CURIOUS RELIGIOUS CUSTOMS IN ARMENIA.

Very quaint and curious are the Christian customs of the East. There is such a spirit of conservatism among the Orientals, particularly among those who live in and about the Holy Land, that we may well believe that what we witness there to-day has been the traditional custom for ages, and in all probability has its origin away back at the source of the great stream of Christianity. Bishop Paul, of Tarsus, describes in the Catholic World Magazine for July the religious customs of the present day among his own people, and in reading about them we are led to believe that we are living in the ninth rather than in the nineteenth century. He describes the curious betrothal and marriage ceremonies and funeral customs. Speaking of the death of a priest he says:

"When the deceased is a priest every effort is made to carry out the Christian ritual in all its splendid detail. The procession makes the circuit of all the churches; at different places it stops in the street and the Gospel is read over the dead. The shops are closed and the women suspend their duties. The deceased is interred in the court of the church, clothed in his sacred vestments The farmers send sheep to be distributed to the poor; usually they continue the mourning for eight days. If the deceased is a married priest, his widow can never again remarry; likewise the priest, if his wife should die, cannot contract a second marriage, but must remain a widower to the end of his life. Celibacy in this country is reserved to those priests whom the Bishop at their ordination judges to be worthy of the honor."

THE TRANSVAAL WAR.

The stirring news from China during the past few weeks has thrown that from South Africa so completely into the back-ground that there has been but little intelligence of importance from the latter country since the Chinese trouble began.

A despatch from Lord Roberts of the 20th inst. states that thirteen miles East of Heidelberg, an attack was made on the British post by a Boer force on the 19th. The post was garrisoned by 200 Dublin Fusiliers, 120 Engineers, and 10 of the Yeomanry, who repulsed the Boers after a sharp fight.

On the same day General Little was met by De Wet's force near Lindley, defeating them.

Middleburg has been attacked by Lord Roberts with a strong force, and the latest reports state that a battle is now in progress. P. Kruger is there directing operations.

Governor Sir Alfred Milner in addressing the Capetown Parliament on Friday, July 20th, promised an early ending to the war, and it is not only possible but probable that some negotiations are going on with a view to this end; and if this is the case, it may account for the dearth of news. Paul Kruger, however, denies still that he has authorized any negotiations having peace in view. It is however the opinion of United States military attache, Captain Stephen. L. H. Slocum, that the war will end soon as the bushwhack stage cannot last long.

Heckpoort has been occupied by General Methuen, and Ian Hamilton, General Methuen, and Ian Hamilton and Manon are continuing to occupy new portions of the territory between Bethlehem and Ficksburg.

The Boers under Gen Grobler are constantly retiring before Hamilton's advance, and it is evidently their desire to annoy the British as much as they can, while avoiding any pitched battle.

The most of the actual fighting of the week appears to have been done by Generals Hamilton and Rundle. The former beat back the Boers constantly, the latter retiring to beyond Waterval, while the British took possession of the vacated positions. Generals Hutton and Smith-Dorrison, on the north-west have also driven back the Boers and occupied their positions. Rundle has also made considerable advance, driving the Boers eastward from Biddulphsberg.

A SPLENDID SHOWING.

The following are the names of the Separate School pupils of London who were successful at the Collegiate Entrance examinations (given in the order of merit.) Twenty nine pupils wrote; all passed except three, and these, obtaining in the total more than the required numbers of marks, but failed in one subject, were recommended, and will doubtless be allowed to enter the Institute as pupils after the holidays. James D. Collins (of St. Peter's school) second son of Denis Collins of West London, has the honor of obtaining the highest number of marks amongst the boys of the city of London, and Jessie McGregor of Holy Angels' School, stood second highest of all the girls. The list, which we give below, speaks for itself, and reflects credit on the Separate School teachers (the Sisters of St. Joseph and the Ladies of the Sacred Heart) as well as on their bright young pupils:

ST. PETER'S SCHOOL.

James D. Collins, 888; Frederick Dewan, 816; Lena Mahoney, 816; Edward Reynolds, 784; Gerald Lous Hanavan, 781; Mary Kelly, 762; Gerald Labelle, 756; Ernest Hurley, 735; Maggie Boyle, 735; James Gleeson, 706; Katie Flannigan, 680; Parnell Flannigan, 662; Edna Walsh 647; James Neville, 645; Joseph McKeough, 627; James Kinsella, 601.

HOLY ANGELS' SCHOOL.

Jessie McGregor, 866; Lizzie Jenkins, 846; May Traher, 777; Gertrude Durkin, 730; Jennie Flynn, 673; William Murray, 681; Annie Flanegan, 637; Mary Boyle, 631; Annie Smith, 620; Mark Healy, 553.

SACRED HEART SCHOOL.

Jennie Friend, 713; Ella McGowan, 625; Mary Phelan, 584.

MARRIAGES

O'CALLAGHAN-STOCK.

