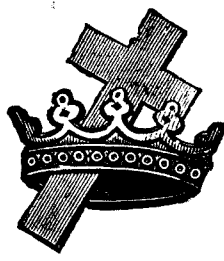


Northwest Review.



"AD MAJOREM DEI GLORIAM."

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ST. ALBERT.

Distinguished Visitors—A Gala Holiday in Their Honor.

Premier Sir MacKenzie Bowell and Hon. Mr. Daly at the Catholic Mission and Schools—Addresses by the Vicar General and Children Presented and Appreciative Replies Made.

From the Northwest, Sept. 11th.

Preparations had been made on Tuesday, August 27th at St. Albert, for the worthy reception of Sir MacKenzie Bowell, prime minister of Canada; the Hon. T. M. Daly, minister of the interior, and Mr. Hayter Reed, superintendent of Indian affairs. The hall was a scene of festive beauty as it glowed with mottoes and floral decorations. The children of the Industrial school and the day scholars, to the number of 160, thronged the hall. The band of the Indian school under the leadership of Mr. Joseph Varin, discoursed some choice music as the distinguished guests, accompanied by Very Rev. Father Leduc, V. G. and the clergy of St. Albert, took seats on the raised platform, where they were surrounded by an appreciative audience.

The following is the programme of the reception:

School choir—"Welcome to Our Fair Northwest."

An acrostic—Welcome; by the children of the Industrial school—Willy Carey, John Caillou, Felix Caillou, Alice Boucher, Alaide Joachim, Margaret Delorme, Christine Caillou.

School choir—"The Maple Leaf."

Address—Felix Caillou.

School choir—"Bring the Flowers Fresh and Sweet from Prairie Bowers."

The presentation of bouquets.

A poetical recitation by six of the convent pupils—Misses L. Monte, Jane Maloney, Maud McKenney, Maggie O'Neill, May Maloney and Emcy Maloney. These little girls were dressed in white, each wore on her shoulder a maple leaf, surmounted with a gold letter, all of which formed the name "Bowell."

The following is the recitation, which was carefully prepared and perfectly rendered by the grateful pupils of St. Albert:

To the Right Honorable Sir MacKenzie Bowell, K. C. M. G., Prime Minister of Canada:

I wear on my shoulder the letter B.
That all its greatness and beauty may see.
It stands for a name Canadians revere,
A name that is loved and cherished here.
My BOUQUET to Canada's Premier will say;
"Joy, health and happiness now and for aye.
Each bud and blossom will our love foretell
For our country and Sir MacKenzie Bowell."

I am proud and happy to take a part
In this festive scene where every young heart
Thrills with delight, with joyous affection
As we tender to you this loyal reception.
Take from the young hearts of this fair
Northwest
This heartfelt OFFERING, the warmest and
best.

Others may follow but none can excel
Our affection for Sir MacKenzie Bowell.

Alberta welcomes you with wild delight,
Her rolling prairies, clad with flowers bright,
Whisper WELCOME, and welcome may
you be

By every flower on this great inland sea.
The St. Albert Chimes, Hark! how sweet
they ring.
The woods re-echo and merrily sing
The joyous greeting, they so love to tell
Is, Welcome to Sir MacKenzie Bowell.

I come, Sir, EDUCATION is my name,
My cause by you upheld enhances your fame.
And I come, though crushed, to lay at your
feet
Gratitude's tribute—the duty is sweet.
In this noble cause, so unjustly torn,
You upheld our rights throughout the storm.
May your efforts be crowned and victory
swell

The name and fame of Sir MacKenzie
Bowell.

The gratitude and thanks my Sister has
given
Are gifts which spring most surely from
heaven;
May their beauty and perfume cheer your
way

As a precious balm through life's stormy day,
May patriotism and justice swell the power
In you invested, until hour by hour,
True peace and LOYALTY in Canada dwell
And crown the name of Sir MacKenzie
Bowell.

