

TOPICS OF THE DAY.

A BASELESS INSINUATION.—In an editorial upon "The Manitoba Schools," and the recently forced compromise, whereby the separate schools pass under the direction of the Public School Board, the "Gazette" gives vent to no small degree of bigotry. It says:—

"In Winnipeg, and Winnipeg was practically the only place where there was hope of the separate school effort being successful, the education of Catholic boys, and of girls largely, also, will be under public school control. The pupils will probably benefit so far as the facilities for instructing them are concerned. There will be such assurance as passing the public school examinations gives that the teachers will be under will be educationally qualified for their duties."

It would have been more manly to have come straight out and stated that the respective merits, as teachers, of those in charge of the public schools and those over the separate schools, indicate an assurance of superiority on the part of the former, and an indication of the spirit of less reliability on the part of the latter. We may as well say frankly what we think. If a competition could take place, we would soon behold the vaunted assurances of the public school teacher pale before the calm, dignified and patriotic endeavor of our religious. The only assurance that the pupil has is that of not having his religion taught unless during extra hours—an unjust and serious strain upon his young mind. As to the talents, ability, and accomplishments of the two categories of teachers, no sane person will pretend that the common school, diploma-bearing mistress could ever rank with the nuns of any of our teaching orders. They occupy a totally different level. In fact, we remember when, in France, certain teaching nuns had to submit to an examination, they astounded their judges, or examiners. It would be the same to-day, in Manitoba, if all were to undergo the same examinations—for the Catholic religious teacher is invariably a superior person in education and refinement. But we are not going to institute comparisons for the sake of refuting the mean insinuation that we have just quoted.

While legally, or legislatively, or whatever other way it may be, that a compromise has been reached, the Catholic authorities feel that they are submitting to "brute force." As Mr. Langevin aptly says: "The general who is forced by numbers to surrender, may do so with honor, yet still feel that the cause for which he fought, though lost, was just. So the Catholics of the Northwest—while carrying out the desires of Leo XIII. in accepting all they can get awaiting their chance to get more—feel that their cause is just and must eventually triumph. The insinuations of the secular press are as ill-timed as they are false, and as false as they are bigoted."

EMPTY PEWS.—Editor Kirk, of the "Messenger"—an organ published in New Canada, Conn., gives some reasons why the poor do not attend church on Sundays. Of course he refers to Protestant churches. Amongst other things the editor says:—

"Why more of the common people do not attend church is due to a great extent to the actions of leading church officers and members regarding the common people. When they attempt to attend public worship, take any church in city or country, take any church right here in New Canada, and the reception of the common people is about the same. The wealthy or well-to-do visitor, is received with cordiality. The usher will look over the head of the common man standing in the vestibule waiting to be seated and see the flashing jewelry or ring-trappings of the well-to-do caller, who is smilingly ushered to a prominent seat in the central portion of the church, while the other is waved to a seat in the rear or 'poor section,' without a smile of welcome or the appearance of cordiality."

"There are various reasons why people do not attend church. Many more would attend if they were actually convinced that they were wanted for any other reason than the financial support their membership would bring the church. The whole cause for empty pews is not found outside the churches."

This may be very true, and we believe it is, of a great many of the non-Catholic churches throughout the United States. But we must not forget that as far as the Catholic Church goes no such complaint can arise, for inside her fold there exists no distinction of poor or rich.

INSANE OR NOT?—The "Catholic Journal" of Memphis, Tenn., seems to applaud a recent decision of Judge Fitzgerald of New York. He recognizes the Christian Scientists as a religious body in the eyes of the law. The article says:—

"For the first time in their history, the Christian Scientists have been recognized by the courts and given a legal standing through a decision handed down last week by Judge Fitzgerald of New York."

Scientists have been recognized by the courts and given a legal standing through a decision handed down last week by Judge Fitzgerald of New York.

Then the article adds:— "Irish Catholics on or off the judicial bench do not believe in religious persecution. Judge Fitzgerald doubtless believes the members of the new creed are wrong, but he does not think that they are crazy or should be persecuted. He says that under our constitution everyone has a right to worship God as he pleases, and the Christian Scientists are going to have a fair deal in New York State."

