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VOL. XLVI. NO. 31.

MONTREAL, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1897.

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

THE EVANGELIZATION OF FRENCH CATHOLICS.

The Methods of Protestant Organization to Shake the Tree of Romanism.

GOOD ADVICE FOR DEACONESSES.

The Position of a Catholic Who Forsakes His Religion Logically Defined.

From time to time the Protestant journals announce, with a flourish of trumpets, the conversion of such and such a Catholic to Protestantism, and the clergy, in their annual synods, congratulate themselves upon these additions to their religious system.

When a man of upright heart, aided by the grace of God, has a clear vision of the light of truth, understands the necessity of doing the Divine will and of embracing, for the salvation of his soul, the religion which he believes to be the only one, he is bound to obey his conscience, no matter what sacrifices he is called upon to make.

Without presuming to fathom the secrets of consciences, it is not true that the motives which induce Catholics to become Protestants are very often far from creditable?

Some will have had a difficulty with their pastor. Out of sheer spite and to gratify their hatred they leave the Church and go over to Protestantism.

Nothing in truth, can be more painful to the heart of a priest than to see a Catholic give up the true Church, to throw himself, perhaps with his wife and little ones, into error.

discipline declares to be unlawful. In these cases it is the rebellious heart which speaks, and in no wise the head which commands the change of religion.

To resume in one word. Sometimes there is a question of money, sometimes of revenge, sometimes, even, there is a woman at the bottom of these pretended conversions.

Never, never would a Catholic priest consent to admit men into the Church who were influenced by such motives and presented themselves under such circumstances.

I confess to having been considerably surprised to observe in the published reports of the Anglican Synod, lately held in Montreal, that a high dignitary of the Anglican Church approved of such conduct and advised such action.

"In the present state of matters in this province, so far as the French-speaking people were concerned, the Church of England had no more important duty laid upon her than to be doing her work now. It was not worthy of her to wait until it came to her by gravitation, so to speak.

"Hedid not ask the clergy to be proselytizers, or to shake the tree of Romanism and disturb those who were satisfied with their faith; but, while the fruit was falling, he asked them, 'without shaking the tree, to get in and pick it up.'

Now, if the school question, which is essentially a religious one, belonging to the Christian, social order, should detach from their religion certain disaffected Catholics, insubordinate to the authority of the Bishops, lo! there will be seen a dignitary of the Anglican Church and his colleagues holding out their aprons to catch the doubtful fruit falling from the tree of Romanism.

Our Anglican dignitary, who discourses thus of the tree of Romanism and fruits thereof which are rotten, should remember the famous witticism of his celebrated colleague, Dean Swift: When the Pope cleans his garden I wish he would not throw the weeds over the wall into our Protestant pasture.

Nothing stops them; nothing checks their ardor. Neither long and fatiguing walks, nor the ungracious reception with which they often meet; nor the poverty of dwellings, which in many cases threaten handsome gowns or expensive costumes.

and Sacraments, or Congregationalists of the absurdity of being content with a general indifference towards all creeds and professions of faith. Or, again, were they endeavoring to bring back to faith in Christianity the thousands and thousands of their co-religionists who at the present time believe in nothing but themselves.

In any of these instances their aim would be a meritorious one and worthy of all praise. But no, it is not to the conversion of such unbelievers that these ladies devote themselves.

Permit me to ask, ladies, if you fully realize the consequences of what you are doing, when you seek to attract Canadian Catholics towards Protestantism. Do you pretend to offer them spiritual treasures which they have not, or means of salvation which they do not already possess?

The Protestant who comes into the Church and becomes a Catholic is really enriched, because he adds to the few truths which he believes the sum total of truth which the Catholic Church transmits to him. He is enriched, because, in addition to the feeble means of sanctification and salvation which he possessed as a Protestant in good faith, he henceforth has the superabundance of spiritual helps which the Church places at his disposal in the Sacraments.

Ladies, what you are pleased to call Romish superstitions, we Catholics affirm to be dogmas, resting upon Holy Scripture, professed in all ages by Doctors and accepted by the faithful as obligatory articles of faith, and what we affirm we are prepared to prove.

What you characterize as vain and empty beliefs are traditions which the Christian ages have handed down to us, which the highest and the broadest intellects have put into practice and have handed down to us, their descendants.

But I don't wish, ladies, to enter into discussion with you at the present moment. But I would like to ask to what pure Gospel you propose rallying the Canadian Catholics.

All these pure Gospels are Protestant, as you know. All claim to teach the doctrine of Christ, whilst, in reality, each speaks a very different language. Let me put you one question.

Well, if, then, men can be saved as Catholics, why seek to lead them into religious communions where, for them at least, there can be no question of good faith, and where, according to their own conscience and the teaching of the Church, salvation is impossible.

You will scarce be arrested by a scruple, ladies. For at any price you must win over Canadians to Protestantism, and, dare I speak frankly, the means which you employ are not always such as Our Saviour recommends.

you come to our Church, we will give you all the necessities of life; you have children; send them to our schools, we will clothe and educate them free."

Your charity would be laudable did you not add that impious condition. Such a proposal is simply an immoral and sacrilegious traffic.

Some unfortunates yield to temptation and become Protestants in winter, hastening to become Catholics again in the spring, or when seized by some mortal disease. They do wrong, beyond doubt; they commit a deadly sin by exteriorly denying their faith, even when they keep it in their breasts.

THE POPE'S HEALTH.

His Remarkable Vigor Dwelt Upon by an American Correspondent

The Majestic Spectacle at a Recent Ceremonial at Which His Holiness Officiated.

Mr. James Creelman cables from Rome to The New York Journal: The Pope's voice ringing vigorously over the heads of the kneeling multitude in the Sistine Chapel this morning was the best answer to the declaration that the august "Prisoner of the Vatican" is dying.

It was a majestic spectacle as the Pope entered the chapel on foot leaning on the arms of his assistants. He wore over his white silk cassock a magnificent trailing robe of crimson and gold, caught up with golden clasps, and his shoulders were covered with a cope of crimson, the mourning color of the Pontiff.

But there is not a man of his age in the world who could have spoken with such a voice as that which pronounced Absolution to-day.

After the Pope had knelt before the altar he ascended to the dais and sat on the purple throne under the great canopy of purple and gold, and putting on his gold rimmed spectacles he surveyed the gorgeous scene spread out under that matchless velvet on which Michael Angelo set the supreme seal of his genius.

I could see the Pope's limbs shake and his mitred head nod while the ponderous master of ceremonies adjusted his robe. He is by nature a tall man, but his body is so bent now that he seems to be not much more than five feet. His once smiling countenance seemed stern and austere; the wasting of his flesh gave a sunken look to his clear-brown eyes.

When the mitre was lifted from his head I could see that his hair was thinner than before and his delicate, large ears stood out with startling distinctness. Yet, notwithstanding all these changes, he had the same old high glance of authority, and no one could look into that commanding face this morning and believe that his mind was failing or that he was less a man and Christian captain than he was when he accepted voluntary imprisonment 19 years ago.

I have seen the Pope many times in the past few years, and I have talked with him face to face for an hour, and I am certain that I never saw stronger signs of intellectual vigor than he showed to-day.

It is true that he sometimes swoons after unusually hard labor, but that is an old story, and no man of his years is called upon to do so much exhausting daily work. The most vital ecclesiastical and political questions of Christendom are urged upon him day after day,

and neither Gladstone nor Bismarck would undertake to receive the number of visitors he is forced to meet every week.

Stretched out in two long lines before and at the side of the throne were twenty-one cardinals wearing purple robes for mourning, ermine capes and scarlet skull caps. At the feet of each cardinal sat his train-bearer in purple, bearing his scarlet bertina.

At the Pope's right hand stood Prince Colonna, hereditary Prince Assistant to the throne. Beside him sat Cardinal Parocchi, Vicar General of Rome, and probable successor to the papal throne.

Cardinal Satolli, now archbishop of the great cathedral of Santa Maria Maggiore, and the principal Roman adviser of the Pope on American affairs, sat in the centre of the longest line of cardinals.

Arranged against the west wall were bishops and archbishops in purple, tall monks robed to the feet in white, stout canons in snowy ermines, Oriental priests in crimson and black.

Beyond the screen of the chapel sat the diplomatic corps, behind which were the Roman nobles, resplendent in gold lace and sashes of scarlet, blue, yellow and green, and glittering with stars and crosses and golden chains.

Across the aisle from the diplomatic corps were the great ladies of the papal court, dressed in black and wearing black lace mantillas on their heads, and in their rear were two high tribunes, draped with crimson, green and golden fringe, crowded with swarthy priests in a sweet-faced nun and luscious delicious men and women, who had come from the uttermost corners of the earth to see the Pope perhaps for the last time.

Chattering and whispering in every tongue known to civilized men, Greeks, Armenians, Hungarians, Italians, Russians, Frenchmen, Englishmen, Americans, Canadians, Spaniards, Germans and Dutchmen formed confused groups swaying in the deep shadow of painted walls.

Imagine this brilliant picture and imagine the great chamberlains in medieval court costumes, with clanking swords and great white frills about their throats, loaded with gold chains and gleaming jewels, pacing the aisles between the gorgeous Swiss Guards, in plumed hats and bearing antique halberds, and imagine the golden crested helmets and shining blades of the noble guard and the double ranks of Papal infantry with grounded rifles at the threshold, and overhead the elaborate forms of prophets, sabbas, martyrs and angels, and in the midst of the half divine painted symbols the supreme mystery of the creation of man.

At the high altar stood Cardinal Van Thiel, the officiating priest. The chant of the Sistine choir grew louder and then died away in trembling, wailing ecstasies. The Pope descended from his throne and knelt before the altar; clouds of incense swirled above his head; then he reascended the throne and sat there.

Again and again the Pope descended and ascended the throne step and knelt down and stood up, and each time he seemed to grow stronger and more erect, and when at the last he read the absolution his voice filled the whole hall, his eyes flashed and he gestured in the old way familiar to those who knew him when he was young.

At a meeting of the City Council of Cork an invitation was read from St. Finian's congregation (Protestant) inviting the Mayor and members of the Council to attend the consecration of Dean Archdale as Bishop of Killaloe at the Cork Protestant Cathedral.

The Rev. Alexander P. Doyle, of the Paulist Fathers completed last Sunday a week's Mission services which he had conducted for the religious benefit of the convicts in Sing Sing prison.

"Since Sunday morning I have been preaching to between seven and eight hundred prisoners a day. The enforcement of the provisions forbidding contract labor in the State prisons threw the men into absolute idleness, which is deleterious to morality and discipline. It has proved a very consoling and fruitful work, although not without its difficulties. After some days of earnest preaching we have the prisoners now in a deeply religious condition of mind. The warden has expressed himself as highly pleased with the change."

Miss Annie Lynam, daughter of Mr. P. Lynam, the veteran member of the S.A.A.A., will be married on Wednesday, the 24th inst. to Mr. Edward Furst, of the Windsor Hotel. The ceremony will take place at St. Patrick's.

OUR IRISH LETTER

Another Daily Paper in Dublin; \$150,000 Capital Stock.

The Commemoration of the Centenary of '98—Births and Deaths The Workhouse and its Horrors News from Nenagh and Other Centres—The Foundation Stones of Prosperity in Ireland

DUBLIN, Feb. 26.—One of the chief features of the past week in political circles is the formation of a Joint Stock Company for the purpose of issuing a daily edition of the Dublin Nation, the organ of the Hedyites.

The new organization has purchased the interest of Mr. William M. Murphy in the Weekly Nation, Irish Catholic, and Irish Emerald, for the sum of £3,558, out of which he accepts £1,000 in shares of the new Company. The capital stock is fixed at £30,000, and is divided into 30,000 shares of £1 each. It is payable, five shillings on application, five shillings on allotment, and the balance as may be required, which it is needless to say will not be long delayed.

The approach of the centenary of '98 is still continuing to evoke great enthusiasm, the latest proposal in connection with the commemoration of the event being the erection of a monument to Dwyer, the insurgent chief of Wick-Lox.

The Kibberney correspondent of the Cork Herald says: Mrs. Clifford, the wife of a laborer in humble circumstances, residing at Barry M. and gave birth to three sons. Dr. Wm. M. Swinney, who attended at the commencement of the triplets are exceedingly healthy, and that they and the mother are doing well.

The other side of the picture may be dwelt upon in the deaths of three persons whose lives, so to speak, united two centuries. One of them, Martin Walsh, died at Fiddown, Co. Tipperary, leaving a widow ninety-five; another, Norah Hanley, who died at Brurea, Co. Limerick, was over 104 years, and was considered the oldest woman in Munster. The third, and oldest of the remarkable centenary trio, was Hannah M'Loughlin, who died at the extraordinary age of 112. There are writers who comely overlook the fact that Ireland is a land of contentions, but they write either from prejudice or a lack of knowledge.

At a meeting of the City Council of Cork an invitation was read from St. Finian's congregation (Protestant) inviting the Mayor and members of the Council to attend the consecration of Dean Archdale as Bishop of Killaloe at the Cork Protestant Cathedral. All Roche moved that the invitation be accepted. When the matter was called to the attention of Very Rev. Dean Swinney, Vicar General, he issued the following letter to the Cork Herald:

St. Patrick's Presbytery, Cork, Feast of St. Bridgid, 1897. DEAR MR. EDITOR.—Having seen in the newspapers of last Saturday that Mr. Mayor Meade announced in the Council his intention to be present on to-morrow, the Feast of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary, at the religious ceremonial in the Protestant Cathedral, and that a Catholic ex-Mayor, Mr. Roche, proposed a resolution inviting others to join in doing the same, I feel that I would be wanting in my duty if in the Bishop's absence I did not draw the attention of those gentlemen, and of the Catholic people at large, to the grave sinfulness and scandal of such an act, strictly forbidden as it is under special penalties by the Divine and Ecclesiastical laws.

The action of the Mayor has been the cause of much severe criticism in the press and in the ranks of the Catholics of Cork generally. The prospect of an immediate discussion of the Financial Relations question were somewhat dampened by the announcement made by Mr. Balfour, a few days ago, that the matter would not be considered until the middle of next month. (Concluded on eighth page.)

NON-SECTARIAN SCHOOLS.

The System of Instruction in Vogue Some time Ago in an Eastern Province.

Now a Certificated Teacher Described the City of Montreal and its Catholic Inhabitants.

In olden days many were led into "bog and bush and bramble" by a mysterious light called "Will of the Wisp." According to legendary lore it was generally people of intelligence who were victims of this mischief-loving elf.

In a town in a province "down by the sea" some years ago the public school was in charge of a retired Presbyterian minister, the teachers under him being active workers in the various Protestant denominations.

After the doxology was rendered by all present the scholars dispersed to their different classes to begin their lessons of the day, an hour's time having been devoted to "worship."

