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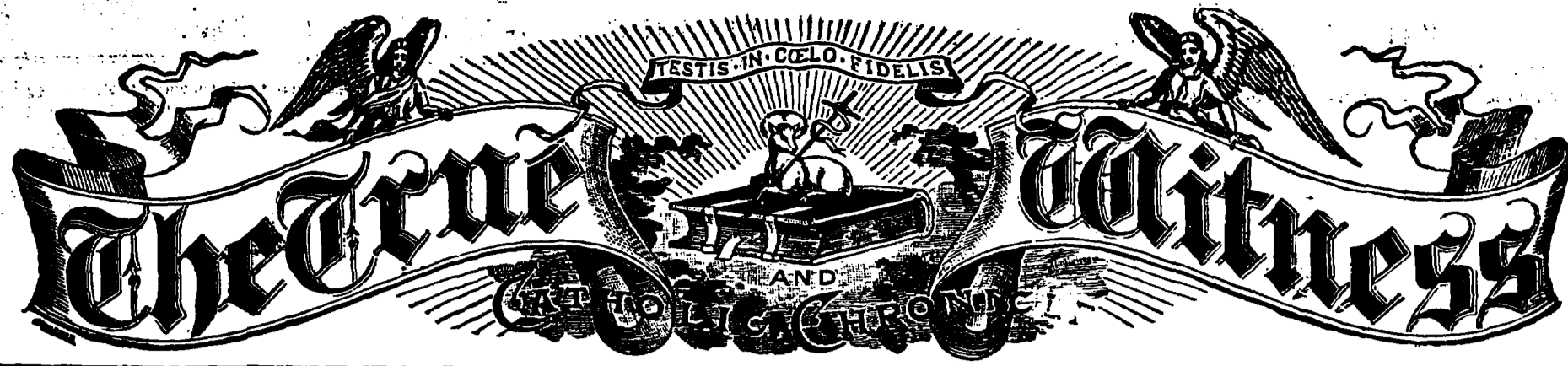
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VOL. XLV., NO. 25.

MONTREAL, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1895.

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

WAR AND RUMORS.

THE LEADING TOPIC IN ENGLAND AND AMERICA.

THE ENGLISH PRESS STILL RELYING ON GOOD SENSE IN THE UNITED STATES TO AVERT ANY TROUBLE.

The whole civilized world has been astir during the past week with the rumors of war between the United States and England. It is unnecessary that we should repeat all the details of the now famous message of President Cleveland to Congress. Suffice to say that it is an assertion, in a most aggressive tone, of what is called the Monroe doctrine. This semi-constitutional phantom, which is called the Monroe doctrine, which is an international law, established the right of the United States for preventing any foreign (European) power from extending its territory on this continent. The dispute regarding territory limits between British Guiana and Venezuela has caused this outburst on the part of the President and Secretary Olney. Some have gone so far as to indicate Canada as the battle ground. Our readers may glean from the following an idea of the general public opinion on both sides of the Atlantic:

The Times says:—Despite some severe criticism in America, evidence accumulates that President Cleveland's message was framed in accord with, and to play upon, a popular sentiment. There is reason to doubt that the Senate will pass the Commission Bill, although it is obvious that the commission is not likely to be granted on Mr. Cleveland's own terms. A most remarkable incident of the discussion was Senator Lodge's unconscious humor in moving that the commission report on April 1st. We are afraid that the Americans will not be moved by arguments drawn from precedents and established principles of international law. They have always shown themselves a sentimental, excitable nation. They have the haziest idea of what the Monroe doctrine really is, but, nevertheless, they are quite willing to enter upon a Holy War to defend it. We must reckon on this feeling and be prepared for the wildest aberrations it may cause. This does not lessen the gravity of the situation; indeed, it rather increases our sense of the peril to which immense international interests are subjected by combined sentiment and ignorance. We earnestly hope that the opinion of the sagacious far-seeing men of the United States, which has already begun to assert itself, will prevail over the reckless policy of the President. The fact cannot be ignored, however, that the latter is supported by a majority of both Houses and the great body of the public opinion of the country. As we cannot yield to Mr. Olney's demands, whether they are supported by the people or not, without surrendering the title to almost the whole of our Empire, we must hold ourselves prepared to defend our rights in any quarter where they may be threatened.

The Standard says: It is no small advantage that time for reflection has been gained. Englishmen have far too high respect for the better order of American opinion than to doubt that in the end the voice of reason will be listened to.

THE TWO AMATEURS.

The Standard comments on the foreign opinion that has been created on the subject, especially in Berlin and Vienna, whose critics are less indulgent to Mr. Cleveland than the British, and says that Great Britain does not look to Continental powers for material support. It then continues: "We can afford to be fairly cheerful in our isolation, for, to tell the whole truth at once, we do not believe that the people of the United States will ever be so unfaithful to reason and right as to give local effect to the plain sense of President Cleveland's message. Great Britain may safely leave the two amateurs, Cleveland and Olney, to face the censure that the educated opinion of the world will pronounce on their efforts. In the meantime, the cordial good-will and respect that Great Britain entertains for trans-Atlantic genius, outside of election politics, will not be impaired."

The Chronicle says it does not agree with the utterances of Sir Michael Hicks-Beach in his speech at Bristol, that there might be a war between kindred. It declares that it takes its stand firmly and unalterably on the line that war between Great Britain and the United States would be an impossible, unthinkable and unholy thing. It recurs to the view it maintained, to-day, that an amicable settlement is possible, and declares that the earlier and friendlier American suggestions of arbitration were not unreasonable. The article concludes: "It seems to us to be vital that the controversy shall, as far as possible, further, rather than retard, the principle of international arbitration."

The Daily News, referring to the action of the American Senate on the Venezuelan Commission Bill, dilates on what, it says, is most welcome news.

The Post expresses surprise that Mr. Cleveland accepted the Venezuelan version of the case without an enquiry, and says it believes that an examination would have saved him from standing on ice that must give way on the least pressure. The paper contends that Venezuela will be desired to prove her claims before the commission, which, she being unable to do, will make the work of the commission brief.

mission brief. Mr. Cleveland will thus be enabled to withdraw from an untenable position.

The Morning Post says: There seems little doubt that the commission will hold an inquiry, in which event an unexpected way of escape may be provided for President Cleveland.

REPLY, December 19.—A newspaper heretofore prints a suggestion that the Orange-men volunteer their services, in the event of a war with the United States, to enable them to have a chance of meeting the proposed Irish-American army.

HOW SIR MICHAEL HICKS-BEACH LOOKS AT THE MATTER.

In a speech, delivered at Bristol, the Right Hon. Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, Chancellor of the Exchequer, made a passing reference to President Cleveland's message. Some people, he said, appeared to regard a war between the United States and Great Britain as impossible, owing to their ties of kinship. Nothing, however, was impossible. War had already happened between them. If kinsmen unhappily differed, they became sometimes very bitter enemies. But he did not believe that many persons, if any, on either side of the Atlantic, thought that the people of the United States or Great Britain wanted war. He was confident that when a true statement of Great Britain's case was ably and fully explained, and Lord Salisbury's despatches were laid before both people, the result would be peaceful and honorable to both countries.

EFFECTS OF THE MESSAGE.

The following words, used by Chauncey M. Depew, will suffice to show the real effect of the spread-eagle message of President Cleveland:

"The war has already cost the country one billion dollars in depreciated values, and it has been going on for only three days. I met the man who owns most of the swamp in Venezuela, which is in dispute, and he said he would sell it to me for \$25,000."

Here is the second presidential message, which means simply that Grover has got frightened already at the sound of his own trumpet.

WASHINGTON, December 20.—The President, at 4.20 p.m., sent the following message to Congress:—"In my last annual message the evils of our present financial system were plainly pointed out, and the causes and means of depletion of Government gold reserve were explained. It was therein stated that after all the efforts that had been made by the executive power of the Government to put our gold reserve on a firm basis by the insurance of bonds amounting to more than \$162,000,000, which reserve then amounted to but little over \$59,000,000, that about \$46,000,000 had been withdrawn from such reserve during the month previous to the date of that message, and that quite large withdrawals for shipment in the immediate future were predicted. The contingency then feared has reached us, and the withdrawals of gold since the communication, and others that appear inevitable, threaten such a depletion in our Government gold reserve as brings us face to face with the necessity of future action for its protection. The condition is intensified by the prevalence in certain quarters of sudden and unusual apprehension and timidity in business circles.

"We are in the midst of another season of perplexity caused by our dangerous and fatuous financial operations. These may be expected to recur with certainty as long as there is no amendment to our financial system. If, in this particular instance, our predicament is at all influenced by a recent instance upon the position we should occupy in our relation to certain questions concerning our foreign policy, this furnishes a signal and impressive warning that even the patriotic sentiment of our people is not an adequate substitute for a sound financial policy.

"Of course, there can be no doubt in any thoughtful mind as to the complete sovereignty of our nation, nor can there be any just apprehension that the American people will be satisfied with less than an honest payment of our public obligations in the recognized money of the world. We should not overlook the fact, however, that aroused fear is unreasoning and must be taken into account in all efforts to avert public losses and sacrifices of our people's interests.

The real and sensible cure for our recurring troubles can only be effected by a complete change in our financial scheme. Pending that, the executive branch of the Government will not relax its efforts nor abandon its determination to use every means within its reach to maintain before the world American credit, nor will there be any hesitation in exhibiting its confidence in the resources of our country and the constant patriotism of our people.

In view, however, of the peculiar situation now confronting us, I have ventured to herein express the earnest hope that Congress, in default of the inauguration of a better system of finance, will not take a recess from its labors before it has, by legislative enactment or declaration, done something not only to remind those apprehensive among our people that the resources of this Government, and a scrupulous regard for honest dealing, afford a sure guarantee of unquestioned safety and soundness, but to re-assure the world that with these factors and with the patriotism of our citizens the ability and determination of our nation to meet in any circumstances every obligation it incurs, do not admit of question.

Task at the hands of the Congress, such a prompt aid as it alone has the power to give, to prevent, in a time of

fear and apprehension, any sacrifice of the people's interests and the public funds or the impairment of our public credit in an effort by executive action to relieve the dangers of the present emergency."

(Signed) GROVER CLEVELAND, Executive Mansion, December 20th, 1895.

TWO HAPPY TRIBUTES.

MISS STREET, ONE OF CANADA'S LEADING LITERARY LADIES—A FREQUENT CONTRIBUTOR TO THE TRUE WITNESS.

All who have carefully read THE TRUE WITNESS, during the past three or four years, must recall the admirable contributions from the pen of Miss Emma C. Street. It would be a pleasant and a grateful duty for us to thank the able and talented young lady for all she has done in the way of advancing Catholic literature in Canada and, more particularly, in fostering a taste for good reading amongst the citizens of Montreal; but we find that two of our contemporaries have succeeded in outstripping us in the race; consequently, we will allow them to speak first. Our ably edited and universally popular Catholic contemporary, The Casket, of Antigonish, N.S., in its issue of the 14th November last, speaks as follows:—

"The Canadian Messenger of the Sacred Heart is to be congratulated on the possession—and, it would appear, the exclusive possession—of one of the



MISS EMMA C. STREET, President Children of Mary Solidity and Loretto Literary Club.

best writers of short stories in the country. For my own part I feel inclined to say that Emma C. Street is not merely one of the best, but the best, at least among our Catholic writers; but I should like to have some one else's opinion, that of the editor of The Casket for instance, before making my decision irrevocable. The only fault I can find with these stories is not that they are short, but that they are too short, and that they appear only at intervals of several months. The November number of the Messenger contains one, "The Heart Break Soothed," which seems to me to be perfect. I can imagine some one reading it through and saying why that's only a description of some thing which occurs every day. Well, I will answer such a critic, will you kindly sit down, take a paper, pen and ink, and write out with equal idleness a similar description of some incident which you have witnessed? You might as well be little a landscape painter because it represents a scene which has been under your eyes ever since you were born. Emma C. Street's characters converse just like the people you meet every day. The number of writers is exceedingly small, in Canada at least, who can make an imaginary conversation realistic when putting it on paper."

In the last number of St. Mary's Church Calendar the following tribute appears:

Press bravely onward—Not in vain! Your generous trust in human kind, The good which bloodshed could not gain, Your peaceful zeal shall find.

"A writer who stands upon her own foundation without patronage, and who in the midst of various occupations has commanded the respect and admiration of some of the most severe critics of the day, is the distinguished lady subject of this brief sketch; every effusion from her pen bears the impress of the noblest propensities of nature and the most generous affections of the heart. The inestimable genius with which Almighty God has endowed her, and her fine literary acquirements, will leave to posterity a worthy monument. The people of Montreal will long hold in affectionate recollection the lady who never ostentatiously displayed her superiority.

While the dull author seeks to be distinguished by oddity or extravagance, there is seldom seen anything extraordinary in the pure, chaste, moral writer, such is Miss Emma C. Street, and here allow me to name a few among the many of her excellent stories that are the test of supreme genius: "Owed and Paid," "By Way of the Cross," "Marrion's Killum's Vision," "In the Hour of Danger," "Larry's Promise," "The Darkest Hour," "The Heartbreak Soothed," "Patsy," "How It Happened," "An Answered Prayer," "For Conscience Sake."

The latter written especially for the Calendar, the first half of which appeared in our last issue. These, with several others, as well as many beautiful gems, are emanations from her pen, under the nom de plume of "Dolores" and "Katherine Allan," and Miss Street has contributed beautiful things which are worthily appreciated by the lovers of good literature. The writer feels an

honorably proud in expressing these few humble unsolicited though well merited sentiments of praise and respect for her. A young lady whose writings agitate the heart and sway the conscience to such an extent deserves more than a passing notice. The best products of her mind spring out of leisure moments snatched from an arduous occupation, circumstances will not allow her to devote her time entirely to literature; as her writings have been extensively copied by the leading Catholic journals of the continent, I think it incumbent on Catholic journalists and Catholic publishers to solicit the efficacy of her pen and give her some tangible proof that true merit is worthy of recompense."

What have we to add? Were we to attempt a review of all that Miss Street has done in the cause of truly elevating and Christian literature, we would require a separate article of no inconsiderable length. Moreover, the praise we would feel bound to bestow might, in view of all the kindness she has done for this paper and our many obligations towards her, be considered as not altogether impartial. We consequently conclude that our gratitude will be best expressed in the wish that she may long be spared to add in the noble work of building up a native literature for Canada.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO.

Midnight Mass and Christmas Day Services.

ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH.

The Midnight service will open with the hymn, "Come, ye faithful," by Novello. Then Nini's Mass will be given. Professor C. Landry will sing "Pastors erunt," tenor solo, by Neuhaus. At the Offertory, during the second Mass, Mr. Smith will sing "Nazareth," by Gould, and the choir will render some Christmas canticles. The same programme will be repeated at the ten o'clock Mass. Solemn Vespers and Benediction at half-past three o'clock, during which Mr. Carpenter will sing an "Ave Maria," "Tantum ergo," by Tompa, will also be given. The solos, duets and trios of the Mass will be given by Messrs. J. J. Rowan, F. Cahill, F. Kennedy, D. McAndrew, J. McNally, tenors; Messrs. G. A. Carpenter, T. Wright, baritone; Messrs. Murray, Crowe and Corrigan, bass. At the eight o'clock Mass, Mrs. Jude, Miss McAndrew and Miss McNally will render Christmas hymns. Professor Fowler will direct the music and play different Christmas carols on the organ at all the services.

AT THE GYM.

The choir of the Gym, assisted by the pupils of the college, will give a new Mass, of a modern style, written by S. Rousseau, a French composer of high fame. This masterpiece has never been executed in Canada as it will be next Christmas. Messrs. Gruenwald and Dubois, cellists, and several other artists, will take part in the orchestra. Messrs. St. Pierre, Courtois, Pinaumont, Desautiers, and others, will sing the solo at the Offertory. M. Dubois will play "Col. Nidrie" by Max Bruch."

AT ST. ANTHONY'S.

That intricate but beautiful composition for 3 male voices, Nicom-choron's 18th Mass, will be the attraction at St. Anthony's. Taking the final repetition of yesterday as a test, one can safely assert that this masterpiece of sacred music will be done full justice by the admirably trained choir under the intelligent leadership of Mr. E. F. Casey. The accompaniment, most difficult in technique, beautiful in effect, will be supplied by the grand organ under the artistic touch of the organist, Miss Donnan, and will be supplemented by a string quintette led by that famous virtuoso Herr Carl Walther.

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH.

The Christmas music at St. Mary's Church, of which the Rev. P. F. O'Donnell is pastor, will be one of the noteworthy features. The floral decorations for the Midnight Mass will be in keeping with the feast. The high altar and shrine of Our Lady of Good Counsel will be decorated with palms and other living greens; a profusion of white roses and lilies will blend with the numberless tapers and fairy lamps that will decorate the sanctuary. The choir, accompanied by full orchestra, will render La Haebe's "Messe Ste. Therese." Soloists, Messrs. C. Hamlin, J. Emblem and T. C. Emblem. At the Offertory, "Adeste Fideles," by Prof. Wilson, solo, duet and chorus; soloists, Messrs. Hamlin and Emblem. During Low Mass, Christmas hymn, Mr. John Phelan, soloist. "Andante Religioso," Missud, by the orchestra. "O Salutaris," by Wiegand, T. C. Emblem. Leader of orchestra, Prof. Wm. Sullivan; conductor, Mr. J. B. Paquette; musical director and organist, Prof. Jas. Wilson. The same programme will be repeated Christmas morning, and in the evening at 7.30, grand musical Vespers and Benediction. "O Salutaris," Wiegand, T. C. Emblem; "Ave Maria," de Doss, C. Hamlin; "Tantum Ergo," Eykens, and "Laudate Dominum," Wilson.

ST. GABRIEL'S CHURCH.

