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# The Catholic Register.

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## Down the St. Lawrence

(Written for The Catholic Register.)

Some weeks ago I made mention, in passing, of the pretty little town of Sorel, and I promised to call in there as I proceeded on my journey. It is quite possible that few of the readers are acquainted with Sorel, yet it was an important place in the early days of Canadian history, and is equally an important place to-day. I call it a town, for it is too small to be designated as a city, and very much too large to be called a village. It is situated forty miles below Montreal, and a little above the head of Lake St. Peter. It is at the mouth of the Richelieu River, and built upon a deep bay that is sheltered on both sides by high capes extending into the St. Lawrence. At present, and for years past, the principal industry at Sorel is ship-building; it is also the repairing shop (if I can so call it) for the Richelieu & Ontario Navigation Company. There all the splendid fleet, from the place steamer to the smallest ferry-boat, is lodged during the winter months, and undergoes repairs, repainting, refitting, and all improvements. The Dominion Government has also extensive workshops at Sorel, and the place is a small hive of industry, it is blessed with two or three first class hotels, and not cursed (as are many other places) with a host of taverns and saloons. It has a very large market, especially as the distance to Montreal is so great the people of the surrounding country must find an outlet for their products. Its streets are wide, clean and all lined with maple trees. There is a magnificent park, or public garden in the heart of the town, facing which are some very elegant residences, a fire station, police station, court house, city hall, prison, post-office and the new Anglican Church. The Sisters of the Congregation do Notre Dame have a grand convent here, and not less than four hundred pupils attend. The Christian Brothers have an equally fine college, and the Grey Nuns have a double institution, consisting of an orphanage and asylum for the aged, and an hospital. The Catholic Church is one of the largest and finest in the Province, outside the cities. All lovers of steamboats call at Sorel, and the South Shore Railway has its eastern terminus there. So much for Sorel as it is to-day!

Every Tuesday and Friday the steamer "Chambley" leaves Montreal, goes to Sorel, crosses the Richelieu as far as Chambley Basin, and returns next day to Sorel, and thence back to Montreal, making one

of the pleasantest and most interesting excursion trips in Canada. There is a world of history connected with Sorel, especially if we go back to the days of the old French regime, and the wars between the colonists and the Indians. It would be a long story, to tell of all the historic events of importance that transpired in and around that town. And up the Richelieu you are sailing, not only between the most picturesque banks of a glorious river, but you are actually passing through scenes and places that occupy a most conspicuous page in Canadian history.

One of the great boasts of the Canadian citizen abroad is the independence, freedom and responsible government that he enjoys at home. Yet these glorious privileges were won for him along the banks of the Richelieu. The memorable days of 1837-38 mark a turning point in the story of Canada. The names of Baldwin, Lafontaine, Papineau, Nelson and Mackenzie are inalienably associated with the struggles and triumphs of that stirring time. The ancient halls of the Canadian legislature were the theatre of the political drama that culminated in the securing for Canada that which no argument, no force, no concession, no goodwill, no rebellion, no threat could procure for Ireland. And the crowning efforts of the "patriots" of that day were witnessed by the hills and valleys that intervene between Sorel and Chambley.

On that occasion you stop at St. Mark, at St. Ours, at St. Charles, and above all, at St. Denis. If you get off the boat, as you have ample time to do, and walk through the quiet and lovely villages, your feet will tread historic soil, and your eyes will gaze upon places that were looked upon by the peasant-heroes of that time. At St. Denis you step from the steamer up a small wharf and into a winding, dusty road, around a bend of which you see the old mill once so valiantly defended, when the British forces came down the slope between the long lines of maples and elms, up yonder. You look upon the spot where the constituted authority of the land first learned the grand lesson that subjects as well as rulers have their sacred rights, and that it is safer to respect than to abuse these rights.

I might go on for pages, telling the story of all that transpired upon the banks of the lovely Richelieu, but that would simply mean the transcription of a long and exciting chapter in Canada history. But even for the one who has no great interest in the record of that period, and who is contented to sit down and enjoy the fruits of the labors and sacrifices of the men of that time, without giving a thought to all they had done, or how they had done it, there are still seductive charms on the Richelieu. The scenery is surpassingly beautiful, and as full of delightful surprises, at every bend, as is, in its domain of terror and grandeur, the far-famed Saguenay. (A trip we will take together in a week or so hence). But even should the tourist not find time to visit the Richelieu, there will be ample compensation for the few hours of delay, in visiting Sorel and its surroundings. A little distance below the town are the Islands of Sorel, and if ever nature were lavish of her treasures it surely is in that fairy-haunted place. And apart from the panoramic beauties of woodland, there is an additional attraction in the unsurpassed facilities for hunting and fishing. It is, after all, one of those stages in a journey that might be compared to an oasis.