This is one of the many cases in which the private religious faith of the judge conflicts with the pronouncement that the law obliges him to make. In the present instance, which is the case of a legacy left to the Christian Scientists, Judge Fitzgerald is right as far as the law goes; and they are not to be condemned simply because the judge may happen to be a Catholic.

A NEW SYSTEM.—One Mr. Miles M. O'Brien of New York has discovered a new system of education. It appears that he believes in the perfection of the system for the good reason that he has invented it himself. We know nothing of Mr. O'Brien's acumen as an educationalist, for his claim to such a distinction reposes solely upon his expressed view that "no uniform shall be allowed." The editor of the "Guidon Magazine" has some fun with Mr. O'Brien, or rather at the latter's attempt to do away with all religious garbs. The article says:—

"The uniform to which he objects is the religious habit worn by the Sisters or Brothers in charge of some of the institutions named. Of course this directly, and perhaps solely, affects Catholic institutions. Mr. O'Brien is himself a Catholic and acknowledges that he expresses opposition from 'bigot's of his own side as well as those of the other side,' and only asks that other people will be as liberal as he. If the wearing of a religious habit is the great objection he has to the present system, and he does not even hint at another, really, we think Mr. O'Brien is the bigot and the liberal is on the other side, which looks only to the good accomplished and is indulgent to such a harmless detail as the style of the teachers' dress. Mr. O'Brien will not be disappointed in the opposition he expects. Not that Catholics put so much store by the religious habit, 'it is not the inky cloak, nor the customary suit of solemn black, we have that within which surpasses show,' but we think the Board of Education has enough to occupy its attention without busying itself with dress goods and millinery when these do not altogether offend good taste and decency. If we might venture a suggestion to educators in search of the perfect system it would be to follow the example of the 'learned scribe, who takes from his treasure old things and new,' instead of depending solely on their own inventive resources. There have been educators before them, men with as much intelligence as they possess. The problem of reconciling secular and religious instruction is by no means new."

We know a number of Catholics of the Miles O'Brien class. Their presumption is only equalled by their ignorance of Catholicity and Catholic teachings. These people, who imagine themselves to be educationalists, know about as much concerning education as many of their kind do about running a newspaper arse, for inside her fold there exists inexperienced and positively unqualified man who do not feel able to dictate a whole code of journalism, supply a magic system, and claim to know all about the business. God help the poor people—for poor they are, in every case, poor journalists, poor educationalists, and poor Catholics.

FRATERNAL SOCIETIES.

C.M.B.A. CONVENTION.—The triennial convention of the Catholic Mutual Benefit Association of Canada, which was held at Niagara Falls, Ont., on August 27th and 28th, was most successful from every point of view. The procession of the morning of the first day to St. Patrick's was most imposing, and the people of the town turned out in full force along the route. The service at the church was also well attended. The Provincial of the Carmelite Order, Rev. Father Kreidt, was the preacher. After the ceremony at the church, the delegates returned to the town hall, where an address of welcome was read by Mr. T. F. Battle, of Branch No. 18, and a capital speech of greeting by Mayor of St. Catharines, Hon. M. F. Hackett, in reply to both addresses, expressed the great pleasure it afforded him to acknowledge the kindly sentiments in which they were couched. The business of the convention opened by the Grand President reading his report and the reports of the Grand Secretary, Grand Treasurer, Finance Committee, Board of Trustees, Supervising Medical Examiner and Solicitor were presented in printed pamphlet form. These re-

ports show the Association to be in a flourishing and prosperous condition.

Since the Quebec convention in 1898 nearly five thousand new members have been enrolled in the Association, the present membership being nearly 16,000. During the same period over fifty new branches have been organized. The Association has paid to the beneficiaries of deceased members the sum of \$576,540.91. The reserve fund amounts to 117,480.52.

The successful management of the Association certainly speaks well for itself. In its present condition, the percentage for management is only 44 per cent. of the total receipts, whereas in the very lowest of other similar organizations it is at least 74 per cent.

