

POPULAR MISREPRESENTATIONS OF CATHOLIC DOCTRINE.

His Lordship the Bishop of London lectured on this subject in the Cathedral on last Sunday evening. Notwithstanding the fierce blizzard that prevailed, there was a very large congregation in attendance, and a considerable number of our Protestant fellow-citizens. The lecture lasted for more than an hour and was exceedingly interesting and instructive throughout.

1. The Catholic Church is the enemy of the Bible and shuts it up as a sealed book from her children.

2. The Church uses an unknown tongue in her services in order to keep her people in ignorance and to clothe her worship and teachings with the cloak of mystery.

3. The Church practically ignores the atonement of the Cross, depreciates the work of Christ, hides the Redeemer from her people, and has more faith in the prayers of saints than in the merits and merits of the Crucified Saviour.

4. Catholics adore the Blessed Virgin and give her the honor due to God alone. Catholic worship is saint worship and not the worship of God.

His Lordship dealt with these misrepresentations in an able and convincing manner, showed their utter falsity and injustice, and in the clearest manner annulled the teaching of the Church on these various questions. The Bishop intends, we understand, to lecture on every Sunday evening during Lent on doctrinal subjects, and the result will doubtless be a vast amount of good effected amongst Catholics and Protestants. The following is a brief synopsis of the lecture delivered on last Sunday evening:

His Lordship took his text from 13th chapter of Daniel, 48, 49 verses. (This portion of Daniel is usually placed in the apocrypha in Protestant Bibles): So I stand in the midst of them said, "Are ye such fools, ye Sons of Israel that without examination or knowledge ye have condemned a daughter of Israel. Return again to the place of judgment for they have borne false witness against her."

These words, said His Lordship, were spoken by the Prophet Daniel on an important occasion. Susanna was condemned to death by perjury and was being led to the place of execution when Daniel, who saw her innocence, exclaimed, "Ye men of Israel, are ye such fools that without examination or knowledge of the truth ye have condemned a daughter of Israel. The judgment was reopened; the nature of the testimony against her was exposed; her justice and her honor were vindicated. The foregoing, said His Lordship, was applicable to the subject of discourse. I say, ye men of the nineteenth century, are ye such fools that without examination or knowledge of truth ye condemned the Church of Christ. Return to the place of judgment for they have borne false witness against her. And I venture to say that if the judgment were reopened by intelligent and impartial men, the sentence that has been passed against the Catholic Church would be reversed, and her honor and purity vindicated.

The Church Catholic, Apostolic and Roman is a world wide institution that challenges the attention and demands the consideration of its foundation by the Son of God. It was established by Christ to represent Him on earth and to do His work. The Church is one in faith, one in worship, one in government. It speaks with the same voice the world over. It is holy in its founder Jesus Christ, in its children and in its ministry. It is universal in time and place. It is universal in its teachings and ministrations, and it appoints an unbroken line of ministers from the day that Christ appointed Peter head of the church to the time of Pope Leo XIII. That long unbroken line of succession, like a mighty chain binds century and century and age to age, and connects Leo XIII, in the Vatican with Peter on the streets of Rome. The Church is the mother of Christian civilization. When the Roman empire fell to pieces before the northern barbarians, she went out, bowed in hand, met these men of iron and crossed their necks to the sweet yoke of Christ. There is no nation that owes its Christian civilization to the Catholic Church. She has a consolation for every human sorrow; for every wounded heart she has a balm; there is no question for which she has not an answer; no problem of which she has not the solution. Venice-like she wipes the face of suffering humanity, and to every Gethsemane of sorrow she enters as an angel of comfort. This wondrous church is as old as Christianity itself; as universal as mankind. To-day after twenty centuries she stands as strong and as fruitful as she was when she first received it as their charge. And yet this church is denied a hearing and is condemned without examination or knowledge of the truth. These accusations are so frequently made that men, honest and earnest men, begin to believe them to be really true. She hides the scriptures, it is said; she shuts them up and keeps her people in ignorance. She is also said to be an idolatrous church, and to place the creature before the Creator she is said to deny the efficacy of the atonement of the Son of God, and is accused of relegating to herself the power, which belongs to God alone, of forgiving sins. These are some of the things that are believed by good, well-meaning people, and there are thousands of men and women who receive these accusations as gospel truths, "without examination or knowledge of the truth." Now is this fair? Is this just and honest? Is this the way that intelligent men act in the ordinary affairs of life? If you wish to have a fair estimate of your neighbors, do you go to their enemies? If you want to know the benefit of the N. P. do you go to its opponents? Do you go to the Man to find out about the Grit platform? And yet what men will not do in the ordinary affairs of life when they do it where their immortal souls are at stake? If you want to know the truth about the Catholic Church go to her priests and teachers and ask them that you may form your judgment. I say, therefore, ye men of this country, why are you so foolish as to condemn without examination a great Christian church? Return again to the place of judgment for they have borne false witness against her."

