

The Catholic Record published every Friday morning at 486 Richmond Street, Toronto. THOS. COFFEY, Publisher and Proprietor.

LETTER FROM HIS LORDSHIP BISHOP WALSH.

DEAR MR. COFFEY.—As you have become proprietor and publisher of the CATHOLIC RECORD, I deem it my duty to announce to its subscribers and patrons that the change of proprietorship will work no change in its one and principles; that it will remain, what it has been, thoroughly Catholic, entirely independent of political parties, and exclusively devoted to the cause of the Church and to the promotion of its interests.

Office of the Catholic Record, St. Mary's, Halifax, Nov. 7, 1881. I have had opportunities during the last two years or more of reading copies of the CATHOLIC RECORD, published in London, Ontario, and approved of by His Lordship the Right Rev. Dr. Walsh, the Bishop of the See. I beg to recommend that paper to all the faithful of this diocese.

Catholic Record.

LONDON, FRIDAY, JUNE 2, 1882.

DIocese of Kingston.

We subjoin extracts from the two Kingston dailies anent a difficulty which lately arose in that Diocese. They express juster views on a subject involving such important considerations than any we have yet seen expressed on the matter in secular journals. We felt happy some months ago to be enabled to congratulate the priests and people of the Diocese of Kingston on the cordiality with which they had responded to the call of their chief pastor to contribute to the removal of the large debt with which he found his diocese on his installation burdened.

We learn from the Trenton Advocate that Rev. Father Brettargh intends to withdraw from the Diocese of Kingston in consequence of a dispute with his Bishop. We regret that he has formed this resolution, because in Father Brettargh the public has always recognized a clergyman of high literary culture and great usefulness in the mission to which he has been attached.

understood that Father Brettargh would fulfil the conditions required by his Lordship in accordance with a written engagement made by him and read to the congregation by the Bishop on the day of his visitation in Trenton. We are wholly ignorant of the nature of these conditions, and we must confess that it is not our province to judge between a Catholic Bishop and his clergy, the discipline of their church being, it is well known, so different from that of all other denominations, and so stringent on the subject of clerical obedience to episcopal authority.

KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS. The Mail quotes in its column on the 'brotherhoods' from the Albany Argus, to show that Catholics are not forbidden by the church from being members of the Knights of Pythias. The latter journal, it appears, cites Archbishop Wood, of Philadelphia, in support of its strange contention. The Archbishop is reported as saying that "the mere observance of secrecy in relation to the executive business of any order whose aims are honorable and lawful, is not enough to denominate it a secret organization."

IN REFERENCE to the diocesan debt of Kingston, we feel very much pleasure in giving the following figures read by His Lordship in St. Mary's Cathedral on Sunday last, stating the entire receipts from the various parishes assessed to meet the full amount of the debt. Kingston parish, assessed for \$4,500, has paid \$3,826.75; of eleven parishes assessed for \$950, they have paid in full \$9,500; of fifteen parishes assessed for \$150, eleven have paid in full, \$1,396; of twelve parishes assessed for \$200, nine have paid in full, \$1,800; of two parishes assessed for \$250, nine have paid in full, \$2,250; two parishes assessed for \$100, paid in full, \$100; five parishes have paid in part \$890.45; three parishes have paid nothing yet, total cash receipts \$18,376.25.

THE TRUE VIEW.

Will the solution of the land difficulty restore content to Ireland? This is a very grave and serious question that demands the consideration of the friends of Irish freedom. The solution of the land problem will, if carried out fully, have the effect of placing the Irish people in a position to acquire more readily than they could otherwise, that peace and contentment essential to national progress and happiness. But that of itself it can accomplish this great result cannot be maintained. The people of Ireland demand and require home government and a system of national industry as the necessary requisites of contentment. Until the Irish enjoy the benefits of legislative autonomy, the local wants of the country cannot be met with the speed and fullness that such wants demand.

once on the results of agricultural labor, with its vicissitudes and uncertainties, might easily be formed, and gradually developed till Ireland should be, not as now, under-peopled, but filled with a thriving, happy and prosperous population.

CHINESE IN CANADA. The Canadian Province of British Columbia is threatened with an overwhelming influx of Chinese. The white population of that country is already quite small, as compared with the aborigines, but must assume proportions utterly insignificant if Chinamen to the number of 32,000 in one year are there to find homes. It is idle to pretend that these people come there simply to work for a brief period, and then return to their mother country. Such is not the experience in California. Such will not be the experience in British Columbia. If Chinamen hold tenaciously to the homes they have found in California where they have been bitterly opposed and persecuted, they will most assuredly remain on British territory, where they have not yet had any such unpleasant experience. The position which threatens the white population of British Columbia, in the very near future, is one that should receive the immediate attention of their fellow-citizens throughout the Dominion.

