

parasols with which the women cover their heads; the largest serve as baskets to gather the fruit, and sometimes as frying pans and pots, for cooking what they have gathered; but it is necessary to move these vessels all the time they are on the fire, lest the flame should catch to them, which would destroy them in a short time.

The Californians have much vivacity, and are naturally given to raillery; we discovered this in commencing to instruct them: for as soon as we made any fault in their language, they would make fun of it, and ridicule us. Since they have had more communion with us, they content themselves with politely pointing out the faults we make; and as to the substance of our doctrine, when it happens that we explain to them some moral point, contrary to their prejudices and ancient errors, they wait upon the preacher after the sermon, and argue with him forcibly and with acuteness. If you bring forward good reasons, they hear with docility, and if you can convince them, they will give up the point and do what is prescribed.

We found among them no form of government and almost no religion and soured form of worship. They adored the moon; they cut their hair in honor of their divinity; whether in the wane or not, I am not informed; they gave their hair to the priests, who made use of it in different sorts of superstitions. Each family made laws to suit itself, and this is probably the reason why they are so often at variance.

The rest of the letter is chiefly statistical information regarding the missions. It would not be much of interest.—*Catholic Observer.*

## The Cross;

HALIFAX, SATURDAY, MAY 26.

### YOUNG LADIES ACADEMY UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE LADIES OF THE SACRED HEART.

We felt much pleasure in announcing last week to our readers the arrival of the excellent Sisters of Charity. This week we have new cause of congratulation—not only for Halifax and Nova Scotia, but for the surrounding Provinces—not only for Catholic Parents, but for those of every denomination who are anxious to bestow upon their children the most invaluable of all blessings, that of a solid, virtuous and accomplished education. Several Ladies of the far-famed Institution of the Sacred Heart, arrived in this city on Saturday last from their truly splendid establishment at Manhattanville near New York. They are prepared to instruct young Ladies in every branch of a polite and accomplished education. Never, we believe, since the foundation of Halifax, was so desirable an opportunity presented to all parties of obtaining that which is beyond all price for those who are to improve, to refine, to exalt a community, and we sincerely hope that all may avail themselves of it. Now, that the members of this admirable Institution are amongst us, delicacy prevents us from saying all that we could wish, but we hope it is unnecessary to do so. Their success in Europe for the last fifty years has been truly astonishing, and within the last few years they have made such progress on the Great American Continent, that from Maine to Mexico, and from Canada to Spanish America, parents without any distinction of country, politics or creed, have confided their children to the care of the Ladies of the Sacred Heart.

### THE STEAMER.

The News from Europe is important. Russia has interfered in Hungary in favor of Austria with an army of 150,000 men. Germany is still dreadfully convulsed. Darkness, clouds and storms, hover over France. The French army of occupation have suffered a check under the walls of Rome, but are now, no doubt, in possession of the Eternal City. We are sorry for it, and fear it will be a troublesome matter as it was before, to get the French out of the Ecclesiastical States. The Writ of Error has been argued in the House of Lords in the case of Smith O'Brien and McManus, with a very unfavorable result. The usual tales of suffering and sorrow are borne from the Irish coast.

### ECCLESIASTICAL CONFERENCES.

The Second Conference for the Season, of the Clergy in the District of Halifax, will be held at St Mary's on Tuesday 12th of June, at Eleven o'clock in the morning.

### CATECHISTICAL SOCIETY.

We publish to-day the Secretary's report of the last meeting. We were very happy to hear from those who were present, that it was most numerously attended, and that this valuable Society received a high eulogium from the Rt Rev Chairman. Too much could not be said in its praise. The procession &c, of the children last year, was so very creditable to the whole Catholic community that we hope it will be repeated this summer. We are proud of Halifax whenever we enter our Churches on the Lord's Day and behold so many members of the Catechistical Society of both sexes engaged in the delightful, the noble task of instructing the youthful mind in the knowledge of God. He, will be the exceeding great reward of those 'who instruct others unto justice.'

### HOLY WEEK AT ROME AND GAETA. (Continued.)

On Good Friday evening the Pope went in procession to the Church of the Holy Trinity, at Monte Spaccato, this being the anniversary of the day on which, according to a pious tradition, the mountain was rent asunder. His Holiness descended into the Chapel which is built in the cleft of the mountain, where Cardinal Patrizi gave the Benediction. He afterwards returned to his palace in the same order, psalms being chanted the entire way. In this pious pilgrimage he was accompanied by their Majesties and all the royal family. Before he arrived at the sanctuary on the mountain he met a little Chapel under the open air with 3 Crosses to represent Calvary. It had been erected by the soldiers of the 1st Regt. of the Grenadier Guards. The crowd of people who followed the procession, the religious silence of the city interrupted only by the booming of the Cannon every quarter of an hour, from some of the vessels in the harbour—all was calculated to excite in the soul the deepest emotions.

