

## CONFIRMATION SERVICES.

**His Lordship Bishop Walsh Officials Here on Sunday—Interesting Ceremonies and an Impressive Sermon.**

On Sunday last His Lordship Bishop Walsh, of London, officiated at the Catholic Church here, conferring the rite of confirmation upon a large number of members of the congregation. There was an immense crowd in the sacred edifice, at High Mass, numbers being content with standing room. Prior to the commencement of the service the juvenile candidates for confirmation, about 125 in number, marched into the church and took their seats on chairs in front of the altar rails, the girls being arrayed in white with wreaths of flowers on their heads, etc. The service was full choral, the choir acquitting themselves well on the occasion. The Mass was celebrated by Rev. Father Tierney of London.

The bishop chose his text from the gospel of the day, taken from St. Matthew, and addressed the congregation as follows:

"They had assembled there to bear mass and assist at the confirmation. The sacrament he was about to administer was instituted by the Son of God to enable them to inherit the kingdom of heaven; all the sacraments were instituted with the same end in view—to enable them to save their souls and be forever happy. It was not for any benefit to Himself that God created man, for He is always happy and nothing can add to His glory or detract from it. There was a time when nothing existed but God alone—not a voice broke the awful silence of that celestial vision in which He existed, and God was as happy then as he now—surrounded by the works of His hands. The happiness of God could not itself be manifested, but had created anything, but in the infinity of His wisdom. He made this earth and supplied it with intelligent creatures in order that He might communicate to them the happiness He Himself enjoyed. He created this world and placed the masterpiece of His hands here and destined them to be happy and peaceful. But man, who was created in happiness and justice, did not long remain in possession of these gifts. He broke the command which had been imposed upon him and involved himself and his posterity in utter ruin. The one sin wrecked his happiness and peace and destroyed his hopes of sharing in the blessings of God's Eternal Kingdom. The Son of God came down to repair the ruins in which man's disobedience had involved him and to save that which was lost, and He shed His blood upon the cross of Calvary in order to open us the gates of Heaven. He rose from the dead and created His church, which He endowed with the prerogative of salvation and enabled them with the sacraments in order that the church might confer happiness. The church inherited His powers and was instructed to spread the divine word and labor to enable men to reach the state of happiness for which God intended them. Men were placed here under the guidance of the church for the purpose of enabling them, by their holy life, to merit heaven, for the citizenship of which they were all created, and the inheritance of which was purchased by the blood of Christ. The language of man was lost when it tried to express the beauties revealed by the contemplation of the happiness of God's blessed kingdom. Loaded down with this material body we cannot form any idea of the happiness to be enjoyed there. St. Paul, who was wafted to the third Heaven, tells us that 'the eye hath not seen; the ear hath not heard, neither hath it entered into the heart of man to understand these things.' We cannot form any adequate idea of it, neither can the imagination of man reach or form a notion of the happiness God has prepared for those who love Him and obey Him. Catholic writers have described the communion of the just made perfect; a state which excludes the sorrows of life and the pains that afflict humanity; these are unknown in the Kingdom of God. The world is full of troubles and trials which would not last long, for we were not intended to remain here forever; we were not made for this place, but were merely passing through it, as through a valley darkened by sorrow and care. The life of man at best was a checkered existence terminating with death. Sorrows never enter the Kingdom of God; there no tears will be shed; there will be no sickness; no cruel separations from loved ones, where the wicked cease from troubling and the weary are at rest; the poor will be eternally rich and the sick and aged will put on the freshness of youth; the orphans will meet their parents and the widow her husband, and God will wipe all tears from their eyes. But the happiness of heaven will not come merely in this. It is not mere mortal things, but something positive to be enjoyed. God had created a place beautiful beyond description. Men and women rush across oceans and continents and over mountains to view some beautiful scenery, but this would be nothing compared to the beauty of the city which God has prepared for His children. The church writers, in order to give us some idea of the Kingdom of Heaven, had used various figures to describe the beauties of the eternal city. St. John describes it as having gates of pearl and streets of gold and crystal, with the river of light and the tree of life upon its banks. He also tells us that there was no sun there, nor moon; neither was there any darkness, for God illuminated it with His bright presence. The royal prophet also sang of the beauties of the eternal city, which had been prepared for the blessed. These privileged persons were allowed to enter in and walk the golden streets, which led to the tree of life, whose fruit conferred immortality upon those who had laid up for them such treasures where rust and moth do not consume. The happiness which would consist in a great measure in the association with holy persons. A great deal of the happiness of this world consists in the society in which we live—what then must be the happiness of those who live in the celestial city, and enjoy the society of those who reign and are to be found there. He was inclined to think that one of the worse punishments of the damned in hell will consist in the horrible society in which they are condemned to dwell. They have to live forever with robbers, murderers, the lewd, the wicked and the monsters which in

every age have cursed society here and have disgraced human nature itself. What an awful thing it would be for men and women to dwell amongst such a cursed crew as this; by the contrast they would see how happy persons would be in heaven with the angels and the spirits of the just made perfect, together with all those who were great and high and noble amongst mankind. That they would meet Jesus Christ, the God-man whose brilliancy would illuminate the heavens. If society can influence human happiness what must be the happiness of those who enter into the kingdom of God and enjoy the society of the Mother of God and Jesus Christ Himself.

