that appeal for public support. You will find almost every trade represented. When comes the time to make your holiday purchases, kindly give our advertisers your first call; and, in so doing, please mention the name of the "True Witness." It is but just that we should thus call attention to our advertising friends. They encourage us by taking space in our columns, and by giving us a fair share—and, in some cases, all—of the patronage at their disposal. In return we cannot do less than invite our readers to accord to them a full share of the patronage which during the season now at hand, must go some place. We have always and in all things, sought to deal out even handed justice, and it is only in accord with that programme that we solicit for our patrons the custom of all our friends, and all the friends of the sacred cause which we support. Every dollar spent with one of our advertisers is worth a good deal to us. It enhances the value of our paper, presents a most broad-minded view of the Irish people, enable us to continue our splendid mission, and prove to the world that gratitude is not an unknown quantity amongst us.

There is no need of any further elaboration of the theme. The advertiser gives us his announcement—and pay for its insertion; the customer reads the advertisement, and just goes to that special place for what he may require; the advertiser learns from the other's lips, how he came to be there, and he replies that the "True Witness" is able to meet and surmount all obstacles, and to give good results as far as the advertiser is concerned. Not wishing to disturb the harmony existing between us and the half of Montreal's advertising public, we will leave the theme for the serious contemplation of all who would like to see us succeed.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

On December 5, President McKinley, delivered his message to the fifty-sixth United States Congress. It is always of interest to our people to know—at least one the larger lines—the trend of American politics. We can generally glean from the President's expressions the drift of American policy for the coming year. Since we are such close neighbors and our interests are so closely allied, we can judge better of our own public career, and its prospects, when we have a clear idea of the spirit and action of the American Government. As was to be expected the President made a feeling reference to the death of Vice-President Hobart.

The question of the condition of the American treasury does not awaken any particular interest in our people, nor do we need to examine closely the detailed expressions on the standard of money, the treasurer's power, and trusts. But there are other subjects treated in the message, which either come home directly, to us, or serve as lessons for our careful study.

In speaking of the present banking act, and its advisable changes, the President said:

"The President finds that under the rapid development in the industries of the country the national banking act is not a sufficient avenue through which needed addition to the circulation can from time to time be made. He therefore asks Congress to take up this matter with the view of ascertaining whether or not such reasonable modifications can be made as will render the acts of service in the particulars referred to more responsive to the peoples' needs. He urges that national banks be authorized to organize with a capital of \$25,000."

Without wishing to criticise, much less to boast, we might well say that if the President had advised Congress to study carefully the Canadian Banking system, he would be doing a very beneficial deed. It is evident that, on this continent, and possibly in the whole world there exists not a better banking system than in Canada. While it may be open to slight alterations, as events crowd upon each other, still it stands as a whole, like the solid foundation of an imperishable national edifice.

In regard to the Alaskan Boundary question—which affects us more closely than all the others—we feel that all we need do is to reproduce the remarks of Mr. McKinley. He said:

"In my last annual message I referred to the pending negotiations with Great Britain in respect to the Dominion of Canada. By means of

an executive agreement a Joint Alaskan Commission had been created for the purpose of adjusting all unsettled questions between the United States and Canada, embracing twelve subjects, among which were the questions of fur seals, the fisheries of the coast and contiguous inland waters, the Alaskan boundary, the transit of merchandise in bond, the alien laws, mining rights, reciprocity in trade, revision of the agreement respecting naval vessels in the great lakes, a more complete marking of parts of the boundary, provision for the conveyance of criminals, for wrecking and salvage.

Much progress had been made by the commission toward the adjustment of many of these questions, when it became apparent that an irreconcilable difference of views was entertained respecting the delimitation of the Alaskan boundary. In the failure of an agreement, as to the meaning of articles 3 and 1 of the treaty of 1825 between Russia and Great Britain, which defined the boundary between Alaska and Canada, the American commissioners proposed that the subject of the boundary be laid aside and that the remaining questions of difference be proceeded with, some of which were so far advanced as to assure the probability of a settlement. This being declined by the British commissioners, an adjournment was taken until the boundary should be adjusted by the two Governments.

The subject has been receiving the careful attention which its importance demands, with the result that a modus vivendi for provisional demarcations in the region about the head of Lynn Canal has been agreed upon, and it is hoped that the negotiations now in progress between the two Governments will end in an agreement for the establishment and delimitation of a permanent boundary. "Apart from these questions growing out of our relationship with our northern neighbors, the most friendly disposition and ready agreement have marked the discussion of numerous matters arising in the vast and intimate intercourse of the United States with Great Britain."

These are very general terms, and they convey very little beyond what the Canadian public already knows. Still it is significant to note that the President asserts the existence of pleasant relations between the United States and Canada. The details of these questions, in as far as they affect us, belong to the domain of active politics, and we, therefore, can have no comment to make.

After a cold drive a teaspoonful of Pain-killer mixed with a glass of hot water and sugar will be found a better stimulant than whiskey. Avoid substitutes; there is but one Pain-killer, Perry-Davis', 25 cents and 50 cents.

THE THREE STAGES.

For the early stage, Scott's Emulsion is a cure; for the second stage, it cures many; and for the last stages of consumption it soothes the cough and prolongs the life.

TWENTY-TWO YEARS AGO.

(From the Files of the "True Witness," Year 1877.)

On Thursday, April 19th, the Irish Catholic pilgrims will leave Montreal for Rome. They are to start at 3 p.m., and will be met on their arrival in New York by deputations from the leading Catholics of that city.

We rejoice to learn that the Shamrock Lacrosse Team is determined to try its luck for the championship this year. They come from a race of athletes and the many years they held the championship prove that they were not degenerate sons of the land they come from. The Irishmen of Montreal should be proud of their countrymen, whose emblem is the "immortal leaf."

What about the proposed Union of the various Irish societies in Montreal? If we are to become a power in this city it can only be done by standing shoulder to shoulder. Time will come when it will be necessary for the Irish people to put forth all their strength, and that can only be done by union—May 9.

The semi-annual meeting of the Emerald Snowshoe Club, was held on April 6. The membership roll shows that 127 members are in good standing.

The election of Mr. Edward Murphy as president of the City and District Savings Bank, May 9, did not surprise the citizens of Montreal. Mr. Murphy has been a director for 16 years. We rejoice at the advancement of our co-religionist and our countryman.

Died at the Mother House, Gay Street, on Wednesday, March 28, Catherine Forbes, aged 73 years and 11 months. We make the announcement with deep regret. Who has not heard of Sister Forbes—who did not esteem her? She was Superioress of St. Patrick's Orphan Asylum for 23 years.

It is expected that the Windsor Hotel will be opened on Dominion Day.

Mayor Beaudry has offered the amount of his yearly salary to the city in view of the general policy of retrenchment.

Retrenchment is to be practised by the new city council, as taxes are likely to be lessened. A property assessed at \$35,000 was recently sold for \$18,000; another valued at \$22,000 was sold at \$14,000. An Alberman also proposes a reduction in the salary of every corporation official.

Mission at St. Patrick's and St. Ann's, this week, March 13. In the former we find that there were during the mission 3,088 men communicated, 4,550 women do; 100 converts confirmed; 73 women do; 17 converts in St. Ann's we find the results are as signally satisfactory. There were 3,260 men communicated; 3,740 women do; 331 confirmations; 35 converts.

Besides these there were 500 people took the pledge at St. Patrick's and about an equal number at St. Ann's.

St. Patrick's Day. Ten thousand Irishmen and women turn out to honor the day. Father Martin Callaghan preaches the sermon, and the inspiring eloquence of the young divine moved men's hearts with emotions of pleasure and joy. It was for God and Ireland.

Mr. F. B. McNamee, acting president of St. Patrick's Society, occupied the chair at the concert in the evening which was held in the Mechanic's Hall. He read the following telegrams:

Ottawa, March 17. S. Cross, St. Patrick's Society.

The Irishmen of Ottawa reciprocate your friendly greeting; Home rule for Ireland, they wish to see accomplished, and hope for a united Irish people in this our adopted country.

W. H. WALLER, Soc. St. P. L. Association.

Quebec, March 17. S. Cross, St. Patrick's Society.

In the name of the St. Patrick's Literary Institute, I cordially reciprocate your greetings and felicitations.

ROBT. H. McGEHEE, President.

Kingston, March 17th. S. Cross, St. Patrick's Society.

The Irishmen of Kingston cordially reciprocate the fraternal salutation of their brethren of Montreal, and hope the day is not far distant when the wondrous of legislative freedom shall beam over old Ireland.

T. H. McGUIRE, Pres. St. Patrick's Society.

Sometimes we have to travel far in order to learn things that belong

to our own country. An Irish paper, publishes a New York despatch to the following effect:

"A sensation has been created in religious circles by the decision reported to have been come to by the authorities of one of the principal Baptist churches here. The conduct of some of the members of the congregation on week days has not been such as to earn the approval of the pastor, who announces that a series of magic lantern pictures will be shown at the church on Sunday night revealing various members of his flock entering saloons and doing other wrong deeds during the week. The church, it is said, has employed a snapshot photographer, who has been working for a month past shadowing suspected backsliders for the purpose of making them known as they really are. The pastor promises this magic lantern entertainment will be presented each Sunday as long as may be necessary. Dalziel."

ONE IRELAND ENOUGH.

Coming from a British statesman, a member of the House of Lords, who—though a Catholic—is jealous of the prestige of his country, the remark that "one Ireland was quite enough," has a grim and serious meaning. We quote the Liverpool Catholic Times:

"The Marquis of Ripon speaking at Bolton on Tuesday night tendered a tribute of sympathy to Lord Salisbury in his bereavement, and referring to the inadequate preparations for war said he believed the Government had been deceived by those who told them, that if they were only firm President Kruger would in the end give in. In the final settlement they should hold Lord Salisbury was one of equality among the European nations. There were those who wanted the supremacy of one race, but one Ireland was quite enough (laughter and cheers)."

Possibly this is the severest blow that the Imperialism of Great Britain could receive. In fine words the Marquis of Ripon opens up the history of three, and even more centuries of England's domineering over Ireland.

A very pretty custom obtains among certain classes by which the newly married pair starts a savings bank for the child yet to be. Every day a penny or a dime, as the case may be, is dropped into the bank

to swell the fund, and this practice is kept up until the child is old enough to save for itself.

The parents have the right theory but how rarely they carry it to its broadest application. Every mother is performing laying up for her child what money cannot influence—impunity or misery. The nervous mother will have a nervous child. The irritable and fearful mother cannot have a happy and cheerful child. In mind and body the child will reflect the mother's condition.

The best preparation for motherhood is made by the use of Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. Its perfect control over the sensitive feminine organism gives a natural influence over the mind. It banishes anxiety and fear. It does away with the misery of morning sickness. It gives vitality and elasticity to the organs peculiarly feminine, and makes the trial of motherhood a "little easy and brief." It makes healthy mothers, capable of nursing and nourishing the babes they bring into the world. "Favorite Prescription" contains no alcohol, whisky or other intoxicant. Accept no substitute.

Mrs. Axel Kjer, of Gordonville, Cape Girardeau Co., Mo., writes: "When I look at my little boy I feel it my duty to write to you. Perhaps some one will see my testimony and be led to use your 'Favorite Prescription' and be blessed in the same way. This child and the only one who came to maturity; the others having died from lack of nourishment—so the doctor said. It was not sickly in any way and this time I just thought I would try your 'Prescription.' I took nine bottles and to my surprise it carried me through, and gave me a little boy as ever was. Weighed ten and one-half pounds. He is now five months old, has never been sick a day, and is so strong that everybody who sees him wonders at him. He is so playful and holds himself up so well. I would like to see this in print for so many have asked me. Do you think these are the testimonials of the people, or has Dr. Pierce just made them up and printed them?"

Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets cure biliousness.

ALWAYS KEEP ON HAND
Pain-Killer
THERE IS NO KIND OF PAIN OR ACHE, INTERNAL OR EXTERNAL, THAT PAIN-KILLER WILL NOT RELIEVE.
LOOK OUT FOR IMITATIONS AND SUBSTITUTES. THE GENUINE BOTTLE BEARS THE NAME,
PERRY DAVIS & SON.

REFRIGERATORS.

The Public are taking advantage of our Great Clearing Sale and Discount of 80 per cent. off Catalogue List. Buy while this chance offers.

Several sizes already sold out;

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MANUFACTURERS,

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THE FUTURE OF CATHOLICITY.

In the current number of the "Nineteenth Century," W. H. Mallock, has an able, but very peculiar contribution. Coming from a non-Catholic, and one of Mr. Mallock's acknowledged ability, its conclusions are decidedly significant. It might be here remarked that, within the past few months, the "True Witness" has published several editorials that harmonize in many points with this writer's arguments—especially on the lack of any central, or infallible authority in Protestantism. The title of this contribution is "The Intellectual Future of Catholicism." It is divided into four sections, and each of these would require several columns in order to fully analyze it. With the fourth, and last section, have we the most to do; yet, we cannot avoid taking a few extracts from the other sections.

After quoting the admissions of "three distinguished theologians, who may be taken as representing the whole drift of opinion among Protestants or the Reformed Churches," the writer comes to one great conclusion. He says: "That conclusion is this, that the Bible, taken by itself, is no guide to true Christianity, and affords no proof that such and such doctrines are true." Without loading our page with the lengthy—and certainly logical—argument which brought the writer to this conclusion, we will pass to his third section. The title of this chapter is a synopsis of its contents. It is entitled: "Emergence of the Necessity for some Living Infallible Authority. Rome alone can make any successful claim to this. Absurdity of all Protestant Theories."

De it remarked that Mr. Mallock does not study this question from the religious or doctrinal standpoint but rather from the "intellectual" side of the subject.

Having laid down as a doctrine that Scripture is insufficient unless guaranteed and interpreted by some authority external to itself, he states that this authority—be it what it may—has two sets of questions to answer. "Firstly, since the Bible is a mixture of truth and error, it has to separate for us the inspired passages from the erroneous; and, secondly, since the inspired passages imply more than they say, since the Christian Creeds are deduced from, and rather contained in, them, and since equally earnest men have deduced from them very different conclusions, this authority must separate for us what is orthodox in dogma, from what is heretical, just as it separates for us in the Bible the divine elements from the human." Nothing could be clearer or more exact than the foregoing, and naturally does it suggest this question: "Of what does this authority consist and how are we to identify its utterances?"

"One Church," he says, "that of Rome, gives a clear and definite answer. The authority in question is the Church of Rome itself, which, from time to time, under very special conditions, and as the occasion happens to demand, infallibly enunciates the truth through its elaborately organized Councils. We will come to Rome presently, but we must first consider the position of Protestantism, of those churches and parties which, whatever their other differences, are, with regard to this question of authority, united in being opposed to Rome."

Incidentally it might be here remarked that some time ago a writer in the "News-Tribune," of Detroit, took the "True Witness" to task for classing as Protestants, all Christians outside the pale of Catholicity. The reply given did not bring forth any attempted answer; yet Mr. Mallock has stated the same truth in a much more concise manner in the last quoted sentence.

Before following him into the pathway that leads to the consideration of Rome's authority, it might be well to select a few extracts from the pages upon Protestant authority. He says in one place: "The question, then, for the Protestant apologists of to-day is: By what means does this authority speak now? And to this question, it is daily growing more apparent, Protestantism can give no reasonable answer. After quoting the opinions of Canon Gore, Professor Harnock, and the Dean of Canterbury—the representatives of the three leading schools of Protestant thought—he says: "This scientific criticism, which the Deans considers as so undestructive, has destroyed, at all events, our belief in three things—the miraculous birth of Christ, His Resurrection, and His Ascension. What shall we say, then, of any Protestant doctrine of agreement . . . when the very men who are most eager to put this authority forward, are found to be contradic-

ting each other with regard to the very rudiments of the faith which this authority imposes on them, and cannot agree that it imposes on them even a belief in the resurrection of their Lord?" The writer then proceeds to indicate the "intellectual bankruptcy of Protestantism" and to contrast it with "precisely the opposite" in Catholicity. In so doing we find the following important question asked: "Who can conceive of four Catholic theologians, all claiming to speak in the name of the Church of Rome, but holding opposite views, and expressing them with equal vehemence, as to the nature of the priesthood, and of the sacraments, the authority of General Councils, and even as to the question whether Christ arose from the dead? The idea is absurd. There are many doctrinal questions as to which even Rome has as yet defined nothing; but the doctrines which she has defined she has defined clearly and forever; and she will forever stand by these definitions, or will fall by them."

This is decidedly a most remarkable statement of the case, especially coming from outside the Catholic Church. But if Mr. Mallock has been strong in his reasoning out this important question of authority, he has been still more exceptional when he wrote: "We shall discover in a yet more striking way the unique capacity of Rome for defending the Christian faith and, without being false to any one of its present principles, turning modern science into its practical witness and supporter."

For this week we will be contented with various passages—pointed out, if you will, but still constituting the leading links in Mr. Mallock's chain of reasoning—but in another issue we hope to make these the basis of an argument, from a Catholic standpoint, that, strange to say, will prove all, and more still, that this writer establishes. Turning now to his chapter on Rome, we find him illustrating the adaptability of the Church to all circumstances. In this connection he says of Protestantism: "It is almost structureless; it is made up of heterogeneous, yet similar parts; it has no single brain by which the whole structure is guided, and new sects are born from it by the simple process of fission. The Church of Rome, on the contrary, by a process of continuous growth has developed, through the differentiation of parts, an increasingly conscious unity, and a single organ of thought and historic memory, constantly able to explain and to restate doctrine, and to attest, as though from personal experience, the facts of its earliest history." We would especially draw attention to the following, in which Mr. Mallock has struck the key note of the Church's continuity, with an eloquence such as Lacordaire displayed. He writes: "Is doubt thrown on the Resurrection and Ascension of Christ? The Church of Rome replies, 'I was at the door of the Sepulchre myself. My eyes saw the Lord come forth. My eyes saw the cloud receive Him. Is doubt thrown on Christ's miraculous birth? The Church of Rome replies, 'I can attest the fact, even if no other witness can, for the angel had said, 'Hail! in my ear as well as Mary's.'"

"That," says he, "the strength of the Roman position does not end here; and he proceeds to show that Protestantism plumes itself greatly on the fact that many of the Church's teachings were taught by pagans—Plato, Aristotle, and others. He then argues that were it the case of Protestantism this fact might cast discredit upon its system: "but the moment the Church is presented to us as a fully developed organism, with a single directing brain inspired by the Spirit of God, all this selection of doctrines, from non-Christian sources, is exhibited merely as the selection by some individual living creature of the food that suits it, and the conversion of it into the substance of its own body."

On this point we will have, in the next issue, some criticism to press. In the strict theological sense Mr. Mallock errs; but his intention is decidedly good. Before closing this simple collection of extracts—all of which we have gathered for a purpose—let us see how the article from which we quote, terminates. "If one who is not a Catholic may venture to give an opinion, it appears to me that, the credibility of any religion being granted, the intellectual prospects of Christianity were never more reassuring than they are as now represented by the prospects of the Church of Rome, under the pressure of historical criticism and the philosophy of organic solution."

This bank has about 2,000 depositors, out of 15,000 negroes resident in the city of Birmingham. It has a few white depositors. In investing its funds it gives a preference to patrons of its own race, questions of security being equally satisfactory but it has a considerable number of white men among its customers. Mr. Pettiford, the President has resided in Birmingham for twenty years. He was for ten years pastor of the Sixteenth Street Baptist Church here. B. H. Hudson, the cashier, is a graduate of one of the Southern institutions of learning for the colored race.

I sat in the office of this bank one forenoon for about an hour to watch the customers who came in. The business was like that of any institution of the kind, except that every caller was colored. One man made a deposit whom I knew as an ex-Tuskegee student, who since leaving school has opened a grocery store in Birmingham and established a business which would be a credit to any city of the size. A large number of the patrons of the bank are women and children. One boy came in while I was there and added a quarter to his account.

