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A BOLD EXPEDITION.

AN INTERESTING STORY OF THE CATALPA AND FENIAN RESCUE.

A Convict Ship—Capt. Anthony—The Hougomont's Chart—The Dash for Life and Freedom—Arrival at Castle Garden.

The "Catalpa Expedition" is the title of a book written by Z. W. Peace and recently printed in New Bedford, Mass. How well and vividly this work recalls to mind the old, familiar, yet ever interesting story of a daring expedition which resulted in the welcoming of six rescued Fenian prisoners to America's shores.

One dismal morning in '67 68 Irishmen marched from out the horrors of an English dungeon. "Chained together with a bright strong chain," they went down into the equal horrors of a convict ship. Down in the gloomy hold they heard naught save the curses of the English sailors and the loud roar of the dark angry waters; while above them their eyes were resting on the black gaff with its fogging apparatus, and the hempen halter which swung mutineers and murderers over the hissing sea of eternity. "What a terrible place for human beings!" "Only those," says Boyle (O'Reilly), "who have stood within bars and heard the din of devils and the appalling sounds of despair, blended in a dissonance that made every match mouth a vent of hell can imagine the horrors of the hold of a convict ship." In comparison even Australia's penal colony was a heaven. And yet sad, indeed, must have been the heart of those condemned Fenians when on the morning of January 10, 1868, they looked forth from the "Hougomont" and beheld, towering above the town of Freemantle and woodland about it, the great white prison which was to be henceforth their gloomy home. How hopeless seemed their future! From daylight to dark, day after day, year in and year out they must "blaze their way through the Australian bush and forest." How they were not entirely forgotten. Death released some, England pardoned others, while others again escaped. From those who remained heart-rending appeals came to friends far across the waters, and not in vain.

One night in the year '75, George S. Anthony walked into an outfitter's establishment at 18 South Water St. New Bedford, Mass. Entering a room in the rear of the store he was surprised to hear these words: "It's just as well to sit in the dark," and there in the dark Capt. Anthony was introduced to John Devoy, John Goff and James Reynolds, representatives of the Clan-na-Gael. What was his astonishment when the brilliant Devoy finished outlining a plan of rescue! The Clan-na-Gael would provide a whaleship, fitted for the sea; Capt. Anthony was to command the vessel and was to sail as soon as possible. After a time spent in whaling, he was to show his vessel off the coast of Australia on a certain date, there take aboard a company of men who would hail him, and then sail for home. The plot was a bold one, the expedition daring. But Capt. Anthony, nothing daunted, accepted the charge.

On the first anniversary of his wedding day, Anthony with his papers under his arm, goes aboard the Catalpa. Soon the anchors are on the bow, the sails broken out, and the craft stands out to sea. What great perils awaited him, the captain knew; but then was he not going in response to the cry of men who were outcasts and in chains because they loved their country? On May 3 the first whale was sighted going quickly to the windward, and thenceforward whaling with its excitement and hardships was the order of the day for months. Payal was reached in October; and at length, the real danger of the undertaking was encountered. The whaling grounds was left behind, and now commenced the long, dreary voyage around the Cape of Good Hope and across the Indian ocean.

But how were the crew to be kept in ignorance of the real purpose of the expedition? They had shipped for a whaling trip, but their suspicions would be aroused. One at least must be taken into the captain's confidence. With many misgivings Anthony summoned to the cabin, one pleasant evening the adventure-loving but impetuous mate of the Catalpa, Sam Smith was an officer in a thousand and for the work in hand; but would he not resent the deception practiced upon him? It was a trying moment. Great was the captain's joy when the

mate, grasping his hand, said "Capt. Anthony, I'll stick by you in this ship if she goes to hell and burns off her jibboom." And he did "stick."

