

The Catholic Record.

"Christianus mihi nomen est, Catholicus vero Cognomen."—(Christian is my Name, but Catholic my Surname.)—St. Pacian, 4th Century.

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EDITORIAL NOTES

REV. FATHER BRENNAN, who has been stationed in London for the past twelve months, took his departure for Toronto last week, where he will be permanently stationed as pastor of St. Basil's Church. During his short stay in this city many warm friends had been made. Nor could it be otherwise. He is a priest of God's Church in every sense of the term. Loveable in his intercourse with young and old, earnest and energetic in the performance of every duty, a bright future must assuredly be in store for him, and that it may be so is the heartfelt wish of the Catholics of London.

The editor of the *Montreal Witness* is presently in a very bad mood in consequence of the exhibition of the Holy Coat of Treves. It is a dreadful thing to see an editor in a rage, and more especially one who has for so long remained nobly attached to the moorings of quiet, saintly and philosophical Evangelicalism. We hasten to assure our brother that there is no divine honor paid to the coat in question. All Catholics, quite as intelligently as Protestants, believe it to be simply a coat and nothing more, the honor and veneration being directed solely towards our Blessed Redeemer, who had worn it while on earth. No one believes that miracles must necessarily follow from seeing it or touching it. They may or may not occur, according to the Divine will. The demonstration may be considered an exhibition of warm Catholic faith, and if an increase of love and admiration for our Saviour is thereby brought about, surely much good will have been accomplished.

We are sorry to note so much soreness and sourness on the part of our Montreal contemporary for all that is Catholic. Living, as he does, in a locality where the very atmosphere, as the wets, seems to be permeated with the faith once delivered to the saints, the good soul is fairly beside himself in tumultuous anger. It would be much better, however, were he more tolerant, and accept the situation as he finds it. No good can be achieved by this continual carping at the old Church and its methods, but, on the contrary, much harm caused by setting neighbor against neighbor.

In the midst of the *Witness'* thunderstorm which broke over Treves it seems rather odd to note a little quiet pleasanter indulged in by the editor in giving the name of Mr. Chiniquy as his authority for some charges made against the use of relics. The world knows pretty well by this time that the fallen priest in question is a very unreliable encyclopaedia.

But let us look over the garden wall of our neighbor. There we have a pilgrimage of pious Methodists traveling three thousand miles to visit the grave of John Wesley. Will we call them dust-worshippers? Why go so far to visit the tomb of a very mortal being long since dead? Will they go to pray, or is it idle curiosity that takes them so far from home? If the former, why travel over the Atlantic to pray beside the grave of the founder of Methodism? If the latter, what is it if it is not sinful? Would it not be better to remain at home and spend the money for some better purpose?

WHILE Catholics have a proper regard for all pertaining to the servants of God—pure beings whose lives shed a halo of glory during the ages in which they lived—it is a fact that our separated brethren hold in equal, if not greater, regard many things belonging to individuals whose doings, for the most part, left the world no better, but in many cases infinitely worse; and we firmly believe that were a hat or a pair of boots belonging to John Knox now on exhibition in London, the *Witness* editor, together with Dr. MacVicar and Mr. Chiniquy, as well as scores of others, would pack a few necessities in a bundle, take the "road and the wattle," and march, all the way, were no other mode of conveyance at hand, to pay reverence to these relics of the unrocked monk whose baneful work has for three hundred years caused the darkest of

dark clouds to hover over bonnie Scotland.

SIGNOR CRISPI has written for the *English Contemporary Review* an article on the Italian question. The current of thought is to the effect that in France the Pope's temporal power is still an open question, and that on this account Italy was obliged to enter into the triple alliance to protect itself against French machinations. The French Radical journals declare, however, that there is no thought in France to revive the Roman question, and that Crispi's pretence is false and foolish. Yet it cannot be doubted that the position of the Pope must sooner or later be taken into consideration by the great powers, as it is intolerable that the Head of the Universal Church should be subjected to the whims of any Government, and the more so when that Government is undisguisedly hostile.