I quote one paragraph from a recent public address of the President of this bank: "Let us remind ourselves of the fact that for us to constitute so large a proportion of the people and not to retain a part of the profits of our own consumption is detrimental to the whole country. Think of the great profits on the sides to us of groceries, lumber, hardware, furniture, medicines, and dry goods, as well as the great cost of handling these goods, and you will get some idea of all that we are losing by not having banks among us. The expression is very prevalent among us that we cannot unite. In the language of some, the negroes will not stand together. It may be said of them that they have not much to make them stick. If we were connected in moneyed interests, as stockholders scattered over the state, and the Legislature were purposing to raise taxes on our business stockholders all over the state would watch the Legislature with the same interest. They would be united through their business."

There has also been organized at Birmingham this year the only negroes coal-mining company in the country. This is the Birmingham Gate Coal-Mining Company, with offices at No. 127 South Twentieth Street, a coal-yard on First Avenue, and a mine at Tacon, twelve miles distant. The stock is all owned by colored men, and the officers of the company are colored. The President is T. W. Walker, the general manager is Mr. Pettiford, who is the president of the bank described above, and the Secretary is Mr. F. P. McAlpine.

The mine is known as the "Helena," and it produces an unusually fine quality of grate coal, which has a good local reputation in the city. The mine is the property of a large corporation which owns and operates much mineral land. The mine and about 2,000 acres of land have been leased to this company. There are about one hundred and fifty stockholders. No one man owns more than ten shares of stock. The mining boss of the company, named Roebuck is the moving spirit in the enterprise. This man, a negro giant in physique, has been a practical coal-miner for twenty years, and nearly all this time has been trying to get a colored men's mine started. He is a stockholder, as are very nearly all of the men who work in or about the mine. There were about forty men at work at the mine when I was there, but the plant was not in full operation, as the first coal was got out only in September.

CATHOLIC YOUNG MEN'S SOCIETIES

We frequently quote the Catholic Universe, of Cleveland, because in its columns we meet with articles of superior quality containing striking passages, or fresh ideas as the case may be. On the subject of "Catholic Young Men's Societies," that organ, in a late issue, drew a very fine distinction between "a Catholic society" and "a society of Catholics." It says: "They emphasize the social feature and slight the religious feature. Monthly communion is eliminated for quarterly or semi-annual communion. This, of course, comes with the letter though not with the spirit of the law. Some of our 'higher-toned' societies have no general communion days to let their light shine before others." As far as any demonstration is concerned, they "hide their light under a bushel." We all know very well that the grace which comes from the sacraments is necessary for true and vigorous Catholic life.

"Amusement is the chief object of most of the members in young men's societies. Innocent amusement is commendable and necessary. But if all the time of the young men be devoted to bowling and boxing, to billiards, cards and gymnastics, such an association is of little religious or moral benefit to its members. Often such a society may be a detriment by turning the minds and habits in a wrong direction. Everything contributes to make us what we are and unperceptibly to mold the character."

"I see the right and I approve it, too, condemn the wrong, and yet the wrong pursue."—Ovid.

"We know very well that our young men want to be considered men. Well, let us so consider them and let them imitate St. Paul, who says: 'When I was a child I did as a child, but when I became a man I put away the things of a child.' Our Catholic young men ought to be manly, honest and brave, improving the time and their opportunities, and make each other better by their association. They should have moral courage enough to condemn unprincipled and un-Catholic conduct in the unworthy members of their society. Not all members are worthy of a

place on the roll of honor. Those who have no honor ought to be sent out to seek it."

We coincide with the statement of our contemporary to the effect that: "Spiritual and mental strength should be developed in our young men's societies. The library and the debating room and the lecture hall should claim the most attention. Amusements should be merely for short recreation."

We are not sufficiently acquainted with the workings of Catholic societies in the United States, to express any opinion concerning them, but we know perfectly well that in this country, it would be a blessing were there to be more spiritual, moral, and mental cultivation, than physical training and general amusements. The object of a Catholic Young Men's Society should be above all a religious one; such as mental training, literary perfecting—through reading-rooms, libraries, lectures, and other means of education—and finally recreative amusements of a healthy, useful and interesting class. We would even go further and insist on prepared debates, regular conversations, on public questions—political, municipal, national, and religious. It is necessary that the coming generation should appreciate the position of our people in Canada to-day—and they can never learn anything of this class at a billiard table. The difficulty we now experience in regard to the Mayoralty is an illustration of how far behind we allow ourselves to fall. And to the Catholic societies we appeal to sink all petty differences, in the twice holy cause of God and country."

Take care of the stomach and the health will take care of itself. If people only realized the soundness of that statement the majority might live to a good old age like Moses. "The eye undimmed, the natural force unabated." It is in the stomach that the blood is made. It is from the stomach that nourishment is dispersed to nerve and muscle. If the stomach is "weak" it can't do its whole work for each part of the body. If it is diseased the disease will retard the nourishment, which is distributed, and so spread disease throughout the body. It was the realization of the importance of the stomach as the very centre of health and the common source of disease, which led Dr. Pierce to produce his "Golden Medical Discovery." This discovery, which originates in the stomach, has been cured through the stomach. The soundness of this theory is proved every day by cures of diseased organs, heart, liver, lungs, blood, by the use of the "Discovery," which is sold singly and a medicine for the blood and organs of digestion and nutrition. It is a temperance and medicine containing no alcohol, whiskey or other intoxicant.

Germany has just completed elaborate experiments with sugar as a

food for troops. The object was to test the advantages of sugar diet in cases where great exertions were to be made within a brief period. According to reports of experiments in various army corps a favorable result has been secured. Prof. Pfuhl, head of the physiological laboratory of the army department, states it has been proved that a sugar diet increases the muscular power in a comparatively short time, considerably shorter than does the white of an egg. Prof. Pfuhl, in a series of experiments on himself, found that after long walks three or four lumps of sugar removed all feelings of lassitude and to a certain extent restored the elasticity of the muscles.

A PREACHER'S VOICE

Raised in praise of Dr. Sproule.

When one is entering the threescore and ten mile stone in life's journey it is natural to expect that the body will begin to break down. This is especially true in the case of any who like myself have borne the burden and heat of the day, as well as the severest rigors of our northern winters in my labors as a Methodist Minister. Realizing that only the highest still would sternly combat the ravages of nature in the most arduous and fever, in such a case as mine, I feel it my duty to tell everybody of Dr. Sproule's great ability.



Not only that but I can conscientiously advise everybody to rely absolutely on the Doctor's statement. I have found him to be a most reliable man in the truest sense of the word, honor and praiseworthy a man of Christian duty, and one who will do his work as well as would any other member of the Ministry who had the same good.

Dr. Sproule has proved himself a great physician, but he is not only a truly good man.

I will be glad to tell anybody about the Doctor's great skill and kindness, or will at any time stand by him to the end.

May God bless Dr. Sproule in his daily prayer of his grateful friends.

REV. WM. HUGHES, Houston, Ont.

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COLORED MEN IN BUSINESS.

In a recent article in the "Atlantic Monthly," Booker T. Washington refers to a negro bank in Birmingham, Ala., in these words:

A short time ago I read letters from nearly every prominent white man in Birmingham, Ala., asking that Rev. W. R. Pettiford, a negro, be appointed to a certain important federal office. What is the explanation for this? For nine years Mr. Pettiford has been the President of the negro bank in Birmingham. During those nine years the white citizens have had the opportunity of seeing that Mr. Pettiford can manage successfully a private business, and that he has proved himself a conservative thoughtful citizen.

The bank to which Mr. Washington refers, says a correspondent of the New York Post, is the Alabama Penny Saving and Loan Company of this city, an institution founded, officered and managed wholly by negroes, and doing business of \$75,000 annually. There is only one other

bank of the kind in the South, and that is at Richmond, Va.

The Birmingham bank was opened for business October 15th, 1890, in a rented room on Eighteenth street. The name given it then was "The Alabama Penny Savings Bank." This name was changed when the bank was incorporated in 1895. The bank now owns its own building a substantial three-story brick structure on Twentieth Street, in the centre business part of the city. The two upper floors are rented; the ground floor is fitted with a neat counting-room, vaults, and all the usual accessories of a modern bank. The bank also owns about forty lots in the city, many of them improved, from which it derives a considerable monthly rental. The capital stock is \$25,000. Its deposits are nearly \$50,000 with a steadily increasing business. It pays 4 per cent. on time deposits, and makes its loans principally on real estate securities.

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OUR CANDIDATE FOR MAYOR.

Now's the Day and Now's the Hour.

On Monday evening next, immediately after the mission service in St. Patrick's Church, a mass meeting of the Irish Catholic citizens of Montreal will be held in St. Patrick's Hall. The object of the meeting is to nominate a candidate for the mayoralty. For months the "True Witness" has filled its columns with appeals to the Irish-Catholic element to prevent, by one grand united movement, the passing away of a right that usage has consecrated and that practice has confirmed. We have begged of our people not to allow our term to be lost, nor to hazard the future municipal influence that we should possess by ignoring the important crisis now upon us. We admit that the general excuse for apathy, or indifference was that we had no candidate, no man willing to undertake the self-sacrificing task of heroically standing in the breach and safeguarding the sacred interests of our people. The occasion is at hand; the man is ready—provided the Irish people of this city give evidence of their unanimous desire to save the cause of justice and fair representation. The occasion comes in the form of Mayor Prefontaine's intention to violate the unwritten compact which has given the mayoralty to a French-Canadian, an English-speaking Protestant, and an Irish-Catholic—each, in turn, and his determination to create a precedent that would pave the way to a monopoly of the chief magistracy, or even a dictatorship in the person of an over-ambitious aspirant. The man is Mr. William McNally, one of Montreal's leading merchants, and possibly one of the most able Irish-Catholic representatives that our city could secure. Mr. McNally is prepared to face the struggle, to fight to the finish, and then—after victory—to give equal justice to all races and all religious sections of our mixed community. Nothing has been a keener sense of duty could ever induce such a man to step out of the regular pathway that he has followed in life, and enter an arena in which he has never had any ambitions. But the fact that if the term is allowed to go by default, a long standing agreement will be violated, and each section of the community instead of having the assurance of a regular turn for the representation of its members in the mayoralty, would discover that in future the securing of such an honor would become a matter of scramble and indiscriminate grab, has its weight with the new and young aspirant, and will go a long way in determining his

course of action. The only condition necessary is the united expression of the Irish people. This is no time for sectional differences, for political bickerings, for factional disputes, for personal antagonisms; it is a crisis in which all—without exception—must stand shoulder to shoulder; and if, for once the Irish-Catholics of Montreal unite, they will have the co-operation of all fair-minded citizens of other sections, and the month of February next will see Mr. William McNally Mayor of the city. There is not a qualification that Mr. McNally lacks. Born and educated in Montreal, he has made it the home and the scene of his many successes in the commercial world to which he belongs. Financially, socially, commercially, intellectually, and in every other manner, he is one pre-eminently fitted to occupy the chair of Chief Magistrate. The Board of Trade has acknowledged his abilities and other sterling qualities, in conferring upon him honors that are often to rare amongst our people. A young man, of splendid record, and with a character that glitters under the searchlight of inquiry, and in its sheen the jewels of integrity, patriotism and fidelity, to every duty, public or private, are conspicuous. An honor to himself and to his own immediate relatives, a credit to the Irish race, a model for Catholics, and an example worthy the imitation of all sections. Mr. McNally will come before the electorate with one of the clearest records of any man in Canada. There is no further any excuse. The honor of our people is at stake; the preservation of our rights, our privileges, our interests hang in the balance; the most momentous crisis in our civic history is upon us; the man to redeem much that has been lost, and to establish the municipal importance of our people, is found. Mr. McNally, replied very briefly when asked about his candidature; but he left it clearly to be understood that he was willing, if the Irish people were willing. It is a glorious thing that there is a man, possessing every qualification necessary, prepared to respond to the call of the moment; it remains for the Irish-Catholics of all classes and divisions—rich and poor, great and small—to rally around the standard borne by Mr. McNally, and thereby secure the perpetuity of our just claim to every third term, as well as demonstrate to the great public one phase of the danger that still menaces.

evident that the speaker purposely omitted to mention the Roman Catholic Church—just as if it were not the only true Church of Christ. Referring to all the denominational churches, he claims that they should have more to say in politics, as they would learn much from the politicians, while the politicians would greatly benefit the members. It is well that he does not include the Catholic Church, for in her case, his argument would not stand five seconds.

The Archbishop of Paris has decided that the Exposition is to be inaugurated by a solemn High Mass, celebrated in the Basilica of the Sacre Coeur, with all ceremonial and the assistance of an orchestra comprising some of the greatest artists in the musical world.

Special cable despatches announce General Canare's retirement, with 633 British casualties, after an attack on an impregnable position at Stormberg with a force of 2,700.

French statistics of the last year show that the number of deaths has increased by 54,054, while the number of births has decreased by 15,174.

At Washington the Apostolic Delegate there has received the text of the decree from the Pope designating the year 1900 as the holy year. The decree permits the celebration of midnight Mass in all Catholic Churches on the night of December 31. This is the first time in the history of the Church that any priest has been permitted to celebrate mass at the midnight beginning of the new year. The decree also grants the privilege of communion at the midnight Mass.

Henri Turcot, a brilliant French journalist, who has been studying the situation in the Philippines says that it would take the United States ten years with 100,000 to pacify that country.

Strenuous efforts are being made to put down bull fighting in France. A society just formed, and called the Union Populaire Contre Courses Taureaux, already numbers 2,000 members, of whom 117 are Deputies.

The congregation of the Hanson Place Baptist Church, in Brooklyn, intend having a roof garden, or open air auditorium, on the new edifice where services can be held in summer months. Heretofore they simply closed up the church in summer time. What effect will this Babylonian-hanging-garden system have? Next summer will tell.

The London County Council has decided to expend \$15,000,000 on the extension of the main drainage system. It has also invited tenders for converting the whole of London's tramway system from horse to the electric conduit traction. With street improvements and other public works the Council is committed to a total outlay of \$100,000,000. This means work for the millions. It is badly needed in London.

The official opening of the Paris Exposition will take place on Saturday, 14th April next.

The date originally set was Easter Sunday, which falls on April 15. From the fact that the official opening is now fixed for the preceding day, it would seem that the grounds and building will be opened to the general public on the great Christian festival next spring.

An episcopal ring, an episcopal cross, a purple robe, a Swiss timepiece that had done service for upward of half a century, and \$2.92 in money—these were the chief assets of the Right Rev. Louis de Goossbriand, Bishop of Burlington, when he died.

According to the Ave Maria the General Communion of the Catholic Young Men's National Union, which took place on December 10th, witnessed 50,000 young men approach the Holy Table. The union is a federation of all the Catholic societies of the Republic. Its aim is to solidify the influence of Catholic young men. When 50,000 speak by the eloquence of such an action as a general communion, it is very likely that their united voice will be heard and will carry weight with it. We should have such an organization in Canada.

A class in cooking has been started at the home of the Gray Nuns, 89 Union Park Street, Boston. Miss Marietta McPherson, a graduate of the Boston Cooking School, will be the instructor.

The "Catholic Columbian" says the firm of Harper & Bros., which has printed more anti-Catholic literature than any other publishers in America is bankrupt. Pierpont Morgan, one of the creditors is trying to put it on its feet.

The "Catholic Journal" of Memphis, publishes some extracts from the financial statement of St. Peter's Orphan Asylum. It says:—"From September 1, 1898 to September 1, 1899, the receipts from all sources amounted to \$5,150.30; total expenditures for the same period being \$3,817.94, leaving a cash balance to the credit of the board of \$1,332.36.

This certainly is a magnificent showing when the fact is taken into consideration that the register shows that 118 orphans were clothed, fed, educated and cared for during the past year.

Augusta, Ga., was the scene of a most disastrous fire a few days ago. The loss is estimated at \$1,000,000.

The Conservative press is jubilant over the result of the recent local elections in Manitoba, and attributes the same to the political policy of the triumphant party; the Liberal press, on the other hand, pretends that the defeat of the Greenway Government is due to the natural desire on the part of the people, for a change, after long years of unchanged Government. It is a subject for the discussion of politicians, and each party will seek to make as much capital, or draw as much consolation as possible out of it. As far as we are concerned we agree with neither one side nor the other. We look upon the result as an example of that retribution which must always come, sooner or later, when a party or an individual perpetrates an act of injustice. There is no escape from it; experience and history alike teach that the ultimate ending of all powers that are guilty of wrong doing, is extinction.

The many friends of Sister Kavanagh, of the Grey Nuns, will regret to learn that she is dangerously ill at the Mother House Guy Street. Sister Kavanagh returned from Toledo a short time ago.

CIVIC AFFAIRS.

THE MAYORALTY.—His Honor Mayor Prefontaine, has been long feeling his way to another term, and has certainly been "placing himself in the hands of his friends," while praying in his heart that "his friends" (meaning a small circle of interested individuals) would use the opportunity of having him in their hands to pitch him into office for two years more. In an interview with "La Presse," Mr. Prefontaine said that he certainly intended to seek election, "because he has good reason to believe that it is the wish of the people." This is very fine, indeed. Any man, who can succeed in getting half a dozen friends together and have them pass a resolution favorable to his candidacy, can say that he is merely obeying the voice of the people. But if all Montreal, irrespective of creed, race or party, were to fall down at Mr. Prefontaine's knees and beg of him to cease more to be mayor of this city for a term of two years, in face of the broad principle which he laid down on the occasion of his election two years ago, he could not consistently accept. Irrespective of Mr. Prefontaine's very natural and laudable impression of his own omnipotence in municipal affairs, and his own indispensability as chief magistrate; still we claim that no individual citizen can possibly be so necessary that the fate of the city depends upon his retention of office. No man is of such terrific importance that the earth would cease to revolve, or a country cease to exist, or a city cease to be governed by laws made in her own council, the moment that such a prominent individual drops from the ranks. What we insist upon is, not so much Mr. Prefontaine and his policy, his achievements, his contradictory principles, and his ungovernable ambition, as the fact that an evil precedent would be created, and the gate would be open for the free admission of all and every aspirant of the future. It is not because Mr. Prefontaine would fail in doing honor to civic dignity, but because the ice would be broken and for all time to come our city would be exposed to the danger of a dictatorship on the part of each new Mayor.

ST. ANN'S MARKET, which is something of a historical monument, and which is an old landmark to farmers in the districts adjoining Montreal, is doomed to destruction. The city fathers in their wisdom have decided that its usefulness has gone, and that it must cease to exist on the 1st of April next. The market is on the site formerly occupied by the Parliament buildings, which were burned to the ground more than sixty years ago. Perhaps Mr. Perry will mark the occasion by publishing a fresh batch of reminiscences.

MUNICIPAL CENSUS.—We are glad to note that the City Council has practically decided to have a census of the city taken next month, and that the compilation will contain what we have long claimed as a right—namely, a separate classification for English-speaking Catholics.

Our readers are thoroughly familiar with the important grounds on which we have based this claim. Our societies should take steps without delay to secure for our people a correct and full enumeration in the Montreal census.

SNEERS OF THE "DAILY WITNESS."

It is hard to overcome a bad habit that has long existed. The "Daily Witness" has, it must be candidly acknowledged, been making efforts of late to conquer its evil propensity to insult the Church and its august head. But that it has not yet succeeded in mending its ways in this regard is evident from an editorial which it published on Tuesday afternoon. A telegram from New York, was published in the papers that day stating that His Holiness the Pope had sent a communication to the Papal Delegate in the United States, Archbishop Martinelli, in reference to the special devotions to be practised at the beginning of 1900, which he has declared to be a Holy Year. The reporter who sent the telegram jumped to the mistaken conclusion that by so acting the Holy Father had decided the old controversy as to the end and the beginning of a century in favor of those who contend that the twentieth century will start on January 1st, 1900; and the "Daily Witness" hastened to sneer at the Pope's infallibility in going against the teaching of "science," which tells us that the new century will not begin until January 1st, 1901.

