

## THE ARCHBISHOP'S CIRCULAR.

EXTRACTS FROM THE LETTER OF THE 18th NOV. '92

Holidays Suppressed—Agricultural Schools and Experimental Farms—Two Important Points for Catholics to Read.

We purpose translating, from the circular letter issued by His Grace Archbishop Fabre, on the 18th November last, to the clergy of the diocese, two extracts which apply in a particular manner to the faithful at large.

## Holidays Suppressed.

By an *Adult*, dated 28th January last, our Holy Father Pope Leo XIII., has suppressed, in the ecclesiastical provinces of Quebec and Montreal, three feasts of obligation, namely: that of the Apostles St. Peter and St. Paul; that of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary; and that of the Corpus Christi, and has permitted the solemnization of each on the succeeding Sunday.

In announcing to the faithful this benevolent concession on the part of the Holy See, you (the clergy) will remind them, that even as the Sovereign Pontiff has the right to institute feasts of obligation, so does he possess the power of abolishing them, once established, when grave reasons require it.

In truth, the Church, in the institution of her solemn festivities, not only proposes to elevate the majesty of the divine services, to be celebrated with greater attractiveness the mysteries of religion, or to honor more worthily the memory of the Saints, but she moreover desires thus to cause all Christian peoples to rejoice, to awaken their devotion, nourish their piety, strengthen their faith and render more easy the paths of salvation. Therefore it is that, even while regretting it, she consents to suppress them, in whole or in part, from the moment that she is assured, that the end in view can no longer be attained, that she feels a danger of the sacred obligations, that are attached to such feasts, being despised or violated, or that she recognizes the difficulty of their fulfilment.

A diminution of faith in souls, less zeal on the part of the faithful in the fulfilment of religious duties, the sad necessity in which, in several countries, a great number of Catholics find themselves, in consequence of their relations with protestants, to perform manual labor every day of the week if they don't wish to lose lucrative positions, and often necessary for the support of families, such are the principal reasons for which the Church allws those feasts, which appear the less easy of observance, by the people to be taken off the list of holy days of obligation.

It is this last mentioned motive especially that determined the Archbishops and Bishops of the Province of Quebec to ask of Rome the suppression of the three feasts above mentioned.

However, the permission granted to perform, on these days, the ordinary work of their profession, their trade, or their employment, does not include an exemption from assisting at the holy sacrifice of the Mass, which, as in the past, remains a precept for the Catholics of this diocese.

Confessors, however, are authorized to grant dispensation from that obligation in the case where its fulfilment would be difficult, but the dispensation should be granted in the confessional, and some pious exercise imposed upon the one who may have obtained it.

## Agricultural Circles.

The science of agriculture daily becomes more and more necessary in our country. In France, Belgium, the United States and elsewhere the greatest facilities are accorded in order to assure its development and diffusion. Constant efforts are made to increase the product of lands, to ameliorate the quality of the products, and to lessen the cost of the profits. Our Province should then participate in this movement, if it does not desire to fall into a state of inferiority that would render impossible any successful struggle with its competitors on these important points.

Moreover, we must assist our farmers in here making out honorable and easy livelihoods, and, thereby, attach them to the soil. Thus we would succeed, at least in a great measure, in checking the march of emigration of so many of

our fellow countrymen to the United States. By proving to them, that by means of rational cultivation of the land, they can, without any doubt as to the future, properly provide for the education and the establishment of their families; instead of beholding our olden parishes depopulated, we will see, on the contrary, new agricultural centres arise in those vast regions still open to colonization.

With a view to obtaining these different and very desirable results, agricultural schools and experimental farms have been established by the Government. Unfortunately, experience has proven the insufficiency of these schools where only a few privileged persons can gain admission. The masses must be reached, and have explained for them, as well as demonstrated, the most remunerative methods of agriculture, and have pointed out the means to make immediate use of them and thereby augment their well being.

Therefore, it is not without cause that we hope to arrive at this reducing of agricultural science to the level of the ordinary farmers, by organizing numerous and well scattered circles, by having frequent meetings when lectures would be given by most competent men.

I cannot, therefore, do other than encourage the formation of these agricultural circles. In order to be more assured of success, I beg of each foreign vicar to submit, as soon as possible, for my approbation, the name of the priest in his vicariate whom he shall judge to be the most apt to succeed in organizing such circles and to give lectures on agriculture.

These gentlemen will, later on, receive all the pamphlets and documents necessary to guide them in this important work.

I remain, very sincerely,

Dear co-laborers,

Yours devotedly in Our Lord,

LEO CARDINAL CHS.,

Arch. of Montreal.

## LIBERALISM.

The Great Danger Which Threatens Catholicity—How to Guard Against It.

