

are allied with his opponents, the conservatives, and he is seeking every opportunity to destroy their influence with the people.

In Rome the sermons for the second part of the January course in the Church of San Silvestro in Capite were preached by the Rev. John R. Teefy, C. S. B., of Toronto. On the 26th was celebrated one of the most interesting feasts of the Church, that of St. Tarsicius, who bears the title of protomartyr, of the Blessed Eucharist, and whose figure is so familiar all the world over from the pages of "Fabiola." In the morning High Mass was sung by Mgr. Barrett, secretary to the Bishop of Brooklyn, who had just returned to the Eternal City from the Holy Land as co-leader, with the Bishop, of the American Jubilee pilgrimage to Rome and Palestine. At 4.30 p.m., after the singing of the hymn in honor of the Saint, Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament was given by Mgr. McDonnell, Bishop of Brooklyn. When the late Archbishop Guidi was appointed Delegate Apostolic to the Philippines, he offered the post of secretary to his friend the Rev. M. J. O'Connor, P.S.M., Vice-Rector of San Silvestro in Capite. Father O'Connor has remained at the Delegation since the almost sudden demise of the regretted Archbishop, and he is now co-operating there with the newly inducted Delegate, Archbishop Agius. It is expected that, unless the Rector of San Silvestro, Rev. W. Whitmee, P.S.M., who has just returned to Rome from Australia, become Procurator-General, this, the second place in the Society, and which has remained vacant since the death of the Rev. A. Monselle, P.S.M., will be offered to Father O'Connor.

Persons and Facts

On February 10 Miss Susan Strong, with the permission of the Duchess of Westminster, gave a grand concert at Grosvenor House, London, in aid of Father Maturin's work among the poor of Prinicco. Among those who took part in the concert was Madame Albani. Father Maturin is a well known convert from the Anglican clergy.

Mr. T. H. Russell, M.P., has announced that he will run candidates for at least nine seats in Ulster at the General Election. They will advocate a large reduction in the cost of the government of Ireland, chiefly with regard to law and police expenses.

Commander Cherry Emmet, father-in-law of General Botha, whose death is announced, was an Irishman and a relative of Robert Emmet. It was announced towards the end of the Boer war that he had become a Catholic.

The Protestants of Buxton have received another very rude shock through the announcement from the pulpits that the Rev. A. E. Franklin, curate of St. Mary's Anglican Church had gone over to Rome. Mr. Franklin, who is on a holiday, has sent a letter to the vicar, the Rev. C. C. Nation, stating that he will be shortly received into the Catholic Church. At St. James' the Rev. E. L. Harkness was visibly moved as he announced the fact. On Sunday evening the Rev. C. C. Nation denounced "the awful step taken by Mr. Franklin."—Catholic Times, Feb. 3.

In a circular to the Orthodox the Holy Synod give additional currency to the fable that the disturbances have been brought about by "the enemies of Russia", who sent large sums to create a civil war.

By the death of the well-known novelist Madame de Laskowski (Emily Gerard) a fellowship of four Gerards, who make a "record" of distinction in one generation of one family, has been broken. She was a sister of Dorothea Gerard, and General Sir Montagu Gerard and Father Gerard, S.J., were her brothers. This is said to be the only case where four persons so closely related to each other figured in "Who's Who," the annual directory of celebrated personages.

Mr. T. J. Beer, a recent convert, was married on Thursday, January 26, at Sandycove, Co. Dublin, to Miss Mabel Clancy. The bride's father, Mr. J. J. Clancy, M.P., was one of Mr. Parnell's most trusted lieutenants, as he is now

of Mr. John Redmond, with whom he addressed a large meeting on Sunday in North Dublin, a division which Mr. Clancy has for many years represented with so much acceptance that he now meets with no opposition when elections occur.

The Blessed Mother is loved in all Catholic lands. Catholic Poland, for instance, has just demonstrated in a very striking way the devotion of the people to the Mother of God, and their joy at the celebration of the golden jubilee of the dogma of her Immaculate Conception. On the initiative of the Archbishop of Leopold, a grand Marian Congress was recently organized and held in his Cathedral city, which was gaily bedecked with flags, the civil and military authorities lending all the aid in their power. Three Archbishops and four Bishops presided over the religious ceremonies and the general meetings. A superb procession, a striking and public affirmation of Poland's devotion to the Queen of Heaven, closed the Congress. In this some 50,000 persons, representing all classes of society, took part.