The "Daily Witness" is as ignorant of the instructions of the Sovereign Pontiff as to the special religious services to be held throughout Christendom next year and the year after as it is of the doctrine of Papal Infallibility. Nearly a year ago all the Catholic newspapers of Canada, the United States, the United Kingdom—the whole world in fact—published the programme of special devotions which the Pope had ordered to be held in the closing year of the nineteenth and opening of the twentieth century. The communication received by Archbishop Martinelli has reference to the closing year—1900—of this century, as was distinctively mentioned in the programme to which we have alluded. Of course the "Daily Witness" will not publish this correction of its error. Why does not the "Daily Witness" direct its ridicule against prominent Protestants who declare that the century begins on January 1st, 1900? The president of Wellesley College, Mass., asserted in writing last week that such was the case, and so did the president of Smith College.

Since writing the above the "Daily Witness" published the following letter from His Grace Archbishop Bruchesi:

(To the Editor of the "Witness.") Sir,—In last night's "Witness" I read a New York despatch announcing the appearance of a Papal decree relative to the inauguration of the approaching century. As I have not seen the text of the decree in question, I am not in a position to speak on the subject. However, on the strength of that despatch you publish in last evening's issue an editorial against which I deem it my duty to protest. The writer refers to the Pope in terms calculated to give offence to every Catholic. He alludes to Papal infallibility, indirectly, it is true, and in a manner which shows once more the false notions held by our separated brethren concerning that Catholic dogma. As a matter of fact, the question at issue, "When does the new century begin?" has no connection whatever with the infallibility of the Pope. I remain, yours truly,

PAUL, Archbishop of Montreal, Archbishop's Palace, Montreal, Dec. 13, 1899.

CHRISTMAS ORDINATIONS.

At certain periods in the year, and especially on the approach of such grand festivals as Christmas and Easter, the church ordains her ministers. This year the Christmas Ordination ceremonies will be performed by His Grace Archbishop Bruchesi, at the Cathedral. The day fixed for that solemn event is Saturday, 23rd December; and the hours of the celebration are from seven till half past ten in the forenoon. On this occasion 25 priests will be ordained, and about 75 others will receive either deaconship, sub-deaconship, minor orders, or tonsure. All of the young men whose sacerdotal lives will commence with the eve of Christmas, are destined to exercise the functions of their holy ministry throughout the various dioceses of Canada and the United States. The retreat preparatory to the reception of the grand Sacrament of Holy Orders, will commence to-morrow, Sunday, the 17th, December, and close on the night of the 22nd instant. May the choicest graces fall upon the aspirants to the sacerdotal dignity which is our wish and prayer.

ECHOES FROM QUEBEC.

QUEBEC, December 14.—Alderman Reynolds, the present Acting Mayor of this city, received a very gratifying proof, on Saturday evening last, of the esteem in which he is held not only by his Irish Catholic fellow

citizens, but by those of other nationalities and creeds. The popular alderman reached his fiftieth year on that day, and his friends and admirers took advantage of the occasion to let him know how warm a place he holds in their hearts. He was entertained at a banquet at the Victoria Hotel, where he was also presented with an appropriate and a handsome and valuable gold locket. His many friends in Montreal, where he is highly respected and where he is as popular as he is in Quebec, took part in the subscription for the purchase of the gift. A large number of prominent citizens attended, and speeches highly eulogistic of the many, good and lovable qualities of the host were delivered amidst hearty applause; and Alderman Reynolds, who was deeply touched at what he aptly termed "that grand demonstration of friendship," made a suitable reply. Songs and recitations lent variety to what will long be remembered by the Irish Catholics of Quebec as a very notable gathering.

TESTIMONIAL FUND FOR SENIOR SHAMROCKS.

Table listing names and amounts for the Shamrocks fund, including C. F. Smith, F. J. Hart, William McNally, Rev. J. E. Donnelly, M. McDonnell, M. Quigly, F. Featherstone, T. F. Trihey, J. P. Clarke, P. J. Carroll, C. A. McDonnell, J. E. Manning, W. J. O'Brien, E. Hart, W. P. Lunny, P. Wright, T. McBrearty, D. Tansey, P. Fagan, F. B. McNamee, Rev. J. C. Strubbe, T. P. Owens, H. McLaughlin, W. J. McKenna, W. H. Kearney, R. J. Cooke, J. P. Hammill, John Callaghan, C. M. Hart, Clarence Smith, Mr. Justice C. J. Doherty, Rev. William O'Meara, Hon. Sir William Hingston, James P. Bamford, Mr. Flynn, John McCarry, and E. de Grandpre.

ST. ANN'S SCHOOL.

The boys of St. Ann's School (who are preparing to sing the story of "Aladdin or the Wonderful Lamp." The adventures of the hero of "Uncle Tom's Cabin" in his search for riches in the mountain of You-Bet is exceedingly interesting. The pretty little Operette has been prepared by Prof. J. O'Donnell, graduate of the Military School of Music, and late bandmaster in the British Army. It will be sung for the children of the Parish on December 22nd, and repeated on the 29th, for adults.

CAN YOU LIGHT THIS OFFICE?

This is a question often asked of the Luxfer Prism Company. It is a vital question. No one can afford to work all day under artificial light—it is killing. This lighting problem is sometimes a very difficult one to solve. The Luxfer Prism Company's experts make this a specialty and it costs nothing to get their opinion on any situation, and they will be pleased to tell you what can be done. At the Offices of The Guardian Assurance Company, The Dominion Cotton Company and others, the results of Luxfer Lights prove that they are wonderfully effective.—Gazette, January 17th.

LACHINE CONVENT.

For the occasion of the "Jubilee Celebrations" of the Sisters of St. Ann, to be held August next, the Mother General requests each of the former pupils of the Mother House to send her address as soon as possible. Lachine, November 28th, 1899.

VOTE OF CONDOLENCE.

At the regular monthly meeting of the Irish Catholic Benefit Society, held in St. Ann's Hall, corner of Young and Ottawa streets, the following resolutions were unanimously passed: Resolved, That this Society has learned with regret of the death of the wife of our esteemed member Mr. Thomas Carroll, of No. 347 Wellington Street, and desire to express its sympathy with Mr. Carroll and family in their bereavement, and trust they may be comforted in the hope that her spirit is with God in a happier sphere than ours. Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be sent to Mr. Thos. Carroll, and family, and to the "True Witness" for publication in that journal.—R.I.P.

Good music is an important factor in the well-conducted church service. It influences the mind to a remarkable degree and makes it receptive of the highest thoughts and feelings. Men's consciences can often be reached through their emotions when it is impossible to touch them in any other way, and anything which secures that end is a benediction. Thus the organ which is used in a church becomes of vital importance. It should be the best, and this is what Mason & Hamlin organs are. From its foundation in 1854 as a firm, this organization has always stood at the head, and its instruments have been recognized as the standard of the world. The church which uses one of them has taken a long step in the right direction.

News of the Week.

At the thirty-third annual conference of the National Union of Conservative and Constitutional Associations, held at Dewsbury, in November last, Mr. W. R. Plummer, of Newcastle, had the distinctive honor of proposing this resolution: "That the question of a more equitable distribution of Parliamentary representation, especially with regard to the existing over-representation of Ireland, demands the early and serious attention of Her Majesty's Government." He maintained that England should have 499 members, instead of 465; Wales should have 30 members, which was its exact representation; Scotland should have 68, instead of 72; and Ireland should have 73, instead of 103. Ireland and Scotland had 34 members, in excess of their just proportion. Needless to say that the resolution was carried unanimously.

An important decision was that of the United States Supreme Court, dealing with the right of the Government to appropriate money for an institution conducted by Catholic religious. The terms of the judgment give equal rights to Catholics in the eye of the law; the decision read thus:—"Assuming that the hospital is a private eleemosynary corporation, the fact that its members, according to the belief of the complain-

ant are members of a monastic order or Sisterhood of the Roman Catholic Church, and the further fact that the hospital is conducted under the auspices of said church, are wholly immaterial. Whether the individuals who compose the corporation under its charter happen to be all Roman Catholics, or all Methodists, or Presbyterians, or Unitarians, or members of other religious organizations, or of no organization at all is not of the slightest consequence with reference to the law of its incorporation. All that can be said of the corporation itself is that it has been incorporated by an act of Congress and for its legal powers and duties that act must be exclusively referred to."

As will be seen in another column Killamney has been purchased for \$300,000 by Lord Ardilaun, a member of the famous Guinness family. All Ireland is rejoiced.

A week ago last Friday, Mr. Michael Davitt sustained severe injuries around the head and body, in falling from an outside car upon which he was riding in Dublin. We are glad to learn, however, that despite his heavy fall, Mr. Davitt is improving.

In the New York Avenue M. E. Church, the other night, there was a peculiar gathering at which Controller B. S. Coler, delivered an address on "What the Church can learn from the great political portion." It is quite

THE CONNAUGHT RANGER'S CORNER.

Gaelic Classes.—The attendance and enthusiasm exhibited by those present at the Gaelic classes on Tuesday evening speaks well for its success.

DIVISION NO. 2.—The semi-monthly meeting of Division No. 2, on Friday evening was numerously attended.

DIVISION NO. 4.—The annual meeting of the A. O. H. of St. Mary's Parish held a well attended meeting on Monday evening.

C. M. B. A.—The annual meeting of Branch No. 1, C. M. B. A., Grand Council of Quebec in the Seminary Hall, on Monday evening was the best attended meeting.

Division No. 9, A. O. H., held a rousing meeting on Friday evening and initiated seven new members.

Branch No. 2, C. M. B. A., Grand Council of Quebec, held its annual meeting on Tuesday evening in St. Ann's Hall.

Branch 26, C. M. B. A., at their meeting on Monday evening decided to hold a progressive Euchre Party in their hall.

Division No. 1, A. O. H., held a largely attended meeting on Wednesday evening.

Division No. 6, took possession of their new quarters on Thursday evening. After the regular routine of business was transacted.

A BUMPER FOR THE KNIGHTS.—Arrangements are in course of progress for the annual entertainment of the Hibernian Knights.

Mr. M. P. McGoldrick, Vice-President of Division No. 3, A. O. H., who has been confined to his room for some weeks past.

HOLIDAY PRESENTS!

WE HAVE A FULL LINE OF PERFUMES, ATOMIZERS, SOAPS, and TOILET ARTICLES.

P. McCORMACK, Cor. McGill and Notre Dame Sts. Cor. Prince Arthur and Park Aves.

The "TALISKER" Highland Malt Whisky. The best Whisky made in Scotland \$1.25 per bottle, \$13.50 per dozen.

THE DALLVAINE THREE STILLS FINEST OLD GLENIVET SCOTCH WHISKY.

We offer Dailuaino-Glenlivet at \$1.10 per bottle, \$12.50 per case of 1 dozen bottles.

We will deliver the "Talisker" and the "Dailuaino-Glenlivet" Whiskies at the above prices.

Special Holiday Case of FINE BURGUNDY WINES, still and sparkling.

Delivered Free anywhere in Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia or New Brunswick. \$11.90.

Our Special Holiday Cases Are in demand from end to end of Canada.

Remember the prices. Case No. 1 \$6.00 Case No. 2 \$9.00 Case No. 3 \$12.75

HERE THEY ARE: Holiday Case No. 1, at \$6.00. Containing: Pale Sherry Wine 2 bottles.

Holiday Case No. 2, at \$9.50. Containing: Champagne Wine 1 quart bottle, Table Sherry 2 bottles.

Holiday Case No. 3 at \$12.75. Containing: Champagne Wine 2 qt. bottles, Superior Dinner Sherry (dry or fruit) 2 bottles.

In order to meet the wants of customers in town and country we will prepay the freight charges to any station in the four provinces of Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick.

FRASER, VIGER & CO. Italian Warehouse, 207, 209 & 211 ST. JAMES STREET

Special Announcement.

To the Ladies.

THE QUESTION?

What shall I buy him for Christmas?

Read Our Holiday Suggestions.

We generally talk to the men folks, but if our advice is acceptable to the Ladies read the following suggestions we have to offer in regard to buying suitable Christmas Gifts for Gentlemen.

OUR OFFERINGS.

Table listing various items for sale such as Neckties, Mullers, Dress Suit Protectors, Gloves, Handkerchiefs, Linen, Handkerchiefs, Silk, Umbrellas, Suspenders, Winter Cloth Caps, Hair Brushes, Razor Straps, Shaving Mugs, Shaving Cases, Hats, Fur Caps, Overcoats, Suits, Socks, Underwear, Night Robes, Pyjamas Sleeping Suits, White Dress Shirts, Coloured Dress Shirts, Flannel Shirts, Collars and Cuffs, Scarf Pins, Cuff Links, Cuff and Collar Boxes, Necktie Boxes, Cardigan Jackets, Fancy Vests, Sweaters, Smoking Jackets, Ties and Sashes.

Warm Bedroom Slippers and House Shoes at all prices and many other Suitable Gifts.

It is an accepted fact that the most satisfactory Christmas shopping can be done in the early part of December. The stocks are yet complete. Clerks are not rushed, the buying crowd comparatively small and the assortment of goods large.

We exchange goods not satisfactory after Christmas. We lay aside and deliver goods on desired day.

Advertisement for Allan's clothing store, located at the corner of Craig and Bleury and 2299 St. Catherine St. Open Evenings Till 9 p.m.

SUIT AND OVERCOAT OFFER!!

We will give every economical man an opportunity to dress up for the Holidays for half the money he expects to pay, and give him good fashionable clothes, too. Our guarantee with every garment.

GIVEN AWAY

We will give to every purchaser of Men's or Boys' Clothing a handsome and useful present.

Advertisement for Men's All-Wool Suits and Overcoats, Men's Fine Hair Line Pants, Another Line of fine dress pants, Men's Strictly All-Wool Trousers, and Men's Finest Suits and Overcoats.

OUR BOYS' UNEQUALLED DRESS.

Advertisement for Boys' Winter Overcoats or Ulsters, Boys' Knee-Pant Suits, Boys' Very Fine Overcoats, and Boys' Long-Pant Suits.

J. G. KENNEDY & CO., 31 St. Lawrence Street. THE ONE PRICE CLOTHIERS.

A DOZEN OF NICE WINE,

A Most Suitab'e Christmas Present.

Table listing various wine products such as The "Royal Wine" Particular, Oldest, "The Emperor" Very Fine Old Tawny Port, "Old Reserve" Oldest and Choicest, "Private Stock" Tawny Very Old Pellicate, Extra Particular Old, "Old Imperial" Dry Old Tawny Port, Choice Old Delicate, Very Fine Light Old Port, Dow's Dry Ruby Port, Very Superior Rich Old Wine, Fine Fruity Wine, Superior Sound Young Port, Tarragona, Genuine Wine, "Commandador" Port (Bottled in Oporto), Pelle Island "Extra Old Port," 1889, Pelle Island "Extra Old Port," 1889 in pinks.

Table listing Christmas Sherrys such as The Very Finest Superior Rich Pale, "Old English Gentleman," Superior Old Amontillado, Superior, Rich Pale, Oloroso, Very Finest Vino de Pasto, Special Amontillado, Extra Dry, Fine Old Oloroso Magnificent Dinner Sherry, Choice Old Golden, Superior Rich Pale Dinner Sherry, Light Amontillado, Very Dry, Delicate, Table Sherry, Full Bodied, Pale Sherry, Superior Sound, Cooking Wine.

Table listing Christmas Madeiras and Marsalas such as "Crown" Madeira Oldest and choicest, Rainwater Madeira, Very Pale, Rich, (C) Pale, Delicate, Dry Madeira, Ingham's Virgin, Marsala, Woodhouse's "Bronte" Marsala, Quailita, O.P., Woodhouse's "Natural White" Marsala, Blanco Natural, Mass Wine (Vino de Messe).

OUR ASSORTMENT OF CHRISTMAS GOODS NEVER WAS FINER.

Crystallized and Glass Fruits in 4 lb., 1 lb. and 6 lb. boxes. Finest Wax and Tallow Candles in 1 lb., 5 lb. and 12 lb. boxes. Finest Table and Dining Room Glass. Choice of Various Candles. Canned Peas. Kent Corns. Gemstone Wafers. Sultana Raisins, etc., etc.

FRASER, VIGER & CO., Italian Warehouse, 207, 209 and 211 St. James Street.

FOR SALE.

A Solid Brick House No. 16 Fort street, size of lot 25 x 100; situation excellent and attractive. Also a block of Solid Brick Tenement Houses, Nos 18, 20, 22 and 24 Hermine street; size of lot 62 x 56. Houses Nos. 99 and 101, St. Maurice st., large yard, good s abling lot 50 x 100.

M. SHARKEY, 1340 or 1723 Notre Dame St

COMMON SENSE

Is but another name for Judgment. Good judgment demands caution. Caution demands care. Care demands McCORMACK'S PECTORAL BALSAM for Coughs and Colds. Is effective and agreeable in all cases. 25 Cents.

P. McCORMACK & CO., Cor. McGill and Notre Dame Streets, Prince Arthur and Park Avenues.

RECENT DEATHS.

KREIS.—Rev. Adam Kreis, of the Immaculate Conception Church, New York, died last week. His death was due to dropsy. Father Kreis was born in Baltimore on April 3, 1836. He received his elementary education at St. Alphonsus' School, and on October 15, 1854, entered the Order of the Redemptorists.

HESPELEIN.—Last week at St. Peter's Church, Philadelphia, Rev. John B. Hespelien died. He was the oldest Redemptorist in the Baltimore province of the order. His death was due to old age. Father Hespelien was born in Bavaria on June 21, 1821. He was ordained a secular priest on December 10, 1844. A year later he entered the Redemptorist Order.

HOLIDAY SUGGESTIONS.

Presents that are lasting should please the eye, give ease and comfort to the body, and not be too hard on the purse.

WE HAVE THEM.

See our SKATING BOOTS, all kinds and prices. Warm lined goods in great variety. Slippers for Ladies, Gents, Girls and Boys. Gaiters, Leggings, Moccasins, Overshoes, Rubbers, Ice Creepers, Ankle Supports and Skating Straps. Reliable goods at lowest prices. No trouble to show or exchange goods. All goods guaranteed as represented. Mail and Telephone Orders receive prompt attention.

J. SLOAN & SONS, Cor. ST. ANTOINE AND MOUNTAIN STREETS. Bell Tel. Up 2417.

A VICTIM TO THE SEAL OF CONFESSION.

A TRUE STORY.

By REV. JOSEPH SPILLMAN, S. J.

Published with the Permission of Mr. B. Herder, Publisher and Bookseller, St. Louis, Mo.

CHAPTER XXIV. At Home Again.

On the morning of the next day, Loser repeated his self-accusation in presence of the Public Prosecutor, and his deposition was sent in to the Minister of Justice the same day.

Many weeks came and went without Mrs. Montmoulin hearing anything more of her son. In fact she did not even know whether he was living or dead.

At length it was announced in the shipping news that the "Liberty" had left the Suez Canal, and would probably enter the harbor of Marseilles in four or five days.

No, she was yet living, and awaiting with anxious expectancy the arrival of the steamer that had her son on board. On the day following that upon which Loser had so suddenly re-appeared, Mr. Meunier had gone over to La Grange, to acquaint the venerable Father under whose hospitable roof Father Montmoulin's mother and sister had found a home with the joyful intelligences that their friends' character would now be cleared of reproach in the sight of all men.

