

CALENDAR FOR NEXT WEEK.

JANUARY, 1900.

- 28—Fourth Sunday after Epiphany. Finding of the Child Jesus.
- 29, Monday—St. Francis de Sales, Conf.
- 30, Tuesday—St. Martina, Virgin, Martyr.
- 31, Wednesday—St. Peter Nolasco, Conf.

FEBRUARY.

- 1, Thursday—St. Ignatius, Bishop, Martyr.
- 2, Friday—Purification of the Blessed Virgin, Candlemas.
- 3, Saturday—St. Hilary, Bishop, Doctor. (transferred from the 14th Jan.)

BRIEFLETS.

Dr. J. K. Barrett, inspector of inland revenue, leaves today on a three weeks' tour of inspection of the offices in the Calgary division.

Yesterday the thermometer dropped thirty degrees in the middle of the day, at a time when even in the coldest weather it generally rises. The North wind was the cause.

The only supposedly historical picture that looked like a put-up job rehearsed by actors for the Biograph was the scene where Dreyfus protests that he is innocent. The whole thing was transparently unnatural and decidedly theatrical.

"Fighting Joe" Martin turned a political meeting into a bear garden at Vancouver last Saturday. He spoke for three hours amid catcalls and curses and the wildest confusion. While he spoke there were two fights between men and one between dogs.

The Biograph at the Grand is a great success. Of course the best and most lifelike pictures are those of our Holy Father, Leo XIII. His countenance beams with kindness. Mgr. Merry del Val, who accompanies the Pope, is also true to life for those who knew him here. Not the least agreeable feature is the easy, graceful, gentlemanly presentation of the pictures by Mr. LeRoy Kenny, who is quite an elocutionist and recited the "Absent-minded Beggar" with real taste and discernment. Several members of the Catholic clergy were present last night. There will be a matinee for Catholic school children on

Eruptions and skin diseases are a blot upon

Beauty

These blots are actually blood blots. To cure them lotions and outward applications are useless. The blood must be cured, before the skin becomes clean.

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"For about one year and a half my face was very badly broken out," writes Miss Carrie Adams, of 116 West Main St., Battle Creek, Mich. "I spent a great deal of money with doctors and for different kinds of medicine, but received no benefit. At last I read one of your advertisements in a paper, and obtained a bottle of Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery. Before I had taken one bottle of this medicine I noticed a change, and after taking three bottles I was entirely cured. I can well recommend Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery to any one similarly afflicted."

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Thursday at 3.30. Admission for girls and boys, 10 cents; grown up people, 25 cents.

Dr. Benjamin F. DeCosta, the eminent New York Episcopal clergyman who was recently converted to the Catholic faith, delivered a lecture on "America" in the academic hall of the Jesuit college in Montreal last Wednesday.

There have been a couple of decided thaws this last week, the thermometer going up to 43 in the shade. This plays havoc with the skating rinks, and spoils the country roads which the recent snowfalls had so much improved.

As a consequence of the immense war orders and of the enlistment of coal workmen, London is threatened with a terrible coal famine. Dealers announce that coal will soon cost, in the metropolis of England, eight pounds (\$40.) a ton.

When last night at the Grand a stereopticon view was announced of "Sir Wilfrid Laurier addressing the Canadian contingent at Quebec," it was looked at in perfect silence, the crowd greeting it with a "dead frost." On the contrary, when Hugh John's picture was thrown on the screen, the applause was general.

Major General George Arthur French was stationed at Kingston, Ont., as adjutant, from 1862 to 1866; from 1870 to 1873 he was inspector of artillery in Canada; and from 1873 to 1876 he was Commissioner of the Northwest Mounted Police. Speaking to the second contingent the other day, Lord Minto referred to this last Canadian command of General French's.

A concern that promises to have the hearty support of the public, is the People's Knitting Syndicate of Toronto, Limited, stock in which to the value of \$100,000 is now offered for public subscription. It is the avowed object to oppose the large knitting combines, and to place its products on the market at a cheaper price than the trusts can do, as well as to enable its shareholders to share in the profits of the syndicate and to make money at their own homes. The plan of the syndicate is novel and engaging. To each subscriber for twenty \$1. shares in the Syndicate, a knitting machine is given, and the member is then supplied with yarn to manufacture at his or her own home such knitted goods as the Syndicate requires. The Syndicate promises cash payments for the knitting done by the shareholders, and also to divide among its members semi-annually the net profits realized from the sale of goods made by shareholders for the Syndicate. The Syndicate should have no difficulty in disposing of knitted goods, which are always in demand. The plan seems to be a good one and is in the hands of well known Toronto gentlemen. It should be a great success.

ENGLISH AS A WORLD LANGUAGE.

REASONS FOR BELIEVING IT WILL SOON SUPPLANT FRENCH IN DIPLOMACY.

From the Washington Times.

Considerable comment has been occasioned among officials of the State Department within the past few days over the fact that the new commercial treaty between Mexico and China is written in English.

The use of the English language in drawing up international agreements is something unprecedented. French has had the distinction of being the

diplomatic language, but the State department officials now think that the drafting of the Mexican-Chinese treaty marks the beginning of the end of the general use of the French in this particular.

For the past 200 years in a large majority of negotiations looking toward the formation of international agreements, the language of the French people has been most widely used by diplomats in official correspondence and in the actual drawing of the treaty itself. This rule, while general, has not been universal, but the few exceptions have only gone to prove the rule. French has been the great social language. Nearly all men of education have been taught it and in the social intercourse of Europe it has been generally spoken. From the fact that the diplomats of the world have been familiar with it, it has crept into diplomatic intercourse to the almost total exclusion of other languages.

The treaty of peace between the United States and Spain was written in French as have also been the majority of international documents during the past two centuries. Within recent years a rule has been made in diplomacy by which a diplomatic representative in official correspondence may employ the language of his own country, or that of any other if he chooses. Notwithstanding this rule the French has been retained in perhaps a majority of instances.

The German ambassador now uses German, in his correspondence with the State Department and England's representative the English. The Swedish, Norwegian, Russian, Belgian, Turkish, Italian and Greek diplomatic representatives all employ the French while those of China and Japan use English.

In a large measure English is supplanting the French both as a social and commercial language. The statistics of the International Postal Union gave the number of letters addressed in English from all parts of the world as being about 75 per cent.

In foreign universities the tongue of the Anglo-Saxon race is taking the place of the French and is fast becoming the social medium of intercourse. From the general prevalence of the language it is thought that it will before a quarter of a century be the diplomatic language.

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Branch 52, Winnipeg.

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