

## PHILADELPHIA LETTER.

The Recent Congress of Mothers at Washington.

A New Life of Cardinal Manning.

American Catholic Records—Some Remarks About New Books

[From Our Special Correspondent.]

PHILADELPHIA, March 22, 1897.

There has been a Mothers' Congress in Washington, as every one knows, and it has awakened a new interest in a very old fashion—one as old as Eve, at any rate. In Philadelphia steps have already been taken to reap some practical benefit from the many suggestions and wonderful theories there put forth. A number of mothers have assembled in council, and have been learnedly advised and severely denounced as to their past misdeeds by the "single sisters," who are certainly wise in time. What utter nonsense we complacently endure now-a-days! In the dead certainty that seems to have fallen upon us that there never was any use for the ages gone before our own, and that—under the eyes of the Creator though they were—our fathers and mothers walked in darkness and died in utter ignorance of every sensible, healthful, reasonable thing, we have meekly submitted to be told our duty in every relation of life by every theorist, and to remodel our belief and change our opinion at the bidding of every callow lecturer. The teacher who passes her days in the distractions and annoyances of a crowded schoolroom, amid children to whom she is more or less indifferent, and who are of all temperaments, of all environments, of a dozen different nationalities, and perhaps of a hundred different families, is now credited with a better understanding of the dangers and difficulties of the child than its mother, from whom and it there is a tie which links heart to heart, brain to brain, temperament to temperament, and produces an endless current that telegraphs with lightning speed and daylight clearness the meaning of its intricate murmurs. Lazy mothers, careless mothers, perhaps unduly humbly-minded mothers, are the only ones to receive suggestions from congresses and councils, or to test their theories fully or foolishly. The majority of mothers know that assembling together can do nothing for the real, true mother of the child—her child and his different from every other child entrusted to other parents by the one All Father, and meant by Him to work out in its own way its own salvation and theirs. Every mother has it in her power to do her duty by her child, and he will never fail to do his part in aiding those who desire to make the best of his gift. The old fashion of mothers is as lovely as it is unchangeable, and only mothers know how little those who are not mothers know of its requirements, its instincts, its marvelous helps. "As one star differs from another star," so does every child differ from every other child, and the wise, the observant, the faithful mother is swift to learn this. Some years ago, a very "progressive" clear-headed, high-thinking young couple—non-Catholic, but well taught as parents with "fixed principles" as to the training of their children. Their first child was exactly what was needed to test their theories. Plastic, easy-going even as a baby, amenable to all rules for eating, sleeping and waking at set times, and almost thinking to order when he began to think, there was not a little proud delight at the success of their "system" with him, and not a little expounding of that success to the family. But the second child upset all theories, defied all rules, revolted against all experiments, lived her own life through three strong, forceful though baby years, and died, her own masterful self to the very end. Other children have come into that home, but now the mother, lovely, wise, tender and noble as the blessed years have made her, freely owns that there can be no "system," no study of child-nature that is of any use at all. She has had to begin all over again with each new baby, and wait and watch, hope and fear, be patient and prayerful with each one in a different way. Outwardly and inwardly, each child comes a new creature from the hands of the Creator. The Mother's Congress was an excellent ventilator. But the atmosphere was not all the air of Heaven. And there are mothers yet—Catholic mothers, at least—who keep "all these things" in their hearts, and walking, secretly with God, lead their little ones according to the light given them from the same source which illumined the cave at Bethlehem and the home at Nazareth.

We are drawing near the end of the season, for April's arrival is the signal for the departure of the winter spirit. And April is not far off. The "settled" feeling which promotes attention to home duties, home pleasures, study, the pursuit of the best literature, etc., now gives place to a vague unrest which plans for summer holidays, summer travel, light reading, and a general relaxation. As for books, while the publishers are deep in the mysteries of the "novel of the year," there is "corn in Egypt yet" for those who prefer corn to the berries and cream served up as summer literature. Here in Philadelphia, we have a new life of Cardinal Manning, not by Purcell. In size, it compares to the two, two volumes mistake of Purcell much as the boy David compares to the giant Goliath, and its truths strikes home to the lumbering heaviness of that piece of brain-work as fatally as did the shepherd boy's smooch pebble from the brook. It is full of interest, most fair, just, and clearly expressive of admiration for the late Cardinal, although it is the work of a French Protestant, M. Francis de Pressensé. It is admirably and almost faultlessly translated by Francis T. Porey, A. M., and published by John Jos. McVey of Philadelphia.

