

Northwest Review

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SATURDAY, SEPT. 17, 1904.

Calendar for Next Week. SEPTEMBER.

- 18—Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost. The Seven Dolours of the Blessed Virgin.
- 19—Monday—St. Januarius and his Companions, Martyrs.
- 20—Tuesday—Vigil. St. Eustachius and his Companions, Martyrs.
- 21—Wednesday—St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist. Ember Day Fast.
- 22—Thursday—St. Thomas of Villanova, Bishop.
- 23—Friday—St. Linus, Pope and Martyr.
- 24—Saturday—Our Lady of Mercy.

THE SORROWS OF MARY.

The publication of the following letter has been unavoidably delayed more than two weeks:

To the Editor of the Northwest Review:

Sir,—Enclosed please find an article from The Catholic Record, of London, Ont., 1903, on devotion to Our Lady of Sorrows. For some time I am indebted to Our Blessed Lady in honor of her sorrows for a great favor, and I would like to have this published in thanksgiving. Please state that the feast of Our Lady of Sorrows occurs on the third Sunday of September.

Yours truly,

Michael McEneaney,
New Albany P. O., Pa.,
U. S. A.

We are both edified and pleased at our zealous correspondent's suggestion. But we take the liberty of improving on the extract from our London (Ont.) contemporary. That extract is credited to the "Chronicles of the Life of St. Elizabeth." Our extract, substantially the same, is a clearer and more accurate account of the same revelation. The reason why it is clearer and more accurate is that it is taken from Frederick William Faber. He is at once the most learned, the most comprehensive, and the most accurate of spiritual writers. Though he has now been dead nearly forty years, no rival of his matchless series of devotional works has since appeared. A writer in the Ave Maria, for July 16th last, says truly: "His numerous books, once on the top wave of popularity, are not now generally read, either in England or America; yet they contain many pearls of great price."

Our quotation is taken from Chapter I., section 6, of "The Foot of the Cross, or the Sorrows of Mary," a book of 448 closely printed pages, sixteenth American edition, published by John Murphy & Co., Baltimore. It reads thus:—

The Church puts the dolours of Mary before us as part of the gospel, as one of the facts of special devotion. Marchese, in his Diario di Maria, mentions an old tradition, which would carry devotion to the sorrows of our Blessed Lady up to apostolic times. Some years after her death, while St. John the Evangelist was still grieving over his loss and longing to see her face again, it pleased our Blessed Lord to appear to him in a vision, accompanied by His Mother. The sorrows of Mary, together with her frequent visits to the holy places of the Passion, were naturally a con-

(Continued on Page 5.)

A MOST INTERESTING LETTER WRITTEN BY MGR. TACHE MORE THAN 45 YEARS AGO

An Extract from the Report on the Exploration of the Country between Lake Superior and the Red River Settlements and between the latter place and the Assiniboine and Saskatchewan, by S. J. Dawson, Esquire, C.E.

Printed by order of the Legislative Assembly, Toronto.

Folio 42.—Letter from the Bishop of St. Boniface, Red River Settlement.

(Continued from last week.)

As to myself, there is one thought which occupies my mind in the midst of all the movement and agitation at present existing with reference to the Red River country. As you say, "the country is open, the tide of emigration is about to pour into it." I am an exile, though a voluntary one, from my country, cut off from everything that I held dear in the world before coming here, exposed equally with all those who surround me to the inconveniences resulting from our isolated position, and it is, no doubt, very gratifying to me to see the distance, which separates me from my native land, as it were, shortened, and to be brought nearer to the friends whom my heart continues to love so much, to see my adopted country on the eve of enjoying the advantages intended to be procured for it. And yet in view of all this, I experience something like a feeling of pain, for it appears to me that while making a great gain, we shall perhaps also lose much. At all events I fancy that we are about to be deprived of much of the tranquillity which we now enjoy; this unbroken quiet may appear very insipid to those who are habituated to the bustle of business or the noisy stir of great cities, but it possesses an especial charm for the mind of one who has lived for many years in solitude and away from agitation. Undoubtedly, and I cannot lose sight of the fact, there prevails throughout the country a general feeling of uneasiness about our present political condition, but notwithstanding this, my views are too narrow and contracted to enable me to anticipate any great beneficial results. I am well aware that the system proposed for us, is in the abstract, very far superior to our present system, which is in fact an anomaly; and yet I very much fear that it will be a long time before we shall reap any benefit from it. Whatever may be the result, the movement is an actual fact, and we must cease to be what we have hitherto been, an exceptional people. Red River will no longer be the oasis in the desert; it is about to lose this distinctive and poetical characteristic, and become as it were the mere suburb of some great city. A large number of strangers have already reached us during the last summer, and this immigration cannot fail to increase. I am a French Canadian in heart, as well as by origin, and I should undoubtedly prefer to see our lands occupied by our brave and respectable inhabitants from Lower Canada. In the present condition of the Red River settlement, those who have large families are not the persons who should come; we are more in want of hands than of mouths. A company of soldiers and the exploring parties who visit the settlement suffice, as it is, to create a famine. The price of many of the necessities of life has doubled since last year, and although the harvest was pretty good, and hunting and fishing abundantly successful, nevertheless, there is an extreme scarcity of everything. Young married men, farmers or tradesmen, would have the best chance of a success here! Although I have said I would prefer to see our lands occupied by settlers from Lower Canada, it is not that I wish to advise my fellow countrymen to leave their homes, far from it. On the contrary, it seems to me that our beautiful country is worthy of re-

