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retired to his castle, and doubtless confirmed himself in his new faith. His conversion had a great effect on the common people. In 1560 the hostility between Coligni and Francis of Guise, which had long taken the place of their old friendship, broke violently forth.

The lance of Montgomery killed Henry II., and Francis II. ascended the throne of France. Catherine di Medici, the queen-mother, then entered upon her career of treachery and fraud. The Reformed religion was everywhere persecuted. Men and women were murdered, houses were sacked, children were turned into the streets to perish by starvation and cold. The nobles were menaced. The Reformers held a meeting and proposed war. All were enthusiastic and eager for revolt, or martyrdom, and at one time it appeared as if their cause must triumph. But an unsuccessful attempt to seize the King, of which Coligni knew nothing, provoked a fearful vengeance. Hundreds were slain in cold blood. To save time they were tied back to back and flung into the Loire. Gentlemen were hung as a pleasant sight for the King after he had dined. Instead of striking terror into the hearts of the disaffected, this course awakened their deadly resentment. When the Government gave orders to hang the preachers of the Reformers, the attempts to carry out these directions were followed by murderous reprisals. An extraordinary proposal now emanated from Guise and his brother. This was what was called the "rat-trap of Huguenots." A form of belief was to be drawn up such as no reformer could accept, and on Christmas Day it was to be presented to every one for signature. Any one not signing was to be executed. Francis II., however, died, and the rat-trap was never set.

Charles IX. ascended the throne, and Coligni entered upon the most unhappy part of his life. He who desired nothing so much as peace, was to pass the rest of his days at war. His heart was to be crushed by the premature death of his wife. His hopes were to be destroyed by the untimely deaths of two of his children. His brothers were to perish—one by poison. His castle was to be sacked.

Soon Vassy, a little town with a population of 3,000, of whom one third were Protestants, was the scene of a diabolical massacre. The people were holding divine worship on a Sunday morning when Francis of Guise and his retinue passed that way. By his directions his followers fired among the unarmed and helpless folk. Sixty-four men, women and children were slain; two hundred were wounded. This last outrage nerved the Protestants to take arms, and Coligni and the Prince of Conde were selected as their leaders. It was time. At Cahors, Pons, Amiens, Noyes, Abbeville, Chalons, Tours, Marseilles, and Auxerre, the Romanists were butchering the reformers. Orleans was taken by Conde and other towns were captured; but at every place where the Catholics had power they were hard at work massacring the Huguenots. Decrees were passed ordering all Romanists at a preconcerted signal to rise and slay every Huguenot. Fifty thousand, it is said, were slain in this precursor of St. Bartholomew. In 1562 the battle of Dreux took place. Conde was taken prisoner by Guise, and Coligni forced to retreat. In 1563 Guise was assassinated by a Huguenot fanatic. Coligni's enemies endeavoured, but unsuccessfully, to fix the crime upon him. Guise's death led to a temporary pacification, and a sort of peace was maintained for some years. Mercenaries were, however, introduced into the kingdom to suppress the Protestants, who again took arms and succeeded in bringing the Queen Mother to terms. At this time the Admiral was in great grief at the death of his eldest son. The death of his beloved wife soon followed to increase his anguish, so that he was in no condition to protest against the hollow peace which was concluded. It was only a truce. Ware recommenced, the battle of Jarnac was fought, the Protestants were defeated and Conde killed. His death was almost a fatal blow to the cause. The Huguenots, however, rallied, and chose Henry of Navarre for their leader; and Coligni entered upon his last campaign. Poitiers was besieged, but the siege had to be raised. The battle of Moncontour followed, at which the Huguenots were routed with terrible slaughter, and a price was set upon the Admiral's head. But he was not cast down, although this was, perhaps, the darkest hour of his life. With incredible audacity he conceived his greatest military exploit. While the enemy thought him annihilated, he raised fresh forces and made a dash for Paris, intending to seize it and to dictate a peace with guarantees. Fighting his way through the country, leaving in his train his dead and wounded, he drew near the city. The Queen of Deceit and the Court were stricken with panic. The battle of Arnay le Duc was fought and won by the Huguenots with an army which numbered about half the strength of the enemy. St. Germain was reached, and the Queen sued for peace. This time guarantees were secured, the Huguenot cause appeared to have triumphed, and Coligni returned to Court and toiled to restore peace and security in the country. He discovered that the perjured Queen was acting treacherously,

