

# The Catholic Register.

"Truth is Catholic; proclaim it ever, and God will effect the rest."—BALMEZ.

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PRICE FIVE CENTS.

## The Jesuit Relations and Allied Documents

[WRITTEN FOR THE REGISTER.]

The Bureau Brothers Co., of Cleveland, Ohio, have just received for their issue of "The Jesuit Relations and Allied Documents," being edited for them by Reuben Gold Thwaites, the original manuscript of Father Claude Dablon's famous Relation of the French-Canadian Mission for the years 1676-77. It is a rare find, curiously coming to the surface on the tenth of March last, at Sotheby's auction rooms, in London. The publishing of the annual volumes of the Jesuit Relations at Paris, and how they were found their way into print, is related in 1854, James Linnox for the first time printed this particular Relation, edited by Dr. O'Callaghan; but they followed an abbreviated and modernized manuscript copy at Laval University, Quebec. In 1861, it was again printed in DuRoi's "Mission du Canada," but still in an imperfect form. The lucky finding of the original MS. enables Mr. Thwaites to now present this interesting document just as it was written.

The great project of a complete and perfect publication of the Jesuit Relations is advancing rapidly. We have now the fourth volume under review; and we are bound to say that the more we see of the account of the work the greater grows our admiration. The present volume brings us to the letters of Father Lallemant and to the earliest descriptions found in these documents of the French settlement in Quebec. In the first place, a portrait of Brebeuf, photographed from the painting by Donat Guirio McNab faces the title page, and the contents embrace ten documents along with the lucid notes and bibliographical data in which all the volumes so far have been bound. We take up the chronicle of the final arrival in that important period of the mission of which the account is so interesting, chronicler this indefatigable priest was. It is, however, worth while noting the piratical methods of the Virginian marauders under the leadership of Argall toward the French settlers. When the descent was made upon the mission La Saunoye, who held the patents for the French king, was in the woods. In his absence Argall, or as Biard rightly styles him the "English captain," picked the lock of his trunk and stole the contents of the trunk. When the Frenchman returned he was asked to show his credentials. The Frenchman, not in the least suspecting, perforce, searched his trunk and, of course, could not find the papers. When Argall cried out: "you are outlaws and traitors, every one of you and merit death."

Biard began at once and the encounter forced upon the French could not be avoided, no matter how submissive and circumspect they endeavored to be. This was the occasion of the killing of Du Theil, who was struck by a musket ball. The surgeon on Argall's ship, as Biard relates, was a Catholic and he procured for Du Theil and the rest of the wounded the favor of the priests the last rites of the Church at the hands of Biard. The subsequent kindness which Biard may have been due to the surgeon; for we read that he had the two fathers to eat at his table and treated them with courtesy. The vessel of Father Masse, who was left behind after the departure of Argall's band, were sufficiently exciting to furnish material for a large volume. But Biard is an economical narrator and confines the story to the plain and necessary statements of fact. His own opinion as to the probability of improved upon their voyage to Virginia. The free-booter must have had some good points although he was capable of picking a lock and stealing credentials as a means of manufacturing justification for bloodshed. When we find him in Virginia defending Biard and his fellow priest with magnanimity when the Jesuits stood in need of a friend as appears by the following passage:

"We were all badly frightened, and some lost their peace of mind expecting nothing less than to ignominiously walk up a ladder to be let down disgracefully by a rope. Argall indeed went so far as to produce in defence of the Jesuits the commission of his patents of La Saunoye which he had stolen from the trunk at the mission. This act of Argall's saved the lives of Biard and his friends, the marshal of Virginia not daring to hang men who enjoyed the protection of the king of France. They followed the last determined expedition against St. Saviour and St. Croix, the old settlement of De Monts, all traces of which were destroyed. After the burning of St. Croix, Argall was directed to Port Royal, the centre of the settlement by moonlight and were prevented from landing until the next day by the tide. The French had time to run away or prepare for an attack. The English intended to meet no resistance and thoroughly did Argall order upon the destruction of the French oc-

cupation of Port Royal that pick and chisel were used upon a large stone on which were cut the names of De Monts and others with the flourish of the pen. Argall weighed the anchor from Port Royal and the French settlers who had been holding in the woods with the work of destruction was given up to execution. Biard gave Biard a public salute to execution. It was intended that Biard would surely have been hanged upon the return of Argall to Virginia. But the expedition was not destined to return. It was driven off the intended course towards the Azores and Argall, finding himself in great need of food for his men, it is curious to read that in those days the English people dearly loved a theological disputation. Among the visitors to Argall's ship at Pembroke, Wales, were four ministers among many others attracted by the stories concerning the Jesuits. Biard's reference to the visit of the ministers is interesting:

