

The Catholic Record Published Weekly at 496 Richmond Street, London, Ontario.

General Agents: Messrs. Donat Crowe and Luke King, Ottawa Agency.

Approved by the Bishop of London, and recommended by the Archbishop of St. Boniface, the Bishops of Ottawa, Hamilton, Kingston and Peterborough, and leading Clergymen throughout the Dominion.

All correspondence addressed to the Publisher will receive prompt attention.

Advertising rates made known on application.

Any person who takes a paper regularly from the post office, whether directed in his name or otherwise, is held responsible for its contents.

It is in vain for subscribers to complain if the paper is not delivered, unless they have notified the publisher in time.

The course has been decided that returning to the publishers or post-office, or leaving them unopened, will be held as a prima facie evidence of intentional fraud.

Catholic Record.

LONDON, SATURDAY, SEPT. 26, 1888.

THE FUTURE OF CANADA.

It is as well for nations as it is for individuals to look betimes ahead, that they may be prepared for the eventualities of the future. The destinies of nations as well as of individuals are in the hands of God, but it is the manifest duty of both to prepare themselves for correspondence with the Divine will in their regard.

The Canadian confederation now includes all British North America from Vancouver to Prince Edward Island. Vast natural resources and an enlightened industrious and ambitious population give promise to Canada of a bright future.

union is exposed to grave dangers which nothing but patriotism of the highest order and statesmanship of the broadest and most far-reaching character can avert.

Whereas, previous to the union of the Provinces, the Province of Nova Scotia was in a most healthy financial condition; and whereas, strong objections were taken at the time of the union to the financial terms thereof, relating to the Province of Nova Scotia, as being wholly inadequate to meet the requirements of the various services left under the management of the Provincial Parliament;

This amendment was carried by a decisive majority. Nova Scotia does not stand alone in its demand for a readjustment of the Provincial finances. Quebec has long addressed vigorous and pronounced demands to the Federal Government for better terms.

"All the Provinces of Canada are deeply interested in the maintenance of the actual system, provided that it never depart from the organic principles adopted at the conference of Quebec. What are these principles? There are two which, above all others, appear to me essential. The first affirms the absolute independence of the Provinces and of the Federal government in the exercise of their respective powers.

The Canadian confederation now includes all British North America from Vancouver to Prince Edward Island. Vast natural resources and an enlightened industrious and ambitious population give promise to Canada of a bright future.

to me, I say, that another tendency, equally dangerous in my eyes, has not been sufficiently condemned, viz., that which aims at the destruction of the equality of the Provinces between themselves."

On the same occasion, the feast of St. John the Baptist, 1884, Judge Routhier, one of the ablest speakers and deepest thinkers in his Province, said: "Gentlemen, I have affirmed that we should defend the autonomy of the Province of Quebec. The federal pact imposes on us certain duties in regard to the union, and these we should faithfully and devotedly fulfill. But it is at the same time guaranteed us certain rights in the event of a separation, and a distinction of powers, not independence, but freedom, not a state within a state, but a great family, distinct from the other great families of the nations, retaining its proper physiognomy, its fireside, its city, its altar, and growing with its children in the enjoyment of its rights and of its liberties.

It is indeed gratifying to us to see the French people of the Dominion so outspoken, through their leaders of thought, in favor of Provincial autonomy. If this principle be adhered to we have no doubt as to Canada's future, that it will be a future worthy our people and their opportunities, worthy our country and its resources.

Now, what our readers may ask is, what will be Canada's future? Will it be an independent state, or will it drift into the American Union? Or, again, will it form part of a confederated British Empire? These are questions which many Canadians have of late put themselves, and which for the time being we feel ourselves unable to answer.

"The great truth which every public man to-day must lay to heart is this, that within the power to make our own commonwealth, the five millions of people inhabiting this country will forever be handicapped in the race for wealth and commercial prosperity. The Canadian must be blind who cannot see that Canada is being ground between the upper and nether millstones. Thanks to the industry and untiring energy of the people, we have a large commerce, and we have it despite all the obstacles which are placed in our path. But who can gauge the proportions of that commerce were our hands untied, our limbs unloosed, and our trade emancipated from the bondage of the past two centuries of treaties? With the commercial advantages which, with our great natural resources, our manufacturing capabilities, and the enterprising spirit which pervades the whole Dominion, we can offer to the nations of the world and our sister colonies, there is no denying the probability of our being able to add immensely to the short time the volume of our trade, the profits of our merchants, the development of our national resources and manufactures, the population of the country and the general prosperity of the inhabitants."

