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A GREAT LOSS.

A MAGNIFICENT CONVENT OF THE SACRED HEART LAIN IN RUINS.

New York Tribune, Aug. 14.

About thirty children and several nuns were on the knees at prayer in one of the dormitories of the Convent of the Sacred Heart, on Convent Hill, at a few minutes after 5 o'clock last evening, when there was a sound of scurrying in the air, immediately followed by a piercing shriek of "Fire! Fire!" and the loud peal of the convent bell, giving warning to everybody within the building to run for life.

The fire had been discovered on the roof of the main building, and immediately after the alarm had been sounded there was great excitement in the place, but everybody got out safely and uninjured. The grounds occupied by the order of the Ladies of the Sacred Heart, which are known as the Convent of the Sacred Heart, extend from West One-hundred-and-twenty-fifth st. to West One-hundred-and-thirty-seventh st. between St. Nicholas and Tenth aves.

The cause of the fire is unknown. It is supposed to have been started from a plumber's charcoal pot which had been left in the dome. There had been workmen on the roof for several weeks repairing it, and the dome was to have been painted to-day. Just before the roof fell in, the safe containing all the valuable papers and books of the convent was hauled out by half a hundred men. The buildings are said to be fully insured. Early this morning the fire was still raging, and it was plain that nothing could save the building.

A Brave Mother Superior. New York Tribune, August 15. Clouds of smoke and steam rolled from the ruins of the Convent of the Sacred Heart all day yesterday. The walls of the chapel and the main building remained standing, but the interior of these structures was wholly destroyed, and the walls of the building on the west side near Tenth ave, had completely fallen in. The loss is placed at about \$300,000. The buildings and furniture were insured for \$169,000. Around the grounds the Sisters of the convent were busy during the day sorting out the piles of bedding and the variety of articles that had been saved from the flames. Several little houses belonging to the convent, and to the Sisters, were placed at the disposal of the Sisters by the occupants. Ex-Park Commissioner, John D. Crimmins, who has been associated with much of the work of the institution, was one of the first to offer his services to the Mother Superior, and at his request the police established a line about the grounds in the forenoon, keeping out all who were not there on business.

The convent was the main branch of the order, which has institutions in all parts of the country and a membership of 4,000. Its school has graduated young women in prominent Catholic families all over the United States, Mexico and South America. The reason that the convent was the reason that only about 300 children of the more than 300 students who attend during the school term were present. When it was found that the buildings were destroyed arrangements were made at once to send the children and most of the 150 Sisters to neighboring institutions. Part of them had already been sent for during the night at Manhattan College, and others at St. Vincent, Spuyten Duyvel and the Sisters of Charity at other places near. The children and the attendant Sisters were sent to Kenwood Hall, at Albany, under Sister Gavico, to the homes of the Order, in Seventeenth street and Madison avenue, and to Philadelphia, Atlantic City, and Staten Island. The Rev. Dr. McDonald, secretary of Archbishop Corrigan, who was out of the city, was one of the first to visit the grounds to see if anything more could be done for the Sisters. Monsignor Farley and other Catholic priests of the city offered their services, and friends who had learned of the disaster came a distance of fifty miles to render what aid lay in their power.

A SICK WOMAN'S PRESENCE OF MIND. One of the remarkable incidents of the fire was the presence of mind of the Mother Superior, who had been an inmate for several years. When she learned of the fire she rose from her bed by an effort of the will and directed the actions of those around her. The children in the dormitories were collected around her, and when satisfied that none were missing, she led the way from a rear entrance of the main building. The flames were then beginning to burst out furiously, but in the grove back of the convent all was dark except from occasional flashes. The wind howled fiercely among the trees, and the children huddled about the Mother Superior greatly frightened. She led the way down the deep ravine behind the convent and reaching a fence that enclosed the grounds forced down with her own hands. Aid came to the party in Tenth avenue and the Mother was persuaded to go to an adjoining house. Yesterday she was greatly prostrated from her efforts and the exposure.

It was related of another of the Sisters that it was no overcome that she refused to leave the burning building. She had lived there, she said, for thirty years, and had seen the walls of the convent erected, and she did not care to live, she said in her excitement, if the institution was destroyed. When seen standing in one of the windows of the western buildings, watching the progress of the fire, she was weeping excitedly. In answer to the calls of the people, she said she could easily get down, but refused to come. As the fire spread she retained her place and when it was seen that the buildings must go, the attention of some of the firemen was called to her and she was persuaded and assisted to leave the dangerous locality. These buildings were soon in flames and even the walls were not standing yesterday.

