



ARCHBISHOP CORRIGAN ON SCHOOLS.

We have before us a lengthy report of Archbishop Corrigan's powerful argument in connection with Catholic education...

After giving this detailed account of the size and development of the great archdiocese of New York, His Grace said:— "Our present most pressing duty is, first, to bring our Catholic schools — primary, intermediate and higher — to the greatest attainable efficiency; second, to cause all the instruction given therein to be permeated and ruled by the spirit of religion.

Table with 2 columns: Category and Value. Includes 'In the churches of New York city', 'Number of children and adults prepared for confirmation from 1890 to 1900', etc.

"Regarding our educational duties, hear the authoritative utterance of him to whom I am about to report the work of the archdiocese during the past decade, addressed to the archbishops and bishops of Austria, Germany and Switzerland on occasion of the tercentenary of Blessed Peter Canisius, S.J. Having shown how beneficial is the public remembrance of virtuous and holy men, the Holy Father compares our own time with that of Blessed Canisius, sketches in outline the history of this great apostle who fought error chiefly through the school, and shows the pressing need of bringing knowledge to the defence of religion. He declares that religion is not adverse to knowledge, but rather its acme and crown; and that secular adds dignity and beauty to sacred science. He exhorts bishops to watch over the schools, not only primary, but higher, in order that, besides preserving religion in its entirety, the rights of the church, and of the parent may be safeguarded against mixed schools (wherein members of various creeds are taught), of which he points out the dangers. He bids them join with the religious instruction of the youthful mind the quickening of the heart by piety and the fear of God—and this not only in primary schools, but also in the gymnasias, lyceums and universities."

FEAST OF OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL.

The patronal feast of St. Mary's parish was duly observed on Sunday last. The Triduum which preceded the feast was also in every way a great success. Each evening of the celebration the church was crowded to the doors with pious worshippers—all eager to partake in the spiritual blessings attached to these devotions. Rev. Father Helfferan delivered the sermon each evening with that eloquence for which the Rev. Father is noted. However, on Friday, the closing evening, he surpassed all previous efforts, and his practical and instructive discourse will long be remembered by the people of the parish. On Sunday morning, large numbers assisted at the early masses, many of them approaching the Holy Table. At ten o'clock solemn High Mass was sung by Rev. Father Condon, St. Laurent College, assisted by Rev. Fathers Rioux and McDermott, as deacon and sub-deacon respectively. Rev. Father O'Donnell preached a short but very instructive sermon on the devotion to the Blessed Virgin, and exhorted his hearers to always remain true and devoted children of their good Mother. The high altar was tastefully decorated with choice plants and flowers, while the side altar, where the beautiful picture of Our Lady of Good Counsel was placed, was ablaze with lights, and surrounded by many rich and beautiful ornaments. The music was also in keeping with the solemnity of the occasion. Prof. Wilson, the well-known organist of the church, displayed great taste in the selections for the service. A very fine Mass (Prof. Wilson's latest composition) consisting of solos, duets, trios and choruses, was admirably rendered in every particular by the fine choir, under the direction of Mr. J. B. Paquette. To particularize would be useless, but we cannot refrain from mentioning the names of those who contributed to make the affair a success. Messrs. Emblem and Cielland. At the Offertory D'Anjou's beautiful "Sub Tuum" for solo and chorus was given with much effect. Mr. Thomas Emblem rendering the solo in his usual proficient manner. In the afternoon, at 4.30, the Rev. Pastor enrolled the children in the secular of Our Lady of Good Counsel. In the evening, at 7.30, His Grace, the Archbishop, paid his annual visit to the parish, and confirmed the children. Long before the