The Midnight Mass in St. Gabriel's will be one of the grandest and most imposing ceremonies of the season. Buttman's celebrated Mass in F. will be sung by a full choir. Prof. P. J. Shea, the popular and talented accompanist and director, will wield the baton of leader. Miss O'Byrne, one of our most able and widely-known musicians, will preside at the organ. The Mass will be celebrated by Rev. Father Heffernan, assisted by two Fathers of the Society of Jesus, as deacon and sub-deacon. The decorations of the church will be simply gorgeous and the magnificent effect from the new combinations of electric lights will

add to the impressiveness of the solemn occasion. Rev. Father O'Meara, the kindly and energetic pastor, has left nothing undone to make this one of the grandest celebrations of the glorious Feast of the Nativity that ever took place in that parish. It is expected that a very large attendance will be had, in fact, that the beautiful edifice will be crowded with worshippers on this great occasion.

ST. ANN'S CHURCH.

At the Midnight Mass the choir will sing Lambillotte's "Messe Noel," assisted by a full orchestra, under the able direction of Prof. C. Wallace. The soloists of the Mass are Messrs. Morgan Murphy, Mullarkey, Miller and E. Quinn. During the Offertory Mr. J. Morgan will sing Adams' "Noel," and at the conclusion of the service the orchestra will perform Scotland Clarke's "Procession March," accompanied by the organ. Rev. Father Strabbe will conduct and Mr. P. J. Shea, musical director, will preside at the organ.

RELIGIOUS NEWS ITEMS.

The recent pilgrimages to Loretto proved so successful that the promoters are now organizing another one.

Rev. Thomas M. Moore, nephew of Bishop Moore of Florida, is dead in St. Augustine, at the age of thirty years.

Archbishop Hennessy, of Dubuque, leaves for Rome some time this month. It is his Grace's intention to spend the winter in Italy.

A Catholic merchant of Chicago has had 50,000 copies of Father Searle's "Plain Facts for Fair Minds" printed for distribution among his patrons.

The new infirm priests society of St. Louis will be maintained by annual \$10 contributions of each secular priest of the diocese. Benefits entitled to \$50 per month.

The large Catholic college on the Boulevard at Vineland, New Jersey, has been closed and its principal has left Vineland. This it is said, will probably be the last time this magnificent building will be used for a college.

A life of Christ is about to be published, with colored photographs, after James Tissot's pictures, by MM. Mame, the Catholic publishers of Tours, the first twenty impressions of which will be sold for \$1,000 a copy, and the rest of the 1,000 copies at \$300 a copy.

Cardinal Manning's biography, based largely on his own written notes, journals, and intimate correspondence, will be out this month. In its revelations of his inner character, especially during the conversion period, the work is described as of exceptional interest.

The statue of St. Michael slaying the dragon, about to be set upon the site of the old post office in the Place de Bruckere, in Brussels, Belgium, is to be of colossal size and cast in bronze. The entire figure of the saint will be surrounded at night by a halo of electric light.

Following up his recent action, the Pope has decided to establish in Egypt a Coptic Hierarchy, comprising a resident Patriarch at Alexandria and two new Bishops. The Vatican is convinced that the English Government is in favor of the Pope's action in this respect, especially in Egypt.

Within the past twenty years, according to a recent Parliamentary paper, the number of priests in England and Wales has increased 90 per cent, and the number of nuns 50 per cent. There could be no better evidence of the great increase of Catholicity in John Bull's dominions.

St. Stephen's Indian Mission School at Highmore, a suburb in Sioux Falls, Iowa, which was partially destroyed by fire some weeks ago, will be quickly rebuilt. The Rev. Pius Boehm, O.S.B., superintendent of the school, is already securing mechanics to commence work on it.

The Catholic Times of Liverpool says that Frederick Harrison has, in a recent address, appeared as apologist of the Catholic Church. Mr. Harrison, though always declaring that if any historic church is true it is the Catholic, feels more kindly towards the old church since his own joined it.

Dom Hildebrande de Hemptne, O.S.B., who originated the idea of building the splendid Benedictine Monastery on the Aventine Hill, is now in Rome, occupied with various arrangements for establishing the students therein later on, having at the instance of the Pope made a special visitation of the Houses of the Benedictine Order in England.

An interesting and highly instructive lecture on "The Life and Character of St. Francis Xavier, the Apostle of India," was delivered on Tuesday night, December 3, in the Church of St. Francis Xavier, Gettysburg, Pa., by Rev. H. S. Christ, before a popular and intellectual audience. The lecturer handled his subject admirably, and for nearly half an hour the audience was held up in rapt attention by the eloquent narrative of the life and travels of Xavier, the star of the University of Paris, among the pagans of India.

It is to be Rector O'Connell of the American College at Rome, after all, it seems. Dr. O'Connell, therefore, goes back to his alma mater, where he made so enviable a record for himself in his theological days, and, singularly enough, his own years and those of the American College are the same in number, as it was on his birthday, Dec. 8, 1859, that the college formally opened its classes for the first time. Father O'Connell will be missed in Boston, especially in the West end; but the entire Catholic population of the city and the archdiocese rejoices that he has been honored with the appointment that now is his.

EXTINCTION, OR HOME RULE?

IRISH STRUGGLE MUST END WITH ONE OR THE OTHER.

THE NATION'S OUTLOOK TO-DAY—LITTLE DOUBT BUT THAT JUSTICE WILL PREVAIL. IN THE END—CHANGE IN THE BRITISH MINISTRY—HOW LONG CAN THE UNIONISTS POSTPONE THE DESIRED RESULT?

As one of the best and clearest statements of the present position of the Irish question that have yet appeared, we quote the following extracts from an article, by Mr. Bryan J. Clinche, that appears in the American Catholic Quarterly Review for last October:

The late change in the British Ministry is an incident in a contest which can only end with the extinction of the Irish people in Ireland or the recognition of their right to rule themselves. That the latter will be the solution there is little room to doubt. The very conditions entailed by the present union make any migration of people of other races into Ireland impossible. Even in this age of changes of population there is no current towards the shores of unprosperous lands. Elizabeth or James I. might think seriously that they could replace the Irish Celts by English or Scotch settlers, but Lord Salisbury can harbor no such dream.

If the union makes Ireland incapable of keeping its own natives, it still more surely keeps away all others from settling in their land. Foreign rule may keep Ireland wretched, but it is powerless to Anglicize its people. Cromwell's attempt to transplant the Irish race beyond the Shannon left Ireland as she is today, and what Cromwell could not do will not be done by the modern Tory rulers of England.

That the Irish question must continue to hamper the British Government is then certain. It is morally certain that it can be removed by the concession of self-government to Ireland. These two facts are patent to both the friends and the foes of Irish nationality. The question naturally suggests itself, how long the advent of the Unionist ministry is likely to postpone Home Rule? Its answer depends on the dispositions of the English and the Irish people. The first have the power to grant it at any moment if convinced that such is their real interest. The Irish people, like any other body of men, may imperil a just cause by mistakes or lack of judgment. The political leaders of both nations are in the same category as the two peoples. The fate of the nation for the time being rests in their hands. We shall briefly review the dispositions of each as indicated by the late elections.

GREAT BRITAIN'S CHANGE IN TEMPER.

The change in temper of the people of Great Britain towards the national aspirations of Ireland has been remarkable during the past twenty years. When Mr. Butt first brought forward Ireland's claim for Home Rule both English parties and all shades of English politicians united in declaring their impossibility of concession. Down to 1885 no English statesman would even give them serious attention, and Conservatives and Liberals, however hostile on other points, united in voting down every proposal for letting Ireland rule herself.

Sir William Harcourt in one session since that date voted over two hundred times adversely to Irish proposals of all kinds. Mr. Gladstone's conversion to the Irish side in 1885 came like a thunder-bolt on the majority of Englishmen. In spite of his wonderful popularity he was driven from office on that question, and the powerful party which he led was divided into two factions on the Irish question. The curious spectacle of a union between the ultra-radical ex-Mayor of Birmingham and the ultra-aristocratic Marquis of Salisbury was a sign of the strength of anti-Irish prejudice among the English population ten years ago. Since that time the tendency of public opinion has grown steadily for justice to Ireland.

Two years ago Mr. Gladstone was restored to power as the champion of Home Rule, and his bill passed successfully the House of Commons by a fair if not very large majority. The House of Lords for the last two years has been the only legal obstacle to the establishment of Irish Home Rule. During the present century the House of Lords has never ventured to array itself permanently against the popular branch of the Legislature, though it might at times delay for some time popular legislation. If the English people should continue to demand Home Rule for Ireland, it certainly will not be prevented by the Lords.

That a Home Rule bill has actually passed the House of Commons is evidence that the English people is favorably disposed towards it, though it may delay, according to its wont, in getting its will into law.

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE LATE TORY TRIUMPH.

It does not appear that the late Tory triumph indicates any real revulsion of English sentiment against Home Rule. Lord Rosebery's government fell from other causes. In the first place Gladstone's retirement deprived the Liberals of by far the most popular leader in the country and lessened correspondingly the prestige of the party with the English voters; Lord Rosebery, though personally popular and clever, was everywhere felt to be a very inferior successor to the veteran statesman who had passed the Home Rule bill through Parliament in spite of his eighty-three years. The

Concluded on eighth page.

THE HOLY NIGHT.

By VIRGINIA McSHERRY.

Shepherds on the plains of Judah... O'er their flocks their night watch keeping...

When a heavenly light beams round them... Fills the silent plains with glory...

Entering in the humble stable... Shepherds there their offerings bring...

Let us bend our knee and offer... What gifts we have—none are too poor...

An Infant God, the world's Salvation... Evermore be childhood blessed...

CHRISTMAS;

Its Origin and Meaning.

By Mary E. Smyth, in Annals of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart.

This is a long mooted question—Is the 25th of December the anniversary of Christ's birth? I cannot answer...

Again I see that another historian says that it was owing to the feelings of delight after December 21...

And of course, it is inferred from these writings and accounts, that the young of both sexes must have been very prone to celebrate Saturnalia...

And over in Britain the Druidical rites were almost the same as pagan Rome...

In England the burning of the Yule-log still takes place. In the feudal times we read that "the bringing in of the ponderous block..."

Then I turn over page after page, chapter after chapter, and I see Rome of the Caesars, spreading far over the world...

the Yule-log reflects faces that have been absent for a year or years, and joy begets pleasure and mirth.

Christmas! The beggars are fed, the sinner is consoled—his nursed passions leave him; the righteous are hopeful...

A MARVEL OF THE CRIB.

By E. DE M., in Annals of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart.

Never had there been a merrier or more joyous Christmas Eve in the town of Chartres than that on which occurred the events which this little story will recount...

Two years had sped away this Christmas Eve since her cherished babe had been taken from this downy nest and laid in his tiny white coffin...

This evening the Cathedral was a splendid and gorgeous sight, for Midnight Mass was about to be celebrated. Hundreds of wax tapers gleamed amidst fragrant flowers on the high altar...

Look at the people you pass on the street. Their faces tell the story of their lives. They tell the story of penury or plenty, of refinement or coarseness, of health or disease...

CARROLL BROS., Registered Practical Sanitarians. Plumbers, Steam Fitters, Metal and Slate Roofers.

USE ONLY... Finlayson's Linen Thread... IT IS THE BEST.

escaped every moment from the golden censers, as if bearing to the highest heaven the prayers and homage of the prostrate crowd.

Amid this multitude of people was a poor unfortunate widow named Gehendrine, who carried in her arms her only child, a beautiful, fair, rosy boy...

For some time the poor mother remained prostrate beside the Crib, then she tremblingly arose to seek her child. She put out her hands and seized hold of the babe nearest to her...

The old clock in the steeple had just struck five, when gentle Lady Margaret de Barnainville took her misal and repaired to the Aurora Mass at the first flush of dawn.

Madame de Barnainville feared at first that it was all a dream, then she smiled backed at the child, murmuring as she did so: "O my God! how much he resembles mine!"

THE ORANGEMEN IN IRELAND. The Orangeman in his native lair is as much of a religious and political bigot as he is when transplanted to the free shores of America.

in Ireland presents so flagrant an exhibition of religious bigotry. In Dublin, Cork, Limerick and other large centres of population where the Catholics have as large a majority as the Orangemen have in Belfast...

A strong and effective effort is, just now, making to correct the scandalous abuse of numerical power in Belfast. A committee representing the Catholic minority has held several meetings and formulated a plan of procedure.

Eventually, we feel confident, the brutal and liberal policy will be reversed. The Orangemen will be forced to recognize the justice of the Catholic claims and the justice of their own course.

FATHER BOULAND'S VIEWS

What He Thinks of Father Hyacinthe and His Attitude With Regard to the Jesuits.

The Rev. Leon Bouland's submission to the Roman Catholic Church, which he abandoned seven years ago, was published exclusively in the Herald on Tuesday, December 1.

Father Bouland expressed his appreciation of the Herald's article last week, but added there were two important points upon which he might be misunderstood.

"The Herald quotes me as saying: 'As to Father Hyacinthe, I believe he is honestly sincere in his convictions. But the French people are not ripe for such religious reform as he would give them.'

"This is the very contrary of my ideas concerning him and the French people, for, if I feel bound in charity to entertain nothing but sentiments of compassion, and even tenderness, personally toward every fallen sinner, and more to him, for he fell from so high an estate, I nevertheless disavow and reprobate his errors and deplore his unfortunate attempt at so-called reform in France, which, I now thank God, has proved a signal failure.

"After having lately passed two years in assiduously examining the religious wants and the aspirations of France, I have come to the conclusion that, despite all the efforts that have been and will be made to un-Catholicize my beloved native France, she is still and will ever remain 'the eldest daughter of the Church.'

"I am also quoted as saying: 'I believe that the Catholic Church is the supporter of the American constitution, not in a 'Jesuitical' way, as some would have you believe, but honestly, sincerely, patriotically.'

"According to this phrase, it would seem that, alongside the Catholic Church, which so fairly, sincerely and with unflinching patriotism sustains the American constitution, there is a 'Jesuitical Catholicism,' which acts in the opposite direction. I declare that this distinction, as false as it is perfidious, never crossed my mind.

"The Jesuits, as all other religious communities assembled loyally around our Holy Father, have no other end in view, no other ambition here or elsewhere, than valiantly to aid the Church in carrying out its divine mission among men, in seeking to extend the kingdom of God upon earth, which is one of peace to men, of good will and of real prosperity to the nations, in all justice and charity."

THE PRIZES AWARDED.

The final awards in the literary competition offered by the Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., of Brockville, Ont., have just been announced.

and that great interest was taken in the matter is shown by the fact that 16,728 votes were recorded. "A Night on Crook-back," by Dus (Mrs. R. S. Smellie, Toronto) received 4655 votes, the largest number cast, and is awarded first prize.

The French Seminarists and the Military Laws.

Every year, at this time, the seminarists all over France are obliged to interrupt their studies, exchange their cassock for the soldier's uniform, the college for the barracks, the exercise of their religious functions for drill and manoeuvres.

Every year, at this time, the seminarists all over France are obliged to interrupt their studies, exchange their cassock for the soldier's uniform, the college for the barracks, the exercise of their religious functions for drill and manoeuvres.

thinness

The diseases of thinness are scrofula in children, consumption in grown people, poverty of blood in either. They thrive on leanness. Fat is the best means of overcoming them.

When you ask for Scott's Emulsion and your druggist gives you a package in a salmon-colored wrapper with the picture of the man and fish on it—you can trust that man!

30 DAYSURE. SEND your name and address and we will show you how to make \$3 a day absolutely sure; we furnish the work and teach you to do it.

Break Up a Cold in Time BY USING PNY-PECTORAL. The Quick Cure for COUGHS, COLDS, CROUP, BRONCHITIS, HOARSENESS, etc.

DAVIS & LAWRENCE CO., LTD. Proprietors, MONTREAL. BREAKFAST—SUPPER. EPPS'S GRATEFUL—COMFORTING. COCOA BOILING WATER OR MILK.

CAMPBELL'S QUININE WINE. JUST WHAT YOU NEED—THIS SPRING. The best cure for Debility.

ST. LEON Perfects the organism and preserves life. LACE CURTAIN Stretchers, Automatic Door Springs, Wire Door Mats, all sizes. Skates, large variety, prices low.

FATHER KOENIG'S NERVE TONIC. A Cheap Life Saver.

I was afflicted with nervousness for twelve years, so that I trembled all over, could not sleep and had severe pains in the back and head every day...

I suffered eighteen years from epilepsy, and was cured of it by Pastor Koenig's Nerve Tonic. I took twelve bottles of it. May God bless the medicine so that others will be cured by it as I was.

FREE A Valuable Book on Nervous Diseases and a sample bottle to 425¢. This remedy has been prepared by the Rev. Father Koenig, of St. Mary's, Ind., since 1878, and is now under the direction of the

USE IT CHILDREN GUARANTEED TO CURE SCALD HEADS CHAFING ERUPTIONS ETC. MAKES SKIN SOFT AND WHITE.

T. D'ARCY TANSEY, L.D.S., Dental Surgeon, 176 BLEURY STREET. Corner of St. Catherine Street. CONTINUOUS GUM WORK A SPECIALTY.

J. T. McPHERSON, DENTIST. No. 44 BEAVER HALL HILL. Modern Dentistry in all its Branches. TELEPHONE 3847.

CASTOR FLUID Registered; a delicately refreshing PREPARATION for the Hair. It should be used daily. Keeps the scalp healthy, prevents dandruff, promotes the growth of a perfect hair dressing for the family.

WIT AND WISDOM. Teacher: Define "gentleman." Boy: Gentleman is a grown-up boy not used to mind what his mother says.

Landlord: I'll have to raise your rent. Tenant: For what? Landlord: They've changed the name of this street, and it's now an avenue.

Master to class: "Now, Frederick, tell me how many seasons there are." Frederick: "Two." "Only two? Name them." "The cricketing and football seasons."

Professor: "said a graduate, trying to be pathetic at parting, 'I am indebted to you for all I know.'" "Pray do not mention such a trifle," was the not very flattering reply.

Caller: Is your mistress in? Maid: Did you see her at the window as you came up the walk? Caller: No. Maid: Well, she said if you hadn't seen her to say that she was out.

A Sea View.—Passenger: Captain, how far are we from land? Captain: About two miles. Passenger: But I can't see it. In what direction is it? Captain: Straight down, sir.

Servant to hotel manager: The old gentleman in No. 35 fancied he saw a ghost last night. Manager: All right. Charge him 10s. extra on his bill. We can't supply apparitions for nothing.