We hold with the Herald that the Parliament, Government and people of Canada have trifled with this question long enough, that the time is rapidly approaching when action must be taken, that our interests require that we export trade be not dependent on one or two markets, or that when England does not choose to buy our surplus crop our commerce must suffer a rude shock; that

other avenues of trade must be opened and that there is but one way to open them; that we have waited long enough for others to promote our interests and must now take them into our own keeping; that this is the feeling of the commercial communities of Canada, and if the Parliament of Canada really represents the wishes of the people, and is maintained to promote the interests of Canada, it will not hesitate to grapple with a question which involves the very life and prosperity of the country.

Upon the securing of our commercial independence depends the endurance of this Confederation. He is no true Canadian who can close his eyes to the state of things in the Maritime Provinces where stagnation of trade, financial depression and general discontent prevail. We owe it to that important portion of the Union which entered Confederation at such an enormous sacrifice, we owe to the whole country to rise as one man in demand of freedom of trade for Canada with the whole world. We have passed the days of childhood with its falterings and its weaknesses; we have now reached the age of manhood and upon ourselves it depends whether or not we are worthy of the rights and privileges of manhood. The people of Canada are now face to face with a solemn and important duty. If worthy of themselves and their traditions they will be equal to that duty. If they sincerely and honestly assert themselves as freemen in accordance with the laws of truth and justice and morality, a great future will be theirs. And if so asserting themselves they resolve upon securing a national status, a national career will be theirs; upon entering on a national career, a national career will be theirs; upon winning national prosperity, national prosperity will be theirs; upon attaining national glory, national glory will be theirs.

CITY SEWAGE.

In the American for the 8th of August there appeared a most interesting article on the subject of city sewage. The writer points out that two deplorable facts attend the prevalent sewage system of America, both of which the ingenuity of man will, he believes, eventually overcome. One, he thinks, ought to be made over to the other. The first of these facts, serious and frightful in itself, is the way the prevailing system spreads disease. If we consider the facts (1) that the most fatal and pestilential diseases are now attributed to ontococcal parasites, (2) that these ontococci are propagated by means of animal excreta, (3) that they require moisture as well as heat for development and (4) that they are most commonly communicated through the medium of water, no device would seem better adapted to the poisoning of a whole community than the gathering of all the dejects of a great city in huge, sluggish sewers connected by pipes with dwelling houses, and discharging into rivers where the tides and currents either check the flow of detritus, or carry it along to deposit it on the banks below. The second fact worthy notice in connection with the present system is, that it involves the destruction of matter of high commercial value. The skilled agriculturist, in his eagerness to replenish his ground, pays to have the blood of abattoirs gathered up, to bring decaying bones from the buffalo plains, and phosphoric rock from far and near, or to delve out the marl under the meadows, while at the same time our great cities are casting out the richest fertilizing elements into the rivers to poison and pollute their waters. Nitrates and guanos are at great cost brought from Chili around Cape Horn, to be put on fields in various parts of the older states of the adjacent republic, but the thousands of dollars worth of these fertilizers infecting these large towns are not only left unavailable for good, but actually turned to evil. An agricultural chemist of Philadelphia a few years ago computed the annual value of plant food in the excreta of each individual at \$3.66. Thus in that city alone \$3,860,000 worth of plant food is borne away by the Schuylkill and Delaware to the danger and detriment of all going upon their waters or living on their banks. How easy to compute the amount of plant food in a similar manner wasted in our Canadian cities. The writer in the American then goes on to show that for other animal life within the city limits of Philadelphia special provision is made. Immense sums are annually expended to gather up a portion of it by inefficient street sweeping. The sweepings are in the main sold at the rate of \$1.00 or \$1.50 a ton to farmers, although a small part of them is used to bring hogs and stinks to grade on vacant lots. These sweepings consist to a considerable extent of fine particles of silica, ground by daily travel from the pavements, and of the triturated garbage and droppings of wagons carrying every species of merchandise through the streets. This com-

minuted soil is one of the best of absorbents, as is also another furnished by cities in large quantities and which all well regulated towns are at the expense of removing, viz., coal and ashes. In this coal ashes about 15 per cent. of the original fuel is said to remain unconsumed and its recovery by sifting and picking would afford a cheap supply of fuel to our markets.

