

The Charlottetown Herald.

NEW SERIES

CHARLOTTETOWN, PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND, WEDNESDAY, DEC. 6, 1911

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just opening and requesting that you look over their stock of ladies' and men's Coats, Sweater Coats, Furs, ladies' and men's Suits, Blankets and Blanket Cloths, children's Sample Coats at reduced prices. You will be satisfied that we give you always good quality for a reasonable price.

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The Catholic Encyclopedia

VOL. XII.

PLAIN CHANT

The incomparable solemnity and mysticism of the Church's liturgy has been the despair of its imitators since the foundation of the Chair of Peter, as the perfection of its later usage could only have been realized by centuries of development. In view of the modern revival which seems destined to restore plain chant to its ancient position of glory, this rather intricate and technical essay from the hands of the well known authority, Professor Beveridge, in the 12 Volume of the Catholic Encyclopedia, will be of peculiar interest, not only to liturgical scholars, but, in a broad sense, even to those not intimately familiar with the subject. The article treats of the history of what was earliest known as cantilena romana (The Roman Chant), also commonly called Gregorian Chant, being attributed in some way to St. Gregory I.

In the liturgical Church Music of the Mayan Age the cantilena romana, or plain chant, so called by the theorists of the twelfth and thirteenth centuries, to distinguish the old music from the new musica mensuralis or mensuralis, was used exclusively until the ninth century, and even after the advent of polyphony, for centuries it held a place of honor, being on the one hand cultivated side by side with the new music, and serving, on the other hand, for the foundation on which its rival was built. Although we know very little in regard to the Church music of the first three centuries, in its later history the elaboration of plain chant into the polyphonic was probably due to the differentiation in the style of musical composition seen in the early period, as in the antiphonal and responsorial methods, and a curious fact which militated against the early use of metrical hymns was the exclusion of musical instruments from Christian worship on account of their pagan associations, as in Rome they do not seem to have been admitted before the twelfth century. The author furnishes a somewhat technical description of the development of sacred music from the fourth century, when this development was considerable, up to the middle of the sixth century, when the gradual elaboration of the melody brought a shortening of the text, and of the antiphonal mass chants the Introit and Communion retained their form until the eighth century, when the psalm began to be shortened.

"Nowadays the Introit has only one verse, namely the first of the psalm and the Doxology, after which the Antiphon is repeated. The Communion has lost psalm and repetition completely, only the requiem Mass preserving a trace of the original custom." But after the time of St. Gregory, when the rich melodic treatment of the psalms was participated in to some extent by the antiphon, musical composition suddenly began to flag, and only about twenty-four new melodies appear to have been composed in the seventh century, and after this period "composition of the class of chants we have discussed ceased completely, with the exception of some allusions which did not gain general acceptance until the fifteenth century," we find in the Sacramental (1896) that it was not until this time that a new allusion was composed for the Visitation and some new chants for the Mass of the Holy Name.

The last three columns, devoted to the History of Plain Chant, both in its gradual assimilation with the later music, and in its resurgence in 1903 under Pius X. may be somewhat difficult of comprehension for the average layman, but furnish a splendid scholarly presentation of the subject in all its phases from the time when the Sequences and Tropes of St. Gall were added to the Mass Music of the ninth century up to the fourteenth, when the tradition kept pure by the foundation of St. Gregory's Roman schools began to disintegrate before the growing interest in polyphony, and not until the reform of Missal and Breviary initiated by the Council of Trent at the close of the sixteenth century do we observe a renewed attention to the liturgical chant. The labours of Palestrina and others were largely superficial in their results, and the printing of Raimondi's new Gradual in 1616 was excused with an "incredible closeness," and the various other attempts at reforming the Gregorian Chant made during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries only served to emphasize the retrogression. The practice of singing became worse and worse, and what had been the glory of

centuries fell into general contempt," and it was not until the beginning of the nineteenth century that there was any real revival of interest in plain chant, and a whole century was needed to bring about a complete restoration.

To France belongs the honour of having done the principal work in this great undertaking, and one of the best attempts was a Gradual edited about 1851 and published by Looff, but the final solution of this difficult question, however, was to come from the Benedictine monastery of Solesmes, and about 1860 Guéranger, the restorer of the Liturgy, began the compilation of a Gradual, which after twenty-three years of arduous labour, although capable of improvement in details, solved the question substantially.