Economy.—Mrs. Isaacs: Vake up, Isaacs; a burglar is trying to get in. Mr. Isaacs: Well, wait till he opens der window, und den I shoot. Mrs. Isaacs: Vy don't you shoot now? Mr. Isaacs: Vat! undt break a pane ov glass."

Thoughtful.—Very.—Judge: You say you went into the room at night quite unintentionally? Why, then, had you taken off your boots? Burglar: Because, your Lordship, I heard there was somebody lying ill in the house.

George: I say, Gus, what's happened? You strut along the street as if you owned the whole city. Fallen heir to a fortune? Gus: No, but I've been dodging my tailor for eighteen months, and to-day I've got the money in my pocket to pay him.

A teacher, having requested each of her class of small boys to bring in three items of information about the Thames that they could prove to be facts, received from a bright seven-year-old the following: "I have lived near it. I have sailed over it. I have fallen into it. Facts."

A RUN DOWN CONSTITUTION. "I suffered great weakness and was in a run down condition after having the grip and I began taking Hood's Sarsaparilla and found it to be just as recommended. My son has been relieved of rheumatism by using Hood's Sarsaparilla." Mrs. R. Meyer, Zephyr, Ont.

Hood's PILLS cure biliousness, indigestion.

A THOUGHT IN SEASON.

BY LOUISE MAY DALTON, IN THE AVE MARIA.

AMID the bustle of the season preceding Christmas, and even at the very time when that blessed day of days is with us, it is an extraordinary fact that the event which the world is celebrating the worldly forget. The Babe, the central figure of all the rejoicing, is thought of seldom or not at all by the crowds that jostle one another at the bargain counter in the search of articles of more or less value wherewith to cancel the obligations of former gift-giving periods. The thought is not "Unto us a Child is born," but, "I wonder whether Jenny would prefer a Kodak or a set of silver-backed brushes?" Not "They wrapped Him in swaddling clothes and laid Him in a manger," but "I will not squander anything on that hateful Mrs. Jones this year." Not "And the Word was made flesh," but "If Alfred does not surprise me with a bicycle, I'll never forgive him."

THE PAPAL MOTTO.

During the past three centuries each of the Popes has had a special motto; and, strange to say, many of them suited exactly the Pontiffs who used them. The Popes do not select these devices; a list of them was made, centuries ago, and each Pope takes the one that falls to his turn. We take the following few from a list given by a contemporary some time ago. They will suffice to answer a subscriber who is very anxious to know all about the subject:

REAL MERIT is the characteristic of Hood's Sarsaparilla. It cures even after other preparations fail. Get Hood's and ONLY HOOD'S.

CHRISTMAS CHEAP SALE OF CHOICE GROCERIES.

Jas. O'SHAUGHNESSY, 86 Victoria Sqr. Has selected a Large Assortment of the Finest Groceries, Canned Goods, Wines and Liqueurs in the market, suitable for the Holiday Trade. SPECIAL PRICE LIST: Finest New Currants, 5c per lb. Finest New Valencia Raisins, 5c per lb. 22 pounds best Granulated Sugar, \$1.00. Choicest Tomatoes, Corn and Peas, 90c per dozen, or 2 tins for 15c. Finest Imported Candied Peel, Mixed, Orange, Lemon and Citron, 20c lb. Ocean Flour, 14 lbs for 40c. Choice Selected Rolled Oats, 14 lbs for 40c. 4 lbs New Prunes for 25c. 4 lbs New Dates for 25c.

JOHN MURPHY & CO'S. ADVERTISEMENT.

HOLIDAY GOODS

Bargain Prices.

We are offering Holiday goods at bargain prices, in the following lines: Dress Goods, Silks, Linens, Mantles, Costumes, Gloves, Hosiery, Men's Furnishings, Boys' Clothing.

Our collection of articles suitable for Presents is unexcelled. Be sure to visit us at this time for Holiday Bargains.

JOHN MURPHY & CO., 2343 St. Catherine St., CORNER OF METCALFE STREET TELEPHONE No. 3833.

MONTREAL City & District Savings Bank.

NOTICE is hereby given that a Dividend of EIGHT Dollars per share on the Capital Stock of this Institution has been declared, and the same will be payable at its Banking House in this City, on and after Thursday, the 2nd of January next.

F. P. HORAN & Co. Grocers and Provision Merchants, 2793 ST. CATHERINE STREET, MONTREAL.

BRODIE & HARVIE'S Self-Raising Flour

IS THE BEST and the ONLY GENUINE article. Housekeepers should ask for it and see that they get it. All others are imitations.

Central Millinery Parlor, 178 BLEURY STREET.

Hats and Bonnets of the newest and latest designs from Paris and New York.

The "D. & L." Menthol Plaster

Having used your D. & L. Menthol Plaster for several years in the best and temporary relief of rheumatic pains, I can say with confidence that it is the best remedy I have used in such cases. I can give you the name of the doctor who recommended it to me. DAVIS & LAWRENCE CO., LTD. Proprietors, MONTREAL.

WALTER RYAN, Bell Telephone 6720.

Plumber, Gas, Steam and Hot Water Fitter, 248 ST. URBAIN STREET.

CATHOLIC HOLIDAY GIFTS!

The Choicest and Most Acceptable of Gifts—CONSISTING OF—CATHOLIC HOME ANNUAL, Illustrated, 2c. TORONTO CATHOLIC ALMANAC, " 2c. An extensive assortment of Prayer Books, in all styles and prices, from the cheapest children's edition upwards. Prayer Books in Wood, Cow, Leather and Pearleines. Crosses and Crucifixes in all sizes, prices and designs. Statues, Fonts and Religious Articles, Glass, Brass and Silver Candelsticks. RELIGIOUS PICTURES, plain or colored, Oil, Chromo or Oeograph. Tales, Stories, and Books in sets. Profusely illustrated Toy Books. Xmas and New Year Booklets.

D. & J. SADLER & CO., Catholic Publishers, Church Ornaments and Religious Articles, 1669 Notre Dame St., 123 Church St., Montreal, Toronto.

A. T. WILEY & CO., UP TOWN Stores Open DOWN TOWN Every Evening

SUGGESTIONS: 5 O'Clock Kettles, \$1.30, \$3.00, \$4.25, \$5.00. JARDINIERS, 25c, 50c, 75c, \$1.00, \$1.25, \$1.50, \$1.75, \$2.00. VASES, In Corianda and other China, at 25c, 35c, 50c, 75c, \$1.00, \$1.25, \$1.50, \$2.00, \$2.25, \$2.50 and up. MUFFIN DISH'S, \$1.25, \$1.50, \$1.75, \$2.75, and \$3.50. OYSTER PLATES, \$1.75, \$5.00, \$5.50, \$6.00, \$8.50 Dozen. SALAD BOWLS, \$1.00, \$1.25, \$1.50, \$2.00, \$2.50, \$4.00. Ice Cream Sets in China, for \$2.25, \$2.50, \$2.75, \$3.50, \$5.00, \$12.00, \$13.50 a set. Fancy Odd Teapots, Odd Sugars and Creams, Pudding Dishes in Limoges China. CUT GLASS. Small pieces at small prices. Cut Glass Olive and Salted Almond Trays, \$1.50 each. Cut Glass Sympies, silver plated top, \$1.50. Cut Glass Salts and Peppers, plated tops, 75c pair. Cut Mustards, \$1.50. Cut Oil Bottles, \$2.50. Hanging Flower Pots, new \$1.90 each, in dark blue English ware.

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GEO. R. HEASLEY, PICTURE FRAMER, &c., Pictures, Photo Albums, Baby Carriages, Lamps, Clocks, Wringers, &c.

Cheap for Cash, or Weekly and Monthly Plan. 2087 ST. CATHERINE ST. 2 doors East of Bleury.

ESTABLISHED 1894. O. O'BRIEN, House, Sign and Decorative Painter, PLAIN AND DECORATIVE PAPER HANGER. Whitewash, Paper and Tinting. All orders promptly attended to. Terms moderate. Residence, 645 Dorchester St., East of Bleury, MONTREAL.

S. O'SHAUGHNESSY Practical Upholsterer, 2503 ST. CATHERINE STREET. (2 doors west of Crescent Street.) Furniture Repaired and Recovered. Carpet Laid. Mattresses Made Over.

J. K. MACDONALD. Practical HOUSE and STEAMBOAT Bell-hanger, general MACHINIST, Blacksmith, Locksmith, etc. Electric Lighting, Bells, Warehouse Telephone, etc. Carpenters and Builders' Work to order. 763 and 764 Craig Street, west of Victoria Square, MONTREAL. Bell Telephone 2521.

Suggestion TO THOSE IN NEED OF A SLEIGH. I have the best assortment of Sleighs that can be seen anywhere, built by the best workmen and with the best materials that money can buy. Nothing is spared to make them nice, stylish and strong, yet not cumbersome or heavy. I sell them at right prices, and give a full DOLLAR in value for every DOLLAR you pay. R. J. Latimer, 592 St. Paul St. LATIMER & LEGARE, Quebec. LATIMER & BEAN, Sherbrooke.

SEE OUR HOLIDAY ASSORTMENT of New Pianos

BY THE FOLLOWING CELEBRATED MAKERS: DECKER BROS., NEW YORK. HEINTZMAN & CO., TORONTO. MORRIS, LISTWELL, Ont. Etc., Etc., Etc.

We are offering our entire stock of New and Second-hand Pianos at greatly reduced prices, FOR CASH or on MONTHLY PAYMENT.

Before Removing to our New Store. Don't Fail to see us if you want a Bargain

C. W. LINDSAY, 2268, 2270, 2272, St. Catherine Street. WAREHOUSES OPEN EVENINGS, 7 to 11

A MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL.

All this and next week we offer our choice selection of fine Canadian and Imported Wines at special prices for the holiday trade. All we want now is your presence.

LADIES' WINE—St. Augustine, \$1.50 per gallon. SPECIAL CANADIAN WINE, \$1.00 per gallon or 25c per bottle. CLARETS—Bon Bourgeois, \$2.75 case (quarts) SHERRY AND PORT WINES, \$1.50, \$2.00, \$3.00 and \$5.00 per gallon

We have a complete stock of choice Groceries, and if you are in need of anything that is first-class come to the right place. A. DIONNE & CO. GROCERS & BUTCHERS, Cor St. Catherine & Drummond Sts.

A \$10 BILL Buys the best made, best looking, best fitting overcoat in Canada. Made of Heavy Moscow Beaver Cloth, fancy wool lined, silk velvet collar, double breasted, cut long, full back, stylish, noble and dressy—yet warm and hugs every part of you. Just right for a man who don't care to wear an overcoat, but who wants to look up to the times in dress—well worth \$18. Red figures have "chiseled" the prices in this line of handsome overcoats to \$10. Money back, you know, if you buy it and don't like it. Here, now is a regular "run-away bargain;" can't control it, no use in trying. We've started in with it and we'll finish with it. Overcoats in Blue Chinchilla and Moscow Beaver Cloth, finest of linings, quilted all through the body, pure silk sleeve linings, cut long, extra well made, double breasted, equal to the best custom work, and never sold to measure less than \$26. We are selling them at \$14, and fast too. Try a look at one. You never saw anything like them in a ready made clothing store in your life. Then, we have at this big successful and popular

CONSOLIDATED SALE

Heavy Beaver Overcoats at \$6.00, good value for \$10.00. Moscow Beaver Overcoats, with large Velvet Collars, double breasted, tweed lined, well worth \$12.00, now \$7.50. Frieze Ulsters, \$7.50, good value at \$12.00. Reefing and Pea Jackets in Pilot and Nap Cloths, \$5.00 and \$5.50 and \$4.00. Prices for the same at other Clothiers 40 per cent. higher. Look at our Boys' Blanket Ulsters and Frieze, nothing like them for the money in Canada. Every article of Clothing for Men, Youths, Boys and Children, way down low in price, high up in value. One Price Only, that the lowest in Canada.

Look at the red figures on the tickets. Money back again to every purchaser if dissatisfied—won't ask you to exchange—we're not in that business—we're square and fair clothing dealers.

J. G. KENNEDY & CO. 31 St. Lawrence Street, Only a few Doors from Craig St.

JAS. A. OGIIVY & SONS ADVERTISEMENT.

LAST WEEK.

The last week left for our December Sale. Just read the following List, which will give you an idea of the reductions we have made for this sale:

- 45c All Wool Dress Goods for 25c. 60c to 85c for 35c. \$1.10 All Wool Dress Goods for 59c. 75c Plaid Blouse Silks for 49c. \$1.25 Fancy Stripe Glace Silks for 69c. 18c Ladies' Linen Handkerchiefs for 12c. 22c Ladies' Linen Handkerchiefs for 15c. 27c Ladies' Linen Handkerchiefs for 20c. 50c Gents' Ties for 37c. \$1.30 Gents' Suit Underwear for 78c. \$2.00 Gents' Suit Underwear for \$1.48. 14 yds. square Bleached Linen Table-cloth for 19c. 14 yds. sq. Bleached Linen Table-cloth for 25c. Glass Linens from 34c. Honeycomb Quilt, full size, for 69c. Table Napkins for 86c dozen. Table Napkins for 98c dozen. \$1.40 Comforters, extra size, for \$1.00. \$1.35 7-stud Perrie's Kid Gloves for \$1.19 TRIMMED MILLINERY at half price.

As this is the last time offered to us to have the readers of this paper reminded of this sale, we will request that you COME EARLY and secure the bargains before the month is out—WISHING ALL THE COMPLIMENTS OF THE SEASON.

JAS. A. OGIIVY & Sons Family Linen Drapers and Linen Warehouse 203 to 209 St. Antoine Street, { Phone 8227. 144 to 150 Mountain Street. BRANCH: St. Catherine street, corner Buckingham Avenue; Telephone 3325.

CONFECTIONERY.

Cakes and Pastry, fresh daily. Candies in great variety. All our own manufacture.

MADE DISHES, for Parties: Ice Cream, BOLLIES, Russes, etc. Wedding Cakes a Specialty. Luncheon and Dining Rooms.

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O. A. WILLIE, ... 1790 ...

Notre Dame Street Corner St. Peter Street.

LADIES' FUR Collars, Caps, Capes and Muffs.

FUR JACKETS, and Fur-Lined Circulars.

GENTLEMENS' FUR Collars and Cuffs. In Otter, Beaver, Persian Lamb, etc.

FUR Coats in Persian Lamb, Australian, Racoon, etc.

For Choice Goods, at the lowest prices, go to

O. A. WILLIE'S 1790 Notre Dame Street.

N.B.—Repairing promptly attended to.

Clothing.

FOR STYLE AND FIT CALL ON MATT WILLOCK, MERCHANT TAILOR, 141 1/2 BLEURY STREET, OPPOSITE the JESUIT CHURCH.

FOR SALE FOR THE MILLION. Kindling, \$2.00. Out Maple, \$2.50. Tamarac Blocks, \$1.75. Mill Blocks—Store lengths—Cut any length. J. C. MACDONALD, Richmond Square, Tel. 8228.

The True Witness

AND CATHOLIC CHRONICLE, PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY The True Witness Printing & Publishing Co. (LIMITED)

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TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1895.

MERRY CHRISTMAS.

The year 1895 draws to a close and with its last week comes the good old festive season of Christmas. To-morrow, all over the Christian world, the anniversary of that wonderful night in Bethlehem will be celebrated.

This is a time for the young to rejoice. Santa Claus comes over the hills and rushes across the city; he reaches the tops of the houses and goes down the chimneys; he fills the stockings with all the most beautiful little toys and most delicious sweets.

Christmas brings its holiday enjoyments to the older people and its memories of the past to the aged. Whenever this season is at hand we have a twilight feeling—half of joy, half sadness.

When round the festive Christmas board, Or by the Christmas hearth, That glories, mingled draught is poured, Wine, melody and mirth;

Catholicity moving steadily, and with ever increasing numbers and strength, from the dim and distant horizon of the by-gone, past the grave, the fountains, the oasis, through the storms, the simoons, the cyclones, undisturbed, unchecked, down the years, till it reaches this close of the greatest century and halts at the feet of the immutable throne, where Leo XIII. proclaims his mandates to the listening universe.

And that word Charity reminds us that Christmas is a season in which there are as many aching as there are happy hearts. To the poor it brings a stronger sense of their miseries and privations.

In the glow, the glitter, the show and noise of Christmas plenty and rejoicing, the multitude of the poor and unfortunate is composed of hearts that throb with a feeling of privation, young eyes look longingly at the toys and good things that are not for them, old eyes are dimmed with tears when the chills of winter make them feel the real misery of want.

Once more do we wish all our readers and friends a very Merry and Happy Christmas; and we trust that when next the festive season comes around not one of them all will be absent, but that all may be as well and hearty as we trust this season of 1895 has found them:

A LAST WORD.

Before the next issue of our paper Montreal Centre will have pronounced in favor of or against remedial legislation—for or against the constitution. On Friday next the electors of the most important division in all Canada will have said whether or not we are to be represented during the coming session by one of the most eminent men that has for years appeared in the political arena or by a gentleman who is bound hand foot to an opposition that favors a most ridiculous and impracticable policy as far as the great question of school legislation is concerned.

No matter how the Government deals with the violation done to the constitution by the Manitoba Legislature, that decision will take the form of a precedent which will stand as a legislative monument for the guidance of all future time. The remedial enactments, which are intended to protect the rights of the Catholic minority in Manitoba, will apply to every other case that might arise; if a Protestant minority were ever in the same position as that of the present Manitoba minority, the coming decision of Parliament will be a bulwark of protection for their interests.

The Hon. leader of the Opposition—whom Sir William's opponent is bound to follow—has declared in favor of a Commission to settle this matter and to take it for all time out of the political sphere. As a lawyer, as a man learned in the constitution and its provisions, he must be hard pushed for an argument when he pretends that such a method could possibly be employed.

all the Courts; finally, the highest tribunal, the last court of appeal; declares in your favor, you secure a copy of that ultimate judgment and have it served on your neighbor. Instead of satisfying the judgment, he proposes to you an arbitration, a commission of arbitrators to settle the matter and to say whether you were right or wrong.