As each little flower has well done its part
May its fragrance be pleasing to your great

heart.
And the souvenir, as a joy unexpressed,
Live for ever in your noble breast.
We little children of the far-famed West
Offer you these flowers, the choicest and best,
Their beautiful blossoms a secret foretell,
'Tis the LOVE we bear Sir MacKenzie
Bowell

There followed this recitation an address by Rev. Father H. Leduc, O. M. I., V. G., as follows:

To Sir MacKenzie Bowell, K. C. M. G.,
and Premier of Canada:

In behalf of his Lordship, Bishop Grandin, now absent, and in behalf of the Roman Catholic Clergy of St. Albert, I wish you welcome.

Yes, we are proud and happy to receive you to-day, with the minister of the interior, the Hon. T. M. Daly, and his esteemed Deputy in the department of Indian affairs.

The inhabitants of this place will address you in a few moments; they will tell you their firm belief in the very plain expression and noble declarations made by yourself and your colleagues at the last session of Parliament.

After such declarations we cannot doubt that you firmly and energetically intend to decide this vital school question according to both right and justice. And this decision will be the glory of your government, and history will proclaim to future generations by whom justice was so nobly given to the Catholic minority of Manitoba and the Northwest Territories.

Now, right honorable sir, deign look around. You are surrounded by the numerous and joyous pupils of St. Albert Industrial school. The government has reason to be proud of this and other similar institutions supported by it. Industrial and boarding schools amongst the Indians are certainly the best means of civilization. The benefits derived from them and already obtained are immense and tangible. Proof of this you have witnessed at the late Territorial exhibition in Regina. The children of the schools have greatly contributed to its success by their excellent behavior and good manners; by their musical bands, and more especially by their interesting and numerous exhibits, work of their hands, which they were so happy to put before the eyes of a chosen public.

Thank you, Sir MacKenzie Bowell; thanks, also, to the Hon. T. M. Daly and to Mr. H. Reed for the interest you take in all that concerns the welfare of these institutions. May these industrial and boarding schools be ever able to receive all the poor Indian children. May the government always understand that its true interests are in the establishment and support of these schools, whereby the Indians will disappear without being destroyed. They will then disappear with all due honor to the government, to the country and to Christian civilization, because they will cease to be Indians and instead become men as truly Christianized and civilized as we are ourselves.

Once more, honorable gentlemen, welcome and thanks for your good and cordial visit to St. Albert.

H. LEDUC, O. M. I., V. G.
St. Albert, Aug. 27, 1895.

Sir MacKenzie Bowell replied as follows:

"I am more than pleased with these beautiful addresses of welcome which you have presented to me and my friend and colleague in the government, the Hon. Mr. Daly, minister of the interior. To say that I am surprised at what I see is but to faintly express my feelings. I am amazed at the degree of advancement which I see in every way in this great country. I remember reading of Edmonton, as a boy, and as a man to have read of Hudson's Bay company and its fur trade; but I was not prepared to find the conditions here developing into eastern civilization and comfort. When my friend Mr. Daly told me about his visit here of a couple of years ago, I was slow to believe all. I thought the honorable gentleman was romancing, and on the demand of that gentleman for additional grants of money to conduct our Indian department and industrial and boarding schools, we thought he was over zealous, was extravagant, and in short was wasting the public money. But now when I see your beautiful Industrial school, men and women devoting their lives to the purpose of civilizing, Christianizing and educating the wild men of this

country from the hunter and fisherman into a state equal to our own, as self-reliant, self-supporting and law-abiding citizens of Canada, then I feel that I would be willing to expend twice or thrice the sums now spent in such a great cause."

Continuing, at the beautiful reception of the Industrial school children in their class rooms, Sir MacKenzie Bowell said:

"This beautiful reception of the Industrial school children touches me more than I can tell you. The mottoes, the portrait of our gracious sovereign lady the Queen, and other evidences of your loyalty, intelligence and good will, are not lost upon me; and I assure you, children that you have reason to be grateful to these kind reverend ladies, the good Sisters of Charity, for that which they have done for you. You will one day, as men and women, take our places of to-day, and I hope that you will take to heart the good lessons here impressed upon your youth. As for me what more can I say? I am more than satisfied, not to say astonished, at what I see. I thank you most heartily for your most cordial reception of myself, and my friend and colleague, the Hon. Mr. Daly; and it is but your due and from me only just that I should tell you that, without wishing to make invidious comparisons especially between schools, this reception surpassed any that I have ever received." * * * * *

Touching upon the school question, and turning towards the Rev. Father Leduc, Vicar General, and addressing himself more particularly to the last named gentleman, Sir MacKenzie said: "And, reverend sir, though not of your creed, though differing from you in my religious belief, I am a believer in the greatest freedom of thought to all men, and while I claim the right to my own belief, I insist that all men and people are entitled to the same rights, and that such rights must be secured to all by any good government. And in reference to the school question, I am bound to tell you that the policy of my government as laid down will be adhered to and faithfully carried out, let the consequences be what they may."