It is asserted that the church is the enemy of God's word. For thirty-two years I have preached the doctrine of the Catholic church and should know what it is. The Catholic church teaches that the Scripture is the Word of God and of very little it is inspired. The church reverences and loves God's word because it is God's word. For three hundred years, while she was still weak and while the whole Roman empire was trying to crush her, the Catholic church protected the Scriptures and clasped them to her bleeding heart and took care of them as a mother takes care of her child. When the Roman empire fell under, the Catholic church it was that saved the word of God from the universal wreck and ruin. Her monks it was that passed their lives transcribing the Scriptures and translating them. And yet, she is put down as the enemy of the Bible. The Bible would not be in existence to-day if it were not for the Catholic Church. She is not its enemy but its mother. She causes a portion of the Bible to be read every Sunday to her people and obliges her priests to read scripture for at least an hour every day, and I would not allow a priest to officiate who did not spend at least one hour a day in reading the Bible and commentaries on it. Strange way of showing hostility to the word of God! Before the invention of printing she fastidiously in the vernacular of her people. In France, Spain, Italy and other countries, His Lordship then read a copy of a letter from Pope Pius VI. to the Bishop of Florence in which the writer strongly urged the reading of scripture as a preventive against the heresies then rampant. It was a Pope, continued His Lordship, "the man of sin" that said that the church is not only the guardian and protector of the Bible but is its teacher and expounder. She fulfills the command of Christ: Go and teach all nations. She gives to her children the right to read the Bible in due submission to her teachings. Legislatures pass laws, but does the State say to the people, here are the laws, take what meaning you like out of them! In that case the state appoints men to explain such laws. And that is what Christ has done.

Speaking about individual interpretation His Lordship said that Christ never wrote one word of the scriptures nor did He commission any of His apostles to write His portion of them. What He did say to His apostles was, go, teach all nations. Christ evidently never intended the scriptures to be used as a rule of faith. For nearly sixty years after the ascension of Christ the New Testament was not completed: Down to the time of the invention of printing it was impossible to bring the scriptures within reach of the masses of the people. It was a whole life's work to transcribe one manuscript. The majority of the people could not read the Bible if they had it. Many of them could not understand it if they could read it.

As to the Latin tongue in the church's ceremonies. In the first place the church is not a National church. It is an English church it would use the English language; if it were a French church it would use the French language. But it is a universal church and, therefore, uses an unvarying language which can be spoken in every clime. Again the church defines her doctrines in the clearest manner and makes use of a dead language, the words of which are fixed in their meaning. Living tongues change even in a life time, but dead languages never change and the church makes use of one of the latter because her doctrines are unchangeable. His tongue and when the Roman empire fell and the church in her infancy used the Latin language she still retained it. In this respect the church is unchangeable in her speech, as well as in her doctrine. The word of God is preached in the vernacular and the catechism is taught in the vernacular also, so that Catholics cannot be said to be ignorant of what the church is doing.