The Records, issued by the American Catholic Historical Society of Philadelphia, is just out for the last quarter of the year 1896. The work done for this publication is of a nature that frequently requires more time than it seems to ask when undertaken, hence the numbers of the quarterly are issued somewhat irregularly. It is a collection of scattered facts and important data bearing upon the history of the Church and the Catholics in this country, which each year renders more valuable, and which is already dim and hazy through neglect. Much is now accessible that will soon be lost in the fog of time. It is greatly to be deplored that care of, and attention to, such things is not more widely recognized as a duty. The history of the Church in America is still so near its beginning that its records might be preserved in unbroken connection, with all their noble tribute of faithful love, their deathless beauty and pathos. About half the pages of this number are devoted to "Papers Relating to the Church in America. From the Portfolio of the Irish College in Rome." They have been collected by the archivists of the Society in Rome, and have never been seen here before this time. The other half of the number consists of a sketch entitled, "The Catholic Mission at Concord, Delaware County, Pa." and of a "Sketch of Mary Brackett Milcox, of Ivy Mills, Pa." The Milcox family is one of the oldest Catholic families in this part of the country, and its members were practically the "right hand men" of the Catholic Mission at Concord, which is near Ivy Mills. The sketch of Mrs. Milcox is largely made up of letters from different priests who wrote from distant missions, and chronicled in friendly detail the growth of their first churches, and the increasing hold of the Church upon those once strangers to Her. If there are any Catholics among your readers, and there must be many—who treasure the records and letters of their ancestors, they cannot do a better thing than sit from the strictly private family matters every item, every note, every word that recalls with the assurance of an eye-witness, a contemporary, any, even the smallest, event of our Catholic growth. We have a record of the past and of the present of which we may be proud. We can make our future glorious by the light of our past.

As for the Catholic novelist of whom we hear so much complaint because he—or she—does not exist—well, at least another Catholic woman of intellect and courage as well as culture, has taken up a decidedly vigorous and graceful pen. Copeland and Day, publishers of Boston, have just issued "The Falcon of Langue," by Isabel Whitely, a name that should be well-known as that of a writer of original and striking short stories. This is not a short story; it is a book that cannot but interest, since it is picturesque, vivid, adventurous and a love story. It has a strength of its own, and the Catholic atmosphere and spirit that belonged to its era, when the non-Catholic world was but a limited sphere. It is not controversial. It is a well-written story pure and simple. This fills the great want in Catholic fiction. When all Catholic writers of fiction learn to take themselves as a matter of course, and to write out of their own hearts the best things they find there, and out of their daily life the many beautiful, gracious, sorrowful, joyous, and unconsciously holy things that come into every life, they will write the best of fiction. They need not stop to question whether it will please the non-Catholic reader. The unfolding of the true Catholic life, even as it is lived to day, cannot but attract by its novelty, the non-Catholic, cannot but powerfully tell on the fiction reading world. What the whole world is seeking, we have. The others of the human race feel this—especially those portions which are literary—and they are unconsciously waiting and hoping for the "great Catholic novelist" quite as much as we are longing for the triumph that advent shall bring us. It is sure to come. The novel is a power in the land now, and we are not to fall back defeated from such a struggle.

SARA TRAINER SMITH.

## DEATH OF MR. P. MCCORMICK

A Well-Known Resident of the Parish of St. Brigid, P.Q.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

St. BRIGIDE, P. Q., March 23.—Mr. Patrick McCormick, a well known and highly respected resident of this parish, has passed away at the age of 63 years.

The deceased was a native of Broomfield, Ireland, and came to this country with his parents more than half a century ago and settled in this parish, which was then a wilderness. Your correspondent has often listened with much interest to Mr. McCormick's recital of the stirring scenes in the early days of this district, and to his story of the wonderful progress made, which has resulted in the prosperity now everywhere visible.

The funeral, which was held on St. Patrick's Day was largely attended by the people of the parish and adjoining districts. The service at the Church was most impressive. The Requiem Mass was sung by the Rev. Father Balhagar, P.P., and during the morning business was suspended. Over the establishment of Mr. W. Donnelly, a green flag floated at half mast, and many other evidences of the respect and esteem in which the deceased was held by the community in which he was a prominent member for such a long period, were also shown.

