

# Northwest Review.

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## CURRENT COMMENT

Mr. William O'Brien's determination to withdraw from public life, seems, unfortunately final. This will do much to upset the work for which he has labored so long and earnestly. In statesmanship as in affairs of the soul perseverance until the end, in spite of trials the most disheartening, is essential to success. In this respect the Saxon has certainly the whiphand of the Celt.

At an official dinner given in Rome on the Feast of St. Edmund by the new Archbishop of Westminster, Mgr. Stonor said that the Archbishop had done a great work in Southwark, chiefly in the organization of the diocese and the establishment of a seminary there, and added that if Dr. Bourne did as well at Westminster he would make a perfect Archbishop.

The French Government under Combes is continuing to set an example which the Socialists will not be slow to follow if ever they secure a majority in the French Chamber. Since Combes expels religious orders, persecutes even their secularized members, and confiscates the property of the orders, why should not Socialism expel or disfranchise all who profess belief in the future life, and seize on all their private property. There would be as much reason and justice in one cause as in the other.

"Records & Reminiscences Personal & General," by Sir Francis C. Burnand, in two volumes, is a charming book, occasionally too prolix, but quite free from egotism or vanity. The son of a London stockbroker, he was sent first to a dame's school and then to Eton, whence he went to Cambridge, where he settled down seriously to the study of divinity at Cuddesdon College. What happened at that time he thus relates:

"I studied hard; went at it with a will. Suddenly a difficulty. Vice-principal does not explain it satisfactorily; principal doesn't explain it at all. Unsettled. Another difficulty; men are going in for ordination and I read the oath that every candidate has to take. I am faced by the 'Royal Supremacy.' Still more unsettled. Explanations hopelessly unsatisfactory. The 'black rubric' stares me in the face. On posers' heads posers do congregate. They increase and multiply; principal and vice-principal helpless." He was advised to see Mr. Benson, the originator of the Cowley Fathers. He did so, and found on Mr. Benson's table Newman's "Doctrinal Development," took it to his inn with other books given by Mr. Benson and read it carefully. Benson, on visiting him, found him reading Newman's work and denounced him in severest ecclesiastical phrase, but afterwards apologized. Sir Francis, however, was now on the road to Rome, and the denunciation had no effect. He applied to the famous Bishop of Oxford, Sam. Wilberforce, asking him to explain certain difficulties, but the Bishop only replied by saying that these difficulties were slight when compared with greater difficulties elsewhere. Sir Francis then wrote to Cardinal Manning, at that time head of the Oblates of St. Charles. Within a couple of days he received a letter answering his questions clearly and straightforwardly, and enclosing a little pamphlet which Manning thought might be of use to him. "Letter and pamphlet," he writes, "practically clenched the matter. I had made up my mind there and then, and never for one single second

at any period of my life have I repented of, or regretted the step I then took." The reception he met with on imparting the news to his father may be imagined, when we state that the epithets addressed to him were limited only by the exhaustion of the vocabulary at his father's command. After he had been thus bombarded and assured that he should never receive another penny, he was left alone in the dining-room, and the butler came and asked if he should get him a cab. He had to go, but he knew not whither to betake himself. Suddenly he remembered that Mr. F. C. Wilson a Cambridge friend and a Catholic, had some time before asked him to stay with him. To his rooms in Conduit Street he went, and it appears that Mr. Wilson had a strange presentiment of the event and of its being likely to happen on the 8th of December, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of Our Lady. He had actually had dinner prepared for two and before Sir F. Burnand spoke he said, "I knew you'd come." Mr. Wilson introduced him to Cardinal Manning, and that distinguished prelate, of whom Sir F. Burnand writes in affectionate terms, encouraged him to serve a novitiate on trial with the Oblates of St. Charles. The scene between himself and Manning when he informed the Cardinal that he had no vocation for the priesthood, was one of such solemnity that it put a strain upon Sir Francis, but fortunately his sense of humor came to his relief. He told Manning that there were other things for which a man might have a vocation besides the Church—the stage for instance, Manning was indignant. "You call 'that' a vocation," he said; "why you might as well say that—that to be a—a—cobbler—is a vocation." "Well," replied the novice, "a cobbler has a great deal to do with the sole." Manning's gravity was not proof against the joke, and the interview ended with the Cardinal's blessing.

