

the place, a warning to which they paid no attention, as they were resolved to maintain their rights.

At midnight eleven armed and masked men broke into their house and put the husband on a train which was about to leave the depot, and ordered him never to return under penalty of his life. The victim, however, was not to be intimidated, and he returned home by the next train, and entered legal proceedings against some of those whom he believed to have been engaged in the conspiracy. The Prosecuting Attorney has received several threatening letters, signed "Whitescaps," warning him not to prosecute, but it is believed that he is a man of too much firmness and nerve to be terrified by these menaces, and that he will be able to discover the culprits and bring upon them the punishment they deserve.

Should these vigorous measures in the two States we have named repress the obnoxious society, law and order will be achieved for which all who have the good of the country at heart will feel thankful. It is to be hoped that the law will be found to be powerful enough to remedy the wrong under which peaceable people have been so long terrorized.

THE CHURCH IN GERMANY AND ITALY.

A cable despatch announces the resignation of Dr. von Gieseler as Prussian Minister of Public Worship. He is to be succeeded by Count von Zedlitz-Trutzschler, till now President of the Province of Posen. It is understood that this indicates the success of the policy advocated by Herr Windthorst as leader of the Catholic or Centre Party. It is well known that the new Minister of Public Worship is favorable to a policy of toleration, and the inference is that the persecuting laws will soon be entirely repealed. This interference is further justified by another despatch which states that Chancellor von Caprivi has written to the Holy Father that hitherto it has been impossible, owing to Protestant excitement, to modify the prohibition against certain religious orders to remain in Germany; but the Chancellor says this excitement is abating, and the Government will soon be enabled to modify the existing laws against the Order.

It is also stated that the new Italian Government has made overtures to the Holy Father to bring about a more cordial feeling between the Pope and the Government. Concessions will be made to the Church if this can be effected. It is known that Pope Leo XIII. is anxious to be at peace with the State; but peace cannot exist unless the temporal independence of the Pope be recognized. It is clear that the question of the Pope's temporal sovereignty is not settled negatively by the present condition of affairs, and even now, Count Jacini, who is an Italian Senator, of moderate views, has outlined a platform which he hopes may be accepted by all parties in Italy as a satisfactory settlement of the existing troubles. This platform includes a proposal that full sovereignty over the Leonine City be restored to the Holy Father with a strip of territory along the banks of the Tiber to the sea, and that the sovereignty be guaranteed to the Pope by the great powers. Hundreds of prominent Italian politicians would willingly agree to some such measure as this, and the fact that Count Jacini, who was a friend and follower of Garibaldi, proposes it, is sufficient evidence that the restoration of the Pope's temporal authority is far from being a dead issue as the enemies of the Pope imagine it to be.

ST. JOSEPH'S CONVENT, SURREY PLACE, TORONTO.

Special to the CATHOLIC RECORD.

For the past thirty three years many happy generations of school girls have made the grand old classic walls of St. Joseph's Academy, Toronto, ring with their merry peals of laughter, but we doubt much if these same old walls ever echoed merrier sounds than those heard on Thursday, March 19th, the festival of St. Joseph, patron of the Universal Church, and special protector of the community of St. Joseph, by whom the institution is conducted.

At 7:30 a. m. His Grace the Archbishop of Toronto offered the holy sacrifice of the Mass, assisted by Rev. Father Teefe, Superior of St. Michael's College, and Rev. Father Guinane, the convent chaplain. The scene in the chapel was beautiful, indeed, in the morning light, the Venerable Archbishop clad in vestments of gold, the surpliced assistants, the brilliantly lighted and flower bedecked altars, the rows of sombre-garbed nuns and white-veiled girls who received holy communion from the hand of the gentle and saintly prelate.

After Mass His Grace delivered an eloquent homily on St. Joseph. He congratulated the Sisters and pupils on having for their protector a saint who possessed so unbounded an influence over the Sacred Heart of Jesus. He made special reference to the three characteristic virtues of St. Joseph: namely, fidelity to the duties of his charge, humility and the spirit of prayer. Having pointed out the means of acquiring these virtues, His Grace concluded by giving his blessing to the community and school.

