

OBITUARY

SISTER M. ST. THOMAS

In the English-speaking portion of the archdiocese of Montreal it is known that St. Gabriel's possesses the richest parochial soil for the cultivation of vocations. No other parish has furnished so many priests to the local body of clergy and elsewhere; none has given more generously of its youth to the brotherhoods; none has even equalled its contribution to various communities of women in Canada and the United States.

For the Congregation of Holy Cross in particular, St. Gabriel's has been a fruitful nursery in which, under the fostering care of the Sisters who have been established there almost since the foundation of the parish, one tender young plant after another has budded, later to blossom and bloom in the novitiate of the community. Indeed the Sisters of Holy Cross have been so closely identified with the beginnings and the development of the parish, and so many families have offered a cherished member to the greater family of this prosperous teaching order, that the most affectionate ties, apart from the traditional reverence in which those who are consecrated to God are held by our people, bind the parishioners to the religious of St. Gabriel's. And if the modest reception room at the mother-house has been for the past forty years a gladly familiar spot to many men and women of St. Gabriel's, the little cemetery in the rear of the big building is no less sadly endeared to many others.

In this peaceful "Gods Acre" where so many gentle Sisters of Holy Cross are laid to rest, a number of relatives, friends and the entire Community gathered on Wednesday morning, October 31, to assist at the final obsequies of the late Elizabeth Young, in religion Sister Mary of St. Thomas of Canterbury, a "Gabrielite," who died on the preceding Monday after an illness of several months.

Since her profession nearly thirty years ago, the late Sister St. Thomas was stationed at various times at St. Gabriel's Academy, Montreal, at Alexandria, Renfrew, Springfield, Mass., and St. Alban's, Vermont. In all of these places her death occasioned expressions of genuine regret, for her devotion won her a host of friends wherever she was on mission.

As a teacher, especially of the junior pupils, it was said of her that her motherly way in the class room made her beloved of her little charges, from whom she received year after year the unlimited trust and affection that children give when they find for themselves that the recipient is worthy, according to their view, of the gift.

Though frail and suffering she remained at her post until within a few months of her death. The last rites were administered at the mother-house shortly before her demise by her cousin, Rev. M. P. Reid, Inspector of schools, Montreal, who was also celebrant at the solemn service of requiem.

Besides the two high Masses, offered by the teachers and pupils of St. Gabriel's Academy, a Month's Mind was sung for the repose of her soul in the parish church, on Friday, November 30th. R. I. P.

SAWING WOOD

EXPERIMENTAL FARMS NOTE

The buck saw, like the grain cradle, is practically an institution of the past. A necessary evil once, it should now be regarded as an antiquated invention for driving boys off the farm, and relegated to the museum for curiosities.

The one-man cross-cut is a little better, while the two-man cross-cut is a distinct step in the evolution of saw ability. It has its place in the bush, of course, and even the other instruments of torture aforementioned find occasional employment, just as the old grain cradle is resurrected now and then for some special purpose.

As a regular means of working up the winter wood pile, however, these are only to be advocated for one who absolutely has not and cannot get the cash to hire a buzz-saw outfit. Modern life is too busy and full of interest to spend unnecessarily in back-testing mechanical routine which machinery enables us to dispense with. Most of us can find enough manual-labor jobs after we have substituted as much gasoline for muscle as we have wit to use.

We have heard arguments that buzz-sawing wood is more expensive than buck-sawing. But these calculations are generally based on old-time conditions. As it works out in these times, most of us find that gasoline beats elbow grease by a substantial margin. There is this, too, that buzz-sawing is a more or less sociable job which goes with a vim and men quite properly prefer it to the tedium of hand-sawing.

Again, it will be noticed that the farmer who buzzes his supply gets the job over with and goes on to something else, while the buck-saw adherent is hardly ever out of a job. The wood pile stares him in the face until he hates to go past it.

What a comfort there is in looking at a big heap of sawed firewood in the yard when a cold snap comes on and the snow piles deep around

the buildings. W. D. Albright, Dominion Experimental Sub-Station, Beaverlodge, Alta.

AT THE MANGER

The stable-door is very low,
And mean and small—stoop down,
proud head!
Nor dare, with thought of self, to go
Into that humble, roadside shed.

No light save that of starlit skies,
And Joseph's lantern old and dim.
The Babe within the manger lies,
While Mary, kneeling, worships
Him.

The poor, dumb beasts, tho' void of
faith
And reason, stare at Him with awe,
Upon His face their soft, warm
breath
Is blown across the coarse, sweet
straw.

And Joseph near the manger
kneels,
And clasps his roughened hands in
prayer;
And looking on the Infant feels
That God Omnipotent is there.

Dear Mary! ere the shepherd
brings
His bleating lambskins through the
cold;
And ere they come, the Eastern
kings,
With frankincense and myrrh and
gold,—

Oh! may we, by Saint Joseph led,
Not formally, nor as a stranger,
But keeping close to Jesus spread
Our Christmas gifts before the
manger.

—ELEANOR C. DONNELLY

DIED

SWIFT.—At his late residence 287 Nile Street, Stratford, Ont., on Thursday, December 6, 1938, Mr. James Swift, aged seventy-four years. May his soul rest in peace.

WOODFORD.—At Harbor Main, Nfld., on November 20, 1938, Mary R. Woodford, daughter of John and Mary Woodford, aged twenty-one years. May her soul rest in peace.

TEACHERS WANTED

WANTED teacher with second class certificate for Fort William Separate school, duties commencing January 2nd. Salary \$90 per month. Apply to A. W. Lemay, Secretary, Fort William, Ont. 2338-3

WANTED qualified teacher for Separate school No. 2 Malton, Agricultural and kind class professional. Salary \$100 per annum. Duties to commence Jan. 3. Apply to James Quilman, Sec. R. H. No. 3, Essex. 2338-3

WANTED for Barry's Bay Separate school, in the village of Barry's Bay, two Normal trained teachers. One for the Primary room at a salary of \$70 and one for the Junior room at a salary of \$60. Duties to commence Jan. 3rd, 1939. Apply stating qualifications and experience to Martin Dooly, sec., Barry's Bay, Ont. 2338-2

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