There are then in every city the materials needed for composting and rendering innocuous its sewage waste, while there are also chemical processes whereby the mass may not only be disinfected, but rapidly decomposed and reduced to a mould ready for the nourishment of vegetable life. There are patent processes of composting completed in three or four weeks and innocuous through every stage. All fertilizers are sold by their analysis of nitrogen, phosphates and potash, which determine their market value. Of these now annually waste and turned to account, any of our large cities can supply hundreds of thousands of dollars worth, to the great advantage in every case of health and cleanliness. The income that could be obtained by such a course would far exceed the cost of the work, provided, of course, the latter were systematically and scientifically done. The difficulty of handling so bulky a product as would arise from the thorough cleansing of a populous city is largely met by the keeping of it in all stages of transportation in a dedicated condition. The obstacles to a change of system are the large investments made in the building of sewers and in the plumbing of houses. Besides this, a thoroughly safe and scientific system would require a thorough and constant inspection of all the premises in the city, a change so great that the public would not only be indifferent but hostile for a time. As a matter of experiment, however, new and growing portions of cities could be subjected to it, the extension of old sewers stopped and all new sewers built simply to carry off the rain fall. The public would certainly be convinced of the excellence of the new system by one argument—pestilence. Reason and science already emphatically command it, and when their voices are heard, pestilence will not, because it cannot, make its appearance.

CAPITAL PUNISHMENT.

There was at one time a small movement inaugurated in Canada in favor of the abolition of capital punishment. It never, however, came to maturity. With our American neighbors, on the contrary, the opponents of capital punishment have been enabled to score victories in some states. Experience has, however, shown that the abolition of the death penalty is conducive to the increase of crimes of violence, and where once it has been abolished there is a growing popular demand that this penalty be restored. Our neighbors have a still greater difficulty than this to contend with in the repression and punishment of crime. The judiciary of the country in many places seems unable to cope with crime with any degree of promptness and success. The number of lynchings every year testifies to this fact. From the Boston Pilot we learn that: "Since the 1st of January the number of scoundrels lynched in various parts of the country is 99, of whom 86 were males and 13 females, 56 white and 43 colored. As usual the South takes more than three-fourths of the lot, having 76, against 24 credited to the North. In detail the States are represented as follows:—Alabama, 3; Arkansas, 1; Florida, 2; Georgia, 2; Iowa, 3; Kansas, 3; Kentucky, 3; Maryland, 1; Mississippi, 6; Missouri, 6; North Carolina, 2; Nebraska, 2; Ohio, 3; Oregon, 2; Tennessee, 7; Texas, 31; Virginia, 2; West Virginia, 2. In the territories: New Mexico, 2; Indian Territory, 7; Dakota, 1; Montana, 3; Washington, 1. It may also be of interest to know that of these 99 departed citizens, 44 were lynched for murder; 31 for horse and other stealing, 14 for rape, 3 for incendiarism, 2 for train wrecking, 2 for murderous assault, 2 for unknown reasons, and 1 for burglary. These returns, it will be observed, are for six months, and their significance will be apparent when it is stated that the number of lynchings last year was 193, which was an increase of nearly 100 over 1887. The number of lynchings thus far in this year has steadily increased, month by month, so that in this ratio the total for this year will considerably exceed 250. Hanging does not keep anything like an even pace with lynching, though the volume of crime for the first six months of this year is far in excess of what it was last year during the same period. Last year there were 123 crim-

als hanged, but this year thus far there have been but 42. At this ratio the number of executions will be much smaller than in any year since 1875. Texas takes the lead in lynchings, as it does in crime. Take it all around, it is an unhealthy year for criminals. The legal hangman may not keep pace with them, but the obstacles which stand in his way, as Judge Lynch is doing well in his efforts to keep up something like a due relation between crime and its punishment."

These figures speak volumes in themselves. They show that in the states mentioned either the law is not sufficiently severe or that the judiciary is weak and ineffectual. That the people should so often feel obliged to take the law into their own hands is a very serious reflection on the legal machinery provided in the states mentioned for the repression of crime. We have always adhered to the view that severe punishment should be meted out to criminals of the worst character. The highest interests of society and of individuals demand such a punishment. It is false humanity to plead for mercy for men who have stricken a blow at the very heart itself of society. Yet how often do we not see men and women who pose in ordinary life as virtuous, actually making heroes of criminals, not only extenuating but really palliating and excusing their vile deeds?

