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A Catholic newspaper in a parish is a perpetual mission. Let all who truly and from their souls desire that religion and society defended by human intellect and literature should flourish, strive by their liberality to guard and protect the Catholic press, and let everyone in proportion to his income, support them with his money and influence, for to those who devote themselves to the Catholic press we ought by all means to bring helps of this kind, without which their industry will either have no results or uncertain and miserable ones.

POPE LEO XIII.



SATURDAY, APRIL 4, 1903.

CALENDAR FOR NEXT WEEK.

HOLY WEEK.

APRIL.

- 5—Palm Sunday.
- 6—Monday—Feria.
- 7—Tuesday—Feria.
- 8—Wednesday—Feria.
- 9—Holy Thursday.
- 10—Good Friday.
- 11—Holy Saturday.

OUR OPINION ENDORSED BY THE PUBLIC.

Our article of last week regarding the imminent need of considerably increased church accommodation in the city has been the subject of a good deal of interesting comment and discussion in Catholic circles here during the week. We have heard it referred to by scores of members of the city congregations and the consensus of opinion seems to be that the article was most timely, as the question is one that has already reached an acute stage. It is reasonably certain that amongst the many thousands of new residents who will undoubtedly come to Winnipeg during the next three or four years, and who will begin to arrive in very large numbers this year, a fair proportion will be Catholics. Provision must be made for the new comers, and the fact that already many families that have been here for months cannot secure pews in the existing churches makes it evident that the problem is one which must be faced at once. An increased Catholic population is something we are all wishing for—we all hope that at least we shall hold our present percentage of the total population, and we trust to do even a little better—but this certainly means more churches, and that at a very early date.

PROVINCIAL ELECTIONS.

For the next three or four months the absorbing matter of public importance in the Province of Manitoba will undoubtedly be the general election, which is scheduled for June or July next, and as the campaign progresses we intend to comment on it from time to time, and looking at the fight from a strictly non-partizan point of view put on record our opinion of the various parties that may appeal to the electorate and the past achieve-

ments and promised policies on which they may base their claims to public support. The indications are that there will be no lack of parties for the independent electors to choose between. Heretofore, so far as political parties have been concerned, the choice has generally speaking been restricted and Grit and Tory have battled together for supremacy, but on this occasion it seems certain that in every constituency there will be three candidates at least and in some as many as four or five. Catholic electors will not have much use for the Prohibition candidates—men of one idea, faddists who will successfully appeal to the hysterical and sickly emotional element in the community; neither will Catholics be found in any large numbers, if at all, voting for the non-descript collection of disgruntled politicians who have banded themselves together in what is very inaptly termed the Political Reform Union. Catholic voters will undoubtedly go in a vast majority to the candidates of whichever of the old time parties the voters deem most worthy of their support, and it may be that a certain percentage will be given to the labor candidates in the city. It is a reasonably sure thing that not a single candidate of either the third, fourth or fifth parties will be elected, but the real fight will be between the followers of Mr. Roblin on the one hand and Mr. Greenway on the other, and narrowing the issue down to these limits it will be a comparatively easy task for Catholic electors to decide how they should cast their ballots.

OUR LADY'S DOWRY.

Both Mr. Brewer and Mr. Gairdner may at times cast shadows, from their own personal bias and misconception of the real dogma and discipline of the Catholic Church, over their frank admissions, and the general effect caused by them. But the silent testimony of historical facts continues to be, through their intrepid work in the cause of truth, increasingly in favor of the old faith and polity, and against the Anglican system. It rouses intense hope for the coming return of England, once "Our Lady's Dowry," to the communion of the Catholic Church.

Some Catholics, for instance, may long have thought that historical documents will yet be discovered proving with absolute historical evidence Pope Leo's already infallible pronouncement that Anglicans have not holy orders. The researches of Professor Brewer and Dr. Gairdner, their monumental labors and candid statements, afford extraordinary signs of such proofs already. But prayer is needed as well as proof, a good will to believe as well as eyes to see. For, as Dr. Gairdner searchingly remarks:—

"The copious stores of documents now available have rendered many long-cherished views untenable; but the results of investigation are as yet imperfectly known, and it is to be feared that the truth on very important subjects will have much prejudice to encounter before it can win general acceptance."