On Holy Saturday when the *Gloria in Excelsis* was intoned in the Cathedral by the Archbishop, all the forts of Gaeta and the Ships of War discharged several salvos of artillery in honour of the resurrection of Our Lord. On Easter Day the Holy Father, accompanied by Cardinals Riario-Sforza and Antonelli proceeded to the Cathedral where he celebrated Mass and assisted at another. In the stalls of the choir the Cardinals assisted at one side and at the other the King and Queen with all the Royal Family, the Grand Duke and Duchess of Tuscany with their family. The Suite of these Sovereigns, the Foreign Ministers, and the Officers of all ranks also assisted in full costume. After Mass his Holiness ascended the balcony of the Archbishop's Palace which had been sumptuously decorated, and there in full pontificals with the tiara on his head gave the solemn Papal Benediction *urbi et orbi*. The moment he raised his hands to do so, all the ships in harbour were manned and had their colours hoisted, whilst several rounds of artillery were heard from the ships and the fortress. At the same moment all the church bells rang out a joyous peal. May that blessing extend to the whole earth and bring peace and comfort and holy joy to all the faithful children of this kind and holy Father!

### TO CORRESPONDENTS.

We cannot comply with the request of a *Catholic*. We have said all that we wished to say, for the present, on the opposition offered to the Bill of Incorporation. The subject, like others of a similar nature, was not voluntarily taken up by us. It was forced upon us. As Catholic Journalists we could not pass over these at eke in silence.

*Civis*. We have nothing to do with municipal squabbles. Try the political Papers.

*Curiosus*. We frankly say that we do not approve of the term 'Sabbath' as applied to Sunday. The Lord's Day is a more appropriate name. There cannot be two Sabbaths in one week, and all the world knows that Saturday is the real Sabbath. In the Liturgy of the Catholic Church, Saturday is always termed *Sabbatum* or *Dies Sabbati*, and Sunday *Dies Dominica*. The Sabbatine precept in the Decalogue refers to Saturday without doubt. We do not read of its abrogation in any part of Scripture, neither is there any text to prove that the First Day of the week should be kept as the Sabbath in place of Saturday. Protestants cannot explain their inconsistency in this respect. The moment they fly to Church Authority, they admit the Catholic Rule of Faith, and sling Scripture and private judgment overboard.

We can assure *Sincerity* that we know how to estimate hypocritical apologies as well as he does. If we did not notice the one referred to, it was from profound contempt for the whole transaction. Perhaps public opinion has already crushed those licentious and unmanly puppies.—They will figure, no doubt one day amongst the Great Statesmen of Nova Scotia!

### THE TRAPPISTS.

The Abbot of Mount Melloray, with some of the Trappist Monks, arrived in this city in the *Caledonia*, on Thursday last. We copy from a *Liverpool Journal* the following notice of their object in visiting the New World:

"The Abbot of Mount Melloray, with a priest and three brothers, have arrived in Liverpool. This day they sail, in the *Caledonia*, for Boston. They are accompanied by Brother Macarius. We understand that they are about founding one or two monasteries, of the Cistercian order, in North America. The Abbot, after having made all necessary arrangements, will return to Ireland in the course of the summer. Forty or fifty brothers, including four or five priests, will be prepared to leave Ireland in August for the place of their destination in the new world. We know for certain that some of the Bishops have given very great encouragement to these Trappist monks. We may mention in particular, Dr Pihlar, Bishop of Kingston, Canada West, and Dr Loras, Bishop of Dubuque, State of Iowa. The last named prelate has made them a splendid offer."

### ST. MARY'S CATECHISTICAL SOCIETY

An adjourned meeting of this Society, took place on Sunday evening last, immediately after Vespers, in the Vestry of St. Mary's, the Right Rev. Dr. Walsh in the chair, assisted by the Rev Mr. Hannan.

The routine business being disposed of—returns were made by the Superintendants of the classes at St. Mary's and St. Patrick's of the number of children in attendance during the past quarter: from these it appeared the numbers were—at St. Mary's, Males 225; Females 250; at St. Patrick's, Males 110; Females 140.

The Committee to whom were entrusted the Funds appropriated at the previous quarterly meeting, for the purpose of clothing such children who stood in need thereof;—reported as follows:—That 138 boys and girls the numbers being respectively at St. Mary's, 78—and at St. Patrick's, 60—had received warm and substantial clothing suited to the winter season, thereby enabling them to attend the classes with punctuality. The report on being read gave much satisfaction.

It was announced that at the Annual Meeting, the propriety of giving a Festive Entertainment to the Children during the approaching Season would be taken up for consideration.

The following persons were proposed and admitted Members—Miss Margaret Kelly, and Mr. Michael Conway.

There being no further business before the Chair, the meeting adjourned, the concluding Prayers having been recited by the Bishop.

Quarterly receipts £8 12s. 6d.

P. J. COMPTON, Secretary.

Halifax, May 25th.