Our contemporary, the American, on the 10th of January last put this view of the growth of crime and the condition of criminals in the United States so very ably and pointedly, that we cannot deprive our readers of the benefit of his observations. He says that the law protects society against the most flagrant crimes by putting out of the power of the criminal, through deprivation of existence, the perpetration of similar deeds. Society declares through its laws, "vengeance is not ours, but protection, through the removal of the guilty, and warning example for the depraved." Then proceeds our Philadelphia contemporary: "Heaven forbid that the criminal of the deepest dye should not have ample charity in thought and deed extended to him from weak humanity! There is no doubt that there are swarms in the midst of civilization, whose availing to the presence of the God in man—conscience—is only full through some great crime. But where, the crime against society being committed, should the criminal be assigned? To the law of man for his earthly deed, to God for all that lies beyond. Yet what a depraving spectacle do we not often witness! E'en delicate women, who a few days before the commission of the crime would not have touched the man, then no criminal, with the tongue, now send him flowers, visit, and all but fondle him. The man who at best would have gone through life insignificant and unknown, becomes to one hero of the hour. One of the ends of justice, the exemplary, is defeated, appeal is made to love in the human heart, of prominence above one's fellows; and the way is on the instant prepared for the advance of another criminal by the most ghastly of methods. No one wishes to witness his belief, or even to doubt it, for who should judge? What is nauseating is the heralding of it, the promotion, through the apotheosis, of criminality. This is altruism run mad, subversive of law, inciting to crime; hysterical philanthropy, physiologically diseased, to be guarded against, condemned, cured if possible, and if that be not possible, restrained from public manifestation."

Have not these views of the American already impressed themselves on thousands of our readers? A sickly philanthropy can never take the place of a robust Christian charity. It is not flowers, nor fondling, nor women's smiles that the criminal needs. He needs that ministrations of true charity which will teach him the enormity of his crime, the necessity of repentance, and the goodness of the God before whom he soon must stand.

DEATH OF A RELIGIOUS.

We regret exceedingly to be called upon to announce the death of Madam Fannie Coffee, religious of the Sacred Heart, which occurred at Philadelphia on the 17th of this month. Madam Coffee was born in the city of Guelph, and was the daughter of an old and highly respected resident, ex-ald. Coffee. She graduated in the Loretto Convent of Guelph, and a few years ago embraced the religious life in the order of the Sacred Heart. She had been alling for some time past, and at last that dread destroyer, consumption, claimed her as a victim. A dear friend writes of her thus: "Since the first germ of the malady was discovered, every means, change of air, etc., have been employed to preserve this precious life, and there were times when we thought her cheek was getting a little ruddier and her step a little braver, but it was only the flickering of the lamp which we hoped would again shine brightly before the tabernacle of the Lord. She lived an angel and so passed away. The remains rest beneath some grand old pine at Eden Hall, one of the loveliest spots on earth." We offer the members of her family our most sincere and heartfelt condolence in their affliction, as also the religious of the Sacred Heart, who, we feel sure, will miss from amongst them the saintly companion that is now so sore.

CATHEDRAL NOTES.

A new marble altar for the Sacrament is being manufactured well known firm in Buffalo, and ready for consecration on the November.

The distinguished Jesuit Doherty, of Guelph, and Kennen Mary's College, Montreal, will mission in the Cathedral on the November.

We understand that the ne which is being manufactured by Cathedral by Warren & Son, of will be in place the first week of bar, and will be solemnly opened 8th of the same month.

A retreat for the priests of case of London commenced in Hope on Monday last. Rev. Schwartz, C. S. S. R., of Detroit, directing the exercises. Sixty presided over by His Lordship Bishop, are present.

CATHEDRAL NOTES.

A new marble altar for the Sacrament is being manufactured well known firm in Buffalo, and ready for consecration on the November.

The distinguished Jesuit Doherty, of Guelph, and Kennen Mary's College, Montreal, will mission in the Cathedral on the November.

We understand that the ne which is being manufactured by Cathedral by Warren & Son, of will be in place the first week of bar, and will be solemnly opened 8th of the same month.

A retreat for the priests of case of London commenced in Hope on Monday last. Rev. Schwartz, C. S. S. R., of Detroit, directing the exercises. Sixty presided over by His Lordship Bishop, are present.