One beautiful morning in February an English bark hove in sight; it was the Ocean Beauty from Liverpool, and bound for New Zealand. Capt. Anthony boarded her, and during a pleasant chat the big convivial commander of the Beauty said: "Why I was master of a convict ship, the Hougomont, and carried a shipful of prisoners to Australia in 1868." To the question "Have you a sheet chart of that coast you could spare?" he answered, "Lots of them. Here's the role I used when I was master of the Hougomont. Help yourself." How strange it was that the very chart which was used to land the prisoners at Freemantle should fall into the hands of a captain going to rescue the remnant of that "shipful!" At length, after nearly a year at sea—a year of worry and hard work—Bunbury harbor, the appointed rendezvous, was reached.

While the captain had been ploughing the waters three Irishmen had been preparing the Australian end of the scheme. John J. Breslin, already famous for his rescue of James Stephens from the Richmond bridewell, Thomas Desmond, "a nationalist from the time he could stand," and John King, from New South Wales, had, after much difficulty, communicated with the prisoners and perfected the plan of escape. Breslin learned of the Catalpa's arrival, and set out for Bunbury to meet Anthony. They were perfect strangers, but a chance acquaintance introduced them to each other. Everything was arranged to satisfaction. Breslin and Anthony went to Freemantle by boat, traveled over the road to Rockingham, where the men were to embark on the Catalpa's whaleboat. The captain returned to his ship, and, after some delay, caused by custom house officials and stormy weather, he sailed up along the coast. When opposite Rockingham he left the ship in charge of the mate and set out with picked sailors in the whaleboat for shore. At the appointed hour the prisoners managed to slip away from their fellows; they walked down the high road to the place where Breslin and Desmond were waiting in carriages. The horses were off at a dashing speed. The journey to Rockingham was a quick one. All night long had Anthony kept watch while his sailors lay sleeping on the shore. Those were anxious hours, and great was the captain's apprehension when in the morning he discovered in the offing smoke of the Georgette, an English gunboat. At last the rattling of wheels and the clatter of hoofs were heard, and Breslin and Desmond drove up with their prisoners. These jumped from their traps with their arms full of weapons and ammunition. The whaleboat was soon afloat, and after the command, "Pull away," it was soon far from shore—but none to soon. The police were hot on the trail. A terrible storm set in, and the Catalpa could not be reached. An awful night, which none hoped to survive, they spent on the raging sea. The next morning the Catalpa was seen standing in toward land. The Georgette passed them without seeing them, and then came a race for life with the guard boat of the Georgette, which was on watch near the Catalpa. These were moments of suspense, but the whaleboat won. "Hoist the ensign!" cried Anthony to his mate, and the order was soon obeyed. The boat was raised on the davits, and as the captain stepped over the rail the guard boat swept across the bow.

Great was the rejoicing on board and great the feasting. Near morning the Georgette, with a regiment of soldiers aboard drew near. Her salutation was a solid shot fired across the bows of the Catalpa.

"Are you going to heaven to?" asked the English commander. "No sir," replied Capt. Anthony firmly. "This ship is sailing under the American flag and she is on the high seas. If you fire on me I warn you that you are firing on the American flag."

The Catalpa sailed for home. At 2 o'clock on the morning of August 19, 1876, she anchored off Castle Garden, and long before nightfall James Daragh, Martin Hogan, Michael Harrington, Thomas Hassett, Robert Cranston and James Wilson, formerly Irish political prisoners in Australia, walked the streets of New York, in free America.—Providence Visitor.

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TO UNITE.

AMERICAN BOARD AND BOARD OF ERIN BRANCHES OF THE A. O. H. TO UNITE.

Bishop McFaul of Trenton, N. J., Will Act as Arbitrator and Both Sides Will Abide by His Decision.

The Ancient Order of Hibernians of America split on a question of the establishment of national headquarters in 1884, and about 50,000 members formed the Board of Erin branch of the A. O. H., the other, numbering more than 150,000, calling themselves the American Branch of the A. O. H. Lately steps have been taken on both sides looking toward a consolidation, and it is now announced that on Tuesday, August 3, a compact was signed at Atlantic City, N. J., by representatives of the two factions whereby arrangements for a reunion may be made. There are 195,000 members of the united A. O. H.

