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THURSDAY, JAN. 9TH, 1908.

#### THE EPIPHANY.

The beautiful and appropriate name

of the last of the Christmas holy days shows how very infelicitous is the appelation of "Little Christmas" by which it is generally known amongst us. The word means "to shine upon," and conveys an exquisite picture of the Babe of Bethlehem sending His beams to the ends of the earth. The same image runs through the whole Office of this Feast. In the Epistle Isaiah describes in his most glowing style the multitude of the Gentiles rejoicing in the light of the Saviour: "Arise, be enlightened, O Jerusalem; for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee. . . And the Gentiles shall walk in the light, and kings in the brightness of thy rising." In the Gospel we behold the Maji following the wonderful star which led them over trackless deserts and through the rugged passes of Judea's mountains until it stood over where the Babe of Bethlehem lay, and shed its soft light upon His face, as "kneeling down, they adored Him." As the Vesper hymn of this Feast beautifully says: "They seek by light the Light."

Nor is the event commemorated unworthy of the splendor of the name and Office of the Epiphany. On this day the Gentiles were called to the Faith by a star which St. Augustine beautifully terms "the tongue of the heavens,:' and they responded in the On this day the new-born Saviour be- for upwards of a thousand years more indefinite every generation. came "a light to the revelation of "who prays in her temples seven This is chiefly due to the want of the Gentiles." On this day the times in the day, and once during the dogma. Outside the Catholic Church "mountain of the house of the Lord" night, did not pray alone." The peo- it is hard to find real Christianity; which the prophet Isaiah saw prepar- ple accompanied the holy office, bath- for each man frames his religion for ed in the last days of the world's ed in its light and fed on its manna. himself. His creed he knows not, his antitled the world's ed in its light and fed on its manna. ed in the last days of the world's history "on the top of mountains and Now these great devotions are not of the archdiocese. exalted above the hills," first showed understood. its heaven-lit brow to the world, nations which would presently stream There are the mysteries and feasts of country be Christian many citizens all unlikely that the visitor to St. to it from the ends of the earth.

and the great Sacrifice in which the their soul the seed of all devotion and be admitted that we confine our at-shall draw his mind away to those Saviour's death is perpetuated is daily virtue. offered from the rising of the sun to the going down of the same, because these noble souls, in presenting franviour, confessed His divinity and fore- hany could present itself for the conshadowed His death.

perseverance in following, generosity ber we hailed the awakening of misspirations of grace, of which the Maji Now we ask why there should not be gave us so grand an example, and the a similar movement in Canada! The

## THE LITURGY.

lessons be vague and our treatment tide.

years. From the simple ceremonies of Low Mass to the grandeur and pomp of Pontifical Mass in some historic cathedral-from the ordinary administration of baptism to the solemn rite of Holy Orders-from the solitary recitation of his breviary by some lonely missionary to the sweet cadence of chant by the cowled monks in Benedictine or other monasteriesfrom all the Church there is the sound as of many waters-praise and prayer, every word and motion and sign. To trace its history, to explain its meaning, to indicate the harmony of it all and the completeness of its parts, to instil a deeper reverence for what is all reverent, overpowers as at the very thought of it. Where to begin, what plan to follow, how to keep it within reasonable limits; these are our difficulties. We are not averse to the undertaking, for anything concerning the Church is dear to us. And in nothing-hardly even in her dogma and her history-is she so sublime as in her liturgy. Her worship and the administration of her sacraments are voiced in psalm and prayers, in hymns which reveal and guard their spiritual truth and sentiment, and leave the traces of their steps in her art and civilization throughout the world. If we were asked where it could all be found we should point to Missal, Breviary, Pontifical and Ritual. Here is the treasure of public piety with which the Church is so

We speak of it as public piety, for whilst it may be the nourishing sweetness of a great deal of private devotion, it is the worship of the whole Church, the administration by the whole Church. That means so much that we do not take it in at a glance. It may be a simple priest reading and expounding the Sunday Gospel to a handful of faithful people. That is one thing, but the Mass which that priest is celebrating is quite another thing. With the former the whole Church is only concerned in so far as the teaching is in harmony with Catholic doctrine. With the Mass the humble surroundings do not hinder the sweep and action of divine love. All the Church is in that action-from the High Priest eternal to the poor servant who is the instrumental cause and who represents his Divine Master, from the worshippers kneeling about the altar to the remotest islands of the sea-it is the Church commemorating the great Sacrifice of Calvary. So it is the Church which administers the sacraments and blesses so many different objects. We find the Church