Why is it that nearly all aged persons are thin? And yet, when you think of it, what could you expect? Three score years of wear and tear are enough to make the digestion weak. Yet the body must be fed.

In Scott's Emulsion, the work is all done; that is, the oil in it is digested, all ready to be taken into the blood. The body rests, while the oil feeds and nourishes, and the hypophosphites makes the nerves steady and strong.

SCOTT & BOWNE, Chemists, Toronto.

the Archbishop, occupied apartments in the archiepiscopal palace; and when he appeared in Court, it was in the company of the Archbishop and several of the principal ecclesiastics of the diocese.

Sets were reserved for Father Montmoulin's mother and sister, and their side were Charles and Julia, and at no great distance Mr. and Mrs. Lenoir had places.

The proceedings did not occupy much time. As a matter of fact, Father Montmoulin had to take his place in the dock. The President reopened the case in a brief speech, in which he dwelt on the fallibility of the decisions of human justice, and expressed the gratification it gave him that a verdict, wrongfully given in consequence of delusive appearances, could on that day be at least in some measure set right.

The public Prosecutor rose next. In a few sentences he proposed that the priest who had been unjustly convicted of murder should be acquitted. He also expressed his deep regret that he had taken an erroneous view of the case at the first trial, and under a false impression had thrown his weight into the wrong scale, and thus contributed to the passing of a wrong verdict.

When all formalities were over, Father Montmoulin with his mother and sister, were escorted back to the palace with quite a triumphal cortege, to take part at a banquet which his Grace gave in honor of the occasion, and to which many of his friends and well-wishers had been invited.

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found her appetite, and by the end of dinner under the influence of a glass of sweet muscatel wine, she grew extremely talkative. In fact, allowed Mr. Lenoir to refill her glass, until the generous, and to her unaccustomed beverage had, up aware to herself, got a little into her head; happily Mrs. Lenoir interposed at the right juncture, and took the old woman with her to her house, where she administered a cup of strong coffee to calm her somewhat excited brain.

On the next day Loser was brought up for trial. The verdict of the jury was perforce no other than: Guilty of wilful murder; nor could they find extenuating circumstances for the criminal. He was accordingly sentenced to death. But as both jury and judges recommended him to mercy, on account of his having made a voluntary confession, and a petition pleading for his pardon was sent in by the principal citizens of Aix—Father Montmoulin's name heading the list, the sentence in his case also was commuted to transportation.

And now our tale is practically ended. It only remains to relate how Father Montmoulin, in accordance with his own earnest request, was once more installed as Parish priest in the village of Ste. Victoire, although the Archbishop had destined him to fill a more important and more lucrative post.

When all the preparations were completed, Father Montmoulin made his second entry amid universal rejoicing. Triumphant arches were erected in the streets, the houses were hung with wreaths and bunting, roses and fragrant rosemary were strewn on his path. Every here and there an inscription bade the returning exile a hearty welcome. The bells were rung and a salute was fired from the neighboring heights.

The cordial reception Father Montmoulin met with at Ste. Victoire gave him real pleasure, and it was with a heart overflowing with thankfulness that he entered the Tabernacle, standing before the high altar. Still greater was his joy and consolation, when, some days later, many members of his flock who had not approached the sacraments for years, at their head the Mayor and Dr. Corbillard, came to confession and on the following Sunday, to the great edification of all the congregation, were seen at the holy table.

What yet remains to be told? Only that Father Montmoulin's mother and sister went to live with him, and enjoyed a time of peace after their troubles. That Charles received his First Communion from his uncle's hand, and then returned cheerfully to the Missionary College, where he was to be prepared to enter upon his apostolic labors, and that Julia grew up to be a good-looking, pleasing girl, well-mannered and pious, but to the regret of the kind Sisters of St. Joseph, showing not

The DRINK HABIT CURED.

(From the St. John's News, Nov. 10.)

Many homes have been made bright and cheerful, and many erring souls have been restored to happiness, and many husbands brought back to enjoy the blessings of their promises at the altar by using The "Dixon" cure for the drink habit and the writer was astonished when in the office of the Company, on the 16th Oct., he was shown the many letters from mothers and wives, also men patients who testified that their sons or husbands or men themselves had been entirely cured, and the cost is much less than most cures.

For particulars and price apply to J. B. Lalime, No. 572 St. Denis Street, Montreal, or to Doctor J. M. Mackay of Belmont Retreat, Quebec.

SURPRISE SOAP

MAKES CHILD'S PLAY OF WASH DAY

A pure hard Soap Last long—lathers freely.

5 cents a cake.

For torpid Liver, A Poor Digestion, Flatulence, Constipation, Biliousness and Sick Head-Ache.

TAKE

BRISTOL'S PILLS

They are Safe, Mild, Quick-acting, Painless, do not weaken, And always give satisfaction.

They are the most reliable Household Medicine known, and can be taken at any season by Adults or Children.

ALL THE LEADING DRUGGISTS SELL BRISTOL'S PILLS.

a sign of a vocation to a religious life. That Mr. Meunier, acting in accordance with Loser's instructions, restored to the Guild of St. Joseph the 2480 of which he had robbed them, together with the interest on that sum, so that the projected enlargement of the hospital was at last accomplished; and also paid an indemnity to Mrs. Jardiner, where she and her children were placed out of the reach of want for the rest of her life.

THE END. Sides sore from a hacking cough. Take Pyny-Pectoral, it will cure you quickly, no matter how bad the cold. Endorsed by thousands of Canadians. Sold throughout the land. Manufactured by the proprietors of Perry Davis' Pain-Killer.

JUBILEE MEDALS.

It is announced that, as a memorial of the year of jubilee, the Pope has directed the well-known medalist and engraver, Sig. Bianchi to strike a commemorative medal. This medal will be struck in three metals, gold, silver and bronze. The gold medals are intended for rulers of states and the cardinals of the holy Church; those in silver will be given to archbishops, bishops and other distinguished personages—men of letters, notable artists, and those who have deserved well of the Church. The bronze medals will be very numerous and will probably be given in gift to pilgrims and others, and will also in all likelihood be put on sale.

The Japs did it. They supplied us with the menthol contained in that wonderful D. & L. Menthol Plaster, which relieves instantly headache, headache, neuralgia, rheumatism and sciatica. Manufactured by the Davis & Lawrence Co., Ltd.

MECHANICAL STOKERS.

The use of mechanical stokers in the fire-rooms of large steamers has never been tried on any extensive scale, and particularly on ocean steamships, firing the furnaces is a task of such dimensions and so wearing on the firemen that the substitution of some mechanical device is a more than desirable matter. Recently some experiments were tried on a lake steamer of slightly over 10,000 tons displacement, and resulted quite satisfactorily. The system employed made use of stokers of the underfeed type, and the fuel was pushed into the furnace from the hopper by means of a screw conveyor. In all, eight trials were made with the arrangement, and five of them were of six hours' duration. Smoke was practically absent except when the fires were being sliced, and although a poor grade of coal was employed the evaporative efficiency was pronounced excellent.

Dr. Adams' Toothache Gum is sold by all druggists, 10 cts a bottle.

PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS

In the current number of the Medical Record, Dr. John H. Pryor states that the returns of the death-rate of consumption in the state of New York for the first eight months of this year showed an increase over the same period in 1898 of 9 per cent. Should this rate of increase prove to have continued the remaining ten months when statistics have been compiled, the increase in 1899 will be about 1,000 deaths, and will reach 14,000 deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis in the year, being the highest rate ever known in the state.

The D. & L. EMULSION

The D. & L. EMULSION is the best and most palatable preparation of Cod Liver Oil, agreeing with the most delicate stomachs. The D. & L. EMULSION is prescribed by the leading physicians of Canada. The D. & L. EMULSION is a marvellous flesh producer and will give you an appetite. 50c & \$1 per Bottle. Be sure you get the genuine. DAVIS & LAWRENCE CO., Limited, Montreal.

A Blessing to the Fair Sex!

PERFECT BUSTS by the use of ORIENTAL Powder, the only Powder that assures perfect development of the bust within three months, and cures Dyspepsia and Liver Complaint. Price per box with directions, \$1 (10 six boxes for \$5.00). General Agent for the Dominion: L. A. BERNARD, 1882 St. Catherine Street, Montreal. United States: G. L. DE MARTINY, Druggist, Manchester, N. H.

A QUICK CURE FOR COUGHS and COLDS

Pyny-Pectoral The Canadian Remedy for all THROAT and LUNG AFFECTIONS. Large Bottles, 25 cents. DAVIS & LAWRENCE CO., Limited, Prop's. Perry Davis' Pain Killer. New York Montreal.

SAVE YOUR EMPTY BAGS. Use of BRODIE'S XXX Self Raising Flour who preserve the empty bags and return them to us will receive the following premiums: For 12 six pound bags a beautiful colored picture in a splendid gilt frame—12 inches x 16 inches. For 24 six pound bags, a larger picture in fine gilt frame 18 inches x 24 inches. Two three pound bags may be sent in place of one six pound bag. BRODIE'S XXX FLOUR, 10 & 12 Henry St., Montreal.

A. BROUSSEAU, DENTIST, 7 ST. LAWRENCE STREET. Telephone 2001.

HOW TO UTILIZE OPPORTUNITIES.

It is often well to hearken to the advice and to profit by the experience of men who have mounted the ladder of success.

The merit of the successful man who has struggled with difficulties and disadvantages must be judged by the kind of success he has achieved.

If, on the other hand, his success is of the grasping, sordid kind, if he clutches it closely for his selfish gratification, and if with success he is bankrupt in character.

organization, which should be the servant of intelligence and patriotism, proclaims itself their master and attempts to bind their hand and foot.

IN THE ARMY.

Lieut. General John A. Schofield, is very encouraging in the prospects he holds out for civilians, in the army when emergency calls them to arms.

IN POLITICS.

Senator A. J. Beveridge, of Indiana says: "I attribute my success to hard work, sound health, firm friends, and good fortune."

boat, was a passenger on the Cunard line steamer Umbria, which arrived at New York, last week.

THE LIVING AND THE DEAD.

"Howard" writing in a Boston contemporary draws some severe but true lessons from the fate of Orderly Bill Anthony, late of the battleship Maine, who was buried with military pomp and honors in New York.

In his tiny craft Captain Blackburn, on June 18th of this year, in the presence of 10,000 spectators, sailed from Gloucester, Mass., for Gloucester, Eng.

As if by magic, after a few applications, every gray hair in my head was changed to its natural color by using LUBY'S Parisian Hair Restorer.

DEPEW ON GAMBLING.

Men who talk a great deal must chance, at some time, or other, to say something wise. Dr. Depew—the famous "after-dinner" orator of the United States—has recently been talking about gambling.

"Legal recognition has been accorded to the Welsh language in some of the Courts in Wales."

It may not be impertinent to ask when the same recognition is to be accorded to the Irish language.

The D. & L. Emulsion benefits most those having lung troubles with tendency to hemorrhages.

A branch of the National Amalgamation Union of Shop-Assistants, Warehousemen, and Clerks, has been established in Dublin.

Toothache stopped in two minutes with Dr Adams' Toothache Gum. 10 cents.

MENTHOL PLASTER advertisement with image of the product box and text describing its benefits for rheumatism and other ailments.

T. F. TRIHEY, REAL ESTATE advertisement listing services and contact information.

LAWRENCE RILEY, PLASTERER advertisement listing services and contact information.

J. P. CONROY advertisement listing services as a practical plumber and gas and steam fitter.

C. O'BRIEN advertisement listing services as a house, sign and decorative painter.

CARROLL BROS. advertisement listing services as registered practical sanitarians.

THOMAS O'CONNELL advertisement listing services as a dealer in general household hardware.

DANIEL FURLONG advertisement listing services as a wholesale and retail dealer in choice beef, veal, mutton, and pork.

Publications advertisement for B. Herder, listing various books and their prices.

TOILET ARTICLES advertisement for GRAY'S PHARMACY listing various products.

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TOILET ARTICLES advertisement for GRAY'S PHARMACY listing various products.

J. A. KAROH, Architect advertisement listing services and contact information.

C.A. McDonnell, Accountant and Liquidator advertisement listing services and contact information.

Advertisement for a business card or service.

Advertisement for a business card or service.

LADIES' AUXILIARY advertisement listing services and contact information.

Advertisement for a business card or service.

Advertisement for a business card or service.

Advertisement for a business card or service.

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A REMARKABLE BOOK.

The Rev. Edmund Hogan, S.J., of Dublin, has just written and published a remarkable book; it is the literary sensation of the hour in Ireland.

"Ireland has a people most apt for war, of beautiful and tall body, of the strongest limbs, and of a fair complexion."

The first chapter of his book consists of a reproduction of several calamities. He dwells especially upon the idea that the "wild Irish" are barbaric, like Hottentots, regular savages, the nearest resemblance to baboons in the world.

In the second chapter of the book Father Hogan gives the testimony of eye-witnesses from 1185 to 1690, regarding "the height, form, and strength" of the Irish people.

"Nature alone has moulded the Irish; and as if to show what she can do, has given them countenances of the most exquisite color, and bodies of great beauty, height, and strength."

In 1566, John Good, an Englishman wrote: "The Irish are in body strong, very active, of high daring spirit, of energetic and martial temper, prodigal of life, and capable of enduring labor, hunger, and cold."

In 1588, Captain Cuellar of the Spanish Armada, was wrecked on the coast of Donegal, and according to the learned author, was sheltered by MacCluichey, Chief of Derry, in North Leitrim.

"The men are big-bodied, with handsome faces and fine limbs, active and swift as the roe deer."

In 1594, Captain Davtry, writing to Cecil in 1594, says: "There can be no better soldiers on the earth than they be, either for the use of their weapons or the strength of their bodies or minds."

"Long, long ago, beyond the misty space, Of thence a thousand years, In Erin old there dwelt a mighty race, Taller than Roman spears."

Father Hogan has certainly done a service to his country in thus sweeping away the vile calumnies that for long years obtained evidence; the actor may no longer regard our race as hordes of savages, nor the artist paint it in caricature.

A DARING NAVIGATOR.

Captain Howard Blackburn, known as the "fingerless navigator" and who crossed the Atlantic in a small

BACKACHES

Most women complain of backaches. They are tired because they work too much; from early morning till late at night.

Women who will keep on suffering when such a remedy exists can surely have no excuse. Dr. Coderre's Red Pills are for women only and are only intended for legitimate use.



Mrs. H. M. Mathewson, 61 Wilson Street, Providence, R. I., writes: "I was suffering from a most severe case of female weakness. I had backaches and womb trouble. I could get nothing to cure me until I tried Dr. Coderre's Red Pills for Pale and Weak Women and I am today a healthy woman."

Mrs. O. E. Elliott, 63 Michigan Avenue, Detroit, Mich., writes: "I used to suffer terribly from backaches. My system was completely run down. I was weak, always tired and discouraged until I took Dr. Coderre's Red Pills, which cured me and made me a new woman."

Mrs. E. Angers, 705 N. Van Buren St., Bay City, Mich., writes: "I am more able to do my work today than I have been for years. The main cause of my trouble was my kidneys and terrible backaches. Dr. Coderre's Red Pills are the remedy that has cured me."

Mrs. Chas. Oslan, 75 Lake Avenue, Manchester, N. H., writes: "When I began to take Dr. Coderre's Red Pills I had not much faith in them. A friend recommended them to me. How I wish I had known this remedy before. I had to work in the mill and I was suffering from female weakness in the worst way. I am to-day cured and am gaining in flesh. My appetite is good and I am much stronger."

Dr. Coderre's Red Pills are sold by all first class druggists at 50c. a box or six boxes for \$2.50. We mail them all over the world upon receipt of price.

Write or come and see our Doctors at either of the following offices, open every day until Six o'clock, Sundays excepted. THE FRANCO AMERICAN CHEMICAL CO Boston, Mass. office. Montreal, Can. office. 241 Tremont, St. 274 St. Denis, St.

The Brightest, The Strongest, The Best

Value ever offered to the public in Skating and Rubber Sole Boots. We have bought them at a discount and cannot be duplicated for the same money...

- Ladies' Fine Box Calf Skating Boots. In Black and Tan with nice Lambs Wool Lining, really cheap at \$2.00 for \$1.50. Men's Oil Grain Skating Boots. This Boot is all solid and is the lightest and strongest Skating Boot...

E. MANSFIELD, The Shoelist,

124 St. Lawrence Street. Phone Main 849. Corner Lagunacliere Street.

THE JURY SYSTEM.

While trial by jury has been ever considered one of the bulwarks of the subject's liberty, still the mutations of time always demand repairs...

can interfere in any extent to abate the evil. There is practically no limit to the admirable ingenuity of distinguished and able counsel...

So obviously true is this, that you have only to go to our own Court House, during a term of the Queen's Bench and then you will be an eye-witness of the condition above described...

Possibly this idea is new, but it is sufficiently true to challenge respect. He thus will destroy the very essence of the jury system...

WHAT DOES IT ALL MEAN?

Take a glance over the daily papers, both of Canada and the United States; note the vast number of peculiar comments upon general matters of religion, the strange questions asked, the extraordinary theories set forth...

a prominent clergyman of one church invited to become pastor of another denominational church; and he is calling out for a new creed. It is not a new creed that the world wants, but the old one.

THE PRESIDENT'S ENGLISH.

A captious critic, employed on the editorial staff of the Chicago Record has given aid and comfort to the enemies of the Republic by sneering at President McKinley's English.

expression carries with it the impression that we have outgrown the canons of the English language, as well as the Declaration of Independence.

In my message of a year ago, I expressed my views of the necessity of a canal, which would link the two great oceans, to which I again invite your consideration.

I am informed by our commissioner-general that we shall have in the American sections at Paris over 7,000 exhibitors, from every state in the country, a number 10 times as great as those which were represented at Vienna in 1873...

It is said, to be sure; but it is no worse than the English of 99 public men out of every 100. The days when correct English and statesmanship went hand in hand have long since descended into twilight...

The standard of public utterances in respect to style and diction seems to be deteriorating rather than improving. This may be due, in a measure, to the fact that comparatively few public men write their own speeches.

It is not necessary of course, that a statesman should be able to use his own language after the manner of "literary jellies." We are told that Washington could not spell, and that Andrew Jackson had no more conception of the harmony that ought to exist between a verb and its subject...

If the use of reasonably good English is not one of the essentials of American statesmanship, it, at least, might not prove to be a disadvantage; and a return to the practices of a former day might possess the merit of novelty.

RELATING TO OFFICES.

Your eyesight is of more value than many dollars; your health is of more importance than your appearance; your temper makes a great difference to your business chances; cheerfulness is a marketable article; brightness and quickness are wanted in all businesses; accurate office work is absolutely necessary.

HOLIDAY SUPPLIES.

We offer you for the Holiday trade a specially assorted and fresh stock of Groceries at the very lowest prices. Our Wines and Liquors are of the choicest.

- McGregor & Co. (imported direct to use), Scotch 85c Club Rye 85c 5 agrams' Rye, 1892 60c Finest Canadian Whisk, gall. 80 Richard O.S., O.P. Brandy \$1.25 California Muscatel Raisins 9c Barton & Guestier Claret 50c do do Sauterne 50c Sweet Oranges 12 1/2c

A full line of confectionery and cake. Each article guaranteed or your money refunded.

Goods delivered to all parts of the city.

A. D. GILLIES, 130 St. James Street.

JOHN MURPHY & CO.

Toys and Holiday Novelties!

TOYLAND. — Our Fairyland of Toys is stocked to overflowing with all the latest and most ingenious productions from the great Toy factories of the world!

Useful Xmas Presents.

- 500 Christmas Dress Patterns, all new choice colorings. Prices from \$1.00 per pattern. 1,000 yards Fancy Black Dress Goods, all wool, and new designs, regular value, \$1.50, \$1.75. Choice during Christmas Sale only, \$1.00 per yard.

