



The True Witness

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THE PILGRIMS.

A VISIT TO CARDINAL MANNING—A DESERATED SEAMEN—ROUSE AND THE CHILDREN OF MARY.

We take the following account of the doings of the Irish Canadian Pilgrims from the *Catholic Review*. After describing the reception of the Pilgrims in Liverpool, he says:

"The pilgrims were to leave for London by the 10.40 train; but owing to the late arrival of some cars, the departure was delayed till 11 o'clock. The procession of the pilgrims from the hotel to the station, was through a crowd of people that could not number less than 30,000.

POPULAR ENTHUSIASM.

It is impossible to describe their enthusiasm, or to repeat the words of kindness and affection that issued from the crowd on all sides. One instance I shall give. Whilst one of the lay gentlemen of the pilgrims was entering the gate at the station, a woman seized the skirt of his coat, and kissing it, said: "Bring this to the feet of the Holy Father from me!"—People spoke to us as if they had known us for years. Notwithstanding the great enthusiasm, the most perfect order prevailed.

THE GREAT CARDINAL.

A canticle was sung by a certain section of the multitude, and after that "Tara's Hall" was sung by about 7,000 voices. There was not one of us who did not have to shake hands with fifty people. None of the pilgrims had ever witnessed such enthusiasm. We were all astonished at the good will displayed by the Catholics of the city. We had representatives of every grade of society to give us a hearty welcome and to say adieu as we departed. When we came to Warrington, the first station from Liverpool, hundreds assembled and cheered heartily. A few of the pilgrims responded fittingly. Next morning, at three o'clock, many of us were awake to enjoy the scenery. The country that we saw from sunrise till our arrival in London was level and tame, but more carefully cultivated than any place I had yet seen. We arrived in London at six in the morning of 30th ult. After breakfast it was decided to leave London for New Haven, at 6 p. m.

Father Dowling of Hamilton, and I, set out at 8 o'clock for the residence of the Archbishop of Westminster. We drove along Vauxhall Bridge Road in the neighborhood of Westminster Abbey at 8.30 o'clock, turned down a narrow street and entered, by an iron gate way to the front of the house. It is a large brick building painted in imitation of stone, several white stone steps leading to the hall door. The usher of the house immediately knew us to be pilgrims and apprised Dr. Johnson, the Cardinal's private secretary, of our visit. From him we received a regular Celtic welcome. We were received as ones that were lost. The Cardinal was making his thanksgiving in his private chapel when Dr. Johnson told him of our visit.

We waited for him in the ante-room of the private secretary's apartment. When he came into the room, before 9 o'clock he gave us both his blessing, offered us warm congratulations on our escape from the dangers of the sea. He asked us to breakfast, but we had breakfasted. He asked all through us, to make his house our own during our stay. We told him we were about to depart from London that evening. When, in reply to a question, I told him I was a subject of the Bishop of Brooklyn, he said he knew him at the Vatican Council. He expressed the deepest satisfaction when I told him that my bishop was in the best of health.

He asked to take back to the pilgrims his blessing. After we had kissed his ring he withdrew. He wore a red soutano, red beretta, large gold pectoral cross, and a large cloak called the zimarra. Cardinal Manning is very well represented in his pictures. He has sharp features, thin lips and face. He does not look to be emaciated from ill health, but rather from hard brain work. One could readily know that he is still capable of a great deal of work. We felt that we had met a great man.

Dr. Johnson asked us to go through the house with him. We could see already that it was faultlessly neat, the stairs of white stone, and scarcely a bit of carpet anywhere. It was built as a club-house for the non commissioned officers and privates of the Guards, and bought by Cardinal Manning. We passed through a waiting room containing a picture of Rome and a fine engraving of Father Mathew, the apostle of temperance. In the private chapel we venerated some precious relics; amongst the rest the mitre of St. Thomas of Canterbury; a large relic of St. Edmund, Archbishop of Canterbury; a leaf from the writings of St. Francis De Sales; a letter of St. Vincent De Paul; a page from a meditation or sermon by Alphonse De Liguori; a little of the writing of St. Teresa; bones of the martyrs of the first ages; a vase containing the relics of the martyrs of the Reformation, not yet canonized.