What Sorel is in winter I have no idea; but it must be a very sequestered place, when the great highway of the St. Lawrence is closed by the ice, and the drifting tempests of the north career along its frozen surface, passing Sorel as if in too great a hurry to stop or disturb that sheltered nook. But when the hammers of industry are clanging upon the anvils and the mechanics are at work in the shipyards or vast sheds, there surely are signs of busy life. But for the ordinary traveller, Sorel presents all its attractions in summer, and it is during that season that it must be seen to its full advantage.

## CELEBRATION OF POPE LEO'S NAME DAY.

Mrs. P. L. Conellan, writing to The Dublin Freeman's Journal, under date of Aug. 19 says: The events that occur in the Vatican have always a world-wide interest. The place occupied by the Pontiff in the higher affairs of the world gives a special value to everything he says and does. He occupies a large and prominent place in the history of the present age.

Therefore, more than usual interest surrounded the celebration on Sunday last of the feast of St. Joachim, the name day of His Holiness Leo XIII., who was prior to his elevation to the Pontificate, known as His Eminence Cardinal Joachim Pecci. On that day the Holy Father received in his private library the members of the Sacred College of Cardinals now in Rome, who presented to him their best wishes on his happy anniversary.

An Irish Friar walking out of the Porta Pia one afternoon saw four cardinals walking together, and remarked that, in all probability, no other city but Rome could present such a spectacle. On last Sunday morning no less than twenty-two cardinals surrounded the aged Pontiff. These were their Eminences Cardinals Serafino, Vannutelli, Mocenni, Aglardi, Aloisi-Masella, Rampolla del Tindaro, Di Pietro, Satolli, Gotli, Ferrata, Cretoni, Cassali del Drago, Casetta, Sannumatali-Zanaroli, Resplighi, Martinielli, Genari, Macchi, Steinhuber, Segna, Pierotti, Vives y Jute and Tripepi.

A number of patriarchs, archbishops and bishops were also here, as well as the Knights of Malta, the Roman Prelates, and the Private Chamberlains of His Holiness, as well as many members of the Roman aristocracy and nobility.

Leo XIII. was looking very well, indeed, and there was a cheerfulness and vivacity in his movements and expressions that was difficult to reconcile with his advanced age. He thanked the Sacred College of Cardinals for the good wishes presented to him, and he expressed his profound satisfaction at being enabled to celebrate with them the feast of the glorious Patriarch St. Joachim, who has given us in the Blessed Virgin Mary a most tender Mother, and he is pleased at seeing how the veneration of St. Joachim is ever assuming greater proportions, and a fuller development in the Catholic world. In confirmation of this fact the Holy Father referred, with special complacency, to the solemn functions celebrated in these days in honor of this holy Patriarch in the church which is dedicated to him, and to the ever-increasing numbers of the faithful who assisted at these functions, edifying all by their piety.

But, said His Holiness, that temple itself, consecrated to him, is a solemn monument of the increase of the veneration and the devotion of the Catholic world to St. Joachim. This church, due to the initiative of the Catholics, at the period of his Sacredredotal Jubilee, and as a memorial of this, has become, as it were, an international lists in which the Catholics of every nation contend in the rivalry of honoring St. Joachim. And here the Holy Father called to mind the most minute particulars of what has been done, and what is now being done by the nations towards the decoration and embellish-

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ment of the chapels which the respective nations desired and have acquired in the new church. England, he said, recently sent 60,000 francs for the altar of the Blessed Sacrament—the chapel which that nation possesses in this Church of St. Joachim—and Holland sent 20,000. Then Leo XIII. added: "France, in spite of what is happening in that country at the present time, has desired that even she shall have her place in this church; she has requested and obtained a chapel dedicated to the Sacred Heart, sending expressly a Redeemptorist Father in special mission for the construction of the said chapel, and contributing provisionally 500,000 francs!"

The Pope then remarked that amongst the chapels which are at present either finished, or in the way of being finished within a certain time, are those made at the expense of the English, Dutch, North American, Belgian, Irish, Polish and French Catholics, and even those of Canada, who desire that their chapel shall be dedicated to St. Anne. As to the Italian Catholics they have, with just consideration, desired that their chapel shall be dedicated to St. Alphonsus Liguori, Founder of the Redeemptorist Fathers, to whom the service of the church is entrusted. There is every reason to hope that, within a short time, this will become, if not one of the greatest churches of Rome, certainly one of the most ornate and richest, and it will endure as a testimony of the increasing devotion of the Catholics of the whole world for the glorious Patriarch whose name Leo XIII. has the honor to bear.