200 Finest Elderdown Quilts, a most suitable Christmas Gift, all the best English Sateen Coverings, filled with the best of Down, all ventilated. Christmas prices from \$5.00 each.

JOHN MURPHY & CO. 2343 St. Catherine Street, Corner of Metcalfe Street. TERMS Cash. TELEPHONE Up 933.

FOR HOLIDAY PRESENTS

Nothing so acceptable as a pretty pair of Slippers. We have some very neat ones in Embroidered Velvet, Black Kid and Fancy Colored Leather.

Prices Run from 75 cents to \$2.50.

RONAYNE BROS. 2027 Notre Dame Street, Cor. Chalotteux Square.

JAMES A. OGILVY & SONS.

BOYS' CLOTHING.

The winter has now set in and you must have good, comfortable clothing for the Children, Boys and Youths. We have a select stock of Reefers and Overcoats at exceptionally low prices.

BUY AT OGILVY'S AND SAVE MONEY.

REEFERS! REEFERS! For Children, Boys and Youths, in Heavy Nap with All-Wool Tweed lining; prices, \$4.00 to \$6.50; sizes 28 to 25.

Another splendid line in Heavy All Wool Nap Cloth, with nice Tweed Lining; sizes from 33 to 35; prices, \$4.50 to \$8.00.

Double-Breasted Suits for Boys and Youths in Grey, Brown and other Fancy Mixtures, suitable for wear; price, \$6.00 to \$12.00; sizes 29 to 35.

Boys' Navy Blue Serge Suits, 3 garment, with short pants; sizes ranging from 28 to 32; regular price \$4.50; to clear at \$3.00.

OGILVY'S, Cor. St. Catherine and Mountain sts

Musical Instruments Great Reductions for the Holidays.

Largest Stock and Cheapest Place in the City. Guitars, \$4.00 up. Mandolins, \$3.00 up. Violins, \$3.00 up.

Cornets, French Make, \$8.00 up. All kinds of Musical Instruments at reduced prices. Strings for all Instruments. All kinds of Repairing done on the premises.

CHAS. LAVALLE, 35 St. Lambert Hill.

The S. CARSLY CO., Limited

Notre Dame Street. Montreal's Greatest Store. Dec. 16, 1893

THE BIG STORE'S VAST CHRISTMAS TRADE



Boys' Tool Chests

- What can a boy not do with one of these? Boys' Tool Chests fitted with useful Tools in strong wooden box. Special holiday price, 23 cents. 300 Wool Animals 5c 350 Swords 10 1/2c 500 Dolls' Bureaus 5c 1500 Hardwood Sleighs 15c 1000 Doll's Trunks 21c 1000 Two Wheeled Carts 11c 300 Doll's Cradles 30c 100 Wash Sets 30c

CHRISTMAS GIFT SUGGESTIONS

- Ladies' Winter Jackets from \$3.25 to \$30.00. Ladies' Fur lined Capes from \$15. to \$50.00. Ladies' Fur Muffs from 72 cents to \$10.00. Ladies' Ruffs from \$2.00 to \$20.00. Ladies' Fur Capes from \$8.35 to \$25.00. Ladies' Dress Skirts from \$1.69 to \$10.00. Ladies' Dressing Sacques from \$1.20 to \$3.75. Ladies' House Wrappers from 70c to \$9.50. Ladies' Cashmere Hose from 25c to 90 cents. Ladies' Winter Gaiters from 21c to 40 cents. Ladies' Winter Gloves from 95c to \$3.55. Ladies' Silk Skirts from \$1.10 to \$18.00. Children's Winter Coats from \$1.45 to \$4.50. Children's Winter Hoods from 75c to \$3.25. Misses' Winter Reefers from \$1.77 to \$4.50. Morris Chairs from \$3.90 to \$11. Fancy Tables from 70c to \$13.00. Men's Dressing Gowns from \$5.00 to \$21.00. Men's Smoking Coats from \$1.75 to \$18.00. Men's Lined Kid Gloves from 50c to \$4.50. Men's Silk Mufflers from 75c to \$2.75. Men's Initial Handkerchiefs from 3c. Men's Neckwear Novelties from 1c. Men's Cardigan Jackets from 6c to \$4.00. Men's Pyjama Suits from \$1.10 to \$5.50. Boy's Winter Overcoats, \$3.75 to \$7.50. Boy's Winter Reefers, \$1.20 to \$6.50. Boy's Winter Suits, \$1.65 to \$5.50. Pretty Sofa Cushions from 23 cents to \$6.50. Silk Piano Drapes from \$1.75 to \$3.75. Silk Table Covers from \$1.10 to \$3.10. Oriental Rugs from \$1.50 to \$15. Carpet Sweepers from \$2.10 to \$3.50. Carpet Hassoocks from 75c to \$1.55. Pretty Pictures from 25c to \$5.00. Fancy Baskets from 5 cents to \$3.50. Down Quilts from \$3.70 to \$27.

MAIL ORDERS CAREFULLY FILLED. Write for Special Winter Catalogue just issued.

The S. CARSLY CO. Limited.

1765 to 1783 Notre Dame St. 184 to 194 St. James St., Montreal

Karn is King. KARN THE KING OF PIANOS One More Victory. A Beautiful Cabinet Grand Karn Piano has been sold to the Convent of the Sisters of Jesus and Mary. More Karn Pianos have been sold this year to the convent than pianos of any other manufacture. The piano that gives perfect satisfaction in an institution where it is used constantly and inspiring every day in the week is the piano that should receive the consideration of the purchasing public. Beautiful stock of pianos in a variety of woods arriving now from our factories for our Xmas trade. Do not decide to purchase until you have seen our splendid assortment of instruments. The D. W. KARN CO., Limited, KARN HALL BUILDING, ST. CATHERINE STREET, Sole Agents for Chickering Pianos. Open every night until 11:30 o'clock to January 1st.

T. COGGINS

Groceries, Wines and Liquors Choice Butter a Specialty. Goods delivered free of charge Telephone Orders Promptly Attended.

319 St. Antoine Street. Cor. St. Martin Street. Telephone 8284

Liquors on Draught. Port Wines, Cherry Wines and Claret Wines, both in case and on draught.

Canadian Port Wines. Carbon Port Wines, imported. Per bottle, \$0.25. Per gallon, 1.00. Per bottle, \$0.50. Per gallon, 2.00.

Grosse & Blakwell's Goods at Cost Prices. Canadian Peels in 1 lb. pkgs. the finest sold at cost. A fine assortment of Imported Liquors just received. \$15,000 worth of stock to be disposed of for the holidays.

For the convenience of customers we have a first-class Butcher Shop in connection with the Grocery, at 274 St. Martin Street. Special prices for the holiday trade. Turkeys, 10c.; first class quality. All kinds of Game and Poultry on hand. Everything first-class.

Telep-one 8284. T. COGGINS, 319 St. Antoine Street.

XMAS BOOKS

Our stock of Books contains the choicest literature, from which all minds can make a selection, and of which all purses can afford to buy. You will make some Christmas Presents, of course, to your home folks or your intimate friends. You could not select anything better than a well chosen book which will give you less in proportion to its real value. Here are a few selections which will give you an idea of some of the good things that it will give you, or that can be ordered by mail, and to which prompt and careful attention is given.

HANDY VOLUME CLASSICS AT 25 CENTS. Myths of the King, Tennyson, Representative Men, Ralph Waldo Emerson, Familiar Quotations, Burlett, Adventures of a Brownie, Mabel, Rab an' his Friends, Brown, Tales from the Brothers Grimm, and Mary Lamb, Price at 1. Curtis, The Wonder Book, Nathaniel Hawthorne, Flower Tables, About Marston, Sir Walter Scott, Alice in Wonderland, Lewis Carroll, Tongue and Tale, Nathaniel Hawthorne. Also over 100 more titles.

D. & J. SADLER & CO., 1609 Notre Dame Street, Montreal.

IRELAND IN THE TWENTIETH CENTURY.

Seven years ago James Duffy and Company, publishers of Dublin, issued a small book entitled "Ireland in the Twentieth Century." This little volume is the work of T. J. Clanchy, and is a remarkable production. It would be decidedly interesting to follow Mr. Clanchy through his various arguments based upon the different conditions of the Irish people. But we can only afford space to deal with his prophetic announcements from the standpoint of Ireland's geographical position, her resources, and her need of local government. The following extracts, even if lengthy will, we are confident, prove of great interest to our readers—be they of Irish origin or of any other. In placing Mr. Clanchy's admirable and remarkably novel study, before the Canadian public, we will merely say that he has clearly proven his case, and that to attain what he foretells for the coming century, the only condition necessary is the granting of Home Rule.

"The men and women of the twentieth century are amongst us. The children of to-day, the boys and girls, the youths and maidens, the people of middle, and even of advanced age, form a concourse, ever increasing and collecting in the vestibule, to await the opening of those great mysterious portals, which in a very few and rapidly passing years will admit to a century, to a new decade of centuries, when the Christian ages shall no longer be counted in their teens, but in their twenties; to a century of which it may be said with greater significance than ever before, that it will be 'the heir of all the ages.' A century, those who live in, which will reap the benefits and the ameliorations arising from the wonderful advances that have been made in human knowledge, in science, in inventions, and manufactures, and in art, as compared with its highest ancient standards of grandeur, beauty, and excellence; in the means of popularising art, of bringing it within the reach of the people, and of enabling them to appreciate and enjoy its elevating and refining influences. I confess that I have found a great fascination in trying to forecast, what will be the place, and what are the prospects of Ireland in the coming century. I have said—to forecast—not to guess, not to attempt to prophesy; but by a study of facts, either already accomplished, or in such a state of advancement and progress as to be inevitable, to deduce clear and definite conclusions as to the future of our country in the twentieth century. If those who lived in the year 1792, and who were drawing near to the close of the eighteenth, as we are now to the end of the nineteenth century, could have lifted the veil of the future, they might well have been appalled at the sad prospect for Ireland that lay before them, and at what many of them, and of their children, would have to endure in the first half, and even beyond the half of the nineteenth century. But for the Ireland of to-day, altered conditions prevail, and a brighter prospect opens up. The hundred years that have since passed, while they have left their deep scars and wounds, while they tell the sad tale of the unexampled sufferings and losses of the Irish people, have also brought out of their great trial the proofs of their wonderful endurance, and of the vitality and unextinguishable spirit of our race. One hundred years ago Ireland was a lone island on the very outskirts of the old civilized world, of what had been previously known as Christendom. Great Britain, a stony barrier extending from Land's End to the Hebrides, blocked, and shut it off from the world of commerce. Communication between nations, or between one part of a nation and the other, either by land or sea, was difficult and uncertain. On land, roads, where they existed, were for the most part bad, and the means of conveyance were rude and slow. On sea, sailing ships were the only means of transport, and were of course subject to all the delays, uncertainties, and dangers of the winds and waves. The course of commerce and travel flowed to and through the centre of Europe, where lay the heart of the world, whose pulsations were but faintly felt in Ireland, which was only one of its remote extremities. She was away from the track, and few had any business to seek her out or visit her. Ireland was left out of the account and unnoticed by the world. The Irish race had been, up to then, practically confined within its own country. Emigration to any considerable extent had not begun,

and we were without connections, relations, or interest in the wide world; poor and powerless at home, and utterly friendless abroad.

"But there was then, arising and visible above the western horizon, a Star that was to bring Ireland from the confines of civilization into its very centre, and to make it the fulcrum on which two hemispheres were destined to turn. That star was America, one great part of which had, as the United States, just set up for itself as a nation. Towards America, a small but gradually growing stream of emigration from the old world had been running."

"America was in the air, and in all men's mouths. Nothing else was spoken of, and even those who had no pressing necessity to emigrate felt the universal and sympathetic longing to go. Darkness and despair seemed to be settled on Ireland, the only escape from which was westward. The Irish peasant of that day, who without any power to avert his fate, found himself with his wife and family homeless and impoverished, felt that—there—across that broad expanse of ocean, which stretched from the very strand at his feet, without break or obstacle, direct to the shores of America, was the one hope for dear life, for very existence."

"The greatest highway, the chief thoroughfare of the world of commerce and travel, now runs westward and eastward between Europe and America. This vast tide of the world's life is destined to become large and greater, with such improvement in the means of transit by land or sea. Ireland finds herself in the very middle of this thoroughfare, in the very centre of the civilized world. If on a map of the world on Mercator's projections, you draw a circle, the centre of which you place in Ireland, and make San Francisco a point on its circumference, you will find that such a circle will enclose more of the civilized world than a circle of equal diameter drawn from any other country on the face of the globe. That in fact, as the western hemisphere now balances the eastern, Ireland is the true centre of the civilized world. The only important places outside that circle are Australia and Japan, but even those are brought into the western route, by the altered circumstances of our day, and will be more fully so, when the Isthmus of Babel, or Panama, is pierced with a ship canal. That is a work too essential for the world's progress to be abandoned; if it is not done by private enterprise, it is certain to be by the governments concerned. When it is opened, Queenstown, as you will see, if you draw a line from it through Panama, is in a direct line with New Zealand, and in slightly deflected lines with the great Australian ports. But we need not wait for the opening of a Panama or Nicaraguan Canal, to bring us into the stream of traffic with the vast and rising countries of the Pacific Ocean. The great trans-Continental railways, which run from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean through Canada and the United States, are already to a very large and growing extent diverting the traffic of China, Japan, and other countries of the Pacific, and causing its commerce to come by our shores, and its mails and passengers through Queenstown. This route is preferred, because it is cooler and more rapid, and because it avoids the long, weary, and fearfully hot sea passages by the Red Sea, by Cape Horn, or the other old routes. Ireland is the western gate of the old world, the last stopping place between the hemispheres, and so long as speed on land beats speed on water, so long as travel over land is safer and more pleasant for the majority of people than travel by sea, so long as fogs and storms are unpreventable, and, with all respect for the meteorologists, unforeseeable, so long will Ireland be the causeway, stretching far out into the Atlantic, on which the surging and ever increasing throngs that must pass and repass between Europe, America, and the countries of the Pacific Ocean will have to meet. This does not depend on the good will of any one, or on the self-interest of others. It is an insurmountable necessity for those who wish to travel with ease, speed, and comfort. Neptune rules the waves, and as the schoolboy said, he does not rule them straight. He is no respecter of persons, and with the same motion of his trident he reduces the duchess

and her maid, the peer and the ploughboy, to the same state of undignified misery, and helplessness, to what Carlyle calls, "The general sordid torpor of sea-sickness." A good pair of sea legs can only be cultivated by those who live near the sea, and as the majority of mankind live inland, the only escape from the dreadful mal-de-mer is to travel as much as possible by land, and as little as possible by sea."

"Our central and most favorable geographical position cannot fail to be a source of great advantage to Ireland in the twentieth century; but it behoves us to see that we do not allow this advantage to be in any way neutralized or diminished, by the listlessness or hostility of Railway or Steamship Companies, or of the postal authorities, who may wish to favor other and less advantageous routes. We must insist that the most shall be made of this unrivalled position, both by the government and by the carrying companies who possess the privilege of a monopoly of the great arterial railway routes through the kingdom. They should be made to feel that the nation will not tolerate a narrow policy that would stop, hinder, or endanger the full development of the country, and that both for their and their shareholders' interests, as well as for that of the nation, a policy of wise and foreseeing enterprise must be pursued, if they are to continue to be allowed to possess the powers they now hold over a very large extent of territory—a power perhaps too great for any representative bodies to hold. It is a question that will soon have to be considered, and for the good of the nation, that the great highways of the land—the railways—should continue to be administered and held by self-appointed or co-opted private individuals, for the voting of railway shareholders against blank proxies held by the directors is futile; or whether, for reasons of State policy, and for the commercial and material advancement of the country the railways should not be acquired by the State under a fair and equitable system of purchase, that would give to the present shareholders the market value of their shares, based on a fair average, calculated on their earnings over a past period, either in cash or in Consolidated Government Railway Stock at their option."

"The value of a day on the vast and increasing volume of travel, business, and correspondence between the hemispheres is beyond calculation. Any route that breaks that day nearer is of priceless importance to the world. The jealousies of rival ports, or rival routes do not weigh for a moment where such universal interests are at stake. It concerns the whole world that the very best route, and that with the greatest possibilities, should be adopted, and that every means should be taken to make the most of it. A day's interest on the remittances in specie, drafts, bills, notes, cheques, and money orders, continually going and coming between Europe, America, and the Pacific, would amount to an enormous sum annually. That day can be saved, with certainty, only by the Irish route; and when the people of both hemispheres realize that it is impossible, physically impossible, for any English port to compete with one that stretches some hundreds of miles out into the Atlantic; and yet is only from 14 to 16 hours from London, they will elect to travel by the Irish route, and will address their letters "Via Queenstown."

There is no natural or physical reason why Ireland should be a poor country, neither is there any such reason to be found in the intellectual or moral characteristics of her people. Sir William Temple, the friend and patron of Swift, writing two hundred years ago, said: "Had it not been for circumstances prejudicial to the increase of trade and riches in a country, and which seem natural, or at least, have been ever incidental to the government of Ireland, the native fertility of the Irish soil and seas in so many rich commodities, improved by a multitude of people and industry, with the advantage of so many excellent havens and a situation so commodious for all foreign trade, must seem to have rendered the kingdom one of the richest in Europe, and made a mighty increase both of strength and revenue to England."

"Ireland has in her surface a source

of wealth of more practical and inexhaustible value than mines of precious metals. When we see passing through our streets, those perpetual herds of cattle, those flocks of sheep, those droves of pigs and horses, and those loads of provisions does it ever strike us that we have been seeing those since our childhood, and that the stream never dries up or diminishes? That the fertile soil which has produced them is capable of doing so forever. This vast stream of wealth, owing to our abnormal governmental and economic conditions, has not benefited the country as it should have done, but I may be permitted to indulge the hope that in the coming century when Ireland is self-governed, and when the tiller of the soil shall be its owner; when a peasant proprietor, by a purely financial operation, is fully established, this stream of export, while it still continues and is increased by the greater production of the soil, will be no longer a tribute going out of the country, for ever, an exhausting drain of its resources, but a wealth-producing disposal of the surplus produce of the land, the proceeds of which will come back to be spent in the country, by, and for the benefit of its inhabitants.

"After ten years of Home Rule and of peasant proprietorship, Ireland, from her proximity to the great consuming centres of Europe, should begin to be, instead of the poorest of countries, one of the richest and most prosperous, with sufficient capital in the possession of its people to become a manufacturing, as well as an agricultural and horticultural country."

"One of the greatest wants in this country is the establishment of additional industries and manufactures. It is a trite saying that he who makes two blades of grass grow, where but one grew before, is a public benefactor. How much more is the one who brings into the country a new industry and enables the people to add to the value of materials, by art and skill in their manufacture. The difference between the value in the manufactured and unmanufactured state is so much wealth added to the country, and to the comfort, happiness and elevation of its inhabitants."