Amongst the works of art, a marble medalion of the Pope, made by Cardinal Wiseman in commemoration of the establishment of the English hierarchy; statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary, made of the iron of Russian canon taken by the French at Sebastopol; bust of the Cardinal.

In the grand reception room, second floor, where receptions are held once a week for a certain part of the year, we found the statue, in composition, of John Francis Maguire. He, I understand was a personal friend of the Cardinal. We saw, also, a painting of Cardinal Fisher; the Last Supper in wood; a picture of Cardinal Wiseman at twenty-five years of age; and one of William Bishop, first vicar apostolic after the Reformation. In this room is enclosed in a glass case the beretta which Cardinal Wiseman received from the Holy Father at his consecration. Here also is a beautiful picture of Marie Antoinette when she was in the Temple. Acharski's "National Guard on duty" there, had an opportunity of seeing her. He was an artist. On

returning to his house he sketched the picture from memory.

Here, too, on the mantelpiece is an Irish marble cross, set with Irish diamonds, bearing this inscription: "The League of the Holy Cross offer this sacred symbol of faith, hope, charity, and self denial to their venerated Father in Christ, Henry Edward, Catholic Archbishop of Westminster, 1875."

The last room to which Dr. Johnson took us was the best. There, in a large room with high ceiling, sitting in an arm-chair with a portfolio on his knee and a quill pen in his hand, sat the Cardinal writing.

Dr. Johnson said to us, "Here is where all the mischief is done." I told the Cardinal that I hoped to see Dr. John Henry Newman. He said, "Have you seen him yet? He will be glad to see you."

Adjoining the house and fronting on Victoria street, the new cathedral will be situated. They have fine property. The design is exhibited in the library. It is to be modelled after the cathedral of Cologne. We came away delighted with the cordiality displayed by Dr. Johnson, and the dignity allied to simplicity and goodness of the great English Cardinal.

THE DESPOILED ABBEY.

From there we drove to Westminster Abbey. We understood there was service, and being unwilling to recognize by our presence, even as sightseers, so unauthorized a performance, we gained admission to the Parliament building. To one who has seen the Capitol at Washington, there is nothing very attractive in the interior of the building. There was no session of the House, as it was Derby Day. The Commons looks very small, and not at all pretentious. When we were pointed out the exact places where great men stood and made great speeches, there was a little sentiment aroused. In one of the corridors there were some interesting statues in marble. We remained for a while to dwell on the broad, stout face of the great Fox, and the sedate and genteel, but determined aspect of Burke. Chatham has a feminine appearance, but Pitt the younger, is majestic. Grantan is a beautiful work. You see in the statue the ever glorious Grantan, and the best of the good, the inimitable grace of gesture and attitude; benevolence and determination meet in the same face.

The temporary Court of Appeals was being held in one of the rooms of the Parliament building. The Lord Chief Justice of England, Cockburn, presided, assisted by several other eminent judges, among whom were James, Brett and others. The Lord Chief Justice wore no beard, was very refined in face, and exhibited in his manner the consciousness of great power. Matthews a Catholic, and late Member for Dungarvan, Ireland, argued with him. They were both admirable speakers and reasoners. They seemed perfectly at home in dealing with the case. We returned to Westminster Abbey. It is a great piece of noble architecture as you know, but yet it tells sadly of times that were, and the real ruin that has befallen it. We see there the shrine of Edward the Confessor; the tomb of Henry V., surmounted by the saddle, helmet and shield used by him at the battle of Agincourt; the tombs of Catholic queens, dukes, duchesses, marquises, with the effigies of their mailed children kneeling around the tomb, and with joined hands betokening prayer; numerous tombs of Catholic bishops and abbots; the bodies of Crusaders rest there, too, in clay once blest by Catholic priests. There are many things to remind one that the ground whereon he treads has a holiness which no desecration can take away. Yet desecration has taken place. The chapter house where the monks so often assembled, where so many Parliaments met in Catholic times is now empty. Only a few Catholic manuscripts attract the special attention of the visitor. Near the carvings of the Blessed Virgin and saints are those of Major Andre and of Wesley. Elizabeth rests beneath the same roof as Mary Queen of Scots; Henry VII. and Henry VIII. rest here; Edward I. and Oliver Cromwell lay here for three years together. Catholic England reared this temple and abbeys, and Catholic bishops blessed it, little thinking that men of such creeds as Milton, Macaulay and Dickens, would sleep beneath it. One cannot help but venerate those old Catholic walls. No man is a slave who protests against the tyranny, and the Westminster pile is no Protestant structure even though held in the grasp of a heretical power. Westminster echoes every day the cold service that apes the worship of Catholic times, but there is no prescription for robbery, and Westminster Abbey, is a standing protest against the service and the ordained ministers.

