

VILLA MARIA CONVENT.

THE SCHOOLS TO BE RE-OPENED AT THE USUAL TIME.

Re-organization of the Community—  
Distribution of the Nuns for  
the Present—The Convent  
to be Rebuilt Fire-  
proof.

A number of workmen are at present demolishing the ruins of Villa Maria Convent. A great deal of the stone still remains standing and to a spectator it seems that some of the walls, especially the front wall of the chapel, could still be utilized, but the Sisters says that the heat was so intense as to almost turn the stone into lime; it is indeed so soft, that it often crumbles, and persons employed thereabout are very chary of approaching too near. The foundations will have to be removed also, together with the great mass of debris which remains piled on the side of the ruined buildings; this rubbish and useless material will not be entirely removed before the end of November, although everything is being done to hasten the work. The Council of the Sisters has not yet decided what their future course shall be.

Their principal anxiety so far has been to find apartments in their convents for all their nuns, for they intend to keep their boarding school entirely separate from the Mother House, and to give the same accommodation to their pupils that they have always given, for otherwise there would be a decrease in their revenues, and it would be impossible to suffer a loss of that kind after the great calamity that has overtaken them. Everything will be in readiness for September 5 in the school, which is now undergoing certain necessary repairs, and the authorities at the convent say that they expect all the pupils to return, for already many have signified their intention to do so; and others still remain in the seminary, the distance to their homes being too great to allow them to return home; moreover, the nuns cannot understand why the rumor has gone abroad that this school will not be conducted as it was formerly, for they say that absolutely nothing has been deranged and no changes, besides minor yearly repairs and alterations are to be made. So far the council is busily occupied in

THE RE-ORGANIZATION OF THE COMMUNITY, and already the board of administration, the novitiate and the infirmary have been assigned apartments at the convent on St. Jean Baptiste street, and this has necessitated extensive alterations, a larger outlay, who will not be received at this seminary in September, but who will be sent to several other schools, directed by the congregation. A great many nuns have been sent to other convents of the Order, and the Sisters of the Hotel Dieu at present care for the invalids, who will be removed, except two, who are in a dying condition. The Council thinks that it will reconstruct on the detached plan; but of one thing it is certain, and that is that the next buildings shall be so erected as to be absolutely fire-proof, and that all modern means will be used to prevent a recurrence of a disaster like the one of the past. It has also decided not to do anything in the matter until next spring, as it does not see its way clear at present, the debt on the burned structure not being yet paid, and contributions arriving very tardily, in fact they say that although subscriptions are mentioned as being forwarded to them, yet when they open the contribution boxes, the sums are found to be very small; still they are very grateful for such donations and they do not fail to pray for their benefactors; this, they say, is the only means in their power of repaying such kindness. Moreover, none of the collections made in the churches of the diocese and elsewhere have yet been received. The other missions of the Congregation cannot come to the assistance of the Mother House, for it is a rule that every district or mission provides for its own wants. All the students at the schools do not pay their fees, and the Sisters are obliged to receive a great number in this way. Every novice on entering the Community is supposed to bring with her, according to the rules, a "dot" of \$600; one hundred Postulants present themselves yearly,

on an average, and this would make a very good source of revenue, "but not the one-eighth part of them are in a position to bring this amount with them," said one of the nuns, "and our Venerable Mother Bourgeois has imposed on us the obligation to receive any one, who may present herself, notwithstanding the above mentioned rule, in order that no woman may miss her vocation."

The church will not be rebuilt, for it is intended that the interior chapel, with which every House is provided, shall suffice for the wants of the community.—*The Star*.

Mgr. Fabre's Pastoral Tour.

Mgr. Fabre returned to the city Friday morning from his pastoral visit on the south side of the St. Lawrence. His Grace was enthusiastically received at all points, and more especially at St. Julie, St. Bruno, and St. Hubert. The line of route in the various places was decorated and arches of welcome had been erected. He administered the Sacrament of Confirmation at the various churches. Thirty children were confirmed at St. Bruno. At the latter place an address of welcome was read by Mr. F. X. N. Berthiaume, N. P., in which an allusion was made to the civil suit now pending against the Archbishop. It was declared that the civil authority had no jurisdiction in matters of purely clerical administration and matters in which the authority of the head of the clergy was interested could not be submitted to a lay tribunal. In all the addresses presented sympathy was expressed for His Grace.

After Breakfast

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HOOD'S PILLS cure constipation. They are the best after-dinner pill and family cathartic.

Father Mathew Society, Almonte.