Worthy pioneers were those Eastern and resurrection. His Holy Name, subscribe themselves as Christians vices of Advent and Christmastide has Worthy pioneers were those Eastern and resurrection. His rioly Raine, without attaching any further im- two very different the impression that his new composition, the oratorio kings, who recognizing in the star His Sacred Heart, His triumph of portage were those Eastern and resurrection. His rioly Raine, without attaching any further im- two very different the impression that his new composition, the oratorio programment in the rioly Raine, without attaching any further im- two very different the impression that his new composition, the oratorio programment in the rioly Raine, without attaching any further im- two very different the impression that his new composition, the oratorio programment in the rioly Raine, without attaching any further im- two very different the control of the rioly Raine, without attaching any further im- two very different the control of the rioly Raine, without attaching any further im- two very different the control of the rioly Raine, without attaching any further im- two very different the control of the rioly Raine, without attaching any further im- two very different the control of the riol of th which appeared to them the finger of Corpus Christi—the feasts of Our portance. Were they summoned be be rendered in the Catholic Church, of the Soul. God pointing out the way to the Sa- Blessed Lady scattered through the fore some Roman emperor who should and yet, true as this impression may God pointing out the way to the Sa- Blessed Lady scattered through the viour the world was then expecting, year like stars in the firmament, and give them their choice between sacrinevertheless equally true that the left their luxurious homes, braved the saints whose lives bespeak the ficing to the state gods and death by choir of St. Michael's rendered the the dangers of robber-infested deserts triumph of God's grace-first the lions, we do not know but that they music of the season of penance and and the greater peril of the jealous apostles, then the ruby martyrs, and could reason themselves into saving the season of rejoicing quite in acand the greater peril of the jealous apostles, then the ruby martyrs, and their own lives. Rationalism can cordance with the mind of the Holy their own lives. Rationalism can Father as laid down in his recent dethe Messiah of Whose birth that star lilies. The year is but one continued do a good deal nowadays, and the crees. was to them a certain indication— feast. The year is Jesus Christ Him- martyr spirit is not strong. But all To convince ourselves of the truth worthy pioneers were they of the in- self Who from first to last, through this is getting away from our first that what the "Motu Proprio" lays worthy pioneers were they of the in-trepid missionaries "who brought to mystery and feast is the source and thought. If the test of Christian Church—and we as Catholics ought our mountains the gift of God's faith, object of all Liturgy. It is the manithe sweet light of His love." If festation of Christ, in His mysteries, would pass it. Christianity needs we need only reflect for a moment on these sainted souls left home and in the Church and in the saintly soul. defining—want of definition is the ruin the Church's aim in our regard. The country to bring the faith to our fore- Each year the Church sees Him in of mental clearness, the fog that prefathers, it was because the Maji re- the manger, offering Himself upon the vents the mariner from entering the acts of worship therein. sponded to Heaven's call which ap- cross, rising from the dead, founding port of conviction. There is no use: Voice and verse have been aptly pealed to their senses through a star His Church, instituting the Sacra- scolding-non-Catholics are nearly all called the "Blest pair of Sirens" and and to their hearts through the in- ments, ascending into heaven, send- nominalists anyway. They may just surely when used in God's house we terior illumination of grace. That ing His Holy Spirit. Every year star has been the torch at which all the Church derives an increase of life the control of the word of God. our Christmas lights have been kind- and devotion from the feasts led. The gilded cross pierces the of the Blessed Virgin - her clouds from pinnacle and spire joys, her sorrows and her in Canada will compare favorably enof that kind which shall keep man's throughout the world to-day because giories. Every year the seasons rethe Maji laid their offering of gold new their seed and harvest; so also far as our own Church is concerned ator; that, when the small proportion at the feet of the Babe of Bethlehem. the Church renews her praise of God, we have many reasons for thankful- of the week's time is being given in Our altars are wreathed in incense and bids her children plant afresh in

> MISSIONARY ZEAL. No more suitable opportunity than sideration of what we are doing, and

not exhaustive. More depth of feel- Expecting a spirit of thankfulness poses. If God's mercy continues its corresponding brightness, when ing, more symbolic instruction, more symbolic instruction, more scriptural application are crowded into the public worship and sacramento the tal administration of the Church than gift, invites them to make a contriwe could possibly explain in many bution for the purpose of bringing to vest.

### COMPOUND INTEREST

The earning power of compound interest is not as generally understood and appreciated as it should be. It may be illustrated by the following news item which recently appeared in the press:

#### A FIVE-DOLLAR BILL AT INTEREST

Mr. I. C. St. John of this city has a curiosity in hispossession in a fivedollar bill which is 125 years old. He has just gained possession of it, although it was left to him by his mother, who died some twelve years ago. The bill was given her when a child by a relative.

It was issued under the Act of July 2, 1770, by the State of Rhode Island, drawing five per cent. interest per annum, and signed by John Arnold. Figuring compound interest, it is now worth \$2560.