A very pretty wedding took place in St. Patrick's church, Kinkora, on Tuesday morning, June 19th, when Miss Louisa Stock, one of our most popular young ladies, was united in matrimony to Mr. William O'Callaghan, of Wawanosh. About 10 o'clock the bridal party entered the church to the strains of a wedding march played by Mrs. James Brown, cousin of the bride, who also sang some very fine selections during the Mass. The bride was handsomely dressed in white organdie, trimmed with rich lace and satin ribbons, and carried a bouquet of bridal roses and smilax. She was assisted by her cousin, Miss Kate Malloy, who was prettily attired in white organdie over yellow, and a hat to match; while Mr. W. Donnelly of Wawanosh assisted the groom. After the Nuptial Mass celebrated, the happy couple, accompanied by their friends and relatives, drove to the residence of the bride's father, where a sumptuous repast awaited them. The bridal couple left on the afternoon train for eastern points, followed by the best wishes of their numerous friends. The presents were beautiful and numerous, showing in what respect the bride was held.

BLAIN-KEELEY.

At St. John's church, Arthur, on July 17th, at 8.30 a.m. Miss Adella Keeley, eldest daughter of Mr. James Keeley, was married to Mr. Geo. Blain, Phm. B., of Sault Ste Marie, Ont. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Father Shanahnessy. The bride entered the church leaning on the arm of her father and looked charming in a gown of golden fawn silk trimmed with ivory silk and chiffon, with white hat to match. The bridesmaid, her sister, Miss Nellie Keeley, wore white and yellow organdie. The groom was supported by Mr. James E. Day, barrister, of Guelph. After the Nuptial Mass the wedding party drove to the home of the bride's parents, where a dainty repast was served. The happy couple left on the 1 p. m. train for Niagara-on-the-Lake, where they will be the guests of Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Ireland, after which they will visit the groom's parents in Barrie before returning by Steamer "City of Collingwood" for Sault Ste. Marie.

ARCHDIOCESE OF TORONTO.

NIAGARA FALLS.

Week before last His Grace Archbishop O'Connor and the priests of the archdiocese of Toronto were on retreat at the Carmelite Hospice. Rev. Theodore MacDonald, O. C. C., conducted the exercises.

The annual pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Peace at Falls View brought together a large number of pilgrims on the day of the Scapular Festival. Very Rev. J. McHall of the Niagara (N. Y.) University preached the panegyric.

The Hospice of the Carmelites is now open. The guests are gradually filling up the big building.

Rev. Chrysostom Anderson, O. C. C., an old Western Ontario boy was ordained with other Carmelites at St. Vincents' college, Penn., last week.

Confirmation was given in St. Patrick's church, by Most Rev. Archbishop O'Connor on July 15th.

During the recent High School Entrance examinations held at the Collegiate Institute, Niagara Falls, the following ten pupils from St. Patrick's parochial school all passed successfully, viz: Joseph Langly, William Hughson, Helena Gates, Mary Rogers, Lizzie Ross, Nellie McCall, Irene Flynn, Stella S Kimmins, Mary Kelly and Fanny Reilly. Last year fourteen out of fifteen from the same school passed. It is a pleasure to know that every one passed this year. Much praise is due to Sister M. Isabella and her able associates from Loretto Academy.

TORONTO.

On Saturday, the 14th inst., the members of the Young Ladies choir of St. Joseph's church, Leslie street, with a few friends spent a most enjoyable time picnicking at Centre Island. After partaking of a sumptuous repast at which all the delicacies which this season of the year furnishes were lavishly provided, the young ladies and their guests passed a most pleasant evening in ball playing, swinging, chatting, etc.

On Sunday, the 15th inst. in St. Joseph's church the singing and music at the 9 o'clock Mass were furnished by the same choir. The singing, to say the least, was splendid and too much praise cannot be given to the young ladies taking part. The "Kyrie" was rendered by the full choir in splendid style. "Ave Maria" by Miss Emily Murray, was highly appreciated. The trio "Veni Creator" by the Misses Ida Luke and Frances Lanphier and Mrs. Vogel was of a high order of merit. Mrs. Manson, at the request of the choir, rendered "Not Ashamed of Christ," in her usual splendid style.

Great credit is due Mrs. Laura C. Vogel, the directress of the choir, who in the short space of a couple of months, during which the choir has been under her charge has brought it to such a standard of efficiency.

We cannot close without mentioning the organist, Miss Le Ray, whose playing was greatly appreciated, both by the choir and congregation.

ARCHDIOCESE OF OTTAWA.

Rev. Fathers Alexis and Albert, of the Capuchin Order have arrived from France. The former will be Guardian of the Hintonburg (Ottawa) Monastery for the ensuing three years. Rev. Father Maurice has gone to take charge of that at Restigoushe, N. B..

Rev. Father Moise is expected to return to Canada shortly, in restored health.

The Children of Mary of St. Brigid's church will hold their third annual picnic on the 15th of August.

A number of boys are expected by the steamship Tunisian, sent out by the Catholic Society of London. They will arrive about the 30th inst., at the new Orpington home, Hintonburg, near this city.