As to the atonement: The Church teaches that Christ is the Son of God of co-eternal with the Father. That He died for the redemption of mankind and that there is no other name under Heaven whereby a man can be saved. There is not a child of Adam that was not redeemed by the blood of Christ. The blood of Christ in its redemptive power went up to the very gates of Paradise and will come down to the last child on the face of the earth. For three hundred years the Church has held the Divinity of Christ against the Arian heresy, till at last the doctrine triumphed. Thousands and millions of people in the Catholic Church out of love for Christ has left the world to lead a life of meditation and devote themselves to the work of Christ in feeding the hungry and clothing the naked. But do not you honor the Blessed Virgin? We do, but we do not give her supreme honor which belongs to God alone. Christ is God, the Virgin is a creature. There is an infinite degree between God and any creature. The perfection which the Blessed Virgin has attained she has received from God, and in honoring this perfection we are indirectly paying honor to God. You cannot honor a man by dishonoring his mother. To God we ascribe grace and mercy; of God we were Virgin assistance only. To God we say, have mercy on us; to her we say, pray for us. We ask her to pray for us because of her influence with her Divine Son. Just as a man might ask me to use my influence with the government of the day to secure him a situation in the belief that I hold influence with it and would on that account be more likely to obtain it than he who had no influence. As to the doctrine of the remission of sins! Christ promises to his apostles. Whatever you shall bind on earth it shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. This promise was given to the apostles in their corporate capacity; these papers were founded. Christ also promised his apostles, according to the 20th chapter of St. John. Whosoever sins ye remit they are remitted to them, and whosoever ye shall retain they are retained. You may say you do not believe this. You are free to deny the Divinity of Christ; but if you believe that Christ is God you must believe His words. As to the conditions required of the sinner:

The penitent must be heartily sorry for the sins of his life. His sorrow must be greater than his sorrow for the death of a wife, a father or a mother. It must be in proportion to the magnitude of the fault. He must make restitution. He must make a confession of his sins to a fellow man—the deepest humiliation that a man can undergo. He must do penance for his sins. Does this encourage sin? Just try it once or twice and see.

But don't you teach that what appears to be a bit of bread is really the body and what we have for so doing in the 6th chapter of John. Christ says there, I am the living bread of life which came down from heaven. If any man eat of this bread he shall live forever, and the bread that I shall give is my flesh. This and other passages His Lordship quoted and contended that they were to be taken in a strict literal sense, for so the Jews understood them and Christ did not correct the impression made upon their minds, which He would have done had they been wrong.

In conclusion His Lordship said that he was perfectly well aware that the men now living in our midst were not responsible for the erroneous ideas that prevailed. He knew of their kindness and of their goodness. There is not a kind, more honest or more intelligent than the people of Ontario, and I thought they would like to hear the disputed questions concerning Catholic belief cleared up. He asked those desirous of obtaining knowledge regarding that church to examine the books and catechisms and other authorities before they formed a decision. Let us, he said, endeavor to serve God who created us, Jesus Christ who redeemed us, that serving Him her with earnest hearts we may enjoy His glory hereafter, the blessing that I wish you all.

DIocese OF PETERBORO.

CIRCULAR TO THE CLERGY OF THE DIocese. The following circular was read in all the churches of the diocese on Quinquagesima Sunday by order of the Bishop-Elect.

REVEREND AND DEAR FATHER—You are hereby officially notified, that by Pontifical Letters, dated the 14th day of December, 1886, His Holiness, Pope Leo XIII, has been pleased to appoint the Rt. Rev. Thomas Joseph Dowling, Bishop of Peterboro, to succeed our late lamented and saintly Prelate. You will receive notice in due time of the date and place appointed for the consecration of the Bishop-Elect.

In the meantime, you are respectfully directed to say in the Mass, as often as the rubrics permits the prayer "De Spiritu Sancto;" and repeat with the congregation after the parochial Mass on Sundays three "Our Fathers," and three "Hail Marys," for the intention of our new Bishop.

