

A GRAND CELEBRATION.

THE FEAST OF OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL.

St. Mary's Parish the Scene of a Brilliant Celebration; Full Text of Rev. Father Meloche's Sermon on the Occasion.

The Feast of our Lady of Good Counsel was celebrated at St. Mary's Church on Sunday with great solemnity. The Church was prettily decorated with streamers, bunting and flags. Solemn High Mass was sung in the morning by the Rev. M. Callaghan, Father Plouf acting as deacon and Father Shea as sub-deacon. The choir had been specially augmented for the occasion and an orchestra engaged. The Mass selected was a very beautiful one composed by Professor James Wilson. Professor Wilson himself presided at the organ, and consequently full justice was done to the various numbers in the service. The following were the soloists:—First tenors:—F. Butler, J. Dillon, W. P. Clancy, A. Hamlin and Plamondon. Second tenors were:—Messrs Ransom, Phelan and Paquette. Basses:—Murray, Quinn and Smith. The solos were admirably rendered, but the most pleasant portion of the music was Professor Wilson's devotional Offertory piece, which was sung with violin and violoncello accompaniment, by Mr. A. Hamlin and Mr. Smith.

The sermon at the morning service was preached by Father Meloche, S. J. In the evening an eloquent sermon on Our Lady of Good Counsel was preached by Father Donnelly, parish priest of St. Anthony's.

At four o'clock in the afternoon a meeting of the Children of Mary was held in the Church, and at the evening service a statue of Our Blessed Lady, which had been presented to the Church by a lady who does not wish her name to be made known at present, was blessed. A procession of the various societies then walked round the church. There was a very large attendance at all the services.

Father Meloche for his sermon in the morning took for his text the words Sedes Sapientia, from the litany of Our Lady.

To-day, when they celebrated the feast of Our Lady of Good Counsel, they thought of the great wisdom and purity of the Blessed Virgin, wisdom and purity which was present in every act of her life. And they were prompted to ask Our Lady of Good Counsel who was in such an especial manner the favorite of Our Lord to intercede for them that they too might be brought to God. God is always ready to give us sufficient graces to perform our duties, so even when he chose Mary to be the mother of his Divine Son she became a monument of wisdom and holiness. God endowed her with every divine grace. She became God-like; an adopted child of God, she acquired a place above the angels. Thus it was that God laid the foundation of that living temple, and in addition he bestowed on Mary the gifts of Faith, Hope and Charity. These gifts and many others were bestowed on Mary in first coming into this world, but the greatest gift was the gift of the Holy Ghost, who dwelt in the heart of Mary.

The blessings bestowed on Our Lady did not come late in life or at the hour of death, but they were with her from her creation. She was the favorite child of God, the only one conceived without original sin. She was the lily of God. That weakness of the flesh which is the result of the sins of our first parents never affected Mary; she was pure from creation and forever. When she was in infancy she vowed to lead a life of holiness, and the better to do this she consecrated herself to God in the temple, so that she could always remain near to and faithful to God. This Holy Virgin whom we honor to-day is a monument of God's wisdom. She is the Mother of God. Therefore, we have a right to pray to her that she may intercede for us to her Divine Son; that we may obtain the graces we so much need. God sent an angel to Mary with the message "Hail full of Grace." Yes, she was full of grace, for had she not been endowed with all the graces to make her worthy to be God's Mother? But she was humble, and in answer to the Angel of the Lord she cried out "Behold the handmaid of the Lord"—and the Holy Ghost overshadowed her