"In all self-governed, civilized countries under ordinary conditions of national life, there is found to be a certain definite increase in population due to the excess of births over deaths, and in prosperous lands, to the excess of immigration over emigration. This increase of population is calculable to a certain extent. It is, of course, subject to variations according to the special circumstances of each country. Where the increase is very large, the country is considered to be among the most prosperous; advancing in wealth and power. Where it is small and below the ordinary standard, this is looked upon as a grave danger to the power and future progress of the country. But if any country is found in the extraordinary condition that the population instead of increasing, or even remaining stationary, is not holding its own, but is losing, even, indeed, it is plain, that such a country is in a very bad way. If the loss is great and continuous, it is quite clear that abnormal and unnatural conditions prevail, and that the country is suffering from some malignant and withering disease. In such a case it is the duty of all who have the welfare of the country at heart; it is the interest of all whose fortunes are bound up with it, to take counsel together, and see that prompt and energetic steps are taken to discover the cause of, and check the decline, and to restore the country to a normal and healthy condition. Ireland is in a bad state. In 1881 our population was 8,199,000; in 1851 it had fallen to 6,514,000; in 1871 to 5,773,000; in 1881 to 5,144,000; and in 1891 to 4,706,000. In the whole history of the world there is no such instance as this. That a nation, in time of peace, and pursuing the ordinary course of a nation's existence, should in half a century, lose nearly half its inhabitants by steady, uniform, and unintermitting decline. In the same period England, from which we are separated only by a narrow sea, has enormously increased in population; and all other civilized nations have increased more or less."

"Ireland with her great natural geographical and other advantages could henceforward support eight or ten millions of inhabitants, producing and manufacturing, not only for their own wants, but for export.

There is no reason why, in the 20th century she should not do so. Her own products would under ordinary conditions make capital enough. She does not want a penny of capital from outside, if she only gets fair play, and is placed in the same position as other nations."

"May we not hope that all her children will aid to place her in that position? In helping their country, they will and their own greatest good. With the united aid of all her sons, putting aside all narrow distrust of each other, and working for the general good, she must prosper. If they would only recognize that ninety-two years of the Union and misgovernment have brought her to her present low state; that she will inevitably go even lower unless prompt measures are taken and an entirely new departure is made; that they and all that belongs to them will suffer with the country, and that a higher motive than self-interest, love of country, patriotism, calls on them to join in a great and united effort for the right of our people to manage their own affairs."

"Ireland with Home Rule and peasant proprietorship would cease to be the poorest country, and would take her place among the nations which her natural wealth, and central and most advantageous position entitle her to hold. Let us hear no more of assisted emigration, and let us discourage by all means every other sort of emigration. We want every man, woman, and child in the country, we want to attract workers and wealth-producers, to utilize the products of the land, and by skill and work to make it valuable and not only of our own products, but those of other lands, that are not so favorably situated as ours in climate, position, and circumference for supplying the markets of the world. Our country has great capabilities and resources, and there is no physical or natural reason why, if properly governed it should not be one of the happiest and most prosperous countries on the face of the globe, but it is not Ireland alone that would be benefited if we had a large, happy, and prosperous population of producers and consumers. Great Britain would also be the gainer. She secures the world's markets for her goods. Where will she find one more convenient or more natural than in Ireland? We may improve some of our own manufactures, but each country will produce that for which it is best suited, and there will always be a large and reciprocally beneficial trade to be done between us. The larger the population we have in Ireland and the more prosperous it is, the more money the Irish people have to spend, the better it is for British manufacturers and workers, as well as for our own. If the means of the people increase their wants are seen to increase with them, and we should become larger customers for goods produced outside of Ireland. England has spent many millions in warlike and diplomatic foreign expeditions, the real object of which was to extend British trade. The object has often proved to have been not poorly effected and with scarcely any results after the loss of much blood and treasure. Hostile and prohibitive tariffs, the differences of language, distance, unequal freights, and other causes have placed her at a disadvantage, and little if any good has come of those efforts. In Ireland she has the best and most natural of all markets at her very doors; and a thickly populated Ireland means increased wealth and prosperity to Great Britain while an impoverished, depleted, and discontented Ireland will always prove to be a source of weakness and trouble to her."

"The soundest policy, then, for Great Britain is to make Ireland contented and prosperous. How is this to be done? The nineteenth century has been spent in the futile experiment of governing Ireland from London, and by those who do not, and never can, understand her or her people. This experiment has proved a disastrous failure, leaving Ireland impoverished and depopulated. Is it any time that this unnatural and cruel experiment should be given up? Yes; it is time both for England and for Ireland that it should cease. Neither the people of Ireland or the people of England have reason to wish to see it continued any longer. It is an injury and injustice to both. Every good, honest, and patriotic Englishman, every good, honest, and patriotic Irishman, no matter what his creed or politics, should say that, as far as in him lies, this evil shall cease, that this blot upon the name

and fame of a great empire, which enables foreigners to scoff when England's love of freedom are spoken of, shall be removed; and that Ireland shall start in the twentieth century, the friend, the sister, no longer the Cinderella of her sister countries. That the evils and the wrongs that were done to Ireland in the past, not by the English people, but by the courtiers, the nobles, the great military and other adventurers who coveted and got the Irish lands and Irish revenues, shall be redressed by the English people when for the first time in their history the full power to do right is in the people's hands. If this is done, if the disturbing causes are removed, and there never can be recovery while they remain. Ireland, after centuries of unrest, trial, and suffering, unexampled in the history of the world, will awake to a new life of peaceful progress, happiness and prosperity. Always generous, she will learn to forgive the injuries of the past; and with good will to all men, will be found pursuing her natural life as a self-governed nation with what, I hope, shall prove to be for her the glorious dawn of the Twentieth Century."

NOTES FROM ROME.

THE PUBLIC CONSISTORY.—To-day, December 14th, has been selected for the holding of the Public Consistory, which was to follow the Private Consistory of Monday last. A week ago it was said that: "The Holy Father's Allocution on this occasion is looked forward to with much interest and attention as on the vigil of the Holy Year, it will doubtless contain interesting references to the celebrations. The Sacred Bull, which fully formulates the rules for the Jubilee, will be published in the Consistory, and it has already been sent to the Archbishops, Bishops, cardinals, and ordinaries throughout the world."

ST. BENEDICT HONORARY.—His Holiness has always taken the keenest interest in everything that concerns the Benedictine Order, and is already proved by his munificence to the splendid new Benedictine Monastery of St. Anselm in Rome, which by the way, counts eight young English Benedictines among its students. Now, the Holy Father has given another proof of his paternal beneficence to the Order by presenting the sum of 25,000 lire to the Abbot of Monte Cassino. For some time past the Benedictine Fathers of the famous abbey, which contains the tombs of St. Benedict and St. Scolastica, have been making a series of restorations on the tomb of their saintly founder. On hearing of this the Pope sent a congratulatory letter to the Father Abbot, giving his blessing to the undertaking, and also forwarding the aforesaid generous offering to be devoted to the restoration of St. Benedict's last earthly resting-place. The venerable Abbot of Monte Cassino, Don Bonifacio Krug, immediately on receiving the Pontifical gift came to Rome to thank His Holiness in person, and was received in a private and cordial audience by Leo XIII. on Friday last.

DOWN IN THE CATACOMBS.—The characteristic Roman Feast of St. Cecilia, the beloved Roman martyr, was celebrated this year in the catacombs with the usual solemnity, and attended by even more than the ordinary concourse of people, in account of the restoration going on at the Church of St. Cecilia in Trastevere, it was necessary to postpone the festival usually held there, and every one thronged to the catacombs instead.

DIVERS NOTES.—Archbishop Riondan, of San Francisco, accompanied by his brother, Father S. Riondan, and his secretary, arrived last week in Rome, and will remain here until after the New Year.

The Irish Dominican Fathers of the ancient Church of St. Clemente celebrated the festival of their titular patron on Thursday last, and the subterranean church discovered by the late Prior Mulhooly was illuminated and thrown open to the throng of visitors.

A solemn Requiem Mass for the repose of the souls of the British soldiers killed in the Transvaal was celebrated a week ago last Wednesday, November 29th, at 10.30 a.m., in the Church of San Silvestro in Capite. The Mass was sung by the Most Rev. Archbishop Stonor, Archbishop of Trebizond, and the music was rendered by the ecclesiastical students of the British Colleges in Rome.

THE WORLD'S SELFISHNESS.

Some sage has said that there is nothing easier to support in the world than the sorrows and troubles of others. It may be that each individual has so many causes for personal worry that no one finds it convenient to participate in the misfortunes of his neighbors. The memory of man is generally very sensitive; but it always can preserve the record of the evil with greater facility and more lasting impression than the record of the good. It may be that it is the property of virtue that it should only receive its reward in the next world; still we are ever prompt to recall and to dwell upon the slightest error on the part of a man, while we soon lose sight of all the good he may have done in the world. When death intervenes, we suddenly discover the many unrecorded good deeds of the departed; during his lifetime, however, we never, by any accident, can discover aught but shortcomings in his character and mistakes in his life. Not even common gratitude for favors conferred upon us can induce us to do justice to our very friends. If it were possible we would prefer to detect some hidden motive, of a selfish or mean nature, behind the actions which we are obliged to characterize as virtuous or great.

What is the cause of this? Possibly it may be attributed to human frailty, the weak side of our poor nature; but, be the cause what it may, there is more injustice in the world to-day than is recorded for the public. A fellow-countryman has been guilty of some mistake, he has been astray, either by evil associations, or by the accident of circumstances the secret of which alone belongs to himself; year in and year out he struggles to redeem his error, he curbs his natural inclinations, he fights fierce battles with his own passions, he gains scores of victories the importance of which are only visible to the eye of God, he spends a long span of life upon the road of perfection, he triumphs eventually over himself and he stands forth as a model before his fellow-men. All this is of no avail. Mention his name and at once the fact of his old time errors comes out; but not one word of commendation for all he had

done in the opposite direction; not a single syllable that were he to hear it, would serve as an encouragement for the future. This is manifestly unjust, emphatically cruel. Yet it is the way of the world.

Behind all this coldness, harshness, unfairness and ungenerous treatment, there lurks a sentiment of all-absorbing selfishness. That selfishness seems to even take especial delight in the ill-fortune of others—just as if their misery added to our happiness, or their success would take from our contentment. Yet not one man in a million would be willing to acknowledge this, even to himself; still let each one go down into the depths of his own heart and he will find that he has always felt more pleasure in hearing of the distress of others than in learning of their happiness. It is unfortunate that it should be so, for many a noble heart has been crushed and many a useful life has been rendered blank by the existence of such a sentiment amongst men.

On the other hand we must not imagine that there are not many splendid exceptions in the world. There are men, to-day, who are living lives of great sacrifice, devoid of every shade of selfishness. We know of men who, at this hour, are silently working away for the greater benefit of their fellow-men, and are doing so almost in spite of the very people whom they seek to benefit. Without encouragement, without a word of sympathy, without the faintest appreciation, and often under the shadow of false suspicions and the imputation of entirely wrong motives, these men spend their days, their nights, their leisure, their very hours of natural rest, fighting the battles of the public, and they do so for no other apparent reward than that which the consciousness of duty well performed brings to every person.

As we approach the grand season of peace and good will, we trust that in our Catholic world there may be a noticeable disappearance of this ungenerous selfishness, and that the nineteenth century will set, for all time, on our harshness of sentiment, while the twentieth may dawn upon a greater expansion of true Christian charity.

stored in its original character. The statues of kings, the images of martyrs, of bishops, and virgins were placed again on the pedestals from which the fanaticism of the revolution had thrown them, and adornments of every kind both within and without were executed to beautify the building.

The plan of the Cathedral of Notre Dame is in the form of a Latin Cross. Its length is 390 feet; width of transept, 144 feet; height of western towers, 224 feet; width of the front, 128 feet; and length of the nave to transept, 186 feet. The pillars of the nave are four feet in diameter, resting on gravel beds eight feet below the surface. The style of architecture is purely pointed. The nave and side aisles are paved with marble, and the aisles around the sanctuary are paved with stone and black marble. The organ is 45 feet high, 36 feet wide, and has 3,484 stops. There are five naves, thirty-seven chapels, three rose windows, forty-two feet in diameter, a hundred and thirteen grand windows, seventy-six columns of isolated pillars and half-pillars. There are six entrances to the church, and a stairway of 380 steps leads up to the belfry of the tower. The view of the front is imposing. All admire the proportions of the building, and the superb portal, so bold and so majestic, must have been conceived by the same architect who designed the church, because unity of design is found everywhere, even in the smallest outlines of the mouldings. The ornaments which surround each of the entrances are so numerous that it would be impossible even to recount their names. Amongst these may be mentioned the charming sculptures chiseled in Italy of the Virgin's gate and of the Virgin's sanctuary, and the magnificent iron-

work covering the thick wooden folding doors of the gates of the Blessed Virgin and of St. Ann, specimens of the most skilled workmanship of the forges of the thirteenth century. The interior of the cathedral is not as beautiful as it was before the revolution. The architecture is majestic, but a little heavy. The sanctuary, however, bears well the marks of its sumptuous decorations, executed by order of Louis XIV. in fulfillment of the vow of Louis XIII. The ancient pointed windows have disappeared, and three rose-windows alone are preserved. The rail of the sanctuary, carved by John Ravyn and John Bouillier, still shows the historic sculptures of personages in gilded stone and finely painted scenes taken from the Old Testament. Until the reign of Louis XIII. Paris was a diocese forming a part of the province of Sens. In 1622 Pope Gregory XV., at the request of the King of France, elevated it to the dignity of an archdiocese. Formerly Bishops of Paris, the successors of St. Denis, St. Marcel, and St. Germain, possessed almost Royal power, which under different titles, was exercised over the half of Paris. The civil laws of the kingdom of France were modeled after the canon law of the Church and by this means the common people, aided by the clergy, gained many concessions from the aristocracy and the monarch. The Bishops of Paris always held an honorable place in the history of Europe, and were noted for their love of France. Many of them after the example of St. Denis, Apostle of Paris and Martyr, gave their lives for their flock. Within a quarter of a century no less than three Archbishops of Paris died in this way, namely—Mgr. Affre, in June, 1848; Mgr. Sibour, in January, 1867 and Mr. Darboy, on the 21st May, 1871.

ROSCOMMON PRIESTS LEAD THE PEOPLE.

On Sunday two weeks ago, a splendid meeting under the auspices of the United Irish League, was held in the town of Roscommon. The gathering was by far the largest of the many public meetings held by the League, in the county, and was in every respect a most marked success. Large contingents, headed by bands and banners, marched in from the different districts and parishes for a dozen miles around the town, and the proceedings were characterized by the greatest enthusiasm and harmony. The demonstration was presided over by the Right Rev. Mgr. McLaughlin, the respected parish priest of Roscommon, and it was also attended by the clergy of all the surrounding parishes, as well as by Mr. J. P. Hayden, the member for the division; Mr. Swift MacNeill, M.P.; and Mr. Jasper Tully, M.P.

The Right Rev. Mgr. McLaughlin, V. G., was moved to the chair. There were also present: Very Rev. Father Gearty, P.P., Ballygar; Very Rev. Father Geraghty, P.P., Killbegone; Very Rev. Father O'Hara, V. P., Four Mile House; Rev. Father Conry, C.C., Oran; Rev. Father Feely, C.C., Darran; Rev. Father Corcoran, C.C., Roscommon; Rev. Father Filan, C.C., Ferty; Rev. Father O'Bryne, C. C., Roscommon.

The Right Rev. Chairman, who was received with loud cheers, having thanked the people for the great honor conferred on him by being called upon to take the chair, at that very large and influential gathering of the people of Roscommon, said that there are two points placed in the very forefront of the United Irish League—first, we must agree to bury all memory of the past, and any one who seeks to revive the bitterness of the last few years must be treated as an enemy of the movement, and should be hunted from every platform in the land; secondly, we seek to injure no man; if, in the interest of the people, any one's property should be interfered with, we declare that due compensation should be made. Now the end and object of this movement is aptly described in that short formula, now familiar to us all, "Ireland for the Irish and the land for the people." Sooner or later it must come to that, and the sooner the better for all concerned. For a hundred years England says she has been killing us with kindness and yet we are not contented. Contented we shall never be till we are able to make our own laws and are allowed to administer them ourselves. For a hundred years we are told, we have been enjoying the blessings of the so-called Union with England, and yet, as all the world knows, that government of us is a failure. In that hundred years we had to bear the burden of over 100 Coercion Acts, and appropriately enough recently at the very close of the century, a Coercion Act has been made a permanent part of the glorious constitution under which we live. Now ought Ireland be contented? Daily we are losing ground as a nation; the best of our people are ever flying from our shores. With the richest soil on earth and with land enough to support ten million human beings, our population is to-day only a little over four millions. In a country teeming with wealth our trade and our industries are ruined. As Catholics we are denied, in our own country, equal rights with our favored fellow countrymen. Most positions of trust and emolument are closed against us. Sneered at for our ignorance, and told that we were unfit for offices of influence and importance, yet, we are denied our right to higher education in a university where our young people may be taught without danger to their faith and nationality. We are impoverished and handicapped by unequal taxes. Quite recently England, arraigned before a jury of her own choosing and mostly of her own countrymen, was unanimously found guilty of an annual theft of nearly £3,000,000 of our money. The richest country in the world found with its hand in the pocket of the poorest

country in the world! This is the way England has been killing us with kindness, Strange to say, after all we are not contented. On every side is heard a nation's cry for national government—for a full and satisfactory measure of Home Rule.

The second plank in the platform of the United Irish League is "The Land for the People." The land, right belongs to the people. You or your fathers once had it; you will never be satisfied till you have it again. The Allan Pollocks and the Jack Farrells belong to the days of long, long ago, and the laws that gave them power to do the devil's work are repealed—they have been wiped out of the Statute Book. But though these inhuman laws are gone the evil done under their sanction lives after them. It is not enough then to repeal the laws; in all justice the evil effect wrought by them should be removed too. The wickedness, the injustice, the cruelty perpetrated through them must be atoned for as far as may be. The homesteads that were unroofed must be roofed again; the land that was grabbed must be given back again. The people that were driven from their comfortable dwellings must be brought to the spot where they were born. This is the task the United Irish League has taken on its shoulders; this is the work it has promised to accomplish. It is a heavy undertaking; it is an important work. This is not a war of classes; it is a struggle of every poor tenant amongst you for subsistence and very life; it is a fight for existence between man and the beasts of the field. Now, I ask is your demand a reasonable one. Is it a just one? Within the last few years the Legislature of New Zealand, with the sanction of the Privy Council of England, passed a law by which no person was allowed to retain for grazing purposes more than a certain fixed number of acres of land; all over the fixed quantity was put up to auction, and the proceeds of the sale were handed over to the late occupier. The same principle is constantly acted on in the Legislature of England in securing land for the construction of railways, public parks, and similar works of public utility. The United League is based on constitutional lines. Within those lines it will never cease to agitate till a somewhat similar Act is passed for Ireland by which the land will be transferred to the people, adequate compensation being made to those affected by the change.

Mr. Donnellan, Chairman of the Roscommon Town Commissioners, proposed the following resolutions: "That as the object of the United Irish League is to improve the condition of the tenant farmers, and to secure more land and better land for the people, we, the people of Roscommon County in public meeting assembled, pledge ourselves to support it by every means within our reach and we are delighted to find that it has already secured a firm foothold in our county."

"That we are of opinion that peace will not prevail in this country while the agrarian question is left unsettled, we call on the Government to pass, during the next session, a Compulsory bill, so as to have the tenant farmers of Ireland the owners of the land they till."

"That as the laborers are in most cases the victims of landlord oppression in bygone days, we consider they will deserve our sympathy, and we hereby promise to extend to them our support in obtaining for them residences that will be fit for human habitation, and also in securing for them acre allotments."

"That we strongly disapprove of the practice of taking farms on the 11 months' system, and we call on all the Nationalists of Roscommon County to use every legitimate means in their power to put an end to this practice of canting the land of Ireland."

Mr. Gilleran, D.C., seconded the resolutions, which were declared carried amidst cheers.—Dublin Freeman.

THE GOOD WORK OF THE NIGHT SCHOOLS.