Then, by a natural succession of ideas, the Pope went on to speak of the tender and devout veneration which is rendered everywhere to the Most Blessed Virgin. The Pontiff was pleased in remembering the large part taken by the Sacred College in the increase of the splendor of such veneration by taking part frequently in the solemn ceremonies held in Her honor. He referred then to the coronation of images of the Blessed Virgin recently made, or about to be made, by Cardinals Ferrari, Archbishop of Milan, Cassali del Drago, Ferrata, and Aloisi-Masella. He spoke also of his own recent inauguration and benediction of the faithful reproduction of the Grotto of Lourdes erected in the Vatican Gardens, adding that he had composed a brief invocation to the Blessed Virgin in order that it might be sculptured near the grotto. Then he distributed printed copies of this inscription in Latin, which is as follows:  
Insigna hinc misere scindit discordia Gallos

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## Janque eadem gentes sors premit

**Auzonias**  
Adus, Alma Parens, cumulus portus Salutis

**Tristia Lourdensi crimina merge lacu.**  
The copies distributed have this invocation printed in elegant type, preceded by an explanatory epigraph, and illustrated by a view of the miraculous Grotto.

Several publications received on his name-day were likewise distributed to those present, Leo XIII. adding a few words of comment on them: "Cardinal Pietro Marini," by Mgr. Nicola Marini, being one; another was the work of Professor Angelini, bearing the title "Auteha, ex fabula H. Senkewitz—Eamus ad ipsium"—work which the Holy Father described as written with a savor of golden Latinity, and the beautiful poems of Mgrs. Batolini (Quanteide), Terrinoni, Giordano, Forchelli, and Professor Castaldi.

Turning then to Cardinals Serafino Vannutelli and Aglardi, Suburban Bishops of Frascati and Albano, he inquired concerning their respective dioceses, their Eminences furnishing information concerning the proximate pilgrimages from these cities to Rome if the pilgrims came in great numbers from Latium, the Pontiff will descend into St. Peter's to receive them. He anticipates having to descend frequently to St. Peter's in the latter quarter of this Jubilee year, as the pilgrimages are likely to be numerous.

From Cardinal Satolli, Archbishop of the Lateran, the Pontiff asked news concerning the beginning of the works for the restoration of the ceiling of the Lateran. The Cardinal furnished particulars concerning the inspection that had been made of the state of the ceiling, and the labors necessary to its repair. The Pope showed a keen interest in the information given him, and expressed his hope that, through the generous help of the faithful, that even this important work which may well be called the crowning of the grandiose restorations executed at the Lateran may be happily completed. It is reported that the cost of this most important and most necessary work will be no less than 400,000 francs, and that Leo XIII., out of his poverty, has undertaken to provide 100,000 francs, or one fourth of the total expense.

It is a moment such as this that one begins to have a glimpse of the enormous extent and importance of the interests with which the Pope is concerned. After this conversation Leo XIII., seeing amongst those present the Most Rev. Monsignor Rabbani, Patriarch of Antioch of the Syrian Rite, and the Most Rev. Monsignor Jacques Crouzet, Vicar Apostolic of Southern Madagascar, furnished those present with the consoling news brought to him by those Missionary Prelates concerning the increase of Catholicity in their respective fields of labor; and he asked the Vicar Apostolic to furnish further particulars of the situation, which Monsignor Crouzet did, to the great satisfaction of His Holiness, as well as of those present.

Afterwards the Pontiff received various Catholic Associations—The Councils of the Italian Young Men's Society, of the Society for Catholic Interests, of the Circle of St. Peter, of the Aristic Workmen's Society, of the Leonino Catholic Circle, and the

other Federated Societies of Rome. The Commendatore Professor Orizio Marucchi, well-known to the Irish pilgrims who recently visited Rome, presented His Holiness with a richly-bound copy of the third volume of his important work on Christian Archaeology, "The Basilicas and Churches of Rome." This is the final volume of the series, and is distinguished by that clearness of exposition and extensive knowledge of the subject which are characteristic of the works of this author.

The composer of ecclesiastical music and director of the choir of Santa Maria Maggiore, Commendatore Moriconi, presented His Holiness with a beautifully bound copy of the hymn which this maestro had set to music, and which was performed, under his direction, on 6th July, when Leo XIII. blessed the Roman people in the Courtyard of the Belvedere at the Vatican. No less than 600 boys sang the hymn to Moriconi's music on that occasion.

