

# CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

The Decision of His Holiness Will Soon Be Announced.

Archbishop Bruchsal, interviewed—An Expression of Opinion as to the Main Features of the Pronouncement.

The Roman correspondent of the Freeman's Journal, New York refers to the expected decision of His Holiness, in regard to the Manitoba School question, in the following terms:—

Not merely Canada, but the United States and all countries where the Catholic religion is professed by a minority of the people, will be interested in the coming Papal pronouncement on the Manitoba school question. His Holiness I am informed, has all but completed his letter to the Canadian bishops on the subject, and I shall endeavor to forward a translation of the same to the readers of the Freeman immediately the document appears in print.

Meanwhile it will not be out of place to give the Freeman readers an inkling of how the subject appears to His Grace of Montreal. Mgr. Bruchsal has been in Rome for some weeks, has had more than an audience with Pope Leo XIII, and is thoroughly informed on this school question. In an interview given by him to one of my French correspondents in Rome he emphasizes the fact that Manitoba entered the Dominion on the express stipulation that it should always be allowed to have its denominational schools. The so-called Laurier Settlement has absolutely repudiated this pact. Neither in its drafting nor its passing into law were the Catholic hierarchy and people consulted or considered. In plain words, it is no settlement at all.

As to the general tenor of the Pope's decision, I think I am perfectly safe in saying that it will be on the lines of the recent encyclical on the Blessed Peter Canisius. Readers of this now famous document will remember that in it His Holiness lays down three vital principles of Catholic education.

**CATHOLICS MUST HAVE THEIR OWN SCHOOLS.**

In the first place, Catholics must have their own schools. "Men must not allow themselves," says His Holiness, "to be easily persuaded that instruction and piety can be kept separate with impunity. If it is true that no part of life, public or private, can be exempt from the duty of religion, neither is there any age when this duty can be less ignored than that early period when wisdom is lacking, when the mind is fresh, and when the heart is exposed to so many fascinating causes of corruption. To so organize education as to remove from it all points of contact with religion is to corrupt in the soul the very seeds of beauty and virtue, and to bring up, not defenders for the fatherland, but a pest and a scourge for the human race.

Suppress God, and what consideration can be alleged to keep young people to their duty, or call them back to it when they have turned aside from the straight path of virtue and are moving downward toward the abyss of vice?"

Nor is the mere teaching of the principles of religion at specified times sufficient for the ideal education, for "all the rest of the instruction should, as it were, exhale a perfume of Christian piety." In other words, the whole atmosphere of the school in which Catholic youth are being educated must be religious, and "the transmission of the various branches of human knowledge must remain conjoined with the culture of the soul."

It follows that the teachers of Catholic youth must be good Catholics, and that "nobody should exercise such important functions without having been judged fitted thereby by the judgment of the Church and confirmed in office by religious authority."

In brief—Catholic schools, with Catholic teachers, under Catholic control.

## OUR NEW YORK LETTER.

NEW YORK, Nov. 22.—Last week Archbishop Corrigan administered confirmation to a large class, consisting of three hundred children and adults. The confirmation was noteworthy in the history of the Paulist Fathers, since the number of adult converts—more than one hundred—to the Church is believed to be the largest ever confirmed at one time in this city. In the ceremony yesterday Rev. John Hughes, C.S.P., who had baptized most of them during the past year, was their sponsor. The converts were the result of the non-Catholic mission of Father Elliott, the Paulist missionary, at the Church of St. Paul the Apostle last January. Missions to non-Catholics had been held before, but Father Elliott, who is the animating spirit of the non-Catholic mission movement, set on foot last year a systematic mission of two weeks for the conversion of non-Catholics in this city.

**A NOBLE CHURCH EDIFICE.**

St. John's Church, Jersey City Heights, has just been dedicated with impressive ceremonies by Bishop Wigger of the Newark Diocese. Its cost is \$200,000 and the building took five years to complete. It is built of bluestone and dressed granite. Perhaps the principal feature in the

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# ABBE COLIN AND THE PRESS

The Distinguished Sulpician Delivering an Interesting Address on the Subject.