Very Rev. Father Monpeunt, Provincial of of the Dominican Friars, arrived here on Thursday last. He will remain for some days; he is accompanied by Very Rev. Father Adam, the Vice-Provincial.

DIOCESE OF HAMILTON.

The Hamilton Separate schools showed again the efficiency of their work by passing successfully the following list at the High School Entrance Examination:

Frank Bastien, 863; Nellie Callaghan, 583; Bridget Daly, 594; Irene Daly, 672; May De Lattinville, 571; Mary Donovan, 697; Mary Hurley, 557; Mary Joyce, 784; Jennie Keating, 563; Nellie Lahiff, 551; Lizzie McNulty, 602; Mary Magerus, 555; Irene Meegan, 655; Mary Nugent, 550; Mary Phoenix, 583; Jennie Tracey, 653; Frank Wayes, 714; Leo A. Neligan, 639; John Brown, 727; Joseph O'Sullivan, 762; John Jameson 611; Royal Pigott; 669; John Maloney, 659; Stafford Simons, 599; Herbert Martin, 564; Edward Sullivan, 641; Augustine McKenty, 633; Fred Wilmot, 741; Thomas Nash, 746; Charles Bastien, 591; David Nelligan, 569; and Daniel Galvin 576.

A VENERABLE PRIEST'S DEATH

THE DEAN OF THE P. E. ISLAND CLERGY BURIED WITH MUCH CEREMONY AND UNIVERSAL REGRET.

There is nothing so calculated to bring all classes and creeds together and make them feel the bond of their common humanity like the death of some old landmark in the community about whom all the sweetest memories entwine. There was a beautiful death in Prince Edward Island last week, which seemed to knit the whole community in tenderest love and sympathy. The Rev. Francis John McDonald, for sixty years a priest of God in the Garden Province, passed away on the 9th instant, surrounded by the group of young ecclesiastics whom, like a true Father, he exerted himself to leave behind him to continue the Master's work. There is an old unwritten ecclesiastical law that every priest should at least leave one successor whom his advice and assistance has advanced to the priesthood. Father Francis, as he was lovingly known, was not content with the mere letter of the law; he worked in season and out to multiply the number by almost the highest figure in the table. And those pious, talented, affectionate levites smoothed with tenderhands the pillow of his old age.

Sixty years a priest! What a marvellous time to stand at the altar and mediate between man and His Maker! Father Francis' deeds of charity and religion would certainly fill volumes. And he was not entirely consumed with purely priestly considerations. In those years he was foremost in every movement for the temporal uplifting of his fellowman. What wonderful efforts in this direction filled up those long years of his active life!

Born in 1815 at East Point in Prince Edward Island, little John McDonald was baptized by the late Bishop McEachern, the Island's chief missionary for many a year and its first Bishop afterwards. At sixteen years of age the good prelate saw signs of a religious vocation in the comely lad, and knew how to direct them. Young Macdonald was sent to St. Andrew's College, the first Catholic institution of learning opened on the Island, and now superseded by St. Dunstan's Diocesan College, a splendid institution most beautifully situated within a mile of the pretty capital of the province. Here, although the educational beginnings of the new county were rude enough, young John quickly took a first rank in his classes and acquired especially a love and a knowledge of the Clerics which marked him out among his confreres for more than half a century afterwards. His humanities completed, he sailed for Quebec in 1836 and entered St. Hyacinth's Seminary, where he took a year's philosophy. In 1837 he was registered at the Quebec Seminary, where after three years' study of theology he was ordained by Archbishop Turgeon on June 26th, 1840. A few months afterwards—months spent in the exercise of the holy ministry at St. Roch's—he returned home and was assigned to the missions of Georgetown, Launching at Rollo Bay, and later had St. Margaret's, and Sturgeon — almost all of Kings county — under his jurisdiction. There was little or nothing then of the orderly ecclesiastical institutions which now make Charlottetown the most thoroughly equipped diocese in Canada, and Father Francis, full of youth and zeal and initiative, set about procuring such as the necessities of the case demanded. Hundreds of miles had he to cover on horseback or by boat, and many and many a day he swam his horse over the numerous rivers which network the county he served, the altar-stone strapped to the saddle and the necessaries for the Holy Sacrifice on his shoulders. Many a fierce tide and angry wave broke against the calm but purposeful countenance of the intrepid missionary. God, however, stayed him up, who put his trust in Him and, as if by magic, churches sprang up at all the places named above. Many presbyteries followed, congregations became regular and church services solemn and ceremonious. The temporal made pace with the spiritual. Highways by land and water succeeded the trail and river ford, and after the farm house came the school and its attendant beneficiaries, mills, stores and workshops. In all those years the pioneer priest never faltered. Another St. Paul, he was all thing to all people, and never was gratitude deeper or love truer than that which welled up in his people's breasts. And as near as can any one be a prophet in his own land came Father Francis. The leaders of the public movements consulted him on every measure of importance, and long after more than a half dozen priests were employed in the work he had performed single-handed, the faithful, confiding in his rare judgment, rich counsel and rare virtue, wore out his threshold at St. George's, where he had retired in the latter years of his ministry, with their comings and goings. The place itself is a model of sylvan beauty, breathing peace and religious feeling into the visitor's soul. There Father Francis lived, doing good the long span of sixty years of priestly ministration and there he is laid at rest 'neath the white birches he saw spring from the tiny seeds to the great trees they now are, whose bent heads and leaves rustling in the summer winds will re-echo the sighs to which the great forest answers to the dirge of the river's waves as they break on the shingley shore hard by.