Several amendments to the constitution were considered, but very few changes were made. Among the latter are the following:—

Hereafter branch recording and financial secretaries and treasurers shall be, in addition to chancellors, eligible as candidates for representative or alternate. Beneficiary claims shall in so far as possible be payable at par. Policies for \$1,500 will be issued. Where proof of age is satisfactory at time of admission into the association further proof on death of members is dispensed with. Affidavits may be taken before any commissioner of the High or Supreme Court of the various provinces. The Reserve Fund limit is increased from \$125,000 to \$250,000. Monthly dues shall be payable at the same time as assessments, with the same penalties attached to non-payment as for non-payment of assessments, this however to be in the discretion of the various branches.

The following are the officers of the Grand Council for the ensuing term: Spiritual adviser.—Archbishop O'Brien, Halifax, N.S. Chancellor.—O. K. Fraser, Brockville, Ont. President.—Hon. M. F. Hackett, Stanstead, Que. First vice-president.—Dr. L. J. Bellevue, Shediac, N.B. Second vice-president.—Bernard O'Connell, Dublin, Ont. Secretary.—Samuel R. Brown, London, Ont. Treasurer.—W. J. McKee, M.L.A., Windsor, Ont. Marshal.—J. D. Callaghan, Arthur, Ont. Guard.—Jacob J. Weinert, Neustadt, Ont. Trustees.—Rev. J. E. Crinion, Dumville, Ont.; J. J. Behan, Kingston, Ont.; P. J. O'Keefe, St. John, N.B.; J. A. Chisholm, Nallfax, N.S.; C. Dupont, Herbert, Three Rivers, Que.

Law Committee.—W. J. Bolduc, Truro, Ont.; J. A. Renaud, Joliette, Que.; John A. Murphy, Cayuga, Ont. Finance Committee.—John Ronan, Hamilton, Ont.; Hon. A. D. Richardson, Dorchester, N.B.; John T. Halley, Truro, N.S. Supervising Medical Examiner.—Edward Ryan, M.D., Kingston, Ont. Solicitor.—Hon. F. R. Latchford, Ottawa, Ont. Assistant secretary.—J. E. H. Howie, London, Ont.

A resolution of condolence on the death of Judge Rouleau of Calgary of the Superior Court of the N. W. T., was adopted. Telegrams of fraternal greeting were received from the Chief Ranger and officers of the Provincial Court of Ontario of the Catholic Order of Foresters and the Canadian Fraternal Association and others.

An exchange of cablegrams with His Holiness Pope Leo XIII. was made in which the Holy Father bestowed upon the convention his apostolic blessing.

A pleasant feature of the convention was an address by Rev. John Crawford, pastor of St. Andrew's Church. The reverend gentleman gave an eloquent address, welcoming the C.M.B.A. to Niagara Falls, and referring at considerable length to the vast amount of good accomplished by the association. His words were received with great enthusiasm, a rousing ovation being accorded him as he resumed his seat.

Grand President Hackett and the Hon. F. R. Latchford responded. Toronto is to be the next place of meeting.

THE A.O.H.—In the last issue of the National Hibernian the following reasons are set forth why Irishmen and their sons should become members of the A. O. H.:—

"What arguments can we use in speaking to our friends that we may induce them to join our ranks? We can tell them that our Order is the only American fraternal organization which is essentially Irish, as well as Catholic; that it now has a ritual second to none for the exemplification of its degrees; that it pays a sick benefit of five dollars per week for thirteen weeks in case of sickness; that it pays a substantial death benefit; that it inculcates and promotes Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity; that the charges of admission are low and within the reach of all kinds of people; that it requires every member to be a practical Catholic, and is an ardent supporter of the Church; that it believes in and encourages the cultivation of the highest standard of Irish unity, and in the preservation of the language, history, and traditions of the Gael; that it provides for a Ladies' Auxiliary membership, thereby giving the women of our race an opportunity for social advantages that is not afforded in the forefront in the promotion of worthy aims and purposes for the elevation of the American Gael, as illustrated by its raising of \$50,000 to found a chair of Gaelic at the Catholic University of America; that it provides for its members a monthly journal of unsurpassed interest, and last, but by no means least, that the sacred cause of Irish freedom is advanced within its ranks by every legitimate means."

CONDOLENCE.—At a recent meeting of St. Anthony's Young Men's

Society reference was made to the death of Mr. Charles Donnelly, brother of Rev. J. E. Donnelly, P. P., of St. Anthony's and spiritual adviser of the Society. A well-voiced resolution of sympathy was adopted, and copies of it order to be sent to Father Donnelly and other members of the family of the deceased.