and revealed her double dealing to the King. She then resolved to destroy him and his party, and on the 22nd of August, 1573, he was shot in the street by a bravo of Henry of Guise; the bullets, however, only wounded him. The King, who had not then perhaps decided upon the culminating atrocity of St. Bartholomew, visited him, and swore *par la mort Dieu* to have vengeance on the perpetrators of the deed. This was Friday. On the morning of Sunday, the 25th, the massacre of the Huguenots had been resolved upon, and Charles IX. was called upon to give the signal. He hesitated. Perhaps some feelings of remorse at that late hour stirred his breast, and even then he might have held his hand. But the Queen mother was there, and knew how to fan his irresolution into a fierce blaze. She taunted him, she jeered at him; but still he held his hand, till at last the word "coward" stung him to fury. Begin! he cried savagely, and the signal was given. A pistol shot was heard. But the passion of Charles had exhausted itself. He pleaded for delay; but his mother told him it was too late. The bell of St. Germain l'Auxerrois was heard through the warm August air, and bands of armed men, whose mission was murder, filled the streets, crying "For God and the King." Their leader was the Duke of Guise, who, followed by 300 men, made for the Admiral's house, and called for admission in the King's name. The outer door was opened, the door-keeper was slain, and an inner door forced. By this time the servants had been roused and had hastily blockaded the passages. Coligni awoke, and with a minister praying with him, was interrupted by a panic-stricken valet, who told him the house was attacked and that there were no means of resistance. "I have long been prepared to die," said the Admiral. "Save your lives if you can; you cannot save mine. I commend my soul to the mercy of God." The assassins rushed into the room with the blood-fury in their eyes. Are you the Admiral? cried one, Behme, a minion of the Duke of Guise. Coligni, whose wounds had left him to weak to stand unsupported, was leaning against the wall. "I am," he answered, and gazing at his murderer, continued, "Young man, you ought to consider my age and my infirmity. But you will not make my life shorter." Behme immediately thrust his sword into the Admiral's breast, smote him on the head, and the soldiers plunged their daggers into the body. "Is it done?" shrieked Guise, from below. "It is done, my lord," replied the servant. The body was flung into the yard, where Guise kicked it brutally. For three days the Parisians dragged the headless trunk of the Admiral through their streets, and then hanged it by the feet on a gibbet. It was afterwards buried at Chatillon. So perished this hero, and with him, practically, the cause for which he gave everything.

A few days ago a fine monument to the memory of Coligni was unveiled in Paris. It stands opposite the Louvre in a niche at the back of the Oratory. The figure is huge in size, and represents him returning to Paris, although he knew that he was likely to be slain. The pedestal is flanked by two veiled figures—Country and Religion. Religion bears a palm bound with a scroll, on which is inscribed the date of the massacre of St. Bartholomew. Beneath is an open Bible. Thus, tardily the City which slew him has honoured his memory.

It is not just to measure the acts of the sixteenth century by the ideas of the nineteenth, but even in that age of treachery men's dulled consciences protested against such atrocious deeds of infamy as the massacre of St. Bartholomew.—H. E. S. in *Church Bells*.

Home & Foreign Church News.

From our own Correspondents.

DOMINION.

MONTREAL.

MONTREAL.—The Women's Auxiliary to the Board of Domestic and Foreign Missions of the Church of England in Canada, will hold their Triennial meeting in Montreal at the same time as the Provincial Synod. There will be service in the cathedral in the morning. On Wednesday, September the 11th, with Holy Communion. Members and delegates to the Women's Auxiliary are expected to be present. The business meeting of the Auxiliary will take place on Wednesday afternoon at the Diocesan College Hall, 896 Dorchester Street, beginning at 2.30 p.m. There will be two business sessions on Thursday, the following day, morning and afternoon. Representatives and delegates will be present from all parts of the Dominion, and several good speakers will give addresses. There

will be a meeting of the Central Board on the evening of Tuesday, the 10th, in the College Hall, at 8 p.m. L. Leach, Recording Secretary of W. A.