Now without question the school referred to here was one of the best in the province, and the teacher in question held a first-class certificate.

The Liberal leader's sudden change of front in school question affairs reminds one of the reading lesson in the infant class: "See—the boy—on—the sea—saw—now—he—is—up—up—up—and—now—he—is—down—down—down—it—is—great—fun—to—ride—on—the—sea."

Commenting on the Ivory case, United Ireland says: Few incidents of recent times have treated more comment in England than the abandonment of the case against Ivory, who is to be congratulated by every honest man on his escape from the clutches of the English detectives.

this, that or any other crime in English courts of justice, so-called, has got a deadly blow from the effects of which it will wobble for some time to come.

IRISH EMIGRANT SOCIETY.

An Interesting Annual Report of Its Operations.

The following particulars have been taken from a recent report of the Irish Emigrant Society of New York.

During the year 1896 the number of emigrants landed at New York was 21,749; of this number 9,485 were males and 12,263 females.

In only four months (those of winter weather), did the arrivals of males exceed those of females. In the month of the largest immigration, May—2,067 women and 2,489 men were landed here.

The evidence of the work of the Society may be adduced from the statement that of the 488 detained for examination by the Immigration authorities at Ellis Island, 442 were subsequently released and permitted to land, it having been shown that they did not come within the prohibited classes.

ANOTHER FORECAST.

Sway of the Cultured Socialist Predicted for the Twenty-First Century.

New York, Feb. 7.—Mr. H. R. Chambrlain in a special letter from London to The Sun says:—If one may turn complacently from a period 2,000 years distant in one direction to a time 150 years off in the future, it may be amusing, if not instructive, to read of the prophetic forecast which the Hon. W. P. Reeves, Agent-General for New Zealand, has given of the British Empire in the middle of the twenty first century.

Commenting on the Ivory case, United Ireland says: Few incidents of recent times have treated more comment in England than the abandonment of the case against Ivory, who is to be congratulated by every honest man on his escape from the clutches of the English detectives.

vote their time to the science of peace. There would also be courts of arbitration for international matters, so that there would be no strikes or lock-outs.

ST. ANTHONY'S Y. M. SOCIETY.

Presented to Mr. Bannon, a Popular Member of the Organization, on the Occasion of His Marriage.

After the regular meeting of St. Anthony's C. Y. M. S., held in their hall, 329 St. Antoine street, last week, Mr. Jas. Bannon, a popular member, was made the recipient of a well-filled purse, the occasion being the eve of his marriage.

THE VETERANS' CORNER.

Lord Robert's speech in response to the toast of "The Army," at the jubilee Banquet of the Queen's College, Belfast, was remarkable for the modest estimate which his lordship made as to the strength and efficiency of the land forces.

THE RAILROAD BRAKEMAN.

IN MEMORY OF WILLIE BENNETT. Killed on the Can. Pac. Ry. at Sutton, Que., Feb. 6th, 1897.

Dust-begrimed and weather-beaten, Hands that show the scars of toil, Do you envy him his station, Patient toilers of the soil?

January's Death Record.

The report of the Quebec Provincial Board of Health for January shows that during the month there were 627 deaths from contagious diseases in the Province,

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as follows:—Typhus, 1; scarlet fever 48; diphtheria, 200; typhoid, 27; measles, 119; whooping cough, 175; and grippe, 57. Sixty-four deaths from diphtheria were reported in this city.

Patent Report.

- Below will be found the only complete weekly up to date record of patents granted to Canadian inventors, which is prepared specially for this paper, by Messrs. Marion & Marton, solicitors of patents and experts, head office, Temple Building, Montreal, from whom all information may be readily obtained:— 54,802—Thomas Boxall, Woodstock, hymn indicator.

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HOUSEHOLD HINTS.

Glycerine and lime juice is very good for preventing dandruff, and is nourishing to the hair.

To clean felt hats, rub bread and violet powder over them gently, and then dust off with a clean soft cloth.

Vinegar and fruit stains upon knives can be taken off by rubbing the blades with raw potato, and then polishing on the knife-board in the usual manner.

To make the skin smooth, use a teaspoonful of powdered borax every morning in the basin of water when washing the face or hands; also use it when taking a bath.

Geranium leaves are excellent for cuts where the skin is rubbed and for other wounds of the same kind. One or two leaves must be bruised and applied to the part, and the wound will be cicatrized in a short time.

Never use any soap or a scrub-brush in washing oilcloths. It will destroy in a short time an oil cloth that should last for years. Use instead warm water and a soft cloth or flannel, and rinse off with water and skin-milk. Wipe very dry with a soft cloth.

The best way to clean wash leather gloves is to wash them with nearly cold soap and water, and on the hands to rinse well. When half-dry stretch them and pull them till they become quite soft; they require constant attention from the commencement of the washing till they are dry.

To relieve sciatica and neuralgia pains, heat a flannel sufficiently hot to vaporize vinegar, wrap it in woollen cloth moistened with vinegar, and apply as warm as can be borne to the painful spot two or three times a day.

The worst toothache, or neuralgia coming from the teeth, may be speedily ended by application of a small bit of clean cotton-wool saturated in a strong solution of ammonia to the defective tooth. Sometimes the sufferer is prompted to momentary nervous laughter by the application, but the pain has disappeared.

To keep insects off canary birds, put the least bit of kerosene oil under each wing—say, as much as remains on your little finger after you have let the drop fall off. Do this every ten days until all are removed. Clean the cage well every day, scour it in hot water with borax, and use but little soap.

In damp closets and cupboards generating mildew, a trayful of quicklime will be found to absorb the moisture, and render the air pure. Of course it is necessary to renew the lime from time to time, as it becomes fully slacked.

The ease with which a fire may be started, and the apparently inexplicable causes which may produce one, are both emphasized by a happening in an up town house in New York last week.

The proper cleaning of a carpeted room demands first that if possible all draperies and hangings shall be slipped from their fastenings, brushed, aired and laid aside out of the dust: such as are not removable may be shaken lightly as they hang, folded lengthwise then in up-turned folds as far as possible, and finally pinned high in pieces of muslin kept for the purpose. Pictures are to be brushed on their faces with a soft brush, their backs wiped and brushed, and they too folded in muslin, the ends tucked in around their frames.

Daily facing death and danger, One miststep or slip by hand, Sends the poor, unlucky brakeman To the dreaded, unknown land.

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If, at any time, you have a Mission in your Parish, we will be happy to supply you with an assortment of the above goods, and at the close of the Mission, you can return whatever remains unsold.

In ordering, please state: 1.—Who is to give the Mission. 2.—About how many families will attend. 3.—The Day the Mission will open. 4.—How the goods have to be shipped to reach safely and in time.

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ROMANTIC LITERATURE.

A Scholarly Address Delivered by Professor R. M. Johnstone of Baltimore.

A Spirited Criticism of the School of Idealism.

The Free Library Lecture, inaugurated in the early part of the winter, seem to lose nothing of their interest, but become more popular with each succeeding lecture.

The proceedings of the evening were opened with a beautifully executed pianoforte solo, by Miss Clare Wheeler, one of the ladies of the Montreal Free Library.

Sir William Hingston presided, and in a few words introduced the lecturer of the evening, who said:—

THE ROMANTIC IN ART, in comparison with the Classical, is older than has generally been allowed. In life it is older than its rival. It is co-eval with humanity.

The professor then referred to the great master, "Milton." He said: In the romance of Eden it seemed as if he would make amends for the mistake of his younger time.

A recent report made to Congress states that the number of men in the United States physically able to perform military duty is 10,024,854.

Miss Clara Brett Martin, of Toronto, enjoys the distinction of being the first lady admitted to the Canadian bar.

Some 6,000 clergymen of the Church of England are engaged in the delightful Pickwickian occupation of waiting for something to turn up.

The speaker then graphically sketched "Faust." In "Faust," he said, we are made to see how far may fall the lowest innocence, how pitilessly its ruin may be regarded by the bad man who caused it, and how, afterwards, that bad man goes unscathed because he was of the upper classes.

He next dwelt on "Thackeray" and "Vanity Fair." He said in the literature of fiction there is not found a picture drawn more artistically than "Rebecca Sharp." She was of the sort upon whom it suited the author to exert his consummate powers.

to be persuadable to consent, demanding risk, high pay, so that the pursuit, of which, if easy, a bold lover would weary, acquired the eagerness which must not be allowed to abate.

It is a sad commentary on the powerlessness and hopelessness of a poor young woman, without other gift than mere virtue, to obtain success which appears to attend upon insidiousness and fraud.

Continuing, the learned speaker said:—Among modern novelists who have trod in these strange paths, said he, who is more to be compassionated than blamed, is "George Eliot." If we study her orphaned, unhappy childhood, her unfriended exertion to obtain a livelihood, and then the last actions of her life, we cannot but sympathize with a woman who, during all of her career, would have shuddered at the thought of inflicting harm or injury upon any being capable of suffering.

Dr. Johnstone closed an admirable address with a pathetic description of the results of true Christian marriage, eloquently portraying the nobleness of the celebration of the golden jubilee which, he said, were celebrated in many peaceful and happy homes.

Sir William Hingston thanked Dr. Johnstone for his interesting lecture, and pointed out that the conditions of married life, which he so much admired, existed in this Province of Quebec on a very large scale indeed.

Dr. Johnstone then delighted his audience by reading one of his own sketches of Georgia life, in which a bachelor figured prominently and unsuccessfully in regard to the great ambition of his life.

Note and Comment.

Sixty thousand dollars a year, the salary drawn by the French ambassador in London, is the largest sum paid to any diplomat in the world.

The estate of the late Eugene Kelly, banker, New York, has been officially valued at \$4,813,321.

By his last will he bequeathed \$115,000 to charitable objects.

Krupp, the German gunmaker, it is said, is the largest employer of labor in the world.

In his latest novel, "The Christian," the well-known writer, Hall Caine, criticizes the whole community of the Church of England rather severely.

A recent report made to Congress states that the number of men in the United States physically able to perform military duty is 10,024,854.

Miss Clara Brett Martin, of Toronto, enjoys the distinction of being the first lady admitted to the Canadian bar.

Some 6,000 clergymen of the Church of England are engaged in the delightful Pickwickian occupation of waiting for something to turn up.

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SPECIAL TERMS FOR NEWSDEALERS.

and fortunate incumbents receive extravagant incomes, and vast sums of money are expended in founding new bishoprics and adorning churches.

The Toronto Globe, in the course of a lengthy article, disapproves of any interference in regard to the free transmission of newspapers through the mails.

The proposition to organize a Catholic social club in Montreal, as suggested by the True Witness, sometime ago, is being seriously taken into consideration by a number of leading Catholics of means.

Some interesting figures concerning the quantity of liquor consumed in London are given in Cassell's Magazine. It appears that about 177,000,000 gallons of (British) beer are drunk in London yearly, and 485,000 gallons daily.

The crusade of Dalton McCarthy and his followers against the French language has created a very peculiar impression on the minds of Ontario citizens.

Dr. Grenier, the Mussulman deputy, who is the latest addition to that museum of curiosities, the French Assembly, is becoming one of the most distinguished citizens of Paris.

The Pope's golden rose is destined this year for the Duchess Maria Theresa, wife of the crown prince of Wurtemberg.

The most difficult problem with which some of our local Irish Catholic organizations have to cope is how to control the enthusiast. He is always honest

and straightforward, and means well but his burning spirit of enthusiasm is ungovernable, and the consequence is that he rushes headlong into schemes, large and small, enthusiastically believing that his efforts will be the means of uplifting the organization with which he is associated to a position of greatness.

A well-known New York lawyer, in his address to a jury during a trial, spoke of liquor in this way: "I believe that from the time it issues from the coiled and poisonous worm in the distillery until it empties into the hell of death, dishonor and crime it demoralizes everybody that touches it, from its source to where it ends."

"Trimnings" is a word familiar to ladies in connection with dress, but a female member of the Salvation Army claims to have discovered that it has a hidden meaning.

Religious News Items.

Arrangements are being made for the celebration of the Silver Jubilee of the consecration as Bishop of the Most Reverend P. J. Ryan, D. D., of Philadelphia.

Rev. Father Michael J. Dineen died at his home, Little Falls, N. Y., last week, from consumption. He was 33 years of age and was educated at the Ottawa University, Ottawa, Canada.

The Pope's golden rose is destined this year for the Duchess Maria Theresa, wife of the crown prince of Wurtemberg.

Cardinal Mertel, who, in point of age, is the dean of the Sacred College, is now dying at Rome of extreme old age, being in his ninety-third year.

reign of Pius IX., he became after 1870 the principal legal adviser of the Holy See. Like his friend and ministerial colleague, the late Cardinal Antonelli, he ranks in the Sacred College as Cardinal Deacon, and has never received the consecration of priesthood.

The second session of the Catholic winter school of America will extend from February 28th to March 21st inclusive. The exercises will be opened by a Solemn Pontifical Mass in St. Louis Cathedral, New Orleans, at which Archbishop Martinielli, the Papal Delegate will pontificate, and Bishop Dunn of Dallas, Texas.

The Standard and Times says: Mr. Andrew Carnegie has presented St. John's Catholic Church, Johnston, with a beautiful new organ. This fine church it may be remembered, was dedicated just before Christmas, 1895, and is the first in this country to be built on a new work of steel, which was furnished by the Carnegie Company.

Dr. Edward P. Allen, the new Roman Catholic Bishop of Mobile, Ala., is a native of Tewksbury, Mass., and is now about 38 years old. In his boyhood he worked in the Middlesex mills, and got his education by determined work at his studies, while laboring through the day at a commercial college and at night at the Lowell Institute.

The Months. Each month of the year has a special sanctification for Catholics, and a special devotion, as follows:— January, the Month of the Holy Childhood of Jesus.

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Take Menthol Cough Syrup. Sure cure for coughs, colds, asthma, etc. Once tried always used. Read certificate:— Montreal, March 22nd, 1893.—Messrs. Roy & Boire, Drug Co., Manchester, N. H., U. S.

Young Scribbler—What do you think I will do with the first \$25 I make with my pen? Friend—Buy a perambulator for your grand-laughter's first baby.—New York Evening Journal.

Sivants and experts are continually employed discovering a remedy for the restoration of hair to its natural color. They want an article that will preserve the scalp, pure and clean, and remove that destroyer—dandruff.

A Living Doll.

The following true story is told in the "Journal" of Emily Shore:

A little girl near us was one day playing before the house, when a woman appeared and begged a few pence. She had a baby in her arms, and the child was so delighted with the little thing that she asked the woman if she would sell it to her.

"What will you give for it, miss?" was the counter question. "Half a crown."

"Very well," said the woman, "let's see the money."

