

Northwest Review.

THE ONLY CATHOLIC WEEKLY PUBLISHED IN ENGLISH BETWEEN LONDON (ONTARIO) AND THE PACIFIC COAST

VOL. XIX, No. 8

WINNIPEG, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 1903.

\$5.00 per year
\$1.50 if paid in advance
Single Copies 5 cents

CURRENT COMMENT

The truly Catholic thoughtfulness of the St. Mary's school boys who took up a collection among themselves, and got Masses said for the soul of their departed schoolfellow Willie Studhart, exemplifies very practically a principle which the Canadian Messenger of the Sacred Heart recommends in its current number as follows:

November is the month which the Church in her maternal solicitude for her suffering children calls the month of the souls. We have already spoken of the rather pagan fashion of sending flowers to deck the biers and graves of deceased friends, and contrasted with it the Catholic and ever growing custom of replacing these empty tokens of sympathy by the more substantial proof of cards with promises of Masses, alms and prayers. In full view of the Church's teachings and practice concerning the souls in purgatory it is difficult to understand such an empty fashion on the part of good Catholics. Do they forget that but few souls are fit to appear at once in the presence of an all-pure God? Do they forget that the cleansing fires of purgatory cause excruciating pain and that by the communion of saints we, the living, can shorten and even end all the suffering by our prayers, indulgences and, as the council of Trent teaches, especially by the sacrifice of the Mass? With these tragic truths before their minds let them weigh in the balance of true friendship a bunch of flowers against a decade of beads and see which is more acceptable to their departed friend.

The New Zealand Tablet tells a pretty story showing how children take naturally to the kindly face of Pius X.

"While the Holy See was vacant," says the Tablet, "our valued friend the Rev. G. Doyle, Pastor of St. Arnaud (Victoria), placed the published portraits of all the leading Cardinals before the children of his parish school and asked them to pick from among them the one that was to be the next occupant of the chair of St. Peter. The children selected Cardinal Sarto."

The child, who some fifty years ago, was the unwitting occasion of the great luss then made around the "Mortara Case," is now a zealous Catholic missionary. It will be remembered that, having been secretly baptized by a servant-maid, he became the protegee and God-son of Pius IX. The Very Rev. Dr. Montara has written some of his reminiscences for the "Child of Mary." He made the acquaintance of Cardinal Giuseppe Sarto in 1897, when preaching a mission at St. Mark's, Venice, and had many opportunities of observing the character and virtues of the present Pope, who, he says, has an enthusiastic admiration for Pius IX. "Pius X.," writes Dr. Montara, "is a truly humble man, and thoroughly dislikes all outward marks of respect. I was often embarrassed in my intercourse with him, so adverse did he show himself to all expressions of esteem and gratitude." In another place he says: "Pius X. will be a wise, prudent and kind hearted Pope. He will resemble his predecessors, Pius IX. and Leo XIII.,—kind and condescending towards men of good will who seek and love the truth; but at the same time as unrelenting and terrible as the Lion of Juda against the foes and adversaries of the Church of God. With such Pius X., will stand immovable as a rock and before his solemn and final "Non possumus" the powers of hell

will exert all their energy and ingenuity in vain."

Of this firmness, the Rome Correspondent of the New York Freeman's Journal writes as follows: "With all his goodness and gentleness Pius X. has already shown that his hand is as firm as a rock. In many countries today the Church is pestered with groups of what are known as 'liberal' Catholics. They are called 'liberal' because they spend their lives in grumbling and carping and delying, more or less overtly, ecclesiastical authority. Italy is just now sorely afflicted by a number of Catholics with tendencies in the direction of liberalism. . . . Nearly all of them are young men who have picked up with the aid of a fifty-cent dictionary, a smattering of English, who are full of enthusiasm for the "Anglo-Saxon" race and its vigorous Catholicity. . . . Latterly, one of these young men (they are all young men, and they profess a fierce dislike for everything old) declared that he and his party were prepared to lead a revolt against the Association of Catholic Congresses, unless their terms were complied with. But his words had scarcely been printed in one of the organs of his sect when the Holy Father instructed Monsignor Merry del Val to write a letter stating especially that no organization of Catholics would ever be approved by the Sovereign Pontiff which did not act in harmony with the Association. So Pius X., has with a stroke of the pen, put the budding 'liberal' Catholics of Italy, into their proper place."