These were only some illustrations to give some idea of the kingdom of God, and when compared with this, how paltry are the honors and riches of this world.

Dives in hell would have given to all his wealth for a drop of water to quench his burning thirst. Our honors were only of a fleeting, unsatisfactory character. In heaven they would be endowed with a moral sense by which we could see all the beauties and perfections of the Godhead. Earthly happiness is embittered by the knowledge of its uncertainty and our joys here were like Dead Sea apples—beautiful to the eye but ashes when pressed to the lips. It was the faith in the blood of Christ to secure this happiness that had sent thousands of the early Christians to the Roman amphitheatre to shed their martyred blood. It had sent holy men and women to the deserts of Egypt to preach the gospel of Christianity; it had led our priests with a few to Monteal, they suffered from the epidemic then prevailing in that city, smallpox, which proved fatal to many, but from which she recovered, although she never after enjoyed her former robust health. Last spring she was attacked by bronchitis, which finally ended in consumption, of which she died.

## OBITUARY.

Chatham, N. B. World, Nov. 18th. Died, calm, peaceful, fortified by the sacraments of the dying and the kind attentions of her sisters in religion, her parents and family friends, at the convent of the Congregation of Notre Dame, Newcastle, on Thursday evening, at 9:30 o'clock, Sister Mary of the Purification (family name, Miss Margaret Bannon), daughter of our respected townsmen, Mr. and Mrs. Bannon, in the 30th year of her age and the 10th year since her entrance into the Congregation of Notre Dame, Montreal.

This estimable young Religious was born in Chatham, and grew up from childhood a model of every maiden virtue. Her pietful and literary tastes led her to embrace the religious life in the convent of the Congregation. The Catholic founded in 1821 two centuries ago, by the Ven. Mgr. Marguerite Bourgeoys, and after perfecting her studies in the novitiate at Montreal, and pronouncing her religious vows, she passed the remaining years of her life teaching in various missions of her order, in P. E. Island, St. Albans and Sorel, beloved by her pupils, by the Sisters of her Congregation, and by all who knew her. Her career was short but full of merit. Soon after going to Montreal, she suffered from the epidemic then prevailing in that city, smallpox, which proved fatal to many, but from which she recovered, although she never after enjoyed her former robust health. Last spring she was attacked by bronchitis, which finally ended in consumption, of which she died.

FROM BRANTFORD.

The news of the death of Bishop Crimmon was received here on Saturday evening, with astonishment and sorrow. When His Lordship was last in this city his appearance indicated he was in poor health; some time later we heard that he had gone to Florida; and nothing more until word of his dissolution reached us. At first mass on Sunday Rev. P. Lemon, P. C., in breaking the news to the congregation, labored under intense grief. He told how Bishop Crimmon had been more than a father to him from boyhood, and spoke of the great good he had been instrumental in accomplishing in this diocese and elsewhere. The reverend gentleman started for Hamilton on Monday morning. Our curate, Rev. James Lenihan, one of the young priests ordained by His Lordship for this diocese, and he feels his death deeply also. On Monday morning at nine, a solemn requiem mass was sung in the church for the eternal repose of his soul, which was attended by a large congregation.

## CATHOLIC PRESS.

Buffalo Union. In Scotland, also, the ridges of abraded cultivation and the blackened stones of ruined dwellings mark the beneficent reign of landlordism. But the Scottish landlords, unlike their Irish brethren, don't turn their poor tenants out. They merely furnish them out, by depriving them of grazing ground for their cattle. The population of Scotland is forty thousand less than it was ten years ago. And yet, when Mr. D. H. MacFarlane, who, though a Scotchman, is a member from Carloway, petitioned the Government for an investigation into the condition of the Scotch crofters, he was refused. He has, however, been making investigations on his own responsibility; and these, Michael Davitt, who is now in the north of Scotland, is supplementing. There is thus a prospect of amelioration of the condition of the people said to be worse off even than the poor cottiers of Munster and Connaught.

Catholic Review. Mr. T. W. M. MARSHALL, the well known English author, speaks as follows from a Catholic point of view of Walter Scott, one of whose works, "Marmion," the Catholic Bishops of Canada object to being read in the Canadian public schools: "We cannot say that Scott is licentious, but he is offensive and unjust to Catholics. He misrepresents their belief, perverse intentions, and caricatures their practices. His saints are madmen, his monks half-fool and half beast, his lay Catholics scoundrels or pretended heretics. More than once he speaks of what he calls a 'hunting mass,' purposely abbreviated for the convenience of hasty worshippers, being totally ignorant that no ecclesiastic has power to suppress a single word of the missal."

The impressive ceremonies being concluded, His Lordship retired. The closing prayers were then said by the pastor, Father Bayard, and repeated by the children who had been confirmed. Service was also held in the evening at seven o'clock. His Lordship was present and addressed the congregation. The ceremony of raising the Stations of the Cross was also conducted by His Lordship. The services on both occasions were largely attended.