It was produced and the sale made. The little girl took the baby, carried it upstairs, and laid it on her bed, and after she had fondled it "enough for once," scampered downstairs calling to her mother:

"Mamma, mamma! I've got a live doll! I always wanted one, and now I've got it."

"The baby was found and the story frankly told, but though the beggar woman was sought all over the town, no trace of her could be discovered.

A Living Record.

A white man sued a black man in Natal the other day, and while the trial was proceeding the litigants came to an amicable settlement.

THE SOCIETY OF ARTS, OF CANADA,

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"Do you want a shirt that opens in front or one that opens in the back?" asked the salesman. "Don't keer where it opens," answered Uncle Silas, "so's it's got an opening at the top and bottom."—Chicago Daily Tribune.

By the law coming into force this year in Sweden a dwelling house must not have more than five stories. An attic containing a stove is reckoned a story. The height of the building must not exceed the width of the street by more than five feet.

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WEDNESDAY.....FEBRUARY 17, 1897

**OUR ST. PATRICK'S DAY SOUVENIR NUMBER.**

**Our Authorization.**

MONTREAL, January 18, 1897.

To the Managing Director of THE TRUE WITNESS:

DEAR SIR,—We, the undersigned Pastors of the English-speaking parishes of the city, heartily approve the project of THE TRUE WITNESS, to issue a Special Souvenir Number in commemoration of the Golden Jubilee of St. Patrick's, the Mother Parish of our people in Montreal.

The first Mass was said in St. Patrick's Church on St. Patrick's Day, 1847, amid the universal joy of the English-speaking Catholic population, who, until then, had no church of their own at all proportionate to their numbers. Not a few are still living who remember how many, for want of accommodation, used to hear Mass kneeling on the street adjoining the old Recollet Church on Notre Dame street, opposite Dollard street.

The remarkable advance made since then in the material prosperity of our people, and the advantages which have accrued to them from a religious point of view, are matters for profoundest thankfulness to God. The befitting expression of this gratitude is one of the chief reasons for celebrating the jubilee, and we earnestly solicit for THE TRUE WITNESS, in its laudable endeavor, the active encouragement and patronage of our devoted people and their many well-wishers in and out of Montreal.

We also take this opportunity of expressing our approval of the course pursued by THE TRUE WITNESS, and recognize the valuable service it has rendered to every worthy cause.

(Signed),

REV. J. QUINLIYAN, S.S.,  
Pastor of St. Patrick's Church.

REV. PHILIP SCHELFHAUT, C.S.S.R.,  
Pastor of St. Ann's Church.

REV. P. F. O'DONNELL,  
Pastor of St. Mary's Church.

REV. J. E. DONNELLY,  
Pastor of St. Anthony's Church.

REV. W. O'MEARA,  
Pastor of St. Gabriel's Church.

REV. W. J. CASEY,  
St. Jean Baptiste Church.

Every authorized advertising canvasser for our Special St. Patrick's Day Souvenir is furnished with credentials, signed by Mr. Michael Burke, president of the company, which he is required to show upon demand.

Enter into no contract with any person who cannot produce proper credentials.

**WHO IS RESPONSIBLE?**

Complaints have frequently been made to us of late regarding certain "nurseries of depravity" that are working havoc in the characters of our young men. The description that one pained and indignant observer has given us of one of these establishments is extremely vivid and unless (which we can hardly hope) his informant has exaggerated or his eyes have deceived him, the state of things that it implies is serious and calls for prompt attention. The difficulty in the case is that the place which he denounces is licensed and, as it is not of the hole-and-corner class of offenders, its doings must be well enough known to the police. Of course, such a description would equally suit fifty other places of entertainment for men and beasts in our pleasure-loving city. Who are to blame for these evidences of a low state of

**THE CANONIZATION OF M. OLIER.**

Of peculiar interest to every Catholic in Canada is the subject of M. J. J. Olier's canonization. How dear the name of that holy man must ever be to the faithful of this city it is almost needless to remind the readers of THE TRUE WITNESS. In Montreal is centred the undying influence of the work which, beyond the confines of his beloved France, was dearest to his heart. What he contemplated was for old France a revival of religion through a specially trained clergy; for new France, a city of God in the wilderness which should be a focus of evangelization for a continent.

The founder of Saint Sulpice was exceptionally endowed by innate gifts, and by the circumstances of his calling for the great task which he was chosen to accomplish. In the lives of God's saints there are few incidents more touching than the answer of Saint François de Sales to the anxious mother when she consulted him as to the vocation of her son. At that time M. Jacques Olier de Verneuil, the father of the future Founder, who had already held several offices of high responsibility, was discharging the functions of Intendant of Lyons, a position to which Louis XIII. had appointed him; and Jean Jacques, with his brothers François and René, were studying at the Jesuits' College of that city. Saint François de Sales, who had occasional business in Lyons, had become acquainted with the Intendant, whom he held in high respect for his piety and other merits. It was this intimacy and her veneration for the character of the great bishop that emboldened Madame Olier to consult him as to her son's fitness for the ecclesiastical state. The Bishop at once cordially assented, promising to make the matter the subject of his prayers. Some days afterwards Madame Olier and her three sons went to hear the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, in the chapel of his Filles de la Visitation of Bellecour, celebrated by the Bishop. Afterwards, Madame Olier presented her sons to the illustrious prelate, who greeted them with paternal tenderness. The anxious mother then unburdened her heart of her fears for the future of the youngest boy, who had already caused great perplexity to his parents. "Ah! Madam," said the Bishop of Geneva, "have a little patience and do not worry yourself; God is preparing this good child of yours to be of great service in his church." Then, placing his hands on the boy's head, he solemnly blessed him. M. Olier received a still more solemn benediction from the great prelate and saint just before the latter yielded up his spirit.

Not less tender and memorable are the relations between M. Olier and another man of God of that age, Saint Vincent de Paul, whose name has become a synonym for heroic charity. Nor is the close of those relations less noteworthy than the parting of M. Olier with St. François. Here the respective positions are reversed, for it is M. Olier who is called away. St. Vincent de Paul, who had frequently visited M. Olier during his illness, heard on Easter Monday (1657), that his friend was worse than usual. He hastened to his bedside, and it was under the eyes of that saint that M. Olier breathed his last.

We cite these incidents, marking the beginning and the end of M. Olier's spiritual career as, if we may be permitted to say so, a sort of forecast of his entrance into the glorious choir of God's elect servants with whom it is the desire of so many that he should be formally associated. M. Olier was not unworthy of his saintly friends. He was not only the Founder of Saint Sulpice; he was a man of exceptionally holy life, to whose spiritual worth some of the greatest servants of God during two centuries and a half have borne witness. That the desire of so many fervent and grateful hearts may be fulfilled, is the prayer of every true Catholic.

THE proposal to abolish the system of free transmission of newspapers through the mails is, to say the least, a retrograde movement. Canada has always suffered through attempts of economy of this character, and will always continue to suffer so long as there are men in the Administration whose views of public affairs are characterized by such a spirit of narrowness.

THE real estate owners of Hochelaga Ward are very ambitious, judging by the measure of enthusiasm they are displaying in the endeavour to secure costly improvements. An evening paper, in commenting on this spirit of enterprise, which involves a large expenditure of money from the public chest, suggests, as a counter irritant, that there should be an effort made to extend the city westwards.

THE public man who can secure the greatest number of positions in the Municipal, Provincial or Federal service is always sure of his election in Montreal. That is the test required now, and the citizens who exact it are by no means amongst the class which some people so familiarly style the unlettered

**WHERE SILENCE IS GOLDEN.**

Miss Mary J. Onahan, if not the "Clever Woman of the Family," is a clever member of a clever family, and what she has to say on literary matters is not unworthy of consideration. Whether all that she says about every literary question is deserving of full approval—that is another story. She contributed recently to the Catholic Citizen an article on "Novels about Nuns," which, it seems to us, is not quite so cautious in its statements as it ought to be. All humanity—with its countless diversities of occupation, aim, emotion, virtue and vice—is, she holds, within the legitimate domain of art. She differs from those old-fashioned people, therefore, who think that "a novel about a nun is necessarily a shocking novel, that the subject is a sacred one which the novelist has no right to meddle with, to draw into the vulgar light of every day." Miss Onahan, as "a true modern," maintains "no subject is too sacred for the pen of the artist." She insists, however, that the artist, in portraying the conventual, as well as every other phase of human life, must "portray it truthfully."

Miss Onahan then gives a few illustrations of the success attained in this branch of artistic portrayal by writers who are lacking neither in creative gift nor in popularity, and her necessary verdict is that they have miserably failed. She calls their conventional characters "hybrid creations of the novelist's imagination," and in one instance she characterizes the picture presented by the literary artist as "a study of horrors." The strange thing is that it is not Protestants or non-Catholics who thus offend against truth and reality, but Catholics, who ought to know better. Can it be wondered at, then, if those who are aliens by birth and training and persistent estrangement from the Catholic fold showed, when they attempt to treat of such subjects—subjects of which they can have for the most part but a book or hearsay knowledge—fall into still more grievous errors, and paint convent life on a canvas that is full of misrepresentations? The writers that we have now in our mind are not the bigoted and virulent foes of Catholic doctrine and practice, but those who, being well-meaning enough, or at least not deliberately hostile, go astray through sheer ignorance.

That there are Catholic writers who know by actual acquaintance or by associations based on kindred enough of the religious life in some of its manifestations to be able to make a portrayal of it that is not a travesty, may be admitted. But there is always a danger of exaggeration in some direction. There are very few Catholic writers who, like Madame Craven, can deal with such delicate questions with the candor of sincerity, and, writing simply of what they know, neither go beyond the truth nor fall short of it. Yet even Mrs. Craven sometimes goes too near the ridge of a precipice, as where she makes a Catholic accept the ministrations of a Russo-Greek priest. Mrs. Craven is, however, most careful, in treating of convent life, to correct some popular misapprehensions such as that to which Miss Onahan refers, with only a partial condemnation, as to the forcing of girls into the cloister. Mrs. Craven shows, by example, how on the other hand the gates of the cloister are constantly guarded against premature or inconsiderate admission.

We forbear even to quote some of the instances that Miss Onahan gives of the shocking perversion of truth and common sense by writers who write for a sensation-loving public without conscientious reticence as to matters the true significance of which they have never grasped. Where it seems to us she has failed to do her duty as a Catholic is in not having denounced the adoption of such themes for fiction altogether in the face of such grave misdeeds. Of course, the introduction of a Sister of Charity discharging the duties of her divine calling cannot well be found fault with. Neither would any reasonable critic condemn all reference to the convent as a nursery of truth and the religious and domestic virtues. Such occasional mention of religious scenes may be necessary for the evolution of the plot. But that is wholly different from making a nun the heroine of such tales as Miss Onahan has criticized, some of which are monstrously untrue and can only work harm to weak minds. Surely any loss sustained by the non-existence or withdrawal of the extremely rare and true pictures of convent life in fiction, where the temper has been able to grasp

**MR. DEVLIN'S SCHEME.**

The grounds on which some of our Canadian contemporaries have decided to oppose the Irish immigrant scheme of Mr. Charles R. J. Devlin, M. P., appears to us to be insufficient.

The plea, that our ancestral land has been already sufficiently depopulated of its Catholic inhabitants, is beside the question, so long as Irish people continue to leave Ireland in the hope of bettering their condition. Most sincerely does every true son of the old sod hope, most ardently does he pray, for the time when for Irish men and Irish women there will be no land so happy, so comfortable, so prosperous, as the dear old sod to which their hearts are so devoted. But even the most sanguine of patriots have, sadly, to admit that for that halcyon time we must still patiently wait.

It is vain to make war with facts. As matters stand, there are communities in Ireland for a considerable proportion of which the prospects would be better in Canada than in the land of their birth. Every year during the last three-quarters of a century there has been an exodus from Ireland. In successive years so great was the outflow that one might wonder not that the population was diminished, but that there were any of the old stock and faith left in the island at all.

But there is another question that has often been put by thoughtful historians to British statesmen. How is it that, during the years of the perpetual exodus, so little effort was made to settle the exiles on lands within the British dominions, instead of letting them go to swell the numbers and further the enterprise of an alien nation?

That, wherever they settled, those hapless wanderers might have cherished some degree of resentment against a rule to which they, not unreasonably, ascribed their misfortunes, may be true enough. But the duration of that resentment would depend on the locality and on the surroundings of the new home in which the exiles found rest for their weary feet. Those of them who were induced to settle within the Queen's domain were fairly dealt with by the authorities and found kindly and helpful neighbours, were more than likely to become in time reconciled to their lot, ready to defend it if assailed, glad to avail themselves of the educational and other advantages that it offered to their children, to take an interest in public affairs, and, if they were industrious and persevering, to attain a degree of prosperity which, for most of them, would have been unattainable in the old land.

This has been the lot of many an emigrant party that left Ireland in the years of distress and whose descendants to-day are thrifty, happy and, in many cases, influential members of the community.

There is no reason why our countrymen who have decided to try their fortunes in another country should not be induced to occupy some portions of the vast area of new land opened up in the Dominion.

Let us hope that the day is not distant when the course of improvement will render it needless for Irish people to seek a home beyond the shores of the land they love. But, surely, so long as the necessity continues, it is wise to guide the emigrants to Canadian rather than foreign lands, where they may enjoy the advantages of just such a constitution as her representatives have so long been asking and are yet bound to obtain for Ireland.

We would remind our young correspondents to Aunt Nora's Corner that all communications must reach our office on Thursday or Friday of each week, in order to ensure publication. This week we have been obliged to hold over a number of very interesting letters describing St. Patrick's Church. Our young folks need not, therefore, be anxious regarding their letters, as they will appear in our next issue. The same rule also applies to letters from subscribers, unless in cases of great urgency.

The Catholic electors of St. Boniface will be confronted with a solemn and important duty at the approaching election of a representative to the House of Commons. They should not be cajoled by any sophistry such as that recently advanced by vacillating Catholics, who urge the plea of giving the so-called settlement a trial. They should be true to their Catholic principles and condemn an arrangement which sacrificed their most cherished rights.

The Dublin Freeman, in its issue of the 6th inst., refers to the prospect of unity in a leading article. It closes with the following significant statement:

"We do not think that it will or ought to be the desire of anyone to force the pace. We may safely leave the healing influence of the discussion of the last

**week to penetrate the mind of the country, and hope and pray that better days are coming when the hatchet will be buried and the warring strife in which we have been engaged ended for ever.**

Now that the arbitration treaty is being discussed, people are recalling a prediction made by General Phil Sheridan in a speech at the Centennial banquet in Philadelphia in September, 1896. The General then said:

"There is one thing that you should appreciate, and that is the improvement in guns and in the material of war, in dynamite and other explosives, and in breech loading guns, as rapidly bringing us to a period when war will eliminate itself, when we can no longer stand up and fight each other in battle, and when we will have resort to something else." "Now what will that be?" "I mean what I say when I express the belief that if any one now present here could live until the next centennial he would find that arbitration will rule the world."