All the world knows what an unusual combination of gifts Cardinal Merry del Val brings to the high office of the Secretary of State. A cosmopolitan nobleman, of Irish and Spanish blood, trained in the best Catholic schools of England, he speaks English, Spanish, French and Italian with rare perfection. He has been brought into touch with all classes, from the very highest to the lowest. To a wonderful charm of manner he unites the consummate prudence of one who is bred of a race of Catholic diplomats. All this he who runs may read. But what everybody does not know is that he is over and above all this a man of God. Had he followed his own inclinations he would now be a humble religious in the most maligned of all Orders. It was Leo XIII. who decided otherwise, and in doing so he has no doubt followed the designs of Divine Providence. One who has had many long conversations with Cardinal Merry del Val, in Rome, writes that he is far above all party bias. The clever politicians who imagined they had captured him when he visited Canada six years ago, had better desist that flattering delusion. On the other hand, the honest sore-heads who snubbed him then as if he were too easily deceived had better revise their hasty judgment. He seeks nothing but the greater glory of God, just as Pope Pius X., does. The latter, who is both a saint and a clear headed man, has made no mistake in this appointment, especially after a three months' trial of his worth. We may thank the present Cardinal Secretary of State if we have now an Apostolic Delegate who is a strenuous defender of fervent Catholics. With Monsignor Sbarretti in Ottawa and Cardinal Merry del Val in Rome, all true and loyal Catholics in Canada need fear no misrepresentations at headquarters. Let no Achilles sink in his tent.

God's in his heaven—
All's right with the world!

At the annual meeting of the Grande Ligne Mission, held last month in Montreal, a Baptist minister named Gilmour deplored the fact that contributions to convert

the French Canadians were falling off, and that the Mission had been regretfully constrained to abandon three of its fields. The Rev. Mr. Browne noted with grief the great increase of French as compared with the English speaking population, and he said that the time was not distant when the French element would rule the whole of the Dominion. Whatever may be the value of this forecast, born of dread and spite, one thing is certain, the attempt to Protestantize the French Canadians has always been a costly failure.

The "Ave Maria" says editorially: "It is almost three years now since the Rev. Edward Cunningham O.M.I., was ordained, and began the zealous work which has disapproved the Canadian proverb that a half-breed will never make a priest. Long ago Canadian and Irish adventurers sojourning in the great Northwest, far from religious influences, intermarried with the Indians, and the result was a mixed race with the faults of both whites and Indians." Our brilliant contemporary's remoteness from the scene accounts for the too sweeping assertion. Even before the priestly missionaries came, many of these adventurers were true lay missionaries, and trained up half-breed children in the fear of God, so that when the first resident missionary came here in 1818, he found whole families longing for his arrival, and, two days after his landing from the canoe that had carried him from Montreal, he baptized one hundred children brought to him by their Indian and half-breed mothers. With this parenthetical remark we resume our quotation from the "Ave Maria."

Later, when the missionaries came among them, they introduced agricultural schools as well as chapels; and the rapidity with which the half-breeds have progressed, at least in missions where circumstances were favorable, is little short of the marvellous. The mission of St. Albert, in Alberta, for instance, is surrounded by prosperous farms, where numerous flocks and herds graze and where the most modern farm machinery is in use. This mission also boasts a theological seminary, which has been called 'a little propaganda' because so many nationalities are represented among its pupils—Canadians of French, Irish (and English) extraction, a half-breed Iroquois Cree, an Irishman, an Englishman, and a Ruthenian."

We are glad to learn that the question of exempting from taxation the Catholic schools of Winnipeg is at length becoming a live issue in the city council.

At a meeting of the civic finance committee held on Saturday afternoon, a communication was read from the city solicitors, Hough & Campbell, in reference to the power of the city, under the charter, to pass a by-law exempting these schools from taxation.

The substance of the legal opinion expressed in the letter was that the schools could be exempted under the classification of charitable institutions.

This caused the aldermen to have a brief discussion on the subject, during which it was stated the buildings which are desired to be exempted from taxation are the Catholic schools and St. Joseph's Orphanage. It was not quite clear whether this would create a precedent or not. A suggestion was made that the taxes could be levied in the usual way and that they could be refunded in the way of a grant. It was finally agreed to leave the matter in the hands of the chairman. Ald. Russell will seek further information, and report at the next meeting of the committee.

Assuredly it is high time that the public conscience should be aroused to the injustice of taxing institutions which save the city so much actual outlay. If the municipal authority had to provide for all the children in our orphanage and schools its educational bill would be increased at least 15 per cent. Forcing Catholic parents to support public schools which they do not patronize is cruel enough, without imposing an additional tax on the self-denying teachers, who so ably conduct our Catholic schools for no earthly reward but plain food and the simplest of raiment.

Persons and Facts

The first appreciable fall of snow in the Winnipeg district occurred last Sunday. In the preceding week there had been only a few flurries of snow which did not cover the ground. The Red River was partially frozen last Saturday. Taking all in all, we have had a remarkably pleasant autumn. From the middle of September to the middle of November there was very little cold or rain.