The following are the diocesan regulations for Lent:— 1.—All days in Lent, Sundays excepted, are fasting days—one meal and a collation.

2.—All persons who are twenty-one and under sixty years, are bound by the law of fasting and abstinence.

3.—By virtue of powers granted us by Apostolic Indult, we permit the use of meat on all Sundays at discretion, also at the usual meals on all Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, except the Saturday of Ember week, 5th March, and Holy Saturday.

4.—Fish and flesh are not allowed at the same meal.

5.—The use of milk, butter, cheese and eggs, is allowed on all days.

6.—The use of dripping or lard (not suet), is allowed as a condiment in preparing food on all days except Good Friday.

Those exempted from fasting are: all persons under twenty-one and over sixty years of age, the sick, infirm, women carrying or nursing infants, all employed at hard labour.

8.—All who cannot fast should give more abundant alms, be more assiduous in prayer, and attend more frequently to their religious duties, so as to make up for the want of corporal mortification.

N. B.—Further dispensations, when occasion requires, can be obtained from the respective Pastors who are hereby empowered to grant them.

It is recommended in missions where the people can conveniently attend, that special devotions be held on Wednesday evenings and Friday evenings. On Wednesday evenings the Rosary may be said followed by Benediction and Friday evening the "Stations of the Cross," whenever erected, may be substituted for the Rosary. This circular shall be read in all the Churches of the Diocese, on Quinquagesima Sunday, or on the first Sunday after its reception.

By order of the Bishop-Elect, P. D. LAURENT, Administrator.

Death of Mother St. Luce. News reached the city yesterday of the sudden death at Montreal of the Very Reverend Mother St. Luce, Provincial of the Sisters of the Congregation de Notre Dame, Mother St. Luce, it was remembered, met with a serious accident in landing here from one of the steamers in September last, as a consequence of which her health was very much shattered. Yielding to the advice of her physician, she left Charlottetown for Montreal in the fall, hoping to regain her health sufficiently to return to her post next spring. While visiting the Academies of the Congregation in Montreal she was suddenly taken ill of rheumatism of the heart, and died in a few days. Her death, made so much felt by its suddenness, will be keenly felt by the good sisters of the different convents on the island and those of Nova Scotia over which her jurisdiction extended.

Mother St. Luce was a member of the General Council of Congregation. As Superior she had presided over some of the most important Missions in Canada and the United States. She was a religious of extraordinary talent and administrative ability. At the time of her death she was in her 77th year. To the Sisters here we tender our heartfelt sympathy. R. I. P.—Ottawa (N. B.) Herald.

DOMINION ELECTIONS.

OPPOSITION.

Table with columns: Riding, Member, Mtd. Includes Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, Manitoba, British Columbia.

FROM UPTEREGROVE.

CONCERT AND LECTURE.—The concert and lecture given here on Tuesday, the 31st inst., in St. Columbkil's church, was very successful taking into consideration the discouraging appearance of the evening. Father McGinley deserves great credit for the musical and literary treat he provided on this occasion. Father Rhoades of Yroonanton conducted the musical portion of the programme with his usual ability. The Misses Shannahan and Moore of Orillia ably assisted in the solos and choruses. Messrs. J. A. and E. P. Gilgoly contributed several pieces very creditably, particularly in their duet:—"Justus est Palma."

The lecture was delivered by Rev. Father Hayden of Apte, Ont., the subject being the "Philosophy of religious education." After a brief introduction in which the Rev. gentleman acknowledged the difficulties surrounding the subject, arising partly from man's complex nature, from surrounding influences, from the conflict of creeds, from natural peculiarities and the ambition of governments, he said that man at his birth belongs to three distinct societies, each complete and perfect in its own sphere, the family, the church, and the state. The question he proposed to discuss was to which of these communities belonged the education of the young or if to all conjointly. In what order and subordination. After premising a few remarks on the meaning, nature and importance of education, he proceeded at great length, and with varied arguments, to elucidate his theme. He assigned the first place to the family, the next to the church, and the last to the state. He concluded an able and closely argued lecture by exhorting his hearers to be ever one with the church in the maintenance of sound principles of education, and to resist by every legitimate means all attacks from whatever side that would go to either control or impair these principles.—Uptergrove Correspondence Landay Post, Feb. 5.