ARCHBISHOP ELDER was asked by a Cincinnati Post reporter what he would do if elected mayor. Said he:

"I would try to close the saloons on Sunday and abolish the immoral theatrical posters, both of which are a disgrace to the community."

"Another thing I would endeavor to accomplish would be to stop, if possible, the sensational publication of criminal and other disgraceful and disgusting trials. It is the greatest evil with which we have to contend. Familiarity with crime and its details may be divided into three stages: First it is endured, then pitied, then embraced."

"The argument that exposure is greatly dreaded and acts as a restraint on crime, is weak. Those who dread such exposure are the very ones who may be redeemed and if exposed grow hardened, and when hardened desire notoriety."

**ST. PATRICK'S MISSION.**

The general Mission in charge of the Redemptorist Fathers for the parishioners of St. Patrick's opened on Sunday evening under circumstances which must have been a source of real happiness to the pastor, Rev. Father Quinlivan.

The married women of the parish had the honor of inaugurating the spiritual undertaking, and the attendance was unprecedented. Every portion of the vast edifice was crowded, including the spacious gallery. The sermon of the evening was preached by the Rev. Father Hogan, C.S.S.R., who is the possessor of a magnificent voice, which was heard throughout every part of the Church.

There are five Missionaries in attendance: Rev. Fathers Wissel, Hogan, Doyle, White and Wisel.

The married women of the parish are certainly to be congratulated for the measure of enthusiasm they have displayed in assisting at the different services. The good example they have so nobly shown will be in consequence emulated by the other sections of the parishioners.

The exercises for the married women will close on Sunday afternoon, and the Mission for the married men will open in the evening at 7.30.

**St. Mary's Parish.**

The annual meeting of the St. Mary's C. Y. M. Society was held in their Hall, 1113 Notre Dame Street, on Sunday, the 7th inst., the principal business being the election of officers for the ensuing year, which resulted as follows: President, T. W. Burns; 1st Vice, Thos. McGill; 2nd Vice, Jas. Weir; Rec. Sec., W. P. Burns; Treasurer, J. A. Heffernan; Cor. Sec., J. P. Purcell; Fin. Sec., J. J. Phelan; Marshal, Peter Doyle; Librarian, Jas. Kearns. Chairmen—Auditing Committee, John Ryan; Membership, M. J. Murphy; Hall, Patrick Doyle.

**Requiem Service for Brother Noah.**

On Thursday last the Redemptorist Fathers of St. Ann's Church sang a Solemn Requiem Mass for the repose of the soul of the late Brother Noah. Rev. Father Scanlan officiated and was assisted by Rev. J. Heffernan. The music, under the leadership of M. P. J. Shea, was of the highest order. The children of St. Henri Church Brothers' School joined with the regular choir. The attendance was very large on the part of the laity and there were delegations from all the houses and schools of the Christian Brothers. Hon. Judge Curran and his family occupied the front pews. This spontaneous act on the part of the Redemptorist Fathers is highly appreciated by all the relatives and friends of the late lamented Brother Noah.

**A Deserving Charity.**

In a recent issue we called attention to the sad condition of a young Scotch Catholic named William McLean, residing at 352 St. Lawrence street. Arrangements are now under way to hold an entertainment for his benefit at the Free Library Hall, Beury street, on Monday evening next, and a number of ladies have interested themselves in disposing of the tickets. The object is a deserving one.

A petition from the Catholic clergy of the archdiocese of Boston, praying for the enactment of laws to prevent the sale of intoxicating liquors in any public park in the state, will soon be presented to both houses of the Legislature. The petition is signed by Archbishop Williams and about 170 priests of the diocese.

"What did you stop that clock in your room for, Jane?"

"Because, Mum, the plaguey thing has some sort of a fit every mornin' Mornin', jest when I wants to sleep."—Detroit Free Press.

DOWN BY THE SEA.

New Churches to be Erected in Prince Edward Island.

Social Features — An Active Crusade Against Street-walking.

[From Our Special Correspondent.] SUMMERSIDE, P. E. I., February 10.—Left to themselves, without proper parental restraint, children are pretty apt to run to mischief and to get into trouble. This is particularly the case in seaport towns, like those of Prince Edward Island, where street walking by the young, after night, is one of the social evils that has to be combatted. It is painful to note the number of boys (some of whom imagine themselves men, since they can smoke and swear like man-o-war sailors) and slips of girls, all in their early teens, to be met with on the streets at late hours of the night, when they should be at home instead of graduating into circles which they ought to avoid as they would a plague stricken district. So intolerable has this nuisance become in Charlottetown that a "Curfew-by-law has been passed by the City Council.

The same nuisance exists in Summerside, and the "Curfew bell" is also talked of here. It is to be hoped, for the sake of the young folks who are not looked after at home as they should be, that the proposal will ere long materialize.

A few evenings ago a large and thoroughly representative audience enjoyed a genuine literary and historical treat, when Hon. F. de St. C. Brecken, assistant Post Office Inspector and ex-M.P., Charlottetown, lectured in the C.M.B.A. hall, Summerside, under the auspices of Branch 215, on "Bonnie Prince Charlie." Mr. Brecken's narrative of the landing of Prince Charlie, the uprising of 1745 and the battles of Prestonpans and Culloden Moor, the escape of the Prince—through the devoted assistance of Flora Macdonald—to the Continent and his subsequent wanderings there, his closing years and his death, was told in a manner that awakened the keenest interest of the audience, while they were charmed and delighted with the way in which he interweaved incident and anecdote, and portrayed the intense devotion and fidelity of the Highlanders to their unfortunate hero. The hon. gentleman's peroration, in which he described the last resting place of Prince Charlie in St. Peter's at Rome, was inspiring.

At the close of the lecture Mr. Brecken was tendered and fittingly acknowledged a hearty vote of thanks, which was moved by Rev. D. J. G. Macdonald, seconded by Mr. Neil Macleod, and supported by Rev. D. M. Macdonald (Tighish) and Hon. W. G. Strong, all of whom spoke in the highest terms of the effort.

Mr. Brecken's lecture was the first we have had in Summerside this season.

This year promises to be more than usually active in church building on Prince Edward Island, and several new churches will ere long replace as many old and antiquated edifices that have become too small to accommodate the respective congregations.

The most important of these structures is of course the new cathedral at Charlottetown, which was begun last spring, and of which the basement and outer walls have been already built. It is being constructed of grey stone, and when finished it will be the handsomest building in the city, and will have cost from \$100,000 to \$125,000, or even more. The contractors for the erection of the building and towers are Messrs. Paquet & Godbout, Quebec, and their contract price is \$59,995. This, however, does not include any work on the interior, which will form a separate contract, and for which tenders will be called later. The receipts on the building fund up to January 10th, 1897, when the accounts were balanced, amounted to \$42,433.33, and the expenditure to \$40,584.42, leaving a balance on hand of \$1,848.91. The expenditure, in detail, was as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Item, Amount. Secretary's salary, etc., \$182.98; Removal old cathedral, 1,175.34; Advertising for tenders new cathedral, 68.80; R. P. Lemay, inspector, 640.00; F. X. Berliquet, architect, on account plans, etc., 1,000.00; Canadian Bridge and Iron Co., steel work, 5,940.00; Paquet & Godbout—on account, 31,584.30; Total, \$40,591.42.

The beautiful Church of St. Mary's, Indian River, was last summer struck by lightning, which set it on fire, and it was burned to the ground. Preparations are now being made and money collected for rebuilding, but it is not probable that the construction of the new church will begin until the summer of 1898. The new church will be built of wood, and will be a handsome specimen of ecclesiastical architecture.

The parishioners of St. Malachi's, Kinross, are preparing to build a new church. Although they have a good deal of money and material on hand, they will not begin actual building operations before 1898, as they wish to have sufficient funds on hand to go right ahead when they undertake the work of construction. Messrs. Berliquet & Lemay are at present engaged upon the plans, which are expected to come to hand some time this month. They have instructions to make the specifications for a wooden building costing about \$11,000, to seat about seven hundred people, and with organ and choir gallery only. If, upon seeing the plans the parishioners decide upon a brick church, new plans will be made out accordingly. Mr. Lemay advises against a clerestory, as he thinks it better to put the extra cost of that style of building towards beautifying the interior.

The energetic and popular pastor of St. Malachi's, Rev. John J. Macdonald, is one of the most hospitable of Prince Edward Island's sons.

The old wooden church of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, at Fifteen Point, is to be replaced by a handsome brick church, costing, when complete, about \$25,000. The brick will be manufactured in the immediate neighbourhood, and the foundations of the church prepared, during the coming summer, and the building itself will be erected in the summer of 1898. The new church will be 132 x 58 feet, not including the chancel, and will seat about eight hundred persons, the choir gallery accommodating about two hundred more. There will be three altars and the whole will be beautifully finished. There is, in connection with this church, a colossal statue to Our Lady of Mount Carmel, erected many years ago by Father Quevillon.

The congregation of St. Ann's Church, Lot 65, of which Rev. D. B. Reid, Kelly's Cross, is the popular pastor, is subscribing generously for the erection of a new church, the foundation of which will be laid next summer, and the building is expected to be completed the following summer. Mr. R. P. Lemay, Quebec, is preparing the plans, which will be, no doubt, according to the latest designs of architecture. The new church will be a wooden building, with a seating capacity of about six hundred, and, when finished, it will be a credit to the parishioners of St. Ann's and to their beloved pastor.

OUR RAMBLER

In St. Ann's District and St. Gabriel Parish.

Mr. W. P. Kearney, for many years connected with the well-known establishment of Mr. Richard Meshane, on McGill street, and recently associated with the Catholic publishers, D. & J. Sadlier, has secured a very good position with The Toronto Tire Co., of Toronto, and leaves for that city on Friday evening next. Mr. Kearney has always been a favorite amongst all classes of young men of Montreal, and his departure will be keenly felt by them. He is a clever and energetic young Irish Canadian and will make his mark in his new career.

The St. Ann's Young Men's Society are arranging to attend the performance of the "Bells of Shandon" at the Queen's to-morrow evening. The author of the play, Mr. John J. McGinniss, a young Irish American, is a prominent member of the A. O. H. in Brooklyn, N.Y. An effort is also being made to interest the local Hibernians, the S.A.A.A., and other Irish organizations to attend on the same evening.

The young Irishmen of St. Gabriel parish have decided to form a young men's society. A preliminary meeting will be held within the next week and a committee appointed to draft the constitution and by-laws.

St. Ann's Choir held its annual meeting on Friday last and there was a large attendance of members present. Mr. P. J. Shea, organist, occupied the chair and in a neat speech complimented the members upon their spirit of enthusiasm during the past year, and pointed out the necessity of laying down certain rules for the future operations of the organization. The election of officers for the ensuing term resulted as follows: Honorary President, Rev. Father Strubbe; President, Mr. P. Burns; vice-president, Mr. W. Murphy; secretary, Mr. R. J. Hillier; assistant secretary, Mr. F. Harford; Executive Committee—Messrs. T. Malone, T. Sullivan, Ed. Quinn, J. Quinn, P. Premier, J. Morgan (Leader), P. J. Shea (Organist).

The C.M.B.A. stalwarts in the vicinity of St. Ann's Church, of Branch 41, will hold a public meeting on Wednesday next, at which Hon. M. F. Hackett, the Grand President, will deliver an address. The St. Ann's choral organization will also perform a musical programme under the direction of Organist Shea.

Rev. Father Strubbe delivered a very well timed instruction at St. Ann's on Sunday, on fraternal and national societies. After dealing with this subject at some length he turned his attention to the question of parishioners exercising greater care in regard to infectious diseases, and pointed out where such sad visitations appeared that the head of the family should not allow the children to attend school or any other place where there was a danger of spreading the contagion.

Mr. J. P. Clarke, of the firm of Pearson & Co., Chaboulez square, has gone to Boston, Mass., for a well deserved vacation.

Old and young in this neighborhood have been frequently heard bemoaning their position through being unable to exercise their rights as citizens at the polls. The fault, in a good many instances, is due to their negligence to see that their names were properly registered at the City Hall.

To these Irish Catholics, young and old, I now say, do not fail to attend to this important duty before the 23rd inst.

Rev. Father O'Meara delivered a very thoughtful and eloquent sermon on the "Dignity of Labor," at Grand Mass, in St. Gabriel's last Sunday.

will illustrate the subject with appropriate remarks, and no better way will be found of celebrating the evening than by visiting the old land in the company of such an expert and enthusiastic guide as the reverend lecturer.

The County Board of the Ancient Order of Hibernians are now engaged in making preparations for the celebration of St. Patrick's Day. The committee having the matter in hand are sparing no effort to make the celebration of this year a grand success. It is fully expected that 1000 members of the organization will be in line in the parade. The committee have already secured the Rev. W. J. O'Sullivan, of Montpelier, Vermont, to deliver the address at their entertainment which is to take place at the Windsor Hall. Father O'Sullivan, it will be remembered, delivered an eloquent and patriotic discourse in St. Patrick's Church on the occasion of the celebration of St. Patrick's Day, 1894.

The veteran members of the S. A. A., and their wives and cousins, to the number of sixty, held a gala night at the club house on St. Lawrence street last week. All the old time dances so characteristic of the Irish race were the features of the evening. There was no place for the fancy round dances and aesthetic flourishes which occupy the attention of the rising generation. Mr. J. B. J. Flynn, was master of ceremonies and from the moment he announced the first cotillon until the final double reel, the veterans exercised their physical strength to its fullest capacity.

Refreshments were also served during the evening in the commodious supper room of the club house, and the veterans proved themselves to be good talkers as they spent an hour in the recital of the stirring events, in the days of long ago, when they stood upon the green sward to maintain the supremacy of the Shamrock colors.

THE NEWS IN BRIEF.

Hon. Charles Fitzpatrick has sailed for New York, on his return. His mission, according to reports, has not been very successful.

Interprovincial Hockey is the title given to a recent encounter between two teams from Munster and Leinster, which was held at Blackrock.

Chauncey M. Depew, president of the New York Central, is rumoured, will succeed Thomas F. Byard as American Ambassador to London.

Sir Richard Cartwright and Hon. Mr. Davis are coming home from Washington, perfectly satisfied it is said with the result of their mission.

The Woman's Suffrage Bill was defeated in the Nova Scotia House by a majority of 23 to 5. Two years ago this bill was only defeated by one majority.

General Montgomery Moore acts as administrator of this country during the absence of Lord Aberdeen at Nashville, Tenn., attending the wedding of Lady Aberdeen's brother, Mr. Marjoribanks.