Mr. McCormick was an old subscriber of the TRUE WITNESS, and always evinced a deep interest in all matters associated with the cause of the Old Land. He leaves a widow, two sons and five daughters to mourn his sad loss.

Mrs. McCormick and family have been made the recipients of much sympathy from all sections of the community. The former has been much consoled by these kind manifestations on the part of neighbors and friends.

## ENGLISH LETTER.

[Continued from First Page.]

to be recognized altogether. The want of a power to dispense in the case of impediments to marriage has been very seriously felt by English lawyers; but no statesman has been bold enough to try to introduce it again. With us Catholics, the power remains exactly where the Divine Head of the Church placed it, in the successor of St. Peter, and in those to whom he delegates his power. It is, therefore, an act of disloyalty to refuse or neglect to ask for a dispensation when our state of health requires it. In our report of the diocese of the Holy See we had to acknowledge that many years had elapsed since there had been a diocesan synod, and we promised to convene one in this current year. As to the time and place, we shall consult the convenience of the clergy, and we shall be grateful for their advice as to the matters that chiefly require to be brought forward and settled by the synod. Many things have been determined by authority, both in Rome and by the Bishops in England, since the last synod, and it would be of great assistance to the clergy to have these points of ecclesiastical law distinctly specified and published in a canonical method. It would be impossible at the synod itself to secure time for that full and free discussion which is necessary for a satisfactory settlement of matters that may be brought forward, but opportunity will be given for discussion beforehand at the conferences in the different deaneries, so that the synod may be the complete result of the discussions that have preceded it.

THE STRIDES OF CATHOLICITY.

Rev. Arthur Whelan, who has been delivering a course of sermons at St. Panara's, Regent's Park, on the present state of the Protestant church, in his closing remarks made the following statement:—

There were undoubtedly signs of a general tendency towards the Catholic Church. Think of the feelings of the people against the Catholic Church fifty years ago and compare it with their attitude at the present time. Who would ever dream that the English people who burned the Pope and Cardinal Wiseman in effigy, and rolled them down the steep of Primrose Hill were now ready to accept among them as loyal citizens and fellow-brethren the Catholics of this country? Yet such was the marvellous change which the grace of God had worked amongst their fellow-countrymen. The rev. preacher believed that Ritualism was the preparatory school for the English people for Catholicism. Within the last year, according to statistics which had been compiled, over 15,000 people had been received into the Church in this country. This would go on multiplying as years rolled on. The consummation of this great work would not perhaps take place during the present century, but with the conversions taking place day by day the time would come when there would be a great change of feeling and the people of England would return to the Church of their forefathers. Hope was lying dormant, but not dead, in their hearts, and there existed in the mind of the English people a great love and desire to return to the faith of God. He did not believe that the Almighty would refuse to listen to the cry of the noble martyrs like Thomas More and John Fisher, those men who went to the stake and laid down their lives and shed their blood in order that they might be the witnesses to the people and the land they loved so well.

BISHOP CHURCH MISSIONS.

The following amusing and exciting incident is published by the Catholic Times, as having occurred at a recent meeting of the "Irish Church Missions" to Catholics, held in Liverpool on Monday afternoon, when Mr. M. O'Mahoney, rising in front of the platform, asked to be allowed to speak. The Chairman (Archdeacon Taylor) said that no discussion should be permitted when upon Mr. O'Mahoney said he declined discussion, but, as that was a public meeting, he claimed a right to be heard. Much had been said of the joy of Roman Catholics on receiving a copy of the Scriptures. He was a Catholic, a Roman Catholic, and an Irish Roman Catholic, and he would be thankful for a copy of the Bible—the real thing, the whole of the Bible, and not a mutilated corruption. Furthermore, as one of the benighted persons for whom the meeting was held, he could not understand all the waste of apparent sincerity and, indeed, wealth, to undo the religious faith of the Catholics of Ireland, while there went on all over England a decadence in Protestantism which must be terrible in the eyes of the chairman. Everywhere the tables were being turned over and the altars set up, and doctrines were being taught and practised which were not those of the Church by law established (applause). The chairman whose sincerity he suspected, as he did that of the Protestant Bishop, knew that these things took place, and it was a matter of common knowledge that the Bishop could even smell the incense of a Protestant church from his own doorstep. Why not give the savour of Bible teaching to these people?