At 3 p. m., the pupils entertained a

large audience composed of the parents of the children and the friends of the institution. The chief feature of the entertainment was a capital, "The Little Giver." About fifty little ones from the Kindergarten class sang the choruses. Their fresh infantine voices blended harmoniously and their graceful gesticulation was much admired. The solos were very sweetly sung by Miss Louise Kelly, Miss Marion Kenny, and Miss Dolly Cashman. The recitations were well rendered by the juvenile elocutionists, Miss Lissie Long, Miss Alma Small, Miss Ella Doty and Miss May Bergin. The young ladies also contributed their part. They sang two choruses in a very finished style, and the elocution class gave a difficult recitation in a manner which evinced careful and judicious training. Miss Leo gave a vocal solo; and a vocal trio, one of Moore's Irish melodies, sung by Misses M. Kay, McDermott, and Brennan, elicited well merited applause.

Among the guests entertained were: His Lordship Bishop O'Mahony; Rev. Father Marjion, Provincial of the Basilian Order in America; Very Rev. Dean Cassidy; Rev. Father McCarty, O. S. B.; Rev. Father Chalandard, O. S. B.; Rev. Father Walsh, rector of the Church of Our Lady of Lourdes; Rev. Father Guinane, C. S. R.; Rev. Father O'Donoghue; Rev. Father Murray, C. S. B.; and Rev. Father O'Callaghan, of the Grand Seminary, Montreal, who, at intervals during the entertainment, delighted the audience by his masterly performances on the violin.

At 5:30 p. m. all repaired to the chapel, where Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament was given by Rev. Father Guinane. Then followed tea, after which the pupils returned to the distribution of prizes until 9 o'clock, when all retired worn out with the day's amusement, but bearing in their hearts many happy memories of St. Joseph's Day, 1891.



THE NEW SHERIFF OF OXFORD.

We have great pleasure in announcing that Mr. James Brady, of Ingersoll, has been appointed to the shrievalty of Oxford County, which was rendered vacant by the death of Sheriff Perry. The last two important offices to which appointments were made in that county were filled by residents of the North Riding, and it was considered by the Government that this vacancy should be filled by a resident of the South Riding who should be recommended by the local member, Dr. McKay, M. P. P. Mr. Brady, who is well known as a man of high personal character and is fully competent to do the duties of the office, was so recommended, and he has accordingly been appointed to it. His appointment is received with great satisfaction by the people of Oxford, Protestant and Catholic alike. Mr. Brady is a practical and consistent Catholic; nevertheless he has been strongly recommended for the position by no fewer than thirteen Protestant clergymen of all denominations, who took so much interest in the matter as to write strong letters to the Government in his favor. He has always been an ardent Reformer, and he was an earnest worker for the Reform cause, but even those who differed from him in politics acknowledge that he was honest in his political convictions, and his appointment to the shrievalty is received favorably by Conservatives equally with Reformers. We have no doubt that Mr. Brady will be found to be an efficient official, and we heartily congratulate the Government on having secured the services of a gentleman of sterling worth and of undeniable ability in so important a position.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The Legislature of Illinois have under consideration the passage of a law making it penal in that State to claim to be Christ or to be God on earth. The proposed law is intended to crush out the imposture of Schwefelsch, who has gained a large number of adherents among the Protestants of the State. Similar impostures have been equally successful in other States at different times, but they have never been able to secure adherents among Catholics. It is evident that Catholics are not so amenable to these superstitious as Protestants, who almost alone have been seduced by such frauds as these, and by Mormonism, Millerism, Spiritualism, etc. Yet there are people who prate about "Roman superstition."

In view of the outcry which the anti-Catholic press are constantly making against the religious orders who devote themselves, for God's sake, to the work of caring for orphans and to other benevolent

objects, it is a matter of interest to the public to note how institutions are sometimes managed with which the religious orders have nothing to do. It is not pretended that the religious orders are engaged in enriching themselves by starving the children who are under their care; but Dickens has shown in Oliver Twist how poor-houses are sometimes managed. The State of Pennsylvania has just had an experience of the same kind. It turns out that the State has been actually robbed of more than \$1,000,000 by the managers of the Soldiers' Orphan Fund, the orphans having been placed in order that this result should be attained. The illegal profits derived out of one school alone amounted to \$270,000. Eight persons are alleged to have fleeced the State and the orphans out of \$665,000, as follows: Ex-Senator George W. Wright, \$300,000; John Gordon, \$285,000; and others respectively, \$65,000; \$65,000; \$60,000; \$25,000; \$85,000; \$80,000. The recipient of the last named sum is said to be the Rev. A. F. Webber, of Unionville. It is thought that a considerable part of this ill-gotten gain may be recovered, as at all events \$700,000 of the amount is in a shape in which it can be seized upon by the Government. The Legislature passed a resolution on the 19th inst. to authorize an investigation into the matter, and it is declared that it can be positively proved that the managers of the schools have drawn from the State Treasury large sums which were never expended for the maintenance and education of the orphans. A principal objection which is usually made against religious management of such institutions is that the religious orders instruct the children committed to their care in the Christian doctrine. It would have been better for the soldiers' children that they should have been so instructed, than that they should be half starved while receiving a miserable secular education, so to fill the pockets of a swindling syndicate.

