

In next week's issue we start our New Serial Story "FATHER DE LISLE."
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MGR. SBARRETT'S VISIT TO ST. BONIFACE AND WINNIPEG

His Excellency Celebrates Mass in the Cathedral and Principal Institutions—Receives Numerous Addresses, and is Royally Welcomed Everywhere—Catholic Club Reception
Corner Stone of the New St. Mary's School Blessed by His Excellency.

We resume the report of Mgr. Sbarretti's visit where we left off last week. On Friday, October 23, His Excellency said Mass at the Mother House of the Grey Nuns in St. Boniface, and after breakfast visited the convent, the orphanage and the hospital, where he went round the different wards and spoke words of comfort to all the patients.

In the afternoon at two o'clock he was at St. Mary's Boys' school, where he received a hearty welcome from the Brothers in charge, and a typical reception from the young scholars. He was accompanied by His Grace the Archbishop of St. Boniface and a number of the clergy; and as the party entered the largest of the school-rooms in which the youngsters were assembled, they were greeted with a hearty "Welcome" chorus, sung by seven of the lads who possess exceptionally sweet voices. An address was then read by Master Frank Jobin, followed by a vocal solo melody sung by M. Buggee, and a recitation by A. Meyers.

At this point His Excellency, in a fifteen minutes' talk to the boys, replied to their address. In this speech, and in all the proceedings at the schools, the Delegate showed over and over again the great love he has for children, and it is safe to assert that the boys of St. Mary's will never forget his tender and touching words on this occasion, which evidently went straight to their young hearts and gained a strong hold on their minds. He urged them particularly to work as boys in order later on to be men; never to do anything unworthy of their faith in the Church; and to be strong in their devotion to the Holy Father. He also made a touching reference to the passing of the old school in which they were assembled and rejoiced with them that next year they would gather in a building more worthy of themselves, their zealous teachers, and the Christian education they were receiving.

Leaving St. Mary's, the ecclesiastical party proceeded to the Holy Angels' school for girls, where again a nice little programme was carried out and His Excellency had a few encouraging words for the pupils and praise for the good Sisters in charge.

The Immaculate Conception school was then visited, the proceedings here taking place in the church. Flowers were presented to His Excellency by Misses Markinski, Milord, Rafferty, Waas, Kelly and Arpin. An address was then read by Miss Stella Burns, followed by a chorus by the whole school of 175 children. Another appropriate and effective reply by His Excellency brought these proceedings to a close, and a move was made for the school attached to the Church of the Holy Ghost on Selkirk avenue. At this excellent institution a "Welcome" chorus was well sung in English, followed by a Polish song by the girls, a German song by the boys, and the national song, "The Maple Leaf," by the whole school.

His Excellency spoke to the children, encouraging them to study and work in school and thus fit them-

selves to be worthy citizens of this new country to which their parents had brought them, and which well deserved their loyal allegiance. There was no reason why they should not in the future form an important and useful element in this western land, and they would do so if they were true to what they were taught in that school, and remained faithful to their religion.

This concluded the public proceedings of the day, and during the evening His Excellency received calls from a number of citizens of Winnipeg and St. Boniface.

ST. MARY'S ACADEMY.

On Saturday morning, October 24, His Excellency the Apostolic Delegate said Mass at St. Mary's Academy at 7.30, and at 9.30, accompanied by His Grace Archbishop Langevin, a few priests and Chief Justice Dubuc, he entered the prettily decorated hall. Over the stage in letters of gold was the inscription, "Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini"; on the right was a monogram in gold of His Excellency's initials, D.S., surmounted by the arms of the Oblate order, while on the left were the arms of Pius X. and those of the Archbishop of St. Boniface. None but the Sisters and the gentlemen mentioned above were present. The pupils of the academy first lined up in graceful ranks and welcomed His Excellency. Then they withdrew, leaving only four young girls, who played beautifully on four pianos. Then the larger convent girls trooped in once more and sang a charming chorus, towards the end of which the smaller girls entered and stood on the steps of the stage. In the midst of this pleasing array of bright faces Miss Margaret Carroll stepped forward and read a beautiful address, extending to His Excellency a thrice gracious welcome to Manitoba, to Winnipeg and to the convent of the Holy Names. When Miss Carroll handed the superbly illuminated address to Mgr. Sbarretti, he asked her her name and spoke a few kindly words to her, then he rose and delivered, with much earnestness and eloquence, the following reply, which was reported verbatim by Father Drummond, no reporters being present.