The night schools which opened early in October are closed for the first half term. In many of the schools the attendance has been very large, in fact the numbers have nearly trebled since opening. It goes to show that education is becoming more and more a vital, important and a very necessary factor in life. The educated man is able to take his place in life with the necessary things to make him earn an honest, and industrious living; while the uneducated man is at a greater and greater disadvantage every day. What our young boys and young men need to-day is more education, a good, solid and Christian education. Our Catholics should not only be as well educated as other men, but very much better. They receive not only that education which not only trains the mind, but heart also. Archbishop Corrigan of New York, says: "That an education which trains the mind but neglects the heart, is at best only half an education." Every step taken to promote this Christian education is a step in advance for a nation. "It means," says Anna T. Sandler, "the making of good citizens, useful and intelligent ones. Men who are able to see the great battle that is fought in the world, and to take their part intelligently in it, by being taught how to think and how to act. All honor, then, to the men who are promoting this education. The sacrifices they are making are not for themselves, but for their fellow-citizens, for future generations even." Now while every opportunity is offered to our Irish Catholics as regards their education, there are a very large number of our boys who having to give up school for one or many reasons, are obliged to go out in the world and make a livelihood for themselves. Many of these have scarcely received a primary education. It is to these in particular that the evening classes will prove a source of incalculable good. A few evenings ago a representative of the "True Witness" paid a visit to one of the night schools and saw for himself the good work that is being done. He was warmly welcomed by the principal, a man of graceful bearing, and a very kind and genial disposition, a son of the dear old Emerald Isle, and in whose bosom there

is planted that undying and real love for native land. After a few explanations about the attendance, etc., the representative was shown through the different classes. In the first department there were nearly forty pupils, all busily engaged at writing. The books were examined and many of them showed neatness, accuracy, and vast improvement. Here in this department the scholars were taught practical arithmetic, spelling and reading. We next visited the second department and here the same good work was going on except that the pupils were of a more advanced age. The third department contained many young men who seeing the necessity of certain branches devote their evenings in order to make themselves prove proficient in their different avocations in life. The fourth or higher department was then visited. Nearly twenty students were engaged at a set of book-keeping and all testified by their assiduity to their work that they were in earnest. The attendance of all the classes numbered nearly one hundred. The session for the past year has been changed from one hundred nights to eighty. We would here state that such a move was in the wrong direction. Instead of decreasing the number of evenings they should have been increased by twenty, and these would give more time to those who need this education badly. After the implanting and fostering of our Holy Faith, education comes—the more of it the better until our Catholics stand in the foremost rank.

Sir Charles Gavan Duffy, whose great book of his own life has just been given to the world, and who advocated from his very entrance into public life the education, the improvement of the people, said in a masterly speech of his, delivered over half a century ago, at Newry: "The man whose heart and imagination are not opened and exalted by education is no more the creature God intended him to be than if eyes and hands were wanting in his physical organization." The "True Witness" wishes the pupils of the evening classes, a pleasant and happy vacation, and trusts that they will return, and others with them, to continue the good and useful work in January, 1900.

THE CHURCH OF NOTRE DAME, PARIS.

The history of the above great Cathedral is largely a history of the royal houses of France. A volume could be filled with a description of the national celebrations, the baptisms of princes and princesses, and funerals of kings and queens, and of the treaties of peace which have been celebrated in that church. At each coronation the new monarch came to the august temple and placed his crown before the tabernacle; before going to war he prayed there for the success of his armies, and when he returned from battle victorious he came there to return thanks to the God of armies. The flags and the standards of the enemies of France captured on the battlefield were suspended in triumph in the galleries of its sanctuary. No public event happened in the history of France but the people of Paris, and the members of the Royal family with the king at their head, marched in crowds to the Cathedral of Notre Dame where a Solemn High Mass of public thanksgiving was celebrated.

During the reign of St. Louis King of France, on the 12th of April, 1229, Raymond VII., Count of Toulouse, was absolved in the church of Notre Dame from the censures he had incurred for having given powerful aid to the Albigenses, whose savage doctrines were then overturning the foundations of both civil and religious authority. The Count came clothed as a penitent, and barefooted. The Episcopal legate received him at the foot of the Altar, and absolved him from the censures, to the great delight and edification of the assembled people, who thus saw the violence of the nobles and aristocracy checked by the wholesome severity of the Church. In 1303 a convention of the representatives of the different governmental departments, at the call of Philip the Fair, was held in Notre Dame, and in 1304 the same King rode in triumph to that Church to return thanks to the Lord for His celebrated victory over the Flemish at Mons-en-Puelle.

Formerly the naves, and chapels of Notre Dame were paved with slabs of marble, stone or bronze, on which were engraved images and inscriptions over the remains of the illustrious dead of the Church and Kingdom of France. These tombs were for the most part destroyed at the time of the French Revolution. One of the most impressive scenes ever enacted in Notre Dame Cathedral

was in the year 1686 at the funeral of King Louis XIV. Before the grand altar rests a coffin containing the remains of the great monarch. The eloquent Massillon had already pronounced over it, in the royal palace, his great oration, beginning with the words, "God alone is great." Towards the close of the funeral ceremonies the aged and venerable Bossuet, one of the most gifted orators that ever lived came in, and, in the presence of the royal corpse and of the representatives of all the governments and nations of the world, spoke these words: "Come, O people, above all, princes and rulers, 'you who judge the earth,' and you who open the gates of heaven to man, come and see all that remains at last of such a noble birth, of such grandeur, of such glory; look around now at all. Behold all that magnificence and piety does to honor a hero. Titles, dignities, honors, glories are useless now for him who is no more. They are only figures which appear around his coffin, weak images of the overwhelming sorrow which appears to carry all before it, columns which seem to carry even to the heavens the magnificent testimony of our nothingness."

A century after these words were uttered in Notre Dame, the noble temple shook with delirious cries of the French Revolutionists. The mad crowds forced the gates, broke in pieces and trampled under foot altars, statues, images and tombs. Thus made the victim of the uncontrolled fury of the mob, Notre Dame lost her most beautiful adornments. Her treasury was pillaged; the thousands of precious objects, her works of art, her carved works of silver and gold, enriched with pearls and precious stones, were destroyed, stolen or sold for money. But when these stormy days passed away religion again found a place in the venerable temple, Napoleon I., who had restored religion to the public life of France more than once, entered Notre Dame with his triumphant eagles. A half-century later his nephew, Napoleon III., surrounded with ambassadors and representatives of many nations, entered Notre Dame to give thanks to God for the success of the arms of France in the Crimean war. Then a restoration of the building began. A monumental sacristy replaced the palace of the Archbishops destroyed in the revolution of 1830. The facade was re-

OUR CATHOLIC DAILY TWENTY YEARS AGO.

(From the "Evening Post" Files, November, 1872.)

We notice with great pleasure that some of the young men of Montreal have entered in earnest on the task of learning the Irish language.

At the semi-annual meeting of the Shamrock Lacrosse Club, Mr. John Hoobin announced his intention of retiring from the lacrosse field. He considers twenty years of lacrosse playing quite sufficient for him.

Under the auspices of the Ancient Order of Hibernians the drama, The Colleen Bawn, was produced at the

Theatre Royal on November 10. Mr. James Wilson played the leading part.

Persons desirous of studying the Irish language will make application to Mr. J. B. Lane, 21 Blauy Street.

Rev. Father Bruschi will preach the sermon in Notre Dame Church at High Mass on Monday, the 25th anniversary of the Immaculate Conception.

Mr. S. Carsley's festival for boys-boys was held November 23. It was a grand success.

A WASHOUT.

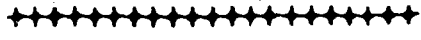
Mr. N. F. Davin, M.P., is an Irishman, and fond of a joke, and tells a story with which his name is associated. It is stated that he was invited to speak at some distance from Regina, but he could not make the connection owing to a washout on the Canadian Pacific. He therefore telegraphed: "Cannot come; washout on line." The telegram as received made two words of the word "washout," "When the kind hearted chairman read it, and discovered that Mr. Davin was prevented from coming because his wash was out on the line he is alleged to have promptly telegraphed back urging the eloquent member to buy or borrow some clothes and come anyway.—Ottawa Free Press.

Dr. W. M. Cheney, of San Francisco, one of the corps of physicians of the Lane Hospital, who gained unenvi-

able notoriety during the Durrant trial, is charged by Father Wyman, C. S. P., and Father Hickey, with denying them the right of administering the last sacrament of the church to a dying patient—of barring them from performing that duty. He closed the doors of the sick room to the priests, who applied there for the purpose of comforting and consoling a member of their church who was about to be called to his Maker.

Notice is given in the Quebec Official Gazette that the cure and churchwardens de l'Ouvreur et Fabrique of the parish of Saint Paul of Montreal, will apply at the forthcoming meeting of the Legislature, for an act authorizing the trustees to levy an assessment upon the immovable property of the Catholics of the said parish, for the construction of the church, sacristy, and parsonage, the power to borrow on the said assessment.

PRIESTS AND NUNS In the Mahdi's Camp.



Those of our readers who delight in books of adventure, especially when the events narrated are absolutely true, and written in a simple, straightforward style, which sets them off all the more, cannot do better than procure Father Ohrwalder's thrilling account of his ten years' captivity in the Mahdi's camp as presented for English readers by Colonel Sir Francis Wingall.

Treating, as it does, of the heroic labors and sufferings of the priests, nuns, and lay brothers of the Austrian mission in the Soudan, the work has special interest for Catholic readers. Moreover, not a few Irish Catholics have had their names associated with the work of regeneration in Egypt and the Egyptian Soudan. To mention one or two: Was not our countryman, Dr. Madden, of Dublin, private physician to Mehmet Ali of Egypt, the conqueror of the Soudan? And, in the pages of Father Ohrwalder's book, we read of the tragic end of two other Irishmen—O'Donovan, the "Daily News" correspondent, and Frank Power of Dublin, who was treacherously murdered, with Colonel Stewart, by the Moslem Arabs. Moreover, as frequent mention is made of Abyssinia, we may remind our readers that the celebrated Abyssinian traveller, M. S'Abadie, was born in Dublin, of semi-Irish parentage. And to speak of more recent events, our readers will remember that two out of four Victoria Crosses obtained in the late Nile Campaign were won by the gallantry of Irish Catholics.

Father Ohrwalder left Cairo, en route for the Soudan, on the 28th December, 1880, "as full of bright hopes for a happy future as any young man could wish to be." His party, consisting of Bishop Camboni, two missionaries, and several missionaries reached Suakin, via the Red Sea, on the 4th January, 1881. Travelling across the desert to Berber, they reached Khartoum, after a journey of twenty-eight days, where they found the Government authorities, including Father Ohrwalder's countryman, Slatin Pasha, assembled in the mission house to welcome Bishop Camboni and his party.

Towards the end of the same year, 1881, Father Ohrwalder went for five days' journey south to Delen, in Dar Nuba, which is a hilly country, a considerable distance from Fashoda. Here, in a fertile hill region, which formed a pleasant contrast to the plains of Khordofan, he established a mission station. The population of Delen were the Negro race, and "a pleasant and well-disposed people." Soon the numbers of the blacks in the mission increased so much that more accommodation was necessary; so the Fathers set about baking bricks, while the carpenters and Father Bononi put together a four-wheeled cart.

Everything was going on well. When, in April, 1882, there were perceptible at Delen, the first murmurings of the terrible storm, which was to deluge the entire Soudan with blood, and to bring misfortune and calamity on the land and on our happy mission.

It is at this point that the Mahdi appears on the scene. He had a few years previously begun to attract attention as a wandering Dervish, "preaching everywhere against the oppression of the Turk and the decadence of the true Moslem faith," which he attributed to luxurious living and contact with Christians.

Having got together a small body of followers, he declared himself openly at the island of Abba, on the White Nile. The Egyptian Government got alarmed, and sent expeditions against him, one after another being defeated; for the Mahdi had roused his followers to the highest pitch of fanaticism, and had succeeded in persuading them that he had the power of turning the enemy's bullets into water.

Three successive victories had been won over the Government troops, and the Mahdi, now fully convinced that his plans were favored by heaven, carried the campaign into Khordofan, with the intention of taking El Obeid.

In the meantime, the condition of the Delen mission was becoming critical. Bands of marauding Arabs appeared on all sides, harassing, slaying, and carrying off all they could lay hands on, so that the missionaries had to take refuge in the most inaccessible part of the hills.

For five months this state of things had continued, when a certain Nick Omar, a slave dealer, encamped before the hill, with fifty followers, and sent a letter to the inhabitants, summoning them to surrender, in the name of the Mahdi.

A council of war was held, and it was decided to attempt escape in the

direction of Fashoda. At midnight everything was prepared for the flight, but the captain of the guard showed irresolution at the last moment, and the soldiers, in despair, left one by one, and submitted to Nick Omar. Thus the missionaries and their flock (200 in all, the greater part being women and children), were left quite alone, and nothing remained but surrender.

Nick Omar received the Fathers in a friendly manner, gave them coffee, and said that, as he knew they would not turn Mohammedans, they should consider all their property confiscated; but at the same time he promised to give the letters to the Mahdi.

This happened on the 14th September (which, we may remark, is the feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross), of the year 1882. The Fathers spent that night alone in silent prayer at the mission house. The next morning the Angelus bell was rung for the last time, and at noon Omar and his followers entered the church, chanting the Mohammedan creed, and destroyed the building.

It only remained to say farewell to the poor Nubas, who bitterly bemoaned the departure of the missionaries, and who followed them along the road as far as the savage guides would permit. Having with difficulty procured a camel, mule, and two donkeys for the convenience of the sisters, they set out with their captors for El Obeid, the siege of which had been begun by the Mahdi, who had encamped round the city with his followers, to the number of over one hundred thousand, exclusive of women and children.

Our prisoners were left in a hut, some distance outside the huge Arab camp, in order that the guides might learn from the Mahdi, whether it was his good will to see them, or to have them executed on the spot. After a day's delay, a messenger arrived to say that it was the Mahdi's gracious intention to permit them to look upon his face. They then moved on towards the centre of the camp, where they would be ushered into the august presence of Mahomed Ahmad. On the way through the bustling camp, they were besieged by the Dervishes, who relieved them of their watches and clothes, so that Father Ohrwalder was obliged to appear before the Mahdi in a shirt and drawers. The Arabs even tried to remove the veils and outer garments of the sisters, but the fathers drove them off with sticks. The excitement of the Dervishes grew greater and greater; they pointed their lances at the breasts of the prisoners, and would undoubtedly have killed them had not their escort decided to draw their swords, and form a square to protect them.

At length it was announced that the Mahdi had risen from his noon-day sleep, and wished to see the captives. Our prisoners were taken to a small hut, and as they arrived they saw the Mahdi entering it from a tent close by. He greeted them kindly, asked them about their nationality, and why they had come to the Soudan. He then inquired whether they had ever heard of the Mahdi, and explained to them the nature of his divine mission, and spoke of the great victories he had gained over "the enemies of God and His Prophet."

Seeing the exhausted state in which they were in, he offered them some dried apricots, and at once set about trying to induce them to become Mohammedans. The Mahdi employed for this purpose a renegade named George Stambouli, as he was afraid of being subjected to the humiliation of a refusal, if he were to ask in person.

Father Ohrwalder thus describes the false prophet: "Mohammed Ahmed was a powerfully-built man, of dark brown complexion, and carefully-kept skin; he had a pleasant smile, which showed to advantage the curious slit between his front teeth. By constant training he had acquired a gentle manner in speaking, and, with these exceptions there was nothing unusual in his appearance. He wore a dirty 'jibbeh'; on his head the white skull cap, or 'takia'; round which a broad white turban was bound; he also wore a pair of loose drawers and sandals."

Having stretched himself for some time on the mat, with closed eyes, as if he were about to behold a vision, he next rose and offered his guests some more apricots, from which he endeavored to chase away the flies, but gave up the attempt in despair. Thereupon, he returned to his tent, as if to hold a council, and on coming back he once more dilated on the glories of the Moslem religion; but seeing that his hearers were not interested in the least, he ordered

them off to the Khalifah Abdullah, who, our readers will remember, succeeded the Mahdi, and was defeated the other day at Omdurman.

Arrived at Abdullah's hut, they found themselves in the company of twenty robbers, bound hand and foot. The Khalifa, in his turn, tried to persuade the religious of the error of their ways; but, meeting with no success, he ordered them to be marched off.

On the 27th September, George Stambouli came again to say that their only hope of being saved lay in their embracing Islamism; but the Fathers and sisters again turned a deaf ear. The Mahdi continued to send people to try and convert them, but Father Bononi sent them about their business.

Finally, Abdullah came again, bringing a water-melon, of which the captives refused to partake, so he went off in a rage, saying that they would be beheaded the next morning.

That night they spent in prayer, preparing for death, the prospect of which pleased them greatly, so terrible were the sufferings they had gone through.

Just before dawn a wonderful comet appeared in the east. It brought back to our minds the star in the east, which stood over the manger at Bethlehem. The Arabs called it "Nigmat el Mahdi" (the Mahdi's star).

Early in the morning the beating of the war-drums and the blast of the "onbeia" (a great ivory horn made of an elephant's tusk), gave the signal for the grand review, at which our missionaries were to be executed.

Stambouli appeared again to announce that the end was approaching. "We gave him a small piece of paper, on which we had written our last farewells, to our own loved ones at home, and had signed our names." Weeping bitterly, he took the paper, and went to his hut, saying he could not bear to look on our execution.

About nine o'clock a party of thirty men, armed with lances, arrived, and ordered us to follow them. After about half an hour's walk we arrived before the Dervish hosts, and thanked God that victory was now so near. About forty thousand men were standing on parade. We were taken to a central position and ordered to bend our necks to receive the death blow, and, without the smallest hesitation we did so. But our hour had not yet come. We were summoned before the Mahdi, who was riding on a magnificent white

camel; behind him rode a slave, carrying an umbrella to shade him from the sun's rays. As we approached he turned round to us, and said, "May God lead you into the way of truth," and then rode on.

Our prisoners were now sent back to Khalifa Abdullah's hut, where, a council of war having been held, the majority was in favor of putting us to death.

"But a certain Hajji Khaled (Hajji is the title given to those who have made the pilgrimage to Mecca)—now an emir in Omdurman—pointed out that, according to Moslem law, it was not lawful to kill priests, who had not offered any armed resistance, and who were, moreover, captives."

So, finally, they were handed over to Stambouli, who was made responsible for them. His hut being too small for his own family, the priests and the nuns were obliged to live for fifteen days in the open, in the camp, where they were exposed to all sorts of insults, until they succeeded in building a hut for themselves.

Here Father Ohrwalder gives an interesting description of this large Arab encampment, which we must pass over.

The transition from a state of continual suffering and alarm to comparative quiet, brought on a reaction, and they all fell a prey to disease. The stifling atmosphere of the camp brought on a raging fever and dysentery. Their clothes were infested with vermin, and they had none to change. There was not sufficient water to drink, and none for washing.

They lay down in helpless despair on the floor of the miserable hut, and in less than a month three—Sister Eudalia, Posavento, of Verona, Carpenter Gabriel Mariani, and Sister Amelia Andre—were corpses. "We four, who still remained, hovering between life and death, lay helplessly side by side with our dead brothers and sisters. It was a terrible exertion to us to sew the corpses in mats and drag them to the door of the hut. At length some slaves . . . removed the already decaying bodies and buried them in shallow pits. No one lent a hand to bury these "Christian Dogs," as we were called. It was a terrible grief to us not to accompany our poor companions in adversity to the grave; but we were all too ill to move, and so they were carried away to their last resting-place, without prayer or chant." D. P. N. in the Irish Rosary Magazine.

ABOUT FRATERNAL SOCIETIES.