Mr. Gladstone is about to publish a second series of gleanings from his occasional writings. The first volume is expected in the spring and will consist of ecclesiastical and theological essays.

Hon. Mr. Flynn, leader of the Government, and Hon. Mr. Marchand, leading the forces of the Opposition, are both addressing meetings of supporters in Montreal. The day of battle cannot be far off.

A despatch announces that, recently, Mr. Gladstone said: "I do not dare to stimulate Greece when I cannot help her, but I shall profoundly rejoice at her success. I hope the powers will recollect that they have their own character to redeem."

The special gifts to the Queen by the potentates and magnates throughout the world in recognition of her reign of sixty years will be officially delivered either on her birthday, May 24, or on coronation day, June 25. Sunday, June 20, is the actual anniversary of the Queen's accession to the throne.

Sims Reeves, the oldtime favorite English tenor, finds himself at 70 without money or voice. He has been declared a bankrupt. Reeves has earned and squandered a half dozen fortunes. His easy-going notions and his extravagant disposition for entertaining his friends is the cause of his difficulties.

Lord Salisbury, it is stated, can have a dukedom if he wishes it this year. The Queen made him the offer in the jubilee year 1887, but he refused to accept the honor. Probably he will not care to refuse twice. Moreover, during the past ten years his record and esteem in public life would now make the promotion natural.

The new Education bill before the British Parliament is causing all sorts of discussion. Some of the industrious newspaper correspondents say that Mr. Balfour may resign in consequence of certain features of opposition offered to the proposal. Others say he will be elevated to a position in the upper house.

The Rev John B. Culpepper, at the Washington Street M. E. Church, Kansas, caused a sensation by proposing a tax on bachelors. "When a man is 23 and unmarried," said he, "he ought to be taxed \$100; when 28 he should be taxed \$200. The tax should be increased \$100 a year until he is thirty. Then, if he is not married, he ought to be put in the penitentiary."

The thirteenth annual session of the High Court of the Catholic Order of Foresters opened at Columbus, O., last week with about 100 delegates in attendance. After the opening the High Court officers and delegates attended Solemn High Mass at St. Joseph's Cathedral. At the business meeting the report of the High Chief Ranger, Thomas H. Carmon, of Chicago, showed the Order now has 636 subordinate courts in good standing, an increase of 100, and a total of 44,455 members, an increase of 12,004. During the year 204 deaths occurred in the Order, representing a demand of \$267,000 on the endowment fund. The financial

statement shows a balance in the endowment fund of \$33,160.72, and a balance in general expense fund of \$4,291.79.

The Ontario Legislature opened last week. The speech from the throne contains references to the long reign and approaching jubilee of the Queen, to the convalescence of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, and to the various matters which will be placed before the House for consideration during the session. Two of the most important being legislation regarding mining and the care of imported wits. Before the House adjourned the presentation of a portrait of the Hon. Edward Blake to the Legislature was the occasion of more speeches and more eulogy, in which Dr. Hoskin, the Hon. G. W. Ross and Mr. Whitney took part. Dr. Hoskin presented the portrait on behalf of the Trust Company, and Principal Sheraton unveiled it from the ladies' gallery. The new Speaker, Hon. Mr. Evans, acknowledged the gift on behalf of the House; the Minister of Education, in a brief and interesting speech, reviewed the History of the Provincial Parliament, and Mr. Whitney, in a few courteous and pleasant remarks, replied for the Opposition.

A CANADIAN SKY-SCRAPER.

The Estate Barron Now Considering Plans to Rebuild.

The New Structure to be Modern and Intended to Meet an Urgent Demand for the Facilities of the Professional Classes—Some of the Drawbacks in So-called Modern Structures Pointed Out.

There is every prospect that the unsightly ruins of the Barron Block, on St. James Street, will soon disappear. The Barron Estate is now considering the plans for the erection of a palatial building which will surpass, in architectural design and in the measure of modern facilities, that of any of the structures which now ornament the leading thoroughfares of Montreal.

That there is ample room for such an enterprise is very evident, from the demands which now prevail in the midst of citizens engaged in various professions who are in search of suites of offices equipped with all modern improvements, such as fire-proof vaults and other furnishings. Strange as it may appear, the recently erected Canadian sky-scrapers, with all their wealth of granite and artistic outward adornment, with their triple elevators, their gorgeous stairways and wide passages, there has been very little attention given to the immediate conveniences of the occupants of the offices. A professional man has but scant accommodation afforded to him in the way of safely storing away the valuable records of his calling, or even the means to preserve that measure of order and tidiness so indispensable to every well-kept establishment. The rentals for the available offices, considering the facilities afforded, are abnormally high. It is therefore learned that, for these considerations, the Estate Barron is about to erect a mammoth building which will be thoroughly modern in the sense in which the professional men of Montreal appreciate it.

That such an undertaking will yield a handsome revenue, and be enthusiastically supported by the applicants for offices is a foregone conclusion.

John E. Redmond, M. P.

Cork, Ire., February 13.—Among the passengers who arrived to day from New York on the steamer Britannia was John E. Redmond, M. P. He was received by the mayor of Cork and delegates from Dublin and this city, who extended a most hearty welcome to him on his return.

Speaking at a subsequent meeting, Mr. Redmond said the only and right policy for the Irish to follow was to adhere rigidly to the lines laid down by Parnell.

If you want a piano for a lifetime buy a Heintzman & Co. Upright; the graceful bridge and transposing keyboard are among the modern improvements to be found only in the genuine Heintzman & Co. Piano, for which C. W. Lindsay, 2366 St. Catherine street, is the sole Montreal representative.

The Sisters of St. Joseph of the Diocese of Detroit have the pious custom of offering up all their prayers and good works during the entire month of March for all who seek their aid in this way. Such as desire their prayers will write their requests, and sign the same, and forward them to the Superioress of the Sisters of St. Joseph, Lefevre Institute, Mich., on or before the 1st of March. During each year the Sisters are in receipt of many letters, expressing the gratitude of the recipient for favors obtained through the intercession of this Glorious Patron and this devotion. The sick claim they have been healed, extraordinary vocations have been obtained, unhappy marriages were blessed, sin was overcome and virtue acquired.

A doctor in Chicago, a well-known eye specialist, has started a crusade against the wearing of veils. He has found by a series of experiments that every kind of veil affects more or less the ability to see distinctly. The most injurious kind is the dotted veil, and strained eyesight must result very soon from wearing it. But even undotted and unfigured veils are objectionable, and the more numerous the meshes the greater the evil. If, however, fashion decrees the wearing of veils we are afraid that eye specialists in Chicago and elsewhere will only waste their time in pointing out the evils that result.

Mabel—Your husband has a great opinion of you. He calls you his right hand.

C. M. B. A. Presentation.

At the regular meeting of Branch 2 of the C.M.B.A., held last night, in their hall, there was a very large attendance. Deputy Meek, Chancellor Innes, and F. C. Lawlor, Rec. Sec. of Branch 1, were present.

Bro. Davis arose and addressed the Branch, and made a presentation, on behalf of Mrs. P. O'Reilly, wife of the late Patrick O'Reilly, Grand President of Quebec Grand Council of C. M. B. A., to Bro. Lawlor, of Branch No. 1, consisting of a gold breast badge, pin and watch chain, and placed the badge on his breast, taking Bro. Lawlor so much by surprise that it was with difficulty he could respond, which he did in a manner creditable to himself and the branch he represented.

Grand Deputy Meek addressed the meeting and showed the benefits derived from being a member. Chancellor Innes also addressed the meeting.

The meeting adjourned on account of Bro. Doran's wife's death.

T. KEUGH, Rec. Sec., Branch 2.

Resolutions of Condolence.

Whereas, it has pleased Almighty God, in His Divine Providence, to remove by the hand of death, the beloved wife of our esteemed Chancellor, Bro. Robert Doran; and

Whereas, by the untimely death, our brother has lost a faithful and devoted wife, his children a good and kind mother; therefore be it

Resolved,—That we, the members of Branch 2 of the C. M. B. A., in regular meeting, do hereby tender our most heartfelt sympathy to Bro. R. Doran and his children in this hour of sorrow, and pray God in His infinite mercy may enable them to bear their loss with true Christian fortitude.

And be it further Resolved,—That these resolutions be entered on the records of the Branch, and a copy sent to our bereaved brother, and also a copy be sent to the TRUE WITNESS.

(Signed) JAMES MCGINNIS, T. DAVIS, P. J. KENNEDY.

Smiles.

Jeweller: Well, madam, I have shown you all the rings suitable for a girl of twelve.

Lady: None of them will do; so I think I will wait until my daughter is fifteen.

Jeweller: Will you take a seat, madam.

Mr. John Bull (of England)—Why do the boys talk so excited? Mrs. Bull—They're at sixes an' sevens over some haps they 'ave.

Mr. Bull—At sixes an' sevens! They'll soon be at haws if they keep hon.—Harper's Round Table.

Sheridan made his appearance one day in a pair of new boots. These attracting the notice of some of his friends, "Now guess," said he, "how I came by those boots." Many probable guesses then took place. "No," said Sheridan, "no, you've not hit it, nor ever will—I bought them and paid for them."

A mayor in a small village in France having occasion to give a passport to a distinguished personage in his neighbourhood, who was blind of an eye, was in great embarrassment on coming to the description of his person. Fearful of offending the good man, he adopted the following ingenious expedient of avoiding the mention of his deformity. He wrote, "Black eyes, one of which is absent."

"I was telling Miss Cayenne about an accident with which I recently met," remarked Willie Washington, with a melancholy look in his eye.

"Indeed?"

"Yes, I was getting off an electric car. Didn't realize how fast it was going, and landed on my hands instead of my feet."

"What did Miss Cayenne say about it?"

"Not much. She merely remarked that I had at last succeeded in being original."—Washington Star.

Philip Sheridan, B.C.L.

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Here you find the latest productions of France and America, the newest fashions, the most durable Silks of the world.

Here you can make your selections, confident that nowhere can you do better; and as to values, we are never underbid. This week two attractive features should interest you.

John Murphy & Co's ADVERTISEMENT.

New Dress Goods.

Fast Dye Navy Blue Serges. Fast Dye Navy Blue Serges, in fine and heavy twill, all pure wool, the best Serges imported. Prices from 40c per yard.

Silk and Wool Dress Fabric.

A shipment of choice Silk and Wool Dress Goods, in all the new leading shades and patterns. Prices from 75c per yd. Fine Checked Dress Goods, in Silk and Wool and in All Wool, very fine goods, and one of the leading novelties for the coming season. Prices from 50c per yd. Fine Costume Tweeds in all the newest shades and choice mixtures. A large assortment to select from. Prices from 35c per yard.

Black Dress Goods Dept.

All-Wool Black Serges, all guaranteed fast dye. Prices from 30c per yard. Choice Black Crepons, 50 handsome patterns to select from. Black Crepons from 37c per yard.

New Black Mohairs.

New Plain Mohair Sicilians. New Fancy Mohair Sicilians. New Plain Mohair Lustres. New Fancy Mohair Lustres. A fine assortment of Plain and Fancy Mohairs to select from.

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652 Craig Street.



A SESSION OF THE COURT OF QUEEN'S BENCH (Crown side), holding criminal jurisdiction in and for the district of Montreal, will be held in the Court House, in the City of Montreal, on Monday, the 1st Day of March Next, at TEN o'clock in the Forenoon.

In consequence, I give public notice to all who intend to proceed against any prisoners now in the Common Jail of the said District, and all others, that they must be present then and there; and I also give notice to all Justices of the Peace, Coroners and Peace Officers, in and for the said District, that they must be present, then and there, with their Records, Rolls, Indictments and other Documents, in order to do those things which belong to them in their respective capacities.

J. R. THIBAUDEAU, Sheriff.

SHERIFF'S OFFICE, Montreal, 15th February, 1897.

31-2

CARPETS FOR THE SPRING.

Order early and have your goods prepared for immediate delivery when required.

CURTAINS, RUGS, OILCLOTHS, CORK AND TILE FLOORING.

THOMAS LICGET, 1884 Notre Dame St.

# THE INFANT JESUS OF PRAGUE

The Miraculous Statue Whose Origin No One Knows.

BY L. W. KELLY, IN THE CATHOLIC COLUMBIAN.

THE whole family were gathered around the Christmas tree. It was gorgeous with ornaments, and gay with lights, and laden with gifts. The children clapped their hands and uttered cries of joy at sight of it.

"Isn't it beautiful!" exclaimed Irene. "And wasn't Santa Claus kind to trim it for us?" asked Francis.

"O, look at the Crib," requested Mary, pointing at the foot of the tree.

There, sure enough, was a representation of a pretty large stable, that was open in front. Inside of it was a manger, filled with straw, upon which the Divine Infant reposed. Beside the Child on one side sat Mary, while on the other stood Joseph. Two animals looked around from their stalls. Angels hovered about and shepherds were approaching, bearing among their gifts a snow-white lamb.

"How sweet the dear Babe looks!" exclaimed Mary.

"Lem me tise 'im," cooed Baby Agnes.

At this odd form of homage the father and mother, who were standing in the background, looked at each other and smiled.

"There's another one," called out Arthur, pointing, as he spoke, to the middle of the tree, where, on a little stand that was nailed to two branches, stood a figure of the Infant Jesus, robed in a garment somewhat like a cassock covered with a cope richly embroidered. His right hand was raised in blessing and in His left hand He held a globe. On His head was a golden crown, studded with gems, and surmounted with a cross.

"Oh, how lovely!" cried Irene.

"Why is it dressed that way?" inquired Mary.

"Because it is a copy of the miraculous statue of the Infant Jesus of Prague in Bohemia," answered the father.

"Tell us about it, please," urged the children in chorus.

"Wait till we've seen what Santa Claus has brought," replied the mother.

So the packages were cut down from the branches to which the good St. Nicholas had tied them, the wrappings were torn off, and the gifts were examined. Every one received presents appropriate and desired, and, in addition, some toys and useful things marked: "To be given to the poor by you in honor of the Christ-Child."

When everything had been duly admired, they all took seats and the father related this story:

"Once upon a time," he said, "about 268 years ago, a pious princess named Polyxena, who was greatly attached to the Carmelites, took to their house in Prague, a lovely wax figure of the Divine Child, saying to them: 'Venerable Fathers, I bring you my dearest possession. Honor this image and you shall never want.' Where she had obtained it and why she so prized it, no one now knows. However, the priests received it joyfully, placed it in the chapel of the community, and began to venerate it.

"The Fathers were at that time wretchedly poor. But shortly after the statue was received the Emperor Ferdinand II. gave them two thousand florins in cash and promised them a monthly allowance for their support. Other benefactors rallied to their relief, and soon they were above need.