THE CAUSE NOT YET DISCOVERED. About thirty five of the Sisters were left at the convent and found shelter last night in the house of Captain Callahan, on the convent grounds. No further information had been obtained in regard to the origin of the fire. Mother Pardon said that the fire used in the building for cooking and other purposes had all been extinguished for some time when the flames broke out. It is thought the fire must have started on the roof which was being repaired. Mr. Crimmins stated that as soon as the insurance companies had decided on the amount of the loss workmen would begin to tear down the walls and rebuild. A house will be secured in the neighborhood for temporary school purposes until the new buildings are ready. Of the insurance \$25,000 is on hand. This will not cover the loss of personal effects, and the pictures of the chapel and the new frescoing just completed are a total loss.

LATEST PHASES OF THE IRISH QUESTION. The Star says Mr. T. P. O'Connor, its editor and a member of Parliament for Liverpool, and Mr. John Redmond, M. P. for Wexford, have entered motions for libel against the Times in the English Court of Queen's Bench. The Parnellite members of Parliament have determined to apply to the commission of enquiry for the appointment of a special commission to go to America for the purpose of inspecting certain documents.

The Times declares that it is very much astonished at Mr. Parnell's course in entering a suit in the Scotch Courts. It says that whether his action is seriously meant or only designed to waste time and money, the work of the Parliamentary Commission of Inquiry will go on unaffected.

An election campaign is proceeding on the Vandeulor with all the accompaniments of brutality which are usual on such occasions. A large force of constables, soldiers and emergency men are assisting the sheriff in his work. Mr. Chamberlain in a recent speech stated that Mr. O'Brien in the course of a trial the other day avowed that the abuse which United Ireland heaped upon Earl Spencer was scandalously false, but that it was a necessity of the political situation. Mr. O'Brien in reply gives the explanation that he had not made any such statement. He expressed regret that when Earl Spencer was at the head of the Government in Ireland United Ireland had held him personally responsible for cruelties perpetrated by the Government, whereas Mr. O'Brien has no reason to believe that Earl Spencer had any personal knowledge of those cruelties. Mr. O'Brien makes this correction in fairness to Earl Spencer.

Mr. Gladstone expresses himself very strongly as regards the means taken by the Government to provoke resistance to the line about the grounds in the forenoon, keeping out all who were not there on business. In political circles it is stated that parties have consolidated to a remarkable extent during the session of Parliament which has just ended. The many fierce conflicts which have taken place have welded together the Tories and Liberal Unionists on the one side, and on the other the Gladstonians and Parnellites, the latter union being the great gain which the Home Rule cause has made. The annual report of the National League of Great Britain was presented to the Birmingham convention last week. When the league was founded in 1883 there were fifty-two branches. The year there are 995. The financial condition is sevenfold better than it was in 1883. This is a pretty good record for an association which Mr. Balfour represented not long since as "a thing of the past."

The Parnell commission will probably close its investigation in less than a couple of months. It is a great thing for Parnell that they have George Lewis on their side. He is not as inflexible as some people pretend, but he is the sharpest solicitor in London, and when he is working his hardest he is not likely to miss much. Mr. Soames, the gentleman of the old school, safe and steady, but slow and by no means up to all the moves on the board, George Lewis will open Mr. Soames' eyes a little before the inquiry is over.

What sort of a case the Times has known only by its managers and legal advisers. That it can legally prove every charge it brought against the Parnellites is simply impossible. If it fails in establishing the authenticity of the famous letters, it is done for. Its authority will be completely broken down and the Government, which has apparently supported it, will receive a heavy, perhaps a fatal blow.

An eminent Conservative said to a correspondent: "I very much fear that the Parnell Commission will wreck the Ministry. Mr. Parnell will undoubtedly swear that he never wrote the letters in question. The Times must then depend upon the evidence of experts, which in such cases can be had either way. Unless some one looked on while Mr. Parnell wrote the letters on white Mr. Parnell would not be denied." Considering these and other things it is not surprising that the Ministry anticipates with some anxiety the issue of the inquiry, and are heartily sorry they took Mr. Chamberlain's advice in pressing it upon the Parnellites.

Special to the CATHOLIC RECORD. PHICNIC AND CONCERT AT SOUTHAMPTON.