MR. CURRAN, M. P., is, if we are to believe the general report, about to enter the Cabinet. Should this be the case Sir John Macdonald will again have shown his sagacity in putting the right man in the right place.

A CONTRIBUTOR to the RECORD would be obliged for any information or material, such as letters, newspaper clippings, pastorals, etc., relating to Bishops Power and Charbonnel. The Golden Jubilee of the Archdiocese of Toronto will occur in 1892, and biographies of its first two bishops are in hand. Any material may be sent to the RECORD Office.

It appears that notwithstanding the encouragement given to Protestantism in Italy by the House of Savoy, it has made but small progress. The following are the statistics of the different Protestant churches throughout the kingdom. The churches included under the name Evangelical have 14 ministers, 31 churches, 1,347 school children. Young Men's Christian Association, 1550 school children, and in all of these there are 2,305 communicants, the whole number of adherents being 3,330. The Wesleyan Methodists have 1,360; American Methodists, 920; and the Union Baptists, 875. Thus the whole work of the English and American Protestants has only produced 6,485 members of the different sects. There are 17,363 Waldenses, but these are the remnant of an ancient sect, and they do not represent any fruit of the establishment of the recent Protestant missionary societies.

It is to be regretted that the Passion Play of Ober-Ammergau, which always has been played by the people of that town in the spirit of piety, is to be reproduced in Paris as a money speculation by some theatre managers. A large theatre is to be constructed which will be sufficiently large for the fifteen hundred characters who take part.

The clergy of the Methodist Episcopal Church of the United States are far from being as enthusiastic as the laity in regard to the admission of women as delegates to sit in the general Conference of that body. The lay vote cast was 216,960 for and 132,949 against their admission, giving a majority of 84,011 in favor of women delegates. The conferences of the clergy of thirteen States show 228 for and 329 against their admission. The lay vote has no legal force. It merely indicates the wish of the laity, but the clerical vote will decide the question, unless the clergy yield to the wish of the lay members. Three-fourths of the conferences, which are composed exclusively of clergymen, will be necessary to make the change; so that there seems to be no likelihood at present that women will be made eligible as delegates. By State conferences, five were for admission, and six against. Two conferences, Texas and Mississippi, gave ties.

O love ineffable, O flame, O abyss of charity! The more I contemplate Thee in Thy passion, the more I blush at the misery of my soul, which is ignorant of Thee because I live in the senses.—Prayer of St. Catherine of Siena.

THE FEAST OF ST. JOSEPH IN LINDSAY.

Special to the CATHOLIC RECORD.

Dear RECORD—Yesterday, Feast of St. Joseph, there was great happiness and joy in our convent. During the school vacation of last summer it was found advisable to separate the colony of Sisters of St. Joseph sent out some years ago to the new diocese of Peterborough, and to establish them as an independent community according to the constitutions of the order. The mother house is Toronto, so bravely founded many years hence by ladies equally remarkable by their administrative abilities and unassuming religious virtues, has done great work for religion in this Province, and her spiritual daughters in other dioceses will long remember her and call her blessed. Since its foundation our new community, faithful to the spirit of the order, has labored quietly and well, and their venerated patron, St. Joseph, has been evidently mindful of them. Worshy young ladies from far and near have from time to time entered the Novitiate in our good old town of Lindsay; and each time they came when help was most wanted, both for the work of teaching and for the nursing of the sick in the well appointed and justly popular new hospital in Peterborough.