MR. GOLDWIN SMITH, with all his anti-Catholic tendencies, is once in a while obliged by the force of truth to give his testimony to the indubitable claim of the Catholic Church to be the one body which has real authority to speak in the name of Christianity and to assert Christian truth. He does not believe in the claims of the Episcopate to be an institution of primitive Christianity, yet in an article in the *New York Independent* on "The Oxford Movement," he thus speaks of the Ritualistic claim that Anglicanism is an integral part of the Universal Church of Christ, with an Episcopate having authority from Christ to teach all nations:

"But supposing it to be primitive, and supposing the Bishops to be the divinely appointed transmitters of truth, the immense majority of them are in the Church of Rome. On what ground can a believer in Apostolic succession reject the doctrines of the Vatican Council? On what grounds can a believer in the infallible authority of a visible and universal Church refuse his allegiance to the only Church which, being visible, even pretends to be universal?"

At a meeting of the shareholders of the *Dublin Freeman's Journal*, held on 29th August, the motion of Mr. E. Dwyer Gray was carried changing the composition of the Board of Directors. The Board was composed of Parnellites for the most part, and the paper will now be published in the interests of the Nationalists. The motion was carried by 1200 to 900.

ADVICES from China are to the effect that an organized attempt is being made by the secret Nihilistic societies to uproot Christianity. Several missionary settlements have been burned, a number of convents have been sacked and their inmates murdered. The Government appears anxious, however, to protect the missionaries, and an imperial decree has been issued, calling upon the local Governors to make strenuous efforts to arrest and punish the murderers, whose ultimate object is said to be to bring about the overthrow of the Government by embroiling it with foreign powers. The decree states that the doctrines of Christianity teach men to be good, and that the right of Christians to propagate their religion is provided for by treaty, and that it is the will of the Government to protect them in these rights. The Government, however, appears to be powerless to prevent these murders from taking place, and the foreign fleets in Chinese waters have demanded reparation, which the Government is unwilling to make, for fear of incurring general popular disapproval.

THE enemies of Irish nationality are very fond of asserting that the cause of Home Rule is completely dead and that the Liberals of England have abandoned it as part of their programme. But this is far from being the case. At a banquet held a few days ago in London to celebrate the Liberal victory at Wisbech, Sir William Vernon Harcourt, the chairman on the occasion, declared that he had seen Mr. Gladstone that very day, and had conversed with him concerning Home Rule, and that it is still his firm purpose to undertake the great task of securing that boon to Ireland. He declared also that the people of the country are animated with the same sentiment. The English Home Rule Union have also drafted a Bill which has been adopted by the Liberals.

This bill gives to the proposed Irish Parliament greater powers than were contained even in the famous measure on which Mr. Gladstone was defeated in 1886.

DIOCESE OF LONDON.

CONFIRMATION AND BLESSING OF A BELL.

On Sunday last the people of Mt. Carmel enjoyed the privilege and consolation of a religious celebration which shall be long remembered in the Huron district. The holy sacrament of confirmation was administered in the morning to sixty-five candidates and in the afternoon a very fine bell weighing 1200 pounds was consecrated. Bishop O'Connor officiated, having for attendant priests Rev. Dean Murphy, of Irishtown; Rev. Father Flannery, of St. Thomas; Rev. Donald McLae, of Parkhill, and the zealous and indefatigable pastor of Mount Carmel, Rev. Father Kealy. The beautiful church was built by the late lamented Father Kelly. It is 120 feet long and 50 feet wide in its whole length. The spire, surmounted by a beautiful Celtic cross, is 150 feet in height. The stained glass windows, representing several Apostles, Confessors and Doctors of the Church, are the gifts of neighboring parish priests and of generous parishioners.

On last Sunday a new altar, the gift of Mr. John Barry, and constructed by the Bennett Furnishing Co., of London, was blessed by the Right Rev. Bishop O'Connor, who celebrated the first Mass and gave first Communion to a large number of children. The boys, neatly attired, wore silken badges; the girls, all robed in white, had wreaths of flowers and veils, which represented the modesty and innocence of the Christian virgin approaching the altar of sacrifice.

