

## The Church in Canada.

Under this heading will be collected and preserved all obtainable data bearing upon the history and growth of the Church in Canada. Contributions are invited from those having in their possession any material that might properly come for publication in this department.

### BISHOP LAROQUE.

FOUNDER OF THE ORDER OF THE PRECIOUS BLOOD.

Translated from *Le Courier de St. Hyacinthe* for THE CATHOLIC WEEKLY REVIEW.

This venerable prelate departed this life on Friday, the 18th of November, at the Convent of the Precious Blood, St. Hyacinthe. He was born at Chambly on the 28th of August, 1808, and in 1821 with his cousin Charles, who succeeded him in the Bishopric, he entered the College of St. Hyacinthe, which had then been founded. As a student he distinguished himself, as well by success in his classes, as by the practice of those virtues for which he was noted during the course of his life. In 1829, after having finished a brilliant classical course, he embraced the ecclesiastical state, and on the 15th of March, 1835, was raised to the priesthood, by Bishop J. J. Lartigue. From this until 1845, he remained at his *Alma Mater*, filling successively and with distinction, the positions of Professor, Director, and Superior of the institution.

In 1847 Bishop Bourget, knowing his merit, called him to Montreal to assist him in administering his diocese and appointed him a Canon. In 1852, upon the termination of the First Council of Quebec, Bishop Prince, Coadjutor of Montreal, was delegated to carry the Decrees of that Council to Rome, and Canon Laroque was ordered to accompany him as secretary. During his sojourn in the Eternal City, His Holiness Pope Pius IX., appointed him Bishop of Cydonia in *partibus infidelium*, and Coadjutor of Montreal, in place of Mgr. Prince, who had been promoted to the new Diocese of St. Hyacinthe. On the 28th of October, 1852, he was consecrated in his native parish Church of Chambly, by Bishop Bourget, assisted by Bishops Guiges of Ottawa, and Cooke of Three Rivers.

The succeeding eight years were labourious ones, and Bishop Laroque never spared himself in seconding his illustrious master to carry out the many great works which he originated for the glory of God, and the salvation of souls. These incessant labours brought on the infirmity from which he suffered so much afterwards, and which too soon compelled him to resign his episcopal functions.

He was transferred to the Diocese of St. Hyacinthe in 1860, and suffering might be said to be the first act of his administration, for he was immediately prostrated by a violent attack of sciatica. For six years he suffered torments from this implacable enemy, and at length was obliged to request the Holy Father to allow him to surrender his charge of the Diocese. On the 17th of August, 1865, his request was granted, and in July, 1866, his successor, Mgr. Charles Laroque took possession of the See. In January, 1867, Bishop Laroque was named Bishop of Germanicopolis, and he retired to the Convent of the Precious Blood, where he remained until his death. The foundation of this Community was the principal work of the pious prelate during the short time he had charge of the Diocese, and after his resignation he continued to interest himself in its progress, taking up his residence in the house of the Order, for the purpose of better initiating these holy women in the spirit of asceticism and their special vocation by pious and solid instruction and advice every day. The Community of the Precious Blood is indebted to him for the Constitution which governs them, and for several works on spiritual subjects, among others: "A Manual of Devotion to the Precious Blood;" "Meditations for Retreats," "Meditations for the Sundays and Principal Feasts of the Year."

Under the wise and successful direction of its venerable founder, the Order has made wonderful progress. To-day,

after 26 years of existence, the mother house is in a prosperous condition, spiritual as well as temporal, and three swarms have already left the hive to preach, by the example of their immolation, the glory of God—in the cities of Montreal, Toronto, and Ottawa. These new monasteries are also prospering, and vocations are flowing in more numerous every year. God wished to recompense even here below, the merits of His faithful servant by allowing him to witness the expansion and success of his work.

The funeral services took place on the 23rd of November, and were attended by an immense concourse of the clergy and laity from all parts of the country. His Eminence, Cardinal Taschereau officiated, assisted by the Rev. Canons Leclair and Ouellette, Deacons of Honour, Revs. M. Duhamel and Cadotte, Deacons of the Mass; and the Rev. Abbes Gagnon and Decelles, Masters of Ceremonies. The Rev. M. Dupuis of Farnham, delivered a magnificent funeral oration, after which the absolution was given and the remains were taken to the cemetery of the Precious Blood, where they were laid in a special vault, in the shadow of that Convent which he founded and fostered. The following members of the Episcopate occupied seats in the sanctuary. His Eminence, Cardinal Taschereau, Archbishop of Quebec, His Grace, Archbishop Lynch of Toronto; His Grace, the Archbishop of Montreal, His Grace, the Archbishop of Ottawa; and their Lordships, Bishops Moreau, of St. Hyacinthe, Lafleche, of Three Rivers; Grandin of St. Albert; and Racine, of Sherbrooke. There were present likewise about 150 priests from all parts of Canada and the United States. *Requiescat in pace.*

### GARCIA MORENO.

PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE SACRED HEART,  
1821-1876.

*From the Messenger of the Sacred Heart.*

Twelve years ago died Gabriel Garcia Moreno, the "Liberator of his Country, and the Martyr of Civilization." To his glorious memory Pius IX., whose rights he had so nobly vindicated, erected a statue in the City of Rome. His own country, by the voice of its legislators, bestowed upon him these noble and merited titles,—"Liberator, Regenerator, Martyr," and, to carry his memory down to posterity, it decreed "that a marble statue should be erected in his honour," bearing this inscription:—

To His Excellency Garcia Moreno,  
The Greatest of the Children of Ecuador;  
Who died for his Religion and his Country,  
From a Grateful Republic:

I.

This truly great man was born in Guayaquil, December 24th, 1821, of an ancient and honourable family, distinguished for its merit as well as for its nobility.

In consequence of the incessant revolutions that agitated his country, his father, Garcia Gomez, had suffered severe reverses of fortune. All his children, with the exception of the youngest—the hero of this sketch, had finished their education before things had come to the worst, and had gone out into the world well qualified to make their own way in it. The devoted mother, Dora Mercedes Moreno, determined to take upon herself the task of forming the mind and heart of her youngest born. She taught him piety, love of duty, regularity of life, and, above all, she tried to impress upon his mind the beauty of an uncomplaining spirit under the greatest trials.

He was disciplined in the severe school of poverty; and his cradle song, says one of his biographers, "was the noise of conflict, and the roar of cannon." Insurrections unceasingly renewed, ragged crowds filling the public places with their cries and alarms, and the incessant bombardment of his native city early prepared him for the stormy life he was destined to lead. Then a great sorrow fell upon his devoted mother and himself. At the moment when his love and protection were most needed, his father was taken from them.