The Privy Council has decided that the Federal Parliament alone has the power to rectify the breach made in the constitution by the legislation of 1891; the Federal Government has decided to act and to remedy that error; the ministers have, one and all, declared clearly that they intend to pass that required legislation during the coming session; Sir William will aid the government in creating this liberty-protecting precedent; therefore the electors of Montreal Centre—irrespective of all other considerations—are in duty bound to send Sir William to Ottawa with a majority proportionate to the immense and universal interests at stake.

Every member of the Government, who has spoken here, has been most emphatic. These men have taken their political lives in their hands for the sake of justice, and the people are now called upon to recognize, by their votes, the importance of the decision that has governed the course of the members of the Government. Hon. Mr. Ouimet thanked publicly the Minister of Justice for having, here in Quebec, openly declared in favor of remedying the injustice done to the minority; and the Province of Quebec owes a deep debt of gratitude to Hon. Mr. Ouimet for having—with his colleague—saved the Government by return to his post when the Premier emphatically declared that his promises would be fulfilled.

WAR AND PANIC.

President Cleveland's now famous message to Congress has secured him a considerable amount of notoriety. It is almost amusing to note the various opinions expressed all over the United States, in Canada, in England and upon the Continent. Some of the American papers, like the New York World, wrote very strongly, in a disapproving tone, of the great bluster made by the President and Secretary over the Monroe doctrine and the Venezuelan boundary.

All these plans and preparations appear very nice on paper and furnish just as interesting reading as an historical romance. But facts are more important than visions. The real result of the blustering message has been a fearful financial panic, the effects felt in New York spread to all the great commercial centres of the United States, slightly touched the Canadian market, and made a serious ripple on the London Exchange. It would seem as if the President had become frightened at the sound of his own voice; he had raised a ghost that he found it difficult to exorcise.

selves as would surprise the invaders. Meanwhile, we are confident that the great body of the American people is more sensible than to sacrifice their interests at the shrine of Jingo; while England is too diplomatic and strong to be dragged into a useless conflict.

THE PLAIN DUTY OF CATHOLICS.

Before polling their votes, on Friday next, Catholics should reflect seriously on the nature and consequences of the issue before them. Apart from the question of protection and other purely political considerations, there is the principle of common justice to all who claim the liberty granted them by the constitution of Canada, as understood and interpreted by the highest tribunal in the realm.

What is to-day the case of the Catholics of Manitoba may become, to-morrow, the case of any other section of our mixed community, made up, as it is, of various nationalities and creeds. To deny to any body of our population a right, to which they are unquestionably entitled by the law of the land, is to admit a principle which may work endless mischief in the future. After years of sifting and investigation by the ablest minds of all the various courts that could be called upon to pronounce on this vexed question, it is now beyond all doubt that the Catholics of Manitoba have a real grievance, and the action of the Legislature of that province in refusing to redress this grievance makes it a duty for the Federal Government to intervene.

Now, would it not be an injury to Catholics generally, and those of Montreal Centre in particular, if the Government could say, and say with reason, that they stood in the way of its honest endeavor to do justice to their co-religionists and the Prairie province, that if their plans were wrecked, and their good intentions frustrated, it was due solely to the indifference or want of intelligent sympathy of those to whom they had a right to look for support.

Only a few days ago Archbishop Langevin is reported to have ridiculed the idea of a commission, which he evidently looks upon as a farce, a polite way of cheating his people out of what they are justly entitled to now, and not in five years hence, if indeed they would get it then.

Let the Catholics, then, of Montreal Centre realize that the eyes of the Dominion and of the Government are upon them, that they are face to face with a grave responsibility, big with the most serious consequences for their helpless brethren in Manitoba, who hold out to them their imploring arms.

This is a question which should be above party feeling, and in all probability the electors of Montreal Centre have it in their power to turn the scale, and set an example that will be wide and far-reaching for good or evil.

THE "NEW" CROMWELL.

The "new" woman has been attracting considerable attention of late, and the press of the country has been filled with very varied descriptions of her. Now we have the "new" Cromwell. A Mr. T. W. Rolleston, who describes himself as a Nationalist, delivered a lecture recently, before the Irish Literary Society, of London, England, on the such of the "new" Cromwell. He has discovered that Cromwell was very different from what he has been painted by the vast majority of historians.

Queensland sent his special pleading into shreds." Mr. Fahy revealed the condition of Ireland under Cromwell, when in mile after mile of country not a living thing—man, beast or bird—could be seen, when an equal reward was offered for the head of a friar or a wolf, and when women and children were ruthlessly murdered.

It is a good thing that men of Mr. Fahy's stamp happen to be around when people, like Rolleston, attempt to pose as students of history and correctors of facts that cannot be wiped off the pages of the past. Not long ago our friend the Daily Witness had an elaborate communication in which it was sought to prove that Cromwell was a regular 'saint.' It is a useless task to attempt to redeem, at this stage, the character of the most cruel—if able—scoundrel that figures in the arena of British history.

It may be granted that Cromwell was a great military organizer; but he was equally conspicuous as a butcher. He had neither heart nor feeling; he was the incarnation of civilized barbarism. It is unnecessary that we should repeat the story of his bloody operations wherever he led his military. Thank Heaven men of his calibre are rare in the world. From Nero to himself a few such characters have appeared on and have disappeared from the scene.

CANADIAN INDEPENDENCE.

In Windsor and Essex Counties an Independence of Canada Club was recently formed. They want to elect members to Parliament who will champion their cause. They state that they are of opinion that the Dominion of Canada has arrived at such a stage of growth and development as to be able to maintain herself as an independent nation.

- 1. The political freedom and independence of Canada to be obtained in an amicable and constitutional manner.
2. The establishment of a Republican form of government with such a constitution as would be suitable to our requirements.
3. Reduction in the cost of government and strict economy in the public expenditures.
4. Constitutional guarantees of full religious liberty to all denominations.
5. The adoption of such legislative measures as would be necessary to effectually put down monopolies and combines.
6. A more just and equitable distribution of the burden of taxation.
7. Public lands to be disposed of to adult settlers.
8. Appointments of public officers and civil servants by reason of merit and not to satisfy political influence.
9. The cultivation of friendly relations with other countries.
10. All international disputes to be settled by arbitration.
11. The extension of our trade and commerce by reciprocity treaties with such countries as may be desirable.

Just for amusement sake let us take up each of the eleven changes that the Windsor-Essex gentlemen desire.

- 1. We have at present as much political freedom and independence as any country in the world. It would be impossible to either amicably or constitutionally change without destroying our present freedom and states.
2. We already possess a form of government and a constitution exactly suitable to our requirements. It is a truly democratic system, far more so than any Republican Government could give us.
3. Exactly what both political parties are driving at—each in its own way—under our present system.
4. No land on earth has more solid constitutional guarantees of full religious liberty to all denominations.
5. This can be done under our present constitutional system just as well as under any other form of government—be it Republican or otherwise.
6. The same applies in this case.
7. Exactly what is being done under our Local Legislative system.
8. We are rapidly coming to this. A Republican Independent Canada would retard rather than hasten it.
9. Another of the existing methods in the country as it is to-day.
10. We have had sufficient evidence in the Paris and Washington arbitrations to show that this paragraph suggests nothing new.
11. What both parties now are doing—each according to its own political ideas. Taking the last paragraph, the words "such countries as may be desirable," mean simply the United States. The

whole of the little game of state-building comes down to the simple question of ultimate annexation. "Withdraw Canada from the protection of Great Britain, and we will soon gobble her up."

It is a wonder to us that people who want annexation—possibly because they live in border countries and have interests in both countries—do not squarely state what they mean. Probably they fear that if they were to speak out they might run a very poor chance of securing the much desired parliamentary representation.

WHENCE THE LEAKAGE?

Major H. F. Brownson, son of the late and famous Dr. Brownson, who has just published a remarkable work on "Faith and Science," made use of the following language before the Catholic Society of Michigan, in 1893:

"We have had enough and to spare, for the last four years, of what wonderful progress the Church has made in the United States. Our English speaking Catholic orators have delighted us with statistics showing that in the last hundred years, 30,000 Catholics have grown to 10,000,000 and where there was only one bishop we have 100 priests now. Foolish boast! Prick the bubble with the pin's point of a little sense and what is proposed as our glory becomes our great shame."

"Starting 150 years ago with 30,000 or 40,000 Catholics we have acquired Louisiana, Missouri, Arkansas, Kentucky, Florida, Texas, California, Nevada, Colorado, Idaho, Arizona and New Mexico, each with a considerable Catholic population. We have received from Ireland Catholic immigrants who, with their descendants born here, are estimated at 15,000,000 now alive; from Germany 5,000,000 and from Poland, Italy, France, Hungary, etc., some 2,000,000 at the lowest calculation, in all 26,000,000 more. And Hoffman's Catholic Directory for this year puts the total number of Catholics at less than 6,000,000. Where are the other 17,000,000? While losing two out of every three persons born of Catholic parents we have done nothing worth speaking of towards converting those outside the Church, perhaps have even been an obstacle to their conversion."

The leakage is not far away nor difficult to find. The public school system is the direct cause of all the fallings off from Catholicity. Parents send their children to schools wherein their faith is gradually and often imperceptibly undermined. It is true that these children may not be taught directly to renounce their religion; but they breathe an anti-Catholic atmosphere. Their text books are non-Catholic; they learn history from teachers and volumes that inculcate a non-Catholic spirit; they learn to look upon all religions as equal; they are brought up in a form of indifference. Finally these young people go forth into life with a rather pronounced distaste for the precepts of the Church; they incline naturally to the more free and easy principles of Protestantism; from indifference they fall a grade lower, into distrust; from distrust they sink to antagonism; and, finally, they enter upon life as a generation of non-Catholic men.

The result is mixed marriages, entirely Protestant children, and a consequent loss of souls to the Church of Christ. Trace the matter to its source and you will find that all these consequences flow from the public schools. Our Protestant friends are astute enough to know the ultimate results of their non-sectarian system, and they seek to impose it on the Catholic element under the guise of liberality. It is the story of the spider and the fly over again.

The Venezuelan boundary question, and the war-scare that has so recently shaken the people of two continents, are monopolizing all the attention of the press. The Armenian victims; the old sick man of Turkey; the battle ships in the Bosphorus; and the vacillating powers, are all cast into the shade for the time being.

The following, says the Catholic Times, is credited to Reynolds' newspaper, London:—

I read with satisfaction that a Catholic priest, Father Hickey, of Harrington, West Cumberland, has planned the State Church parson of the same place, the Rev. A. F. Curwen, in a recent controversy about the reunion of Christendom, down to a definite point of fact. In one of his sermons the latter contended that there would always be a barrier so long as the Catholics "adhered to the idolatrous practice of worshipping saints and apostles." This is a most astounding piece of impertinent ignorance on the part of the State Church parson, who ought to know something about the symbolism of religion. In no part of any Roman Catholic manual of devotion can the recommendation of any such worship be found.

An international subscription is about to be opened for a monument to the late M. Pasteur. The Council of the Pasteur Institute at Paris initiated the movement. Rheumatism is caused by lactic acid in the blood. Hood's Sarsaparilla neutralizes this acid and cures Rheumatism.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

A MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL.

MAY the festive season bring happiness and plenty to the firesides of our friends!

HEAPS of toys and bonbons for the young; good prospects to the older ones; and peace, comfort and happiness to the aged—is our greeting for 1895.

It is proposed to open a subscription in France for the erection of a monument at Chambéry, to Joseph and Xavier de Maistre. Well do the two great men deserve them.

THE late Archbishop Meurin, of Mauritius, to whom a monument is to be erected at Bombay, in the shape of a home for the poor, was offered a Cardinal's hat, but he declined it on the ground that he preferred active missionary life.

THE commercial world is likely to suffer more and feel with greater effect the late utterances of America's "great man," than are the military powers. The panic on Wall Street was real; the supposed panic in the breasts of the threatening parties was only sham.

THE delivery to Mgr. Satolli of the Zuchetto, or small red scull cap, and the consistorial letter informing him of his elevation to the cardinalate, all preliminary to the conferring of the Baretta, took place, in Washington, at the Catholic Legation, on Thursday evening last.

PERE DENJOY, of the Society of Jesus, who recently died in Madagascar, was a grand and faithful follower of St. Ignatius. He had received permission to accompany an expeditionary corps as chaplain, and he died at Autananarivo soon after the entrance of the troops.—R.I.P.

THE list of successful candidates at the B. A. examinations of the University of London contains the names of six Stonyhurst students. The Jesuits are over to the front. The A. P. A. crowd, in the neighboring Republic, may find this a justifiable cause for war with England.

MR. JOHN MACKAY, the Irish-American millionaire, is about to erect a grand statue to Joan of Arc in one of the chief squares of Nancy. In 1429 the Maid of Orleans visited that city. Mr. Mackay's example should teach a lesson to many a disbelieving fellow-countryman of the wonderful Maid.

THE statue of St. Michael slaying the dragon, about to be set up in the Place de Brauckere, in Brussels, is to be of bronze and colossal size. The figure of the saint will be surrounded, at night, by a halo of electric lights. The conception is magnificent and we are confident the execution will be in accordance.

POLITICAL meetings are the order of the day. If the electorate does not know all about the school and tariff questions it will not be the fault of the newspapers, nor of the politicians. It may, however, be the fault of the chaotic confusion of ideas that is flung in a heap at the unoffending head of the public.

THE world has been stirred into excitement by the Venezuelan affair. All Europe as well as all America may be said to be in a state of expectancy. One thing President Cleveland has done—he has made a name for himself in every quarter of the Globe. Perhaps that is what he has been aiming at.

LECKY, the historian, recently elected to the Parliamentary seat for Dublin, is not "Dr. Walter Lecky," the brilliant American critic, essayist, and poet. The former writes romance and calls it history; the latter writes history and presents it in the form of romance. The M.P. is a fit subject for criticism; the M.D. is the man to apply that instrument in an effective manner.

ONE by one the old landmarks are disappearing. Many of our readers will regret to learn that Mr. Patrick Henchy, of Quebec, one of the best known Irish Catholics in Canada, died last Friday. Mr. Henchy was known wide and far in the pulpy days of old Quebec, and all the older generation throughout Canada, particularly amongst the travelling and commercial public, will learn with sorrow of his departure.

ON Christmas, it was announced, the full ritualistic service would be introduced into St. Barnabas' Anglican Church at Ottawa. Incense is burned once, at the evening service, during the singing of the "Magnificat," it is burned four times at the Eucharistic service in the morning. There are only two things wanting to render the service effective—transubstantiation, and acknowledgment of infallibility; but, alas! both these necessary dogmas do not figure in the imitation of the Church.

RECENTLY a peculiar discovery was made amongst the Locks forbidden by

the Congregation of the Index. It was written by Leo XIII. when he was Archbishop of Perugia, and was published in 1874. It recommended to Catholics the devotion to the "precious blood of the Blessed Virgin." It seems, at that time, Cardinal Pecci was not in the good graces of Cardinal Antonelli, and the latter accused him of liberalism and had the book condemned as being rash and in contradiction with tradition. The author is to-day Pope of Rome.

MGR. FARLEY recently lectured on his trip to Mexico, and he drew a comparison between the Catholic and the Protestant methods of Christianizing and civilizing the Indians, as illustrated by the results in Mexico and the United States. In the latter the Indians are dying out, while in the former they flourish and many of them occupy high places in Church and State. Of the eleven million inhabitants of Mexico nine millions are Christian Indians.

A FRIEND has drawn our attention to the "Compliments of the season" sent out, in the form of a caricature upon Irishmen, by a city baker. We will not mention the baker's name—he would consider it a free advertisement—but we advise him to learn better manners if he wishes to keep his custom and to preserve the respect of his neighbors. We like a "Merry Christmas," but we don't want to eat bread and be merry at the expense of our fellow-countrymen's feelings.

ON November the 22nd a very historic structure in Drogheda collapsed. Peter Street is still known by the name of the "bloody" street, on account of the slaughter of two thousand of the garrison that took place in the church there, when, in 1649, the Cromwellian forces besieged the town. Under the house just collapsed was the kitchen of the old palatial residence. Here the "mere Irishy" were imprisoned and then taken out and cut to pieces. With the disappearance of the old landmark we would like to see the spirit of bigotry also collapse.

Death of Mr. Barry.

The many patrons of the St. Lawrence Hall will miss the familiar face of Mr. Albert Edward Barry, sixth son of the late Thomas Barry, Collector of Customs, Richmond, who died Saturday at noon after a very short illness. Mr. Barry has been in a delicate state of health for a number of years, but did not seem to be any worse than usual until Monday afternoon last, when he was seized with a rather severe attack of heart failure while walking up St. James street. He was taken into the hotel by friends who happened to be near by, and after a few minutes seemed to recover. Upon advice of his physician, however, he retired to his room, where he gradually grew worse until yesterday morning, when he seemed to be much improved, and his friends thought he would be all right in a few days. At noon Saturday, however, he quietly passed away without any pain whatever. Mr. Barry has been employed in the office of the St. Lawrence Hall since last June, and during that time made a large number of friends. His funeral took place this morning, from his mother's residence, 239a St. Antoine street.



Purified Blood

Saved an operation in the following case. Hood's Sarsaparilla cures when all others fail. It makes pure blood.

"A year ago my father, William Thompson, was taken suddenly ill with inflammation of the bladder. He suffered a great deal and was very low for some time. At last the doctor said he would not get well unless an operation was performed. At this time we read about Hood's Sarsaparilla and decided to try it. Before he used half a bottle his appetite had come back to him, whereas before he could eat but little. When he had taken three bottles of the medicine he was as well as ever." FRANCIS J. THOMPSON, Peninsula Lake, Ontario. Remember

Hood's Sarsaparilla is the Only True Blood Purifier

Hood's Pills cure all liver ills, biliousness, headaches, &c.

City and District Savings Bank.

NOTICE. Depositors in this Bank and the public are requested to take notice, that the Head Office and the Branches will be closed on Tuesday, 31st inst., in order to add the Interest to Depositors' accounts.

By order of the Board,
H. Y. BARBEAU, Manager.
Montreal, 23th December, 1895.