A noted humorist had often petitioned the council of the town where he resided to fill up a mudhole near his house, but without result.

One night he heard a spluttering noise and sundry ejaculations unfit for publication, and, going to his door, he found a respected member of the town council floundering about in the mudhole.

"Good evening, sir; I am glad to see you stirring in this matter at last," and so saying he closed the door and left the poor councillor to extricate himself as best he could.—Tit-Bits.

"Marie tells me that you and Arthur have quarrelled."

"Yes, we have—the detestable cur! I shall never speak to him again—never! I hate him!"

"Dear me! And did you tell him never to set foot in the house again?"

"Oh, no. If I had told him that he wouldn't have come back any more for a month. You have no idea how stubborn that boy is."—Kansas City Journal.

DR. GAIRDNER'S NEW WORK ON THE ENGLISH CHURCH.

Dr. Gairdner's Antecedents.
Boston Sacred Heart Review.

To appreciate properly the great importance of Dr. James Gairdner's new volume, "The English Church from the Accession of Henry VIII. to the Death of Mary," we must recall certain circumstances connected with its composition, as well as the main items of the author's career. Born in Edinburgh in 1828, in 1846 he became clerk in the Public Records Office, and in 1859 assistant keeper of the public records. In 1879, on the death of Professor Brewer, he was appointed to continue the labors of that painstaking and masterly student on the "Calendar of Henry VIII.," and Vols. V. to XVIII. have appeared under his editorship, as well as "Memorials of Henry VII.," and "Papers of the Reigns of Richard III. and Henry VII." In conjunction with the late Mr. James Spedding, he has written a set of "Studies in English Literature"; and he has, moreover, contributed numerous articles to the "Dictionary of National Biography."

The fact that he is a non-Catholic enforces the weight of the remarkable admissions made by him in his present addition to the real history of the Anglican Church, and the origin of the "Reformation" in England, as well as the persons concerned therein, whether for or against—as King Henry, Queen Mary, and those, too, who have written of it, as Foxe and Hall. Dr. Gairdner's learned predecessor, Mr. Brewer, to whom his own valuable work owes so much, was, moreover, an Anglican clergyman.

CALENDARING FOR PUBLIC ROLLS.

It is to be remembered that, to the study of history in our times, there has been brought a wonderfully minute process of delving into and methodically arranging the private correspondence, state papers, and public records of other days; and thus a new and strong light has been frequently thrown upon historical characters and incidents. To exemplify this method and its evident importance, we quote from Dr. Gairdner's preface to Professor Brewer's "Reign of Henry VIII. from His Accession to the Death of Wolsey." Dr. Gairdner says, and the words may be applied to his own patient and monumental labors, also:—

"The work which he (Mr. Brewer) was called upon to do was to catalogue and chronologize a number of miscellaneous documents of the reign of Henry VIII. which, it was believed, would throw much light upon the history of the Reformation. A primary examination of these materials convinced him that their importance had not been overmagnified, but that no satisfactory Calendar of them could be drawn up unless the whole collection from which they originally came were examined and catalogued along with them. For at that time the Public Records were dispersed in five different repositories, and there was the State Paper Office besides, now amalgamated with the Record Department. Portions of these miscellaneous papers had been transferred from one office to another.

Even parts of the same letter were not, unusually found in different libraries. Nothing remained except to bring the different series together, and patiently proceed "de novo" to arrange the whole in uniform chronological order. The task was extremely difficult and fatiguing. . . . Nothing seems more easy or obvious after the true order has been discovered; nothing is more perplexing before. . . . Step by step the whole series emerged from confusion. . . . It was only after all this vast labor had been gone through, after State papers and letters had been thoroughly sifted and described, after Patents, Privy Seals, and Signed Bills had been all likewise fully examined and summarized, after the whole of these documents had been carefully chronologized and the result already printed, Mr. Brewer sat down to write these prefaces, which are here presented in another form."

(To be continued).

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