Wherever you walk in Westminster Abbey, among old graves or new, the useful thought is suggested which is inscribed under the image of Shakespeare: The cloud capped towers, the gorgeous palaces, The solemn temples, the great globe itself, Yea, all that it inherit shall dissolve, And, like the baseless fabric of a vision, Leave not a rack behind. We remained in Westminster Abbey three hours and drove to St. Paul's. It is a large Protestant building within little portion in the centre that looks like a church. Save as a wonderfully massive structure, its great height and the view of the city from the dome, it was not interesting. London is even larger than we expected to find it. When we left the London Bridge terminus for New Haven we were all glad. We arrived in Diippo at 4 o'clock, a. m., on Thursday morning, Corpus Christi.

THE CHURCH OF ST. OVEN.

The church at Dieppe is a fine old specimen of medieval architecture, with its numerous chapels, its massive pillars, its beautiful designs in stained glass. Each priest said mass. At three in the afternoon Father Taaffe, Dowling, Meagher, and myself set out for the ancient city of Rouen, thirty-six miles distant on the road to Paris. We noticed on that journey the first thatched houses we had seen in some time. The country looked very like Ireland. To remind us still more of olden times we heard the sweet voice of the cuckoo. She was seldom so truly the "beautiful stranger" of the

VILLA MARIA CONVENT.

The annual distribution of medals diplomas and prizes took place at Villa Maria on Wednesday, the 27th—the ceremony this year, however, being strictly private. The disappointment felt by many of the parents in being deprived of the high valued privilege of themselves placing the crowns of merit on the fair young brows of their daughters and of personally witnessing their triumphs was in a great measure compensated by the interesting ceremony held immediately after the distribution in the Convent Chapel. Within the latter sacred enclosures were gathered a number of the parents and friends of the pupils who had come to bring their young charges to their respective homes; several distinguished clergymen occupied the sanctuary, while the Very Rev. Canon La Marche presided. Two by two the pupils filed in, the graduates opening the procession, bearing the prizes or glittering medals lately awarded them, and wearing the crowns they had earned by long months of diligent study and application. Innocent, modest girlhood is always fair to look upon, and as the pupils slowly advanced to the altar rails, and with earnest prayer and sweet thrilling hymn there deposited their crowns, more than one fervent petition went up from the hearts of the spectators that those happy, smooth young brows might long remain unshadowed by life's cares and their thornless crowns prove the pledges of the unfading wreaths of eternity. The graduates of this year were sixteen in number.—Miss Solina Kelly, New York; S. Jones, Colorado; Mary Gibson, New York; J. Alexina Lorange, Sorel; Albina Laurent, Montreal; Ida Bond, Montreal; Fabiola Pellant, Ottawa; Annie Kelly, Montreal; Louise McDonald, Montreal; Nellie Royston, New York; Maggie Collins, Montreal; Marion Murphy, Quebec; A. McCachorn, Portland; Eliza Feron, Montreal; Martha Lindberg, New York; Anne Carey, Manitoba. Several of these young ladies competed successfully for the medals of His Excellency the Governor-General; but the fortunate winners were Miss Solina Kelly, New York, and Miss Albina Laurent, Montreal. The names of the sister graduates of these two young ladies who proved their equals in point of merit and consequently received substitutes for His Excellency's medals, were—Miss Lorange, Sorel; Miss Jones, Colorado; Miss Bond, Montreal; Miss Pellant, Ottawa; Miss Gibson, New York. The prize of Natural History, a magnificent microscope, given by Edward Murphy, Esq., was won by Miss Louise McDonald; the prize of Domestic Economy, a richly wrought medal, presented by Mrs. Edward Murphy, of Montreal, fell to Miss Feron. Gold medals for proficiency in mathematics were also awarded by the Rev. Mother Superior-General, to Miss Lindberg, New York, and Miss Collins, Montreal. Finally, a small golden harp, reward of excellence in music, was presented to Miss Kelly. It would be ungrateful on the part of any friend of education to close an article of this nature without paying a tribute to the kind generosity of His Excellency Lord Dufferin, who encourages so nobly our educational establishments, awakening among youthful toilers up the steep hill of Science, an emulation, a persevering energy hitherto unequalled. We subjoin a copy of the letter from Government House, Ottawa, to the happy winner of each medal, which letter, doubtless, will be preserved as sacredly as the medal itself, even till the soft silken locks of girlhood shall have whitened beneath the slow and heavy hand of Time.