and she became the Mother of God. Can there be closer union between man and God? Mary was the Mother of God. What wisdom then must have flowed out of Our Lord to His Blessed Mother in those years of union upon earth! In Holy Scripture we have many instances of the closeness of the bond between Mother and Son, in Genesis we have the woman and the son, in Our Lord and Our Lady we have the Virgin and the Child; it is natural; for God has said, "What God has joined together let no man put asunder." We must honor our earthly mothers or suffer to fall away from divine grace. We should, therefore, honor Mary, who is the Mother of God, for in honoring her it is God whom we adore. Therefore, let us ask Mary to obtain for us grace to fulfil our duties faithfully. Let us think of Mary's humility; see her starting off after the Incarnation to pay a visit to her cousin, Saint Elizabeth. Think of her purity and marvellous humility, "Behold the handmaid of the Lord, I am ready to do God's will." There is not a single virtue which did not shine in Mary which shone in any of the saints. In all her sufferings not a word of complaint escaped her lips. Oh, what a model of humility—are we afraid to suffer? let us be humble like Mary, let us be patient in poverty and sickness; let us bear our trials as she did. Think how Mary bore her trials, see when she had to fly to Egypt; see her when she loses her Divine Son in the Temple—the cry of her heart is, find the child, save the child; let this be the watchword of every mother—save the child—save the child from every thing that is bad; bad books, theatres, bad company, from saloons. See Mary working like a servant; she worked for God from day to day under His very eye, let us also work for God and we shall be rewarded, for God alone can reward true work. See Mary when parted from God, when He goes forth to preach; see her as she stands at the foot of the Cross, her soul is full of sorrow, full of love to see her Divine Son die a cruel death for the sins of the world, sins which she had not committed. She saw her Son die, she saw His resurrection and she saw His glorious ascension, how she too would then have liked to go to heaven. But she had many more years to spend on this world; but at last her spirit broke loose and flew up to heaven. If our Blessed Lady was visible to us now what should we do, would we not ask her every favor. Let us remember therefore that she can see us and hear us as well as if we saw her with our own eyes. St. Thomas says there is not a single grace Mary can not obtain for us: why therefore should we not ask her. Perhaps temptation is now dodging our footsteps, perhaps a bad habit is eating into the very vitals of our soul; ask Our Blessed Lady earnestly and she will show us how to wrest ourselves free from this wicked habit and how to make a flower grow up in its place; so let us beseech Our Blessed Mother to pray for you and assist you and ask her to pray also for your families. You need her help perhaps in some discord or some differences with neighbours, ask Our Lady for favors especially in May. Let your soul take on a new life, as nature is taking on a new life; become a child of Our Lady of Good Counsel, so that you may have her aid now and especially at the hour of your death. Ask Mary to show you the way of virtue, that you may walk through the darkness of this life to the gate of glory and Mary shall be standing there to receive you. Let us ask for this grace so that we may be happy now and at the hour of our death.

IMPOSING CEREMONIES.

TWENTY-FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF ARCH-BISHOP FABRE'S CONSECRATION.

Tuesday being the first of May, and at the same time the twenty-first anniversary of the episcopal consecration of His Grace Archbishop Fabre, there was a grand celebration in the new Cathedral. The immense edifice was well filled and in the sanctuary the great body of the clergy of this diocese was well represented. His Grace the Archbishop celebrated the High Mass and the ceremonies were of a class to accord most fittingly with the occasion. The music was of a most attractive and impressive nature, while the deep tones of the grand new organ lent a solemnity to the services. The rays of a May sun streamed in through the windows of the great dome and shed

a natural brilliancy upon the scene. It was a joyous occasion and all present seemed to participate in the happiness that must be felt by the good and venerable Archbishop. Many and warm were the congratulations which he received on the anniversary of that great day when first he ascended the episcopal throne. And with these congratulations was blended an expression of fervent prayers for his health and happiness, the outcome of the universal hope that he may be spared, through the mercy of God, to rule for many long years to come over this, the most important diocese of our country.

Countless are the works that His Grace has either carried on or commenced, since his advent to the See of Montreal, and we hope that he will be enabled to witness the successful completion of them all.

As we have changed our date of going to press, on account of many complaints about the lateness in the week when our papers reached their destinations, our forms were all filled and ready for press before the ceremonies of the occasion were over. But we could not allow the event to pass without at least joining the thousand of Catholics in their congratulations and expressions of gratitude towards Archbishop Fabre.

MR. WILLIAM MCKAY.

A MYSTERIOUS DISAPPEARANCE—THE FACTS OF THE CASE UP TO DATE.