THE C. M. B. A.—No better and no more convincing evidence of its sound financial position and of the steady progress which it is making every year could be forthcoming than in that portion of the federal government blue-book, which embodies the annual report of the Superintendent of Insurance upon the C. M. B. A. of Canada, and other similar life insurance societies operated upon the assessment plan. The total income for the year dealt with by the Dominion inspector in his report—namely that of 1898—which has just been issued was \$225,064; while the total expenditure of all kinds, the chief item being of course losses by death, amounted to \$215,591, which leaves a surplus to be added to the cash reserve, which at the end of 1898, reached \$88,000 in round figures, not counting \$19,000 assessments, etc., due and collectable. The total assets were therefore \$5,07,000; and, the total income was \$223,700. The number of new policies accepted during the year was 977, the amount

being \$1,178,000; and the total number of policies in force at that date was 12,145, the net amount at December 31, 1898, being \$18,151,000.

According to the "Free Press" there will shortly be organized in Ottawa and Hull councils of the Knights of Columbus. Arrangements are now being made, and from what can be learned all the most prominent Catholic business and professional men in the capital and in Hull are interested and are taking an active part in its formation. The headquarters of the Society will likely be situated in Hull, but the organization and field of labor will be in Ottawa.

Arrangements are now being made for the institution of the order, and this ceremony will likely take place in some big hall in Ottawa. There are over one hundred ready to be initiated at the first meeting, and it is expected some three or four hundred visiting Knights will come from the United States and Canada for the occasion.

KILLARNEY'S LAKES DISTRICT SOLD.



In Montreal, as elsewhere, great interest was taken, all along, in the sale of the Killarney Lakes District, in Ireland. At last a purchaser has been found; one who has paid the very highest figure; and above all, one in whose hands Killarney is to be as a national heritage. That the people are proud and happy over the transaction can easily be seen by the comments of all sections of the Irish press. As for example, we have the following:

"The purchaser of Killarney, we learn is Lord Ardilaun. We are in a position definitely to state that the figure for which the property was sold was £60,000. This sum exceeds by ten thousand pounds the largest bid made at the auction the other day. The sale of the Muckross estate—an event which is certainly entitled to rank as the greatest business transaction of national and historic moment to our country in this century is gratifying in two highly important respects. Firstly, the fact that a nobleman of such intensely

public spirit as Lord Ardilaun has purchased the estate is a sufficient guarantee that the rights of the Irish people and the privileges of sight-seers from all the world over will enjoy the universally famed and unrivalled scenery of Killarney will be in no way infringed upon. The senior member of the wealthy Guinness family has been too large-hearted in his practical philanthropy, lavished in his own country, to lay himself open to any imputation of having purchased Killarney for the sordid and unpatriotic purpose of revoking or modifying by a title the respective rights of the Irish people to glory in Killarney as a magnificent scenic asset of the nation available to all comers.

"The contrary is what one would expect from a man of such munificence as Lord Ardilaun is known to be. Not only is he not the man to shut out either Irishmen or foreigners from Killarney, but he is one who may be expected, if his generosity, so far can be a criterion of his

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attitude in this matter, to open even wider than formerly everybody's access to the grand estate. Lord Ardilaun is a man who will rise superior to such petty considerations as tolls, and it can be depended upon that the present tolls levied on visitors, which are not unreasonable, will not be increased, if indeed, they are not altogether abolished. How different it would have been if the purchasers of Killarney had been a greedy syndicate, which would see nothing sacred or beautiful in the Muckross estate which was not convertible into L. S. d.

"The purchase of the estate by Lord Ardilaun will be regarded by the Irish people, as the next best thing to the acquisition of Killarney as a gift to the nation, as was at first fondly hoped for. The second gratifying feature of the Killarney change of hands lies in the fact that that big transaction is a grand feather in the cap of Irish enterprise in business. The temptation to dispose of Killarney through the London market was resolutely brushed aside. And all honor to those who saw that the sale was left in Irish hands, with the result that an Irish nobleman was the buyer instead of sending the brightest gem in Ireland's crown of panoramic jewels a-begging amongst Saxon peers and capitalists."

Next to Killarney becoming a grand national park the best possible fate has befallen that lovely and historic region. Moreover, it would not be a matter of surprise were Lord Ardilaun to some fine day make a present of his newly acquired domain to the Irish people. It is almost certain, in any case, that he will administer it as a steward of the nation and for the greater benefit of Ireland and of Irishmen.

RECENT CONVERSIONS.

Baron d'Este, of St. Louis, son-in-law of the late Gen. Harney, renounced the Protestant faith last week, and was admitted to the Catholic Church in the Chapel of Visitation. The services were performed and the First Communion administered by the Rev. Father Sullivan, S. J. of the St. Louis university.

Baron d'Este is past sixty and his wife nearly as old. Baroness d'Este was Miss Eliza Harney and married the Baron nine years ago in Paris.

The non-Catholic mission that was given at Bowling Green last week says the Cleveland Universe, was brought about principally by the editor of the Bowling Green Daily Tribune, Mr. Edward Lossing. He agreed to engage the fine town hall, and to induce the Methodists, who were having their services in it pending the completion of their new church, to vacate it for our use. He promised to give a full report of the lectures every day and let us preach a Catholic mission to every reader of his paper. Two days before the opening of the mission, unfortunately, Mr. Lossing died; still he obtained the grace of a dying Catholic, and during the mission he was buried from St. Aloysius' Church.

The London "Canadian Gazette," of November contains a long interview with N. Smart, Canadian Deputy Minister of the Interior, who had been on a visit of inspection among the emigration agencies of the Dominion Government. Referring to the work in Ireland, Mr. Smart said:—"I was very much pleased to note that notwithstanding the reports of difficulties to be encountered in Ireland, Mr. Devlin's efforts there in the cause of immigration are worthy of every special mention."

SANTA CLAUS AND DICK SNIFFER.

A Christmas Story for Boys and Girls.

Dick Sniffer sat in a chair before the fire-place in the library gazing at his limp stocking which hung from the mantelpiece.

Dick was an only child, and a matter of fact young gentleman, who declared there were no such things as fairies and openly scoffed at the idea of Santa Claus coming down the chimney, and, in fact, he even went so far as to express doubts of the existence of the jovial St. Nick.

The doorbell had been rung several times while they were at dinner, and each time Mrs. Sniffer said to the waitress, "If it's a bundle take it upstairs and leave it in my room Mary."

And now, as Dick sat before the as yet empty stocking, he could hear his parents moving about up stairs, and he could hear, too, a great rattling of stuff brown paper, and the creaking and groaning that told of the opening of heavy cases and boxes. And now and then Dick would catch a word or two, such as "Isn't it lovely?" and "Won't Dick be pleased with that?" which was very tantalizing and very trying to a boy's patience.

Once Dick heard something fall with a steely crash.

"Jimminy!" exclaimed Dick. "That's a pair of skates!" The he leaned forward in his chair and gazed incredulously at the narrow opening in the grate.

"Dollars to doughnuts," he muttered, "that if I ask the folks to-morrow who gave me skates they'll say Santa Claus came down the chimney and left 'em for me. Jes' as if I didn't know that there wasn't any such a person! It's jes' papa and mamma that gives you everything. They ought to know that they can't fool me with any baby talk about Santa Claus."

Dick went to the window, and, pressing his nose against the pane, he tried to make out what the weather was like. The white, unbroken snow lay waist deep over the road and the meadows beyond, and now and then a flurry of flakes blown against the glass told Dick that the storm had not altogether ceased, though the moon was trying its best to escape from the hurrying enveloping clouds. Then Dick went back to his chair. It was his bedtime, but his engrossed parents had forgotten to remind him of the fact. Even the delightful speculation as to what was likely to find its way into his stocking could not prevent Dick from yawning several times, and by and by, with no other sound audible but the quiet ticking of the old grandfather's clock in the corner, Dick began to nod and doze in his chair, starting up now and then at the slamming of a door or a suspicious noise from above stairs. Suddenly Dick was aroused to thorough consciousness by the faint tinkling of sleigh bells, which seemed to be growing louder and clearer with each second. Now, Dick's home was quite a way from the village and on a most unfrequented road, so he was curious to see who might be travelling by at that time of night. Running noiselessly out into the hall he picked up his cap and muffler, and in a trice he had slipped out of the front door, closing it softly behind him.

It had stopped snowing and the moon was shining out gorgeously over the whitened landscape. Strange to say the air felt almost balmy. As Dick reached the front gate, which opened on the road, he caught sight of a fat little horse, trotting along, before a small, low sleigh, and seated in it, all alone, was a funny fat little old man. He seemed strangely familiar to Dick, though the boy could not remember whether he had ever seen him before or had just seen his picture. At almost the same instant the funny old man caught sight of Dick, for he called out a cheery "Hallo there!" and, drawing rein, he threw back the lap robe, and clambered laboriously from the sleigh. He had the merriest, brightest pair of eyes Dick had ever seen, and his round little nose reminded the boy of a crab apple, it was so red and shiny.

"Why, my boy, glad to meet you!" he cried, cheerily. "Always glad to meet a boy, and most boys," he added with a chuckle, "are glad to meet me."

As though this last needed explanation, the old gentleman thrust a mittened hand deep in a capacious pocket and fished out a card. It was an absurdly large card for so small a man—about the size of an ordinary envelope. He handed it to Dick, and the astonished boy read, "Mr. S. Claus, of Troytown."

"Why—why, you're not really,

truly Santa Claus, are you?" cried Dick, with a fast beating heart.

"To be sure I am!" was the reply. "And now perhaps you can tell me something." Santa Claus went on, "I have just heard of a boy who lives near here, who says he does not believe there is any such person as I—and after all I have done for him, too! Let me see; his name is Dick—er—something or other." Here Santa Claus hauled out a heavy book, which was short and fat like himself. He turned over the leaves till he came to a certain page, and Dick, looking over his shoulder, could see that the page contained a list of boys whose first name was Dick, like his own.

Santa ran a fat forefinger down the page till he came to a certain name with a black mark after it. "Ah, here we have it!" he exclaimed, "Dick Sniffer! That's the young rascal. Do you happen to know him?" Santa added, turning quickly on poor Dick.

"Yes, sir. He—he lives in the same house that I do!" Dick faltered.

"Dear me!" cried Mr. S. Claus. "Here's luck! It will save me time to speak to you about it, and you can repeat it all to the young disbeliever."

Here the old gentleman paused, with his head bent as though in deep thought. Suddenly he looked up and delivered himself of the following history of his work:

"When I first began to make my Christmas rounds, many, many hundred years ago, there wasn't a boy or girl in all the world who did not know me and believe me, and I never forgot one single child. But after a while the world grew so big and so many children were born into it, that it became very hard for me to get around to them all.

"By and by things got so bad I had to enlist the services of the fairies. You believe in fairies, don't you?"

"Oh, yes!" cried Dick, earnestly though but half an hour before he would have made another answer.

"Well," pursued Santa, "I got the fairies—only the good fairies, of course!—to go about and make up the lists of all the boys and girls in the world and to find out what they wanted for Christmas, and if they believed in Santa or not. I have all the names in this book here. For instance, I have Dick Sniffers down for skates, bobbed and a fishing rod. Do you happen to know if that is right?"

"Yes!" cried Dick. "That's right! He—he told me what he wanted."

"Do you think he deserves anything for not believing in me?" asked Santa Claus, gravely.

"I—I s'pose not!" cried poor Dick. "But if I promise to tell him about meeting you and prove to him that you're real, perhaps you'll forgive him this time."

Old Santa Claus shook his head sadly. "It always makes me feel very bad to think anybody needs proof of me. A boy or girl ought to believe what their parents tell them about old Santa Claus."

"If I—I mean, if Dick had only seen you come down the chimney once, I'm sure he'd have never doubted that you were real!" said Dick eagerly.

"That was all very well in the old days," replied Santa sorrowfully. "But they make the chimneys so all-fired narrow these days, and what with steam heat and gas logs in the city houses, I haven't any chance at all to make my Christmas calls on children in the good old-fashioned way. Though now and then, if I happen to pass a particularly large and roomy chimney, I am very apt to try the old way. It's such a pretty sight," added Santa with a chuckle, "to peep in and see two or three young ones fast asleep and to think how they would stare if they should wake and see me there. Once in a while a child does wake up, and then I clear out in a jiffy, so that by the next morning the poor thing doesn't know whether it really saw me or dreamed it!"

"If you don't go down chimneys much how do you manage to fill all the stockings?" asked Dick.

"Oh, that's easy!" cried Santa. "I have formed what I call a parents' league. I have a talk with each parent just before Christmas about what is best to give each child, and when it comes Christmas Eve the fairies distribute the presents for me, delivering them at each house, and I go about the country just superintending and seeing that everything goes right."

Here Santa's little horse began to show impatience by pawing and shaking his head.

"Well, I must be getting along,"

cried Santa, and he climbed into his little sleigh, and as he picked up his reins he called out, "Good night, Dick, and a right merry Christmas to you!" And then, as he noted the look of dismay on Dick's face, beaded brightly—"I knew you from the first my boy, but you believe in Santa Claus, now, don't you? so it's all right. When you look in your stocking in the morning you won't be disappointed." And with that he chirruped to his horse, and in a moment was out of sight down the road, though the tinkling of the sleighbells was audible for a long time after.

The next thing Dick knew he was being roughly shaken by the shoulder and his father's voice was saying in his ear—"What are you snoozing here for? You ought to have been in bed long ago. It's almost time for Santa Claus to come."

"He's been here already and he came in such a dear little sleigh," murmured Dick sleepily, as he crawled up stairs to bed.—New York Herald.

NOTES OF INTEREST.

Last year Canada produced 17,951,421 lbs. copper, valued at \$2,159,556; gold valued at \$18,700,000; 58,161 tons iron ore, valued at \$152,510; 31,915,690 lbs. nickel, valued at \$1,820,838; 4,434,085 ozs. silver, valued at \$2,583,289; the total value of the metallic minerals being \$21,622,601.

One of the most important divisions of the English forces at present in South Africa, is that led by Sir C. F. Clery. General Clery is a Catholic and a Corkman, the member of a family which has been eminent in Munster commerce for a couple of generations.

The late Vice-President Hobart, left \$5,000 to each of the Catholic charitable institutions of Paterson, New Jersey.

Dr. Edward McGlynn, who has been at the point of death from typhoid fever, is on the road to recovery.

Ten thousand plum puddings have been sent from England to the British Army in South Africa.

The custom house returns for November show a total trade at that port of \$15,293,581, an increase of \$875,000 over November of 1898.

"Innominate" the *Renaud* correspondent of the *New York Sun* says: The Czar of Russia has now taken a final decision, the religious and diplomatic importance of which can be misunderstood by no one; it is to allow the establishment at St. Petersburg of an extraordinary Papal mission.

The will of the late Michael Kane, of Alameda, makes the following charitable bequests:

To St. Vincent Orphan Asylum for Boys, at San Rafael, \$500; St. Joseph's Catholic Infant Asylum, South San Francisco, \$500; Youth Directory, \$250; governing priest or officer of St. Ignatius' Church, San Francisco, \$250, for the benefit of said

church; pastor of Catholic Church, Alameda, \$250; to Most Rev. Patrick W. Riordan, Archbishop of San Francisco, a lot 40 x 20 1/2 on Santa Clara avenue, near Prospect street, Alameda, to build a church thereon in such a manner and at such time as convenient. The residue of the estate goes to the five children of the testator, share and share alike.

A story comes from Fort Benton, Montana, which has been published in a number of newspapers, that a petrified body has been found in the mud of the Missouri river near Fort Benton, and it is claimed that the alleged fossil is the transmuted remains of General Thomas Francis Meagher, who was drowned near there in 1867.

The College of St. Francis Xavier New York City, has placed at the disposal of every pastor in that city one free scholarship.

Bishop McDonnell of the Brooklyn diocese has created a new church office by appointing the Rev. Dr. White as commissioner of Catholic Charities.

Robert Louis Stevenson's step-daughter is a Catholic, and the bishop of Sydney declares that the bishop, had not death intervened, would have been a Catholic to-day.

Bishop Hennessy, of Wichita, Kan., while in Montreal, made arrangements with the Basilian Fathers whereby they will open a college for young men in his episcopal city.

PIANO FOR CHRISTMAS.

No present will be more acceptable. None will give such lasting pleasure \$8 to \$10 monthly will secure from us choice of the BEST PIANOS in MONTREAL. Our Ware-rooms will be open day and evening until January 1st. To allow inspection of our splendid stock. Old instruments, any make, exchanged. Choose your Piano next week for delivery Xmas Eve if you wish

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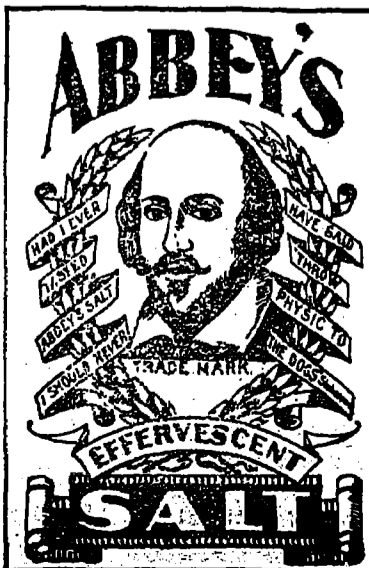
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- Tooth Brush, mounted sterling silver, \$1.00.
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- Embroidery Scissors, mounted sterling silver, \$1.00.
- Shoe Horns, mounted sterling silver, 35c, 50c, \$1.00, \$1.75.
- Hat Brush, mounted sterling silver, 65c, \$1.25, \$2.00, \$2.75.
- Vaseline Jars, mounted sterling silver, 40c, 60c, 75c, \$1.25.
- Puff Jars, \$1.25, \$3.00, \$3.50, \$4.00.
- Smelling Salts, 40c, \$1.50, \$1.75.
- Mirrors, sterling silver, \$6.00, \$7.50, \$8.00, \$9.00.
- Hair Combs, mounted sterling silver, 60c, \$1.00, \$1.35.
- Thimbles, sterling silver, 25c, 50c, 75c, \$1.00.
- Manicure Sets, sterling silver, in cases, \$7.00, \$8.50, \$12.00.
- Leather Purses, to carry on 2 fingers (at est style), \$1.25, \$2.75, \$3.50.
- Leather Purses, 75c, \$1.50, \$1.75, \$2.75, \$3.50, \$5.00.
- Leather Purses (silver mounted), 75c, \$1.50, \$2.50, \$3.50, \$4.50, \$6.00.
- Leather Travelling Cases, containing eight pieces, \$4; containing 11 pieces, \$5; containing 15 pieces, 12.

FOR A GENTLEMAN.

- Hat Brush, mounted sterling silver, \$2.50.
- Clothes Brush, mounted sterling silver, \$3.50, \$4.00.
- Hair Brushes (Military), \$5.50 per pair.
- Cigar Cutters, sterling silver, \$1, \$2.75, \$3.50.
- Match Boxes, sterling silver, \$2, \$2.50, \$4.50.
- Ebony Military Brushes (per pair), \$3, \$3.75.
- Ebony Military Brushes, in leather case, \$5.
- Silver Mounted Walking Sticks, \$1.50, \$2.25, \$3, \$4.50.
- Silver Mounted Walking Sticks, real ivory handles, \$4, \$6.50, \$9.
- Leather Cigarette Cases, \$1, 1.50, 1.75, 3, 4.
- Leather Cigar Cases, \$1, 2, 3, 4.50, 6.50.
- Leather Wallets, \$1, 1.75, 3, 4.25.
- Leather Bill Holders, \$1.25, 2.00.
- Leather Travelling Cases, containing 6 pieces, \$3.75; containing 8 pieces, \$6; containing 12 pieces, \$9; containing 18 pieces, \$15.
- Sterling Silver Pencil Cases, 75c, \$1, 1.50, 2.50, 3.50.
- Rolled Gold Pencil Cases, \$1.25, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00.
- English Pocket Flasks, \$1, 2, 3.50, 5, 8.50, 15.00.

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