An advisory committee of members from different states met at Atlantic City recently to consider the terms suggested by Bishop McFaul of Trenton, who has been acting as arbitrator. Under the plan proposed the national officers and the national directory of what is known as the Board of Erin branch will resign and formally transfer to the national officers and national directory of the American branch absolute jurisdiction over the 35,000 members in the Board of Erin branch. By the terms of such transfer all the members of the latter branch shall become affiliated with and entitled to all the rights and privileges of the 160,000 members of the American branch.

The united organization will then, under the title of Ancient Order of Hibernians of America, resume affiliations with the Board of Erin, which is the parent branch of the organization all over the world. In the several states and territories, where both factions exist they will unite under the jurisdiction of the national officers of the latter having the largest membership, and the same rule will apply in the union of county organizations.

As the Board of Erin branch had dwindled to about 35,000 members, this would give the control of the general organization to the national officers of the other faction, and also all of the state organizations except New York state, where the Board of Erin Branch is very strong. New officers would be elected at the national convention in May, 1898. There were many speeches at the conference expressive of mutual good will between the factions. Maurice F. Wilhere, speaking for the American branch, and Edward R. Hayes for the Board of Erin, both stated before the conference that the entire plan of consolidation would depend upon the bishop's decision. Time for the submission of papers will be allowed before a decision is given.

Those who represented the main order at the conference were National President P. J. O'Connor, Savannah; National Vice-president John C. Waddock, Bay City, Mich.; National Secretary James O'Sullivan, Philadelphia; National Director M. F. Wilhere, Philadelphia, and Col. John P. Murphy, Norwich, Conn.

The sessionists were represented by Rev. E. S. Phillips, Plains, Pa.; John T. Quinn, Scranton; John B. McLaughlin, Philadelphia; Miles McPartland, Brooklyn, and W. J. Hayes, New Brunswick.

Both sides have agreed in advance to abide by the decision of the bishop and there will be no appeal. Daily secret conferences are being held to submit arguments and the members of the conference say amalgamation is assured.

Rochester Business Institute.

The Rochester Business Institute catalogue is the most elegant and costly publication of the kind issued. It is designed to show to prospective pupils just what the school is in every part as far as words and pictures can show it. The book contains 100 pages and is profusely illustrated. The institution refers with pride to its graduates and patrons, and hopes to continue to deserve those words and acts of commendation and encouragement that have made its success possible.

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PRIEST'S LEAGUE.

FOUR HUNDRED PRIESTS MEET IN CONVENTION.

The Annual Meeting Held at Notre Dame University, Notre Dame, Ind.

Four hundred priests from all parts of the country met at Notre Dame university, Notre Dame, Ind., on Aug. 18 and 19, at the second annual convention of the Priest's Eucharistic League.

The Priest's Eucharistic League was founded by Pere Eymard, founder of the Congregation of the Most Blessed Sacrament. Its object, as its name indicates, is to promote the devotion to the Blessed Sacrament of the clergy and people. One of the chief duties of the members is to make every week one continuous hour of adoration before the Blessed Sacrament. The first meeting of the League was held at the Catholic University last year.

The Protector of the League in this country is Bishop Maas of Covington, Ky., and the Director General, Rev. Bede Maler of St. Meinrad, Ind. The diocesan director of the archdiocese of Milwaukee Rev. Joseph Rainer, of St. Francis seminary; of the diocese of La Crosse, Rev. K. Beyer of La Crosse; of the diocese of Green Bay, Rev. F. Vaillant, Green Bay.

The program of the convention was as follows: August 17th.—Evening: Benediction; meeting of the diocesan directors.

August 18th.—Pontifical High Mass, celebrated by Archbishop Elder of Cincinnati; sermon preached by Mgr. Joseph Rademacher, bishop of Fort Wayne.

