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The Montreal Witness

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AN IMPOSING CEREMONY

Consecration of Mgr. Bruchesi,
Archbishop of Montreal, at
St. James Cathedral.

Nineteen Prelates Occupied Seats
in the Sanctuary.

His Grace Archbishop Begin Officiated,
Assisted by Mgr. Duhamel of
Ottawa and Mgr. Langevin
of St. Boniface.

An Eloquent Sermon by Mgr.
Emard of Valleyfield.

The Clergy Throughout the Province
of Quebec and Representatives of
Various Religious Orders Pre-
sent in Large Numbers.

St. James Cathedral on Sunday morning last witnessed the greatest event in its history. The consecration of His Grace Archbishop Paul Bruchesi is unique in the annals of the Catholic Church of Canada, for to him belongs the honor of being the first prelate consecrated Bishop of Montreal. All his predecessors wore the title transferred from other dioceses. This Mgr. Lartigue was first Bishop of Pleassis, Mgr. Bourget of Telmesse and Archbishop Fabre of Marianopolis and of Montreal in succession to Mgr. Bourget. Mgr. Bruchesi, heretofore Canon, is therefore the first prelate who steps into the charge of the Archdiocese of Montreal as his first episcopal charge, and he is also the first prelate who has been ordained in the great Catholic Cathedral of Canada. The officiating prelates have been already given in the TRUE WITNESSES. Mgr. Begin, the consecrating Bishop, was assisted by Mgrs. Duhamel and Langevin. Rev. Canon Duhamel acted as assistant priest, while Rev. Father Filiatrault, Superior of the Jesuits, and Rev. Abbé Chevrier performed the office of deacon and sub-deacon to Mgr. Begin. Abbé Therien of Mount St. Louis assisted Mgr. Langevin and Rev. Father Lesage, of Chambly, Mgr. Duhamel, Rev. Abbé Perron was master of ceremonies and Rev. Abbé Foucher sub-master of ceremonies.

Fallon, of St. Patrick's; Rev. James M. Desaulniers, Salida, Cal.; Rev. J. B. Morin, North West; Rev. P. J. Brady, chaplain; Rev. R. E. M. Brady, rector of St. Lawrence Church, Hamilton; Abbé Briisset, curé of Hochelaga; Rev. Joseph H. Forbes, chaplain; Rev. J. G. L. Forbes, Caughnawaga; Rev. H. Barré, Ste. Marie de Monnoir; Rev. Elzéar Chiquet; Rev. J. A. Dufrene, curé of Windsor; Rev. C. D. Trochier, curé of Island Pond, Vt.; Rev. J. M. Carter, Rev. Emile Giro, Rev. C. L. Joubert curé of Dorval; Rev. Armand Bouchet, Rev. Eugene Leflamme, secretary of Mgr. Begin; Rev. Father Bernard, Rev. J. P. Hackett, South Hadley Falls, Mass.; Rev. T. Popin, Rev. Fr. E. Erement, Ste. Cunegonde; Rev. J. Monly, Rev. F. Laliberte, Rev. L. Piette, Rev. Alex. Daigneau, Rev. John C. Brophy, Rev. J. A. Jacques, Terrebonne; Rev. A. H. Marolais, Rev. A. R. Lamarche, Rev. J. C. Allard, Rev. L. Domberton, Rev. J. A. Dubise, R. Pelletier, St. Cunegonde; Rev. J. A. Millard, Rev. J. A. Hervieux, Rev. E. Hervieux, St. Bernard's Seminary, Rochester; Rev. Patrick McDonald, Rev. P. Champagne, Rev. A. A. Ethier, Rev. J. H. Morin, Rev. T. D. Labreche, Rev. Father Labelle, Rev. E. Contant, of Bordeaux; Rev. P. S. Gendron, St. Hyacinthe; Rev. Father Belard, curé of St. Contant; Rev. F. X. Rabeau, curé of St. Lambert; Rev. G. Delavigne, S. S.

