

CALENDAR FOR NEXT WEEK.

MARCH.

- 4, —First Sunday in Lent.
- 5, Monday—Votive office of the Holy Angels.
- 6, Tuesday—Votive office of the Holy Apostles.
- 7, Wednesday—Ember day. St. Thomas Aquinas, Doctor.
- 8, Thursday—St. John of God, Conf.
- 9, Friday—Ember day. The Lance and the Nails. St. Frances of Rome, widow
- 10, Saturday—Ember day. The Forty Martyrs of Sebaste.

BRIEFLETS.

This is the nineteenth anniversary of Majuba Hill and Cronje surrendered this morning.

The exposition of the Blessed Sacrament last Sunday, yesterday and to-day attracted full congregations to the Cathedral.

Last Sunday at High Mass in the Cathedral of St. Boniface, Rev. J. A. Gernier, S. J., preached on the origin and purpose of the Forty Hours' Devotion during Shrovetide.

About the end of March Rev. Father Lacombe will leave for Europe in order to secure the services of some order of Brothers for his half-breed settlement northeast of Edmonton.

Rev. Father Clarke, C. S. S. R., of St. Louis, Mo., will begin a Mission next Sunday in the Immaculate Conception Church, Winnipeg, and on the 18th of March he will begin another in St. Mary's Church.

Every week-day in Lent is a day of fast. Wednesdays and Fridays are, moreover, days of abstinence; likewise Saturday of next week on account of the Ember Days, and Thursday and Saturday of Holy Week.

By a curious coincidence the 22nd anniversary of the Holy Father's coronation occurs on the 3rd of March, next Saturday, between the anniversary of his birth March 2, and the anniversary of his baptism, March 4.

The Diamond Jubilee of St. Patrick's Total Abstinence and Benefit Society of Montreal, the oldest Catholic Temperance organization in America, was celebrated last Sunday in St. Patrick's church in that city.

If "coming events cast their shadows before," those shadows on the blind presage a wedding in the near future.



The young lady may even be "all ready" to marry, that is, she thinks she is "all ready" for her trousseau's prepared, the "trip" has been planned, and the house picked out and "everything."

When we see a young woman go out to meet fate that way it brings to mind the Frenchman's saying of the Charge of the Light Brigade. "It was magnificent but it was not war." It is magnificent to see the young girl face the future so fearlessly, but it is not life. No young woman is ready for married life unless her physical condition is up to the standard of marriage, in the health of all the delicate womanly organs, and rarely is that the case.

Young women entering upon the state of marriage will find no friend so helpful as Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. It gives vigor and elasticity to the organs peculiarly feminine, prevents the drains that ruin the health, and makes the ordeal of motherhood so easy that it is practically almost painless.

"At an early stage of married life," writes Mrs. Flora Ann, of Dallas, Jackson Co., Mo., "I was greatly bothered with painful periods, also a troublesome drain which rendered me very weak and unfit for work of any kind. I became so thin there was nothing left of me but skin and bone. My husband became alarmed and got me a bottle of 'Favorite Prescription.' After he saw the wonderful effects of that one he got me two more, and after I used those up there was no more pain, and I began to gain in flesh very rapidly."

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AN OCEAN OF SAND.

Written for THE REVIEW by an English Banker.

It is believed that at one time the great desert of North Africa, the Sahara, with its linked sandy waste, the Libyan Desert, constituted a semi-landlocked ocean, a mighty arm of the sea, which possibly almost divided North from South Africa into two continents, by a broad and expansive gulf, ranging in breadth from more than a thousand miles to less than fifty miles. If it be true that the whole of this arid and desolate wilderness—the world's great waste—is considerably below the level of the sea, and that the engineering difficulties of re-admitting the ocean into its old bed are by no means insuperable, it is strange that the two nations most intimately interested—England and France—do not take the matter in hand, and by once more transforming this wild and useless sea of sand into a navigable ocean, open up to prosperity and civilization thousands of miles of territory which is now only reached by arduous and laborious toil, and into which even that pioneer of civilization, the brave and self-denying missionary, has scarcely penetrated.

Truly the Great Desert is a veritable howling wilderness, a savage, boundless wild, drear and dismal; silent as death itself, and terrifying in its weird and ghastly monotonous solitude. Everything sand; its hills, all sand; its valleys, all sand; its plains, all sand; nothing but sand, as far as the wearied eye can reach—sand, sand, sand—constant, never ending sand. At sea, when surrounded by the world of waters, a feeling of joyous exhilaration is experienced, but when encompassed with this dreariness, unvarying environment, and the last palm, and the last habitation have been lost to sight, a strange undefined sense, almost of apprehension, eery and uncanny, which the writer is quite unable to describe, possesses the traveller, and hovers about him until he has left the dismal bone-strewn waste behind, and once more steps upon the green verdure, and rests his tired and jaded eyes upon graceful palm and lofty orange tree, with its golden harvest of luscious fruit.

But at times the wearisome monotony of the desert is suddenly changed: a lurid darkness appears on the horizon, the atmosphere assumes a livid, ghastly hue, the camels begin to tremble and shiver, and a vague apprehensive horror seizes upon all life. The threatening obscurity continues rapidly to advance, and the heavens are hidden in frowning blackness, and then, with appalling uproar, a raging tempest tears the hot sandy hills and mounds from their very base, and drives them furiously, with a roar like live thunder, across the plain in a withering blast of burning, frenzied wrath; blighting all life with its baneful, stifling venom, and suffocating the hapless man or beast exposed to its vehement and relentless fury, as if the very Angel of Death had spread his wings on the blast.

And the desert is as deceitful as it is awesome. For, at times, the parched and wearied traveller, yearning for a draught of cool and refreshing water, sees, perhaps not more than a mile or two away, a glittering lake, over whose shores are waving the fronds of graceful palms, doubtless loaded with full-ripe date fruit. He continues to advance, but never seems to approach any nearer. The pellucid wavelets of the beautiful lake continue to dance and sparkle in the sun, but Tantalus-like seem to mock at his approach, until, when

perhaps he really does appear to be drawing nearer and nearer to the delicious fluid, the beautiful mirage gradually fades away into nothing, and gives place to the hot burning interminable sand, and he finds himself far away in the desert from his true course.

And just so is it with some of ourselves. Wearied with the monotony and drudgery of life, in the desire for more excitement we indulge in the pursuit of some forbidden or questionable pleasure, which leads us further and further away from the course of rectitude, until at length it mockingly eludes our grasp, and we are left stranded and perishing in the arid, waste desert. But there is One, who is able and willing to rescue the erring wayfarers, and to present them faultless before the Presence of the Great Judge, who has promised to accept the punishment borne by Him as full satisfaction for their misdeeds. And that Deliverer is the loving Saviour of the world.

Dr. Devine, as we learn from a private letter, occupied the same stateroom as Father Sinnett on their voyage to South Africa. Dr. Devine is captain-surgeon and Father Sinnett Catholic chaplain of the second contingent.

His Grace the Archbishop of St. Boniface is expected back from Prince Albert to-morrow. Rev. Father Lacombe, who met him at Regina and went on to Prince Albert, will accompany him here. Rev. Father Gravel will also return with His Grace.

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