His Excellency M. Merry del Val, father of the Cardinal Secretary of State, was taken in the week ending January 21 with a severe attack of congestion of the lungs, but a turning point was reached on January 24, and the Marquis is now in convalescence. Cardinal Satolli, who was received in Papal audience so late as on January 21, passed the ensuing week in serious danger from the sharp, dreaded Roman pulmonite, but he has now rallied.

The authors of the plan for giving Rome wide streets and new districts have long been gravely exercised by the little neck of thoroughfare which connects the Corso Vittorio with the Piazza Venezia. It is formed on one side by the Church of the Gesu, and on the other by the Palazzo Altieri, and on both traffic and circulation are sometimes painfully congested at this point. Sooner or later the palace must go, but the proprietor continues to hold out for the stiff price of four million francs, the street-makers continue to hope for a better bargain, and between them both the Palazzo Altieri and the Gesu remain as they were at the beginning of the last century. In those days, the Prince's cook had a young son who passed much of his time every morning in the neighboring Gesu, serving Mass, helping in the sacristy, making himself generally useful about the church. Later on he became a priest, and a famous missionary, and finally, the founder of the sealous and holy Congregation of the Most Precious Blood. He started it in this same Church of the Gesu, for which he always had a special affection. Eventually the cook's son died, but his work survived, and his memory was held in benediction all over Italy, and especially in Rome. A few weeks ago Pius X solemnly enrolled him among the Blessed honored by the Church, as Blessed Gaspare del Bufalo, and for the last three days the Gesu has been given up to sacred functions in his honor. Archbishops have pontificated there each morning, eloquent Bishops have preached the panegyrics, and Cardinals have given Benediction in the evenings. All these services have been densely thronged, but in the evening, the close of the triduum, the whole space outside the church was filled with thousands of Romans vainly waiting in the hope that sooner or later they might be able to find a place inside. Never before was the Gesu so wonderfully illuminated; every architectural detail and ornament was picked out in light, and it is estimated that nearly forty thousand electric lamps were burning during the Benediction and Te Deum.—Rome correspondence of "The Tablet."

Answer to J. C., Golden, B.C.—We are not aware that the Province of Quebec issues any such almanac as the "Canadian Almanac". The Montreal "Star" did issue one of its own, and a very interesting one, entitled "Star Almanac," in 1895 and 1896, but has not continued this publication.

Next Wednesday evening, March 1st, the students of St. Boniface College will present an Irish drama, "Disinherited," in the college hall, to which an admission fee of 25 cents will be charged, reserved seats 50 cents. Several special street cars have been engaged, and four of them will be ready at the college gate after the play. The cars

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which will that evening leave the C.P.R. station at 7.30, passing Portage Avenue about 7.35, will be fully in time for the beginning of the performance at 8 o'clock.

Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas Bawlf left last Wednesday, the 22nd, for Florida and Havana. They will be absent about a month.

Many Winnepegers, who are now wintering in the south, especially Mrs. M. McIntyre and Mrs. Monchamp, find the heat at Miami, Florida, so exhausting that they are anxious to get back home to the more temperate zephyrs of this balmy region.

During the night between Wednesday and Thursday a dense fog—a rare occurrence here—made moving about outside extremely hazardous.

As far as one can understand Foster's ambiguous forecasts, his latest one, dated last Saturday, announced, for the "central valleys" (which, of course includes Manitoba) furious storms from the 18th to the 23rd, and a cold wave about the 21st. The real weather has been, up to the time of writing, Feb. 24, exactly the contrary—mild, warm and calm. In fact, since this is too soon for the real end of winter, we are all longing for a good snow storm to make the roads passable.

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A FEW POINTERS

On arrival at Winnipeg the wisest policy for any new settler to adopt is to remain in Winnipeg for a few days and learn for himself all about the lands offered for sale and to homestead.

There are districts that have been settled for many years in which land can be purchased. Some of this may be unbroken prairie which still possesses all the richness and productive powers of our virgin prairies. Other lands, cultivated and having comfortable farm buildings, are ready for immediate possession.

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For information regarding homesteads apply at the Dominion Land Office.

For purchase of Provincial lands apply at the Provincial Land Office in the Parliament Buildings.

For C. P. R. or C. N. R. lands apply at the land offices of said railway companies.

For lands owned by private individuals apply to the various real estate agents in the city.

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