Yesterday the community celebrated for the first time since their establishment the feast of their holy patron, St. Joseph, and the saint had a great boon in store for them as a reward of their many sacrifices. Four of the postulants were found worthy to advance one step higher and receive the holy habit of the order. The Right Rev. R. A. O'Connor, D.D., Bishop of Peterborough, whose active zeal knows no bounds, could not forego the legitimate satisfaction of being present and officiating on this auspicious occasion. At 9 o'clock a. m. His Lordship celebrated Mass in the commodious convent chapel, handsomely decorated for the event. A quantity of choice natural flowers, conspicuous among them the snow-white lilies of St. Joseph, clothed the altar in chaste and fragrant beauty. Very Rev. P. D. Laurent, V. G., and Very Rev. Jos. Browne, V. G., were assistant priests of the Mass, and Rev. J. Nolan, C. C., was master of ceremonies. Some beautiful and appropriate singing was rendered by the convent choir during the Holy Sacrifice. No one had been invited but the immediate relations of the Sisters, and these favored few occupied one side of the chapel, whilst the Sisters and their boarding pupils were on the other side. Immediately before the altar on separate prie-dieux knelt the four happy postulants, clad, as usual, in the chaste bridal dress, with fragrant bouquets of lilies in their hands, but still better adorned with the graces of their own maidenly modesty.

After Mass His Lordship addressed the young postulants in feeling terms about the duties and virtues of the new state of life which they were anxious to enter, and the honor and happiness of a religious vocation. His Lordship's words made a deep impression on all present. The Bishop then being seated put to the postulants the questions prescribed by the ritual of the order; and each of them in succession modestly and firmly answered that they had long and firmly desired the earnest desire of receiving the holy habit of the Order of St. Joseph. According to their wishes, the Bishop blessed the new habits intended for them; and, led by the Rev. Mother, they went in procession out of the chapel to put off their worldly attire and be clad in the black serge of St. Joseph. When they returned to the chapel with faces full of happiness, His Lordship formally received them into the order, and assigned to each the name by which she is henceforth to be known as a member of the community. Miss Carey received the name of Sister Mary St. Anne, Miss O'Brien that of Sister Agnes, Miss O'Leary that of Sister Mary St. Michael, and Miss Ulrick that of Sister Mary Placidia.

IN THE AFTERNOON.

At 4 o'clock p. m., His Lordship, attended by the same clergy, repaired again to the convent to meet the children in their handsome schoolroom. The decorations were suitable and in good taste. But the children themselves—about one hundred and eighty in number, from the rosy-faced little Miss of five summers to more robust young lady of sixteen—would have brought brightness and sunshine to any place. Excellent singing and recitations were given; and after a while a little lady advanced to the front with a beautifully engrossed parchment in her hands, accompanied by a little mite with a magnificent bouquet of roses and lilies nearly as big as herself. With modest assurance, the sweet sound of her voice rising clear and distinct, she read the following ADDRESS.

RIGHT REV. FATHER—With feelings of inexpressible pleasure do we assemble in our happy schoolroom to greet Your Lordship and give expression to the feelings of affection and reverence which glow within our hearts. Knowing the many and arduous duties of your pastoral charge, we can fully appreciate your devotedness in sacrificing so many of your precious moments to visit us; and we gladly seize this opportunity to express our gratitude for the honor of your presence. Allow us to assure you, Kindest of Fathers, that we, the little ones of your flock, can admire with wondering awe your heroic self-sacrifice and indefatigable zeal for the good of your people. To convey to our feelings, we choose nature's floral treasures, so potent to reveal what words would fail to utter, but the soul alone can feel; and with them we offer our fond wishes, culled from the parterre of loving hearts, accompanied by friends who feel honored to express their happiness in approaching You and your pastoral visits who are ever surrounded by friends who feel honored to express their happiness in approaching You.

His Lordship, at the close, thanked the children for their kind address and good wishes, and gave words of fatherly encouragement in the good work of the moral and intellectual education under the guidance of their excellent teachers. He complimented them on their happy faces, modest and neat appearance and their respectful and lady like behavior during the enjoyable entertainment which they had provided for him. Finally His Lordship dismissed them with his blessing, and thus ended a day long to be remembered with joy by the Convent of St. Joseph in Lindsay.

Lindsay, March 19, 1891.

A BLASPHEMER STRUCK DUMB.

New York Freeman's Journal.

The following dispatch from New Haven, Connecticut, tells its own story: "The Rev. Father Laurence, of Montreal, had opened a mission in St. Louis' Church, and he had preached an eloquent sermon, telling the people to recall the wandering and careless members of the church to their religious duties. 'If you know any one,' said the speaker, 'that is a Catholic and should come to him to look to his soul's welfare while yet there is time.'"