How should Catholics who are perpetually surrounded by the snares of liberalism, guard themselves securely against its dangers? asks Church Progress.

By the organization of all good Catholics, be their number great or small. They should become known to each other, meet each other, unite together in every locality; every city, town or village should have a nucleus of Catholic men of action. Such an organization will attract the undecided, give courage to the hesitating, counteract the influence of hostile or indifferent surroundings. If you number only a dozen men of spirit, no matter. Found societies, especially of young men. Put yourselves in correspondence with older societies in your neighborhood, or even at a distance. Link your associations together, association with association, as the Roman legions used to form the military tortoise by uniting shield with shield over their heads. Thus united, be your number ever so small, lift on high the banner of a sound, pure and uncompromised doctrine, without disguise or attenuation, yielding not an inch to the enemy. Uncompromising courage is always noble, commands sympathy and wins over the chivalric; to see a man battered by the floods, yet standing firm as a rock, upright, immovable, is an inspiring sight. Above all, good example, good example always. What you preach do. You will soon see how easily you force people to respect you; when you have gained their admiration their sympathy will soon follow. Proselytes will be forthcoming. If Catholics only understand what a brilliant secular apostolate they could exercise by being open, straightforward, uncompromising, practical Catholics in word and deed, liberalism and heresy would die a quick death.

Choose among good journals that which is best—the one best adapted to the intelligence of the people who surround you. Read it; but not content with that, give it to others to read; explain it, comment on it, let it be your basis of operations. Busy yourself in securing subscriptions for it. Encourage the reluctant to take it; make it easy for those to whom it seems troublesome to send in their subscriptions. Place it in the hands of young people who are beginning their career. Impress on them the necessity of reading it, show them its

merits and its value. They will begin by tasting the sauce and at last eat the fish. This is the way the advocates of liberalism and impiety work for their journals. So, then, ought we to work ours. A good Catholic journal is a peremptory necessity in our day. Whatever be its defects or inconveniences, its advantages and benefits will a thousand fold outweigh them. The Holy Father has said that a Catholic paper is a perpetual mission in every parish. It is even an antidote to the false journalism that meets you on every side. In general do all in your power to further the circulation of Catholic literature, be it in the shape of book, brochure, lecture or sermon. The weapon of the crusader of our times is the printed word.

Danton, a celebrated French revolutionist, continually cried out "Boldness! More boldness!" Let our constant cry be "Frankness! frankness! light! light!" Nothing will more quickly put to flight the legions of hell, who seduce only under the shelter of darkness.—*Boston Republic.*

## St. Mary's Church.

The festival of the Immaculate Conception was observed with appropriate ceremonial in the church of Our Lady of Good Counsel, Craig street. High Mass was celebrated by Rev. Father McGarry, of St. Lawrence college, and Rev. Father McMenamin occupied the pulpit. After having explained the nature of the feast, the rev. gentleman proceeded to dwell upon the duty of Catholics towards the mother of God. In the evening the spacious church, which was so well attended during the retreat, was packed from the altar steps to the very doors. Immediately after the recitation of the Rosary at 7:30 the concluding sermon of the retreat was preached, Father McMenamin choosing as his theme the following text, "Thou art all fair, O my love, and there is not a spot in thee," Can. chap. iv., ver. 7. The procession of the Blessed Sacrament which followed was imposing. On returning to the sanctuary the benediction was given by Rev. Father McGarry, assisted by Rev. Fathers O'Donnell and Shea as deacon and sub-deacon. At the closing of Benediction over eighty new members were added to the roll of the Children of Mary and Holy Rosary Societies.

## Sanctioning Decrees.

The Sovereign Pontiff has promulgated two Decrees of the Sacred Congregation of Rites sanctioning the favorable judgment of last July on the authenticity attributed to the miracles of certain martyrs in Portuguese India—namely, five Jesuit Fathers in the sixteenth century and five of the Order of Preachers in the eighteenth century. The Jesuits were Rudolph Aquaviva, Alphonsus Paceco, Anthony Francis, and Peter, priests, and Francis Areneo, temporal coadjutor. The Dominicans were Martyr Sanz, titular Bishop of Manicastra and Vicar Apostolic of the province of Fo-Kien; Francis Soriano, titular Bishop of Tipasa and Vicar Apostolic in the same province; and Fathers Rojo, Alceber, and Diaz. There now only remains to be issued the definitive Decree authorizing their beatification to be proceeded with (*into procedi posse*) to complete the solemn ceremony.