Rev. Abbe Colin, the gifted Superior of the Seminary of Montreal, in his recent address on the subject of the Press, showed how thorough had been his study of one of the most important factors in the condition of the modern world. The thoughtful student who reads his utterances will see that the Press as an engine of good or evil is one which ranks among the most important agents in the history of civilization. That Abbe Colin's addresses are always listened to is well known, but it is seldom that the difficult subject which the distinguished Sulpician chose as his thesis fell into such fitting hands.

Rev. Abbe Colin began his address by stating that the choice of the subject had been suggested by the desire to bring about the closest relations between the university and the press. (Cheers.) He then proceeded to refer to the influ-

ence of the press in bringing the different races and countries together, its influence upon the customs of the country and the part it played in the accumulation of wealth by the human race.

In eloquent language the rev. Superior laid before his hearers the open pages of a great metropolitan newspaper bringing to its thousands of readers the news of the important happenings of the world at large, and year after year, brought the different peoples of the earth together as one great family.

"The press informs us," he said, "of Spain and her colonial troubles, the never ending quarrels in the Orient, the fishery disputes in the northern Pacific, and, in fact, every event of importance that occurs the wide world over is brought to our notice with the greatest possible regularity and precision. When we learn of the dreadful massacres of Armenia, the awful disaster at the charity bazaar in Paris, and any other occurrence of mournful import, our human hearts are instantly in touch with the sufferings of people in another land, and thus the wonderful solidarity of the human race is established through the powerful medium of the press." (Cheers.)

**FOR GOOD MORALS.**

The rev. lecturer held that the press when wisely directed was the most powerful auxiliary that Christendom possessed. A wisely directed press also added greatly to the improvement of the public morals and at the same time was one of the greatest agents of civilization the world has ever known; the Rev. Abbe Colin believes that no one can over-estimate the influence of the press, neither can its value be for a moment questioned. The beauty, he said, of true journalism was in giving to the thousands and millions of readers reliable news and a clean newspaper in every feature.

We all know the words of Pascal, who said that public opinion was the queen

## AMERICAN IRISH SOCIETY.

The Third Session Held at Boston Last Week.

The third session of the American-Irish Historical Society was held last week at Boston. There was a distinguished gathering present. Hon. Thomas J. Gargan presided at the dinner. At the head table were also seated Mr. John Mackinnon Robertson of London, General James R. O'Beirne of New York, Rear Admiral E. Belknap, U.S.N., retired, General Patrick A. Collins and Colonel John C. Linehan of New Hampshire.

Mr. Gargan opened the after-dinner exercises with a short address. He said in part: "It cannot be other than interesting to analyze the materials entering into the warp and woof of our democratic fabric. We are a nation receiving emigrants from almost every country on the face of the globe. We are endeavoring to amalgamate people of different races, languages and religions into a homogeneous mass, eliminating all that is vicious, and so refining what is good, hoping to evolve the best type of manhood and womanhood to be found in the coming century.

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of the world, and Abbe Colin declared that it was a fact that public opinion was indeed so powerful that even human reason in setting itself against it, runs the risk of being vanquished. Public opinion is indeed the queen of the world. How great it is then, when fortified by truth and how fatal when conceived in error?

The reverend lecturer also exemplified the power of the press when some thirty years ago the newspapers of the United States so severely criticized the policy of the R-public purchasing the territory of Alaska from Russia that at one time it looked as if the Washington Government would be obliged to discontinue all negotiations to this end. Then on the other hand, came the Klondike fever spread over the world, influenced by the descriptions in the newspapers of this land of gold. The working up of a national feeling of gratitude towards France for the gift of the Statue of Liberty, the refusal of Congress to provide for a pedestal and the splendid success of the fund originated by the New York World, were all alluded to by the gifted Sulpician in order to prove the wonderful influence for good which the press wields for good throughout the land.

Does not everyone desire that the press shall give truthful information to the public? Rev. Father Colin added, "and is not the press itself prompted by this same desire?" (Cheers.) The asking of the question, he held, was to answer it. "God," the speaker said, "frequently speaks through the newspapers sometimes by means of the Vicar of Jesus Christ, and also through the bishops, and then he dwelt at considerable length upon the attributes of a good healthy press."