"The most ardent worshippers of the Infant Jesus were the nuns. They were fond of adoring Him in presence of His pretty image, which recalled to them His humility, His innocence and His love for men. One of them, named Cyrillus, was troubled at heart because he could find no comfort in prayer or sweetness in other religious exercises. He had been so long in this dryness of spirit that he was inclined to despair. He appealed to the Divine Child to relieve him of his desolation, and kneeling before the statue, he promised to hope in His mercy and to persevere in His service in the future. At once the darkness left his soul and he was refreshed with consolation.

"The novitiate of the Carmelites was transferred from Prague to Munich in 1680. When the novices were gone, the devotion to the statue in honor of our dear Lord declined in the community. Then, too, without apparent cause, the prosperity of the monastery visibly grew less until the monks were again in want.

"The city of Prague was captured in 1631 by the Protestants, in a religious war of that time. The monasteries and convents were plundered and closed. The churches were seized by sectarian preachers. The Carmelites fled from their cloisters. The invaders ransacked their buildings. They seized the figure of the Infant Jesus and cast it down behind the altar. Its hands were broken off by the fall."

"Wasn't that shocking!" interrupted impulsive Irene.

"It was indeed," assented the father. "Well, there the image lay in the dust for seven years, for although the Carmelites had meanwhile regained possession of their monastery, they knew not what had become of it and they were so pressed with trouble and want that they were too worried to enquire.

"One day a young novice found the dirt-covered and broken image. Instead of cleaning it and restoring it to honor, he threw it contemptuously back into its dark corner under the altar. Strange to say, from that day on, a change came over him. He had been noted for pety, but he became more and more self-indulgent and finally he had to be dismissed.

"Discord as well as destitution obtained in the house. No prior and no master of novices would stay for the full term of three years. Then, also, Ferdinand III. withdrew the allowance granted by his father.

"This miserable state of affairs lasted until Pentecost in 1687. Then a priest

in Munich was transferred to Prague. He was Cyrillus, the once favored novice, now ordained. Shortly after his arrival he began an inquiry for the statue so dear to his heart. No one could tell him anything about it. He himself hunted high and low. At last his search led him behind the altar. He drew forth the cherished image, brushed off the dust, washed the face, and kissed it reverently in memory of the celestial grace that he had received at its feet."

"Me 'ant to tise it, too," echoed Baby Agnes. Everybody laughed at the dear little thing and the father continued:

"Then Father Cyrillus carried the statue to the Prior and told him all about it. He begged permission to place it again in the chapel. This request was granted. Once more the lovely child was King of the oratory.

"Almost immediately good times came back to the monastery. Friends redoubled their alms. Debts due it were paid. Creditors forgave it its indebtedness to them. Peace and frugal plenty abounded within it.

"On account of the flowing robe that covered the statue and because of the many years since he had seen it, Father Cyrillus did not notice that the hands had been broken off. But one day, as he was praying to our Saviour before it, he thought that he actually heard these words: 'Have pity on me and I will have pity on you. Give me my hands and I will give you peace. As you honor me I will recompense you.' He made an examination and saw that the hands were missing. He looked for them but they could not be found. He took the figure to the Prior and besought him to have new hands put on it. But the reply was that the monastery was as yet too poor to go to any unnecessary expense.

"A day or two later Father Cyrillus was called to give the Last Sacraments to a rich man who was about to die. He told him of the mutilated statue and received from him enough money to have it repaired. But the Prior thought that the Lord would be better pleased with an entirely new image, which he therefore bought. The very first day that it was in the chapel it was broken to pieces by a heavy candle-stick that accidentally fell upon it. The Lord seemed to prefer the old statue before which the incense of so many prayers and promises and good resolutions had been offered to Him.

"Shortly after this the Prior resigned. To his successor, Father Dominic of St. Nicholas, Father Cyrillus related the history of the Infant and implored him to have arms fitted to it. The Prior declared that there was no money on hand then that could be used for the purpose. The sorrowing Father went to his cell to entreat God to send him the means to have the repairs made. He was hardly done with his prayer when he was called to the church to receive from a strange lady a donation of money. Full of joy, he hastened with the offering to the Prior, who agreed to have the mending done if the cost did not exceed the sum just given. But the artist in wax who was consulted asked a higher price.

"Disappointed again, again Father Cyrillus betook himself to prayer. Then he once more heard the mysterious voice saying: 'Place me at the entrance of the sacristy and you will receive aid.' Confidently he carried the statue to the sacristy and returned to his cell. Just then the Prior happened to go to the sacristy and while he was there an unknown man knocked at the door and volunteered to make the figure whole. The offer was accepted. The hands and the globe of sovereignty were molded and deftly attached to the arms. The statue was then placed in the church and exposed for a time to public veneration.

"Not long after this a pestilence ravaged Prague. The Prior fell sick. When he was almost at the point of death, he vowed if he recovered he would celebrate a novena of Masses before the statue of the Infant Jesus. Instantly he felt better and in a day or two he was completely well.

"That cure was the first of a long series of marvellous favors granted by God in reward for veneration of the image and for honor of the virtues practiced by the Redeemer in His infancy. So numerous and extraordinary were these graces that devotion to the statue as miraculous spread among the inhabitants of Prague. Soon this pious belief passed beyond the borders of Bohemia and pilgrims began to flock from distant parts to venerate the image. It was moved to a chapel that was built expressly for it. The Prince-Bishop of Prague, Cardinal von Harrach, consecrated the chapel on the 3rd of May, 1648, and gave permission for the offering of the Holy Sacrifice there. With this high sanction, regard for the statue increased among the clergy and the laity, and its shrine was daily crowded with the faithful anxious to perform their devotions before it.

"The Carmelite general, Fr. Francis of the Blessed Sacrament, made a visitation to the monastery in Prague in the year 1651, and after investigating the reasons for the reverence shown to the statue, gave them his approval in writing under the seal of the Order.

"The image was solemnly crowned on April 4, 1655. The Coadjutor Bishop of Prague officiated in the presence of an immense congregation.

"As women desired to be at liberty to honor the Lord under this representation, which they could not do, except on rare solemnities, while it was kept in the monastery chapel, the brothers Ernst and Francis, Barons of Talmberg, erected a public chapel for it, and on March 19, 1660, it was solemnly carried to its new abode. In the procession were many priests, nobles, and other prominent persons of Bohemia.

"Still the devotion increased; still the throngs of worshippers multiplied. The Talmberg chapel became too small to accommodate the crowds that congregated around the blessed Infant. Accordingly it was reverently borne to the great Church of Our Lady of Victories on January 19, 1741, and placed on a splendid altar especially decorated for it.

"Sad times returned when Emperor Joseph II. issued his notorious order against cloisters. The monastery of the Carmelites in Prague was closed and the community was dispersed. But, happily, the church was left to sacred uses and the statue was spared, although the gifts around it, that had been made in thanksgiving for favors received, were confiscated, sold and destroyed. There would have been danger of a popular tumult if it had been profaned. The edifice was made a parish church and was handed over to the priests of the Order of Malta, in whose charge it still remains.

"The church and the privileged altar were renovated in 1878. While the repairs were under way, the statue was taken in triumphal procession from convent to convent. Twelve of them harbored it for a longer or a shorter period and all of them vied with one another in paying it homage.

"The Catholic people of Prague and of all Bohemia are enthusiastically devoted to that statue, which is still venerated as miraculous by them as it was by their forefathers for nearly three centuries. It is one of the priceless treasures of the city. It is nineteen inches high. It has many rich robes and cloaks, some of which are encrusted with jewels. It has several crowns of gold.

"I'd like to see it," broke in the irrepressible Irene.

"Perhaps you may go to Prague some day," said the mother.

"Well, it will just look like this," continued the father. "The Carmelite nuns of Prague were the first to have a duplicate made of it. The replica was piously 'ouched to the original and then borne to their convent. They venerated it and then took delight in multiplying copies of it, which they scattered in all directions in order to spread devotion to Christ as a Child. These images soon found their way into Austria, Hungary, Germany, Poland, France, Italy, Spain and Portugal, carrying the fame of the Infant Jesus of Prague and causing the faithful to know by experience that our dear Lord is attentive to those who adore Him as a Child. They were carried to Asia and Africa. They were taken to Australia. They were brought across seas to America. The provincial house of the Sisters of the poor of St. Francis was the first shelter for one of them here. It came from the mother house at Aix, in July, 1887. Soon afterwards other similar statues were well come in St. Francis' Hospital, New York, and St. Joseph's Hospital for Incurables in the same city; in the convent of the Sisters of Providence at St. Martin in Kentucky; at St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Covington, St. Francis' Hospital in Hoboken, and the convent of the Sisters of Providence, in Providence, Rhode Island."

"How did you come to get one, papa?" asked Arthur.

"Because a Carmelite nun in the monastery in New Orleans wrote to me saying: 'The Divine Infant Jesus seems desirous of being known and loved as a little child in this egotistical age of ours. He is bestowing His graces so lavishly upon all who invoke Him: we shall then make a special novena in His honor for your intention, and we inclose you this picture and prayer to excite your confidence and devotion.' Then I read what a Redeemptorist priest, Father Joseph Mayer, wrote: 'Wherever an image of the Divine Infant Jesus has found a home, blessing has accompanied it, and every touching and the petitions sent up at His feet. Many are the answers vouchsafed to the prayers of the pious hearts that, taking their needs to the Sacred Heart of our dear Lord, offer them to Him, with their praise, through the tender hands of the Little King who seems to appeal to all the love of His creatures through His frail infancy, and reproach them in nothing for the great sacrifice of His love on Calvary.'

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"O, you dear papa," cried Irene, "now the Infant Jesus of Prague will reign as King of this home! No wonder that Santa Claus gave it such a fine place on our Christmas tree."

C. M. B. A. Branch '1'.

The meeting of Branch 41 of the C.M.B.A. of Canada, for the installation of officers, was held in St. Ann's Hall, Ottawa street, last Thursday evening. Among those present were Grand Deputies J. J. Costigan and T. P. Tansey, Brothers W. J. McElroy, Arthur Jones, W. J. Whelan, John Doheny, H. Thompson, C. Gleeson, D. Baxter, Thos. Pegnam, J. A. Clark, Thos. O'Connell and others. Grand Deputy Costigan installed the following office-bearers of the Branch for the ensuing year: Spiritual adviser, Rev. E. Strubbe, C.S.S.R.; medical adviser, Dr. Chas. A. O'Connor; president, Bro. W. J. McElroy; first vice-president, Bro. Thos. Pegnam; second vice-president, Bro. A. Jones; secretary, Bro. J. J. Jones; assistant-secretary, Bro. Hugh Doheny; treasurer, Bro. D. Baxter; financial secretary, Bro. H. Thompson; marshal, Bro. M. O'Brien; guard, Bro. C. Gleeson; trustees, Bro. A. Jones, M. Bellan, M. O'Brien, John Doheny, Thos. E. Moore; chancellor, Bro. W. J. Rafferty. The Grand Deputy also initiated two new members into the Branch. The reports of the auditors, treasurer and financial secretary were read, and showed the Branch to be in a good condition, and its affairs well managed. A special committee was appointed to arrange for the holding of an open meeting by the Branch on the evening of Wednesday, the 24th of February, and judging from the enthusiasm shown by the members, the event promises to be a success.

AS OLD AS ANTIQUITY.

Either by acquired taint or heredity these old foes, Scrofula and Consumption, must be faced generation after generation after generation; but you may meet them with the odds in your favor by the help of Scott's Emulsion.

Deacon Johnson—'I'm afraid dat ef 'yo married mah daughter I would had to assist 'yo.'

Abe Hardcase—'Lawd no; I kin take care of mahself all right. You wouldn't had to do nuffin' but take care ob her and the children. Don't 'yo' worry 'yesself about me.—Harper's Bazaar.

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### PLAGUE-STRICKEN INDIA.

A Pen-Picture of the Ravages Caused by the Visitation in Bombay.

The Weird Ceremonies of Natives—Some Difficulties Caused by Caste in the Treatment of Patients.

BOMBAY, January 10.—The traveller who comes into Bombay just now is at first greatly surprised. The plague here! Fifty deaths a day! The people panic-stricken! Where is all that?

The streets of Bombay from the port are full of life. The coolies in white, with their red turbans; the women in red or rose-colored saris; and with silver and colored glass bracelets on their arms and ankles, and rings on their fingers and toes, move about carrying different objects in sparkling copper pots. They present an air of gaiety with their bright columns in the warm sunlight. Jugglers, installed under the tall *barridas* which line the avenues, beat their drums and play their bagpipes. All that noise and all those gay colors give a poor idea of a city stricken with a plague.

But that is only the first impression. Further on in the Hindoo town, the bazaar and the business streets are almost deserted, that is, for this city, where the population is usually so dense; but to a European, even accustomed to crowded cities, the streets here seem to be full of people. In the little shops where they burn sandal-wood and incense, the strong odor of phenol predominates, and in front of the houses from which dead bodies have just been taken the sidewalks are marked with large daubs of a reddish mixture, of which chlorine forms the basis.

In the native quarter along the seaside, and in the docks, the plague appears to hold itself circumscribed, and the houses giving out a strong odor of chlorid and phenol are becoming more and more numerous. Colaba, a half-English quarter, is almost deserted, and the troops that were garrisoned at Marine Lines, are now camped by the seaside, in the neighborhood of Back Bay.

The money market is closed, so are the fact-vendors, and during the last month about 250,000 inhabitants have fled from the city.

Every evening at the railway station there is a fearful crowding of people who missed all the trains of the day. The throng of coolies gathered around the entrance for third class passengers hold out their money and implore the ticket men to take their fares. The poor people, shouting and rushing, endeavor to pass their money over the heads of those in front of them. Although repeatedly driven back, they never fail to return to the charge. Groups of women and children, carrying red and white packages and copper pots, are highly polished that they look like gold, wait at the office in expectation of the lucky ticket that will enable them to fly from the city. Then, when the last train is gone, they camp in crowds around the station stretched upon the ground. In picturesque disorder, with their baggage lying in heaps, they wait for the next morning's train.

The bubonic plague, as it is called, is still a mystery. Its origin is not known. At first it was attributed to dates that came from the interior. The dates were destroyed and the corn was thrown into the sea; but the plague still persisted and increased every day. One morning a large number of rats were found dead. Then the pigeons and chickens were attacked. A rat that a man took the disease. Then others caught it and they all died suddenly. A high fever, with a little swelling under the arms or in the groin is all there is to it, but the man dies in forty-eight hours. The victims are becoming more and more numerous.

It should be remembered that in the hospitals, thanks to the inoculations by the new serum, more than two-thirds of the patients are cured. But the idea of the mixture of castes and of contact with people who are considered inferior keeps the Hindoos from the hospitals. They prefer to remain at home and be attended by quacks or sorcerers, and they die rather than renounce their ideas of caste. Moreover, both before and after death, the religion of the Parsees, who form a considerable portion of the population of Bombay, orders queer sorts of practices which it would be impossible to permit in the hospitals, and this is why the Parsees refuse to be taken to them.