PROMINENT LAYMEN.
Among the laymen present were Sir Adolphe Chapleau, Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of Quebec, with Colonel Drolet and Captain Panet, A.D.C.'s; Hon. Felix Marchand, Hon. A. R. Angers, Hon. L. O. Taillon, Justices Wurtele, Baby, Jette, Mathieu, Delormier, Pagnuelo, Loranger, Doherty and Des-



ARCHBISHOP BEGIN, CONSECRATING PRELATE.

secreter and the elect partaking of the Holy Communion together. Archbishop Bruchesi, invested with mitre, staff and ring, was then conducted to the episcopal throne. The Te Deum was intoned, and while its joyful notes were pealing through the church, His Grace stepped from the High Altar to bless the people. The first to receive it and kiss his ring was his mother, who sat near the altar rails during the entire ceremony. The consecration sermon was delivered by Mgr. Emard, and he chose for his text: "Go, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world." His concluding words were: "Long years to your venerable and well beloved Metropolitan Archbishop of Montreal; may your reign be long and prosperous and

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upon you the plenitude of priesthood, made you the source thereof and confided to you the mission of perpetuating it throughout the world. Besides the power of jurisdiction, by virtue of which you were already, by your election pastor and prince of the Church, you now possess, Monsignor, the power of order, you are priest complete, sacrificer par excellence, supreme hierarch. For this reason the members of the chapter of your cathedral and all the clergy of the diocese bow with religious respect before your sacred person happy to be able to salute, in the well beloved brother of yesterday, in the sympathetic and zealous companion of your labors, the successor of the apostles, the delegate of the Holy

reign of that Church whose glory you promised to obtain and whose interests to defend even to the shedding of your blood. The address from the French Canadian Catholics of the Archdiocese was read by Hon. Judge Loranger and breathed in every word that spirit of devotion to its clergy and its Church which is such a distinguishing attribute of this nationality. "We do not forget," said the address, "the great difficulties attending the task which has been entrusted to you. To maintain the integrity of the creed, to preserve its laws, peace, and unity, in such a large diocese, within the limits of which there are so many different

may the Church of Montreal advance under your leadership to the paths of virtue as it did under your predecessors. Long years to you, Archbishop of the City of Mary, the Virgin who loves you and whom you serve with such devotion." The three congratulatory addresses were then presented to the new Archbishop. The first, that from the clergy of the Archdiocese, was read by Canon Racicot and was as follows:—

MONSIGNOR—The gorgeous ceremony which the metropolitan church of Mont-



ARCHBISHOP DUHAMEL, FIRST ASSISTANT PRELATE.

real has this morning, for the first time, witnessed beneath its roof is but the outward sign, the weak image of more sublime things which have just been made manifest in your spirit. At the moment when the consecrating prelate laid his hands upon you and marked your head with the holy oil, Jesus Christ himself linked you to the apostolic chain of those who continue His work upon the earth; He poured

Spirit, invested henceforth with the right to govern them and to rule them. To this sentiment of veneration is added also those of joy, of submission and of hope. Monsignor, the Church of Montreal has been for several months in mourning. The death of the most illustrious Mgr. Edouard-Charles Fabre, of sweet and honored memory, had interrupted the line of pontiffs and cast over all a veil of sadness. But to day that a new pastor is given, that a new chief, chosen by the Vicar of Jesus Christ, takes in hand the direction of affairs, it is with the very ecstasy of sincere joy that this temple is filled with all the splendors of the Catholic cult.



THE NEW ARCHBISHOP OF MONTREAL.

Moreover, the post that is confided to you, Monsignor, is a precious one. The past history of the diocese is not, indeed, without glory and your illustrious predecessors have created illustrious traditions, have been fruitful in good works, have exercised upon all the country an influence often preponderant, sustained at times hard and valiant combats, whether to strengthen the faith in the souls of men or to preserve in their integrity the inalienable rights of Holy Church. Under the pious and sage direction of NN. SS. Lartigue, Bourget and Fabre, the Diocese of Montreal has become one of the most illustrious of the world, and our metropolitan city has deserved to be called the Rome of America.

Called to continue these traditions, to further develop these works, to preserve to Montreal this prestige and this éclat, you have the right, Monsignor, to count upon the co-operation of your chapter and of all your clergy, secular and regular. This co-operation you shall never want. Your Grace will always find in us collaborators eager to share the labors and the sacrifices of your episcopacy. You will command and we shall obey; you will counsel and exhort, and we will do according to your direction and in consonance with your words. May your administration, Monsignor, be long, may it be happy, and may it unite more and more, in our midst, the

Archbishop of Montreal. Our laws on public instruction as all other human institutions can no doubt be perfected, but they rest upon a just principle and are adapted to the needs of the country. While these laws respond to the legitimate aspirations of the different classes of society they enable all to receive religious education, through the fact that they give to each denomination the control of its own schools. And we make it a duty for us to proclaim earnestly that from the point of view of our national autonomy that control is essential.