REPLY OF DELEGATE AT ST. MARY'S ACADEMY.

Your Grace,—I need hardly express my pleasure and satisfaction in hearing the sentiments so well manifested in your name and in the name of the pupils of this convent. I appreciate the sentiments of affection and veneration for our Holy Father, the Vicar of Jesus Christ on earth. I trust and hope that in these sentiments of esteem and appreciation of the Holy Father, not only Catholics, but every honest and upright man all over the world will concur. I am very much pleased that such deep sentiments of love for the Sovereign Pontiff are implanted in your minds and hearts by the zeal of these devoted Sisters.

I am also pleased to know that here civil and religious education go hand in hand, and that secular education is enabled and lifted to a higher sphere by the light of faith and religion. On the other hand, faith and religion are helped by

human knowledge. I know how noble are the efforts of these Sisters. They want to make of you, dear children, educated ladies endowed with all virtues. They also want to enable you to attain a legal status in this country. I appreciate the efforts of the Sisters to give such an education as will enable you to obtain from the State a certificate authorizing you to teach in all the schools of this province, and I am happy to know that these praiseworthy efforts have been crowned with success.

In our education of young girls we want to make them ideal young Christian ladies, that they may be shining lights in society. Our purpose is to take every natural human advantage and elevate it to a higher sphere. In doing so we are not depriving young girls of their human qualities; we are simply lifting those human qualities to a higher plane. In order to do so the more effectively we set before them a great type of woman, the best in woman, and we ask our girls to copy this type. We have not much use for the so-called "new woman." Our type is as old as Christianity and yet always new. That type is the Blessed Mother of Jesus Christ. This is the example we want you to follow: this is the ideal we want you to copy. We wish to make of you not feeble beings, but women, strong in virtue. We intend that all the kindness and graciousness inborn in you be strengthened by character, so that all these qualities be employed for the welfare of our holy religion and for the well-being of society. Knowing how great is the influence of women in the family and in the higher and wider circles of society, we want to enable them to display all their abilities in doing good in their homes, in society and in church work. Woman's natural power resides in graciousness, loveliness and goodness of character. These ideal virtues make up for their deficiencies in physical strength. Their powers are rather intellectual and moral than physical, and they produce in the minds and hearts of men a more profound impression than any physical or material force. We are fully aware that the formation of the mind and heart in the sterner sex depends chiefly upon the tender care of a mother training her son for future usefulness in the family and in society at large.

The perfume of women's virtues must permeate the family if society is to be influenced in the direction of virtue and happiness. We do not want to spoil these beautiful virtues of womanhood by injecting some other virile germs that will destroy these virtues and produce a creature that is neither a woman nor a man. We do not like this bad combination of qualities which destroy in woman her natural sweetness, graciousness and purity of life. We want to elevate and refine her still more. While in no sense opposed to real strength of character, we do not like the idea of attempting to impart to woman that strength which is peculiar to man. We admire, not a virile woman, but a woman of strong character. In Holy Scripture we learn how the strength of character of

certain holy women saved the people of God. What greater moral strength can there be than that of Esther, who defied Aman before King Assuerus, saved her people and gave them back their rights? We know the strength of character of Judith, the type of beauty and of chastity, but at the same time the type of the greatest strength of character. She was hailed as the glory of Jerusalem, the joy of Israel, the honor of her people, because, with strength of character strengthened by the special power of God, she slew the enemy of the Jewish people and saved her city from ruin and devastation. Truly do we know how strong is the character of good women. We know that women were the only ones (with the single exception of St. John) who followed Our Lord Jesus Christ to the cross. The disciples were afraid; but the women, braving all dangers, watched by him till he breathed his last. We admire womanly characters that are strong for justice, for humanity, for the glory of God, and we know there are many Catholic women conspicuous for strength of character.

