

The Leaf and the Book.

Across the meadow-land together
A young and merry maiden stray'd
Where grasses grew and purple heather.

ARCHBISHOP TACHE.

A Christmas Reminiscence of Nearly Forty Years in the Northwest

AS RELATED TO A WINNIPEG "SUN" REPORTER.

"An article on my Christmas reminiscences in the Northwest for half a century" laughingly exclaimed His Grace the Archbishop of St. Boniface to a Sun reporter.

There were a number of buildings, the most prominent of which was, of course, the cathedral and Bishop's palace. The cathedral was then in course of construction.

On Christmas night, I remember it well. It was a beautiful, bright, clear, regular Manitoba night, with the thermometer down to 39.

no glass in the great Lone Land to replace them. It was indeed a bitter, biting Christmas night, but notwithstanding this the church was crowded—yes, crowded. I think there were almost as many Protestants present as Catholics.

There were as many people in the parish of St. Boniface then as there are now, the parish was a great deal larger. A large number of those present came in sleighs, I should think there were 200 or thereabouts. Several of them were drawn by oxen. It was a funny sight to see people come to Xmas midnight mass in a large wood sleigh drawn by oxen; but very funny things happened in those days, you know.

CHRISTMAS IN ROME?

Yes, it was in 1851. In the November previous I had been consecrated Bishop in France, and then went to Rome. Pius IX. had reigned as Pope five years. The troubles of '48 had passed away; quietness prevailed on the Tiber. The Eternal City was held by the French troops.

On Christmas night, I remember it well. It was a beautiful, bright, clear, regular Manitoba night, with the thermometer down to 39.

The signals were marvelously beautiful. All the best voices of sunny Italy had gathered there. One of the precious relics which I had with me was a small relic of the cross which I had placed in my hand. It was three or four rough pieces of wood, two feet long by about eighteen inches wide, inclosed in a golden box with glass sides.

The Xmas of 1854 I spent in St. Boniface. Bishop Provencher had died in June, 1853, and I succeeded him as Bishop. There was very little difference between Winnipeg 1853 and Winnipeg 1854. It had almost stood still. I should not forget to tell you, however, that a few days before the Xmas we placed two staves in the church. That was the first time, in all those many years, that the church had been heated for service.

At the time with Father Leclerc. A fortnight later he left St. Boniface, and made the journey of 900 miles in dog sleighs. There were then about 200 souls on the road between St. Boniface and Edmonton. In 1861 again Xmas in Rome, and in this connection I may tell you of what I consider to be a remarkable instance of memory.

THE FIRST CHRISTIAN CELEBRATION OF CHRISTMAS

At the Isle la Croix. The people there had become careless that they had neglected all Christian ordinances. All ceremonies had sunk into oblivion. True, they did not work on the Sabbath. They observed the day of rest without knowing why.

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occupied between two and three months. In winter time men carried the mail on their backs and walked the whole distance on snowshoes! Two men travelled together. They carried it from post to post—distances of from 100 to 200 miles apart.

TWO GREAT NORTHWESTERN EMPIRES have arisen; half a continent has been opened up and is being rapidly peopled. The great snow shoe route with penicillin meals has been replaced by lightning express-trains with palace dining and sleeping coaches.

WHAT ABOUT XMAS, 1892?

Oh, it's not easy to foresee and I am neither a prophet nor the son of a prophet. But basing the progress of the next ten years on the past decade, I prophesy that at Christmas, 1892, we shall have a population of 100,000 with an assessment of \$100,000,000. We shall have twenty miles of street railways; the whole city will be lighted by electricity.

2,000 People Living on the Charity of one Priest.

The Rev. F. W. Gallagher, P. P. of Carriack, Glencolmville, County Donegal, writes:—"No charity could possibly be greater than that with which I am engaged at present. Over 2,000 human beings are in this moment absolutely depending for their existence on the alms sent me for them.

My little daughter, 7 years of age, has been a terrible sufferer this winter from rheumatism, being for weeks confined to her bed, with limbs drawn up, which could not be straightened, and suffering great pain in every joint of limbs, arms and shoulders.

CATHOLIC LONDON.

From the London Tablet.

A few days ago another vestige of old Catholic London came to light, when, during the demolition of some buildings in Whitefriars Street, the workmen uncovered thirty feet of the masonry that gave its name to the spot.

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There will be ten bridges across the Red and Assiniboine rivers, the banks on either side of which will be lined with railways and dotted with warehouses.

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For weak lungs, spitting of blood, weak stomach, night sweats, and the excesses of Consumption, "Golden Medical Discovery" is specific. By druggists.

PLAIN TALK WITH THE PEOPLE

Some Big Truths!

Is it true that we are nothing but animals? Some time ago a good hearted man, a big farmer, had listened to the doctrine of a certain Freemason, continental renailer of infidel papers and enthusiastic follower of socialism.

"My dog, it is true," said he, "has four legs and I have only two. He has a head, so have I. He eats and I eat. He drinks, so do I. He sleeps, he is hot or cold, he hears, he sees, he breathes, and so do I; he is very intelligent and I am not so stupid; he lives, he is sick, he dies, and I live as he does, and some day I'll die too. Is it not exactly the same?"

"Not in the least," answers the other, solemnly. "I only say as you do; I tell you that you are what you think yourself to be."

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Riches in Hop Farming.

At the present prices, ten acres in Hops will bring more money than five hundred acres in any other farming; and, if there is a consumer or dealer who thinks the price of Hops Bitters high, remember that Hops are \$1.25 per lb., and the quantity and quality of Hops in Hops Bitters and the price remains the same as formerly.