## Immaculate Conception Services.

The feast of the Immaculate Conception was observed as a close holiday in Catholic circles. The Court House, City Hall and public offices were closed, and Mass was celebrated in all the churches. The Rev. Cure Sentenne officiated at High Mass in Notre Dame Church, assisted by the Rev. G. A. Loisele and A. Belliveau, deacon and sub-deacon respectively. The sermon was preached by the Rev. Father Wilfrid Hebert. During the service the choir rendered the "Kyrie" and "Gloria," of Witch; the "Credo," of Nava, and the "Sanctus" and "Agnus Dei," of Gounod's mass in C; at the offertory the "Tota Pulchra," of Gemoni, was rendered by Mr. R. Bourdon with a violinello obligato by Mr. J. R. Dubois. Amongst other soloists were Messrs. E. St. Amour, C. O. Lamontagne, J. A. Payette, L. Chalefoux, Dr. Marchildon and Master Lariva.

CHRISTMAS CARDS.—A ton for sale at from 5c per dozen up. Also a fine variety of booklets and box cards; Children's picture books, the cheapest in the city; sets Dickens, Thackeray, Elliot, at cost price. Music.—Buy a dozen or so of pieces for your lady friends.—W. STARR, 21 and 29 Bleury.

## NEWS FROM ROME.

(Gleaned from the London Universe.)

It is announced that Leo XIII. himself will celebrate (God willing) his Jubilee Mass on the 19th of next February in the Vatican Basilica.

A Requiem Mass has been celebrated in the Church of St. Nicholas in Arcione at Rome for the repose of the soul of Cardinal Howard by the Venerable Archconfraternity, of which His Eminence was protector.

General Gervais and his wife, parents of the daughter-in-law of the Ambassador of France to the Holy See, have been admitted to the honour of a Pontifical audience on the presentation of the Countess Lefebvre de Behaine.

The Civiltà Cattolica, the famous review edited by the Jesuits, has an article in its last number on the necessity of the French Royalists rallying round the general Catholic forces of the country to combat on the constitutional ground those French laws which are antagonistic to the Church.

Mgr. Satolli takes no part in the assembly of the American Archbishops, nor has he been delegated to the United States by the Pope with any such object. But the prelate will occupy during three months the chair of theology in the University of Washington. Their Lordships are chiefly occupied with the question of parochial Catholic schools.

The Holy Father has received the Reverend the General of the Order of Servants of Mary, who presented Father Lepicier, Professor of Dogmatic Theology in the Pontifical Urban College of the Propaganda. The Pope entered into a long and affable conversation with the learned professor and encouraged him to follow with earnestness the doctrines of Thomas Aquinas which His Holiness holds so much to heart.

Cardinal Luigi Sepiacci has been named Protector of the Augustinian religious of Santa Marta in Rome. Cardinal Scraphino Vanutelli has been appointed Archbishop of Bologna in place of the late Cardinal Battaglini. His Eminence, who was formerly Nuncio at Brussels and Vienna, will be preconized at the next Consistory. Cardinal Parocchi has been named Honorary President of the Executive Committee for the Jubilee festivals of His Holiness.

The following is the order of the earliest pilgrimages to Rome for the Papal Jubilee: January, the Lorrain pilgrimage; February, the Irish pilgrimage headed by the Primate; the English pilgrimage and the Italian pilgrimage led by several Bishops on the 15th, 16th, and 17th of the month; March, German pilgrimage; April, the French, Belgian, and Spanish pilgrimages. The beatifications announced will take place during presence of the pilgrims at Rome.

## The Cause of Rheumatism.

An acid which exists in sour milk and ether, called lactic acid, is believed by physicians to be the cause of rheumatism. Accumulating in the blood, it attacks the fibrous tissues in the joints, and causes agonizing pain. What is needed is a remedy to neutralize the acid, and to so invigorate the kidneys and liver that all waste will be carried off. Hood's Sarsaparilla is heartily recommended by many whom it has cured of rheumatism. It possesses just the desired qualities, and so thoroughly purifies the blood as to prevent occurrence of rheumatic attacks. We suggest a trial of Hood's Sarsaparilla by all who suffer from rheumatism.

## The Grey Sisters.

The Grey Sisters celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of their establishment at Berlin in September last. The German Empress, although a Protestant, was anxious to give some special mark of her sympathy with these holy ladies. Her Majesty, not having learned the date of the anniversary until too late, has sent a letter to the Prince-Bishop of Breslau in which she expresses her admiration for the activity of the community in the care of the sick, and sincerely wishes every prosperity to their institution.

Must not be confounded with common cathartic or purgative pills. Carter's Little Liver Pills are entirely unlike them in every respect. One trial will prove their superiority.

"Mother, teacher punished me yesterday because I could not point out Moscow on the map." "That was very unjust, dear. Why, Moscow was burned down in 1812."

Tramp (entering broker's office)—"I am sorry to have to beg, sir, but I am broke." Broker—"I am sorry I cannot help you, but I am broker."