A large concourse of clergy and laity assembled at St. George's on Thursday, July 12, to assist at Father Francis' obsequies. The Examiner, the principal daily paper of the Capital, has this to say of the service:

"Not since the funeral of Rev. Father McMillan, of St. Teresa's when the entire body of clergy were in retreat here and attended, has so many of the priests of the diocese assisted at the funeral of a confrere as was the case at St. George's yesterday; and the representative people of the parishes of King's County joined themselves to his parishioners in honoring the memory of the beloved Father Francis. Long before the hour for the services the church was packed with people. Masses had been said by the visiting clergy from daybreak, and after the Matins and Lauds for the dead, sung in choir, Bishop McDonald commenced the Pontifical Requiem Mass. He was assisted by Rev. Father Wm. Phelan as arch-priest, and Rev. Fathers Walker and McIntyre, as deacons, Revs. A. McAulay and Mr. McLellan, ecclesastic, were masters of ceremonies. The Very Rev. James Phalen and the Revs. D. F. McDonald, James A. McDonald, S. T. Phalen, D. Chaltron, A. E. Burke, Peter Curran, Dr. Morrison, D. J. Gillis, P. C. Gauthier, I. R. A. McDonald and some others had seats in the sanctuary. The coffin, amidst blazing tapers was placed just outside the altar rail covered by a thick black pall. The church was heavily draped in black, relieved by white crosses and emblems. The eulogy was pronounced by Rev. Father Burke, and was in every way worthy of its solemn occasion. The eloquent preacher chose for his text: "And I heard a voice from Heaven saying to me: Write, Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord. From henceforth now saith the Spirit that they may rest from their labors: for their works follow them. (Revelations xiv: 13.")

At the end of the Mass the Libera was chanted by a full choir and the Absolutions made by His Lordship the Bishop, when the clergy formed in procession and chanting the psalms prescribed by the ritual and the immense congregation present following the remains were reverently placed in the grave prepared near the cemetery cross and hard by that of one of his priestly proteges recently gone on before. All the arrangements for the funeral were most complete, and reflected the highest credit on Father McLean who made them and whose loving care of the venerable priest in his last years was the edification of all that witnessed it. So beautiful and consoling a funeral it had not been our lot to witness for many a day, and with so many Masses from the priests and fervent prayers from the laity it seems almost superfluous to utter the usual closing words: *Requiem aeternam dona ei, domine, et lux perpetua lucent Ei!*

MGR. FALCONIO.

Addresses Presented—Replies Made—Town Gaily Decorated—Route of Processions—Bands in Attendance—Children and the Delegate.

The following report from a Bathurst correspondent, giving an account of the Apostolic Delegate's reception at that place, will, we know, prove interesting to our readers.

His Excellency Mgr. Diomede Falconio Archbishop of Larissa, and Papal Delegate to Canada, who has been making an official visit to the Bishops of the Maritime Provinces, arrived at Bathurst last Friday evening by accommodation train.

Long before the arrival of the train about three thousand persons in teams and on foot had gathered in the vicinity of the I. C. R. station to welcome His Excellency, who was accompanied from Chatham by Mgr. Barry and a number of clergymen. He was received at the station by the Bathurst town and village church committees in charge of Rev. W. F. Purcell, assistant to Mgr. Barry, and Rev. W. Varrilly, of the village. The line of march was immediately formed in the following order:

Mr. E. M. Bateman, marshal.
Village Band.
Mic-Mac Indians.
Town and Village Committees.
His Excellency, with Bishop Barry and Rev. Father Fisher (about forty members of the C. M. B. A. forming a bodyguard on either side of the carriage).
Members of the clergy in teams.
His Honor Judge Wilkinson and the Sheriff of Gloucester.
Rev. W. Street and Wardens of St. George's Episcopal Church.
Members of Parliament.
Wardens Brison and Mahoney of Gloucester and Westmorland counties.
Municipal Councillors.
Citizens in carriages and on foot.

The procession was the largest ever seen on the North Shore, and covered a distance of over two miles.

The citizens of Bathurst left nothing undone to show that they highly appreciated the visit of such a distinguished visitor as the representative of our Holy Father. The decorations all along the line of march were very elaborate and gave evidence of the deep attachment of the Catholic population of this section of the province to their religion and the head of the Church.

