

As early as May 14 we had 80 degrees in the shade, the leaves of many trees were out, and the mosquito was sending in his bill for the red corpuscles.

The long desired rain fell, gently and a little, on May 15, and more the following day, when the first thunderstorm of the season occurred, and still more on Sunday, the 17th inst.

The commissioners of Lorain county, Ohio, have contributed \$1,000 to find the murderer of Agatha Reichlin and thus completely clear the name of Father Ferdinand Walser, so unjustly and so unwarrantably arrested for the crime, and afterwards enthusiastically acquitted. A Cleveland millionaire has added \$4,000, and the Knights of Columbus \$2,000. The fund will probably reach \$25,000.

Another French colonel has asked to be placed on the retired list rather than lead a battalion of infantry against the entrenched monks at Marseilles. And Marseilles is a hotbed of red-republicanism. The monks will ultimately have to go; but they will leave behind them in the French army a crop of dragon's teeth that may some day not far distant rise up a revolutionary army.—Western Watchman.

Two events of recent occurrence in different parts of the world have caused great rejoicing among the faithful—viz., the conversion of a chief and the whole of his people, numbering nearly 2,000 souls, in Fiji in the South Sea Islands, and the submission en masse of more than 15,000 separated Gr'eks, belonging to the districts of Ackar, Hosu and Safita.—Ave Maria.

These people sent a deputation to Mgr. Dodmani, Greek Melchite Catholic Bishop of Tripoli and were received by him into the Roman Catholic Church, in consequence of which the bishop has been ill-treated and two of his priests poisoned by schismatics.

It appears from last Saturday's cablegrams that the Catholics of Preston secured the return of the Tory candidate. Almost one-third of the population of that thriving town—twice the size of Winnipeg—are Catholics, and, though on other questions many of them vote on the Liberal side, yet on the question of the Education Act they are a unit for the present government which has so bravely sustained the principle of religious teaching in schools against the howls and misrepresentations of the nonconformists.

A despatch from Rome, dated May 16, announces that the diocese of Vancouver's Island has been detached from the ecclesiastical province of Oregon and raised to the dignity of an archbishopric. It has always been an anomaly that a Canadian bishop should be under an American metropolitan. This anomaly is now removed and Bishop Orth becomes an archbishop. Rumors are rife as to who will be the suffragan bishops; some say New Westminster and Yukon, which last would imply that Yukon is to be detached from Mackenzie.

Mr. Leon Trefle Cherrier, father of the Rev. A. A. Cherrier, completed his eightieth year on May 13. Both he and his devoted wife, now 73 years of age, are in fairly good health.

A daughter was born to Mr. and Mrs. Zephyrin Picard on May 17, and baptized the next day by her grand uncle, Father Cherrier. Thus begins the fifth Picard family.

The Free Press "Twenty Years Ago" column chronicles the ordination of Rev. J. Messier as priest, and of Rev. T. Campeau as deacon on the 19th of May, 1883.

The Very Rev. George Meyer, Visitor of the Brothers of Mary, arrived here last Saturday on his annual visitation and left for Chicago on Thursday the 21st. He says the great college of his order in Paris, St. Stanislaus, is now secularized. The Superior General of the Order now resides at Nixelles in Belgium, near Brussels.

ST. PIE-LETELLIER.

Seeding is well advanced in this neighborhood, and the grain coming up well. A little rain would not be unwelcome.

A sad accident occurred at Letellier last Thursday. The large stable owned by Mr. Jacques Parent, and used as a machine shop by Mr. P. Turner, was being moved out of the way of the new convent. Something in the moving machinery broke and swinging back struck Moise Cote, knocking him senseless. The poor boy regained consciousness sufficiently to receive the last sacraments, and died about two o'clock, two hours after the accident. The family have the deepest sympathy of all in their sad and sudden bereavement. The funeral took place on Saturday morning and was largely attended.—R.I.P.

We hear a good deal of talk about new buildings, but the work is not yet begun.

The sale of lands on the Indian Reserve is to take place on Friday. It is expected to realize big prices.

Mrs. J. Jutras and children are visiting her mother, Mrs. Blais, in Winnipeg.

Mr. J. Parent has sold the land at St. Pie formerly owned by Mr. A. Hohle to Messrs. Cadieux and Forest for the sum of \$3,800.

Will the Northwest Review kindly tell us what was the origin of the term "celestial," as applied to the Chinese?—Ed. Note.—China is often called the "Celestial Empire," probably because the emperors of China call themselves Sons of Heaven (Tien-tsu).

PASTORAL LETTER ON THE UNION OF PRAYERS.

(Continued from last week.)

It is not unknown to you, well beloved brethren, that in a new country like ours, many are forced to die far from their family, and even some times far from the priest. How many die the victims of accident in the midst of a population alien to their faith and their language, and how many, consequently, who are forgotten. Their graves remain without honor and the prayers of the Church have not been recited for their poor forsaken souls. Does any distress merit more our compassion?