IRISH NEWS BY CABLE.

The police had great difficulty in effecting an eviction on Griffith's estate, in the 22nd. They found the tenant in bed, chained to a large stone which had been deeply sunk in the earth. A large crowd assembled and witnessed the work of removal with intense excitement.

Unemployed workmen of Dublin City met in demonstration before the Lord Mayor's residence. They were not allowed to enter, and were advised to go to Dublin Castle.

Sir Wm. Vernon Harcourt writes that the Round Table conferees are still laboring to reunite the Liberal party on a basis, which shall contain no deviation from Gladstone's principles respecting the Irish question.

MINISTERIAL.

Mr. O'Brien addressed a mass meeting at Mitchelstown, on the 22nd, which had been convoked stealthily in order to prevent its being proclaimed. Eight thousand persons attended and great excitement prevailed. Resolutions were adopted favoring the plan of campaign and condemning the Speaker of the House of Commons for "gagging" Mr. Dillon during the recent debate in Parliament.

The people of Dingle, county Kerry, were made aware of the arrival there on the 22nd, of an evicting party by the blowing of horns and the ringing of the chapel bells. A crowd of fully 2,000 persons quickly collected. Father Egan, acting on behalf of the tenants, had a long conference with the sheriff, and at the conclusion of which he announced that a settlement had been arranged under which each tenant was to pay one gale's rent, Father Egan himself paying the sheriff's costs.

A disturbance occurred at Newross, Ireland, on the 24th. One hundred policemen went to the workhouse there and arrested the refractory paupers, but at the Sessions Court the charges of assault against the prisoners were withdrawn, and they were allowed to return to the workhouse. A Nationalist band, which celebrated the result by parading through the streets, came into collision with the police. In a fight that followed the musicians' instruments were broken and many of the men were injured.

While a force of two hundred policemen were making a seizure on the Nolan Farrell estate at Ballyhanna, County Mayo, they were attacked by about 200 men and women, armed with sticks and stones. Several policemen were injured in the affray. Finally the Rev. Mr. Warlow intervened and prevented further violence.

CONCERT AT PEMBROKE.

A large and enthusiastic audience assembled in the Music Hall of the Convent, Pembroke, to witness the first public entertainment given under the management of the Sisters of Charity. The concert was opened by the chorus "Fairly Bowers," sung by the pupils, Misses Ida Poupore, E. Rooney, K. Mehan and J. Fortin. Miss O'Meara in her usual style of elocution recited "The Painter of Seville." Miss N. Dowley then came forward and in a loud and clear voice sang "Sweet the Angelus was ringing." She was accompanied at the piano by Miss M. O'Meara, on the violin by Mr. J. McPhee, and on the cornet by Mr. M. Dowley. A comic dialogue entitled "The Country Aunt," was then played in an accomplished manner by the pupils. A vocal solo was then rendered by Mr. O. Blondin. The first part of the programme was finished by a piano solo by Miss I. Poupore, who kept the ears of the audience electrified for about twenty minutes. After a few minutes' intermission the pupils opened the latter part of the programme by singing a chorus entitled "My Mother." After this Mr. Andrew Irving in his usual eloquent style a reading entitled "The Sisters

SUMMARY.

Table with columns: Province, Mtd., Opp. Includes Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, Manitoba, British Columbia.