2 p. m.—First session in Washington Hall. Opening address by the Rt. Rev. Mgr. Maas, bishop of Covington, president of the convention.

The following papers were read: 1. The Benediction of the Venerable Sacrament of God, Bishop Neumann of Philadelphia.—Rev. A. A. Lamb, Wilkesburg, Pa.

2. The Eucharist and the Priesthood of the Priest and of the Faithful.—Rev. J. A. Connolly, St. Louis, Mo.

3. The Forty Hours Devotion.—Rev. F. O'Neill, Westchester, N. Y.

4. The Relation of the Devotion to the Sacred Heart to the devotion of the Holy Eucharist.—Rev. Dr. Selinger, St. Francis, Wis.

5. Holy Eucharist and Ecclesiastical Music.—Rev. Mgr. Richter, bishop of Grand Rapids, Mich.

After Supper:—Hour of adoration and solemn procession in the grounds of the university. During the hour of adoration the priests wore surplice and stole. The texts for the liturgical chants were distributed before the procession.

August 19th.—Pontifical Requiem for the deceased members of the Priest's Eucharistic League.

Second and last session of the convention in Washington hall.

Papers: 6. How the members of Priest's Eucharistic League ought to act concerning the growing tendency to miss Mass on Sundays and Holidays.—Very Rev. O'Brien, Kalamazoo, Mich.

7. Monthly Exposition of the most Blessed Sacrament.—Very Rev. A. B. Oechtering, Mishawaka, Ind.

8. Daily Mass for School Children.—Rev. W. Schiel, C. P., Pittsburg, Pa.

9. Exposition of the Doctrine of the Holy Mass and of the Real Presence is well calculated to make converts.—Rev. P. Elliott, C. S. P., New York.

"A Boy Wanted" will be the opening attraction at the Cook Opera House next week. It is a mixture of farce-comedy, extravaganza, burlesque and vaudeville, and was written by Chas. E. Blaney for the sole purpose of introducing a host of pretty and accomplished comedians, clever comedians, talented vocalists, expert dancers and "high class" vaudeville artists. There is no plot beyond a successful scheme to entertain the audience. Harry Clay Blaney is the central figure of "A Boy Wanted" and as a tumbler and grotesque dancer he cannot be beaten. He has a pleasing stage presence and is a very clever actor. Misses O'Neill and Sutherland, the famous acrobatic dancers, are one of the features of the performance. The prices during this engagement will be nights 15, 25, 35, and 50; matinee, 15, balcony, lower floor, 25c.

SUMMER SCHOOL.

What Has Been Done During the Week.

Although all good work leads to intelligent criticism the carrying so much in vogue in certain quarters, which resembles the marking of the puppy more than the training of the responsible watch dog, makes one regret so much misdirected talent. We are sorry to see somewhat prominent Catholic papers forget their high mission and, copying the worn-out witticism of gossip fashion sheets, weep over the "scarcely of men" at the Catholic Summer School. When this cheap fun infringes on the sacred book by applying the parable of "the seven women struggling," etc., it rather shocks the bump of veneration. The fact is that at Cliff Haven the lords of creation are very respectably represented numerically, and if essentially weighed in comparison with the fashionable resorts I greatly fear me the latter would hang their heads. Now, although the ladies at Cliff Haven are quite capable of appreciating brainy men, tolerating budding ones and being very charitably amused by the brainless, they are equally capable of enjoying nature, intellectual and cultivated advantages and social pleasure, as that even if reduced to the distressing dearth so pitifully hinted at they might make out an existence.

Our last letter ended with an account of the visit of our gracious president to the school and of the warm welcome extended to him. This unusual feature passed, the school took up its study routine with the well-balanced quiet which insures foreignness in the matter of our state, civic and national elections—insures excitement, uncompromising energy, while preparation is necessary—calm acquiescence, practical good sense which nothing is done.