Collections were taken up in aid of the fund for paying for the Stations of the Cross, which had been painted to order by a Montreal artist, at a cost of \$280.

The stations are fourteen in number, and were beautifully executed. Several of them were presented by members and friends who joined together, according to their means, to purchase one between them.

The amount raised reflects great credit on the liberality of the congregation.

On the 21st His Lordship confirmed 90 persons at Wyoming, and on the evening of the same day preached to a crowded congregation in the Catholic Church, Peterboro. The subject of the sermon was "Duties of Christian Life." He strongly recommended to the congregation to make immediate preparation for the erection of a new church—the one now in use being too small for the congregation, in his judgment, unfit for the worship of God. His Lordship's advice will likely be acted on at once.

The next day His Lordship visited some of the adjoining missions and then started for the west to give confirmation in Maidstone and Leamington. The latter is the most remote mission in the diocese. The Catholic forming it being few in number, and scattered, the church was built through the Jubilee alms obtained a year ago. It is likely to become the nucleus of a large and active Catholic growth in that neighborhood.

After leaving Leamington His Lordship proceeded to Sandwich College to hold ordinations.

## Dr. Scott's Christmas Gift!

Headache is almost an universal complaint, and why is it that tens of thousands of people permit their suffering to continue day after day, instead of seeking relief? Dr. Scott's Electric Hair Brush can be purchased from almost any druggist. The Doctor has lately added to the price of the Electric Hair Brush, and has named it the "Electric Flesh Brush," and there is no excuse why every person should not have one. The Doctor has written an article on the value and as necessary in every dwelling as a medicine chest. See advertisement in another column.

## Mechanical Organs

Please any time, reduced from \$8 to \$6 to agents. Music in 100 ft. lots, sets 3cts. Catalogues free. MASS-ORGAN CO., 57 Washington St., Boston, Mass.

day with much ceremony. A detachment of Hussars escorted the deceased, and the spectators numbered thousands. Poor Roberts had been allowed almost to starve, and at the time of his death he had scarcely the bare necessities of life. This is the sort of reward usually doled out to the rank and file of our army. But, 'tis all for glory—British glory.

A CRUMB OF COMFORT has fallen to the share of the Catholics of France. The election of two senators for the department of Finistere was appointed for last Sunday. In France, the Lord's Day is always set aside for riot and party. However, on the present occasion the combat was one between Catholicism and Infidelity, the candidates of the former being MM. Hilaire Fréjat and Le Guen, and those of the latter MM. Rousseau and Morvan. The Catholic "ticket" as our Transatlantic cousins would term it, came out triumphantly from the contest, the lower Catholic vote being 197 and the highest Radical vote 187. This is a small majority, not more than ten, and the Radical papers don't forget to make the most of it either; still, the result is just the same as if all the electors had voted on the Catholic side, and, considering that at this moment Radicalism is at its zenith, the infidels are not likely ever to obtain a greater success in Catholic Brittany than they have had this time, and which, after all, amounts only to coming out second best.

The "McTammey Organette"

manufactured at Worcester, Mass., is the most wonderful musical instrument ever made. It is the choicer Christmas present that you could select. Price, only \$50 with music.

STINGING irritation, inflammation, all Kidney Complaints, cured by "Buchupaba," \$1 per bottle.

## COMMERCIAL.

London Markets, London, Ont., Nov. 24.

GRAIN.

Wheat, Spring, No. 1, super, 70¢ per bushel, Delhi, \$1.00 lbs. 1.50 to 1.55 per bushel; 70¢ to 75¢ barley, 70¢ to 75¢ peas, 60¢ to 65¢ corn, 60¢ to 65¢ oats, 60¢ to 65¢ beans, 60¢ to 65¢ rye, 60¢ to 65¢ buckwheat, 60¢ to 65¢ clover, 60¢ to 65¢ timothy, 60¢ to 65¢

FLOUR AND FEED.

PASTRY Flour, per cwt., 27.50 to 30.00

Spring Flour, per cwt., 27.00 to 27.50

Meal, Fine, per cwt., 24.00 to 24.50

Granulated, per cwt., 2.95 to 3.00

Oats, per cwt., 20 to 25

Peas, per cwt., 1.10 to 1.15

Barley, per cwt., 1.00 to 1.15

Wheat, per cwt., 1.00 to 1.15

Buckwheat, per cwt., 4.00 to 4.25

Clover, per cwt., 2.75 to 3.00

Timothy, per cwt., 2.75 to 3.00

MEAT.

Pork, per cwt., 22.00 to 25.00

Beef, per cwt., 12.00 to 14.00

Veal, per cwt., 8.00 to 10.00

Hay, per cwt., 2.00 to 3.00

Straw, per bushel.

PRODUCE.

Eggs, retail, 20¢ to 25¢

Butter per lb., 23¢ to 25¢

Oil, crock, 20¢ to 22¢

Cheese #1, 10¢ to 11¢

Lard, 15¢ to 16¢

MEATS AND HIDES.

Lambskins, each, 50¢ to 75¢

Calfskins, ♀, pair, 11¢ to 13¢

Tallow rendered, rough, 10¢ to 12¢

Hides, Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289