DIOCESE OF HAMILTON.

Acton.
Special to the CATHOLIC RECORD There was an unusual stir in the busy little town of Acton (which is one of the missions under the charge of the Jesuit Fathers of Guelph), during the past week, the occasion being the Fancy Fair which closed on Tuesday evening last. The Fair was a most successful one, and St. Joseph's church reaped a rich harvest as a result.

The programme was opened on Thursday.

a rich harvest as a result.

The programme was opened on Thursday, the 10th inst., with a grand concert by the Georgetown band and a number of vocal and instrumental performers, and was replete with interest during the five days. Among the visiting and local artists who assisted in the programme were the following: Misses Cummings and Lee, Rockwood; Lamb, of Toronto; Ryan, of Georgetown; and Gay, of Guelph, in choice piano solos and duets, and Mr. J. C. Hill, violin solo. Numerous vocal soles, duets, quarteties, etc. and Mr. J. C. Hill, violin solo. Numerous vocal soles, duets, quartettes, etc., were rendered by the Guelph quartette, composed of Miss M. Heffernan, Mrs. Keleher, and Messrs. Duigman and Scallan; Misses Brandon, Guelph; Lee, Rockwood; and Messrs. Brydon, Guelph, Stark, Jeans and Benedict, Acton; while excellent recitations were given by the Messrs. Rienhardt and Tracy, Guelph; Miss Cleveland, Acton; Messrs. J. P. Downey, Guelph, and F. O. Smith, Braupton. On Saturday evening Mr. D. Henderons, ex-M. P., varied the proceedings somewhat by an interesting speech, in which he congratulated the pastor, Rev. Father Devlin, on the success attending the entertainment, and upon the manner in which all the arrangements had been carried out.

Among the most exciting of the several contest warmaged was their of the all less

manner in which all the arrangements had been carried out.

Among the most exciting of the several contests arranged was that of the doll competition "among four little maidens from Guelph, Georgetown, Acton and Rockwood. Great interest was manifested, and the contest proved highly profitable, no less a sum than \$442.60 being netted. The winner was Miss Lena Holmes, of Acton, who had 2688 votes. Miss Emma Rienhardt, of Guelph, came next, with 1269 votes; Miss Lizzie Langan, Georgetown, 381; and Miss Nellie Hogan, Rockwood, 85. Each candidate was presented with a handsome doll.

The contest for the Dominion flag, in which the Rockwood, Georgetown and Acton bands were the candidates, shows very close competition. Acton proved the favorite with the electors, and hereafter the flag will proudly wave over the band stand in Frank-

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THE LATE FATHER DOWD. END OF A LONG AND USEFUL LIFE.

THE FOUNDER AND PROMOTER OF MANY USEFUL WORKS PASSES AWAY THIS MORNING.

Montreal Star, Dec. 19.

Rev. Father Dowd died early this morning at the Seminary. He was conscious up to late last evening, and calmly breathed his last at twenty minutes to five this morning, surrounded by the priests of Notre Dame and St.

twenty minutes to five this morning, surrounded by the priests of Notre Dame and St. Patrick. At a meeting of the clergy of St. Sulpice and St. Patrick held this morning, it was decided to hold the funeral service at 8:30 on Tuesday morning in Notre Dame Church. At first there was some intention of having the services in St. Patrick's Church, but as there will be at least five hundred clergy present besides several bishops and the parish church would be too small to hold all of the deceased priest's parishioners who by their presence would wish to pay homage to the dead pastor. Notre Dame was finally decided upon, the decision being also strengthened by the fact that St. Patrick's is a part of the community of St. Sulpice, of which Notre Dame is the mother church. The religious societies of St. Patrick's will have full charge of the funeral arrangements inside of the church and out, and the entire church will be placed at the service of the Irish Catholics of the city, while the parishioners of St. Patrick will be provided with tickets to-morrow providing seats for them in the central aisle, which will be reserved for them. After Mass in Notre Dame the funeral procession will be formed and the body borne to St. Patrick's church, where a solemn "Libera" will see chanted. The interment will take place at the Grand Seminary, where all the members of the society of St. Sulpice are buried.

Ald. Cunningham was down at the City Hall this morning and requested that the flag be hoisted at half-mast out of respect for the revered priest. A suggestion has been made that the remains be removed to St. Patrick's Church and lie there in state in the church which was so dear to him.

The venerable pastor of St. Patrick's Church was of the society of St. Patrick's Church was of the society of St. Patrick's Church which was so dear to him.

his appointment arrived, but he resolutely declined the profered honor and dignity, preferring to labor till the last amongst his faithful people. For twenty seven long years he has labored as pastor amongst you, and God alone knows all the labors and sacrifices for the promotion of the temporal and spiritual welfare of his flock, in section and spiritual welfare of his flock, in section of the section of the temporal and spiritual welfare of his flock, in section of the section of

CHRISTIAN FAITH KNEELS FOREVER BEFORE THE MOTHER AND HER DIVINE BABE.

Jesus Christ is the one great name in his tory. There are others for whom men have died; He alone is adored by all people, in all nations, and in all times.

He who bears this name is known throughout the world. Even among the savage and degenerate tribes of the human race, His apostles preach without ceasing that He died upon the cross; and the offscourings of mankind may be saved by loving Him. Those who are neutral, in the modern world, recognize that none is better for the weak and miserable.

The greatest intellects of the past would be forgotten if memorials, or palaces, obelisks, or tombs; if written testimonies, as papyruses or parchments, bricks, colamns or medals, had not preserved their memory. Jesus survives in the conscience of the faithful; there is His witness and indestructible monument. The Church founded by Him fills time and space with His name. She knows Him, she loves Him, she adores Him. As He lives in her she lives in Him. He is her dogma, her moral law, her worship. She teaches to all, without exception, that He is the only Son of God made man, conceived by the Holy Ghost in the womb of the Virgin; that He has come into the world to suffer and to die for our salvation, to conquer death by His resurrection; that He has ascended to His Father in order to prepare us a place near Him; that He will return to judge the quick and the dead, giving to the good life eternal, casting the bad into darkness and spiritual death.

This Creed is at once dogma and history; it is the dogma and the popular history of Jesus. By it the believer can live. In a few deep and simple words he learns that the greatest event in human history is the supreme duty, because it was through love that his Master died; he must be unwearied in well-doing, since his Master will be his judge; that he need not tear death, since his Master has overcome it, and because he himself is predestined to eternal life.

The man who believe can him since his master ha

Self-Abandonment.

Some Property

We plan, and fret, and toil, to reach an end, Compass a right, perchance, or right Compass a right, perchance, or right wrong:— Pure as the skies, we deem our high intent,— Alas! we worship Self the whole day long!

Fix'd in our private views,—th' opposing flan Of e'en a Seraph's torch, would but anneal The colors of those false, illusive aims, Which in our swelling bosoms we conceal.

And, on my passive soul, Thy message write

o, for the grace to lie before His feet, A shapeless mass of stone, beseching still: Carve out for me, O Sculptor strong and swe The gracious image of Thy own pure will! Stripped then of self, and ev'ry private end, Forth might we go, to battle for the Lord, Doing in all His will, His grand intent, Seeking in Him alone, our blest reward! —Eleanor C. Donnelly in Catholic Review

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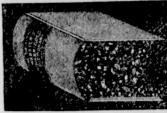
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E. F. E. ROY,
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