"From a Lord of the Great Council wished to have the pleas of putting four ministers against them (the Jesuits) in debate. I say ministers to make myself intelligible to the French, for in English they are called priests. And no one in the debate was an Archbishop, for the English still have a great many things in common with the Catholic Church, as the orders of ecclesiastical hierarchy, archbishops, bishops, priests, archdeacons, archdeacons, curates, canon, etc., the episcopal laying on of hands in the ordination of priests and lesser orders, and the manner of celebrating the mass, and the sign of the cross, the image of this and of other things; the palmody and usual forms of worship, the prescribed vestments, the vigils, feast, abstinence from meat on Friday and Saturday; priestly robes and consecrated vessels. And those who condemn all these things, as the Calvinists of France and Scotland, and call them the damnable superstitions and inventions of anti-Christians and are detested by them as abominable plagues."

## The Effect of Thought.

One of the latest and most wonderful achievements of science is a machine for registering thought. Probably a greater triumph of mind over matter it would be impossible to conceive.

It has brought into almost startling prominence a truth which mankind has hitherto taken but little cognizance of, and yet it is one that almost more than any other concerns the welfare of the human race.

Who among us is in the habit of considering how much our unspoken thoughts influence those around us either for good or evil? There may be some who consider this impossible. How, they say, can any effect upon another be brought about without the aid of words? Here the latest discovery of science comes in and furnishes the answer by means of a tiny needle upon a registering machine and poised with such marvellous precision and delicacy that it responds to atmospheric waves that would otherwise be absolutely imperceptible.

The machine, which is not unlike an ordinary gramophone in general appearance, is placed upon the table, and the person whose thought power is to be registered by the needle stands about four feet away, not touching the apparatus in any way, and waits with his eyes fixed upon the needle. The needle is held in place, the impulse moving in response to the imperceptible waves of atmosphere that are being put in motion by the thoughts coming from the brain of the subject. This oscillation is slight or rapid according to the brain power of the thinker, and the number touched by the needle shows the comparative number of waves which the brain of the subject is capable of producing, or, in other words, the intensity of the thought power.

A singular incident occurred during a trial of the machine recently. A gentleman was standing, concentrating his attention upon the needle, when two other gentlemen entered, and not recognizing him, began to speak about the failure of a company according to the reporter he had invested a large amount of money.

The sudden news produced such an effect upon his mind, that, though he remained outwardly calm, his violent mental agitation communicated in an almost imperceptible manner as the delicate needle to travel almost completely round the circle, registering a number that filled the scientist who was conducting the experiment, with amazement.

Metaphysicians have long known and taught the fact of the subtle power of human thought. In the old days the wonderful effects of the unspoken thought of one mind upon another would have been attributed to witchcraft, but in these more enlightened days scientific progress is ever opening up new wonders for our astonished contemplation, the acceptance of a new physical fact, marvellous though it may be, is a matter of course.

## An Interesting Enquiry.

WRITTEN FOR THE REGISTER.

The Annunciation Lady's Day as it used to be called, is an invitation to spend an hour with the blessed Mother, and reflect upon the great things which He who is mighty has done for her.

In a garden of such various loveliness it makes little difference what flower it calls. All are perfect in beauty and fragrance alike. There is, however, one page in the history of the great Queen which would like to dwell upon. It is the page of the mystery in which it seems destroyed by the question: Why did not our divine Lord take His mother to heaven at the ascension? Of course the glory of that mystery was exclusively His own, and she could share in it only as one of its fruits.

But the natural judgment it would seem prominently fitting that she should at least have been the first to follow Him into His glory. Her ineffable nearness to Him had brought on her a life of anxiety, exile and poverty; the fiery sword of prophecy ever piercing, ever burning the very soul in her breast. But when she had to run, like a criminal in the night, off to Egypt, the all-holy burden of the cross was more than enough to bear.