CONDOLENCE.—At a meeting of Div. No. 9, A.O.H., a resolution of sympathy with Bro. A. Duffy, vice-president of the Division, who recently suffered the loss by death of his beloved sister, Miss Agnes Duffy, was passed.

SUNDAY IN OUR PARISH CHURCHES

In making the announcements of the week at High Mass, on Sunday last, Rev. Martin Callaghan made reference to the dastardly attempt upon the life of the President of the United States. He spoke with much feeling, and his remarks made a profound impression upon the large congregation present. He said in part:—I should recommend to your prayers the President of the United States, who is just now in danger of death from having been wounded on last Friday afternoon. We cannot afford to be indifferent to his welfare. He is the temporal ruler of a most important Republic that is our next door neighbor. He governs a country where all Irish Canadians have friends or relations, a country where all Catholics know their Church has been prospering, and is bidding, fair to extend its influence in a measureless manner.

All American citizens feel sad and alarmed. They have all our most cordial sympathy. They are weeping. To their tears we join the tribute of our own. McKinley is a name which is interwoven with the affections of a most intelligent, practical and flourishing nation to which he has conserved the peace, and the physical abilities. May his life be spared for many years! May God rescue him from the danger in which his life has been placed and enable him to resume in the near future the functions of the exalted office with which he has been charged, is the most ardent wish and earnest prayer of all those who have learned to appreciate, to admire and cherish the blessings of liberty and progress that are enjoyed beneath the folds of the Stars-and-Stripes banner! I am sure you will not feel inclined to contradict me.

At this hour there is not upon the surface of our globe any heart suffering with interior agony than the heart of the Roman Catholic priest, no matter what his racial or national sympathies may be, for the tragedy which took place in the city of Buffalo. It must be admitted on all sides that in the United States any man who knows how to respect himself by doing his duty will live happily and as happily as could wish to live, and that nowhere else will he find a home more congenial to his tastes or more suitable to the objects of his ambition.

A few words in reference to the deed that was attempted. Blame the man who undertook to do this deed. Nothing could justify him. In blaming him do not identify him with the race or nation to which he belongs. It would be illogical—both unfair and unkind. Condemn all his accomplices. By accomplices I mean all those who by their tongues or pens, by their utterances or writings, have been propagating the spirit of anarchy. Crush this spirit. Crush it in all its forms and by all the means that can be devised. The anarchist is the enemy of both God and man. He aims at overthrowing all divine and human authority. He must be the only sovereign upon earth, and his sovereignty will not be too dearly purchased at the sacrifice of what is noblest, purest, truest and worthiest. Anarchy is tyranny, and the worst kind of tyranny that can be imagined. If it prevailed we would have upon earth the reign of hell, we would have nothing but impiety, insubordination, blasphemy, injustice, cruelty, nothing but chaos and a universal wreck.

PARISH SCHOOLS.—Another question which Father Callaghan touched upon was the opening of the schools. He offered practical advice to heads of families which was timely. He said among other things:—All our schools opened during the course of last week. The majority of our children returned, but not a few have still remained home. This is to be regretted. Any delay on their part is a misfortune and the greater the delay the greater is the misfortune, both for themselves and their teachers.

Parents should not neglect any opportunity to send their children to school. They are obliged to look after their temporal and eternal welfare. They are the visible agents of Divine Providence.

It is not proper that all children should receive the highest education that could be given, but it is necessary that they should be sufficiently educated. Children are sufficiently educated when they are qualified in mind and heart for whatever God intends them. What a future awaits our Catholic children! How brilliant it is! They may compete in the race of life for all kinds of prizes. They may enter upon all the avenues of distinction, both in Church and State. They cannot prepare themselves for their future. Their parents must come to their assistance. They should provide them with the best means of being sufficiently educated and duly qualified for the work assigned them by Almighty God. Education is a blessing, and one of the greatest blessings that could be conferred upon any child. When parents are dying they may not find it possible to bequeath to their children a legacy in money or property,

but they can, if they will it, leave to their sons and daughters—the most enviable kind of inheritance—There is nothing easier than to have your children educated in this parish. There is close at hand a sufficient abundance of schools, and we have all the kinds of schools that could be desired. In these schools all the grades of education—from the highest to the lowest—are imparted. In these schools all secular matters are taught, the teachings of our religion inculcated and the practice of all Christian virtues emphasized. All good Catholic parents are not slow or ungenerous in promoting the happiness of those confided to their care. They consider it a pride and a delight to maintain the reputation of the Celtic race for the acquisition of learning. They show in a practical way how unfounded is the charge made against the Church, now and again of hostility to education. They are intimately persuaded that she, and she alone, is expending the best friend of knowledge, truth, principle, virtue.