The following appeared in last Saturday's Gazette:

"Mr. William McKay, of 72 Fortier street, and an employee in Her Majesty's Customs, has mysteriously disappeared. On Saturday last, at 2.30 p.m., he left the Christian Brothers' school on Cote street, after stating that he was going to visit his daughter, Mrs. Dr. Fitzpatrick, on Beaver Hall Hill. Mr. McKay was then in apparently perfect condition, mentally as well as physically; he was in good spirits and seemed much pleased with some good news, concerning his prospects, that he had received. Since then he has not been seen or heard of. Perhaps no man in Montreal was known by more people than was Mr. McKay. Hundreds of citizens were pupils of his in former days, and on almost every street dozens of people may be met who know him. The detectives have vainly searched since Monday, but no clue can be found to his whereabouts. His friends say he was never known to have spent a night away from home, no matter under what circumstances. This renders the mystery greater. In height he was about 5 feet 7 1/2 inches; his walk straight and erect; his eyes blue; features regular; hair iron grey; rather more black than grey; full beard and moustache, somewhat heavy, of a brownish hue, but streaked perceptibly with grey. Age 56 years, but he looked younger by five years. He left home without any money in his pocket. No motive could be assigned for foul play and no probable cause exists for any rash act on his own part. Anyone who may be able to give information regarding Mr. McKay's whereabouts since last Saturday would confer a great favor by transmitting the same to Detective Cullen, to Mr. John McKay, 72 Fortier street, to the TRUE WITNESS office or to the Gazette."

Since the above appeared nothing has been heard of the missing gentleman; but we may state that a number of rumors have been set afloat, and several persons have said that they saw him either on Saturday night, (the 21st,) or on the following Monday. When sifted to the bottom these reports prove to be groundless. The truth is, that at three o'clock, on Saturday, the 21st, Mr. McKay was in Sadlier's book store ordering some literature. Since then there is nothing positively known about him.

CONSUMPTION CURED.

An old physician, retired from practice, had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of Consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Asthma, and all Throat and Lung Affections; also, a positive and radical cure for Nervous Debility and all Nervous Complaints. Having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, and desiring to relieve human suffering, I will send free of charge to all who wish it, this recipe, in German, French or English, with full directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail, by addressing, with stamp, naming this paper, W. A. NOYES, 820 Powers' Block, Rochester N.Y.

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- Black Cashmere Hose, 30 cents a pair, 3 pair for 85 cents

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PROVINCE OF QUEBEC. District of Montreal. No. 1018. Superior Court. Dame Mary A. Scott et al esqualite, Plaintiff, vs George H. Stevens, Defendant. On the 11th day of May instant at 10 of the clock in the forenoon, at the domicile and place of business of the said Defendant in the City of Montreal, will be sold by authority of Justice, all the goods and chattels of the said Defendant, seized in this cause, consisting of furniture etc. S. C. MARSON, B. S. C. Montreal 1st May 1894. 1-41..

MEETING OF THE BOARD.

The members of the Provisional Board of Directors of THE TRUE WITNESS held a meeting on last Monday afternoon. Amongst other subjects discussed was the one concerning the large amount of arrears due by subscribers to the paper. During the past two months there has been a standing notice to the effect that the Board would erase the name of any subscriber who is more than one year in arrears, when the first May would come. Since then several requests for further delays have been sent in; and, in consideration of this fact, it has been decided to defer action in the matter until 1st June, when it is to be hoped that all those in arrears will realize their responsibility and fulfil the duty of paying the amounts due. We trust that there will be no longer any necessity of such reminders and appeals after the first of next month!

CONFIRMATION SERVICES.

The Archbishop of Montreal will hold Confirmation services as follows during the remainder of the week: St. Jean Baptiste, Thursday, May 3, 4.30 p.m.; St. Charles, Friday 10 a.m.; St. Gabriel, 11 a.m.; St. Henri, Saturday, 2 p.m.; Ste. Cunegonde, 4 p.m.

REV. MOTHER M. KATRINE.

A correspondent has asked us several times for the address of the foundress of the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament, (Miss Drexel); but we were unable to find it. To-day we received another request for the same address, and in a most accidental manner a friend turned it up for us. It is: Rev. Mother M. Katrine, St. Elizabeth's: Convent of the Most Blessed Sacrament, Maud Post Office, Buck's County, Pa., U.S.A.