Among the practical questions of our day none is more important than that of associated charities, and the Roman Catholic church, as it is wont, comes bravely to the front in the hour of need. The day passed in the study of the "Catholic Social Work" by Mr. J. A. Connolly, St. Louis, Mo.

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Mr. James Dougherty, also of New York, gave a very interesting account of the methods of the Lamented Father Drummond, the apostle of the streets Arab. The various charitable institutions were heard from and presidential suggestions made as to the necessity of watching legislation and bigoted efforts to proselyte Catholic children.

Miss Cronyn of Buffalo gave a thoughtful sketch of the field of much needed charity to the non-English speaking immigrant. The secretary, Mr. George Gillespie, read many communications from various associations, showing the system of organization going steadily on.

The conferences of teachers were also interesting and spirited, and impressed one of the growing importance of the science of pedagogy.

The lectures must have pleased the most voracious appetite for variety, embracing a study of church art from Father Flannery of Staten Island, "Rapid Transit" by Hon. Thomas J. Gargan of Boston, an address by Hon. W. T. Harris, A. M. E. D., commissioner of education at Washington, D. C., and an illustrated course of lectures of the most absorbing interest on electricity and the marvelous discoveries of the wizard like X ray which seems to defy all concealment. Finally an illustrated lecture on early Italian art by Miss O'Connell of Michigan.

CATHOLIC SOCIETIES.

What's Transpiring in the Diocese of Buffalo—Catholic Societies.

Eighty of October. About seventy-five members of Rochester Council attended the 15th annual convention of the Niagara Falls Council, last Sunday. They were present on invitation of Buffalo Council. There were also present delegations from Syracuse, Binghamton, Oswego, Fulton, Boston, Mass., and other places and not less than two hundred visiting knights greeted their brothers of Niagara Falls.

The first degree was exemplified by Grand Knight Secretary of Buffalo Council, assisted by Grand Knight Powers of Binghamton, and officers and members of Buffalo and other councils. Some ninety of the representative Catholic gentlemen of Niagara Falls went in as charter members of the new council.

Sir Knight Garry of Buffalo Council exemplified the second degree in a solemn and impressive manner. The Niagara Falls contingent was augmented by twenty or more from Buffalo and other places, who came to the Falls to take the second and third degrees.

Grand Knight Hogan of Syracuse was deputized by State Deputy Secretary to officiate at the exemplification of the third degree. It was a subject of general remark that Syracuse's popular Grand Knight performed the duties of an exacting position in an exceedingly able manner; and where he stood nearly three hundred strangers when the service passed, to let that number of warm hearts who were delighted to be present.

Following the installation, were taken for the first time the officers of the new council, who were sworn in by the State Deputy Secretary.

A new council was organized at Buffalo, N. Y., on Sunday, August 16th, at 8 o'clock. The new council was organized at Buffalo, N. Y., on Sunday, August 16th, at 8 o'clock.

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A new Council will be instituted at Waverly, next Sunday. Rochester council conferred the first and second degrees on a number of candidates last Wednesday evening.

The Supreme Pontiff of the Catholic Knights and Ladies of America, Hon. John McGee, died at St. Dieu, Montreal, on the 18th. His funeral took place from St. Augustine's church, Kalamazoo, Mich., on Tuesday morning, August 17th, at 9 o'clock.

The Central Council, C. O. S. A., are making great preparations to entertain the supreme council at their meeting, which will be held at Rochester, N. Y., on the 21st, 22nd and 23rd of September. It is expected that the attendance will be very large. The entertainment will be of the highest order, and the program will be published in next week's issue.

The second annual convention of the Catholic Social Work Association will be held at Washington, D. C., on the 1st, 2nd and 3rd of October. The association was organized in 1895, and has since that time been working for the betterment of the social conditions of the Catholic people. The convention will be a most interesting one, and the program will be published in next week's issue.