ONTARIO.

A Reformed Episcopal Convert.—The pastor of the Emmanuel R. E. body at Belleville, Mr. A. H. Whalley, has announced his intention of seeking ordination in the Church of England. He states that no trouble has existed between himself and flock, nor with the authorities of the body he served.

FRONTIER PARISHES.—Perhaps a short account of a recent trip from Ottawa to "the front" may not be uninteresting to your many readers. Between Ottawa and Prescott the chief town is Kemptville, where we spent a couple of days. Few parishes possess a finer church edifice than the Patton memorial church at Kemptville, and few rectors excel the Rev. Mr. Emery in energy and fidelity. The services are well attended, and to judge from the notices given from the chancel on the Sunday we were present, few evenings are at the rector's disposal, all apparently being given up to some parochial organization. There is here an admirable Sunday school, thoroughly well managed, a large roll of scholars, and an evident determination on the part of rector and teachers to make Sunday school work a reality. This costly church has, by a wise administration of its finances, had its debt very materially reduced, and now the congregation look forward to having it entirely free at no very distant date. The churchwardens are, Thomas Blackburn and Robert Leslie, the latter a very venerable gentleman who, for many years, superintended the Sunday school, but recently retired with honors. At Prescott, we saw evidences of strong Church life, and though our stay here was of but a few hours, we had the pleasure of meeting the rector, Rev. Mr. Lewin, and his curate, Mr. Woodcock. After a further visit we hope to be able to give your readers a description of this parish and its church. Cardinal we did not visit, and Iroquois but briefly, at latter place calling upon Canon White at his handsome and commodious rectory, than which there is not a better in the whole diocese. Indeed, the church, rectory and grounds in the parish of Iroquois are a pretty sight and reflect the greatest credit on the authorities. Solidly built, of cut stone, with ample grounds well fenced and kept they are a pattern which many a parish might well endeavour to copy. The interior of the church is decorated with much taste. The Mills memorial reredos shows with good effect, its most prominent feature being the large illuminated Cross in centre frame. At Morrisburg we found the rector absent, and the Sunday duty being taken by clergy from adjoining parishes. A fine school-room has recently been built in lot adjoining the church. Aultsville, the next adjoining village, is the headquarters of a new parish under an old name (Williamsburg). It embraces Gollingertown and Williamsburg as outstations, though the latter place was formerly the residence of the rector, it being one of the oldest endowed rectories in the diocese. The present rector is the Rev. M. G. Poole. The parish in its present shape is barely three years organized, and Mr. Poole is first rector. He has built a very fine church at Aultsville, not yet finished however, the basement only being used for service. The debt on the building is small, and no effort is being spared by the congregation to have it cleared off, so they can proceed to complete the church. The only thing lacking to make this parish complete, is a rectory. Doubtless this will come in good time as the people are alive to the necessity of doing all in their power to promote Church work. The rector appears to be an excellent visitor, which is an important factor in successful parish work. We have travelled considerably in the country parts of this diocese, and are free to admit that in most parts we found the Church giving every evidence of a healthy and prosperous condition which augurs well for the future. Should these hurriedly prepared notes prove of interest to your readers we may send you from time to time further comments on parishes we may have the opportunity of visiting.

TORONTO.

East Toronto Mission.—At the evening service, 25th August, the Rev. C. Ruttan announced that it was probable the Rev. Dr. Gammack would, in a few days, be appointed to take charge of this mission. Dr. G. conducted both services yesterday, and was very favorably received, but great irritation was felt at the appointment being made without consultation with the wardens or delegates. Unless this mission is made absolutely independent of Norway in every way, there is no hope of it being successful.