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Father Chiniquy,

AND HIS MISSION AT ST. ANNE'S,
KANKAKEE.

AT A RECENT MEETING of the Executive Committee of the BOARD OF FRENCH EVANGELIZATION, the Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. Warden, and the writer were commissioned to proceed to St. Anne's for the purpose of enquiring into the circumstances of the mission and to make such arrangements as might seem best calculated to promote the interests of the work, so far as this could be consistently done by the Board. The distance from Montreal to Chicago is 842 miles. St. ANNE'S, situated about 67 miles due south of that city, occupies the highest site in the state of Illinois and has the reputation of being a very healthy place. It is surrounded by rich prairie land which, with ordinary skill and industry, might be made the garden of America. But where nature is so lavish of her gifts the science of agriculture is frequently ill-understood, and it looks as though that were true of the county of Kankakee the general appearance of which is less inviting than other parts of the country through which we passed, greatly inferior to it in natural fertility. We saw nothing to equal the Province of Ontario from Kingston westward. Indeed you may travel much farther than to Chicago before you find a better country, and a pleasing feature of it is that almost every station along the line is synonymous with the name of a Presbyterian congregation. We encountered only two obstructions in our onward course towards the setting sun. The first was that natural barrier which divides the western peninsula of Ontario from the State of Michigan—the river St. Claire, which was

so entirely covered with field ice as to present the appearance of an impassable gulph. Yet how easily was this difficulty overcome! By an ingenious contrivance the whole train of a dozen carriages, each seventy feet at least in length, was transferred to a huge pontoon propelled by powerful twin screws which crashed through the fields of ice as though they had been but foam, and no sooner was the opposite shore reached than a fresh engine took hold of the three segments of our train and, as soon as they were re-united, darted off with us at the rate of forty miles an hour. Obstruction number two was caused by the collision of two freight trains, resulting in a temporary scene of confusion that was sufficiently appalling to look at, but had no worse consequences than the utter demolition of a considerable amount of railway plant and the damage of a good deal of merchandize. The rapidity with which the broken fragments of the wrecked trains were got out of the way was surprising. This "accident" gave us a day to see the lions of Chicago. One could scarcely believe that this city of 503,000 inhabitants is hardly fifty years old, and that ten years ago one half of it was reduced to ashes. You can hardly see a trace of the fire fiend about it—so completely has it been renewed. Its population has nearly doubled in that short time. We spent the hour after noon in the rooms of the Young Men's Christian Association, where we had an opportunity of studying the International Sabbath-school lesson for the following day in company with some four hundred others, among whom there were evidently a large preponderance of teachers who had come together to compare notes.

We reached St. Anne's on Saturday, at 11 p. m. Late as it was, the venerable father met us at the hall door and made us wel-