MISMANAGEMENT.

We see it stated that an excursion of Canadian emigrants to the North West, which left some point in Eastern Ontario on the 7th May, arrived at Winnipeg on the morning of the 26th of May. The roads held responsible for this disgraceful delay are the Grand Trunk, the Chicago and North Western and Canadian Pacific. We are not well enough acquainted with the details of the case to make specific allegations against any of these railway corporations. But that some one is to blame for a large and respectable body of Canadians in a strange country, no one can doubt. Were this the only case of annoyance and injustice of which passengers to the North West from Canada have had this year especially to complain, we might hold our peace. But the officials on some, if not all these roads, have of late shown so very decided an indifference to the welfare of Canadians proceeding westward, that patience has ceased to be a virtue, and our government should see to it, that railway companies, no matter how powerful should not be permitted to victimize our people. St. Paul seems to be the point at which connection between the roads most usually failed. Some Canadians

were, we know, detained there for two and three weeks on account of storm and flood, rendering the St. Paul road to Winnipeg unfit or uncertain for travel. Storm and flood are not indeed under government control, but government might prohibit the advertising and running of excursion trains from old Canada to Winnipeg during the few weeks that there is danger to travel from such visitations. The matter is, at all events, one requiring earnest attention and decided action.

CAPITAL PUNISHMENT.

Some years ago it was in this country very properly enacted, that execution for capital crimes should be held in private. The scandalous and indecent exhibitions of barbarity which attended many of these sad occurrences were certainly disgraceful to Christian peoples and led to the growth of a feeling against capital punishment itself. The growth of this feeling was for some years very marked in many states of the American Union. Certain commonwealths even abolished this mode of punishment entirely, with results far from reassuring to the moral improvement of the people. The substitution of imprisonment for capital punishment could never, we believe, find favor with people who had not been horrified by the inhumanity which so often surrounded the execution of unfortunate criminals. Death alone can, in our estimation, fully atone for crimes that menace the very life of society. But the mode of administering a penalty so very sad and severe, should be in strict accordance with the dictates of Christian feeling and principle. We should be, therefore, glad to see our American neighbors in every state where capital punishment is enforced, adopt some such mode of privacy in its administration as prevails in Canada. Almost every day we are compelled to read of executions taking place in the presence of thousands of persons assembled as if to mock the writhing and agony of an unfortunate fellow-creature. Sights such as this must disgust the humane and really law-loving people of every civilized community. The execution of criminals under such circumstances cannot produce that deterrent effect which the law evidently intends it should. Nor can it tend to the education of the people into a respect for the dignity and power of the state under which such occurrences are tolerated. In this connection we may also mention that many of the lynchings and other extra-legal punishments inflicted by outraged society on certain delinquents might easily be avoided were the machinery of the law in regard to punishment for crime simplified and its action accelerated. We may, we believe, look for an early and grave consideration of the whole topic of capital punishment, with a decided intention, on the part of law makers, to insist upon the continuance of this mode of punishment, but under forms less objectionable from a Christian standpoint than now observed in certain places.

BRANTFORD LETTER.

OUR ANNUAL PICNIC this season will be held on the 15th of June. For a number of years we had the Agricultural Park on the first of July, but lately we have been unable to get it for that date and consequently were obliged to find a day later in the season. This year it was decided to try the effect of being first in the field, and the congregation have entered with such spirit on the work of making preparations as to promise a most successful result.

THE GROWTH OF CANADA.

The figures given to the public in connection with the census taken more than a year ago in the Dominion of Canada, exhibited an increase of population specially gratifying for many reasons, but particularly on account of the exodus from which many portions of the country suffered for fully seven or eight years. With the depression of trade and consequent stringency in the money market, many of our people were suddenly thrown into a position of unequivocal hardship. For vast numbers of our youth of both sexes there was no recourse but emigration. The workingman could find no employment, even at a remuneration incapable of keeping soul and body together. The agriculturist, who had, perhaps with the view of improving his holding, incurred debt could not find that ready sale for his produce without which deliverance from the burdens of debt became impossible. He was compelled either to abandon or sell at an enormous sacrifice the farm he had so long labored to reclaim. From our agricultural districts the emigration to the United States was undeniably, during the whole of the last decade, very great. Yet Canada has very perceptibly increased in population and wealth. May we not hope for a further increase with the continuance of prosperity and the opening of the North West to our surplus population?

HAMILTON LETTER.

Pentecost—Church Improvements—Boy's Societies—A Venerable Bell—Personal—Brethres.