THE LATE MR. O'BRIEN.

A Large and Representative Funeral—Solemn Obsequies at St. Ann's Church.

The funeral of the late Mr. M. J. O'Brien, President of St. Ann's Young Men's Society, was one of the most imposing and representative ever held in that section of Montreal. The Victoria Rifles Band, under the leadership of Mr. E. Quiverson, headed the sad procession. The St. Ann's young men, to the number of two hundred, marched in a body, and a vast concourse of prominent citizens followed the hearse. The church was richly and solemnly draped and the floral decorations were magnificent. What is not always customary, a very large number of the citizens followed the deceased to the Cote des Neiges cemetery. The choir, which was in full force, was under the direction of Mr. J. Morgan and Prof. P. J. Shea presided at the organ. Rev. Father Strubbe, C.S.S.R., spiritual director of the society, officiated, with Fathers Schefault and McPhail as deacon and sub-deacon respectively.

On Monday, a Requiem Mass, at 7 o'clock, was sung, attended by all the members of the society.

RESOLUTIONS OF CONDOLENCE.

At a special meeting of the St. Ann's Young Men's Society, held on the 18th inst., the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS: The Almighty Disposer of all His creatures has, in His infinite wisdom, called unto Himself our late president, Michael O'Brien, thus inflicting upon loving parents, brothers and sisters, the greatest sorrow borne by the children of men; be it therefore

Resolved,—That we, the members of St. Ann's Young Men's Society, individually and collectively, tender our sympathies to the parents and family of our deceased president, and we earnestly pray that the all powerful God, who is also a merciful God, will apply to their stricken hearts a soothing balm and enable them to bow with Christian resignation to His Holy Will; and be it further

Resolved,—That a Solemn Mass be offered up for the repose of his soul on Monday, the 23rd instant, at 7 a.m., and that the members of this Society receive Holy Communion in a body during the month of January;

Resolved,—That this resolution be entered in the records of our Society, and a copy be sent to the family of the deceased, and to THE TRUE WITNESS and daily papers for publication.

JOHN WHURRY,
Sec. Secretary.

At a special meeting of St. Ann's Junior Young Men's Society, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:—

Whereas, it has pleased Almighty God to call unto himself Mr. Michael O'Brien, President of St. Ann's Young Men's Society, thus depriving his sorrowing parents, brothers and sisters of a most dutiful son and brother, and our parish of one of its most worthy young men;

Resolved,—That we, the members of St. Ann's Junior Young Men's Society, tender our sympathies to the bereaved parents and family, and earnestly pray that it may please Almighty God to grant them strength to bear with Christian resignation the affliction He has sent them.

Be it further resolved, that this Society have ten Masses offered for the repose of the soul of Mr. O'Brien; that these resolutions be published in THE TRUE WITNESS, and a copy be sent to the family of the deceased.

THOMAS P. GLEESON,
Secretary.
Montreal, December 20th, 1895.

At a meeting of St. Mary's Catholic Young Men's Society, held on Sunday, the 22nd inst., the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved,—That this society having been informed of the death of the Presi-

dent of St. Ann's Young Men's Society, the late Mr. M. J. O'Brien, desires to record the high esteem which it has always entertained for the late President, and to tender St. Ann's Young Men's Society, in its affliction, its sincere sympathy.

Signed, on behalf of St. Mary's C.Y.M. Society,
HERBERT J. CORD, President.
WILLIAM BRENNAN.
TAGGART SMYTH.

ST. MARY'S RETREAT.

On Sunday night last, in St. Mary's parish church, terminated one of the most successful retreats ever held in that section of the city. Rev. Father Klauder, C.S.S.R., who preached the mission, felt surely a great consolation in the magnificent success attained. The average nightly attendance was between fifteen and seventeen hundred people. Great gratitude is felt towards the good pastor, Rev. Father O'Donnell and his assistant, Rev. Father Shea, for having procured for the parishioners such a splendid advantage and such spiritual aid. The effects of the mission will be long-lasting and it is certain that the name of Father Klauder will be remembered with sentiments of gratitude by all who benefited by his powerful sermons and sterling advice.

PERSONAL.

We learn with pleasure that Mr. J. N. Ennis, the popular agent and canvasser, has been appointed to represent in Montreal the Comparative Synoptical Chart Co. He has commenced with the circulation of Mr. Scaife's Comparative and Synoptical Chart of English history, which is to be followed by one of Canada, and then one of each country in the world. The Chart in itself is a real revelation. It so simplifies the study of history that in future school children will bless the name of its inventor. Mr. Ennis is meeting with grand success—but not greater than we wish him, nor than his energy and talent deserve.

ECCLIASTICAL NOTES.

The Archbishop of Montreal has made the following appointments: Rev. Napoleon Morin, cure of the new parish of St. Edouard de Montreal; Rev. J. T. Proulx, vicar of St. Joseph de Montreal, and Rev. J. O. Cabana, vicar at St. Louis de France.

Archbishop Fabre will officiate pontifically at the Cathedral at Midnight Mass on Tuesday, and at High Mass and Vespers on Christmas day.

Rev. Abbe Tasse, cure of Longueuil, has been appointed Vicair-forain for the County of Chambly.

EUGENE FIELD'S LAST CHRISTMAS.

The Catholic Citizen has the following pertinent paragraph:

Was it last Christmas that "Little Boy Blue" was alive, and with his toys? But now "The little toy dog is covered with dust. But sturdily and staunch he stands: And the little toy soldier is red with rust. And his musket moulds in his hands. Time was when the little toy dog was new. And the soldier was passing fair. And that was the time when our Little Boy Blue Kissed them and put them there."

And even the author of that song, Eugene Field, has "left his broken playthings on the floor."

Funeral of Mme. Langevin.

The funeral of the late Mme. Langevin, mother of the Archbishop of St. Boniface, took place at St. Isidore, Friday morning. The remains of the deceased lady were borne to the parish church and thence to the cemetery vault by eight of the oldest residents of the locality. A large number of priests and distinguished citizens attended the funeral.

Deerfoot Farm Sausages and Deerfoot Farm Sliced Bacon FOR THE CHRISTMAS BREAKFAST TABLE.

Supplies received regularly twice a week direct from the Deerfoot Farm, Southborough, Mass.
Deerfoot Farm Little Sausages in 2 lb. packages.
Deerfoot Farm Sliced Bacon in 2 lb. boxes.
Also Fairbank's celebrated St. Johnsbury Sausage Meat, also in 2 lb. packages.
FRASER, VIGER & CO. Sole Agents.

Strictly New Laid Eggs

For the Breakfast table for Sunday, Monday or holiday. Everybody knows how difficult it is to procure Strictly New Laid Eggs at this season of the year. We now have arrangements made with several parties for regular supplies twice a week of Strictly New Laid Eggs. Every egg is stamped and dated, guaranteed fresh laid.

Parson's Hams and Parson's Bacon.

Once a year, and once a year only, we receive a small supply of Parson's celebrated Guelph, Ont., hams and bacon. Every Christmas, for well nigh on to 40 years, the Italian Warehouse has never been without some of Parson's hams and bacon. The cure is limited. Every piece is guaranteed the best.

FRASER, VIGER & CO.

Mince Meat--Mince Meat for The Million.

Not how cheap, but oh, how good. The Finest Mince Meat made on the continent of America. The Ideal Mince Meat made by the Oneida Community, at Kenwood, Madison County, New York. We place this first on the list, as we know nothing better can be had. The Oneida Ideal Mince Meat in quart glass jars. The Oneida Ideal Mince Meat in 4 gallon glass pails. Atmore's Philadelphia Mince Meat in 5 lb. wooden pails. Atmore's Philadelphia Mince Meat in 10 lb. wooden pails. Heinz Keystone Brand Family Mince Meat in 5 lb. crocks.

Potted Mixed Viands

of Meat and Game for breakfast, luncheon and supper sandwiches, just received from Fortnum, Mason & Co., Piccadilly, London, Eng.

Another Choice Lot of Prairie Chickens and Quail

Received from the West, just in time for Christmas. Also 250 Brace White and Grey Partridges, Ptarmigan, etc., etc.

FRASER, VIGER & CO.

Christmas Teas and Christmas Coffees. Christmas Hams and Christmas Bacon Christmas Ales and Christmas Stout. Christmas Ports and Christmas Sherries Champagnes, Clarets, Burgundies, Sauternes, Hocks, Moselles, Madeiras, Maras, etc., etc. All the Very Finest.

Our Stores are Open Evenings now until New Year's Eve.

FRASER, VIGER & CO.,

Family Grocers and Wine Merchants,
ITALIAN WAREHOUSE,
207, 209 and 211 S. JAMES STREET.

THE CATHOLIC TRUTH SOCIETY.

On last Friday evening a large audience, composed of gentlemen and ladies, attended the regular monthly meeting and entertainment given by the Catholic Truth Society, of Montreal, in the Hall of the Gesù. Mr. H. J. Kavanagh, Q.C., the newly elected president, occupied the chair, and the Rev. Father Devine, S.J., spiritual director of the society, delivered a most entertaining and instructive lecture on "The Fur Hunter." In the course of his remarks the Rev. Father cited many experiences of his own in the field of practical missionary life, and illustrated his theme with numerous anecdotes. It was announced that two new corresponding members of

the society had been elected: one, Chief Justice Theodore Davie, of British Columbia, and the other, Hon. Francis Dunne, of Jacksonville, Fla., ex-Chief Justice of Arizona. The society intends continuing its series of lectures after the holidays. The next address is expected to be given by Mr. Frank Curran, B.C.L.

Many a debt do Catholics owe to the generosity of Protestants. The liberality of the late Mr. Bernard Hall, of Liverpool, deserves to be recorded. Though a Protestant, he left to the Catholic Bishop of Liverpool, for Catholic Charities for relief of the poor, £1000, and to the Little Sisters of the Poor, £500. His was a truly Christian and charitable nature.

Colonial House,
PHILLIPS SQUARE.

Dress Goods.

We have sold out that 3000 yard line of Homespun Cheviots at 26c. per yard, but we are glad to state that we are now able to offer another line of **French Dress Goods,** Equally Good Value, at 31 cents per yd.

ALL-WOOL, DOUBLE FOLD, FINE SHADES,
Navy, Myrtle, Fawns, Brown, Mauve, Cardinal, Garnet and Black. These are well worth 60c per yard.

Baskets.

An immense stock of baskets on hand All sizes, shapes and prices, and for every purpose.
Lunch Baskets, Work Baskets, Waste Paper Baskets, Knitting Baskets, Whisk Baskets, Hair Baskets, Baby's Cloth Baskets, Bon Bon Baskets, Clothes Baskets, etc.

Gloves.

Ladies' 4-Button Dress Kid Gloves, (Rouillon), extra quality, in all the latest shades, \$1.15.
Ladies' Alexander Kid Gloves, plain and embroidered, \$1.35 and \$1.50.
Ladies' Derby Gloves, first quality, in all colors, \$1.55 and \$1.85.
Ladies' Gloves for Evening Wear, in Suede and Silk (A pretty Glove Box given with each pair.)
Men's Gloves, fur lined and fur trimmed.
Men's Gloves, wool lined.
Men's Gloves, in Buckskin and Kid.
Men's Mitts, in great variety.

Ceramics.

We have secured some of the pieces that were on view at the Chicago Exhibition, both in Doulton and other Porcelain. In Japanese Ceramics we have some magnificent specimens of Satsuma and Cloisonne, and can show the latest mentioned ware in the different stages of its manufacture. Will be pleased to explain to any one interested how this beautiful work is done.

Furniture Dept.

For useful as well as Ornamental Presents nothing exceeds the special articles to be found in this Department. Our efforts to bring together an unexcelled line of goods (suitable for this season of the year) has been an unqualified success.
Desks well worth \$20 for \$9.00, and the assortment is full of such values.
Desks, Solid Oak or Mahoganyized, \$3.50.
Very Fine Reed Reception Chair, \$37.5.
Elegantly Trimmed Reception Chair, \$600.
The following is a partial list of the articles we are showing:—
Desks, Bookcases, Fancy Tables, Chairs, Rockers, Tabourettes, Screens, Bureaus, Footstools, Slipper Cases, Parlor Cabinets, Music Cabinets, Pedestals, Shaving Stands, 5 O'clock Tea Sets and Tables, and a good assortment of the

New Ruffin Goods.

Select early as some lines will undoubtedly run short.

Books, Stationery, &c.

Standard Poet, leather bound, gilt edge, \$1. (Longfellow, Scott, Burns, Byron, Shakespeare, E. B. Browning, Moore, Hemans, Wordsworth, Whittier).

New Books.

"A Victory Won," by Annie S. Swain.
"The Red Cockade," by Stanley Weyman.

Papeteries.

An excellent assortment to choose from at close prices.

Mail Orders Promptly and Carefully Attended to.

HENRY MORGAN & CO.,
MONTREAL.

Silks.

Handsome Black Silk "Peau de Sole," \$1.00, \$1.25, \$2.00.
Art Silks, in great variety, 75c to \$1.15.
Colored Bengaline in all the leading shades, \$1.50.

Prints.

Christmas Prints from 9c to 15c, in the latest designs and shades.

Home Decorations.

Fancy Cushions from \$1.50 up.
Tea Cosies from 75c up.
Mouchoir Cases from 60c up.
Mantel Drapes, Silk Tidies, Silk Drapes, Table Covers, Lace Tidies, Fancy Trimmed Pin Cushions, Piano Drapes, and a great assortment of Stamped Linen Work.

Suggestions For Boys' Presents.

Skates, 60c, \$1.00, \$1.25.
Skates, Star Hockey—the leading skate—\$3.00.
Hockey Sticks, 15c, 25c, 40c.
Sleighs from 25c to \$3.00.

Toys.

Steam Engines, 80c, \$1.25, \$1.50; Mechanical Engine, 75c to \$1.25; Mechanical Rabbits and other animals; Blackboards, 60c and \$1.25; Toys from 10c to 40c; Washstands 55c, 75c to \$1.50; Darkey Musician, \$1.25, \$1.50; Iron Banks, 40c, 60c, 85c, \$1.05; Musical Boxes, 60c and \$1.25 and other toys in great variety.

House Furnishings.

Fancy Metal Tea Pots, from \$1.50.
Jelly Moulds, from 20c up.
Five O'Clock Tea Kettles, at all prices.
Chafing Dishes, Nickel plated, \$5.
Hot Water Dishees, from \$2.25 up.
Crumb Tray and Brush, from 75c to \$2.75.

Boots and Shoes.

Ladies' Fancy Slippers, for Evening wear, in Patent Leather, Bronze, Kid and Satin in the leading shades.
Infants' Fancy Moccasins and Booties in different Shades.

Great Bargains

In Ladies' Button Boots on the \$2.00 table.
The \$1.00 Table in this department is still very attractive, as we have added a lot of Samples and Shoes and Slippers.

Lamps.

Piano, Banquet, Table, Boudoir and Student Lamps and Shades.

Silverware.

Shaving Mugs, Candelabras, Candlesticks, Children's Sets (knife, fork and spoon), Hair Pin Boxes, Collar Stud Boxes, Lavender Salts, Puff Boxes, Cream Boxes, Napkin Rings, etc., etc.

Sterling Silver.

Hair Brushes, Clothes Brushes, Bonnet Whisks, Nail Files, Button Hooks, Children's Mugs, Tea and Coffee Spoons, Berry Spoons, Sugar Shells, etc., etc.

House and Household.

USEFUL RECIPES.

PERIGUEUX SAUCE.

Chop up fine two truffles. Place them in a pan with a glass of Madeira wine; boil for about five minutes. Add a dash of Espagnole sauce. Allow this to just come to a boil; remove from the stove and serve while very hot.

STUFFED POTATOES.

Take six good-sized potatoes, one grill of hot milk, two eggs, one tablespoonful of butter, one teaspoonful of salt, a dash of pepper. Bake potatoes till done, cut in halves and with a spoon scrape out the potatoes into a hot bowl. Leave sufficient potato in the skins to keep them in shape. Mash the potato fine, add the butter, hot milk, salt and pepper. Beat until very light, then stir in carefully the beaten whites of the eggs. Fill the skins with the mixture, heating it up. Brush over with yolk of egg and put in the oven until golden brown.

NINETEENTH CENTURY TARTLETS.

Make some puff paste tartlet cases in rather large patty pans. While they are baking make about a pint of corn flour, flavored with lemon peel and sweetened, and stiff enough to set in a mold (i.e., two heaped tablespoonfuls of corned flour to a pint of milk). Spread a layer of jam at the bottom of the tartlet cases filling up to the top with the corn flour, which should be quite smooth; grate over this a sweet rusk or macaroon, and when the corn flour is quite cold place in the center of each tartlet a piece of red currant jelly or a preserved cherry.

VIENNA CHOCOLATE.

Mix three heaping tablespoonfuls of grated chocolate with enough water to beat it to a smooth paste, taking care that no lumps remain. Put it into a chocolate pot and set into a kettle of boiling water. Pour in one pint of new milk and one pint of cream or a quart of new milk, with the whites of one or two eggs, well beaten. Stir the chocolate paste into the scalding milk and let it boil two or three minutes, then stir in the beaten whites and serve it hot.

TO MAKE FIG PUDDING.

Chop half a pound of figs and mix with a teaspoonful of bread crumbs, a teaspoonful of sugar, two tablespoonfuls of melted butter, four beaten eggs, and five ounces of candied orange and lemon peel; turn into a greased mold; steam two hours and a half. Serve with pudding sauce.—December Ladies' Home Journal.

HOME MATTERS.

A dinner is not complete without a dessert, and as the weather becomes cold hot puddings are in greater demand. The first thing to be considered is the pudding for holiday dinners. There are many kinds of plum puddings; they may be very rich or made to suit a small income, but all are good and find a welcome.

An exceedingly nice dessert is a Canadian suet pudding. Stir one cup of finely-chopped suet and the same quantity of bread crumbs into one cup of molasses, and add one cup of brown sugar and a half cup of sweet milk. Pare and chop tart apples enough to make one cupful, and take one cup of seeded raisins, one teaspoonful each of cinnamon and cloves, one-half of a nutmeg grated, and a dozen of any kind of nuts chopped fine. Mix thoroughly with these ingredients one large or two small eggs. Sit with two teaspoonfuls of baking powder into two large cups of flour and add to the other ingredients. Steam or boil three hours and then serve with a liquid wine sauce.