This aroused the missionary spirit in his congregation, and Louis La May was one of the recalcitrant Catholics who was approached to go to church. He has not been to church in a long time, and being "a good fellow," his more devout co-religionists endeavored to induce him to renew his vows of allegiance to the Catholic faith. La May responded to these endeavors with suavity. His duty was urged upon him, when he became enraged and said:

"To hell with the mission," and then he began a profane tirade, cursing the mission, the Church, the priests, the Pope and everything connected with the Church. Suddenly he grew rigid, his arms twitched convulsively, and he gasped for breath. He endeavored to speak, but he could not utter a word. He was stricken dumb. Since then he has grown a little better, but he can yet articulate only a little. The doctors have had a stroke of paralysis brought on by his excitement, but the French Catholic look upon it as a visitation from God for blasphemy. The story is known to every Catholic in the city, and the mission has been crowded every day since."

We observe the latest sneer about the doctors attributing the seizure to apoplexy, and in a part of the telegram quoted the appellation, "superstitious," applied to the Catholics. Now, the wisest physicians acknowledge that they are mostly working in the dark, and that the general names they give to the diseases are vague—indeed, that every man afflicted has an ailment peculiar to him. Only empirics or quacks pretend to have a cure for this or that disease. Therefore, these doctors should have been wise enough to hold their tongues before jumping to the conclusion that a healthy young man had an attack of apoplexy, because it was desirable to discredit a well attested tradition of the Church.

We read in Scripture of the man who put his hand to the Ark of the Lord and of Ananias and Sapphira, the liars, being struck dead. All history is full of instances where blasphemers or other public and scandalous sinners were punished in various ways. Only recently we have heard of cases occurring both in the New World and the old. They were varied in nature and of all kinds of crimes, but they all attested the fact that God cannot be mocked in vain. We do not say that all blasphemers have been or will be stricken. None but God can determine when a man fills up the cup of his iniquity. He alone is the Arbitrator who decides upon the public examples that shall be made. Therefore, we may say, any man who commits the shocking and heinous sin of blasphemy, which is a direct and deliberate challenge of Our Lord's power, may be stricken. It would be well for those who have fallen into the habit of this vice to reflect upon the thought. And we would earnestly advise all to turn a deaf ear to the slipshod explanations that need to be explained of shallow unbelievers, and keep clean tongues in their heads.

LONDON SEPARATE SCHOOLS.

Government Inspector Donovan spent all last week inspecting and examining the Separate schools of this city. His official report has not yet been received, but the general trend of his speech at the closing exercises showed that he was well satisfied with the proficiency of the London schools on the whole, on which he took occasion to compliment both the teachers and pupils. The greater part of Friday was occupied in lecturing. He addressed the pupils for an hour in the forenoon on the habits that underlie a well formed character. The rest of the day was occupied with an assembly of the teachers of London, St. Thomas and Ingersoll, giving practical illustrations and suggestions on the general work of the classroom. The Inspector's visit will be productive of much good amongst both teachers and scholars.

There is a project on foot in Chicago to have the World's Fair opened by the only living descendant of Columbus, the Duke of Sagrada of Madrid. The plan is to secure his presence there with his collection, and to have him start the machinery of the fair.

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The Financial Statement herewith exhibits several features which will be gratifying to our members and encouraging to intending assurers. Compared with 1889 the following progress is shown:

	1889.	1890.	Gain.
Total Assets	\$1,488,167	\$1,711,686	\$223,518
Premium Income	383,192	409,920	26,728
Interest	65,708	79,938	14,230
Death Losses (actual)	104,175	65,522	38,653
Cash Surplus paid	42,361	48,719	6,358
Surplus in hand	95,155	134,066	38,911
Ratio of Expense to Income	19.4	17.3	1.6

The Interest Income for 1890 exceeded the Death Losses for the year by \$14,416.

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N. B.—Information freely given in reply to personal inquiry or letter. Correspondence solicited.

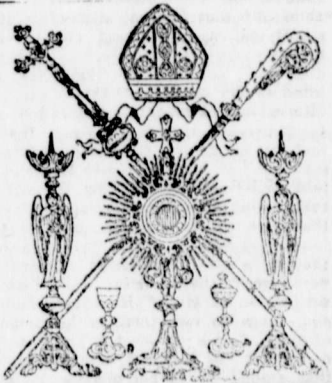
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An Important Work.

Agents are now canvassing this city and other portions of the Province, selling a work the title of which is The Teachings of the Holy Catholic Church, Embracing her Dogmas, Sacraments and Sacramentals.

The author is the Rev. S. B. Smith, D. D., who has also written works on canon law and "Eccelesiastical" law. The work also embraces a review of the teachings and acts of our Blessed Saviour and His successor, St. Peter. The work also contains much other matter which will prove eminently instructive and edifying in every Catholic's family.