hour the church was thronged. The ringing of the church bell announced the arrival of His Grace. A procession of altar boys, led by the cross-bearer and two acolytes, marched slowly up the centre aisle, followed by Rev. Fathers McDermott, Armour, Loneragan, Rioux, Helfferan, Desrosiers, then came the Archbishop, assisted by Rev. Fathers O'Donnell and Kavanagh, S.J. As the procession wended its way towards the sanctuary, the organ pealed forth a grand march. At this time the church looked beautiful in the extreme, the myriads of tapers, colored lights and the electric lights especially around the dome and sanctuary, showing the beauty and grandeur of the artistic work done around the church. It was a sight that brought joy and happiness to the hearts of the assembled worshippers. Arranged in pews on each side of the centre aisle were the boys and girls to be confirmed, to the number of nearly eighty. The girls looked well in their long flowing veils, while the boys were neatly attired in black suits. When the Archbishop had vested, turning to the congregation, he addressed a short but beautiful discourse, which shows the tenderness and earnest solicitude for the dearest portion of his flock — the children. His Grace spoke as follows:— "My dear children:— "These days are great days for a Christian. It is a pleasure for a bishop to confirm ten or twelve thousand children in a year. This time is a time of happiness, because you receive the precious gifts of the Holy Ghost. I am after confirming a class of 320 children before I came here, and now I am going to confirm you. You are confirmed once in your life-time. You are going to receive a great Sacrament. You have prepared yourselves by prayer and the Sacrament of Penance. When I entered the church I knelt to adore our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament, and while doing so I felt the need of saying a prayer to Our Lady of Good Counsel. Whilst gazing upon that beautiful picture which I brought from Rome, two years ago, I thought of the happy hours which I spent in the Eternal City. The Sacrament of Confirmation is a sacrament of the living. It will make you stronger in the spiritual life. You are already Christians, but to-day you are going to be made perfect Christians and for ever. Every time you go to confession you re-

ceive absolution, which purifies your soul. You receive often Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. When you are in danger of death the Rites of Extreme Unction are given to you, and often more than once, but like the words of the prophet when the ministers of the church are ordained: "Tu es sacerdos in aeternum, etc." the same applies to the ceremony of confirmation; you are confirmed for all eternity. It impresses a character on the soul which can never be effaced. As I have already said, you are confirmed only once. The result of this ceremony is that you are made perfect Christians. What is a Christian? A disciple of our Divine Master. And what is a disciple? A person who is faithful to the teachings of his master. Many men call themselves Christians, and are only such in name. Those who don't keep the commandments of God and of the Church, never go to Mass on Sundays, don't observe the laws of abstinence, don't make their Easter duty. Are these Christians? Only by name. You are young — little Christians. In future you'll be more respectful towards your father and mother, say your prayers every day, go to Mass on Sundays; be devout to the Blessed Virgin Mary; and honor the Sacred Heart of Jesus. In your classes be respectful and obedient to your teachers, and then you'll be good children, and good Christians. When you are good and perfect Christians, you'll also be good citizens. Live up to your religion, until the last day of your lives, and when you ap-

pear at your judgment, you will receive that special reward which will confirm you forever in glory." His Grace then confirmed the children. During this time the "Veni Sancte Spiritus" was admirably rendered by Mr. Thomas Emblem. After the customary prayers being recited, His Grace turned to the people and said: "My dear brethren,—I must congratulate you on the beauty of your church. It is the first time that I had the pleasure of seeing it since it was decorated, and I am delighted with it." Solemn Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament was given by the Archbishop, during which time the choir rendered some excellent music, all of Prof. Wilson's own composition. This brought to a close a celebration which will long be remembered by the people of St. Mary's parish. The "True Witness" extends hearty congratulations to both Pastor and people and wishes them every success in the different works of the parish. The First Communion for the boys and girls of St. Mary's Parish will take place on Ascension Thursday, May 24th. Quite a large number of children are preparing for this solemn event. Inspector McGowan visited the boys' and girls' schools last week, and was highly pleased with the answering in the different classes. A new school is about to be built for the boys.

THE HOTEL DIEU.