The Vatican edition of the final magnificent MS. material accumulated by the Solesmes monks after their expulsion from France, though not all that modern scholarship could have made it, is a great improvement on Dom Potbier's earlier edition, and represents fairly well the reading of the best MSS.

The concluding pages of Professor Beveridge's annual article are given over to a thorough exposition of Tone System and Modes, Rhythm, Forms and Aesthetic Value, and Liturgical Fitness, and the interesting fact is noted that the ready-made system of the eighth mode is first mentioned in history as a theory in the writings of Alcinous, and that the growth of the melodies themselves may have taken place partly on the basis of Hebrew (Syrian) elements, partly under the influence of the varying Greek or Byzantine theories.

In regard to Rhythm and Forms, the first is practically the most important question of Plain Chant theory, and the former section contains a clever commentary on the differences of opinion between the equalists or oratorists and the mensuralists. Briefly, a main distinction of the large variety of forms of plain chant is that between the responsorial and antiphonal, the first of which is elaborate and difficult, and the second simple and easy, and there is also the distinction between the psalmody and hymnodic melodies. Finally, there is little need to insist on the aesthetic beauty of the plain chant. These melodies that have outlived 1000 years, and are attracting at the present day the attention of artists and scholars, needs no eulogy. In comparison with the Falsi Bordoni of the sixteenth century and the Anglican chant, the overbearing vigour of the plain chant formulae is seen in the Gradual, which "display the splendour of their elaborate art at the time when all are expected to listen, and no ceremony interferes with the full effect of the music." Thus the revival of religious life about the middle of the sixteenth century gave an impetus for renewed cultivation of plain chant. "The extended use and perfected rendering of plain chant so ardently desired by Pope Pius X. will in its turn not only raise the level of religious music and enhance the dignity of Divine worship, but also intensify the spiritual life of the Christian community."

PIOUS FUND OF THE CALIFORNIA
The first international controversy submitted to the tribunal of The Hague was the matter of the dispute between Mexico and the United States, which resulted in the signing of a protocol between the two governments on 22 May, 1902, by which the question of Mexico's liability for interest accruing from the Pious Fund was to be decided by the tribunal.

It is not perhaps very generally known just what is and was the meaning and origin of this Pious Fund, and in Volume XII of the Catholic Encyclopedia (Great Britain) a two-column article will be read with a great deal of satisfaction, as it explains at length the history and present status of the fund, which had its origin in 1697 in "voluntary donations made by individuals and religious bodies in Mexico to members of the Society of Jesus to enable them to propagate the Catholic Faith in the territory then known as California." History does not afford a more striking instance of religious inflexion than in the conduct of the Mexican Government with relation to this Fund, and it remained for the United States, which could hardly be supposed to have a patriotic interest in the Church, to defend her rights against a so-called Catholic administration which, in point of fact, had acted with a most callous disregard for even ordinary justice. As a commentary on the policy of the United States, it is just another demonstration of American fair play as opposed to the anachronism of a modern despotic regime.

Christmas Trees Are Shipped Via I. C. R.
At many places along the line of the Intercolonial Railway spruce saplings, intended for Christmas trees are being delivered for shipment to cities in the United States. The shipment of trees for the little ones of the neighboring republic has become quite an industry during the past few years, and it is evident that the forest resources in the States will not supply the demand, so the Americans have to look to Canada for their Christmas decorations. The trees being green and flexible are packed on flat cars in large quantities and sent to dealers in Boston, New York, Chicago, Detroit and even as St. Louis.

Gold Medal For Intercolonial Railway
AWARD FOR DISPLAY AT TORONTO EXHIBITION.
The Intercolonial Railway has received notice of the award of a gold medal by the Directors of the Canadian National Exhibition, Toronto, Ont. for the fine display made by the Railway last September, when the "Ocean Limited" Express was ingeniously featured in a large illuminated motion picture which attracted a great deal of attention from the throngs of visitors. The whole display made by the I. C. R. of pictures mounted specimens of fish and game etc., was very attractive, and the highest award of the Exhibition Management was not amiss. The total attendance at Toronto Exhibition this year was nearly up to the million mark.