GATHOLIC COMMERCIAL ACADEMY.

The distribution of the prizes in the above Academy took place on Saturday morning. At 9 o'clock the hall was filled with the relatives and friends of the scholars. Among the gentlemen present were the Rev. Abbe Verraux, Principal of the Jacques Cardier Normal School, Rev. Father Sorin, Rev. Father De Lavigne, Director of the Montreal College, Rev. Father Archambault, of St. Joseph Church and the Rev. Father Salmon; also, His Honor the Mayor, Mr. Gedeon Onimet, Superintendent of Education, Messrs E. Murphy, P. S. Murphy, S. Rivard and several other well known gentlemen. At the opening, a piece entitled the "March of the Crusaders," was excellently played by the Academy orchestra, after which Master William Forbes read a narrative of the leading events of the scholastic year in French. The prizes were then distributed to the pupils of the Primary Course. Master Thomas Doherty, a pupil of Mr. F. Boucher, gave a violin solo, and received loud applause, of which he was really deserving, after which the prizes were given to the scholars of the Intermediate and Commercial courses. "India Mail" gallop by the orchestra, followed by the distribution of prizes to the pupils of the Polytechnic School, after which the prizes of honor were distributed as follows:—The Peter S. Murphy prize, a gold medal and \$50, was awarded to Mr. Emile Yavier, pupil of the Polytechnic School of Montreal, third year, for his irreproachable conduct, constant application, and marked success, during his complete course of study, from 1874 to 1877. The Edward Murphy first prize, a gold medal and \$50, was awarded to Trefle Dubreuil, pupil of the Commercial Course, 1st degree, for his irreproachable conduct, constant application, and marked success during the past scholastic year.

The Edward Murphy second prize, a silver medal and \$20, was awarded to William Desbarats, pupil of the Commercial Course, 1st degree, for his irreproachable conduct, constant application, and marked success during the scholastic year, 1876-77. The "Comte" prize of \$50 was awarded to Thomas C. Doherty, pupil of the Commercial Course, 1st degree, for his irreproachable conduct, constant application, and marked success during the scholastic year, 1876-77.

At this Academy a class has been formed for pupils who desire to learn stenography, and the following eight pupils have received diplomas of the first degree from L'Institut Stenographique des Deux Mondes, at Paris: Messrs. Remi Andrevae, Alexander Courras, Trefle Dubreuil, Daniel Kearns, Pierre Politras, Louis Selby, F. X. St. Charles and Arthur Terroux.

Two of the above scholars, Trefle Dubreuil and Pierre Politras, can write from 115 to 123 words a minute, and took down *verbatim* all the speeches that were made on St. Jean Baptiste Day. This speaks well for their success in future. The Valedictory was spoken in English by Master Daniel Kearns, who delivered it in a highly commendable manner, and if any trust can be placed upon appearances this young gentleman is sure to make his mark in the world. The Valedictory in French was spoken by Trefle Dubreuil, of whom it is unnecessary to make any remark, as he carried off the Edward Murphy first prize. Speeches were made by Mr. Gedeon Onimet, Mr. Edward Murphy, the Mayor, and Mr. Archambault.

Mr. Edward Murphy, as Chairman in the name of the Catholic School Commissioners of Montreal thanked the Principal, Mr. Archambault and the Professors of the Catholic Commercial Academy for their zeal and assiduity in conducting the institution during the past year, and complimented the pupils on the great progress made by them in their studies, and for the large numbers of honors carried off by them. In the name of the Commissioners and the Catholics of the Province he warmly thanked the Hon. Mr. Onimet, the Superintendent of Education, for the means placed at the disposal of the Commissioners for the establishment of the Polytechnic School—which we hoped would be largely availed of by the Catholics of Quebec. "God Save the Queen" was sung and the scholars and their friends departed.