The following amusing and exciting incident is published by the Catholic Times, as having occurred at a recent meeting of the "Irish Church Missions" to Catholics, held in Liverpool on Monday afternoon, when Mr. M. O'Mahoney, rising in front of the platform, asked to be allowed to speak. The Chairman (Archdeacon Taylor) said that no discussion should be permitted when upon Mr. O'Mahoney said he declined discussion, but, as that was a public meeting, he claimed a right to be heard. Much had been said of the joy of Roman Catholics on receiving a copy of the Scriptures. He was a Catholic, a Roman Catholic, and an Irish Roman Catholic, and he would be thankful for a copy of the Bible—the real thing, the whole of the Bible, and not a mutilated corruption. Furthermore, as one of the benighted persons for whom the meeting was held, he could not understand all the waste of apparent sincerity and, indeed, wealth, to undo the religious faith of the Catholics of Ireland, while there went on all over England a decadence in Protestantism which must be terrible in the eyes of the chairman. Everywhere the tables were being turned over and the altars set up, and doctrines were being taught and practised which were not those of the Church by law established (applause). The chairman whose sincerity he suspected, as he did that of the Protestant Bishop, knew that these things took place, and it was a matter of common knowledge that the Bishop could even smell the incense of a Protestant church from his own doorstep. Why not give the savour of Bible teaching to these people?

## ST. MARY'S CALENDAR CONCERT.

Owing to the great success of the Calendar Concert held in St. Mary's Hall last year, and the general desire on the part of the readers of the Calendar for a similar Entertainment this year, we understand that the Rev. Father Shea, who brought the last one to so successful an issue, is about giving another in St. Mary's Hall on Tuesday, April 27th—the feast of St. Mary's parish. There will be beautiful singing, artistic piano playing, harmonious choruses by ladies and elegant drills by a popular organization. Every purchaser of a 50c ticket will be entitled to one year's subscription to the St. Mary's Monthly Calendar.

It was the boast of a Welsh retainer of the English court, "That is such noble housekeeping in Wales that I have known a dozen cooks employed at one wedding feast." "Then," said one who knew the country, "that was when every man toasted his own cheese."—Household Words.

## ST. PATRICK'S DAY

## IN PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

Grand Processions and Patriotic Gatherings in the Evening.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

SUMMERSIDE, P. E. I., March 23.

Never before was the Feast Day of Irishmen observed in Prince Edward Island with so much enthusiasm as on Wednesday last, when celebrations took place in many of the towns and villages. This is a pleasing proof, if any, indeed, were needed, of the deep affection for Ireland and Ireland's Patron Saint, that animates the hearts of all in whose veins there flows a drop of the good old Celtic blood.

At Charlottetown, there was a fine turnout of the Benevolent Irish Society and the Ancient Order of Hibernians, who paraded to St. Dunstan's Cathedral, where a High Mass was celebrated by Rev. P. Curran, Rector of St. Dunstan's College, with Rev. Dr. Curran, of the same college, as deacon, and Rev. P. Gauthier as sub-deacon. Rev. Dr. Morrison, Charlottetown, delivered an able and eloquent sermon on the life and work of St. Patrick.

After Mass the above Societies reformed in procession and paraded several of the principal streets. They made a fine impression, their perfect order of marching and their handsome street regalia being greatly admired.

In the evening the beautiful and romantic Irish drama, "Eileen Oge," was presented in the Opera House to a very large and highly appreciative audience, by the B. I. S. Dramatic Club, with the following cast of characters:

Patrick O'Donnell.....Mr. William Brown  
Henry Loftus.....Mr. Brent McInnes  
McLean.....Mr. Jos. Hennessey  
Brian O'Farrell.....Mr. W. C. Whitlock  
Father Mahoney.....Mr. Thos. Driscoll  
Mr. Moriarty.....Mr. Patrick McQuillan  
John Thomas.....Mr. Frank McMillan  
Tim the Penman.....Mr. Geo. Hennessey  
Andy.....Mr. Will Murphy  
Phadrig.....Mr. Patrick Hughes  
Thady.....Mr. A. C. Double  
Ciangh.....Mr. Harry McQuaid  
Talbot.....Mr. Milton McLeod  
McShane.....Mr. Geo. Hennessey  
Eileen Moriarty.....Miss Edith Gallant  
Nora O'Donnell.....Miss Gerty Gillis  
Mrs. O'Donnell.....Miss Annie Joy  
Bridget McGuire.....Miss Nellie Robins  
Nellie.....Miss Rose Kelly  
Policemen, Peasants, Servants, Hay-makers.