But the knowledge that even our unspoken thoughts have power to influence those around us, should make us doubly careful not only when we are known, but also when alone for thought knows neither distance nor distance, the waves of ether travel more rapidly than lightning, and for all we know to the contrary we may be influencing a person miles away.

And here is the reason: It is the law of our nature that we are constantly sending out our thoughts, and the like Him might never even touch her from whom He was to assume the nature in which He destroyed sin. Hence, too, that vast accumulation of divine light, which through her infancy, and which, full of grace, was simply making her ready for the divine maternity.

It is with sincere sorrow that we notice the death of ex-Alderman James Britton, which occurred in this city on Sunday last. The sad event had taken his many friends by surprise, as lately he was to be seen out, in apparently good health, light of foot and lively of spirit. He looked, notwithstanding his 60 years, as if he had yet to cross the threshold of old age.

Mr. Britton was born in the county of Cork, Ireland, but he spent the greater part of his life in Canada. Toronto was his home for over forty years, and here he laid the foundation and carried on the largest meat trade done in this city outside of the city of Montreal. He was also a member of the Board of the Separate School Trustees, and occupied in that body the responsible position of Secretary, Treasurer with much credit to himself and greatly to the advantage of the Catholic school-tax payers of Toronto.

## Forty Hours at St. Mary's.

The Devotion Attended by Large Crowds of People. The Altar Blessed Sacrament.

The Forty Hours' Devotion was solemnly opened in the above named Church on Sunday morning, March 21st and brought to a close on the Wednesday following. The opening was a solemn High Mass celebrated by Very Rev. John Kelly with Rev. John Kelly as deacon and Rev. William McCann sub-deacon.

At the end of the mass the Vicar explained the dominant idea of the Forty Hours' devotion. Our great central of the Blessed Sacrament in the Catholic church, our heavenly King veiled in His mystery of love dwelling on our altars amidst flowers and lights as a throne, awaiting the praises and adoration of His creatures.

We give public expression to our faith in His real presence. We beg of Him every grace and blessing. We thank Him for His infinite goodness, we acknowledge Him our most humble and hidden God, when He comes in His power and majesty. He will admit us to the sacraments and the adoration of His mystery of love dwelling on our altars amidst flowers and lights as a throne, awaiting the praises and adoration of His creatures.

On Sunday evening Rev. James Walsh of Our Lady of Lourdes preached an eloquent sermon. The sermon on Monday evening was by Dean Egan who in a very forcible manner pictured the effect of sin. The Blessed Sacrament was the subject chosen by Rev. J. J. Head of St. Paul's on Tuesday evening and will long be remembered by the large congregation. Vicar General McCann has every reason to be proud of the manner in which his people turned out to their duty during those three days of prayer. The church was crowded from early morning until the removal of the Blessed Sacrament to the Tabernacle. Thousands approaching the sacraments during these days of grace and benediction.

Mgr. Merry Del Val in Quebec. Mgr. Merry Del Val the Apostolic Delegate to Canada arrived in Quebec on Tuesday afternoon from New York. He was tendered a public reception and proceeded at once to the palace to pay his first respects to Cardinal Tachereau. The Delegate's presence in Canada is an evidence of the loving interest of the Holy Father in this country. His mission was one of peace.

10 YEARS A-SUFFERER. From Kidney Disease—Gravel and Stricture—An Absolute Cure Found in South America. Kidney Cure—A Remedy that Never Fails in the Most Distressing Cases. The solid evidence of experience is behind South American Kidney Cure. Mr. Wilbur Goff of Chippewa, Ont., is simply one of hundreds who have spoken in equally strong words. He says: "After taking six bottles of South American Kidney Cure I am completely cured of stricture and gravel, having suffered from these complaints for over ten years. I found great relief after taking one bottle but completed the remedy until I was perfectly cured and I am now enjoying the best of health."

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He was also a member of the Board of the Separate School Trustees, and occupied in that body the responsible position of Secretary, Treasurer with much credit to himself and greatly to the advantage of the Catholic school-tax payers of Toronto.

Mr. Britton's hobby was his love for the accumulation of dollars and cents alone, for which he had no love. He loved to spend the money enabled him to do. Outside the money earned he served for the good of the city on municipal affairs, and for several years sat at the City Council Board as alderman for St. Lawrence Ward, in which capacity he rendered valuable service to the public interests.

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