"La Semaine Religieuse" of last week publishes a lengthy article under the heading of "The Hotel-Dieu, its Friends and Detractors." As this article places the whole question, of the proposed grant of land in an entirely new light, we take the liberty of publishing a full translation of the document, which reads thus:— "A discussion has arisen in the newspapers over a piece of land which it is proposed to give to the reverend ladies of the Hotel Dieu, the oldest in Montreal, have obtained from the Legislature of Quebec power authorizing the city to donate to this institution a certain extent of land situated on the Mountain park. The liberties of our city fathers are in no way interfered with, and it remains with them to judge of the advisability of making the proposed concessions. It has not been very long, only a few years ago, that another institution of the same kind, an English hospital, received from the corporation a similar gift and of about an equal value without any protestation having been exercised. No passion whatever was exercised, and no influence of caste or party was called into play. "Far from this, the initiative of this act must be sought only in that noble sentiment of benevolence towards the poor and the sick; for it is in vain that they could be sought elsewhere. This is so true that the text of the law investing the corporation of the city of Montreal with the power to cede the land to the Hotel Dieu was introduced in the amendments to the charter, without any participation of the reverend ladies, and even without their knowledge. Neither was the ecclesiastical authorities consulted in the matter. Is it not surprising, therefore, to see certain writers throwing insult and injury upon these nuns who devote themselves in silence with the most admirable and constant perseverance to the relief of human sufferings? Of what reprehensible act have they been guilty, and what bad sentiments have they uttered in this case? "Shut up in their cloister by day and by night, they pass their time in prayer at the foot of the altar, or at the bedside consoling the sick and dying. The services so full of charity and abnegation rendered to thousands of unfortunates, which they take in and nurse every year, and this from the cradle of the colony and a long time before the English and Protestants opened asylums for their own sick, these nuns have never asked the city to pay them for what they expend in the public interest, and do not dream of doing so to-day. They, without the least hope of reward here below, give more than \$100,000 a year. This enormous sum they raise from the revenues of their properties, on which all the taxes are levied just the same as those who only think of enjoying themselves and becoming rich. Such is the life of these humble nuns. Such is their work amongst us, since Mile. Mance's arrival at Ville Marie, their heroic foundress. "Such is their sole occupation, their

only ambition. The Protestants as well as the Catholics, citizens of both the English and French tongue, have always benefited by their charity and devotion, and they will always benefit by it, for the doors of the Hotel Dieu have never been closed, and will never be closed upon the poor, irrespective of nationality and religion. And now, because thoughtful and compassionate minds, without whispering a word to these nuns, have proposed to ask the city to furnish the Hotel Dieu means of enlargement to the profit of the poor, there are journalists who find it just to traduce these modest servants of suffering humanity. They cry shame upon these women, who have made themselves sisters and mothers of the poor and afflicted, and they likewise accuse them of covetousness and envidia. This is the lowest and most humiliating kind of fanaticism. It passes all reason, and such language calls for indignant protestation. It is a sectarian hate that should bring the blush of shame to every man of honor. "But it will suffice to issue a formal denial against these insulters of what virtue and grace have produced the most generous and purest on the earth. No, the Sisters of the Hotel Dieu do not covet this part of the Mountain Park. No, never. Neither directly nor indirectly have they asked for it, no more than they have ever asked for any contribution from private or public charity. "The asylum that they have opened for the poor, the food they have given them, the medical care and nursing that they lavish upon them, in the hospital, or in the dispensary, perhaps the most beautiful in America; nothing of all this has been taken from the treasury of the city, none of it asked from the people, but all has been provided from the savings of the poor and modest life they lead. "If, however, the doctors of the Hotel Dieu, aided by their friends, demand and obtain from the city the piece of ground adjoining the institution, the religious, in their spirit of devotion, will accept it in the name of the poor, although such a donation would impose upon them onerous duties. "To the insults heaped upon them they will thus respond, while waiting for Providence to supply them with the means for enlarging the institution. In the present state of their affairs, in truth, the Sisters of the Hotel Dieu are unable to add anything to their annual expense. "Far, then, from wishing for the lands of the city, the ladies, in all the noble and Christian acceptance of the word, will not refuse to increase their devotedness, if the aldermen, as interpreting the popular feeling, demand it. "Once more, we say that it is unnecessary to express here congratulations to those distinguished citizens who, in consideration of the spirit of sacrifice of the sisters, have taken steps to assure the extension of their work."