High Mass *coram pontifice* commenced at 10:30; the Venerable Dean Murphy acting as celebrant, Rev. Fathers Flannery and Kealy assisting at the throne. The choir, under the able direction of Miss M. O'Meara, rendered Concone's Mass very effectively and sang very pious and well-finished selections at the offertory and Communion.

After High Mass His Lordship spoke to the children on the importance and dignity of the sacrament they were about to receive and the preparations necessary for obtaining all the graces attached to the sacramental bestowing of the gifts of the Holy Ghost. Confirmation was then administered, after which the Bishop addressed the children on the obligations they had contracted and the virtues they bound themselves to practice during the remainder of their lives. His Lordship then spoke to the congregation, congratulating them on the beauty and grandeur of their new church and on the splendidly constructed new altar which had been blessed that morning.

Vespers commenced at 4 p. m. Rev. Father Flannery ascended the pulpit and delivered an eloquent sermon on the blessing of a bell, taking for his text the words of St. John the Baptist, "I am the voice of one crying out in the desert; prepare the way of the Lord." The rev. preacher said that the Christian bell is for the people of this world what the precursor was for the people of Judeah. It called people to repentance, spoke to them of death and judgment, and reminded all within its hearing that we are not made for this world, that, as St. Paul says, we have not here a lasting habitation, but that our conversation is in Heaven. This world, he continued, is a desert; a place of exile, a vale of tears; but through God's infinite mercy a voice is heard to cheer us in the desert. As the poet said:

Hark a glad voice 'tho' lonely desert chimes,
Prepare the way; a God, a God, appears.

The voice of the parish bell is heard over the glittering roofs of populous cities, in the busy mart of town and village, on hill and vale, in the lonely country districts where no other sound is heard. The men of business, or it may be, the votaries of pleasure hear its warning voice or its lugubrious sound and are startled as though God Himself had spoken. It is the Christian bell which preaches from the house-tops and cries out in the language of the Apostle, "What does it profit a man to gain the whole world if he suffer the loss of his own immortal soul." The parish bell announces the passing of a soul to eternity, or when tolling out the funeral death-knell proclaims that a soul has departed this life and is now before the dread tribunal of Him who judges every man according as he hath done, whether good or evil. But its lessons are not always of the gloomy character. It symbolizes the apostles whose voices were heard over the earth. It recalls the Church of God which is the voice of God, and which all must hear—"he who hears you hears Me." It takes the place of the Good Shepherd and pastor of souls, warning and reproving in season and out of season. It has its cheerful and pleasant awakenings in store for men of good will, continuing the refrain of the angels who sang on the first Christmas morning "Gloria to God on high and peace on earth to men of good will."

After solemn benediction by His

Lordship the ceremony of the blessing of the bell commenced. Bishop O'Connor, with attendant priests and acolytes, advanced to the eastern nave, where the large bell was suspended, Rev. Father McLae acting as deacon and Dean Murphy as sub-deacon. Meanwhile Rev. Father Kealy took up a collection, which amounted to \$150.

After the solemn ceremony of the blessing of the parish bell Bishop O'Connor spoke for more than one half hour on the meaning and significance of the ritualistic observances prescribed by the Church and invariably used on such solemn occasions. His Lordship reminded the people of the lesson that would be announced to them three times each day when the Angelus would ring out the history of the Incarnation of the Son of God and call each one to lift up his heart in thankfulness and in love to God for mercy and pardon for the past and grace and blessing and plentiful assistance in the future.

His Lordship finished a beautiful address by imparting his blessing to all, when the large congregation slowly filed out of the church charmed and delighted with the day's proceedings. The parish bell, weighing 1200 lbs., and the beautiful new altar are the gift of Mr. John Barry, of McGillivray, and cost \$1,000.

Let our rich Catholic farmers obey the voice of the Good Shepherd—let them go and do likewise.

CONFIRMATION IN SIMCOE.

Since the Reformer, August 27, 1891. The late comers at St. Mary's Church last Sunday morning were obliged to content themselves with a view of its interior. The interior was filled to its utmost and certainly looked its prettiest.

