

THE SCHOOL QUESTION.

Remarks in Different Churches on the Subject.

Preaching at High Mass in the Catholic Cathedral on Sunday last, at which service His Grace the Archbishop pontificated, the Very Rev. Canon Racicot made a brief allusion to the Manitoba School question. The decision of the Imperial Privy Council, he said, and the newspaper comments to which it had given rise, proved that there was a movement on foot to day in favor of the recognition of the justness of the claims of Catholics in regard to the education of their children. Now that the highest Court in the empire had ratified the contention of the Catholics of Manitoba, steps would certainly be taken to give to that important judgment its logical and legitimate effect. Canon Racicot went on to point out that the reason the Church was hostile to mixed schools—schools where Catholic and Protestant children were educated together—was that they tended inevitably to produce amongst Catholic youth a mental condition of indifference respecting religion. When it was borne in mind that man had an immortal soul, and that his sojourn on earth was but a pilgrimage towards eternity, the paramount importance of an education based upon the saving truths of religious faith would be immediately recognized. All that Catholics wanted in the matter of education was fair play. A council of the bishops of the ecclesiastical province of Montreal would soon be held in that cathedral, and in addition to the question of university education, the subject of mixed schools would be discussed and an important pronouncement made upon it.

AT NOTRE DAME.

At Notre Dame Church, Sunday morning, the Rev. Abbe Braye, P.S.S., discussed the Manitoba School question. He began by saying that the subject was of such a nature that it deserved elucidation. The Catholics at the present moment in the Province of Manitoba were attending what are called "mixed schools." In the speaker's opinion these "mixed schools" might be called "neuter schools." For such institutions received both Protestants and Catholics alike, without any regard to religion.

The professor, who happened to be generally a minister or a Protestant gentleman, owing to the fact that the religious views of his pupils were at variance, never attempted to broach a point of religion, fearing if he did so, he might displease a great many. Religion was therefore excluded from these schools. And it was on this account the Council of Quebec assembled some years ago and strongly urged parents not to send their children to such schools.

The Protestant majority, feeling that might be right, hampered the Catholic minority. The Catholics were taxed to support the schools. But all their contributions were taken to assure the efficiency of the Protestant schools alone.

They complained, but they were always told in answer that they had the liberty to erect their own schools. This was all well and good, said the speaker, but the Catholics replied: "That is an injustice. For in that case we would have a double tax to pay. We would have to contribute to the support of the Protestant schools, and still have our own to provide for. No! we demand justice. We recognize that we are in the minority. We do not want as many Catholic schools as Protestant ones. Let the Catholics be in due proportion to the number of Catholics that make up the population."

The speaker ended by appealing to the congregation; he strongly urged them to do what they could to bring the crisis to a successful issue. All the faithful should be interested in the matter, for all Canadians are concerned therein. If Canada is to prosper; if Canada is to flourish, Religion must be her safeguard. In view of all this, Catholics are signing a list, which will be presented to the Governor-General-in-Council, and every gentleman in the congregation should make it his duty to sign.

AT ST. PATRICK'S.

At St. Patrick's Church, the Rev. Father Quinlivan expressed the satisfaction which he, in common with all the other Catholics of Canada, felt at the Privy Council's decision. The judgment had confirmed the hopes which had all

along been entertained by their co-religionists in Manitoba. He trusted that measures would very soon be adopted to give relief to the Catholics of that Province. Referring to the petition to the Government which the Archbishop of St. Boniface had requested that Catholics all over the Dominion should sign, Father Quinlivan exhorted all his parishioners to attach their signatures to it.

The lists for signatures to the petition will be open all week at St. Patrick's Church. It may be signed in the Sacristy or in the Presbytery.

SOME PULPIT REMARKS ON THE PRIVY COUNCIL'S DECISION.

WINNIPEG, February 4.—Archbishop Langevin made his final public utterances from the pulpit of St. Mary's Church on Sunday before his consecration as Archbishop. On the School question he said:

"The idea of presenting the petition to the Governor-General-in-Council was formed at the time when the Tory Government was waiting on." The present time was opportune to do it on account of the decision of the Privy Council. He styled the decision a document of peace and conciliation which recognizes the rights of the minority. If the present schools satisfy the majority, this was no reason why the minority should accept them. The Privy Council's decision, he said, is a treasure for the Catholics and a most powerful means towards the restoration of their rights. The Catholics are recognized by the highest tribunal as British subjects. In the hands of the Privy Council rested security, not only for Manitoba, but for the Dominion. It was not necessary to abolish the present Manitoba school system to satisfy the Catholics. The Government could legislate for them in other ways. The decision asserts that the minority have rights as well as the majority. The Catholics will defend these rights as citizens, even at a cost of life. "Those rights are ours; ours they shall be." The highest tribunal said they have grievances; who, then, will dare deny it? The petition was being signed by all Catholics.