A PLEA FOR THE TEACHER.

As mentioned in our American notes, we desire to reproduce a considerable portion of Mgr. Conaty's admirable address delivered at the Catholic Colleges Conference. In substance, the learned President said:— "The whole question of collegiate success would seem to hinge upon the teacher; the dry wood of form counts for little with one who has the teaching spirit and is equipped

for his work. Vocation, knowledge, ability to impart, devotedness to study, ambition to excel, power to excite interest, enthusiasm, personality, are elements that make for success. A thorough and critical knowledge of the subjects to be taught, an intimate acquaintance with one science, calls for the training which will fit a man to be a master, and make it possible for him to inspire

confidence in himself and love for scholarship in others. If there be no interest the seed falls on land through which no plow has passed. Hence the demand for the university trained man, who has been acquainted with knowledge, and familiarized with scientific methods. The teacher has always been a power and an influence for good. All nations in all times, have loved and respected him. What a chapter might be written on the teachers who have influenced mankind! There stands the great teacher, who, by his word, changed the thought of mankind and led humanity through redemption to God. Christ is the model teacher among men. What a roll of honor in the names from Athens to Rome, from Sinai to Jerusalem, from Iona to St. Gall, from Paris to Oxford, from Leipzig to Louvain. They are the immortals belonging to no one race, but kinsmen of all men in the republic of intellect and truth. They still live and influence human thought."

"Mgr. Conaty spoke of the difficulties under which our Catholic teachers have labored, especially in non-Catholic countries, and paid a feeling tribute to the devotion and scholarship of the men who have laid the foundation of our splendid educational system. He had a strong word to say for the overburdened college teacher who, in studies correlated had more than could be done successfully, and who in studies widely divergent was asked to do the almost impossible. Bad results must follow. Give the teacher a chance to study that he may perfect himself. Place at his hand the literature of his science, and give him time to read it. Put him in contact from time to time with men engaged in the same work, that he may have an opportunity to broaden and develop. Let the man called to college teaching be sent to the university, where he may have the preparation which will equip him for his noble mission."

ARCHBISHOP IRELAND AND ENGLISH CATHOLICS.

Archbishop Ireland, the learned prelate of St. Paul, has addressed a letter to the Duke of Norfolk, President of the Catholic Union of Great Britain, from which we take the following paragraphs:— "I desire to say to the Catholic Union of Great Britain that the passing of time has not decreased the vividness of my gratitude for the cordial welcome which it then extended to me, and for the many significant acts of kindness which, on other occasions during my visit to London, its president and several of its members were pleased to bestow upon me. "The memory of the Catholic Union of Great Britain is deeply imbedded in my soul, and will remain unaltered there during the coming years of my life. "The Catholics whom I had the honor to meet recognized in me a fellow-Catholic, and were pleased to give evidence that the bonds of faith do not slacken when strung across oceans and continents; and with them the Protestants whom I had the honor to meet recognized in me an American, and all were pleased to embrace the opportunity to indicate their regard for America by their treatment of one of its citizens, however small may have been the personal title of that citizen to such treatment. "To have been brought into near relation with the Catholic Union of Great Britain was an event in my life that I prize most highly. Meeting the Union, I realized I was in the presence of a body of men remarkable in a signal degree, both for its membership, and for the manifest work set before it. "In its membership I saw the representatives of the families of heroes and martyrs, who in penal days had, under penalty of such fearful sacrifices, stood guard around the devastated altars of religion; and, I saw there, too, the converts of recent times, whose coming into the bosom of Mother Church announces the "Second Spring" of the growth of Catholicity in England. In presence of an assembly of such nature, what could my prayer have been but what it was, that the glory of the Church's future in England be no less bright than that of her past, and that never again in her story there be recorded an interruption in her march of power and conquest. "In the membership of the Union, among old-time Catholics and among converts, I saw men whose princely names and princely deeds are the

pride of the British Empire; I saw there men whose exalted intellectual gifts reach out in richest influence throughout the whole English-speaking world; and in the presence of all such I could not but have said, as I did say to myself—whatever such men undertake to do cannot fail of being well done.