Francis Burnand then figured on the stage at Edinburgh, but the experiment made him decide "that the pen was mightier than the boards." His father relented a little and gave him an allowance on condition that he resumed the study of law, which he did, was called to the Bar and practised a little. However, he preferred humorous dramatic literature and produced a burlesque, "Dido," which was successfully staged at St. James' Theatre. The proprietor of "Fun," which was started about that time, having refused a contribution of his, he submitted it to Mark Lemon, then editor of "Punch" who at once accepted it. It made a remarkable hit, and Burnand was admitted to the staff of that peerless comic paper, of which he ultimately became and still is the efficient editor.

The following quotation from the New York "Freeman's Journal" for November 28th is as eloquent as it is brief.

At the Unitarian Club dinner in New York some days ago President Nicholas Murray Butler, of Columbian University, made the following comparison:

"One of the most pitiful sights is our Protestant Sunday school, disorganized and taught by teachers not themselves capable of thorough teaching.

"One of the most wonderful sights in New York may be seen on Sunday morning at Columbus avenue and Sixtieth street, where from 1,200 to 1,500 children gather in the Church of the Paulist Fathers and are taught for two hours by devoted and capable teachers."

A London non-Catholic paper thus describes an incident which occurred at a recent Presbyterian meeting in New South Wales:—

"One of its members roundly declared that the Roman Catholic Church is the grandest example of Christ's ideal. Shades of John Knox! Naturally there were cries of dissent, but the audacious minister declined to withdraw, and went on to state his reasons. In his town—Geelong—the clergy of all denominations were the best of friends and visited each other's houses, and the local head of the Roman Catholic Church 'was the best fellow of the lot.'"

Our learned and thought-provoking contemporary, the "Casket," has, in its issue of November 27th, a convincing article on the United States appeal in criminal cases. The writer quotes Judge David J. Brewer, of the United States Supreme Court as saying that this right should be taken away, because it tends to prevent the punishment of crime, for punishment must be properly administered to have its proper deterrent effect, and with the rights of appeal there is an even chance that no punishment at all will be inflicted. Another bad result is the crowding of the docket of the Appellate Court with cases that should never have been appealed. The consequence is that a compromise is offered and accepted, and thus the ends of justice are defeated. A third result is that the judges of the Appellate Court, being overburdened with work are tempted to hurry through the cases without due consideration. "Is it strange," says Judge Brewer, "that a community, incensed by some atrocious offence, aware of the common experience of criminal proceedings, takes the law into its own hands and summarily punishes the offender?" Nor will the limitation of the rights of appeal lead to the punishment of an innocent man. On the contrary, the trial judges and jury would then have a greater sense of responsibility, and prejudice would be checked by a desire to preserve the good name of a locality. This is what happens in the British Empire, where the prompt punishment of criminals has such an excellent moral effect on the community.

## Persons and Facts

The Catholic priests of Denver are organizing a campaign against Church fairs; they prefer to organize some fixed source of revenue.

The "Univers" announces that at a meeting held on the 8th November, under the presidency of Cardinal Rampolla, the Biblical Commission held a prolonged session, in which the Abbe Loisy's recent works were under discussion. Both the secretaries, Abbe Vigouroux and Father Fleming were present.

"Today November 20, is the Feast of St. Edmund, King and Martyr. Mr. Cyril Power, A. R. I. B. A., writes: 'I wonder how many Catholics will wend their way to Hoxne, where, surrounded by the Danish Pagan horde, torn by their scourges and pierced through and through by arrows, our glorious Saint laid down his life for the Catholic faith. I trust that some of his devout clients will travel down to Bury St. Edmunds on Sunday, November 22, and join in keeping his festival in the church there.'—Catholic Times, England.

His Honor Wm. Bourke Cockran has sent a cheque for \$500 to the directors of the Catholic Missionary Union, for the Apostolic Mission House at Washington. Dr. McSweeney of New York, has given

\$1,000 dollars to the same work, thereby becoming one of the founders.

Five or six months ago Superior, Old Superior, South Superior, and West Superior, Wis., were all merged into the one city of Superior, with about 32,000 inhabitants. But of course the old names still remain in common use.

A telegram from Rome dated Saturday November 14, says: "The Pope today received in private audience Mgr. Murphy, the rector of the Irish College, who has just returned from his summer vacation in Ireland. Mgr. Murphy presented to his Holiness the Peter's Pence, from the dioceses of Derry and Killaloe. This is the first offering of the kind made from Ireland to the present Pontiff. Mgr. Murphy also presented an address of congratulation and affectionate loyalty from all the Catholic Bishops of Ireland. The Pope asked Mgr. Murphy to convey to the Irish Bishops his warmest thanks. The Pontiff added that he would himself write his thanks to each prelate.