The entertainment at Summerside under the auspices of the B. I. S., was the best of the many good ones yet held at that place. The first part of the programme consisted of instrumental and vocal selections by some of our most popular amateurs, and a magnificent oration, by Rev. T. F. Fullerton, pastor of St. James' Presbyterian Church, Charlottetown, on St. Patrick. The second part consisted of the fine comedy, "Hickory Farm," a story of New England Life on the Farm" which was rendered in a manner that would have done credit to professionals, Miss Priscilla Dempsey, of Summerside, specially distinguished herself by her splendid impersonation of Jessie Fortune, the heroine. The cast was as follows:

Ezekiel Fortune.....Jas. Gordon McKay  
Uriah Skinner.....Dr. A. A. McLellan  
Gilbert Darkwood.....P. J. Trainor  
Jack Nelson.....Millwood Doyle  
Lawrence McKean.....D. J. Cameron  
Detective Rankin.....A. C. Deighan  
Jessie Fortune.....Priscilla Dempsey  
Constables etc.....Maggie O'Keefe

At Georgetown, there was an impressive High Mass, with an oration or sermon by Rev. A. McAuley, of Morell, one of Prince Edward Island's most eloquent sons. In the evening His Honor Judge Reddin, of Charlottetown, lectured in the Court House, on "The Deportation of the Acadians from Grand Pre."

The entertainment at Summerside was under the auspices of Branch 215, C.M.B.A., whose hall was well filled with a much pleased audience. The first part of the programme consists of musical selections and an excellent address, appropriate to the day, by Rev. D. J. G. MacDonald. The second part was the burlesque invitation of a candidate into the "Order of the Humanitarians." The ludicrous costuming and ceremonial, the numerous localisms, and the music and floor work, delighted the audience. The burlesque occupied about an hour in presentation.

The day was celebrated at Alberton with great enthusiasm. At early Mass said by Rev. Dr. Chaisson, of Palmer Road, great numbers approached the Holy Table, the members of the different confraternities of the parish, of which Rev. A. E. Burke is pastor, being specially noticeable. Rev. D. M. MacDonald, of Tignish, celebrated the solemn High Mass, at which a full choral service was rendered in a splendid manner. He also delivered the sermon de circonstance, which was a magnificent discourse, founded on the words—"Blessed are they that hunger and thirst after justice." He concluded his grand effort with an allusion to the justice and virtues of Ireland's great Apostle, urging his hearers to imitate those virtues, which were so many stars in St. Patrick's career, and which were also distinguished in the lives of the Irish people.

At Egmont Bay a grand concert was held under the auspices of Branch 243, C.M.B.A., in St. Philip's Hall, which was crowded with an audience that greatly enjoyed the musical and literary programme presented, and of which the chief literary features were addresses by Rev. S. Boudreau, Bro. W. P. Doyle and Hon. Senator Arsenault.

A musical and literary entertainment took place at Miscouche under the auspices of the League of the Cross (a

temperance society established throughout the Island, but especially strong at Miscouche, Tignish, Palmer Road, Alberton and Egmont Bay). The spacious hall was well filled, and all present were much pleased with the entertainment.

A concert took place at Lot 11, but of this I am unable to give any particulars at this writing.

On Thursday evening, 18th inst., an entertainment took place at Wellington, under the auspices of Branch 272 C.M.B.A., whose hall was crowded to its utmost capacity. A fine literary and musical programme was presented, with which all present were highly pleased. Rev. J. A. Macdonald, of Miscouche and Wellington, Spiritual Director of the Branch, gave a lecture on "Mary, Queen of Scots." It was an eloquent and scholarly narrative of the life and tragic death of this beautiful but unfortunate Queen, and of the events and personages of the troublous times in which she lived. Mr. S. M. Bent, Grand Deputy of the C.M.B.A. for Prince County, gave an address on the history, aims, objects and standing of the C.M.B.A., and Hon. Senator Arsenault made some remarks appropriate to the occasion.

BARNEY O'REGAN.

## OBITUARY.

EMILY W. FLAHERTY.