SIGNED IN TORONTO.—The petition praying for the redress of the grievances of the Catholics of Manitoba by the disallowance of the law of 1890, was placed for signature at the doors of the various Catholic places of worship at Toronto on Sunday, and very largely signed. Reference was made to the circulation of the petitions by the clergy, but no ecclesiastical pressure was brought to bear on the laity in regard to it. Rev. Father Ryan said, at St. Michael's Palace, last evening, that the petitions had been sent out by the administrator of the Diocese of St. Boniface and were yesterday submitted for signature in all the Catholic Churches of the Dominion.

"I may remark," Rev. Father Ryan added last night, "that the policy of the Catholic hierarchy of Ontario is one of non-interference, but the question of general right and the right of appeal comes up in this case and they have permitted the signing of the petitions in this particular case."

Speaking of the recent judgment in the Manitoba School matter, the Semaine Religieuse says:

"The decision of the Supreme Court of Canada has been reversed, and the highest tribunal in the Empire declares that the Ottawa Government has the power to intervene and to adopt—as was asked by their Lordships the bishops of the whole Dominion in their petition—efficient means to remedy the injustice done the Roman Catholics of the North-West Territories and of Manitoba. What measures will be adopted? It is pretty hard to foresee, but it matters little, provided all and every one of the wrongs of which our compatriots justly complain are promptly redressed. Now that it knows how far its rights and powers extend, it rests with the federal government to settle without further delay a question too long discussed. We sincerely believe that there will be no drawing back in the face of duty."

CLERICAL APPOINTMENTS.—M^r. Emard has made the following appointments in the diocese of Valleyfield: Rev. A. C. Dugas, cure of St. Olet; Rev. N. Remillard, cure of Ste. Barbe, and Rev. O. Legace, vicar at Saint Polycarpe.

A CALAMITY AVERTED.

AN ACCIDENT AT ST. MARY'S WITH THE ALMOST FATAL RESULTS.

THE VICTIM SUFFERED FOR MONTHS DURING WHICH TIME HE WAS FORCED TO SIT IN A CHAIR—HIS CASE FINALLY PRONOUNCED HOPELESS—HOW HIS RESTORATION WAS BROUGHT ABOUT.

(From the St. Mary's Argus.)

How different are the feelings that take possession of one as they read the particulars of some great railway or steamship disaster where scores of lives with whom we have no acquaintance have been lost, and reading the particulars of the runaway of a span of horses attached to a carriage from which one of our acquaintance has been thrown and killed.

In the former case, although the loss of life has been great, you say "Isn't it terrible?" but in a few days the affair has probably passed from mind, while in the latter instance months after you could recount the minutest particulars of the runaway. And so it is when we read the particulars of cases really remarkable, but because we are not interested in the person restored the facts are soon forgotten. But when a case can be submitted right at home, with which a large number of our readers are familiar, it will, we are sure, be of special interest and carry conviction.

Our readers will remember that over two years ago while Mr. Gideon Elliott, James street, St. Mary's, was teaming ashes he was thrown from a load and received such severe injuries to his spine that he was unable to walk or lie down in bed. He suffered great pain in his back. For long months he lived night and day in a chair, not able to do the slightest thing to help himself. And with no prospect of help before him he began to feel that life was a burden and he had no desire to live. Two physicians attended him, but after exhausting their powers Mr. Elliott was told that "if he had anything he wanted settled he had better attend to it at once," the last doctor telling him he could not be cured. To an Argus representative Mr. Elliott gave the above facts and said that after having suffered a great deal of pain, and notwithstanding he was told he was incurable, he determined to try the Pink Pill treatment, and purchased a dozen boxes of the renowned Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People. Inside of three weeks he began to feel the effects of the pills and now most emphatically declares that they have made him as well as he is to-day. When he started taking them he was not able to help himself in any way, but during the past fall he took up the potatoes in his garden, and can now do all the chores around his house. This is a wonderful change in a man who spent months in a chair unable to help himself or even to lie down and who was told by physicians that his case was hopeless, and it is another trophy added to the many victories of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills over disease.

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