At the last regular meeting of the Father Mathew Temperance Association, of Almonte, the following were elected as officers for the ensuing term: Spiritual director, Very Rev. Canon Foley; president, John O'Reilly; 1st vice-president, Edward J. Smith; 2nd vice-president, Arch. Kane; secretary, Jas. O'Connor; treasurer, P. Daly. Committee of management: Ben. Bolton, Edward Selang, J. R. Johnston, E. J. Daly, G. W. Smith, M. J. Allman, Jas. More, F. Doherty and F. Burke.

Miss McGee's Academy.

The closing exercises of Miss M. McGee's academy, No. 44 Prince Arthur street, were largely attended by the parents and many friends of the pupils. Among those present were Mr. P. S. Murphy, Dr. Grant Stewart, Dr. G. A. Berwick, and Edward Brown, a former pupil. The reading of essays and recitations and music were loudly applauded, especially a piano and banjo accompaniment by Misses Tessie and Dolly Foley, which was executed with grace and action. Miss Tessie promises great musical talents. Duets were rendered by Miss Mary Tierney and Katie Burgess, Miss Birdie Davies and Pauline Schneider. The farewell address was read by Miss Mary Tierney, after which came the distribution of prizes. Ten medals were the gift of Mr. P. S. Murphy. One in gold for excellence, the gift of an hon. member of the Council of Public Instruction, was awarded to Miss Mary Tierney after two years' assiduity; a silver medal to Miss Katie Burgess for music; a silver medal to Miss Pauline Schneider for perseverance; a silver medal to Miss Birdie Davies for perfect lessons; a silver medal to Miss Maggie E. Ryan for good conduct and progress; a silver medal to Miss Lily Wood for politeness and application; a silver medal to Mary J. Burns for application and progress; a silver medal to Eugene Brossard for English conversation; a silver medal to Marie Rossiere for history; a silver medal to Caroline Aubin for hygiene. In the boys' department, three silver medals and twelve large volumes, six in French and six in English, were given by an hon. member of the Council of Public Instruction. Master James Tierney received a silver medal for exceptional good conduct; Jossie McCaffrey, silver medal for perseverance and progress; Walter Legare (Quebec), silver medal for general proficiency and politeness. Then came the crowning of Miss Mary Tierney with a wreath of wax flowers, the gift of her teacher, for conduct. Addresses were given in English and French by Mr. P. S. Murphy, who expressed himself as pleased with the success Miss McGee's academy has made, having an attendance of ninety-two pupils during the year. Dr. Grant Stewart also congratulated Miss McGee on the good work she had done, and spoke words of encouragement to all, particularly to the boys.

Senator Sherman says he will vote to repeal the clause of the silver law bearing his name which requires the purchase of silver.

AROUND THE WORLD.

McClure, the would-be train robber of Omaha, got 15 years prison.

Hospital nurses in the late war, by a recent ruling, have been admitted to the pension roll.

There is a general belief that from next month Congress will be in continuous session about a year.

Pietro Buccieri, the murderer of Sister Hildaberta of St. Joseph's hospital, Reading, Pa., was hanged on Friday.

One thousand French students besieged the chamber of deputies this week to make complaint against the Paris police.

Fruit will be plentiful this year. There will not be so many watermelons but the peach crop will be larger than ever before.

Edward F. McSweeney, of Massachusetts, is the successor of Gen. James R. O'Berine as assistant commissioner of immigration at New York.

The three-year-old child of Charles Beard, of Greentown, was instantly killed while playing with a loaded shot gun, by the discharge of the weapon.

Mr. Gladstone has intimated in the House of Commons that a joint commission would be appointed to inquire into the relations between Great Britain and Ireland.

The failure of ex-Secretary Foster has assumed proportions which are astounding. The total liabilities may reach \$1,000,000 in which event creditors will not realize more than 15 cents on the dollar.

The opening of the Columbian Exposition on Sunday has proved a failure, two-thirds of the exhibits being covered and the machinery not being in motion. The art palace alone has all its beauties exposed as on week days.

A great system of railway from the Gulf of Mexico to Canada to cost \$30,000,000, is proposed. The power would be electric, the electro-motive force to be furnished by the tides of the Gulf of Mexico and the streams and artesian wells that flow along the route.

The Homestead cases wherein the strikers were indicted for riot, conspiracy, treason, murder and several other variegated offenses, will go over until the September term of court, when it is thought the prosecution will decline to prosecute. That will be a summary conclusion to what was so great a matter.

