

It was at the commencement of the American civil war. Our heart was moved with sorrow at the loss of many lives and the prospect of so many souls going before God in judgment, some, it is to be feared, but ill prepared. The beautiful rainbow that spanned the Cataract, the sign of peace between God and the sinner, suggested prayers and hopes to see the war soon ended; and we called the Church "Our Lady of Victories or of Peace." A Convent was soon erected on the grounds, and Nuns of the Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary, called of Loretto, were installed.

This Order had its heroic beginnings in the reigns of Henry VIII. and Elizabeth of England. Ladies of noble birth fled to Ravenna to avoid death or the loss of religious rights in their own country. They formed a Religious Community approved of by Clement XI., re-entered England towards the close of the last century, and subsequently came to Toronto on the invitation of its first Bishop, the venerable and saintly Dr. Power.

These good Nuns, whilst not engaged in imparting a higher education to young ladies who assemble at the Convent from all parts of the country, occupy their time in adoring God and contemplating His overflowing sweetness and bounty in the Most Blessed Sacrament. Their chapel windows overlook the grandest scene in the world, and holy thoughts and prayer arise to heaven as the spray ascends to form clouds that fertilize the earth with refreshing showers. The Convent chapel is dedicated to the Most Blessed Sacrament, in hopes that when the Community will be sufficiently numerous it may keep up a perpetual adoration.

We have for many years searched for a fervent congregation of men to found a Monastery and a church worthy of the place and its destination. Enthusiastic pilgrims of nature's grandeur come here to enjoy its beauty; others, alas, to shun its remorse. We deemed to have a religious house where those pilgrims would be attracted to adore nature's God in spirit and in truth, and who would there find, in solitude and rest, how great and good God is.

The Fathers of the Order of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, the most ancient in the Church and dear to the heart of our Blessed Mother, have commenced this good work. Our Holy Father Pius IX. has been graciously pleased to confer upon the present little church Plenary Indulgences and other favours granted to the most ancient pilgrimages of the old world. The Fathers also propose, when a suitable house is built, to receive Prelates and Clergy of the Church as well as Laity to make retreats; and to provide Priests, worn out in the service of their Divine Master, with a home where they can quietly prepare for eternity.

Missions will be also given in parishes by the Religious at the request of the Bishops. A place more fitting for such an Institution could hardly be found. God Himself has made the selection. It is easy of approach from all parts of the country, and on the confines of two great nations. We have full confidence that God will finish His own good work by inspiring the hearts that love Him, and His Blessed Mother of Mount Carmel, to contribute to the erection of a Church and Monastery there. Those pious souls will lay up for themselves treasures in the bosom of God, from which they will draw in their great need, when about to balance their accounts before His judgment seat.

Let us accompany the Christian soul in his religious pilgrimage at Niagara Falls. At first sight he will be overawed by its grandeur and stunned by its thun-

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