Consecration of St. Patrick's Church, Lethbridge.

On Sunday, 25th of August, the Right Rev. Bishop Grandin, assisted by the Rev. Fathers Lestanc, Cunningham, Le-coq, Legal, Doniet, Fouquet and the reverend pastor, Father Van Tighem, solemnly consecrated the church of St. Patrick in Lethbridge. It is the fourth church consecrated in this country (St. Boniface Cathedral, St. Mary's of Winnipeg and St. Norbert's church having been consecrated in 1889) according to the prescriptions of the Canon Law and with all the beautiful ceremonies of the Pontifical. The building is of stone and brick and is free from all debt. It has been erected from the generous donations of the poor Irish, Slavonic, Hungarian, English, Scotch, Flemish, French and Italian. The congregation is a wonderful proof of the Catholicity of the church. In no part of this great Northwest can a more cosmopolitan congregation be found than in Lethbridge. The venerable consecrator of St. Patrick's church gave very substantial aid in its construction and we are sure that dear St. Patrick must have blessed the efforts of the zealous pastor, who deserves more than the usual amount of credit due to zealous and industrious priests, for, with his own hands he has worked long and hard in its construction, every part of which received his skilled attention. The finishing, ornamenting and decorating can testify to his constant and persevering labor. Father Van Tighem is a Flemish artist of no mean ability, as a visit to this church will bear high testimony. The church can seat from three to four hundred persons, has a tidy, substantial, unpretentious appearance and is built in the old Monastic-Gothic style. Altars, pews, in fact everything is tasteful and bright. Saturday, 24th August, was a fast day in Lethbridge. The bishop and seven priests in the evening recited the office of the Martyrs before the relics exposed according to the prescriptions of the Pontifical. On Sunday the consecration ceremonies began at 8 a. m., and were concluded at 1 p. m. The ceremonies are most beautiful; faith, hope, charity,

piety and all religious virtues, prayers and sentiments are expressed in a most vivid manner. The society of St. John the Baptist among the Slavs is a great credit to them. All the members came in a body and assisted in uniform at the ceremonies. High Mass, with assisting priest, deacon and subdeacon and other clerics, was sung by the consecrating bishop. The choir under the direction of the Faithful Companions of Jesus, ably assisted by Sergt. Davis of the N. W. M. P., was by far the best ever heard here.

His Lordship, the bishop, gave a short address in the morning and the venerable and holy missionary and learned professor of divinity, Rev. Father Fouquet, O. M. I., preached an able and most instructive sermon in the evening. The Faithful Companions gave a dinner to the bishop, the clergy and the principal representatives of the different Catholic nationalities. Mr. Kenny and Mr. Curry, U. S. consul, made happy speeches to which His Lordship gave equally happy replies.

On Monday the school children, who number one hundred, presented His Lordship with a beautifully illuminated address, the style of which corresponded with the beauty and value of the designs. His Lordship found it rather heavy and on close examination discovered several gold buttons artistically fitted in clusters of painted flowers. The discovery seemed to please the little ones immensely. This closed one of the brightest and happiest days ever known to the Catholics of the town. They have reason to be proud of being the first congregation in the Northwest Territories, who have made it possible by their devout generosity to have their church solemnly consecrated. How deeply it must have touched the saintly heart of the Venerable Bishop Grandin to consecrate this church to the honor and glory of God under the patronage of the glorious apostle of Ireland. We heartily congratulate the reverend pastor and his people on making such a festive day possible for Lethbridge.

What Mr. Bernier Said in the Senate on July 19th.