At the I. C. R. station a handsome arch, with appropriate mottoes and decorated with British and Papal colors, spanned the street, and from this point along the streets of the village, across the bridge to the town, a distance of nearly two miles, on either side were to be seen decorations of spruce and bunting. As the visitors entered the town another very large arch spanned the street in front of the post office, which bore the motto "Bienvenu." The procession continued along Water street to King street and to the handsome granite Church of the Sacred Heart, where, immediately opposite the residence of Bishop Barry, another arch had to be passed under. This arch was surmounted by a large cross, around which were entwined the Papal colors, and was profusely decorated with British, French and Papal flags. Across the front of this arch was the word "Welcome." Streamers of flags were stretched from the presbytery to the church and to the school lately erected for the Sisters of Charity. The handsome decorations on the veranda of the presbytery and throughout the church grounds were very attractive, and brought forth many expressions of admiration, especially from the visiting clergy and His Excellency.

On his arrival at the presbytery His Excellency was escorted to the church by the clergy, altar boys and C. M. B. A., where the following address of welcome was read by the Rev. W. Varrilly:

To His Excellency the Most Reverend Diomede Falconio, Archbishop of Larissa, Apostolic Delegate:

Your Excellency—In the name of the Coadjutor Bishop of Chatham, of the priests and laity of Bathurst, and neighboring missions, we bid Your Excellency a very cordial and sincere welcome to our humble town, and respectfully tender you the expression of our filial gratitude for the great honor your gracious acceptance of our invitation confers upon us.

In your person we revere not only a distinguished son of the glorious Patriarch, St. Francis, and an eminent prelate of the Church—titles in themselves to the respect and love of Catholics everywhere—but also the official representative in Canada, of our Most Holy Father, the Pope, who is the Vicar of Christ and the visible Head of the Church on earth.

It is therefore with the liveliest sentiments of reverence that we greet Your Excellency in your capacity of Apostolic Delegate, and that we desire to render you the homage due to your important and exalted position.

We also pray Your Excellency to be pleased to convey to His Holiness the profession of our profound veneration for his sacred person and of our unfailing submission to the spiritual and infallible authority of his divinely instituted office.

The faithful of these missions are composed of French Acadians, of the descendants of Irish and English-speaking immigrants and of a few survivors of the aboriginal inhabitants, who have preserved with remarkable fidelity the faith so successfully preached to their ancestors by missionaries of your own Order of St. Francis and of the Society of Jesus. These divers elements dwell together in fraternal unity under the standard of one divine faith, and though possessing only limited means, they contribute generously to the support of religion and its institutions. They also live in peace and concord with their fellow-citizens of other creeds under a constitution which guarantees to all equal civil and, save in the restrictions imposed upon them by the non-sectarian system of our education established in this province, equal religious rights.

We humbly pray Your Excellency to grant us the favor of the Apostolic Benediction.

(Signed) † THOS. F. BARRY,
Bishop Coadjutor.
WM. VARRILY, Pt.
T. D. ADAMS,
SAMUEL MELANSON.

The Papal Delegate, in reply, thanked the clergy and people for the very warm manner in which they had received him as the representative of the Pope. The enthusiasm and warmth displayed in the preparations go to show me that your zeal for your religion and your deep attachment to the Holy Father have prompted you to do honor to the person sent here as his delegate. His excellency was pleased to learn that throughout Canada the Catholic population was prosperous, living in peace, and enjoying full religious liberty. He next referred to the times when catholics had to endure persecution and misery for the name of the Church, and concluded his remarks by giving the Papal benediction. The solemn benediction of the Blessed Sacrament ended the ceremonies in the Church.

His Excellency dined with Mgr. Barry and the clergy. In the evening, about 9 o'clock, the village band played in front of the presbytery, where there was a fine display of fireworks.

Saturday morning, at 10 o'clock His Excellency received a large number of people in the upper church, which had been made very attractive by the gorgeous decorations to be seen on all sides. An address of welcome was read by Master Amos Hall, and Miss Ida Gallant, accompanied by four little tots, presented His Excellency with a handsome bouquet. Mgr. Falconio was very happy in his reply. He referred to the love Our Redeemer had for the little children, and added the Holy Father always delighted in hearing of the progress made by the little ones. He exhorted them to be always good, pious and obedient so as to grow up useful members of society.

In the afternoon at 3 o'clock a public reception was held. Notwithstanding the very disagreeable weather a very large number of people took advantage of the opportunity of being introduced to His Excellency. After the reception Mgr. Falconio, accompanied by Bishop Barry and Rev. Father Fisher, enjoyed a drive around Bathurst Basin.

Sunday morning His Excellency celebrated Mass at 8 o'clock, and at 10 o'clock a Pontifical High Mass was celebrated by Mgr. Barry, with His Excellency assisting at the Throne. Rev. Thomas Allard and Rev. M. F. Richard acted as deacons of honor to His Excellency, and Rev. P. Lebastard as priest assistant at the throne, while Mgr. Barry has as deacon and sub deacon Rev. W. Varrilly and Rev. W. E. Gormany, with Very Rev. L. N. Dugal, Vicar General, as assistant priest. Rev. Father Joyner acted as master of ceremonies. Rev. Father Fisher preached a very eloquent and forcible sermon, taking as his text: "I have compassion on the multitude."