AT ST. ANTHONY'S.—Rev. Father Donnelly, P. P., St. Anthony's Church, at the conclusion of High Mass on Sunday last, also referred to the attempt on the life of President McKinley. He read to the congregation a message from Buffalo regarding the condition of the distinguished patient, and asked the prayers of the congregation in his behalf.

AT ST. ANN'S CHURCH.—Rev. Father Ward, of the diocese of Armagh, Ireland, preached an eloquent sermon at High Mass, in St. Ann's Church on Sunday last. Father Ward has only been ordained a short time, and is in Mantrel on a visit to two of his brothers.

WEDDING BELLS.

A very pretty wedding, which attracted a large gathering, took place at St. Patrick's Church on Monday last. The contracting parties were Miss Lizzie O'Connor, daughter of Mr. Frank O'Connor, and Mr. Frank Tansey, son of our well-known fellow-countryman Mr. B. Tansey, and brother of Aid. Tansey. The Rev. Martin Callaghan officiated. Miss W. O'Connor, sister of the bride, was bridesmaid, and Mr. J. T. Tansey acted as best man. The bride wore a tailor-made travelling gown. Immediately after the ceremony Mr. and Mrs. Tansey left for New York, Washington and Atlantic City. The bride was the recipient of a very large number of handsome presents.

On Saturday evening the directors of the S.A.A.A. presented Mr. Tansey with a handsome case of cutlery as an evidence of their appreciation of his splendid endeavors in connection with one of the affiliated clubs of the association.

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL.

The drawing of prizes in aid of the Catholic High School took place on Friday evening, September 6th. The results were as follows:—

Gold chain and locket, No. 3,174, Miss C. F. Farrell, 44 Beaver Hall Hill. Painting of Crucifixion, No. 615, Edmund Burke, 21 Victoria street. Gold chain, No. 610, Rev. J. P. McCreath, 770 Dorchester street. Cooking stove, No. 1,744, B. Ryan, 909 Dorchester street. Gold Cross, No. 2,736, John Furlong, 44 Wellington street.

RECENT DEATHS.

JAMES MCGUIRE.—There died a few days ago one of the oldest inhabitants of St. Alphonse, Joliette Co., Que., in his person James McGuire, who was born in 1837 in Ireland. He came to Canada at an early age and started out with the usual Irish pluck to make a fortune for himself. He succeeded beyond his own expectations, and up to the day of his death, was one of the best known and respected persons in his section of the country. He died on Saturday, the 7th, and was buried on Monday, the 9th.—R.I.P.

PHOESLYTING.—In a despatch to an American secular newspaper, from Winchester, Tenn., an account is given of the exposure of missionaries to non-Catholics, held under the presidency of Bishop Byrne, of Nashville, in that locality. It is quite amusing to find the correspondent setting out with these words:—

"Vigor has been added to the proselyting work of the Roman Catholic Church in this country by the congress of missionaries to non-Catholics which has just been held at the Paulist settlement here. It was the first congress of the kind ever held in any country and practically no one participated in the discussions except priests who devote their entire time to giving missions to those outside the Roman fold."

The report is all right enough, but we fail to see how the word "proselyting" can be made applicable to a work that is emphatically the very opposite. The Paulists and other religious, who carry on this work, most positively object to the system of proselyting. They are missionaries to non-Catholics, have for main object the proper explaining of all leading dogma held and taught by the Catholic Church. In fact, these missions are not controversial, but rather explanatory. The missionaries give, in clear and precise terms, the reasons why they are Catholics. They neither dispute points of doctrine, nor criticize other creeds, nor condemn the tenets of non-Catholics; they merely make it clear that the Catholic faith is in accord with reason, and logical from the Alpha to the Omega of its doctrine.