His Excellency the Delegate Apostolic having wired to Rome the burning of the Ottawa University, the Holy Father sent to the rector of the University, through Cardinal Merry del Val, a message of sympathy, asking for further details, and urging the immediate reconstruction of the edifice.

Some pretty bad misprints appeared in the issue of December 5th. On the first page, second column, tenth line, "last" should be "lash," fourth column, first paragraph, "conspicuous" should be "conspicuous" and "incorruptible" should be "incorruptible." On page four the editorial on the New "Standard Dictionary" is sadly marred by the horrible barbarism "pronunciation," repeated several times in defiance of the writer's copy, and by "permissible" instead of "permissible."

A recent case in Duluth shows that amputations are not always necessary even when surgeons say they are. Last week the young son of Mr. William Boyd, a well known contractor, developed unmistakable signs of blood poisoning. His left foot became almost black and in a short time the entire member was affected. Amputation was declared by the doctors to be the only reasonable measure, but the young man said that death would be preferable. Mr. Boyd declared that his son's wishes should be respected, and other measures were resorted to. Binding the body and isolating, as it were, the afflicted limb, Dr. Graham cut it open in many places and succeeded in drawing off the poison. The lad withstood the fearful shock and loss of blood, and the member is now healing rapidly. Dr. Graham believes his heroic young patient will be entirely well in a few weeks, and that there will be no trace of poison left in the system.

In reply to inquiries about the interesting letter—quite thirty-six (36) years old, for the context shows it was written in the autumn before the spring of 1868, when it first appeared in an Ontario paper—we published last week, we beg to state that John McLean was a famous character in Portage la Prairie, where he died last year. His house was near the slough.

## Clerical News.

On November 16 Cardinal Macchi conferred the Pallium upon Dr. Bourne, Archbishop of Westminster in the Cardinal's private chapel.

The Archbishop of Tuam has appealed to the people of his diocese to enable him to build a new archiepiscopal residence, for which a suitable site is available.

The Right Rev. Dr. Gallagher, Bishop of Goulburn, Australia, has arrived in Rome to pay a visit 'ad limina.'

Cardinal Moran, Archbishop of Sydney, has written a letter to his coadjutor, describing his first audience of Pope Pius X. "I have had a great many audiences during the last thirty years," he remarks, "but I never before was received with so much cordiality. . . . He appears to be the very embodiment of earnestness and simplicity, affection and piety."

Rev. Father Drummond writes that he is well and pretty busy. On Sunday December 6, he said Mass and preached in English in St. Patrick's Church, Superior, then took a car and a transfer for St. Joseph's Church, two miles off, where he said a second Mass, preached in French, and gave Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. Rev. Father Charron, whose place he is taking, is gone for a much needed rest in the east. He has four churches to attend to here. Rev. Father Arnolis takes two of them. Rev. Father Hartmann, O.M.I., was to have attended to the French service in the St. Joseph's Church, but on Sunday evening he was taken ill with fever and could not undertake the trip from Duluth. Since that time he has improved, though he is not yet quite well. Rev. Fathers Guillet and Lucasse, O.M.I., are flourishing. They have their address on the telephone list as "St. Charles Baptist Church," which, their friends say, must be either a new saint or a new shade of Baptist persuasion.

A dispatch received at the Archbishop's palace on Tuesday morning conveyed the sad intelligence of the Rev. Father Fulham's death. This is the first victim of the recent disaster caused by fire at the Ottawa University.

The Rev. Father McDonald, S. J., gave a very impressive sermon last Sunday at the Immaculate Conception. He was equally successful on Tuesday evening at St. Mary's Church.

Great preparations are being made at the Catholic Churches of Winnipeg for a worthy Christmas celebration.

## Ste. Rose du Lac Notes

Last week we had in our new novitiate the interesting ceremony of clothing a novice, when Mademoiselle Carmela Loiselle of Letellier, became Sister Margaret Mary, the Mother Vicar being present, also the brother and sister of the young novice, and Mademoiselle Grave-lines.

The School Inspector, Mr. Goulet has been here and at Ste. Amelie, also at Crooked River, inspecting the schools, which he found satisfactory.

We who live in here are like the people who live on the other side of the blue mountains, never quite happy, but always hoping to be come so, what we want now is a new organ for the church. There is, in the possession of Rev. Father Lecoq, a very valuable phonograph, which will be raffled for this intention early in the new year.

Land here is going up in price all the time, Baron de la Rue du Camp bought in the fall of Mr. Robinson, 15 acres in this village on the river for \$1,000, on which he is building a fine house, his son is spending the winter here superintending his