The quiet and pleasant village of Southampton was fully inundated with excursionists on Wednesday, 15th inst., that day being set aside for a picnic and grand concert, under the auspices of the Roman Catholic Church, of which Father Waddell, of Chesham, is the esteemed pastor. It will be remembered that the church—a beautiful little structure—was built some two years ago, and it is certainly a credit to the faith and energy of the Catholics of Southampton. To liquidate the debt on the stored edifice Mr. John Carey, the well-known and genial conductor of the G. T. R. conceived the idea of a picnic and concert to be held in this picturesque village. The day, not altogether auspicious, had, however, concealed in its heart for pleasure-seekers more smiles than frowns, and at an early hour, despite embowering clouds, and other rain-heralding omens, a tide of people poured in, contingents from well known every town between the lake and Hamilton. Games of all kinds were indulged in and a bill of fare that mocked the best efforts of the lake breeze. Assembled guests present at the picnic were Mr. F. L. Landon, Bradford; Father Lesson, Galt; Father Cosgrove, Elora; Father Feeney, Priceville; Father O'Reilly, Macton; Father Corcoran, Teeswater; Father McCann, Walker; Father Waddell, Chesham; W. H. Cargill, M. P., McNamara, Herald; Walker, M. P., McGraw, Advocate, Paisley; Prof. O'Brien, Hamilton; Thomas O'Hagan, M. P., Toronto; W. Wood, Paisley; J. McNabb, Arran; Prof. Bauman, Hamilton; Prof. Matland, Guelph, and Conductor Lillie. The concert in the evening was held in the Town Hall, which was tastefully decorated for the occasion. Long before the hour for opening the concert the hall was filled to overflowing with a highly appreciative audience. It may be safely said that perhaps never before in this county did such an array of superior concert talent greet an audience. There was not a weak number in the programme. The performers were: Instrumental—Prof. D. J. O'Brien, Principal of Hamilton College of Music; Master George Fox, Walker; and Miss Matland, Guelph; Vocal—Miss Marie C. Strong, Philadelphia; Miss Nolan, New York; Miss Hayden, Prof. Matland and Mr. Gallagher, Guelph; Elocutionist—Thomas O'Hagan, M. P., Toronto. Both Miss Strong and Miss Nolan have enviable reputations in musical circles in the Province, and are without a doubt, two of the finest and most cultured singers. Miss Hayden appeared for the first time in Southampton and made an excellent impression with her sweet voice and fine presence. Prof. Matland was vociferously encored in his Scottish songs, his "March of the Cameron Men" being rarely grand. The comic of the evening, Mr. Gallagher, had to respond to each of his numbers amidst a furor of enthusiasm. Master Geo. Fox is a musical prodigy and his violin solos were played with marvelous skill and execution. Thomas O'Hagan, M. P., from Toronto, the well-known Canadian poet and elocutionist, appeared for the first time in Southampton and was enthusiastically received in his recitals, adding fresh laurels to his fame as a finished and scholarly elocutionist. The accompaniments were played with fine taste by Prof. O'Brien, Hamilton, and Miss Matland, of Guelph. Altogether the day was a gala one for Southampton and its success and pleasure may be attributed in great measure to the ceaseless labors of Conductor Carey and the untiring energy of his estimable wife and accomplished daughter.

Mount St. Louis Institute. Sherbrooke Street, Montreal. This new Boarding School, under the direction of the Christian Brothers, will open Monday, Sept. 3.

The programme embraces a complete course of business and scientific studies. Send for Prospectus. The Director, P. O. Box 418.

A RETREAT. For ladies will be given at the Convent of the Sacred Heart in this city, commencing Monday evening, Sept. 3rd, at seven o'clock, and closing Friday, Sept. 7th.

For cards of invitation and further particulars apply to LADY SUPERIOR, Convent Sacred Heart, Dundas Street.

University College of Ottawa. Ottawa, Ontario, Can. Conducted by the Oblate Fathers of Mary Immaculate.

Classical, Scientific, Engineering and Commercial Courses. Fully equipped Laboratories. A practical Business Department. Lighted throughout by the incandescent electric light. Athletic Grounds and fully equipped Gymnasium. Terms, \$165 a year. Prospectus sent on application. Address THE PRESIDENT.

ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE, Perth, Ont. This College enjoys the patronage of a University and is conducted by the Jesuit Fathers. It is situated in a very beautiful part of New York County between the Earl St. & L. I. Sound. Every facility is given for the best Classical, Scientific and Commercial Education. Board and Tuition per Year \$300. - Studies re-open Wednesday, September 2nd, 1888.

St. John's Hall, a Preparatory School for Boys from 10 to 12, is under the same direction. For further particulars apply to Rev. JOHN BULLY, S. J., Pres.

F. C. B. C. REPERTORY CITY BUSINESS COLLEGE, LONDON, ONT. Reopens Sept. 3rd. Course unequalled for thoroughness. Attendance steady and constantly increasing. Young Men and Women who are anxious to get the best business training to be had should write for Catalogue. Address Westwell & York.

WESTERN FAIR. INDUSTRIAL AND ARTS EXHIBITION, LONDON, CANADA, 20th to 29th SEPT. 1888, NINE DAYS.

\$25,000 Appropriated for Prizes, Attractions, etc. \$125,000 Value of New Grounds and Buildings. \$200,000 Display of Agricultural and other Machinery. \$500,000 Live Stock Exhibition. GRAND INTERNATIONAL BENCH SHOW OF DOGS.