And the work set before the Catholic Union of Great Britain — need I state it?

It is a broad, plain fact in the geography of the world — a fact daily becoming broader and plainer — that the English language is circling the globe, that English-speaking countries are constantly growing with speed that nothing seems able to arrest, in territory and in influence. I certainly shall not belittle the spheres of influence of language other than the English, or deny in the least the importance to the Church of countries speaking those languages; let due place be given to all agencies in the great work of religion. But, this said, the truth is before us, that in the present, and more yet in the future, the minds of peoples spread over immense regions of the globe are to be reached only through the English language, and that very much of the missionary work of the Church is to be done under the aegis of English-speaking countries. This fact cannot, in the interest of religion, be too strongly impressed upon English-speaking Catholics, and upon the representatives and leaders of the Universal Church herself. Whatever the institutions and influences that are strong and potent where the English language holds sway, these will be strong and potent in shaping the destinies of the world.

OBITUARY.

THE LATE MR. JOHN CONWAY.

Death comes "like a thief in the night," and equally does the great spirit appear when least expected in broad noon-day hours. In the person of what sudden death of Mr. John Conway, superintendent of the Lacine Canal, Montreal loses a promising and worthy citizen. For some short time back Mr. Conway has been living with his wife at the Balmoral Hotel. On Wednesday he went down as usual to the general dining room for his midday meal. After the repast he returned to take a short rest in his sleeping apartments. He cast himself on a sofa for a moment's repose, and almost immediately expired. The shock must have been great when Mrs. Conway heard the sad news. The deceased was only forty years of age, but his varied and important duties, as he moved upwards in the scale of employments, have rendered him much more widely known than is many a man of double his years. Six years ago Mr. Conway succeeded the late Mr. E. Kennedy, as superintendent of the canal. There will be very widespread and deep sympathy for his bereaved family, and the "True Witness" desires to convey to them the expression of a sorrow that will find an echo in the hearts of hundreds of our readers.— R.I.P.

MISS MURRAY.

After three months of constant illness borne with remarkable fortitude and resignation, Miss Minnie Murray, daughter of Mr. Edward Murray, Pt. St. Charles, passed to her reward. She was a promising young lady of 21 years of age. To say that her death has caused widespread sorrow amongst her relatives and friends is but feebly giving expression to the regrets which are heard on all sides over her early demise. Having contracted a gripe some fourteen months ago, a short time ago she recovered sufficiently to go to Ste. Agathe mountains; her condition was such as to allow hope to linger in the hearts of her relatives and friends, but, as is so often the case, the apparent improvement noted was but the prelude of the messenger of death. Despite the efforts of the best medical skill and careful nursing, she succumbed. The funeral service took place in St. Ann's Church on April 18th, where a solemn Requiem Mass was chanted, at which the choir and school boys of St. Ann's assisted.— R.I.P.

MINES OF ONTARIO.

The "Toronto Globe" says: The total mineral output for the year was valued at \$8,785,251, as compared with \$7,235,877 during 1898, which was, by a wide margin, the highest previous year. There were 9,979 hands employed in mineral production, against 7,495 during the previous year, and the total wage bill was \$2,921,397, against \$2,464,259 for 1898. Iron occupies the most important place among the metallic minerals of Ontario. The production of pig-iron reaching \$808,157. In addition to this there was an output of iron ore worth \$30,951. This industry employed 287 hands, and had a wage bill of \$96,332. The nickel output of the province was valued at \$525,104, and for this product, together with \$176,237 worth of copper, 839 employees were paid \$443,879 in wages. The gold output was \$419,328, and in this line of mining 537 employees received \$278,094 in wages. The output of silver was valued at \$65,575, and zinc was next in importance, with a total output of \$24,000.