### THE FIRST NATIONAL COUNCIL OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES.

The sixth Provincial Council, was convened on the 10th of May, 1849, in the Metropolitan church of Baltimore, by the most illustrious and most rev. Archbishop of Baltimore, Samuel Eccleston. At this sixth council were present the same Prelates as assisted at the fifth council, excepting the Right Rev Bishop of Boston, Benedict I. Fenwick, who died 1846, to whom were added 8 new Bishops, making in all, 1 Archbishop and 22 Bishops.

The First National Council of the Catholic Church in the United States, was convened yesterday, (Sunday,) the 6th of May, in the Metropolitan Church of Baltimore.

Preliminary meetings of the prelates have been held in the Archiepiscopal mansion during the past week, at which the officers of the council were chosen by the most illustrious and most reverend Archbishop of Baltimore, as follows:

Rt. Rev. Michael Porter, Rt. Rev. John J. Chaboche, Promoters.

Rev. Edward Damphoov, D.D., Rev. Francis L'homme, Secretaries.

Rev Lewis Gillet, Rev Wm D. Parsons Chinters.

On Sunday, about 11 o'clock, the prelates, in grand process on, each wearing full pontificals, left the Archiepiscopal mansion and passed directly into the Metropolitan Church, by the entrance in the rear of the altar. The procession was, as is usual, headed by the magnificent gilt crucifix, then followed the Acolytes, bearing lighted candles, the master of ceremonies and his assistant, the chanters, the theologians, (one to each bishop either brought by him from his diocese, or selected by him from among the priests resident elsewhere,) then followed the right reverend Bishops, then the most reverend Archbishop of St. Louis, Peter Richard Kenrick, and lastly, the most reverend Archbishop of Baltimore, Samuel Eccleston. The reverend bishops take precedence according to priority of consecration.

The prelates present were, 2 archbishops and 24 bishops.

The Oregon territory is divided into 8 dioceses, forming an Ecclesiastical Province—of which Oregon city is the Metropolitan See—three of their dioceses, viz. Vancouver's Island, Princess Charlotte, and New Caledonia, are not within the territory of the United States.

After all the Prelates had taken their places, the Council was opened in a solemn manner by the Archbishop of Baltimore, who addressed these words to the Bishops—"Reverendissimi Patres, venerabiles Fratres, placetne vobis ad Dei Gloriam et honorem, et ad Catholicæ Ecclesiæ amplificationem, concilium Baltimorensis legitime convocatum, et hic congregatum hodiernis die, aperiri et inchoari?" ("Most Reverend Fathers and Venerable Brothers, is it pleasing to you for the glory and honour of God and for the amplification of the Catholic church, that the Council of Baltimore lawfully convened, and here assembled this day, shall be opened?")

To this question each one replied:—"Placet aperiatur." ("It pleases me; let it be opened.") Then the most illustrious Archbishop of Baltimore, in his own name and in that of his co-bishops, looking towards the people, said—"Christi nomine invocato, decernimus sanctam Synodum Nationale Baltimorensis esse aperiet utraque iudicamus." ("In the name of Christ, we direct that this Holy National Synod shall be opened, and thus we order.")

The most reverend Archbishop then ordered the names of the officers of the council to be read aloud by the Secretary, after which he addressed the bishops—"Placet ne vobis, venerabiles Fratres, hoc in Concilio officiales eligendos?" ("Is it pleasing to you, venerable brothers, that these persons shall be chosen officers of the council?") to which each bishop answered—"Placet," or "it pleases me." The secretary then read aloud the resolution declaring the election of the officers, which being done, the Right Rev Promoter thus addressed the most reverend Archbishop—"Illustrissime ac reverendissime Domine, peto ut legantur decreta Concilii Tridentini de Professione fidei, et de Residentia." (Most illustrious and most reverend Lord, I ask that the decrees of the Council of Trent, touching the profession of faith and residence, may be read.) To this each bishop replied—"Placet legantur." ("It pleases me; let it be read.") The Archdeacon then read aloud the decrees of the Council of Trent, treating of the profession of faith and residence of Bishops, to which each of the Rt. Rev. Prelates gives his consent.

Grand High Mass was then executed with a solemnity of manner which held chained the vast assemblage, in the most unfeigned devotion. The "Te Deum," the "Gloria in excelsis," &c. were sung with an excellence rarely, if ever equaled in this country.

At the conclusion of the Mass, the most reverend Archbishop of St. Louis, Peter Kenrick, entered the pulpit, and taking his text from the 18th Psalm, delivered a forcible and lucid discourse on the relation existing between Christ and his spouse, the church, examining with the clearness of a master in speculative theology, the abiding influence and necessary connection of the attributes of the one, with the functions and doctrines of the other. The style of the sermon of the most reverend Archbishop was simple and lucid, and therefore, necessarily forcible and compact.

When the reverend gentleman had concluded his discourse, the episcopal body proceeded to