At 9 o'clock His Lordship Bishop O'Connor celebrated Low Mass at which he administered confirmation to several candidates for confirmation who received Holy Communion. At 10:30 they re-assembled and an hour was spent by the Bishop in testing their knowledge of Christian doctrine. At the conclusion of the examination the celebration of High Mass was commenced by Rev. Father Corcoran of La Salette in the presence of a congregation as large as it possibly could be. His Lordship assisted at the Mass in cope and mitre and was attended at the throne by the Rev. D. Cushing, C.S.B., President of Assumption College. After Mass the sacrament of confirmation was administered to fifty-six candidates—His Lordship addressing the candidates before and after its administration and giving, to the boys confirmed, a pledge against the use of intoxicants until they should reach the age of twenty-one. The ceremony concluded by the presentation to the Bishop, on behalf of the congregation, of an address the reading of which was well effected by Mr. W. E. Kelly.

Notwithstanding the rain the church was again filled at the evening service. Rev. Father Corcoran officiated. Vespers concluded His Lordship choosing as text the words of the Virgin Mary, according to St. Luke, "Henceforth all generations shall call me blessed," delivered an admirably clear instruction explanatory of Catholic veneration and love of the Blessed Virgin.

The musical portion of both services was good. Miss Ellie O'Mahony ably presided at the organ; whilst the choir, under the efficient leadership of Mr. R. H. Nicholls, and assisted by Miss Allie O'Brien, Hamilton, contralto, and Mr. E. Vary, basso, gave a splendid rendition of Borde's Mass in F. The Offertory solo was Wiegand's beautiful composition "O Heavenly Father," of which Mr. Vary gave a very feeling interpretation.

In the evening the choir was still further strengthened by the assistance of Miss Ada DeCrippen, whose solo effort was Rodney's "Calvary." This was an artistic rendition by a charming singer. Miss Belle Tisdale also kindly assisted and accompanied several of the soloists with great taste and skill.

The sanctuary and altars were beautifully decorated under the tasteful supervision of Mrs. Albert Chanda, and elicited much admiration.

Following is the text of the address presented by the congregation:

To the Right Rev. Denis O'Connor, C. S. B., D. D., Bishop of London:

MY LORD.—We have been told that Your Lordship does not care to receive "addresses." On the occasions of future visits then, My Lord, we will not present any. For we, for the most part, are farmers, more used to guiding the plough than the pen, and of us the writing of an address demands more or less of an effort.

But this, My Lord, is a special occasion. It is the occasion not only of the visit of a new Bishop, but it is also the first official visit of a Bishop to a new parish—the youngest in the diocese—the latest to rise from the standing of a mission to the parochial dignity and its rights. And we are proud of our new dignity, and may be a trifle jealous of our new rights; and when we came to decide the question "Address, or no address?" we found that we were still too human to give up our right as a full-grown parish, to present an address to day—still too human to give up this right even to please Your Lordship. And so we made the effort, and have come with it feeling confident, however, from what we have heard, that Your Lordship will be more pleased to gratify us than to be gratified by us.

To us, My Lord, you do not come a complete stranger to-day. Some of the children of the parish have spent years in the college of which Your Lordship was for so long a period the President, and, through them, the name of Father O'Connor has long been well known in many of our homes. It was, therefore, a special pleasure to many of us to learn that Father O'Connor was named to succeed Bishop Walsh; because we foresaw that sooner or later we should

greet as Bishop—and in our own parish church—him whom our children so admired and respected; and whom, through our children, we too had been led, in some measure, to know and to equally respect and admire.

But, My Lord, we must not tire you. When we say that we are glad to greet and welcome you—when we say that we are glad to have you as our Bishop, and when we say that we hope long to have you as our Bishop—believe us to be sincere; and let us hope that Your Lordship will never regret to have us amongst your flock; and will always find the members of the parish of Simcoe loyal subjects and good Catholics.