Immediately after Mass the members of the C. M. B. A. accompanied the Papal Delegate to the presbytery, where an address of welcome was read by Mr. P. J. Venoit. In reply His Excellency spoke in very high praise of the C. M. B. A., and said he felt that such a society should prosper, as it was under the guidance of the Church. All the members were personally presented by Rev. W. F. Purcell, himself a member of the branch, and then followed the Papal benediction.

In the afternoon, on the invitation of Rev. W. Varrily, Mgr. Falconio assisted at Vespers and gave Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament in the village church. His Lordship Bishop Barry, assisted by the Very Revs. L. Dugal, V. G., and W. E. Gormany, in copes, with Rev. H. Joyner as master of ceremonies, officiated pontifically at Vespers, the Delegate, in cappa magna, with deacons of honor, etc., occupying the throne. After Vespers and the sermon, which was in French by Rev. M. Richard, the Delegate solemnly imparted the Papal Benediction and then vested in cope and mitre with vested deacons, gave Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. The church was filled, as it never was before.

It was remarked by clergy and people that the beautiful and elaborate ceremonies of the Church were carried out with rare perfection both at the Pontifical Mass in town and at the evening offices in the village.

On this occasion as on all others, the members of the C. M. B. A. acted as a body-guard.

At the termination of Vespers the Papal Delegate, Mgr. Barry, and all the visiting clergy dined at Rev. W. Varrilly's, and returned to town about 9 o'clock.

Monday was agreeably spent visiting the different places of interest around Bathurst and His Excellency took his departure for Campbellton by the evening train.

The reception accorded Mgr. Falconio was pronounced by persons competent to judge one of the most elaborate and enthusiastic given the Apostolic Delegate since his arrival in Canada. His Excellency himself lost no opportunity to show his appreciation of the efforts put forth by the people to welcome him and frequently expressed his delight at the hearty greetings he had received from the people of Bathurst.

THE TROUBLE IN CHINA.

The situation in China has produced many surprises, but no news since the beginning of the outbreak has caused so much astonishment as the announcement of the fact that Prince Tuan has declared war against Russia and invaded the Russian Amur territory. Russia on its part has accepted unhesitatingly the gauntlet thrown down and declared that from the 17th of July the state of war is to be held as existing between the two countries in Siberia. The Russians are, therefore, preparing to meet the Chinese invaders with an army of 200,000 men to be brought to the front at once, with more to follow as they are found needful. Prince Tuan on his side is said to have sent representatives of his party for the prosecuting the invasion of Russian territory, but it is confidently assumed that all the forces which Tuan may be able to bring into the field will be overmarched by the Russians.

The town of Blagavestenensk in Eastern Siberia was in fact taken by the Chinese after a brave struggle, but it has already been relieved and retaken by the Russians after a sharp battle in which 2,000 Chinese, and 800 Russians are said to have been killed.

In South-Eastern Siberia which is now invaded, German merchants have large interests at stake, and Berlin telegrams assert that Germany will of necessity take part with Russia in resisting the Chinese.

On the Amur river, two Russian steamers, with transports carrying artillery and amunition were fired on by the Chinese and kept from proceeding. Reinforcements have been sent to enable them to proceed to their destination.

From Pekin we have again a batch of contradictory reports. We have had already a fairly detailed account of the horrible circumstances under which the foreigners in Pekin were brutally massacred; yet, strange to say, from Chinese sources the intelligence is repeated that the foreigners were still safe at a more recent date than is given as the date of the massacre. Thus Li-Hung-Chang has positively assured the legations in the Southern Provinces, that the Pekin legations and the foreigners in Pekin were safe on July 8th. Sheng, the Chinese superintendent of intelligence, asserts that they are still safe, though it is not denied that they are in imminent danger as they are beleaguered on all sides and subjected to a continuous bombardment by the Chinese anti foreigners, including Boxers and troops of the Imperial army.

In consequence of these assurances hope is still entertained in some quarters that the legations are safe. In fact the Washington Government has received a despatch in cipher from Minister Conger which is said to have been sent from Pekin on July 18 to the effect that the foreigners are still under a continuous fire from shot and shell, and that a general massacre is imminent unless they are relieved at once. This would indicate that they are still living; but the despatch is undated, and the possibility is suggested that the Chinese had obtained Minister Conger's cipher code in the looting of the legations, and were thus able to forge the despatch. All this leaves the matter in great doubt; and one theory is to the effect that this despatch being undated is simply an old delayed despatch now transmitted in order to delay or circumvent the much feared concert of Western powers.