"Your husband was a good man, said sympathetic Mrs. Casey. "He was," exclaimed the tearful and bereaved Mrs. Murphy. "No two policemen can handle him."

BAD BLOOD CAUSES BOILS AND PIMPLES.

Get pure blood and keep it pure by removing every trace of impure morbid matter from the system.

Burdock Blood Bitters has been on the market about thirty-five years, and is one of the very best medicines procurable for the cure of boils and pimples.

PIMPLES CURED.
Miss J. M. Wallace, Black's Harbor, N.B., writes:—"About five years ago my face was entirely covered with pimples. I tried everything, people told me about, but found no relief. At last I thought of B.B.B. and decided to try a bottle. After finishing two bottles I was entirely cured, and would advise any lady who wants a beautiful complexion to use B.B.B."

BOILS CURED.
Mrs. Ellsworth Mayne, Springfield, P.E.I., writes:—"My face and neck were covered with boils, and I tried all kinds of remedies, but they did me no good. I went to many doctors, but they could not cure me. I then tried Burdock Blood Bitters, and I must say it is a wonderful remedy for the cure of boils."

Burdock Blood Bitters is manufactured only by The T. Millburn Co., Limited, Toronto, Ont.

"Don't you know," said the policeman to the servant, as she was dumping a pail of garbage in the open street, "that what you are doing is against the law?"
"Oh, don't talk to me about the law," replied the girl; "it's all I can do to keep the Ten Commandments."

Milburn's Sterling Headache Powders give women prompt relief from monthly pains and leave no bad after effects whatever. Be sure you get Milburn's. Price 25 and 50 cts.

On the morning after his first appearance on the stage, the confident but untalented youth met a friend who had witnessed his performance. "What do you think of my acting?" asked the would-be Hamlet.
"That wasn't acting," replied the friend; "that was misbehavior."

There is nothing harsh about Laza Liver Pills. They cure Constipation, Dyspepsia, Sick Headache, and Bilious Spells without griping, purging or sickness. Price 25c.

An orchestra leader was working over a new musical play at rehearsal with a famous theatrical manager.
"That's too loud," interrupted the manager.
"I can't help it," returned the leader; "it calls for FORCE."

"All the same," answered the manager, "make it thirty-five."

Beware Of Worms.
Don't let worms gnaw at the vitals of your children. Give them Dr. Low's Pleasant Worm Syrup and they'll soon be rid of these parasites. Price 50c.

Little Benny—What are 'sins of omission'?"
Uncle Bob—Those we have forgotten to commit, but which we promptly attend to as soon as we are reminded of the oversight.

Minard's Liniment cures Diphtheria
"Well, little boy, did you go to the circus the other day?"
"Yes'm. Pa wanted to go, so I had to go with him."

Homeseekers' Excursions.
The Grand Trunk Railway has issued a circular authorizing all Agents in Canada to sell Homeseekers' Excursion Tickets to points in Western Canada. This is interesting information for those desiring to take advantage of these excursions on certain dates from April to December 1911. The Grand Trunk route is the most interesting, taking a passenger through the populated centres of Canada, through Chicago, and thence via Duluth, or through Chicago and the twin cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul. Ask Grand Trunk Agents for further particulars.

Suffered With Nerve Trouble For Two Years.

WAS IMPOSSIBLE FOR HIM TO SLEEP.
Mr. Chas. W. Wood, 34 Terrace Street, Montreal, Que., writes:—"For two years I suffered with nerve trouble, and it was impossible for me to sleep. It did not matter what time I went to bed, in the morning I was even worse than the night before. I consulted a doctor, and he gave me a tonic to take a half hour before going to bed."

"It was all right for a time, but the old trouble returned with greater force than before."
"One of the boys who works with me, gave me half a box of Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills. I took them and I got such satisfaction that I got another box, and before I finished it I could enjoy sleep from 10 p.m. until 6 a.m., and now feel good."
The price of Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills is 50 cents per box, or 3 boxes for \$1.25. They are for sale at all dealers, or will be mailed direct on receipt of price by The T. Millburn Co., Limited, Toronto, Ont.