After the long ceremony we will not expect a formal reply. Just a few words of encouragement and Your Lordship's blessing. Signed on behalf of the congregation, Geo. E. Foster, Bernard Barnes, Daniel O'Mahony, John Smith, sr., Bernard McNally, John O'Hearn, James Smith, sr., John Murphy.

DIOCESE OF HAMILTON.

On the feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin a reception and profession of Sisters took place at St. Joseph's Convent. His Lordship officiated, giving the habit to the postulants, Miss Sullivan, and receiving the profession of Miss Filgiano.

On Sunday, the solemnity of the Feast of the Assumption, being within the octave of St. Lawrence, the Bishop visited St. Lawrence Church morning and evening. Solemn Mass was celebrated by the pastor, Father O'Sullivan, Father McEvay acting as deacon and Father Buckley, of Owen Sound, as sub-deacon. The Bishop preached after the gospel on the subject of the Assumption and in the evening spoke on the life, labors and virtues of St. Lawrence.

A grand picnic of all the Catholic children of the Separate schools took place at Dundurn on Thursday afternoon, 27th of August, which is thus described by the *Hamilton Times*:

The picnic of the Separate schools which took place yesterday afternoon at Dundurn can safely be set down as one of the most delightful which have been held in that delightful park during the season of 1891. The street cars on York street were kept busy bringing the youngsters and their friends to the park, and the service was in every way satisfactory. The attendance was very large, including as it did the pupils of the seven schools, namely De La Salle Academy, Sacred Heart school, St. Mary's, St. Patrick's, St. Thomas, St. Vincent's and St. Lawrence's. The clergy, of course, was represented, prominent amongst those on the grounds being Rev. Fathers Coty, Haley, Clarkson, Donnelly, Hinehey, Bishop Dowling, accompanied by Rev. Father McEvay, also drove up and spent an hour or so watching the various amusements of the occasion. That the pupils entered heartily into the sports prepared for them goes without saying. There were a couple of base ball matches, and the fun which the boys extracted out of them did the onlookers good. The races for the boys and girls were keenly contested, and the only trouble was that the number who presented themselves in each competition was so large that they could not, with any degree of comfort, start at once, so that the events were multiplied.

The match between the pupils of St. Mary's school and the pupils of St. Patrick's school was as lively an exhibition of base ball as has been seen at Dundurn this season. The match resulted in favor of the St. Patrick's team by a score of 5 to 3. Only five innings were played.

Another match took place between the Excelsiors (St. Mary's school) and the Imperials (picked nine). This was umpired by Mr. J. P. Cummings, and resulted in favor of the Imperials by 4 to 3.

The boys had looked forward with anticipations of pleasure to the tug-of-war between St. Mary's and St. Thomas' schools. The teams consisted of ten, and St. Mary's had little difficulty in winning.

Between 5 and 6 o'clock a very pretty sight was witnessed on the green. The kindergarten class of St. Joseph's Convent, to the number of nearly fifty, went through some of their graceful movements, singing, the while, many of the beautiful songs taught them by their clever teachers. As the little ones—none of whom ever knew what it was to have a home, in the general acceptance of the term, sang "Home, Sweet Home" as only sweet childish voices can sing it—there were many moist eyes in the vast concourse of listeners. It was a scene which will long dwell in the memory of those who heard and saw the little orphans.

Sunday, August 30. At High Mass to-day in the cathedral Rev. Father Collins of Toronto officiated and an eloquent sermon was preached by Rev. Father McBrady of St. Michael's College.

Rev. Chancellor Craven, of St. Patrick's church, returned home on Saturday much improved in health, to the great joy of his many friends.

RE-OPENING OF SCHOOLS. All the schools resumed studies on Tuesday, the 1st inst., including Loretto Convent, and the De La Salle Academy, a department of which is to be occupied by students entering on a classical course, to be conducted by Rev. Father Clarkson, late professor of Munroe College, Limerick, Ireland, a learned gentleman who has been for several years preparing students for Maynooth and for the Royal University

of Dublin. Father Clarkson is prepared to give a special course to students desirous of taking degrees at the Catholic University of Ottawa.

LATEST CATHOLIC NEWS.