CONCERT AT FORT WILLIAM. Fort Arthur Sentinel, Feb. 22. The musical entertainment given in the Catholic church at Fort William last night was one of the most successful concerts ever held in the district. The entertainment was in aid of Rev. Father Baxter's handsome new church, and the large attendance at this concert certainly indicates the high respect and kindly feeling with which the esteemed father is deservedly regarded by the general public. The church is a magnificent structure, and would do credit to a much larger town than Fort William, but it will be in keeping with the prosperous future which apparently awaits that place in common with the advancement of Port Arthur and the development of the great resources of this district. The building is spacious and well lighted. It provides comfortable seating capacity for nearly three hundred people, and is a model of good taste and elegance in its furnishings, with handsomely carved pews and a splendid chandelier of new design, purchased in Philadelphia, which illuminates the whole church. The reverend father is entitled to a great deal of credit for the successful result of his efforts to construct such a fine church. Three coaches crowded with passengers left Port Arthur for the concert, and there could not have been less than fully five hundred people in the church. Every seat was filled and even standing room was difficult to obtain. The programme was excellently rendered and many of the selections were enthusiastically applauded.

CONCERT AT FORT WILLIAM.

The entertainment was without doubt, in the estimation of every one present, one of the best ever given in Fort William and included talent of a high order. The accompanists of the evening were: Mrs. Gough, Mrs. Hamilton, Mrs. H. Sellers, Miss Gilbert and Miss McLean, who acquitted themselves very creditably. Mr. Thos. Ryan, under whose management the entertainment was arranged and carried out so successfully, deserves the thanks of the large audience for the pleasure afforded by the excellent programme. Rev. Father Baxter desires to return his grateful thanks to the generous public who patronized the concert, and to the ladies and gentlemen who so kindly assisted in making the entertainment such an unqualified success.

BRANTFORD NOTES.

Mr. E. H. Sison has received an appointment in the civil service, and has resigned his position as classical teacher at the Collegiate Institute of this city. Mr. Sison has been a very successful teacher and has won praise from many sources. Entering the institute about eleven years ago, quite a boy, he applied himself industriously to his studies, and in less than six years had matriculated at Toronto University and held a position among its teachers. How he has succeeded as a teacher may in some measure be judged from the address read to him from the staff and students on the evening of the 18th. It speaks of regret at his removal, but expresses pleasure at his prospective advantage; says he has won esteem by his good qualities as teacher and counsellor; that the gift presented is not a reward but a testimony and pledge; and closes with warm good wishes for his future. The reading of the address was accompanied by the presentation of a valuable gold watch. Mr. Sison is to be congratulated. Miss May B. Bald, B. A., Essex County, will succeed to the position.

Mr. Dennis Burke died at the hospital here on the 14th of February, at the age of 47 years. About ten days before he was driving to Hamilton with a load of pork and his wagon got upset at Oatlandsville and he was injured in the fall. He leaves a widow and a large family. He was a member of the C. M. B. A.

It is announced that Father Lennon has secured the services of Rev. Dr. O'Reilly of Detroit, treasurer of the National League of America, for a lecture on St. Patrick's Day, and the news is received with pleasure by the people of Brantford. Rev. Father Talley, of Providence, R. I., preached in St. Basil's on Sunday morning on the words, "Unless you do penance you shall all likewise perish." Father Murphy preached the evening. Mr. Joseph Quinn has been elected a member of the school board, for the East Ward, in place of John Ryan, who resigned to go to the High School Board.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY AT ST. MARY'S.

The citizens of St. Mary's will have a genuine treat on the forthcoming St. Patrick's Day. The Catholics of that town are arranging for a grand concert on the evening of the 17th, in which Miss Aggie Knox and Miss Stevenson, of St. Mary's; Dr. Sippl, of London, and others of note, will take part. The programme will be one of the best ever attempted in St. Mary's. Further particulars will be given in due time.

A Valuable Little Work.

We have received from Benziger Bros., New York, a very neat little work entitled "A Thought from St. Ignatius for every Day of the year." It is translated from the French by Margaret A. Colton. The book will be a most valuable addition to Catholic household libraries.