The Paulist Fathers.

In the fall, the Paulist Fathers are to try a new plan of campaign in their work of making America Catholic. Hitherto they have given missions to Catholics to make them more Catholic, hoping to hold them in the faith by its practice and to use them as examples of religion wherewith to convert their neighbors. Now they will go direct to Protestants and put before them the claims of the Church and need of membership in it. We believe that so intelligent, so receptive to grace, so religious-minded are many of the fifty-five millions who surround us, that they will flock to the truth as soon as it is fairly made known to them. Surely the time has come to seek the lost sheep, and the Paulists are just the shepherds for the work!—*N. Y. Catholic Review*.



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ROMAN NEWS.

Gleaned from the London Universe.

The Volney linguistic prize has been decreed by the Institute of Inscriptions and Belles-Lettres at Paris to Abbe Rousset for his essay on the phonetic modifications of language.

The Alegates Tedeschi and Radini, charged to convey the biretta of Cardinal to the new members of the Sacral College, Lecot and Bourret, have arrived at Bordeaux and Rhodéz respectively.

His Holiness has appointed M. de Longuemarre, editor of the Revue Catholique de Normandie, Chevalier of Gregory the Great. This is in recognition of his labours for the last three years in his able periodical.

Cardinal Luigi Serafini has been nominated Secretary of Briefs; Cardinal di Pietro, Prefect of the Council; Mgr. Segna, Assessor to the Holy Office; and Mgr. Ciasca, Secretary to the Propaganda.

The new Apostolic Nuncio at Vienna has taken up his post. It is remarked that immediately on his arrival Count Kalnoky, Minister of Foreign Affairs, paid him a visit. His solemn reception was characterized by the accustomed ceremony.

Five of the Franciscan Sisters of Ghent have left for the Argentine Republic to carry the consolations of religion and spiritual and material succour to the many Belgians settled there. Mgr. Stillemans presided at the ceremony of departure, which was most imposing and affecting. They all belonged to the highest families of the district, but, like the heroines that they are, they faced the call of service with brave hearts. Our best wishes follow them across the ocean.

Here is a fresh instance of bigotry on the part of the provincial authorities of France: A lady named Belime at Rouen bequeathed a sum of two thousand francs to the Brothers of the Christian Schools of the locality, and this has been denied to them for no motive except that they are a religious congregation. Ordinary people would consider this violation of the wishes of a dying person an indecent outrage upon the rudimentary principles of justice.

The municipality of Pierrefitte, near Paris—the very place from which the ex-Empress Eugene took the title under which she was wont to travel *incognito*—has decreed the removal of the crucifix from the market-place on the plea that salutations paid to this emblem "could not be borne." Not a solitary workman could be discovered at Pierrefitte to lift the cross from its pedestal. Honour to the humble artisans of the parish. Aid had to be sought at St. Denis, but even then it was judged dangerous to effect the sacrilegious alteration in the light of day. The gendarmes of the district were mobilized, and the dirty work was performed at two o'clock in the morning. The Prefect of the Seine has ordered the crucifix to be set up again in the grounds of the chapel-house.

Saloon Keepers Fined.

The following saloon keepers, who opened up their saloons on St. Jean Baptiste procession Sunday, pleaded guilty Friday morning and were fined by Judge Desnoyers \$75 and costs: Joseph Riendeau, Canne Beaulieu, S. L. Richard, William Daoust, Theotime Lanctot, T. Ethier, A. Poirier, Paul C. Levesque, Nazaire Gauthier, Charles Boyer, John J. Martin, A. Bernard, F. Corriveau, Margaret Henry, Maria Louise Corbeil, J. B. Bureau, F. X. Lemairc, Patrick Coleman, Stanislas Daoust, H. Cloutier, E. Gosselin, Charles Laffeur, Alex. Courville, I. Lamoureux, Jos. B. Durocher, Henri Dubois, Ed. Caillargeon and Zephire Larocque. A delay of six weeks was given in which to pay the fine.

The City Death Rate.

The death rate in Montreal the week before last, was appalling. It has not been as large since the smallpox epidemic, in 1885. The interments at the two cemeteries numbered 222. Of these, 196 were Roman Catholics and 26 Protestants. The deaths were nearly all those of children. Cholera infantum headed the list with 61 Catholics and 2 Protestants; diarrhoea came next with 38 Catholics and 3 Protestants; consumption, with 12 Catholics and 3 Protestants. Diphtheria carried off 1, diphtheritic croup, 1, and scarlet fever, 3.