The report of the victory of the allies at Tien Tsin is confirmed. Twenty thousand Chinese were utterly routed by 7,000 allies. The loss of the allies in this battle was very heavy reaching 1000 and of the Americans engaged fully 25 per cent. were either killed or wounded. The Chinese part of Tien Tsin was completely demolished.

It is feared that as Li Hung Chang has been called by the imperial edict from his viceroyalty of Canton to Pekin, Canton will be now a scene of outrage as bad as Pekin, and the same fear is entertained regarding Nanking, whose viceroy has also been called away.

Germany, Italy, and the United States have all sent reinforcements to the allies, which are now on the way. Japan has also sent a large force with the same purpose.

There is now a report to the effect that the Emperor of China has asked France to mediate with the foreign powers, M Delcasse has informed the Chinese Minister that he will communicate his reply through the French Minister at Pekin; but that before he can do this, he must ascertain that the French Minister is safe and sound. Not finding this answer satisfactory the Emperor has made the same request to the United States. It is said that the answer, which has not yet been given will differ greatly from that of France.

The Chinese Ministers at London and Washington are making strenuous efforts to make it believed that the legations are still safe, but little reliance is placed on their representations. It is added that the capture of Tien Tsin by the allies has very greatly discomfited the Chinese Government, and that it is for this reason that the Emperor is moving to obtain peace.

WHEN OLD JACK DIED.

When old Jack died we stayed from school
(they said
At home we needn't go that day), and none
Of us ate, any breakfast—only one.
And that one was papa, and his eyes were red
When he came round where we were, by the
shed,
Where Jack was lying, half way in the sun
And half in the shade. When we begun
To cry out loud pa turned and dropped his
head
And went away; and mamma, she went
back
Into the kitchen. Then, for a long while
All to ourselves like, we stood there and
smile—
We couldn't only cry when old Jack died!

When old Jack died it seemed a human friend
Had suddenly gone from us; that some face
That we had loved to fondle and embrace
From babyhood no more would condescend
To smile on us forever. We might bend
With tearful eyes above him, interlace
Our chubby fingers o'er him, romp and race,
Plead with him, call and coax—aye, we might
send
The old halloo up for him, whistle, hist
(If sobs had let us) or, as wildly vain,
Snapped thumbs, called "Speak!" and he
had not replied;
We might have gone down on our knees and
kissed
The tousled ears, and yet they must remain,
Deaf, mentionless we knew—when old Jack
died!

When old Jack died, it seemed to us, some
way,
That all the other dogs in town were pained
With our bereavement, and some that wore
chained
Even unslipped their collars on that day
To visit Jack in state, as though to pay
A last sad tribute there, while neighbors
craned
Their heads above the high board fence, and
deigned
To sigh "Poor dog!" remembering how they
Had cuffed him when alive, perchance because
For love of them he leaped to lick their
hands—
Now that he could not, were they satisfied?
We children thought that, as we crossed his
paws,
And o'er his grave, way down the bottom-
lands,
Wrote "Our First Love Lies Here," when old
Jack died!

—James Whitcomb Riley.

NEW BOOK.

The Catholic Book Exchange, 120 West 60th Street, New York, N. Y., has lately published a cheap and interesting little brochure on Devotion to the Holy Spirit, the author of which is Rev. Joseph McSorley, C. S. P. Paper, 5cts. per copy.

MARKET REPORTS.

LONDON.

London, July 21.—Grain, per cental—Wheat $1.15; oats, 93, to 95c; peas, $1.00 to $1.15; beans, per bushel, $1.25 to $1.40; barley, 85c to $1.00; corn, 75 to 80c.; rye, 85c to $1.10; buckwheat, $1.00 to $1.20.

Farm Produce — Hay, new, $7.00 to $7.50; straw, per load, $3.00 to $4.00; straw, per ton, $6.00 to $6.50.

Live Stock—Live hogs, $5.50 to $5.60; pigs, pair $3.00 to $5.50; export cattle, $4.50 to $5; lambs each, $4.50 to $5.00.

Dairy Produce—Eggs, fresh laid, per dozen, 12 to 14c; eggs, basket lots, 11½ to 12c; butter, best rolls, 20 to 22c; butter, best crock, 18 to 20c; butter, store lots, 15 to 17c.; butter, creamery, 22 to 24c; cheese, pound wholesale, 9 to 10c.; cheese, pound, retail, 13 to 14c; honey, per pound, 10 to 14c; lard, per pound, wholesale, 9 to 9½c; lard, per pound, retail, 10 to 11c.

Poultry—Ducks, dressed per pair, 90c to $1.00; fowls, per pair, (undressed) 40 to 50c; fowls, per pair (dressed) 60 to 70; chickens, dressed, 50 to 70c.

Meat — Pork, per cwt., $6 75 to $7.25; beef, cow, $4 75 to $5.00; beef, heifers and steers, $5.50 to $6.00; veal, by carcass, $5.50 to $6.00; mutton, by carcass, $5.00 to $6 00; lamb by lb., 12 to 12½c.; lambs by the carcass, $4 50 to $6.00; lamb, by the quarter, $1.00 to $1 50.