The third address, that from the Irish Catholic people of the archdiocese, was read by Hon. Dr. Guerin, and was as follows:—

To His Grace, PAUL BRUCESI, Archbishop of Montreal. May it please Your Grace:— Who, from the lips of Leo XIII, there came to us, flashing over wires, the great decree, there was rejecting in the flock that a Shepherd had been chosen, there was joy among the people that the choice had rested on one so worthy, that you had been named by the Sovereign Pontiff to wear the Mitre and bear the Cross of the Archdiocese of Montreal. Today, when the faithful gather around you to behold your second Consecration in the Eternal One, among the thousands of voices that arise in chorus to proclaim allegiance to the Holy See and to Your Grace, one voice rings out as clear, as true, as vocal as ever it has resounded through ages in Christ's Church, and it comes from Irish hearts. When the sands of knowledge in mission to receive your first Episcopal benediction, Irish hearts will bow with loving loyalty to a worthy and able hand, proud to do so, to proclaim themselves your children.

A countless devotion to our priests and prelates is an hereditary tradition of the Irish race, but we of Montreal are bound by more than ordinary ties of gratitude. We have known your sainted predecessors, we have felt from our childhood the faithful care, the tender friendship, the gentle authority of our late beloved and lamented Archbishop Fabre.

His was the same spirit which greeted our fathers when they first came to this, their chosen land. And we have heard of our mother's knowledge of heroic devotion as when the Venerable Bishop Bourget risked life itself to help her and famine-stricken Irish exiles when they were cast, dying, upon these hospitable shores. We have beheld the sacrificial love which made home for the orphan, re-



ARCHBISHOP LANGEVIN, SECOND ASSISTANT PRELATE.

fers for the poor, hospitals for the sick. Learned and holy priests are ever given to us; gentle and devoted nuns walk by our side; and wherever we turn our eyes in our beloved land, they can find rest and refreshment on the shining Cross of a Church spire. We have watched the high aims, the high hopes, the high hearts which have crowned the City of Montreal with this magnificent cathedral, and when we look up to its noble dome, we feel a thrill of pride, for we, too, Irish Catholics, can claim it as our own. In the elevation of Your Grace to the Episcopal See, there is a feeling of exultation among the younger generation. They delight in your virtues, your piety, your talents and your learning—for has not your boyhood been passed among them? Many have lingered with you in the same college halls, learned the same lessons from the same honored teachers, and knelt daily with you at the same altar. To day, a reflex of the honor that has come to you falls upon them; and while reverencing you as the chief pastor, they rejoice as brothers do over a brother's high attainments. With these, Your Grace, and with all the faithful of your diocese, the Irish Catholics unite in praying God that you may be long spared to guide and direct them. Your years of study in Rome are a guarantee of your wisdom. You have imbibed the broad spirit of Holy Church at the Church's unailing source. We pledge our fidelity to your teachings, our loyalty to your person. With "Credo" on our lips, docility in our minds, and valor in our hearts, we will tread the path in which you will lead us. May the peace of Christ, the sweet peace which Leo XIII. would breathe over the world, gathering all into one fold, with one faith, one hope, one heart, be ours in this blessed land. Ours, too, forever be unswerving devotion to Christ's Vicar on Earth, our Sovereign Pontiff. In this, Your Grace, our honored and beloved Archbishop, you will find the assurance of the fidelity, the loyalty and affection of the Irish Roman Catholics of Montreal. His Grace's replies to all the addresses were peculiarly touching and the one spoken more particularly to the Irish race was one which appeal directly to the heart of the Catholic Irishman. He said:—

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ARCHBISHOP EMARD, OF VALLEYFIELD.

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Honorable sir,—Grateful, indeed, am I for this kind tribute of loyalty and affection on the part of the English-speaking portion of that flock which God has entrusted to my spiritual guidance. (Continued on Fifth page.)