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those still in darkness the blessings they enjoy. We know the result of yearly assistance given by many a prosperous parish to the cause.

This state of affairs, which con-

eigh missionary work. no steady, general organized effort is bring them out. made in this direction.

### CHRISTIANITY IN CANADA.

Christianity is a term growing thought, and more a thing of fashion Thus it is that the Holy Father has than question of belief. Christianity said, and with no uncertain voice, that ness and satisfaction, though it must an especial manner to God, no intertention to ourselves. Religion from external allurements which he has left a Catholic standpoint is not merely during the time he is within the saprayer and the reception of the sacra- cred edifice. a pleasant request when Christmas cestors were enveloped in the far off think it an attribute of Puritanism. was a performance of no ordinary cheer was going on all round us. It past. And with the thought of their Wherever Puritanism has held sway St. Michael's brilliant choirmaster is not that we are indolent or that sad condition should come a desire to besides its severe tone it has been and organist, Mr. James Dickinson the subject is uncongenial. It is the aid in the work of bringing them persistently prejudiced against the fine setting of the harmonized responvery richness and superabundance of those good tidings of great joy, the Catholic Church. Will it ever look ses as used in the Cathedral. the material which, while they at- gladdening, uplifting influence of which upon us with a different eye? There Still keeping to our principles, tract us cause us to hesitate lest our is so much in evidence at Christmas- should be amongst us a league of find, secondly, that with the purple prayer for that and many other pur- of Advent has gone also the very se-

INEXCUSABLE DISRESPECT.

contributed, and perhaps this paltry pleased to regard as a semi-editorial. contribution is the sum total of the It treats of a great variety of subtoo wide to be well tilled, although trasts so unfavorably with the gener- as a general thing the articles are ed, some of the limitations of Church osity of Protestant congregations in treated with calm moderation and music must of necessity be against subscribing to the cause of foreign very fair ability For the writer, flesh and blood, I do not hesitate to missions, is due to lack of systematic therefore, to change his tone, to go left St. Michael's on Sunday evening Protestant energy in this out of his way in order to insult Irish last without an appreciation of the matter is the result of excellent or- Catholics, is not, we should have work and its rendering. ganization. In their Sunday schools thought, characteristic of him. For Christmas morning with the exception and Bible class-rooms charts showing this reason more than for any other, of the Plain Chant Proper of the Mass the proportion of the world's popula- we regard his article on Leap Year sung by the adult members of the tion still outside the pale of Chris- as inexcusable. We know it is popu- west gallery choir led by Messrs. J. tianity are prominently displayed. lar to throw mud at this class-and Dickinson and J. Lyons as cantors. The amount spent on drink, on cigars, nowhere more fashionable than in the finery, on wasteful luxuries, is Mail and Empire. Scarcely a week which is to be expected from a Cacontrasted with what is spent on for- goes by without low jokes or mean thedral choir, the two divisions (sanccontempt against the Irish. But there tuary and west gallery) alternating Nothing of this kind is to be found seemed to be one honorable exception. amongst our Catholics as a whole. He could stand out no longer. He "Alma Redemptoris Mater" (Webbe) We do not insinuate for a moment had an opportunity; nor did he lose sung in treble solo and harmonized that the contributions given on the it. There was some insulting legend chorus, showed the quality of the boy Epiphany for African Missions and on which this writer had read, concern-Good Friday for the maintenance of ing St. Patrick and St. Bridget, and sermon, left nothing to be desired. the Catholic centres in the Holy Land which, however vulgar, coarse and The represent the total of Catholic aid to suggestive it might be, would be an were Harold Cashman and William those who are laboring in far-off introduction for the writer's display lands. From many a Canadian of astronomical knowledge and antihome offerings are sent to organiza- Irish feeling. The story is woven (bass). tions in the United States for the out of full cloth. We daresay there maintenance of colored and Indian are many such yarns in the same schools. Individual priests and their lumber-room, anti-Catholic, anti- while the same gentleman also renparishioners respond quickly and gen- Irish, unrefined, better suited for oth- dered the solo passages in Reiga's erously to appeals for help which er company than the readers of a come to them at times from afar. The journal with any claim for selfdrawback is that these offerings are respect. Let them stay in that date Dominum" in Falso-Bordone. Orintermittent and spasmodic, and that room; the semi-editorial ought not to gan preludes and postludes were im-

### COMMUNICATION

CHRISTMAS MUSIC AT ST. MICHAEL'S CATHEDRAL.

Editor Catholic Register:

Of recent times many and varied have been the discussions on the now Toronto, and a choir able to render Now these great devotions are not understood.