A SERIOUS CHANGE

In President McKinley's Condition.

Just as we are going to press news comes from Buffalo that President McKinley experienced a sinking spell shortly after 2 o'clock on Thursday. The physicians are administering restoratives to him with the hope of reviving him. A general call has gone out to the physicians and the members of the Cabinet now in the city. Dr. Park reached the house at 2.50, and shortly after him came Secretaries Hitchcock and Wilson.

The Associated Press has been authorized to say that President McKinley is critically ill.

Abram McKinley, brother of the President, was called to the house at 2.40. He came by carriage and pressed into the house at once.

A messenger was despatched at the same time to summon two absent nurses. The impression is created that the President has taken a serious turn for the worse, but an expression from those within the house was unobtainable.

Several messengers were hurried from the house, and it was understood that they carried despatches to the absent members of the Cabinet, and the kin of the President. Additional lights burn in the Milburn home, and the household is astir.

All of the physicians were gathered at the bedside of the President. It was stated that digitalis was being administered to the President.

Beyond the statement that the President is critically ill, no further announcement has been authorized, but it is manifest that the wounded President faces a grave and menacing crisis. Alarm can be read in the actions of those to whose nursing and care he is committed.

The attendants can be seen hurrying about behind the unshaded and brightly lighted windows and messengers come and go hastily through the guarded door. Outside half a hundred newspaper correspondents are assembled awaiting a word that may carry sorrow to a nation.

It is understood that aside from digitalis no other restorative has been used.

The President is so weak that he does not apparently suffer much. Strychnine, digitalis and other powerful heart stimulants do not produce effects and the worst is feared. His death might occur at any time from heart exhaustion. Mrs. McKinley has not yet been informed of the change for the worse.

HEIRS WANTED.

Information wanted of the whereabouts of James Callaghan and John Marsa, heirs at law and children of John and Jane Marsa, (nee Jane Hackett), of Caledon, Tyrone County, Ireland. An estate in Iowa County, Iowa, awaits their presence or instructions for settlement. Address, J. B. Murphy, Attorney at Law, Marengo, Iowa.

Fraser's "PURE" JAMS

IN 5 LB. FIBRE PAILS.
IN 7 LB. WOODEN PAILS.
IN 14 LB. WOODEN PAILS.

We do not and will not handle the "compound" impure and adulterated jams and jellies with which the market is flooded. You can get these at the departmental stores, all you want and in abundance, but they are dear at any price.

WE HANDLE ONLY PURE GOODS

Honest, clean and appetizing. The maker of our Jams writes us under date the 7th September as follows:—

"owing to the scarcity of fruit this year and the great advance in price, we are obliged to advance materially the price of your Pure Fruit Jams. The quality will, as usual, be strictly maintained."

Fraser's Pure Fruit Jams.

In 5 lb. Fibre Pails.
Fraser's Pure Peach Jam, 65 cents per pail.
Fraser's Pure Plum Jam, 65 cents per pail.
Fraser's Pure Raspberry Jam, 65 cents per pail.
Fraser's Pure Strawberry Jam, 65 cents per pail.

Fraser's Pure Fruit Jams.

In 7 lb. Wooden Pails.
Fraser's Pure Peach Jam, 90 cents per pail.
Fraser's Pure Plum Jam, 90 cents per pail.
Fraser's Pure Raspberry Jam, 90 cents per pail.
Fraser's Pure Strawberry Jam, 90 cents per pail.

Fraser's Pure Fruit Jams.

In 14 lb. Wooden Pails.
Fraser's Pure Peach Jam, \$1.70 per pail.
Fraser's Pure Plum Jam, \$1.70 per pail.
Fraser's Pure Raspberry Jam, \$1.70 per pail.
Fraser's Pure Strawberry Jam, \$1.70 per pail.

Fraser's Pure Currant Jelly.

Fraser's Pure Black Currant Jelly, \$1.70 per pail.
In 14 lb. Wooden Pails, \$1.70 per pail.

FRASER, VIGOR & CO.
ITALIAN WAREHOUSE,
707, 709 & 711 St. John Street.