Hon. Mr. Bernier—Before the motion for adjournment is put, I beg to offer some remarks upon the subject which is causing at present so much anxiety in the public mind. The session is drawing to its close, and it is my duty not to let this opportunity, the last during the present session, pass without offering the remarks which I am about to make. It has been a cherished hope on the part of the minority that this session would see the redress of their grievances. It is now over five years since the minority has been deprived of its rights; it is now over five years since we have been dispossessed of our legitimate share of the financial advantages which the laws of the province bestow upon the other sections of the population; for over five years we have been assessed for the support of schools which are not available to us. After a protracted contest in the courts, the justice and the fairness of our claims have been recognized by the highest court of the empire. During all that time, the minority and its representatives in Parliament have been considerate in their acts and in their words; they have acted like men deeply imbued with the lawfulness of their rights, but at the same time desirous of hurrying in no way the interests of the country and the rights of their fellow-citizens. And it may not be entirely out of place to state here again what has been stated several times before, namely, that the Catholics of Manitoba do not want and never wanted any interference in what is called the public schools; let them exist as they are for non-Catholic people; let the province do what she likes with that system and those schools. All that we want is the right to control the education of our own children. There is nothing illegitimate in that, and it cannot do any harm to others. We do not want to go further than the finding of the Privy Council. Is this not the course of a law abiding people? What more can be asked from us? But we hold to our rights to that extent, and now that the lawfulness of our claims has been put beyond a doubt, no body, it seems to me, can take offence or even wonder if we state our honest

conviction that the time has come at last when we should be relieved. To be told that because we have been suffering for five years, we ought not to object to continue to suffer for some time longer, is a poor consolation to those who are subject to that disability. Yet, if by that sacrifice, peace and harmony could be restored, if the institutions under which we live could be strengthened, if the prosperity and happiness of this Dominion could be enhanced, neither we, nor our friends, would regret the continuation of that trial for a few months.

But, hon. gentlemen, unless justice, full justice, is done, no body can expect such beneficial results from the postponement of the settlement of the school question. Justice is promised to us in the announcement made by the government last week and in the speeches of the ministers. By the same announcement and in the same speeches, the existence of our grievance is again affirmed; our right to a remedy is also affirmed, and the most solemn pledges have been given us that remedial legislation of a definite character will take place within a fixed period, unless the Province of Manitoba itself grant the remedy we are looking for. Whether willingly or unwillingly, the minority has to accept the situation; notwithstanding its disappointment, it has no choice. This, however, does not relieve me from the obligation of expressly freeing myself from all responsibility as to the postponement of the remedial legislation and as to the possible complications that may arise therefrom. The representatives of the minority in Parliament have, up to the last moment, insisted upon immediate action. I still believe that it was our duty to do so. Now that my wishes in that respect have vanished, I cannot help expressing my regret and my great disappointment at this new delay, however short it may appear to some. No body can deny that our cause is thereby committed again to future contingencies which may be stronger than the will of the government, and hence my grave apprehension and regret. As I have already said, it is not within our power to alter the present situation, but we can hold to the pledge given and we do it, and we will look for its full redemption, living in the meantime in expectancy, throwing no obstacles in the way of a satisfactory settlement, even willing to give a helping hand to it, asking our friends to do the same, but reserving our liberty for future action, equally ready to give credit to whom credit shall be due, and to recall to all the responsibility they have placed upon their shoulders. If those repeated pledges are not redeemed, the sad disappointment which is felt at present will still increase. A feeling of distrust in our political institutions will grow up in the minds of a large portion of the people. It will be considered as a failure of justice, as a departure from the principles laid down at the foundation of our confederation regime which could only come into existence by mutual trust in each other, and it will be a dark page in Canadian history. However, such is my desire to see this confederation of ours consolidate itself, so confident have I been always that under this regime our common country would prosper and its people become a great Canadian nation, that I prefer to refrain from giving vent any more to my apprehensions and to lend a listening ear to the hopes that have been expressed here and elsewhere that nothing will happen to prevent the government and parliament from discharging their respective duties and redeeming the pledges given in their behalf. I fully recognize the difficulty of the situation, but I believe Lord Salisbury has voiced the soundest policy to be adopted under such circumstances, when, speaking on this very subject at Preston in 1893, he said that we

Will only meet the danger by marching straight up to it and by declaring that the prerogative of the parent, unless he be convicted of criminality, must not be taken away by the State.

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