Last Sunday being the Feast of Pentecost, the ceremonies in the different churches were of more than the usual significance. In St. Mary's Cathedral, Solemn High Mass was celebrated, His Lordship the Bishop pontificating. Rev. Fr. Cleary was celebrant, and Rev. Fathers O'Leary and McKenna, deacon and sub-deacon respectively. At the end of the mass his lordship pronounced the Papal Benediction. In St. Patrick's Church Rev. Chancellor Keough was celebrant, assisted by Rev. Fr. Craven. Solemn Vespers were held in both churches at 7 o'clock in the evening.

THE BOY'S SOCIETIES.

In both parishes there are societies for boys in a flourishing condition. These societies are of incalculable benefit to the boys, practising them in the formula of good religious habits at the time of life when such habits can be best cultivated. Early impressions are most lasting, therefore it is highly important that these impressions should be of the best quality. When parents come to consider from their own experience how great is the evil influence by which we are daily surrounded, and how difficult it is, even with great assistance, to pursue the right path, they ought to encourage their boys to join these societies, to remain in them constantly, and to faithfully practise the required duties. It is edifying to see those little fellows in a body, attentively following the prayers at mass, collectively moving to the railing to receive Holy Communion, returning to their thanksgiving. Stick to it, boys, and you will not be many years older when you will rejoice at your present conduct.

THE CATHEDRAL.

Work has been begun on additions and improvements to the Cathedral. Further accommodation will be given by excluding the vestry eastward.

ST. MARY'S BELL.

The tones of the old bell are not so mellow and sonorous as of yore. Evidently this faithful servant has seen its best days of usefulness and is passing to that stage of decay which nature has decreed to all earthly objects, bells included. For twenty years and more has its familiar tones sounded in our ears. Many of us whom its deep vibrations awed or pleased in childhood's days are now men and women; many who in the prime of life gloried in its trilling sounds, are now like the bell itself in the feebleness of age, and many like its generous donor, the late lamented Vicar Gordon, are sleeping in the silent grave.

Three times a day for twenty years it has reminded us of the joyful mystery of the incarnation; it has daily summoned us to assist at the august sacrifice of the Mass or the beautiful offices of Vespers and Benediction, and frequently its measured tones have made the dread announcement that for some among us "time shall be no more." In a word, it has faithfully done its duty in appealing to our religious sentiments. Can we say that we have as duly responded?

MISCELLANEOUS.

Mr. James Sadlier, of the firm of D. & J. Sadlier, Montreal, is at present in the city, stopping at the Royal Hotel.

We had not the provincial Queen's weather on the 24th. The sun had melted the greater part of the snow, and the cool east wind made overcoats almost a necessity.

The terrible accident on the Thames a year ago is still fresh in the memory of the Hamiltonians and formed the subject of much conversation on the holiday.

PRIME CONCERT IN STRATHROY.

A large and appreciative audience assembled in Albert Hall, Strathroy, Tuesday evening of last week, to greet the great violinist Mr. F. J. Prume, who, together with his young bride came on the invitation of Rev. Father Feron to give a musical treat to the people of that town. Much was expected of them; but it must be said they far surpassed the expectations of the audience. Madam Prume showed to what a degree the human voice can be cultivated. Her vocalization was perfect, her voice clear and silvery, though not of considerable volume. Her manner was pleasing and her final trill in the "Carnival de Venise" completely enraptured the audience.

As to Mr. Prume, it is sufficient to say that he was a concert in himself. The enthusiastic applause and frequent recalls of the audience was a proof that his music, although very classic, was highly appreciated by those present. His rendering of the "Devil's trill" will long be remembered. At any future time should Mr. Prume visit Strathroy again, he is sure to meet with an over-crowded and completely enraptured audience.

Miss Feron, whose ability as a pianist is now well known in Strathroy, gave still further proof on Tuesday evening of her talent. Mr. Prume warmly congratulated her on the manner with which she accompanied him, as very few combine the features of a good pianist and good accompanist.

Mr. McCabe, Principal of the Ottawa Normal School, delighted the intellectual portion of the audience by his masterly and scholarly rendering of Macaulay's "Horatius," and some of Mark Twain's sketches. The concert was pronounced to be the finest ever given in Strathroy and the citizens expressed their warmest thanks to Rev. Father Feron, by whose influence, and on whose invitation, the Prume concert was given.

of Stratford, were in the city over Sunday. Mrs. Patrick McCabe of Paris is visiting at her parental home. Mr. W. D. Cartillon is the new trustee in the Queen's Ward. He takes Rev. Father Doherty's seat at the Board. NAYL.

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