TORONTO.

Toronto, July 26.—Wheat offerings light, demand moderate and market firmer, in sympathy with advance of 1c. in September in west; car of new white, first car on line of new crop, sold west at 68c.; old red and white at 70c. north and west by buyers, with sellers asking 71c.; round lot of spring sold on midland at 68c.; Manitoba steady, at 88c. for No. 1 hard, Toronto and west, 83c. afloat Fort William, 93c. grinding in transit, and 88c. to 84c. midland. Flour unsettled; exporters offered only $2 75 for 90 per cent. patents in buyers bags west, but holders want 10c more; choice brands held 20c. higher; Manitoba steady, at $2 85 for cars of strong bakers and for patents, Toronto. Millfeed dull, at $13 to $14 for shorts and $11 forbran west. Barley nominal, 41c for No. 2 and 40c. for No. 3, extra west. Rye scarce and price nominal, at 55c, middle freights. Corn firmer; Canadian yellow west, scarce and firm, at 40c.; No. 3 American yellow quoted at 48½c. Toronto. Oats quiet, at 27c. for white east and ½c to 1c asked and 26 to 26½c, bid west, with holders asking ½c more. Oatmeal steady, at $3.40 for cars of bags and $3 20 for barrels, Toronto. Peas steady, 61c, west.

MONTREAL.

Montreal, July 26. —The grain market continues dull and values are easier. Manitoba wheat quoted at 82c for No. 1 hard afloat, Fort William. Quotations afloat, Montreal are—Peas, 69½c. to 70c; oats, 31c.; barley, 51c to 52c.; rye, 65c. to 65½c. Flour is steady; Manitoba patents, $5; strong bakers', $4 60 to $4.70; winter patents, $3.80 to $4.15; straights, $3 70 to $3.80; and $1.75 to $1.85 in bags; Manitoba bran, at $14.50 to $15 in bags; and Ontario bran at $14 to $14.50 in bulk; shorts $16.50 to $17; and moullie, $18 to $22. Receipts to-day were 2,595 bbls flour. Provisions are easy. Dressed hogs, $8.20 to $8.25; pure lard, 8½c. to 9c.; bacon, 11½ to 13c.; hams, 12c. to 13c.; Canada short cut mess pork, $17 to $18. Butter is slightly easier at 20 to 21½c for finest creamery. Cheese is easy at 9½c. for westerns, and 9¾c. to 9½c for easterns. Owing to light receipts, there is a little firmer feeling in the egg market and dealers now ask 13 to 13½c. for large lots of candled eggs. Straight receipts are quoted at 12 to 12½c; seconds are in good demand at 11c. to 11½c.; and culls at 9 to 9½c.

Latest Live Stock Markets.

TORONTO.

Toronto, July 26. — The following is the range of quotations at Western cattle market this morning:

Cattle — Shippers, per cwt., $4.30 to $5.00; butcher choice, do., $4.25 to $4.62½; butcher, medium to good, $3.25 to $3 75; butcher, inferior, $3.00 to $3.25; stockers, per cwt., $3 to $3.50.

Sheep and lambs—Sheep, per cwt., $3.50 to $4.00; spring lambs, each, $2.50 to $4.50; bucks, per cwt., $2.50 to $3.00.

Milkers and Calves,—Cows, each, $25 to $45; calves, each, $2 to $10.

Hogs—Choice hogs, per cwt., $6 to $6.25; light hogs, per cwt., $5.00 to $5.25; heavy hogs, per cwt., $5.12½ to $5.37½; sows, $3.25 to $3.50; stags, $2.00 to $2.50.

EAST BUFFALO.

East Buffalo, N. Y., July 26.—Cattle in good position, active demand. Calves, choice to extra, $5 75 to $6; good to choice, $5.50 to $5.75. Sheep and lambs, dull and lower; spring lambs, choice to extra, $5.50 to $5.75; good to choice, $5.25 to $5.50; common to fair, $4.25 to $4.75; sheep and yearlings, $4.50 to $4.75. Hogs, fair position; heavy, $5 35 to $5.40; mixed, $5 45; Yorkers, $5.45 to $5.47½. Pigs, $5.30 to $5 55; stags, $3.50 to $4; close steady.

He that can not forgive others breaks the bridge over which he must pass himself; for every one has need to be forgiven.—Herbert.

We ought never to think we have done enough when there is a question of eternity.—St. Gregory.

CATHOLIC DOCTOR WANTED.

A GOOD CATHOLIC DOCTOR, SOBER, having good references, with a good knowledge of French, duly qualified for Ontario, wanted. French Canadian Doctor with above qualifications preferred. Apply to Rev Henri Martel, P. P., Bonfield, Nipissing, Ont. 1136, tf.

WESTERN FAIR
LONDON
SEPT. 6 to 15, 1900.

The Prominent Live Stock & Agricultural Exhibition of 1900.

Space Filling Up Rapidly
Make Entries Now and Secure
Good Space and Stabling

New and Start