LORETTO CONVENT, BELLEVILLE.

BELLEVILLE, June 30th. The first annual distribution took place at this institution on the 25th instant. The programme consisting of music, recitations, dialogues in French and English, and the examination in Grammar, Arithmetic, Algebra, Geography, History, &c., fully sustained the deservedly very high reputation of the Ladies of Loretto as educators. These ladies have proved a grand success wherever they have established schools, consequently great results were looked forward to from the moment the school was opened here. The good Sisters took possession only late last Fall, and when I say that anticipations of all were more than realized, I think I speak the joyous sentiments of every parent, friend and guardian present. The progress made by the young ladies under their care is, in so short a time, wonderful. The Convent is now, thanks to our spiritual guide, through whose zeal in the cause of education, we have after years of expectancy these highly educated ladies, in such thorough repair and good working order that they will be able to take in boarders immediately after vacation. This is good news for the neighbouring towns and villages, and indeed for all parts of the Province. Parents will have a good opportunity of obtaining for their daughters an education under the direction of ladies than whom there are none superior as instructors of youth in the country. Their curriculum is thorough. The English course includes the highest Mathematics. They teach French, German and Italian, vocal and instrumental music—the piano, the harp and the guitar, in fact everything that contributes to make the education of a young lady complete. That the Loretto nuns have given the most complete satisfaction elsewhere, and that they are ladies of the very highest order of training, are not the only recommendations of the Convent here. Belleville is one of all the cities of Ontario, large or small, the most charming to live in, and is also without exception the most healthy. Built on the beautiful and far-famed Bay of Quinte, it is fast becoming the resort of both the health and pleasure-seekers of the neighbouring Republic, north and south. Who that ever once visited our city and enjoyed the grand scenery of the Bay, that would not like to reside here did business permit.

SCHOOL PIC-NIC.

DEAR SIR,—A pic-nic was held in the St. Lawrence park, a few miles from Brockville, under the auspices of the Roman Catholic Separate School Board, of Prescott, on Tuesday, the 26th inst., which in point of numbers, enthusiasm, enjoyment, and financial receipts surpassed anything of a similar character that has taken place in this section of the Province for many years. The steamer "Armstrong" was chartered for the occasion; and when it is stated that every foot of her available passenger accommodation was occupied by about six hundred and fifty people, and that the net receipts were in excess of \$300, to be applied in behalf of the Separate School, it will be seen that the inhabitants—Catholic and Protestant, quite justified the confidence reposed in the members of the Board and in the zealous pastor—Father O'Donnell. A game of Lacrosse was played by the juvenile club of our town in which the players evinced a high degree of skill, fleetness and endurance. A very interesting and exciting feature of the day was an election for a Meerschmumpf pipe, the candidates being two prominent and highly popular gentlemen—Hon. Col. Sims, U. S. Consul, and Mr. Willard. The contest was keenly and vigorously waged by the fair canvassers who were lavish of smiles, blandishments and arguments in order to secure the success of their favorite.

WAR INSURANCE.

The residents of Odessa have organized an insurance company for mutual protection against the expected bombardment. The idea of forming a guarantee fund out of which subscribers should be indemnified for their losses by bombardment or other operations of war originated with the Governor of the place; and several meetings had been held with the view of carrying out the suggestion:—The *Pull Mall Gazette* states that this is not the first time that projects have been formed for insuring peaceable inhabitants against losses by bombardment, incendiarism, requisition, contributions, executions by seizure and by occupation, fines, and other pleasant devices for making quiet people regret the existence of a state of war, and sigh for peace. Late in the autumn of 1870, when the German armies were slowly sloping toward the west, some promoters by profession got-up a company at Rouen—or at least issued the prospectus of a Company called "La Societe Reparatrice de l'Invasion," which proposed to guarantee subscribers against losses by requisitions, pillage, and incendiarism. It was suggested at the time that unless the Prussian generals could be induced to take shares the speculation would never acquire the character of a "solid" speculation.