Cardinal Lavigerie has begun in France an active agitation in favor of a full acceptance of the Republican form of government and of Republican principles by the Catholics.

Among the Cardinals there are several who distinguished themselves in the army in their early years. Cardinal Lavigerie was once a lieutenant; Cardinal Howard formerly held a commission in the Life Guards, and the Cardinal-Archbishop of Pesh was in youth the smartest of Austrian hussars.

The new Archbishop and Patriarch of the Russian Church is Sergius, lately Bishop of Bessanien. He threatens to persecute all who do not belong to the Schismatical Church more bitterly than his predecessor, Archbishop Nicanor, who died about four months ago.

Viscount St. Cyres, son of the Earl of Iddesleigh, and grandson of Sir Stafford Northcote, who was the first to bear the title, has joined the Catholic Church. His conversion was announced some time ago only to be denied. It is now announced with authority.

Mr. Gladstone, the Duke of Norfolk and the Marquis of Bute were among those who wrote congratulating Cardinal Manning on the celebration of his eighty-third birthday. A congratulatory message was also received from the Irish Parliamentary party through the whip, Sir Thomas Gratton Esmond.

The loss of the Vatican treasury, through the imprudent management of Mgr. Folchi, is said to have reached 20,000,000 lire or \$4,000,000. This is, of course, deeply to be deplored, but the Catholic world would certainly make it good to the Holy Father if appealed to for this purpose.

The heroic Cardinal Lavigerie, the Archbishop of Carthage, has his tomb ready in his cathedral when God pleases to call on him. It bears this inscription: "Here lies he who was Cardinal Lavigerie, and who is now nothing but dust. Pray for him." The Cardinal says: "Only the date of my death is wanting to complete the legend."

Berg, who figured in Columbus, Cincinnati and Indianapolis as a bogus monk, and a scaly customer generally—although warmly welcomed by Protestants when he joined them in the character of a fresh "Convert from Romanism"—must be near the end of his career. In Cincinnati, quite recently, the police judge sent him up for four months for late exploits that would not bear the light.

Among those who were introduced to the Holy Father with Mr. Mercier was Mr. Robert Ness, of Huntingdon, who was one of the Mercier party during their recent visit to Europe. Mr. Ness is a good Presbyterian and a Scotchman; his presence with the Mercier party in their Papal visitations was, therefore, highly interesting to himself. Mr. Ness describes his visit as one that he would never forget as long as he lived. He was with the Pope when he was introduced to the Pope, and was introduced by Mr. Mercier as a Scotchman and a Protestant. He shook hands with His Holiness, remarking with his keen Scotch perception that the Pope is a somewhat clever man, keen-eyed and keenly alive to the impressions he might make upon those with whom he spoke. In the course of his remarks His Holiness said he had heard of Canada and of her progress, but of course it was God's country, and God's people always prosper. This introduction was a rare chance, Mr. Ness said, as many hundred persons were waiting to merely pass by and salute His Holiness.

DELORE SEPARATE SCHOOL.—This small and recently established section has made a very good record at the entrance examination, reflecting great credit on the skillful teacher in charge—Miss Maud Macaulay, of Trenton. In December the Public and the Separate school each sent one pupil; the first failed, while the Separate school pupil was successful. Each school sent four in July last; all from the Public school failed, while all from the Separate school passed, one gaining a diploma for being among the three best of the thirty-eight who wrote. May this good work continue!

The Western Fair.

The enviable record of this great exhibition is known far and wide and it is a matter of the greatest concern to the people of London that this meritorious undertaking should receive the support which it justly deserves. Special attention has been directed to the advancement of the several classes and we are informed that the prospects are exceedingly bright for the most successful show ever held in London. Several new features have been introduced this year, among which may be mentioned the working Dairy in which will be demonstrated the latest and most improved methods of manufacturing butter. A little of everything is necessary to insure the success of the show, and consequently special attractions of the highest order have been secured at great expense and trouble, so that the public may depend on witnessing a programme unsurpassed by any exhibition in Canada. One of the leading features of this year's fair will be the Society's procession on Monday, Sept. 7. Don't miss it.