He especially referred to the recent visit of the Montreal pressmen of all creeds and races to the Archbishop of Montreal, who was so deeply touched at this mark of filial respect and devotion. The part played by the press in contributing to the increase of the nation's riches was then alluded to, and Rev. Father Colin described the merchant, the financier or the statesman taking the daily paper and scanning the market quotations and the rise and fall of stocks. These figures which cover an entire page of the daily paper indicate the state of the world's markets and contribute to the transaction of business and the accumulation of wealth.

Here the Superior turned to the important question of the liberty of the press, and quoted the words of a great man, who said at the beginning of the century, that to restrain the liberty of the press would be absurd. It had been said in certain quarters that the Church had opposed the liberty of the press, but those who made this assertion did not know the doctrines of the Church. There was, however, one word more which he wished to say, and that was to present the press in its finest possible role. The press, he continued, was playing its most noble and beautiful part when it throws its wonderful influence and power in favor of educational and charitable objects, and the Rev. Superior made a particularly fervent appeal for the drawing together of the press and the universities.

**A REDUCTION IN PRICE.**

The Globe (Toronto) is making a strong and deserving bid for circulation. Finding that the reduction in the price of paper and the introduction of type setting machinery have made it possible to publish the paper at a less cost, the price has been reduced from \$6 per annum to \$4 per annum for the early morning edition, and the second edition has been discontinued.

This should give their circulation list a great increase, as it brings within the reach of every person a daily paper that is generally recognized as the leading paper in Canada. As there is to be no reduction in the size of the paper, and every department, including the Saturday illustrated edition, kept up to its present high standard, and considering the enormous expense that it goes to in order to give all the news every day, \$6 was not too much to pay for it.

At \$4 per annum its subscription list should soon reach the 50,000 mark.

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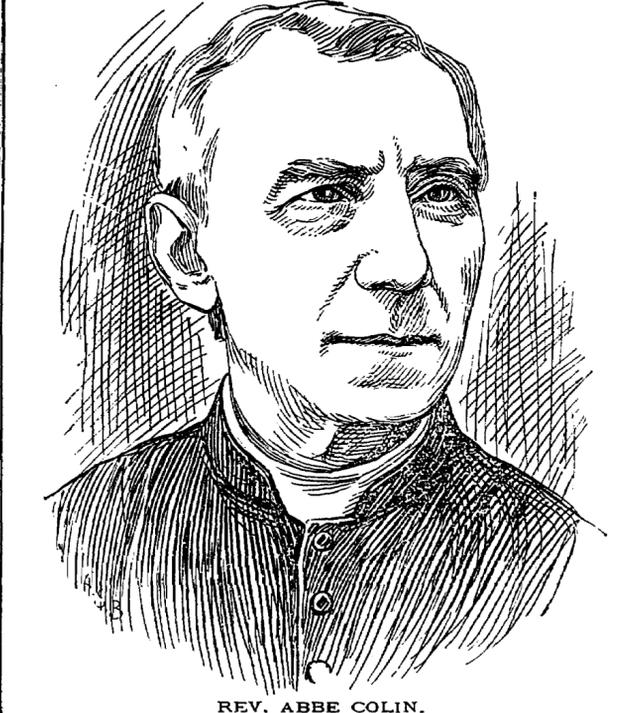
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REV. ABBE COLIN.

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Organized, April 1874. Incorporated, Dec. 1875.

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**C. M. B. A. of Canada.**

**C.M.B.A. of Canada, Branch 26**

(Organized, 13th November, 1883.)

Branch 26 meets at St. Patrick's Hall, 92 St. Alexander street, on every Monday of each month. The regular meetings for the transaction of business are held on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month, at 8 p.m.

Applicants for membership or any one desiring information regarding the branch may communicate with the following officers:

M. SHARKEY, President, 138 Notre Dame St. J. H. FEELEY, Treasurer, 719 Sherbrooke St. G. A. GAHRAIN, Fin. Sec., 511 St. Lawrence St. JAS. J. COSTIGAN, Secretary, 325 St. Urbain St.

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