On this day also, as is always the case, an immense number of telegrams came to the Holy Father from Sovereigns, Princes and distinguished personages of every class, and from every part of the world. Considerably over a thousand such messages were received at the Vatican. One telegram sent from the City of Catania contained 20,000 words, these largely consisting of the names signed to the congratulatory address sent to the Sovereign Pontiff. Leo XIII. was engaged in this reception during two hours, and he did not seem to suffer from the heat and from the fatigue of such an occasion. Such is the fashion in which his name-day was celebrated in the 63rd year of his age, and in the 25th year of his Pontificate.

In the Church of St. Joachim there were special services on that day, and special prayers offered up for the preservation of the life of Leo XIII. High Mass was celebrated by Mgr. Lazzaracchi, titular Archbishop of Neocesarea. The ceremonies, in the afternoon closed with the singing of the "Te Deum," Cardinal Macchi giving Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

This morning I made a visit to the Church of St. Joachim. At the chapel of Ireland the curved ceiling is occupied by a fresco of St. Patrick in glory, the borders of rich gold work showing the emblems of the stamrock and the Celtic cross. The scaffolding for the painting of the fresco still stands, but no men were working there, this morning. The English chapel, which is that of the right transept, is quite finished, and is very rich and beautiful. The Dutch chapel is quite finished, and is attractive from the richness and historical interest of its frescoes. The Polish chapel is also quite finished, and is brilliant with paintings. The chapel of the United States is also completely finished, and is, in its way, nearly as rich and brilliant as the English chapel. The Belgian is under the hands of the workmen, who were busy there to-day Spain, who does nothing in the way of actual work to the chapel allotted to it. The Canadian chapel is very simple; so is the German chapel, which has an incomplete look. The prominent nations of the earth are thus taking in hand the formation of an international church in Rome, in which they will all have a place and a share.

**WEDDING AT PETERBOROUGH.**  
A wedding which attracted many visitors from Toronto and elsewhere took place last week at St. Peter's Cathedral, Peterborough. The principals in this very pretty wedding were Miss Josephine Welsh, daughter of Mr. Edward Welsh, and Mr. Edward Hyland. A large number of friends witnessed the ceremony, which was solemnized by Rev. Dr. O'Brien. Mr. T. Y. Milady, of Toronto, was groomsmen.  
An enjoyable wedding breakfast was served at the residence of the bride's father, after the ceremony.  
Mrs. Gump—Margaret, you had a man in the kitchen last evening was he a friend of yours? Margaret—No, indeed, mein; it was only me, he was!

## Catholic Temperance Movement

Editor Catholic Register:  
When I wrote a letter to The Register last week on the above subject, I had no idea that this week's issue of your ably edited paper would contain the splendid sermon on the question, delivered at St. Peter's Church, in your city, by Rev. Father Minehan.  
I think all thoughtful Catholics will admit that there is serious food for reflection in the words uttered by Father Minehan, and I pray that more of our priests, in this banner Province of Ontario, will soon be heard, with no uncertain sound, in favor of establishing "Catholic Total Abstinence Societies" in every parish in the Province.  
I venture the assertion that in many parishes there are Catholic laymen only waiting for an opportunity to join and encourage temperance societies in their midst. Some will say, "Oh, you will only get probably ten or twelve men to join." Very well, then start with that number. It is surprising what that number of energetic and resolute men, having a good cause in view, by working together, can accomplish. I know more than one young man in the parish to which I belong, who consists of some two hundred families, who, one or two years ago, never touched liquor in any form, and who to-day are almost completely drunkards, and are fast becoming public nuisances, who, I honestly believe, would be useful members of society and a joy to their families and a credit to their faith, had there been a temperance society in our midst that would have had a strong tendency to have kept them from taking the course which they did in giving way to drink.

Yes, Mr. Editor, get unborn children will some day rise up and call blessed the Catholic priests and Catholic laymen, who will start and encourage a genuine Catholic Temperance movement in Canada. Thanking you for space for this letter, in your columns, I am  
A CATHOLIC LAYMAN.

**ST. MARY'S CHURCH, HESSON.**  
The Catholic people of Hesson lately decided to open a subscription to erect a bell in St. Mary's Church. Father Guam was agreeably surprised when he heard that the sum forthcoming on call, was \$400, more than sufficient to buy one bell for the pretty little church. It has therefore been decided to put in two bells.

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