FASHION AND FANCY.

(Boston Republic.)

The observing woman who persists in being in fashion in spite of a limited income never fails to discover her chances for some degree of style among the fleeting fashions of the day. She utilizes every scrap of ribbon and silk, every bit of lace on her gowns and hats, and the result is a surprising success. If she is an adept in the art of transformation; she is wise, too, if she can recognize the point where dress renovation becomes an extravagance, for sometimes the garment is not worth the outlay of time and money required to make it up to date. Every woman can dress elegantly if she has unlimited means, but every woman with money does not dress in good taste, and the latter quality will often serve more effectively than the money, if it is accomplished by the grace and style of figure, so there is something to compensate for the lack of the wherewithal to buy regardless of cost. It is the happy medium in dress which is so difficult to strike, because it is hard to make one gown do the service for three or four; but the woman who studies herself and the possibilities of fashion with some care will make a pretty good success of this sort of thing.

Fancy vests, wide revers and added besques, yokes and wide collars, which are such a feature of fashion this season, all very materially in fixing over the old gowns. The vest can be of one material and the revers and basque of another, so the whole front of the bodice is practically new. Very pretty vests are made of old-fashioned silk handkerchiefs, with variegated palm leaves scattered over a red ground. They are first accordion plaited and arranged with a slight pouch effect, and are very effective in a dark blue gown. Yokes of satin covered with lace or embroidered with beads and yokes of velvet are just as fashionable as ever, and they help out wonderfully in making a small bit of material do for a waist. Slashing the waist and sleeves and inserting a contrasting material is another way of eking out a small quantity. Four or five slashes can be made in the sleeves, and as many in the bodice both back and front, and when they are arranged V shape, tapering to nothing at the waist line, the effect is very flattering to the figure. A black crepon with insertions of white satin, trimmed on all the edges with a tiny line of jet, is in very good

style. The same effect is given to the skirt, which shows a line of white up each seam.

NEW YORK STYLES.

Pink satin is even more generally liked than white or ivory, and some pale green, or light blue or gray satin, appear, and pink satin belts on white satin are yet another proof of the ascendancy of this color. Very low square necks are in the majority for ball-gowns, and ornamentation often takes the form of a huge bunch of violets at the left corner of the neck and a very large satin ribbon bow of another color, on the top of the right sleeve. Lace is used in great profusion around the neck and on the sleeves of evening dresses, and black velvet relieved by fine white or ecrú lace is a change from the monotonous pink and white. Chiffon often forms the entire corsage, either plain or encrusted with crystal beads, and sleeves of another color are worn to some extent, as with a brocaded silk, green velvet sleeves, (a puff to the elbow) and flaring velvet collar.

The "Pompador Roll" takes precedence of all other styles in hairdressing, and while a front or side part is still seen, it is because the "Pompador" is so trying. The roll at front is carried round to the back and two large combs, called "bank" combs, divide the side puffs from those at the back. Mercury wings in tortoise shell are very new, but the old carved combs are still held in high esteem.

Furs are now an all-absorbing topic, and new shapes or trimmings invest the standard furs with renewed charm. The old favorites, Alaska seal, colored and natural Hudson Bay otter, eastern mink, Russian and Hudson Bay sable, Alaska sable and Persian lamb, all reappear in elegant novelties, well calculated to captivate the most fastidious. A mink pelorine, (really a reproduction of a very old style) covers the shoulders and the upper part of the sleeve, extending almost to the edge of the dress at the front, and finished off with five mink tails at either side. It has a decided ripple on the shoulders, a high collar, and is certainly an elegant and jaunty covering. The same design is repeated in all genuine furs, in order to meet the tastes of all parties. There is an immense demand for chinchilla, and capes, full collarettes or trimmings of this lovely fur, are often preferred to any other, its genuine beauty being its strongest recommendation and it is also quite as stylish for evening as for day wear.

YOUTHS' DEPARTMENT.

SOMEBODY'S MOTHER.

The woman was old and ragged and gray. And bent with the chill of the Winter's day. The street was wet with a recent snow. And the woman's feet were aged and slow. She stood at the crossing and waited long. Alone, unheeded, for amid the throng Of human beings who passed her by. Nor heeded the glance of her anxious eye. Down the street, with laughter and shout, Gled in the freedom of school is out. Came the boys, like a flock of sheep, Hailing the snow piled white and deep. Past the woman so old and gray Hastened the children on their way. Nor offered a helping hand to her. So meek, so timid, afraid to stir. Lost the carriage wheels on the horses' feet Should crowd her down in the slippery street. At last came one of the merry troupe— The gayest lad of all the group: "He passed beside her, and whistled low. 'I'll help you across if you wish to go.' Her aged hand on his strong arm She placed, and so, without hurt or harm, He guided the trembling feet alone. Proud that his own were firm and strong: Then back to his friends he went. His young heart happy and well content. 'She's somebody's mother, boys, you know. For all she's aged and poor and slow. And I hope some fellow will lend a hand To help my mother, you understand. If ever she's poor and old and gray. When her own dear boy is far away. And somebody's mother bowed low her head In her home that night, and the prayer she said Was, 'God, be kind to the noble boy Who is somebody's son and pride and joy!'

THE PRIZE OF ROME.

The French nation has for many years owned a handsome palace in the Eternal City, as Rome is frequently called, says a writer in the St. Nicholas. This is known as the Villa de Medici. It is a beautiful building, standing in the middle of a garden filled with stately and fine old trees, commanding a view of the famous old city, and fitted up with superb furniture, tapestries and pictures, the remains of the former greatness of the once powerful Medici family, who for so many years were high in the political affairs of Italy. Here each year are sent four young Frenchmen—a painter, a sculptor, an architect and a carver of precious stones. These lads are chosen by a competition held at the School of Fine Arts in Paris every spring. The examinations are very searching, and the successful candidates are greatly envied, as well they may be, for having won their honors, they are housed, fed and provided with a studio and an ample sum of money to pay their expenses for four years—all by the French government.

So it will be seen that it is no small honor to have passed successfully through the ordeal; for not only is the opportunity for the delightful life under such splendid conditions to be desired, but the youth who gains the distinction of being the prize winner is for evermore a marked man. His work is watched for, his future progress is noted, and his career may be said to be definitely made. The conditions under which the examinations are made are very strict. Preliminary trials take place early in the season. All who desire to enter inscribe their names at the government school. Of course, only French lads may try. For the painters, a subject is given out—perhaps some incident from the Bible, or an episode from a mythological story—and sketches are made by the students. Twenty or thirty of the most promising sketches are selected, and the young men thus chosen are notified. These lads then make drawings in charcoal of

the subject. Another selection is made, and those chosen then make paintings. This time ten canvases are selected, and their authors go, as they say in French, *en logs*, which means that each man of the ten enters a small studio, where are an easel and materials for work, and he is allowed such models as are necessary to complete his picture. His first sketch of the subject given out is handed to him, and from this he must make a painting about three feet by four in size. He is not allowed to make any material changes in his composition, but must keep very closely to his original design. Outside his door sits an employe of the school known as a "guardian," whose business it is to see that the student receives no help; nor may he leave the building, save under charge of this sentinel, who is watchful and keen, and not to be trifled with. Three weeks are allowed in which to complete the work. Then the ten canvases are placed in frames. The works are the same size every year, and the old frames do duty over and over again.

Now is an anxious period while a jury composed of distinguished artists deliberate on the merits of the works to determine the order of their excellence. Finally, a day comes when, all is arranged. Ten pictures are placed in a gallery of the school, and each are numbered; the doors are opened, and the anxious crowd of students rushes in to hear the decision.

You may be sure that the happy Number One is a hero and that he is carried around the Latin quarters on the shoulders of his companions. The strain of the past few months is over, and we may forgive him if he gives way to a lot of boisterous nonsense for a few hours. To Number Two there is some consolation for so narrowly missing the great end he has aimed for—a sort of "consolation prize" being awarded to him, in the shape of a sum of money that enables him to travel for a year. Besides, he will compete the next year, and it frequently happens that the second man one season is the successful competitor of the year following.

The winning picture is hung permanently in the school, and the happy man goes to Rome. Each year he must send home evidences of his application and progress, that the state may know he is improving his time.

A ROMANCE OF THREE ANIMALS.

Last summer Orrin Whiting, who lives near Woodsville, N.J., caught a rabbit in a box trap, took it home, and made a pet of it. Whiting had a cat and a dog, and after a few preliminaries the three animals became warmly attached to one another.

As the weeks went by it was noticed that the rabbit had taken a great fancy to the cat. The two were together nearly all the time. Before the rabbit appeared at the Whiting home the cat and dog had been close companions, and the dog, evidently didn't enjoy having the affections of the cat alienated, for he took occasion frequently to pick the rabbit up by the back and give it a lively shaking up. Eventually it came to the point where the cat refused to have anything to do with the dog. She devoted her whole time to the rabbit. The dog grew moody and kept away from his former companions as much as possible, until one day he came across the cat and rabbit enjoying a gambol out in the lot back of the house. His temper got the best of him, and he sailed into the rabbit as if he intended to wind up its existence then and there. He had not gone far with the job when the cat leaped in. She jumped on the back of her old friend and began to claw out hair at a rate that at once engaged the dog's attention. There was a short battle between the two, which resulted in a badly torn skin for the dog, and, with his tail between his legs, he finally left the field.

That night the cat and the rabbit disappeared. A thorough search of the yard was made for them, but they could not be found and Whiting came to the conclusion that was a case of elopement, pure and simple. The dog became very despondent, and for several days refused to eat, but eventually his spirits improved and he was himself again, but he never could be induced to sleep in the bed out in the woodshed where he and the cat had rested together for many months.

One morning last week when Whiting went to the woodshed to get kindling, he was amazed to find the place swarming with rabbits. The rabbit law was off, and each one of the animals had a market value of 15 cents. He quickly closed the woodshed door, and picking up a stick of wood, started in to slaughter the rabbits which had huddled together in a corner of the room. He raised the club and was about to crack a rabbit on the head, when, to his astonishment, the cat that had disappeared weeks before sprang at him from the shadow and made a show of fight.

Whiting looked the animals over and discovered among them the old rabbit that had run away with the cat. The cat did her best to make up her quarrel with the dog, but he wouldn't have it. He spurred all advances and kept as far as possible from her. Two days after the return of the cat, Whiting killed all the rabbits and sold them. There were seventeen of them, including the original pet. With the old rabbit out of the way there was nothing to prevent the cat and dog from renewing their friendship. This they did, and they are now as warm friends as ever.

MAGAZINES.

CATHOLIC WORLD CHRISTMAS NUMBER.

A good Catholic Christmas number is of all seasonable things the most desirable; and the palm is easily borne off by The Catholic World. The contents of the number include a poem by the Rev. John B. Tabb. "The Angel's Christmas Quest;" a notable article on Armenia by a priest who is well acquainted with the country—Rev. Henry Hyvernat, D. D., of the Catholic University at Washington; an article on the recently celebrated Maynooth centenary by Rev. Dr. McCready, and an illustrated Christmas story by Helen M. McSweeney—"Paquita's Christmas Tree." The story of Paquita touches a deep chord in one's heart. She is a little Italian child rescued from the vicious surroundings of Mulberry Bend, New York, by the Children's Aid Society. But the luxury of

the children's home she is adopted into, and the kindness of the childless people who lavish affection upon her, are no recompense to Paquita for the loss of the love of her Italian mother. The tale is not without its moral for enthusiastic child savers. However, as Paquita and her mother are not separated, this story ends happily. The publishers of The Catholic World are to be congratulated upon the success of this number in every way.

THE AVE MARIA.

It is thus the new Philadelphia paper—The Catholic Standard and Times—speaks of the Ave Maria.—The Ave Maria for 1896 offers a number of special features that are most attractive. The Marian articles promised bear well-known signatures, and there is to be a new serial by Christian Reid, of which the very title is refreshing, "The Man of the Family." The lamented Mother Theodosia Drane and our own John Gilmory Spea will both be represented, and the delightful "Tim's Tales" and "Chronicles of the Little Sisters" will also continue to appear. Charles Warren Stoddard, Thomas May Dalton, Percy Fitzgerald and Rev. Dr. Parsons are announced, each in their own particular line, and the "Short Stories" are in the excellent hands of Maurice Francis Egan, Katharine Tynan Hinkson, Flora Haines Louhead, Harold Dion, Dawn Graye, R. O. K., Anna T. Sadlier, the author of Tyborne, and other favorites of the many loving readers of the Ave Maria. There is no better periodical than the familiar "blue covered magazine," for it lacks neither strength nor beauty, and is "wise in its generation." The Young Folks' Department is in good hands, many of the promised writers having left their impress on its pages to the delight of its readers. Mary Catharine Crowley, Sylvia Hunting, L.W. Reilly, Marion J. Brunow, Flora L. Stanfield, Uncle Austin, Father Cheerheart—all the old names and one new one, Mrs. Elizabeth Gilbert Martin, will appear in the pages of the coming year. The Ave Maria is the cheapest Catholic publication in the language, and it is a weekly.

CANADA FOR THE CANADIAN.

Canada is the home of the Canadian. No other name in the catalogue of nations is half so dear to him. If he be French, he may sympathize with France; if English, he may sympathize with England; but the treasure of his heart is with Canada. He may wander in foreign lands, and from force of circumstances, be long absent from home; he may even stand upon the soil endeared to him as the country of his ancestors, but all the while his thoughts revert to the land of his nativity—his heart is in Canada. He may seek wealth and a name, may form ties of the most lasting, in the well-favored neighboring Republic, but his home is in Canada. In this one absolute and unchangeable fact the French-Canadian, who can speak no English, and the English-Canadian who can speak no French, though they have never met to clasp hands in friendship till, perchance, they met on foreign soil, are united—they are brothers, though their homes be separated by thousands of miles in their native land. The same cannot be said of any other nation. There are but the two native races, distinct in language, customs and habits, who have nothing in common but their birthright and their common love of country; whom the sword united, and whom nothing but a dissolution of their national existence can ever separate again. The monuments erected to their heroes, who either fell in battle or devoted their life to the general good of their country, attest that a Wolfe is loved by the French and a Montcalm revered by the English without reservation on account of race prejudices:

As foemen they fought, but together Their ashes are mingled, their fame cannot die.

When ages after ages shall have passed into oblivion, the uninterrupted union of these two great peoples under one flag, their constant intercourse, mutual esteem and undying friendship, will be some of the most blessed results of Christ's universal charity, and almost the only evidences of time's mellowing influence upon the human race as to its political character. And yet there are those who would seek to draw this beautiful union of peaceful and contented Canadians into the American charybdis of contending nationalities; there are those who would sacrifice their attachment to laws that have been sanctified to them by the approving voice of ages, to adopt a new and experimental code that everywhere and at all times is subject to the dictates of avarice and the caprice of wealthy combines; there are those who, not content with moderate prosperity under the present condition of affairs, and to add more rapidly to their worldly possessions, would submit to grievous discomfort, renounce all national ties, and forego many inestimable privileges both of home and religion; as if the accumulation of wealth was the only or chief object of their existence.

"Wealth" and "Liberty" have been the predominant cries throughout the world for the last century—wealth that is an indefinite because an unsatisfying quantity; and liberty, not that which makes us free, but which subserves to pride, defeats the ends of justice, creates anarchy and rebellion, and destroys happiness, prosperity and contentment. Nearly every human institution has become debauched thereby; and even many of our religious periodicals, that possess such an astounding influence upon the masses, pay tribute thereto. How will it all end? In internecine contentions, the perversion of youth, the overthrow of society, the destruction of commerce, disaster to the nations, and the final visitation of God's wrath and judgment upon a haughty and grasping people, unless some mighty influence, some great controlling power, that has not yet exerted itself, will arise to put a check to this otherwise inevitable ruin.

But what part will Canada take in the general struggle? Will the glory of her present national existence have become dimmed or entirely lost amid the discord of other contending powers? or will she still be able to point with commendable pride to her united and contented French and English-speaking population, whose gradual but healthful increase

will be both vigorous and loyal? A great pity indeed will it be if our people become possessed of false notions with regard to the inevitable destiny of their country. (Nor should they employ haste in the fulfilment of that destiny by unwise legislation or improperly considered motives. Canada is at present in a position to become, in time, one of the most prosperous countries, as she is now the most peaceful of any in the civilized world; but one misguided step in the direction of an encumbering alliance, may effect an irretrievable loss. The events of nations, as of individuals, develop, if not unduly tampered with, in their natural order; and the perfect work of nature is much to be preferred in either case. One healthful consideration

as to our present position is contained in the fact that England and the United States are both discussing the problem with mere evasive persistency than we ourselves; and since it is unlikely that they will agree, it is not necessary that we should strictly conform to the opinion of either. Even France might have a reasonable word of advice to offer in the event of complications, as nearly one-half of us can claim to be duly descended from inhabitants of that noble land. We can, therefore, well afford to wait and proper under the protection of England, with Uncle Sam as a peaceable neighbor and France as a potent well-wisher.

JOHN E. M. SHRA,
St. Laurent College.

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TO-MORROW'S FEAST.

INTERESTING FACTS CONCERNING CHRISTMAS.

THE REV. A. A. LAMBING, LL.D., WRITES MOST INSTRUCTIVELY IN THE "Ave MARIA" ON THE GREAT FEAST.

Few, if any, of the feasts of the Christian year are celebrated on the precise day on which the event they commemorate took place. Those that are not celebrated on certain days of the month, but rather on certain days of the week, are divided into two groups. All those of Septuagesima Sunday to Trinity Sunday have Easter as their common centre; and Easter varies with each succeeding year, within a given cycle. The other group, which extends from the first Sunday of Advent to the Octave of Epiphany, has Christmas for its centre. It shall be the purpose of the present article to treat of the feast of Christmas, and to answer, if possible, a few of the questions that suggest themselves in connection with it.