St. Julian Hospital, of Antwerp, Belgium, celebrated its six hundredth anniversary last August. It has never been closed a single day or night during six centuries, and has always been under the direction of Sisters.

On November the 9th a social, held in the school house at Eli in aid of the new church, netted over one hundred dollars. Most of the outside work on the new church is finished and presents an attractive appearance.

We have received the prospectus of "La Sauvegarde," which is, we understand, the first insurance company officered and financed by French Canadians. Its president is Mr. G. N. Ducharme, president of "La Banque Provinciale du Canada," the first vice-president, Hon. J. A. Ouimet, Judge of the Court of King's Bench; second vice-president, Hon. F. L. Beigue, Senator, and general President of the St. Jean Baptiste Association; directors, Mr. H. Laporte, chairman of the Montreal City Council Finance Committee; Hon. N. Perodeau, N. P., Dr. E. P. Lachapelle, Mr. N. A. Belcourt, K. C., M. P.; Hon. Senator Dandurand, Mr. J. E. Bedard, K. C. The secretary-treasurer is Mr. Henri Bourassa, M. P., and the general manager is Mr. P. Bonhomme. The offices of this promising company are at 26 St. James Street, Montreal. The names of these officers are a guarantee of honesty and solvency. The idea is a patriotic one—to establish a first class insurance company for native Canadians, and thus keep at home, for the benefit of the country, a part at least of the several millions of dollars that go to fill the coffers of foreign insurance companies.

A cablegram, dated November 16th, announces that the Holy Father, in an interview with Lord Bray, the zealous Catholic Baron, while speaking strongly on the necessity of biblical research, condemned the efforts of modern writers to separate the supernatural from the historical narratives of the scriptures. He insisted that to do so would be as futile as to deny the existence of the soul while accepting the material fact of the body. The Pope declared his disapproval of a rationalistic interpretation of the Bible, not only by laymen, but by clergymen, and conveyed the impression that he intended to thoroughly repudiate the views contained in the latest works by Abbe Loisy.

A long interview with Rev. Father Woodcutter, who was in town last week, appeared in the Free Press. He speaks very highly of the prospects of Esterhazy, a new town on the Kirkella branch railway, where he is making arrangements to build a \$10,000 church. He will start in December to visit England, Germany, Hungary and perhaps Rome. In his missions he preaches in French, English, German and Hungarian, and can converse in other languages.

The Catholic Club held a success was pleasantly spent with Pedro and music, while refreshments were served.

Clerical News.

Rev. Father Finke, a native of Russian Poland, has arrived at the Archbishops' house, to labor among his fellow country-men in this diocese. He studied theology in Rome.

Rev. Father Coffey, S. J., who was last year treasurer of St. Boniface College, and is now occupying a similar position in Loyola College in Montreal, is also chaplain of the prosperous Catholic Sailor's Club in that city.

Rev. Father William Kelly, who is living in well earned retirement, in the parish house of St. Theresa's pro-Cathedral, Omaha, has lived under seven Popes. When he was born in 1818 in Ireland, Pius VII., was Pope; when he was five years old, Leo XII., succeeded to the Papacy, and when he was eleven, Pius VIII., began his twenty-one months reign, to be in turn succeeded by Gregory XVI., who, though he wore the ring of the fisherman fifteen years, yet died before William Kelly left his native land for the United States, which he did during the reign of Pius IX., going to Omaha, then a town of 1800 souls, where he was ordained in 1859, in his forty-second year. An Omaha paper makes much of the above dates; but surely there must be many priests above eighty years of age, which is all that is needed to have lived under seven Popes." Our Father Dandurand here has lived under seven Popes, and had been eighteen years a priest before William Kelly, of Omaha said his first Mass.

Rev. Father Desrosiers took charge of the new parish of St. Antoine d' Ambigny last Sunday. Rev. Father Besson, curate of the Cathedral, supplied at Fannystelle, for Rev. Father Perrault, who was at Ambigny for the ceremony of induction.

Rev. Father Fillion, of St. Jean, was here last Monday.

The two Basilian Fathers of the Ruthenian rite, whose coming we announced lately, arrived last Sunday. Their names are: Rev. Matthew Hura, and Rev. Paneratus Kryzanowski, both of the Order of St. Basil the Great (O.B.M., Ordinis Basilii Magni). It is probable that the Very Rev. Father Filas, O.B.M., will come from Edmonton to organize their parish work. He may possibly remain in the city, and send one of the two newly arrived Fathers to Edmonton.

Rev. Father Gendron was at the Archbishops palace last Monday.

Rev. Brother Brouillet, O.M.I., takes the place of Rev. Brother Doyle, O.M.I., at St. Mary's presbytery.

On Wednesday Cardinal Merry del Val was named Preict of the Sacred Palace, in place of Cardinal Mocenni.