One of Portland's sweetest singers passed to her reward on Sunday night in the person of Miss Emily Flaherty, whose death occurred at her mother's residence on Gray street. The deceased was a most amiable and popular young lady endowed with a singularly sweet voice which has been heard in many churches and concert halls, not only in her native State but in many of the principal cities of New England. For over fifteen years Miss Flaherty has been in constant demand, singing at concerts and entertainments throughout the State. She has also won high commendation for her singing in Providence and various places throughout New Hampshire and Massachusetts. She possessed a well modulated mezzo soprano voice and had her strength equalled her vocal ability she might have become one of the well known singers of the country. But it was to Portland people and Portland audiences that she was specially endeared, and every reader of this announcement will learn of her early death with the keenest regret. Besides being an accomplished singer she acquired much proficiency as an organist and pianist and often played at the children's Mass at St. Dominic's Church.

Miss Flaherty possessed all the Christian and social qualities that render a young woman charming and agreeable. She was a most devoted daughter and sister and affectionate friend and companion whose pure life will be long remembered by her very wide circle of acquaintances. Her beloved mother and family have the genuine sympathy of the community in their bereavement.

The funeral service was held at St. Dominic's church on Thursday morning. The church was filled with sorrowing friends and acquaintances of the one they esteemed so highly in life. The Mass of Requiem was celebrated by Rev. E. F. Hurley, the pastor of the church, where the deceased had so long and faithfully labored. Rev. J. B. Seikenger of Brunswick, was deacon and Rev. E. A. Lee sub-deacon. There were present in the sanctuary Rev. Bishop Healy and Fathers McDonough, Deedle, O'D'Neil, McCarthy and Gorman.

The St. Dominic's choir, of which the deceased was a beloved member, sang the responses.

His Lordship Bishop Healy paid an eloquent tribute to the memory of Miss Flaherty.

The pall bearers were Messrs. Joseph A. McGowan, James Brue, Thomas Desmond and Walter Healy. The interment was in Calvary—Portland Eastern Argus.

## Effectiveness of Liquor Laws.

A liquor law is something which no self-respecting State should be without, but no State has yet succeeded in getting a liquor law that answered the purpose for which it was devised. At least a dozen methods of regulation or suppression of rum-selling have been highly recommended, but the State which adopts any one of them is certain afterward to wish that it had tried something different. Several years ago a lot of prominent and clever Americans appointed a sub-committee from their own number to look into liquor legislation and determine which form is best; the committee has recently admitted that "there is no best," and that influences and agencies other than the law must be depended upon to make over-indulgence in liquor less general. Of course law is worthless, except when it is supported by public sentiment, and public sentiment in the portions of the country which have clamoured loudest for liquor laws is certainly on the side of the drinking men. Only a general improvement of human nature, character and manners can lessen the extent of the drinking habit—a fact which society and religion have generally admitted and acted upon, and society and religion will have to do the work at which the law has proved utterly ineffective.—Collier's Weekly.

Dora (sweetly)—Fred didn't blow his brains out because you jilted him the other night; he came right over and proposed to me. Maud (super-sweetly)—Did he? Then he must have got rid of his brains some other way.—Tit-Bits.

All food tends to deteriorate rapidly after cooking; and, if allowed to remain long uncovered, absorb atmospheric germs which are disease producing.

Philip Sheridan, B.C.L.

ADVOCATE, BARRISTER &amp; SOLICITOR

MONTREAL, P.Q.

OFFICE: New York Life Building

Room 706. Bell Telephone 1233

## COLLEGE ST. LAURENT.

## DEDICATION OF THE NEW EXTENSION.

Very Rev. Canon Bourgeault, Vicar-General Officiated—An Able Sermon by Rev. G. A. Dion, C.S.C.

An Interesting Outline of Its History.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

ST. LAURENT, March 20.

On St. Joseph's Day, the 19th inst., the new extension of the College of St. Laurent was dedicated with most solemn ceremonies by the Very Rev. Vicar General of the Arch-Diocese of Montreal, Canon Bourgeault, a life-long friend of the Institution. Solemn High Mass was sung at 8.30 o'clock, the music being furnished by the student's choir, augmented by the College orchestra under the direction of Prof. Oswald. The sermon was by the Very Rev. George A. Dion, C.S.C., who took for his subject: "They have made me the Custodian of the House." Immediately after the High Mass the clergy and students marched in procession through the new extension which was solemnly blessed according to the Roman ritual, after which they entered the large recreation hall to listen to the addresses of welcome extended to the Very Rev. Celebrant, Canon Bourgeault, whose reply to the same was scholarly, well-timed, breathing of love and zeal in the service of God. His remarks were well received by the student body and made a most favorable impression. At their conclusion all repaired to the College refectory to partake of the good cheer which the day, being the principal feast of the Congregation, called forth.