I. The name of this beautiful feast is composed of the words *Christ* and *Mass*, and means the Mass of Christ—the Mass on Christmas day. We have a number of examples of the union of two words in this manner. In the time of the guilds and trades-unions it was customary for each separate organization, or group of organizations, to have its own patron saint. The members were required to hear Mass on the feast of the patron; and in time the custom was adopted of calling the Mass by the name of the saint. We read, for example, of Michaelmas, Martinmas, St. Johnsmas, etc. The names Christmas and Candlemas, being universal in the Church, have not gone out of use in the lapse of time.

II. A more important inquiry is, In what year was Christ born? Authorities are not at one on this point; on the contrary, the greatest diversity of opinion exists. Two systems of chronology are here to be taken into account: that of the Bible, and that of the foundation of the city of Rome—or year of the city, as was the common expression through out the vast Roman Empire. The Biblical system of computation is twofold—namely, the Hebrew original and the Septuagint, or Greek translation begun at Alexandria in Egypt some two hundred and eighty years before Christ. Great diversity of opinion exists with regard to the true Hebrew chronology. Our common English translation of the Bible fixes the birth of Christ in the year 4000, which is four years earlier than the usual reckoning of the Christian era, or A.D. This computation is adopted by Pope Benedict XIV. in his learned treatise on the feasts. Kitto, in his valuable work, says there are about one hundred and forty different computations; as witness the following:—Usher gives 4004 years; Playfair, 4007; Hale, 5411; and Jackson, 5426. These take into account both the Hebrew and the Septuagint chronology. It may safely be said that the Hebrew text of the Bible and the Septuagint made from it furnish no perfect system of chronology.

It was not the intention of the Holy Spirit in inspiring the writers of the several books of the Old Testament to give a perfect system of chronology, but only to record such portions of the history of the dealings of God with man as would be necessary for the purposes which He had in view,—a subject which it does not enter into our purpose to treat of. The Bible itself furnishes the clearest evidence of this; for in examining the lists of patriarchs and kings, the durations of whose lives or reigns are stated, we find the omission of names at various places. It is equally evident from the fact that learned men who have made a careful study of the subject in almost every age have differed to the extent of more than four hundred years. The Roman Martyrology gives the date of the birth of Christ as 5199. The Jewish historian Josephus has also a system of chronology differing from all those referred to above. We are forced to the conclusion that it is impossible to know with certainty what year of creation, or if you prefer it, what year of the existence of man upon earth, his Heaven-sent Redeemer appeared in the little town of Bethlehem.

We have next to consider the year of the birth of Christ according to the Roman computation. At the time of the birth of our Divine Redeemer the Romans held sway over the greater part of the known world, including the Jewish country, and estimated time from the building of their city. Father Didon has made a careful study of the authorities on this subject, and he sums them up in Appendix A. of his learned work, "Jesus Christ: Our Saviour's Person, Mission and Spirit." I shall be content with quoting from him, and referring the reader for a fuller treatment of the subject to his pages. He says: "A Sythian monk, Dionysius the Little, abbot of a monastery at Rome, who died in the year 558, placed the birth of Jesus in the year 754 from the foundation of Rome, and the year 4714 of the Julian period. This date was universally accepted by Christians up to the seventeenth century, and has determined that which has been called the 'Vulgar era.' In relation to the exact year of the birth of Jesus, scholars hesitate between the year 747 and 751 from the foundation of Rome, and 4713 and 4717 from the Julian period. For His entrance into public life he hesitates between the year 30 and 31." Four texts of Scripture enter into the fixing of the date of His birth: St. Matthew, ii, 1; St. Luke, ii, 1; St. Matthew, ii, 2, 16; and St. Luke, iii, 23. Father Didon concludes: "An attentive study of these various data obliges us to fix the birth of Jesus after the year 748 and before the year 751; for the census in Judea could not at the earliest have taken place before the year 747, and Herod died in the course of the year 750-751." Investigation, it appears, can arrive at nothing more exact than this, and with it we must rest content. Let us now consider an inquiry with regard to the precise day upon which this important event took place.

III. It is needless to say that for centuries the Church, and from it, the world at large, has celebrated December 25 as

the date of the coming of the Redeemer of mankind. Authorities are not agreed as to whether or not our Saviour was actually born on December 25, as tradition is not uniform. Clement of Alexandria mentions the opinion of some who place it on April 20, and others who thought it took place on the 20th of May, while St. Epiphanius and Cassian state that in Egypt Christ was believed to have been born on January 6. Others again would have it in October. An objection was raised against December 25; because, it was maintained, that was the wet season in Judea, and shepherds could not have kept their flock in the open air. In the face of a constant tradition to the contrary, however, this objection is not worthy of notice.

The establishing of the feast of the birth of Christ on the day on which it is now celebrated is attributed by the decretal letters to Pope Telephorus, who died in the year 138. But the first certain traces of it are found in the time of the Emperor Commodus, who ruled from 180 to 192. In the fourth century, on the application of St. Cyril of Jerusalem, Pope Julius I., who ruled the Church from 337 to 352, issued an order for an investigation to be made concerning the day of Christ's Nativity. The result of the inquiry of the theologians of the East and West was an agreement on the 25th of December. The chief grounds for the decision were the tables of the calendars in the archives of Rome. While it is not certain that this is the exact date, it has been observed since that time. This is in harmony with the remark of St. Chrysostom in one of his sermons in 386 where he says: "It is not ten years since this day was clearly known to us, but it has been familiar from the beginning to those who dwell in the West....The Romans, who have celebrated it for a long time, and from ancient tradition, have transmitted the knowledge of it to us."

IV. The following remarks on the present condition of the spot where Christ was born, taken from Father Vetroville's "Travels in Europe and the Holy Land," will doubtless be interesting to the reader at this time. Speaking of the church erected in Bethlehem over the spot where our Divine Saviour was born—a description of which would occupy too much space,—he says: "The main altar is dedicated to the Wise Men of the East. On the pavement at the foot of the altar there is a marble star which corresponds with the point of the heavens where the miraculous star that led the Wise Men became stationary. The spot where our Saviour was born is exactly underneath this marble star, in the subterranean Church of the Manger. The subterranean church....is entered by two spiral staircases of fifteen steps each; one belonging to the Latins, the other to the Armenians and Greeks. This most sacred sanctuary is irregular, because it occupies the irregular site of the stable. It is hewn out of the rock, and is a little over thirty-seven feet in length, eleven broad, and nine high. The floor, the place where our Saviour was born, and the site of the Manger, are paved with beautiful marble, the work of St. Helena; but the walls and ceiling are covered with fine tapestry, now falling into rags; and nobody dares to repair or replace them, for fear of hejalousy of the schismatics. No light penetrates from the outside; but the crypt is illuminated by the thirty-two lamps, sent by different princes, which burn day and night. The original entrance is walled up; at the farther extremity, on the east side, is the spot where the Blessed Virgin brought forth the Redeemer of the world. The spot is marked by a circle of marble, covered with jasper; and a circular plate of silver, surrounded by rays of the same material, around which are written the following words: 'HIC DE VIRGINE MARIA JESUS CHRISTUS NATUS EST.' 'Here Jesus Christ was born of the Virgin Mary.'...A fine rich marble altar is erected over the spot, which belongs to the Greeks. About seven paces to the south is the Manger. It is a low recess excavated out of the rock, two steps lower than the crypt. The spot where the Infant Jesus was laid upon straw is marked by a block of marble hollowed in the form of a manger, and raised one foot above the floor. It belongs to the Latins, but the altar is located two paces opposite to the Manger, on the site where the Blessed Virgin sat when presenting the Child to be adored by the Wise Men."

V. It was formerly the custom in certain places to celebrate more than one Mass on some of the greater feasts of the Church. The custom of celebrating three Masses on Christmas Day survived, and came gradually into general use; it has a mystic signification, and denotes the threefold birth of Christ—His being begotten of the Father before all ages, His birth in time of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and His birth by grace in the hearts of the faithful. In Rome it was the custom of the Popes to celebrate the first Mass in the Church of St. Mary Major, or the Liberian Basilica; the second in the Church of St. Anastasia, whose feast falls on the same day; and the third in the church of the Vatican.

This beautiful custom could not have come into existence until about the end of the fourth century, because Pope St. Liberius, after whom the Basilica is sometimes named, died in the year 366. Again, the first Mass was celebrated at midnight, because it is certain from the words of St. Luke (ii, 8) that Christ was born in the night; and it has always been the pious belief of Christians that He was born at midnight. The fact that the second Mass was celebrated in the Church of St. Anastasia removes an objection that might occur to some persons—that the feast was instituted before the early part of the fourth century; for it is well known that no commemoration of a saint is introduced into the Mass of any of the great feasts. Anastasia is said to have belonged to one of the most illustrious families of Rome, and was martyred in the year 304. Her church

was doubtless a place of special devotion for the faithful; hence it was selected for the second Mass, and her commemoration was introduced to honor her memory. Besides, the second Mass is the least solemn of the three. Among the greater feasts of the Church Christmas occupies the third place; Easter being first, and Pentecost second.

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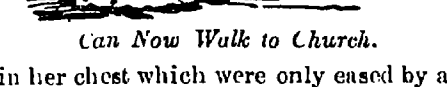
was doubtless a place of special devotion for the faithful; hence it was selected for the second Mass, and her commemoration was introduced to honor her memory. Besides, the second Mass is the least solemn of the three. Among the greater feasts of the Church Christmas occupies the third place; Easter being first, and Pentecost second.

I shall not pause to speak of the many social and other customs that have from time immemorial circled around this feast. The spirit of the season, however, is admirably embodied in the following lines, which may appropriately conclude our study of the Christmas feast: "On Christmas Eve the bells were rung. On Christmas Eve the Mass was sung. That single night, in all the year. Saw the stolen priest the chalice rear. Then opened wide the baron's hall To vassal, tenant, serf and all. Power laid his rod of rule aside. And Ceremony doffed his pride. The heir with roses in his shoes That night might village partner choose. All hailot, with uncontrolled delight And general voice, the happy night That to the cottage as the crown Brought tidings of Salvation down. England was Merry England when Old Christmas brought his sports again. 'Twas Christmas branched the mightiest tale. 'Twas Christmas told the merriest tale. A Christmas gambol oft would cheer A poor man's heart through half the year."

TOO WEAK TO WALK.

FRIENDS HAD GIVEN UP HOPE OF RECOVERY. THE TROUBLE BEGAN WITH A COUGH WHICH SETTLED ON THE LUNGS—SUBJECT TO FAINTING SPELLS, AND AT LAST FORCED TO TAKE TO BED—RESPIRED BY DR. WILLIAMS' PINK PILLS WHEN ALL OTHER MEDICINES HAD FAILED.

From L'Impartial, Tignish, P.E.I. Mr. Dominick P. Chiasson, who lives on the Harper Road, about two miles from the town of Tignish, P.E.I., personally took the trouble to bring before the notice of the editor of L'Impartial, the particulars of the cure of his daughter-in-law, Mrs. A. D. Chiasson, through the use of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. The case is certainly remarkable, and we cannot do better than give it in Mr. Chiasson's own words: "My son's wife," said he, "has been sick for some seven years past, but previous to that time was a strong healthy person. Just about seven years ago she took a severe cold, which attacked her lungs, and from that time up to the beginning of the past summer her health has been feeble, and at times we despaired of saving her life. It was not her disposition to give up easily, and on some occasions while engaged in household work she would be seized with a fainting spell, which would leave her so weak that she would be confined to her bed for several days in a semi-unconscious state. More than once we thought she was dying. There was a continual feeling of numbness in her limbs, and almost constant severe pains



Can Now Walk to Church.

in her chest which were only eased by a stooping position. Added to this she was troubled with a hacking cough, sometimes so severe at night that she did not obtain more than a few hours sleep. About the end of 1894 we had given up all hopes of her recovery, and neighbors were of the same opinion. She was reduced to almost a skeleton, and could scarcely take any nourishment. She had grown so weak that she could not walk across the bedroom floor without help. We had often heard and read of the great cures effected by Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, and at this stage, when all else had failed, I urged that they be given a trial, and procured a half dozen boxes. After using them for about three weeks she could walk across her bedroom floor without aid, and from that time on she continued improving in health, taking the Pink Pills for about four months, with the result that she is now a healthy woman, and it is now no trouble for her to walk to church, a distance of two miles, and the grateful praises of herself and friends will always be given Dr. Williams' Pink Pills.

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OUR ADVERTISERS.

We have time and again called the attention of our readers to the various friends of the paper who encourage us by making use of our columns for the announcement of their business. Now that Christmas is here, and that all wish to enjoy a merry holiday season, we would invite both young and old to study well our advertisements. There is not a branch that is wanting: everything calculated to help in making the children happy and the old folks comfortable can be found in the different establishments mentioned in this issue.

For Brass and Plated Goods, Cutlery and all such utensils that may be used to make acceptable and useful presents, go to J. H. Barr on St. Catherine street.— If you can't go, ring up telephone number 4241. Should anything go wrong with the pipes or furnaces appliances, thus rendering the hours of Christmas enjoyment less pleasant and more than desirably troublesome, call up number 1834, and Carroll Brothers, the registered practical sanitarians, will be at once on hand to set matters right. For Jewellery and beautiful assortments of silver and gold ware, as well as every imaginable kind of cheap but solid and rich presents in the line of clocks, watches, chains, rings, etc., you have a double chance—either at Hensley's on St. James street or at Hensley's on Notre Dame street. J. P. Moncel, of 210 St. James street, does most exquisite work in stamping, in society badges and hat tips. On the Christmas table you should have pure vinegars, the best of pickles, jellies, jams and preserves; Michel Lefebvre & Co., at 80 to 94 Papineau Road, can supply you to the best of satisfaction.

You must not omit to put in a supply of kindling and of hard wood, nicely cut in stove lengths: there is always a heap of cooking to be done at this season. J. C. Macdunnid, of Richmond Square, will answer to telephone 8353, and send you all you need in short order. Have you any old bonnets that you want made new; or do you want a new one for the coming year? If so, the Central Millinery Parlor, 178 Bleury street, awaits a call. Friends in the West end, who have not yet got in a supply of Christmas groceries, should remember Davis' splendid establishment on St. Catherine street. The telephone is 4458. At 319 St. Antoine street T. Coggins is on hand to furnish your table and cellar with all the choice delicacies of the season; his telephone is 8254.

Despite the soft spell and the heavy rain we need not suppose that the snow has gone. There will be lots of good sleighing by New Year, and you should not close any bargain for a family business, trotting or other sleigh before going to R. J. Latimer's show-rooms, at 592 St. Paul street. At Wall, Stewart & Co's establishment on Bleury street, will be found the finest assortment of oils and paints in the city.

It would be superfluous to state that holiday presents of books, pictures, cards, illustrated volumes and stationery are always desirable. D. & J. Sadler & Co., 1603 Notre Dame street, can supply you with almost anything you require at rock bottom prices. For furs you have the advantage of O. A. Willie's grand emporium, 1790 Notre Dame street and for hats and caps you need only step in and ask Lorge & Co., 31 St. Lawrence street, to show you their stock. If your furnace pipes are out of order don't allow them to freeze, telephone to Walter Ryan, 6720; and if any of your pictures require framing Geo. R. Heasley, on St. Catherine street will put them in shape at once.

When the troublesome season of house-cleaning comes you may need repapering or tinting, whitewashing or painting; C. O'Brien, of 647 Dorchester street, will help you in your work. It is almost unnecessary to mention the name of Charles Alexander. As the oldest and most reliable of confectioners his reputation is world-wide. He has beautiful Christmas cakes—go and see them. Gallery Brothers, corner of Young and William streets—telephone 2895—have now a magnificent stock and their bread is spoken of as unsurpassed in the city. But bread without meat would not do for this season. The latter, of the best and freshest, can be had by ringing up Daniel Furlong, telephone 6474. The best place to have furniture repaired is at S. O'Shaughnessy's on St. Catherine street. When you are in doubt regarding your engraving, lithographing and printing you have only to remember Bishop's, 169 St. James street.

It would take up a considerable space were we to attempt an account of all

that S. Carley has in his magnificent emporium. Please read his column and learn for yourself the list; or, better still, go to his establishment on Notre Dame street and see the unequalled stock.

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There is a department that can never be neglected; it is that of family linen, underwear, cuffs, collars and ties: Jas. A. Ogilvy & Sons tell you in our columns what they can do in that line—they can tell you better from telephone number 8225.

Who has not heard of the Colonial House? Morgan's superb emporium is where you can secure anything from "a needle to an anchor;" from the kitchen utensils down stairs to the toy department above, the most complete assortment of various goods, and at the lowest figures, may be had. See page five for their wonderful list. For family groceries, wines, liquors, teas, coffees and spices, the Italian Warehouse is unsurpassed. Read the list that Messrs. Frazer, Viger & Co. publish this week. It will suffice to show that they have reason to be proud of the results of forty years in the grocery business. In this same branch we find Jas. O'Shaughnessy, of 86 Victoria Square, announcing a wonderful assortment of fruits, canned goods, and all the best and freshest groceries. His stock is so complete that he can well defy competition and invite the public to pay one visit to his store. Anyone who goes once will be sure to return.

Are your teeth bothering you? One needs good teeth at this season, especially to enjoy the nice things of the table. You have your choice then: on Bleury street is T. D'Arcy Tansey, L.D.S., and on Beaver Hall Hill is J. T. McPherson, dentist. No matter which way you come down town you need not suffer any longer from your teeth, you have only to call in on either of these gentlemen.

Right opposite the Jesuit Church is Matt Willcock's fashionable tailoring establishment.

At No. 6 St. Lawrence street, wire mats, curtain stretchers, door springs, skates in all varieties, may be had from L. J. A. Survever.

F. P. Moran & Co., on St. Catherine street, have in a grand stock of Christmas groceries.

Although it is holiday time we must not forget that J. D. Davis' business college, 42 Victoria Square, is still flourishing. Read the notice.

Have you anything to auction off? If so, remember that M. Hicks & Co., of Notre Dame street, will give you the greatest satisfaction in the disposal of your goods.

If you need legal advice, Hon. M. Doherty is always in his office in the District Savings Bank building.