This, then, is the object of our education—to inject into all possible human knowledge the principle of religious faith. We want our children to be the first in everything; we aspire to lead in science and virtue. I am confident that you, the children of this convent, will realize these high ideals, and that when you go forth into the world you will do an immense amount of good to religion, the family and society.

In conclusion I may say that I think you are entitled to some extra recreation, after the unusual efforts you have lately made, and I feel sure that His Grace the Archbishop will be very glad to see you enjoy a special holiday.

After His Excellency had given his blessing to the assembled community, he, together with Archbishop Langevin and most of the priests present, hastened to catch the 10.45 train for

ST. NORBERT,

where the archiepiscopal party first visited the Trappist monastery. His Excellency inquiring minutely into all the processes of butter and cheese making, and greeting with great affection the assembled monks. Then the visitors drove to the residence of Monsignor Ritchot, who was overjoyed at the honor of a visit from the Holy Father's representative. He hospitably entertained at dinner Mgr. Sbarretti, Mgr. Langevin and all the clergy who accompanied them. At 2 p.m. His Excellency and the Archbishop of St. Boniface, with the other visitors, went to the church of St. Norbert, where little convent girls spoke tiny pieces of welcome and presented bouquets and appropriate hymns were sweetly chanted. His Excellency then spoke in French as follows:—

Your venerable pastor, Mgr. Ritchot, speaking to me of the time when he first came here 41 years ago, said that those early days were preferable to the present. But

I think there must have been some progress. I fear his assertion is not quite correct. I am inclined to believe that the excellent Monsignor in those early days had not such fine school children as you are, or at least that they were not so numerous as now, and therefore I prefer to think that there has been progress.

I love children and I know that you are directed by a generous and venerable pastor, and I think you are worthy of your spiritual father. The good Sisters, who give you so thoroughly religious an education, also prepare you for school certificates. This is right. We want our children to be in the first rank, among the best. That is the ambition of Monsignor Ritchot and of your venerable and worthy Archbishop. But you must co-operate with their efforts, you must do your best, you must take advantage of the education both secular and religious imparted to you. You must try to develop your minds with the great teachings of the Church and strengthen all other knowledge by the religious spirit. Steady work is necessary for all. The horse that runs the fastest wins the race. I hope you will labor for your own sakes, for it is a worthy ambition, and also in order to please your families, your pastor and especially Our Lord and Master. I hope the children of St. Norbert will surpass all others, and that the others will find in you examples to copy. In what concerns religious duties you should excel. One of the little girls asked for a holiday. As this day is far spent, let it be some other day and a whole holiday.

Then His Excellency gave all the children, who filled a great part of the church, his solemn blessing, after which he sat down and made them all come up to him one by one, asking their names, caressing them tenderly. When this charming feature of the visit was over, and owing to the great numbers and the shyness of many, it was quite a long performance, Monsignor Ritchot rose and related very interestingly how the first Bishop of St. Boniface, Mgr. Provencher, finding that his few missionaries were too busy with the Indians to attend to the training of the half-breeds, sought long for nuns. Several communities of Sisters were applied to in vain, before the Grey Nuns accepted the then formidable charge. At that time there was only one white woman here, all the rest were half-breeds. Nuns alone could teach all the niceties of a civilized home; they trained the women of the settlement; to them is due the present civilization, which is old here. For forty years they have been making progress.

After Mgr. Ritchot had spoken, His Excellency said a few words in a pleasant, bantering tone to the effect that Monsignor was incorrigible in his preference for the past, and then the two Archbishops and the clergy left the church, returning to St. Boniface by the 4.07 p.m. train.

At 7.30 p.m. Chief Justice Dubuc entertained at dinner His Excellency the Delegate, His Grace the Archbishop, His Honor Sir Daniel