The College of St. Laurent was founded in 1847, by the Rev. P. Verité, who at the urgent solicitation of the saintly Bishop Bourget, left the Mother House in Le Mans, France, in company with eight other Religious—one of whom, Brother Alderic C.S.C., Procurator of the College of Notre Dame, Cote des Neiges, still survives,—for the Canadian shores, which two centuries before French enterprise had colonized with those loyal and devoted God-fearing men and women who formed the nucleus of the mighty army, which in our day, still preserves intact the faith and valor of their forefathers.

The first College though of modest dimensions, answered for some time the needs of the little Community and their pupils, but in time it was replaced by a stone edifice 100 ft by 65 feet, to which has been added as occasion required. In 1882 the size of the buildings was doubled, but this proving inadequate to accommodate the ever increasing number of students, the present extension was planned and begun on the 15th of March, 1896, but owing to various reasons it was not completed until a few weeks ago. Its dimensions are 120 ft by 65 feet; it is four stories (each fourteen feet in the clear) in height and contains the senior classical and commercial study halls, recitation rooms for the classical students, and college theatre, recreation hall, music rooms, dormitories, the student reading rooms, libraries, etc. besides apartments for the Prefects of Study, Discipline and the Recreation. All the modern improvements have been added, speaking tubes, electric bells and a perfect system of ventilation, while the entire group of buildings is heated by the hot water system which is conceded to be the best. The building has also been wired and both the arc and the incandescent lights will be employed. Since its foundation the College has had eleven Presidents, four of whom were present at the dedication ceremonies. The senior of them all is the Rev. Joseph Réze, C.S.C., who was for many years, after resigning the Presidency, Provincial of the Congregation in Canada, and later on assistant to the Very Rev. Superior General Sorin, C.S.C., whose labors have given many educational institutions to the three countries, France, Canada and the United States. Who that has not heard of the University of Notre Dame, in Indiana, which owes its origin and marvellous growth, under God, to his fostering care?

From an humble beginning the College has expanded until to-day her Alumni number hundreds, many of whom occupy the highest positions of trust both at home and abroad. For years complete Classical Courses have existed in the Institution, one taught through the medium of the French language and the other the English; nor is this all, equal care is bestowed on the Scientific, Preparatory, Commercial and Business Courses which are taught in both English and French. Some of the most noted graduates are the Very Rev. Thomas E. Walsh, C.S.C. lately deceased, who was for twelve years President of the University of Notre Dame, and his predecessor, the Very Rev. Patrick A. Colovin, C.S.C., who for many years guided the destinies of that vast Institution, and scores of priests scattered throughout the Eastern States and elsewhere. The aim of the authorities has always been the greatest good to the greatest number, and that success has attended their efforts is evinced by many students who yearly matriculate, some of them coming from points beyond the McKenzie and Mississippi Rivers.

Among those who took part in the celebration were noticed the Very Rev. H. Cousineau, Superior of St. Thérèse Seminary, the Very Rev. Ducharme, C.S.V., Superior Provincial of the Congregation of St. Vincent, the Rev. Chastillon, Chaplain of the Convent of the Sisters of the Holy Cross, St. Laurent; Rev. P. Leblanc, Pastor, St. Martin; Rev. T. Heffernan, of St. Gabriel; Rev. Mr. Tranchemontagne, P.S.S., of the Grand Seminary, Chevreuil, pastor of St. Anne de Bellevue; Rev. M. L. Shea, of St. Mary's; Rev. Mr. Brady, Chaplain of Hospice of St. Marie; Rev. P. F. O'Donnell, Pastor of St. Mary's, Montreal; Rev. P. Decary, Prof. in the Grand Seminary, Montreal; Mr. Edward Gohier, Mayor of St. Laurent, and Dr. Finet, St. Laurent. In 1898 the community will celebrate the Golden Jubilee of the Institution, at which time the General Chapter which convenes every six years, will meet for the first time in this country. It is hoped at this time to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee of the ordination to the Priesthood, of the Rev. Joseph Réze, C.S.C.