In the house of a Parsee, who was taken sick yesterday, I saw his wife washing a white garment. Only a member of the family can do that wash-

WONDERFUL are the cures by Hood's Sarsaparilla, and yet they are simple and natural. Hood's Sarsaparilla makes PURE BLOOD.

### PLAGUE-STRICKEN INDIA.

The wife, who knew that her husband was attacked by the plague, and consequently doomed, was preparing his death robe in a silent and tearless resignation that made me shudder.

The sick man lay upon a low bed. He seemed greatly oppressed, and was perspiring freely. Bandages were on his neck. With difficulty he murmured, "Paree, sahib!" ("Water sir!") Then he closed his eyes and seemed to be asleep. They all sleep that way until the end.

In the narrow streets the funerals pass along. Hindoos, carried on litters and with their faces painted, grimace a livid smile under the red paint on their cheeks. The body is covered with garlands of jasmine and roses of Bengal. In front of the bier a man carries a vase which holds the funeral pile, and behind the body a number of men march, beating crochets and tambourines. Then follow the friends, each one carrying a piece of wood, which he will place upon the funeral pile as a last homage to the dead.

Here, too, are the funerals of the Mussulmans. The body is carried on a bier covered with red stuff streaked with gold. The bearers and followers all sing a sort of melopoea that is almost gay. They move along very slowly toward the Mussulmans cemetery on the border of the sea, where the dead man will sleep forever under the tall banyans and the flowery jasmines.

But here comes the funeral of a Parsee. On a litter covered with white draperies the dead man, clothed in white, is carried by eight men also clothed in white and wearing white gloves. The Parsee custom exacts that the dead must be brought to the Tower of Silence by these men, who form a separate caste and cannot take part in any public ceremonies without having first gone through eight days of purification; and they remain in a house specially built for them. Now, on account of this epidemic, they are obliged to wear gloves which they throw into the fire, just as they do their clothes, after having undressed the body, in order to leave it absolutely naked.

"Naked he came into the world, and naked he must return to dust."

At the Tower of Silence the vultures in a few hours leave nothing of the body but the skeleton, which the burning sun will soon reduce to dust, and the dust itself will be carried away by the first monsoon.

A long file of men in white march two by two, bound to each other, as a sign of union, by a white handkerchief. Very slowly they follow the bier, exactly at forty paces distant from it. They pass on to the Tower, where the vultures, gorged just now, await their feast while sleeping in the sun.

To-day, accompanied by Mr. Snow, the Municipal Commissioner of the city of Bombay, I visited the hospital where the sufferers were cared for. Outside of the city for a considerable time the wagon brought us through a wretched locality, and then through the grounds in the neighborhood of the factories. In the shade of the great banyans and palm trees delicate and pale flowers grow, rose and mauve color. Hedges constellated with tender violet and jasmines on the old walls alternate with the roses, and give out their perfumes. We reach the Parel suburb, at the end of which, in a great field, stands the hospital for the plague-stricken. It is a huge iron framework covered and surrounded with mats that are burned as soon as they become impregnated with microbes. The air in the place is constantly renewed, and, in spite of 30 degrees Centigrade, which in this season is the average temperature here, it was almost cool.

All the sick in the hospitals are coolies of the lowest Hindoo caste. On beds with thin mattresses the unfortunate lie. One after the other the doctor who was attending them showed them to us. The nurses uncovered them. At first nothing remarkable appeared on their bronzed, naked bodies. Some had bandages under their arms and in the groin. It is the hardened gland in the neck, under the arms and in the groin that causes all the trouble. The patient gets a fever which makes him sleep, exhausts him, and quickly kills him.

In the ward which we had just passed through there were only convalescents or mild cases. At the end of this room there was a little emaciated creature. He was so thin that his body in the bed was hardly outlined under the covering. He was asleep as we were passing by. He came from one of the districts ravaged by the famine. To fly from the other evil he came here and caught the plague. They woke him up, and he opened his enormous and superb eyes. He seemed delighted when he woke up, or it might be that he was still in a half-dream. He had the laugh of a happy child, and comically he shook his little shaved head, on the top of which was the Mussulman queue that looked like a corkcrew. Then immediately he dropped to sleep again. The doctor said he was getting better. His fever was diminishing, and he was as good as saved.

In a room further on there were four very bad cases. Delirium held one in agony. He constantly called for help in a hoarse voice that was gradually be-

### PLAGUE-STRICKEN INDIA.

coming more and more faint. The attendants held him. Another was gnashing his teeth, and a third was motionless; perhaps he was already dead.

Further on, in houses made of bamboo and mats the Hindoos who refuse the assistance of any doctors who are not Hindoos are isolated. One old man was there. To the swelling under his arms a sort of white paste was applied. He was delicious, and looked at us with a vague and vacant stare from which all intelligence seemed absent.

Still further on was a Hindoo woman that was brought there the day before along with her husband, who died this morning. She was singularly beautiful, with a delicate pale face, and blue-black hair. Her arms were ornamented by bracelets and golden rings hung from beautiful black eyes, and looked at us like a wounded gazelle. Then, with a painful sigh, she turned toward the wall, making her bracelets jingle as she moved. She still wore her blue *tricholi*. A variegated covering was thrown over her, and beside her bed was a collection of boxes and pots of polished copper that looked like toys. As I said, she was marvellously beautiful, not yet marred by the disease. She slept there quietly, more like some figure in a fairy tale than an unfortunate plague-stricken creature doomed to die in a few hours through the ignorance of her Hindoo doctor.

At last we left that sad hospital. No Sister of Charity was there to bring a little consolation to those sufferers whose black eyes, with their vague and delirious expression, still haunt me. I felt an indescribable feeling of sadness at the idea of not being able to give them any relief or to express to them even one word of hope in their very difficult, but soft and musical language.

We returned to the city by another road, which brought us in front of the field of funeral piles. In the blue air of the night, which comes on very quickly under the giant banyans, thick columns of red smoke lighted up a corner of the sky. I stopped in front of the house of the Parsee whom I had gone to see the day before. He was dead. In the place where his bed had been incense was burning in a copper vase; and in another copper vase there were flowers, which must be renewed regularly during fourteen days; while in the Tower of Silence under the blazing sun, his bones will whiten until they are reduced to dust.

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# WALTER'S BUDGET.

Catholic Young Men Should Secure Their Vote.

## THE PHILOSOPHY OF HOUSE HUNTERS.

The Washington of the North—The Chinese as Domestic Servants—An Object Lesson Where the Felice Creatures Suffered—Turkey and Greece—Again St. Patrick's League.

Are you house-hunting? Great fun, is it not? I will let you into a secret. My wife and I are on the same tack. We are looking for a nice, comfortable house with a good-natured landlord—not landlady, remember. We are not particular as to location, but, of course, the neighborhood must be highly respectable, central and airy. Children cannot get too much fresh air. We have three handsome children—miniatures of their papa—a good wide street, a big yard, a front balcony and a back gallery are adjudged necessary.

We are not sticklers as to the internal arrangements of our future domicile, except in insisting upon all modern conveniences and improvements. What would be the use of living in this age of progress if we did not take advantage of all the discoveries science and necessity have made to add to our comforts and economize our strength? In short, we simply want a pretty, convenient, up-to-date home, easy of access alike to ourselves and the balmy summer breezes. The matter of rent gives us no trouble. We have unanimously decided not to exceed \$18 per month, and if some landlord with a keen sense of perception should thrust a suitable residence upon such desirable tenants at a lower figure we will not worry about the difference.

We are very easy to please. Not at all like the unreasonable people who have been inspecting our present abode and finding fault with it. We never imagined what terrible disadvantages we had lived under until this year's crop of house-hunters dropped around to criticize the premises. They have discovered so many defects and suggested such a number of necessary improvements that the landlord is actually beginning to look ashamed of himself for owning such a place. However, he will harden, and eventually rent his house at a good figure, and by the end of May all the house-hunters of to-day will be settled down in peace and contentment until the uneasy spirit moves them again to start out on a vain search after that myth—an ideal house at an ideal rent.

There seems to be very little respect for the Election Act in the vicinity of London, Ontario. Judging from the contest in that district during the past few years, both parties seem to be past masters in the art of electioneering, and both have great faith in the effectiveness of the old method of capturing a man's heart (and vote)—through his stomach.

Mr. Laurier has talked of making Ottawa the Washington of the North. Suppose the members of the Cabinet were to constitute themselves into a volunteer fire corps to begin with? Washington pioneers most likely took that initiative step towards civic progress some years ago. If the Government constitute the apparatus of the newspaper correspondent will do the required pumping, and though the country may be flooded with "hot air," the Parliament Building will be safe from future serious conflagrations.

The Mayor of Ottawa must have been "rattled" when he telegraphed to Montreal for assistance at the eleventh hour. Perhaps the Ottawaites will learn something from watching our firemen play on the ruins. As much as one learns of military tactics from viewing a sham fight.

What an edifying spectacle was that presented by a minister of Cadillac, Michigan, when he recently gave an illustration of the pernicious effects of the tobacco habit by poisoning two cats with nicotine in his pulp! His congregation must have left the church with sweet, elevating thoughts of nobler things—and an appetite for dinner!

If Turkey and Greece get real hot over the Cretan affair there will be war in the pan. And pan-war might mean universal war, which would be out of the frying pan into the fire.

I see that a resident of Westmount has solved the "servant girl question" by engaging a Chinese domestic. Chinese servants are much in evidence on the Pacific Coast, both in Canada and the United States, and have been years, for the very simple reason that women and girls are at a premium in these newly settled districts, while Chinamen are at a tremendous discount. The employment of the almond-eyed Celestial is rather a matter of necessity than a question of choice at there. As to the gentleman of Westmount, of course he has a perfect right to regulate his household affairs to suit his own taste, but the vast majority of people in these diggings would prefer to have their meals pre-

pared and their houses looked after by a Christian girl with perceptible imperfections than to be haunted by the unprepossessing presence of an inscrutable, speechless "heathen Chinese" angel.

If your name is not on the Provincial electoral lists, see to it.

## Our Irish Letter.

At a recent meeting of the Irish Workhouse Reform Association, Dr. Moorehead moved the following resolution: "That this conference recommends the Irish Workhouse Association to the earnest attention of all interested or concerned in the improvement of the administration of Irish workhouses and the condition of the helpless classes therein." In speaking to this resolution Dr. Moorehead quoted statistics to show that one-fourth of those who were inmates of the workhouses throughout the year died every year. This mortality was terrible. The rate of mortality in the country—young and old, rich and poor—was about 18 per thousand per annum; in lunatic asylums about 70 per thousand; but in the workhouses it was 250 per thousand per annum. The cause of this, he had no hesitation in saying, was the want of nutritious food, insufficient warmth, and unwholesome surroundings. (Hear, hear.) The figures would speak for themselves, and no wonder Irish labourers hesitated up to the last moment before going into these workhouses.

The new church of St. Mary's of the Rosary, Nenagh, was lately the scene of an impressive religious ceremony. His Lordship the Most Rev. Dr. MacRedmond presided at the 11 o'clock Mass, and blessed the new bell which has been provided for the church. It is a splendid specimen of the bellfounder's art. It weighs 45 cwt., its dimensions being 5 feet high by 5 feet 2 inches in diameter, and the cost of its construction and erection £330. The bell is the gift of the Very Rev. Thomas O'Meara, P.P. of Roscrea, and V.G. of Killaloe, whose name is inscribed on it in raised letters.

Miss Martin, of Enniskillen, may justly claim the great honor and signal privilege of being the first representative of her sex to secure election as a Poor Law Guardian in this country. Much has been said and written regarding the special fitness of women for such positions. Miss Martin has to some extent an arduous task to perform, as her career will be doubtless watched in local circles with much interest.

The annual meeting of the Irish Industrial League took place in the Central Lecture Hall, Dublin, some days ago. Among the resolutions adopted were the following: One calling for redress on the over-taxation question, and another asking for the establishment of a technical education system.

Mr. C. L. Oldham delivered a lecture last week before the Catholic Commercial Club of this city, taking for his subject, "The Foundation Stones of Prosperity in Ireland." During the course of an able and exhaustive review of the leading features in the long and sad story of Ireland, the lecturer presented the following interesting statistics in relation to the character of the occupations of the population, taken from the Census of 1891. Great Britain contained an urban population of 25,326,302 and a rural population of only 9,501,370; Ireland showed 1,244,113 urban and 3,460,687 rural population. In other words, in Great Britain for every 100 rural and agricultural there are 248 urban and industrial; in Ireland it is more than reversed—for every 100 urban we have 278 rural. Noting the extent to which the country towns in Ireland are dependent upon agriculture, and not really industrial in an independent sense, it was not an overstatement that out of a total of 44 millions in Ireland there are 34 millions dependent upon agriculture. The general conditions now obtaining in Western Europe favored the prosperity of urban and industrial populations, including Great Britain, and was very depressing to agricultural countries such as Ireland. Hence the problem of achieving prosperity under existing conditions in Ireland was one for Irish brains to solve, and little help or guidance can be expected from Great Britain's case.

In closing Mr. Oldham said he wished them to realize how humble and moderate were the ideas and wants of the Irish people. They were not Imperial in their demands; their greed did not extend to the appropriation of the riches of the world and the despoliation of weaker nations. The Irish wants were domestic and limited; they wanted the right to gain an honest living by patient toil within the four seas of their native land.

There are always schemes and projects galore to relieve the condition of the Irish people. Among these recently suggested, in anticipation of the big refund which is to be made by England in connection with the overtaxation, may be mentioned the construction of a ship canal between Dublin and Galway. This project was mooted upwards of ten years ago, and the ground has been actually surveyed and the levels taken. At that time the estimated cost was about ten millions sterling. Another scheme suggested is the making of a submarine tunnel between England and Ireland. This, too, was strongly advocated some years back and admitted to be perfectly feasible. Then the State purchase of the Irish railways would be another great work of national improvement.

The executive entrusted with the preparation of the programme for the great Irish Musical Fair is now rapidly nearing the end of their labors. It is said that the work is laid out with a skill and artistic taste of the highest order, and that there is not the least doubt but what the undertaking will be a magnificent success.

## FOR OUR LITTLE FOLKS.

An Entertaining Little Study, in Which the True Meaning of Duty is Demonstrated.

How it Points Out the Way to Success and Happiness.

(Written for THE TRUE WITNESS.)

There is one little word which you should always keep before you, little folks, for it has the power of making your lives true and beautiful and framing your characters according to God's design.

It just takes four letters of our alphabet to spell it—D-U-T-Y—and so it is one of the first words we learn to know, as it should be one of our first aims to understand its meaning.