taining and rich enough to support all those who are born upon her soil. For my own part, had not motives of a higher order determined my will, had not a voice stronger than the voice of nature and of blood sounded in my ears, never could I have consented to break the link that bound my heart to the land of my birth. The bread of exile is so bitter, the strange land so barren, even in the height of its fertility, that the word "Good-bye" has always seemed to me the most painful in the vocabulary of the human heart. I am, therefore, very far from wishing to encourage the Canadians to emigrate, but if, owing to special and exceptional reasons, they are compelled to remove from their native land, if they are determined to take up the pilgrims' staff, rather than see them take the direction of the United States, I prefer to have them come here. Here their faith, at all events, will not be exposed, and if they are deprived of some material advantages, these will be compensated for by others of a higher order. Their children will here find masters and mistresses to enlighten their minds, and at the same time to train their hearts to virtue. Daily experience enables me to promise them zealous priests, who will be true fathers to them, and who, here, as they did at home, will preach to them in their own mother tongue, the goodness of their God and the love which they owe Him. Another thing which I can promise them is the affectionate interest which is, and ever will be, entertained for them, by the pastor whose flock they will come to join. The Bishop of St. Boniface, a Canadian, like themselves, their brother therefore, and their friend, will be really rejoiced to have it in his power to assist them, and willingly engages to devote to the welfare of the newcomers, as well as to that of the rest of his people, everything at his disposal. Besides, no one had a better right to occupy the valley of the Red River, or even the valley of the Saskatchewan, than the Canadians of French origin. Our fathers were the hardy champions of civilization who first penetrated these regions, influenced by motives far superior to the low interests of commerce; these brave and skilful discoverers came at the call, and in the company of the missionaries, to raise the standard of the Cross in the vast prairies of the West. Evil days have since come upon the beautiful portion of the American continent which they reclaimed from barbarism, but after a century of struggles and constancy, our nationality shines out before an astonished world, and nothing can be more natural than that our brethren should once more take possession of the land discovered by their ancestors and consecrated by them as destined to witness at a future time the regeneration of the unfortunate tribes whom they found inhabiting it. Besides, the chain which connects Canada, and especially French Canada, with the Red River, has never been broken. Ever since the occupation of our country by the power which protects us so well today, the intrepid and skilful voyageurs have still continued to be recruited from among our fellow countrymen. They occupy an inferior position under the circumstances, but their services have been acknowledged as indispensable. At a later period, French Canadians have here acquired claims, of which they can-



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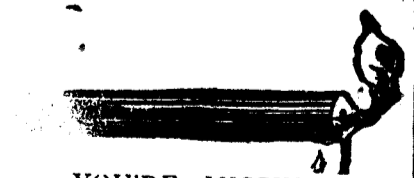


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Catechism in the Church, 3 p.m.
N.B.—Sermon in French on 1st Sunday in the month, 9 a.m. Meeting of the children of Mary 2nd and 4th Sunday in the month, 4 p.m.
WEEK DAYS—Masses at 7 and 7.30 a.m. On first Friday in the month, Mass at 8 a.m. Benediction at 7.30 p.m.
N.B.—Confessions are heard on Saturdays from 3 to 10 p.m., and every day in the morning before Mass.

C. M. B. A.

Grand Deputy for Manitoba.
Rev. A. A. Cherrier, Winnipeg, Man.

Agent of the C.M.B.A. for the Province of Manitoba with power of attorney, Dr. J. K. Barrett, Winnipeg, Man.

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