Ah! if a good priest of St. Sulpice was right in establishing at Montreal, rather more than half a century ago (1851), the pious association of "Union of Prayers" in order to procure for the poor of that great Catholic City the honor of fitting interment, have we not reason to establish this same association in our diocese for all the faithful? If the poor and the forsaken are more in need of it, will not the rich profit also by it, at the same time contributing to encourage a great work of charity?

We know, dearly beloved brethren your tender charity for the departed. We know that in many places you love to have Masses said or sung for their intention. But does it not happen too often that some forget their dead, even those who were dearest to them and to whom they owed the greatest obligations? Have we not in this place of horrible torments such or such a parent or superior, or friend, detained there for having been too indulgent towards us?

More than this, we canonize our dead too easily and think them too soon delivered from all suffering, and already in possession of Heaven. The justice of God is much to be dreaded and his judgments are very different from ours.

Those who come from Europe and who are the sons of the Christian nations of old know that foundations of masses in perpetuity for the dead, and an immense number of monuments which have survived religious and social revolutions witness to the devotion of the ages of Faith towards the holy souls of Purgatory; the children of Catholic Canada and the first civilized inhabitants of the country who were the first born of the faith, have always considered it their duty and their glory not to neglect their dead, and it is sometimes the poorest who are the most generous.

Authentic revelations have made known that certain persons, pious but negligent and un-mortified have passed years in Purgatory. Is there not reason to believe that God has sometimes permitted the departed to come and undergo their purgatory in the places where they had

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lived in order to instruct the living and lead them to succor poor forgotten souls?

Let us then renew in our hearts, dearly beloved brethren, the memory of our cherished dead. Let us ask ourselves if we have fulfilled towards them our obligations of justice, proceeding from donations to the living, from wills, or again from obligations of charity. Let us see if we have done for them what we ought to have done, either by reciting prayers, giving alms or above all, in having the holy Sacrifice of the Mass celebrated for their intention.

The blood of Jesus Christ is a refreshing dew which mitigates the sufferings of these holy captive souls far from the God whom they love, and consumed by a mysterious fire, instrument of divine justice. Well, beloved brethren, when one in affliction makes known to you his distress, or when you are witness to the misery of a family in tears, your heart is moved, and your purse opens to relieve your afflicted brothers; the suffering members of Jesus Christ. Alas! the flames of purgatory cannot come and striking on your senses, show you the lamentable state, of these souls thus exciting your pity; but faith tells you how terribly they suffer. Will you not then have compassion for them? When recollected and silent you pray in your houses, or in the house of God, listen, and you will hear, coming up from the depths of purgatory, voices of anguish, the voice perhaps of a dearly loved husband, or wife, of a darling son or daughter, of the friend of your heart, or perhaps, of a father or mother who loved us. "Have pity on me, have pity on me at least you, my friend, for the hand of the Lord has touched me." Will you be deaf, dearly beloved brethren, to an appeal so touching, you who have such a lively faith, and a heart so compassionate?

Ah! we are persuaded that we shall fulfil one of the most ardent desires of your piety, by establish-

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ing in the diocese, the pious association of the Union of Prayers, which will be for all this country a source of grace and benediction, and which will assure us one day in return, the compassionate pity of our brethren, for it is said: "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy."

For these reasons, the holy name of God being evoked, we have enacted, regulated and ordained; we enact, regulate and ordain that which follows:—

1st. The pious association of Union of Prayers and good works for the departed, such as established in the Church of Notre Dame, Montreal, is by the present Pastoral Letter canonically established in our diocese and will be henceforth numbered with the diocesan works and associations.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION.
Austin St., near C.P.R. Station.
Pastor, REV. A. A. CHERRIER.

SUNDAYS—Low Mass, with short instruction, 8.30 a.m.
High Mass, with sermon, 10.30 a.m.

Vespers, with an occasional sermon, 7.15 p.m.

Catechism in the Church, 3 p.m.

N.B.—Sermon in French on first Sunday in the month, 9 a.m. Meeting of the children of Mary 2nd and 4th Sunday in the month, 4 p.m.

WEEK DAYS—Mass at 7.30 a.m. On first Friday in the month, Mass at 8 a.m. Benediction at 7.30 p.m.

N.B.—Confessions are heard on Saturdays from 3 to 10 p.m., and every day in the morning before Mass.

C. M. B. A.

Grand Deputy for Manitoba.

Rev. A. A. Cherrier, Winnipeg, Man.

Agent of the C.M.B.A.

for the Province of Manitoba with power of attorney, Dr. J. K. Barrett, Winnipeg, Man.

The Northwest Review is the official organ for Manitoba and the Northwest, of the Catholic Mutual Benefit Association.

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