If we look at the liturgical year it purposes. It is used to conceal as carrying out of the wishes of the carrying out of the wishes of the is a cycle of mystery and praise. well as to reveal thought. If the Holy Father. It is, therefore, not at our Blessed Lord, from birth to death may deem it a matter of loyalty to Michael's Cathedral during the sergone away with the impression that his new composition, the oratorio

nal influence in the shape of music

ments. It includes education and above to the services at St. Michael's charity. Our school system, with all Cathedral during the last four weeks. kincense and myrrh to the infant Sa- the Octave of the Feast of the Epip- its shortcomings, leaves our people we find, firstly, that as the Church in a number of the provinces free to lays down that during the season of educate their children. Our charit- be used to assist the music in such May we enter the New Year in the what we ought to do, for foreign misspirit of readiness in responding to sions. In an article in our last nummunicipal and provincial. Taking very severe music of the Church, nein embracing, the invitations and in- sionary zeal in the United States. things all round, therefore, matters dered chant (the Church's own Plain vertheless after hearing the well renreligious are steadily progressing. Our Song) in the Proper and Common of churches are well attended; the num- the Mass, and the harmonized setting Epiphany on earth will be for us a Feast which is shedding its light ber staying away is very insignificant. of the responses, one could hardly star which will guide us through the around us—the Feast which calls upon star which will guide us through the around us—the Feast which calls upon If we turn to other denominations we leave the church without the lecting was right valley to the grand Epiphany or Mani- us to thank God for the inestimable find zeal in certain directions, but no and that to talk about and advocate festation of the Saviour in Heaven. gift of the true faith—the Feast which religious movement as we have in other styles of music on such occareminds us that Christ was born and England. Notwithstanding a certain sions was to display ignorance condied for all men and therefore longs number of conversions every year the cerning the mission of the Church. Some one said to us the other day: that all should come to the knowledge increased is not such as might tical year with the remark that the Why does not the Catholic Register of the truth and be saved—ought to be desired. Why it should be rendering of the severe school of give us something about the services turn our thoughts to those who are so it is hard to say. Look- Church music during the Sundays of and offices of the Church? That was yet in the darkness in which our aning at it broadly and historically we was a performance of no ordinary

Mus. Doc., who is respond le for the

"Missa Cantota," the choirs of the

sanctuary and west gallery combined in their rendering of the Proper and Common of the Mass, while the reonses were harmonised and at the offertory were heard the first strains Novello's arrangement of the "Adeste Fideles," that beautiful anthem of invitation to the Crib of Bethlehem, which ever seems to give additional charm to the sweetest at

the church's festivals. At the last Mass of Christmas, at which His Grace Archbishop O'Connor pontificated, the choir of the west gallery rendered very effectively Biedermann's Mass in D (In honerem Beatae Virginis Mariae), while the 'Adeste Fideles" was again sung as an offertory piece. The Proper of the Mass (Introit Gradual offertory and Communion) was sung (as it invariably is at St. Michael's according to the authorized version of the 'Graduale Romanum''-the responses being left in the hands of the sanc-

tuary choir. It may be added that at this Mass The Mail and Empire has every a learned and eloquent discourse was that invitation. A few dollars are morning a column which it has been delivered on "The word made Flesh" by the Very Rev. Dr. McBrady, C.S.B.

The Sunday within the octave of jects, historical, political and other- Christmas gave an opportunity for wise. In fact the ground covered is the rendering of a typical programme of appropriate music as allowed by Rome, and although, as has been hint-

The vespers in the evening were sung with that swing and precision in the verses of the psalms. The completing anthem of vespers. voices to be exceptionally good, while the "Adeste Fideles" sung after the principal voices in this latter Soul (trebles), T. J. O'Neill (alto), T. C. Barrecca (1st tenor), M. J. Mc Namara (2nd tenor), and J. Lyons

During the Benediction the "O Salutaris (Holden), was given in excellent voice by Mr. Arthur Leitheuser, "Tantum Ergo" (solo and harmonized chorus).

The service concluded with the "Lauprovisations and the Alleluia chorus. No greater tribute can be given to Mr. James Dickinson, Mus.Doc., the talented organist and choirmaster, than to say that, given the mere essentials as regards voices, with the rich storehouse of ecclesiastical music from which the Catholic Church can always draw, St. Michael's Cathedral will be in possession of

choir of its kind second to none

-The Pope expressed himself as having enjoyed an ususual treat a few days ago, when the Abbe Perosi, the famous composer, went to the Vatican at the special invitation of Pius X., and played several selections from

### TRULY A STRUGGLING MISSION In the Diocese of Northampton,

Fakenham, Norfolk.

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## IT RESTS WITH YOU

to say whether I am to succeed or fail. All my hopes of success are in your co-operation. Will you not then extend a co-operating hand? Surely you will not refuse? You may not be able to help much, indeed. But you can help a little, and a multitude of "littles" means a great

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