THE INDIAN TRIBES OF ONTARIO are preparing an immense exhibit of manufactured articles, agricultural productions and curiosities of the old hunting days. There will be LARGER PRIZES, GRANDER ATTRACTIONS, more to see and more to learn than at any previous exhibition. Prize lists and all other information may be had on application to the Secretary, G. A. F. W. FURTE, GEO. McBRIDE, President. Secretary.

TEACHER WANTED. FOR THE R. C. SEPARATE SCHOOL, of the village of Chesham, Ontario, holding a second-class Professional Certificate, to teach from 1st Sept. next up to the end of the year. Duties to commence 1st Sept. Salary \$400 per annum. Duties to commence at once, if possible. Applicants to send resumes to the end of the year. - P. MCCABROO, Sec. Treat. 514 3/4

TEACHER WANTED. FOR THE R. C. SEPARATE SCHOOL, of the village of Perth, a Head Master holding a second-class Professional Certificate, to teach from 1st Sept. next up to the end of the year. Duties to commence 1st Sept. Salary \$400 per annum. Duties to commence at once, if possible. Applicants to send resumes to the end of the year. - JAS. MORRISON, Secretary. 514 3/4

TEACHER WANTED. MALE TEACHER, HOLDING SECOND CLASS Certificate, for the Catholic Separate School, to teach from 1st Sept. next up to the end of the year. Applicants must furnish references, state salary and when and where certificate was obtained, duties to commence on 7th August. Address - JAMES McBRIDE, Sec. Catholic Sep. B. Board, Renfrew. 511 3/4

TEACHER WANTED. BY THE SEPARATE SCHOOL BOARD of Trustees, Ottawa, a female teacher holding a second-class Professional Certificate; one who can speak both French and English preferred. Duties to commence on 27th August next. Applications stating experience and salary required will be received by the undersigned until 17th August. Wm. FINLEY, Secretary. 514 3/4

TEACHER WANTED. ASSISTANT TEACHER WANTED FOR 2nd class school, at a salary of \$400 per annum. Good references. State salary and when and where certificate was obtained, duties to commence on 7th August. Address - JAMES McBRIDE, Sec. Catholic Sep. B. Board, Renfrew. 511 3/4

TEACHER WANTED. MALE TEACHER, FOR BRANTFORD Separate School, by Asst. Wm. State terms and qualifications - JOHN RYAN, Sec. Box 187, Brantford. 512 1/2

HOUSEKEEPER WANTED. BY A PRIEST IN A TOWN APPLICANTS please apply at this office, giving references. 511 1/2

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The cause of the fire is unknown. It is supposed to have been started from a plumber's charcoal pot which had been left in the dome. There had been workmen on the roof for several weeks repairing it, and the dome was to have been painted to-day. Just before the roof fell in, the safe containing all the valuable papers and books of the convent was hauled out by half a hundred men. The buildings are said to be fully insured. Early this morning the fire was still raging, and it was plain that nothing could save the building.

A Brave Mother Superior. New York Tribune, August 15. Clouds of smoke and steam rolled from the ruins of the Convent of the Sacred Heart all day yesterday. The walls of the chapel and the main building remained standing, but the interior of these structures was wholly destroyed, and the walls of the building on the west side near Tenth ave, had completely fallen in. The loss is placed at about \$300,000. The buildings and furniture were insured for \$169,000. Around the grounds the Sisters of the convent were busy during the day sorting out the piles of bedding and the variety of articles that had been saved from the flames.

The Parnell commission will probably close its investigation in less than a couple of months. It is a great thing for Parnell that they have George Lewis on their side. He is not as inflexible as some people pretend, but he is the sharpest solicitor in London, and when he is working his hardest he is not likely to miss much. Mr. Soames, the gentleman of the old school, safe and steady, but slow and by no means up to all the moves on the board, George Lewis will open Mr. Soames' eyes a little before the inquiry is over.

What sort of a case the Times has known only by its managers and legal advisers. That it can legally prove every charge it brought against the Parnellites is simply impossible. If it fails in establishing the authenticity of the famous letters, it is done for. Its authority will be completely broken down and the Government, which has apparently supported it, will receive a heavy, perhaps a fatal blow.

An eminent Conservative said to a correspondent: "I very much fear that the Parnell Commission will wreck the Ministry. Mr. Parnell will undoubtedly swear that he never wrote the letters in question. The Times must then depend upon the evidence of experts, which in such cases can be had either way. Unless some one looked on while Mr. Parnell wrote the letters on white Mr. Parnell would not be denied." Considering these and other things it is not surprising that the Ministry anticipates with some anxiety the issue of the inquiry, and are heartily sorry they took Mr. Chamberlain's advice in pressing it upon the Parnellites.