St. Leon Mineral Water is one of the best preservers of the constitution; it may be had in all quantities at 54 Victoria Square.

Brodie & Harvie's Self-Raising Flour still continues as the favorite with all housekeepers.

Sterling silver and fine electro-plated ware cannot be more cheaply bought than at Simpson, Hall, Miller & Co's establishment, 1794 Notre Dame street.

At 764 Craig street, J. K. Macdonald, the famous bellhanger and practical machinist, is ready to receive all orders.

For "Castor Fluid," the most refreshing preparation for the hair, go to Henry R. Gray's old and reliable establishment, 122 St. Lawrence street.

Geo. W. Reid, 783 Craig street, is ready to do all kinds of slate, metal or gravel roofing, as well as asphalt flooring.

The Montreal Roofing Company, telephone 130, is also prepared to accommodate the public in the same line.

The people of the West end, and near 3240 Notre Dame street, should step in and see J. Foley's splendid Christmas stock of carpets, mantles and general dry goods.

What is the festive season without the delights of music? D. W. Karn & Co., 2344 St. Catherine street, have special inducements of 10 per cent on all pianos sold until January 1st.

Give three cheers for the Red, White and Blue," and go to St. Lawrence street and talk overcoats to J. G. Kennedy & Co.

C. W. Lindsay's warehouses, on St. Catherine street, hold one of the most complete assortments of new and second-hand pianos in this city; the prices are greatly reduced for immediate purchasers.

Fowl, turkeys, geese, ham, bacon—all of which you need—can be had by ringing A. Dionne & Co., telephone 4087. They have just got in a consignment of one thousand turkeys and geese. No person need be without a good Christmas or New Year turkey or goose.

Thomas Liggett's great carpet emporium, 1884 Notre Dame street, has now one of the best assortments ever imported by that splendid establishment.

Ronayne's Christmas gifts for men, ladies, boys, girls and children, are of low prices and highest quality: moccasins, boots and shoes—all to be had at Chaboulez Square.

We have only to mention John Murphy & Co's new and magnificent establishment on St. Catherine street, to awaken visions of Santa Claus. With the immense variety of goods they now have in stock, it is easy to select a Christmas present to please anyone.

This is a season of travel—and of visits. The two great highways of communication from place to place are the Grand Trunk and Canadian Pacific Railways. Before starting out to spend the holidays elsewhere, turn up the time tables in THE TRUE WITNESS and study the holiday reductions offered by both companies.

One word more. While wishing our advertisers all the compliments of the season, we also wish them prosperity and business success for the year about to commence.

The telegram which has appeared in the English daily press with regard to Prince Boris, son of Prince Ferdinand of Bulgaria, is manifestly founded on an

NOT WHAT WE SAY, but what HOOD'S Sarsaparilla Does, that tells the story of its merit and success. Remember, HOOD'S Cures!

entire misconception. It has been stated that the Holy Father had granted permission to the Prince to change the child's religion and to have him rebaptized. Leo XIII. has not given, could not give any such permission. He could not consent to an act of religious apostasy and the renunciation by the Prince of the faith of his fathers—for that it would amount.

EXTINCTION, OR HOME RULE?

clever young peer, whose horse had won the Derby and who had obtained a share in the wealth of the Rothschilds by marriage, was far below the standard of Mr. Gladstone. His position as a peer was objectionable to many of the more radical Liberals, including Labouchere.

With the Irish National representatives for nearly twenty years the attainment of self-government for Ireland has been without change the paramount object of their Parliamentary work. Captain O'Shea is the only instance of a man elected on a Home Rule platform who changed his party allegiance for personal grounds. There have been internal dissensions, but there have been no desertions among them. The power of a minority varied to one object in a larger body with varied interests is much greater than its mere numbers indicate. In the field of imperial politics there are at times questions which divide the most powerful faction, and these are the legitimate opportunities of the minority which seeks an honest end with singleness of purpose. It is quite within the range of possibilities that the present regime may find it expedient to look for Irish help long before its six years' lease of power ends. There is another contingency not much mentioned, but which is anything but improbable. The death or abdication of the Sovereign would, according to usage, entail a new election, and Queen Victoria's life is now far beyond three score and ten. It is well for the Irish people to brace themselves for a six years' struggle, but it by no means follows that they will have six years to wait for a reversal of the present condition of British politics.

DANGERS TO BE FEARED.

The most important point, after all, in counting the chances for Home Rule within the next few years is the course of action of the Irish people themselves and their representatives in Parliament. Impatience and apathy are the chief dangers to be feared. The former may relax the bonds of discipline, which are essential to success in politics as in war. The latter may allow advantages already won to slip away, or may keep competent men from the direction of the national politics. That dissensions have occurred in the National ranks during the last four years is unfortunately true. The division into Parnellites and Nationalists caused the loss of three seats, and prevented the gain of at least two more in 1893, and has kept the ranks of the Home Rule representatives five or six lower than they might be in the present Parliament. The divisions between the friends of Mr. Healy and those of Mr. Dillon have been also disastrous, though they are a good deal exaggerated in the American and English press. Friction between members of the same party occurs everywhere, and there has been no more in the ranks of the Irish Nationalists than in those of either English party. Still it is unfortunate that it should occur at all at such a crisis of the nation's fate. The fault does not rest wholly with either side, and the divisions cannot be removed by mutual recriminations, however strongly either side may believe its own cause right. Mutual forbearance is the only remedy, and a vigorous struggle in Parliament is, humanly speaking, the best means to that end.

In justice to the Irish members who have at the present moment charge of their country's interests, it should be remembered that their position is a much harder one than that of either the average English "Member" or American Congressman. The latter are expected to devote their time to legislative work in the same way as the holder of any other public office, and they are paid for that time likewise. A member of the British Parliament attends it practically at his own discretion and receives no compensation directly for whatever attendance he gives. The prizes to be won by party service in Parliament are indeed both numerous and valuable, but they depend on the Ministry, not the public.

It is a fixed rule of the Home Rule party that none of its members shall accept office, even from a Home Rule Ministry, until Ireland obtains its own government. This rule has been faithfully maintained during the last fifteen years. Mr. Gladstone was ready to bestow the well-paid offices of the Irish Government on members of the Nationalist party, but their own rule forbade them accepting such. The landlord class, which furnishes so large a contingent of men of leisure for Parliamentary service in England and Scotland, is generally hostile directly to Irish nationality. There are not more than three or four landlords, including Colonel Nolan and Sir Thomas Esmonde, in the Home Rule ranks. The cost of attendance in Parliament, then, is a serious one for the Irish representatives.

ONE GREAT OBSTACLE.

The condition of affairs since the passage of the Home Rule bill through the Commons has made the position of the Nationalists a most trying one. Gladstone's efforts had, after a struggle of seven years, been rewarded by a remarkable victory, but still an incomplete one. The British friends of Home Rule had won control of the administration and the Commons, the two most important parts of the Imperial Government, but they were blocked in further progress by the opposition of the Lords.

The history of England shows that in every case of serious conflict the Lords have surely to give way to the elected representatives of the people, but it requires a certain amount of time to accomplish that result. A Ministry supported by the Commons and public opinion could at any time swamp the House of Lords by the creation of an overwhelming number of Peers, but to take such a step the Ministry must be sure of the popular support, as a new

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Goods delivered free of charge. - Telephone orders promptly attended to.
319 ST. ANTOINE Street, cor. ST. MARTIN Street.
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| CANADIAN PORT WINES | Per bottle.....\$0 25 | CORBAN PORT WINES, Imported | Per bottle.....\$0 50 |
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CROSSE & BLACKWELL'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, a Butcher shop has been opened, in connection with the Grocery, at 274 St. Martin street: special prices for the holiday trade. Turkeys, &c. All kinds of Game and Poultry on hand. Everything first-class.

T. COGGINS,
Telephone 8284. 319 ST. ANTOINE STREET.

election would be unavoidable. Mr. Gladstone did not feel that he could rely on such a support in the present temper of the English voters, and hence it was necessary for his party to wait a favorable occasion for taking the final step to making Home Rule a reality.

We are by no means disposed to undervalue the importance of complete harmony in the Irish party. We are convinced that the dissensions caused by Mr. Parnell's action have been highly injurious to the cause of Home Rule in the minds of the English people and that their effacement would be the most effective measure that could now be taken for making it successful. But we do not believe that they have been of a nature to make us lose faith in the ultimate success of Home Rule. It may be that the accession of a hostile party to power will prove the harbinger of union to the Irish Nationalists of all shades of opinion. To attain that end requires above all mutual forbearance and resolute abstention from bitterness of language towards one another. To a united Irish party Parliament, even with a hostile majority, offers a field of combat in which the national enthusiasm may be developed to a higher point than ever. In it the lines of faction should and must be effaced, and we have every hope that the present leaders of the Irish people will attain that much-desired end ere long.

By the breaking of the will of the late Joseph Creighton the Catholic orphans of the diocese of Omaha have been deprived of a quarter million dollars.

STOP THAT COUGH!

25 cents

INVESTED IN A BOTTLE OF
Anderson's Wild Cherry Compound
IS MONEY WELL SPENT.

Prepared at the WESTMOUNT MEDICAL HALL, corner Atwater Avenue and St. Antoine streets, Telephone 486. 7-8 NIGHT BELL, 653.

EVERY FAMILY SHOULD KNOW THAT



Is a very remarkable remedy, both for INTERNAL and EXTERNAL use, and wonderful in its quick action to relieve distress.

PAIN-KILLER

Is a new cure for Headache, Neuralgia, Rheumatism, Gout, Toothache, Stomachic, Dysentery, Cramp, Cholera, and all kinds of Colic.

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Is THE BEST remedy known for Measles, Sore Throat, Pain in the Back or Side, Influenza, and Neuralgia.

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IS UNQUESTIONABLY THE MOST EFFECTIVE REMEDY IN ALL cases of Sprains, Cuts, Bruises, Severe Burns, etc.

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Is the best tried and most reliable remedy for Rheumatism, Neuralgia, Toothache, Stomachic, Dysentery, Cramp, Cholera, and all kinds of Colic.

RONAYNE'S CHRISTMAS GIFTS.

FOR MEN.

A Pair of Genuine Buckskin Overshoes in Black or Tan, only \$2.00, or a Pair Embroidered Slippers from \$1.00 up.

FOR LADIES.

A Pair Fine Cloth Overshoes, Buttoned or Buckled, very high cut, from 85 cents pp.

FOR BOYS OR GIRLS.

A Nice Pair Moccasins or Skating Boots, very cheap.

FOR CHILDREN.

A Pair Pretty Buttoned Boots in Black or Colored Leather, from 50c up.

Though the Prices are Low the Quality is First Class.

RONAYNE BROS.
CHABOLLEZ SQUARE.

IRISH NEWS ITEMS.

William A. Simpson, of Armagh, one of the best known solicitors in the North of Ireland, died on November 15.

United Ireland understands that the Government is to appoint a prominent Catholic Unionist to the presidency of the Queen's College, Galway.

Through the efforts of Capt. Donelan, M.P., a training ship has been secured for Queenstown. She is the Black Prince, a vessel of 9,210 tons displacement.

Rev. John James was ordained priest in Tullow Church on November 10, by Bishop Lynch. Father James is the eldest son of Daniel James, late of Gayville, Carlow. He has been appointed curate in Mountmellick in succession to the late Rev. Joseph O'Neill.

An effort is being made to have a railway line constructed between Listowel and Thurbot. The proposed road would bring Gengarriffe and Killarney within easy access of Conemara and the West generally, and so be a most important factor in developing the tourist traffic, while its benefits to the tract of North Kerry and West Limerick still undeveloped would be considerable.

The flax scutching and corn-grinding mills of Thomas Harrison, J.P., of Coolah, between Dromore and Lurgan, have been destroyed by fire, as was a large quantity of flax and grain. The stores at either end were occupied with grocery, drapery and hardware goods. All were reduced to ashes. The loss to Mr. Harrison is upwards of £1,500, not insured. Farmers also lose their flax and grain stored on the premises.

OBITUARY.

THE LATE MR. FINCH.
We regret to announce the death of Patrick M. Coyne Finch. Deceased was complaining of his heart about two weeks previous to his death. He went to the barn to feed his stock and remaining a long time out his wife found him dead across the beam of the barn. Age 55. He was a very pious and good man, never missing Mass when he was able to go. He was a subscriber to THE TRUE WITNESS for twenty years, and always paid in advance. There was a very large funeral. He died on 7th December, 1895. He was buried at Crysler village. Father McKinnon celebrated High Mass. He was a good Christian and a patriotic Irishman. There is general regret at his sudden death. He leave a wife and three children and a large number of friends and neighbors to mourn his loss. There is great sympathy for the family. Requiescat in pace.

HANDSOME FEATURES.

Sometimes unsightly blotches, pimples, a sallow, opaque skin, destroys the attractiveness of handsome features. In all such cases Scott's Emulsion will build up the system and impart freshness and beauty.

BIRTHS.

FINN—On the 14th inst., at No. 38 Greene avenue, Mrs. W. E. Finn, of a son.

O'BRIEN—In New York city, on the 12th inst., the wife of James O'Brien, jr., of a daughter.

DEATHS.

EGAN—In this city, on 21st Dec., 1895, Catherine Lynch, beloved wife of Michael Egan, aged 65 years, native of County Limerick, Ireland.

O'BRIEN—In this city, on the 17th inst., Michael, aged 26 months, eldest and beloved son of Moses O'Brien, curter, and late of the C. P. R., also President of St. Ann's Young Men's Society.

KEELY—On Tuesday, 17th inst., at Ottawa, Ontario, Harold William, son of W. H. Kelly.

MORGAN—At Quebec, on the 11th inst., in the 63rd year of her age, Catherine Ellen Scott, widow of the late George Morgan.

O'FLAHERTY—At her residence, 68 Peter street, Quebec, Que., on the 30th Nov., Elizabeth Colvin, widow of the late Martin O'Flaherty, aged 68 years.

HORAN—In this city, on 11th inst., Elizabeth, beloved wife of Peter Horan, aged 29 years. (Irish papers please copy.)

KAVANAGH—In this city, 19th Dec., after a short illness, Arthur P., aged 4 years and 2 months, dearly beloved son of Thomas Kavanagh. (Chicago papers please copy.)

THOMSON—At Hamilton, Ont., on the 17th inst., Mary, relict of the late James Thomson, a native of County Kilkenny, Ireland.

MOORE—On the 10th inst., at rear of 201 Ropery street, Mary Ellen Moore, aged 8 years, of diphtheria. Funeral private.

CARSLEY'S COLUMN.

MONTREAL'S GREATEST STORE

MEN'S GLOVES.

Special Sale of Men's Gloves and Ties all this week
At S. CARLEY'S.

Store Open Until 10 O'Clock.

The Grotto and all our Stores will be kept open until 10 o'clock every evening until Christmas.

Silk Handkerchief Sale

All this week we offer some thousand of Ladies' and Gentlemen's Silk and Cambric Handkerchiefs as specially good value. The best goods and cheapest Handkerchiefs and Mufflers on this continent. Special value in Initial Handkerchiefs.

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Fur Cape Sale.

All this week we offer our entire stock of Fur Capes at a special discount.

S. CARLEY.

A Pretty Album Given Away.

A pretty All Around the World Album containing Thirty-six Views of the principal sights of interest in the following countries will be given free of charge with every pair of Kid Gloves at 75c or over per pair, beginning Tuesday Morning, December 17th, until the Evening of Tuesday, December 24th. Or a large 25c Bottle of Perfume will be given instead of the Album if preferred.

THE ALBUM CONTAINS

- VIEWS IN ENGLAND.
- VIEWS IN FRANCE.
- VIEWS IN GERMANY.
- VIEWS IN AUSTRIA.
- VIEWS IN ITALY.
- VIEWS IN SWITZERLAND.
- VIEWS IN HOLLAND.
- VIEWS IN WIEN.
- VIEWS IN RUSSIA.
- VIEWS IN TURKEY.
- VIEWS IN THE HOLY LAND.
- VIEWS IN CHINA.
- VIEWS IN MEXICO.
- VIEWS IN AUSTRALIA and VIEWS IN OTHER PLACES.

In fact a trip around the World as far as sight seeing is concerned. Given free of charge with all Kid Gloves at 75c or over per pair. And with Boys' Suits or Overcoats.

THE DIMENSIONS.

The dimensions of the Album are 6 1/2 inches long by 3 1/2 inches broad.

Glove Prices.

- 1-button Kid Gloves, 35c, 60c, 75c, \$1.10, \$2 pair.
 - 4-Stud Kid Gloves, 90c, \$1.38, and \$1.70 pair.
 - 7-hook Lacing Kid Gloves, 75c, 90c, \$1.50 pair.
 - Lined Kid Gloves \$1.35, \$1.45, \$1.90, \$2.25, \$3.30.
- Our Kid Gloves will be found from ten to twenty per cent. cheaper than Montreal retail prices.
- Album and Gloves sent postpaid to any part of Canada. Please send your mail orders at once to

S. CARLEY.

Oriental.

The goods in our Oriental Room are imported direct from Oriental Countries. This accounts for their being different to Oriental goods in other places and the prices being lower than elsewhere.

S. CARLEY.

Boys' Suits.

- Boys' Jersey Sailor Suits.
- Boys' Navy Serge Sailor Suits, 60c to \$6.20.
- Boys' Black Serge Suits, \$3.75 to \$8.70.
- Boys' Eton Suits, \$3.50 to \$10.25.
- Boys' Black Velvet Suits, \$5.80 to \$8.80.
- Boys' Reefers Coats \$1.50 to \$3.75.
- Boys' Blanket Overcoats, \$5.25 to \$7.45.
- Boys' Winter Overcoats, \$1.00 to \$9.80.

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Men's Underwear.

- Men's Ribbed Vests and Drawers, 18c ea.
- Men's Scotch Knit Vests, 48c ea.
- Men's Scotch Knit Drawers, 48c pr.
- Men's Ribbed Wool Vests, 58c pr.
- Men's Ribbed Wool Drawers, 58c pr.
- Men's Scotch Wool Vests, 95c ea.
- Men's Scotch Wool Drawers, 95c pr.

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