God has marked out for each and every one of us a particular path which we must carefully follow in order to reach heaven; and along this path sits a beautiful angel marking out each step for us, and beckoning us along that we may know and see the way, and this angel's name is Duty.

Do you think the Wise Men would have found the Infant Jesus in Bethlehem's stable if the shining star of the first Christmas night had not gone before them, and led the way through desert and fruitful valley, until it rested over the poor little manger throne? Do you remember how anxious and bewildered they were when the star disappeared for a time and they no longer knew the way? Well, the star that God has given us for a luminous guide is Duty, and when we turn aside from the path it points we lose our way and we go stumbling in dark and dismal places, without aim or purpose, and finding only failure and heartache.

Every morning when we wake we find a row of little finger posts set out to trace the day's path and each of them is marked—Duty.

The first one points upward and directs us to elevate our thoughts to God in morning prayer and to offer the work of the day to our Creator. Then we find others pointing at ourselves and bidding us dress neatly and quickly; another that bids us greet our parents and little brothers and sisters with cheery good-mornings and sunny faces; and a little further on comes another, pointing with two fingers, one towards the clock and the other towards school, and we hurry away to obey their commands.

When the classroom is reached, if you look up you will find another little finger-post pointing out your teacher, and conscience whispers that duty wishes you to obey, respect and love the one whom God has appointed to instruct you, and who is devoting life and talents to your service, and has given up home and friends and the pleasures of the world in order to enlighten and train your minds that you may become true Christian men and women, firm in your faith and an honor to the world.

The teacher's voice is the voice of Duty, while you are in school, so you cannot mistake what is required of you for that time. And, when you leave the school-room, Duty meets you again and points a finger towards your home and bids you hasten there. When home is reached, Duty whispers to you on the threshold: "Obey your parents, little one." And again your path is clear, you know the way; and when, lessons studied and good-nights said, you enter your own little room, the last little finger post shines out clear and distinct and claims for God your homage and love in evening prayer. Then Duty flits away to Heaven laden with the treasure of good deeds that you dropped at each finger-post along the day's journey, and the angel of sleep hovers above you and keeps you in safety till the morning breaks again.

Some young people think only of the fun and the good time they can have and they make this quest the main object of their lives. On and on they go in a headlong and giddy chase after the darling butterfly, pleasure, until they trample over the beautiful and delicate flowers of virtue in their eagerness to grasp the gaudy insect and keep it for their own; but of en they find the wasp's cruel sting beneath the wings of their glittering prize and the pain proves but a poor reward for their wasted hours, while those who kept steadily on their way found true pleasure and joy seeking them as they went in the sunshine of God's love and mercy and the consciousness of doing right.

The most important events and changes in our lives are often brought about by seemingly small and trivial incidents, and the neglect of one little duty at some particular time might bright or shadow your whole after-life or prove the turning-point for the road of evil. Every time you turn a deaf ear to duty's command you turn aside from the true course that leads to perfection, and continued neglect will quench the light of your guiding star and leave you only the lurid gleam of your own selfish will.

Keep a sharp look out, boys, for Duty's signals, and if you want to be brave, honest and true when you reach man's estate, learn to bend and break your will early and follow the pilot Duty to the sheltered haven of success and honor.

K. DOLORES.

### Interesting Statistics.

The fourth volume of the Dominion census contains much valuable and interesting reading.

There are 684,213 owners of real estate in Canada holding a total of 73,688,765 acres. There are 590,578 town and village lots, 823,025 dwelling houses, 80,357 stores, factories, etc., and \$1,004,828 barns and stables.

Under the head of field products there are 2,723,883 acres in Canada under wheat, yielding 27,484,562 bushels of spring and 14,960,217 bushels of fall wheat. 4,128,160 acres are cultivated with oats, which yield 82,515,413 bushels.

There is an average of 439.1 acres of land to a person, while the unoccupied

land is 426 acres to a person. In Ontario the proportion to the total acreage is 65; Quebec, 67; Nova Scotia, 0.6; New Brunswick, 0.8; Manitoba, 1.9; Prince Edward Island, 0.1; British Columbia, 11.6; Territories, 71.4.

Of the houses that Canadians live in 81.5 per cent. are wood, 15.5 are brick and 3.0 stone. The percentage of population by provinces is Ontario, 48.9; Quebec, 30.7; Nova Scotia, 9.8; New Brunswick, 6.7; Manitoba, 3.1; Prince Edward Island, 2.3; British Columbia, 2.0; Territories, 2.0.

There are 5.6 persons to a house in Canada, 5.2 persons to a family and 1 family to a house.

68.5 per cent. of the houses are of one story, 33.6 are of two stories, 2.5 of three stories and 4 of four stories.

43.3 per cent. of the houses have from six to ten rooms.

Out of every 1,000 people 509.1 are males, and 490.9 female, 528.8 are married, 39.7 widowed and 631.7 are unmarried or children.

The French Canadians form 2907 per thousand of the population.

Out of every thousand of the population 541.6 are Protestants and 423.3 Roman Catholics. Other denominations are given as 27.7 and not specified 18.5.

866 out of every 1,000 are native born in Canada and 99 in Great Britain and Ireland, 16.8 are from the States, 5.8 from Germany; Scandinavia, Poland and Russia, 3.6, France, 1.1, while the Chinese, over whom so much talk is roused, are but 1.9.

### A MINISTER'S STORY.

THE PAINFUL EXPERIENCE OF REV. C. H. BACKHUS.

FOR FIVE MONTHS HE WAS HELPLESS AND ENDURED AGONIZING PAINS—COULD NEITHER RISE UP NOR SIT DOWN WITHOUT AID—HE TELLS HOW HE FOUND A CURE.

From the Tilsonburg Observer.

The Rev. C. H. Backhus is a resident of Bayham township, Elgin County, Ont., and there is probably no person in the county who is better known or more highly esteemed. He is a minister of the United Brethren Church. He also farms quite extensively, superintending the work and doing quite a share of it himself despite his advanced age. But he was not always able to exert himself as he can to-day, as a few years ago he underwent an illness that many feared would terminate his life. To a reporter who recently had a conversation with him the rev. gentleman gave the particulars of his illness and cure, with permission to make the statement public. The story as told by Rev. Mr. Backhus is substantially as follows:—About three years ago he was taken ill and the doctor who was called in pronounced his trouble an attack of la grippe. He did not appear to get any better and a second doctor was called in, but with no more satisfactory results, so far as a renewal of health was concerned. Following the la grippe pains of an excruciating nature located themselves in his body. He grew weaker and weaker until at last he was perfectly helpless. He could not sit down nor rise from a sitting posture without assistance and when with this assistance he gained his feet he could hobble but a few steps when he was obliged to be put in a chair again. For five months these agonizing pains were endured. But at last relief so long delayed came. A friend urged him to try Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. He yielded to the advice and had not been taking them long when the longed for relief was noticed coming. He could move more easily, and the stiffness and pains began to leave his joints. He continued the use of the pills for some time longer and the cure was complete. Seeing Mr. Backhus now it would be difficult to think of him as the crippled and helpless man of those painful days. Mr. Backhus is now past his 80th year, but as he said, "by the aid of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills I am as able as those ten years younger." You can readily judge of this when I tell you I laid forty rods of rail fence this year. I am glad to add my testimony in favor of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills.

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills strike at the root of the disease, driving it from the system and restoring the patient to health and strength. In cases of paralysis, spinal troubles, locomotor ataxia, sciatica, rheumatism, erysipelas, scrofulous troubles, etc., these pills are superior to all other treatment. They are also a specific for the troubles which make the lives of so many women a burden, and speedily restore the rich glow of health to pale and sallow cheeks. Men broken down by overwork, worry or excesses will find in Pink Pills a certain cure. Sold by all dealers or sent by mail post paid, at 50 cents a box or six boxes for \$2.50, by addressing the Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont., or Schenectady, N. Y. Beware of imitations and substitutes alleged to be "just as good."

### Live Stock Trade.

LONDON Feb. 15.—Owing to shorter supplies of both cattle and sheep the trade was firmer, and prices for the former advanced 4c, while for the latter they are 4c higher than this day week. Choice States cattle sold at 11c and sheep at 11c. On the other hand prices for Argentine cattle were 4c lower at 10c.

A private cable received from Liverpool reported the market unchanged from a week ago and quoted choice States cattle at 11c, Canadians at 10c, sheep at 11c and lamb at 14c.

MONTREAL, February 15.—The tone of cable advices in some instances were somewhat firmer and noted a slight improvement in values, while in other cases they reported the markets steady with values unchanged from last week, consequently on the whole they were rather conflicting, and some shippers thought unsatisfactory. However, at present prices ruling there is not very many complaints heard of from any side in regard to actual sales, consequently the indications are that if the profits are not large the cattle that have gone forward are at least letting the shippers out.

There was considerable enquiry to-day from ideal shippers for choice export cattle weighing from 1,200 to 1,800 each, for which they would willingly pay 40 per lb., but this class of stock is evidently very scarce at present, as there was none to be had on the market; in consequence they were obliged to pick up some of the best obtainable in order to fill up this week's space, and paid for such 35c to 37c per lb., live weight.

At the East End Abattoir this morning the off ring of live stock were 550 cattle, 50 sheep, 100 lambs and 25 calves. There was no important change in the situation of the cattle market except that probably a little better feeling prevailed owing to the lighter run of stock, but values showed no material change from last Thursday. There was a large attendance of buyers and the demand was good, consequently trade was more active and the indications were, at an early hour, that a clearance would be effected. A feature of this trade-to-day was the appearance of some buyers from Buffalo on the market, and they made several bids for stockers and bulls for feeding purposes, but dealers here asked more money for their stock than they were willing to pay. In fact, they stated when ruling values in Buffalo were taken into consideration, our market was too high for them to operate, in consequence of which no sales were made. Choice cattle here were very scarce, in fact, there was none on the market, for which there was considerable enquiry, but buyers found it impossible to secure any at all. The best heaves offered sold at 37c to 38c, ordinary stock at 24c to 3c, and lower grades at from 14c to 2c per lb., live weight. There was very little demand for sheep and, although the offerings were exceedingly small, holders stated that sales were slow and prices had a downward tendency. A few small bunches sold at 2c to 3c, and mixed lots at 3c to 4c. Lambs met with a fair sale and prices were steady at 4c to 4c per lb., live weight. Calves were scarce and chiefly poor in quality, for which the demand was slow at prices ranging from \$2 to \$8 each.

At the Point St. Charles cattle market trade in cattle was slow, there being no sales made. A bunch of 25 sheep and lambs were offered and sold at 3c per lb. The receipts of hogs were about 200 head, and the market was steady with sales of mixed lots at prices ranging from \$4.25 to \$4.60 per 100 lbs. live weight.

### Toronto Cattle Market.

TORONTO, Feb. 12.—The cold weather made a slightly firmer tone in the butchers' cattle line, and there was a fair demand for cattle for export. There were quite a few buyers on the market from Buffalo, but the reports from there are not quite so encouraging as they were. Their operations are being mostly confined to stockers. Receipts at the western cattle yards here to-day were 60 car loads, including about 900 sheep and lambs and 1,200 hogs. Hogs are holding their own in spite of depressing reports from other markets. About 12 car loads of butchers' cattle were taken for Montreal. Exports to Buffalo were about 25 car loads, including both stockers and butchers' cattle. Some lots of cattle were delayed by the storm.

Butchers' Cattle—There were quite enough in for the demand, one or two lots remaining unsold at the close of the market. Prices ruled firm at from \$3 to \$3.20 per cwt. for good to choice cattle, \$2.70 to \$2.80 for medium and down to 2c to 2 1/2c for common cattle. Buying for Buffalo was steady, but not quite so lively as it was last week.

Export Cattle—Demand was fair and prices held well up at from \$3.50 to \$4.20 per cwt. Not many of the best class of cattle offered. Several bulls sold for 2 1/2c to 3c per lb.

Stockers and Feeders—For Buffalo there was a good demand, but local men are not doing much in this line. Good stockers sell from \$2.50 to \$3 per cwt., or perhaps a little better for some that are extra choice. Feeders are in slow demand, one or two head being picked up to fill vacancies in byres at from 3c to 3 1/2c per lb. Stock bulls are quiet at from 2 1/2c to 2 3/4c per lb.

Sheep and Lambs—Quiet. Shipping sheep are dull at from \$3.25 to \$3.75 per cwt. Lambs are a little stiffer than sheep, going at from \$4.25 to \$4.75 per cwt. Butchers' sheep are dull at \$2.50 per head.

Calves—All in sold. Good veals fetch \$6 to \$6.50 per head, and good calves from \$4 to \$5 each.

Milch Cows and Springers—About ten head offered and all sold. They are firm at from \$20 to \$35 per head.

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(SIR) HENRY IRVING.

Lawrence A. Wilson & Co., Montreal, SOLE AGENTS FOR CANADA.

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The contents of 48 cases first importation of Paris Novelties in High-Class Dress Goods, will be placed on exhibit to-day, when the following decided values will be offered:—

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21 pieces Elegant Figured Damasse Costume Cloth, Newest Designs on Shaded Grounds, only 35c per yard.

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18 pieces Changeable Colors, in Lustrous Mohair Costume Cloth, Pretty Shades of Electric, Grey, Green, Brown and Blue, only 50c per yard.

### Escorial Tweeds.

10 pieces New Escorial Costume Tweeds, the latest triumph of the Weaver's Art. Raised Escorial Patterns on Shaded Wool Grounds, 65c per yard.

### Shaded Applique Cloth.

14 pieces Silk and Wool Applique Cloth, at present the sensation of London and Paris, in exquisite Tints of Heliotrope, Fawn, Brown, Grey and Green, 90c per yard.

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45 cases of New Wash Fabrics, excellent in Beauty of Design, Richness of Colorings and extent of Variety, any previous shipment. New Cambrics, New Crepons, New Creppettes, New Silk and Linen Goods, at prices that will prove interesting and economical to every lady.

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Hundreds of pieces New Prints in the Latest Colorings and Designs, 5c per yard. 520 pieces New Percales, Perfect Patterns and Colorings for Blouses, etc., 9c per yard.

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300 pieces English Printed Cambrics in the Latest Patterns and Colorings, Checks, Stripes and Floral Designs, only 9c per yard.

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25 pieces New Fancy Crepons, Wide and Narrow, Bright Colored Stripes on White and other Grounds, with Back Floral Designs, 12c per yard.

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30 pieces of the Latest French Novelty in Crepons, brilliant colored grounds with Dresden and Pompadour Patterns, Beautiful Effects, 14c per yard.

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20 pieces Natural Linen, Colored Crepons, Wide and Narrow Stripes, in the Choicest of Bright Colors, Very Stylish Material for Blouses, etc., 15c per yard.

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