Our Paper

Should be in the hands of every Catholic Family.

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ENCYCLICAL LET

His Holiness Leo XIII. on the Manitoba School Question.

Not Provided For Sufficiently.

Righteousness of the Cause Reviewed From Many Standpoints.

An Exposition of the Claims of the Church in Regard to Religious Teaching, Which Must Carry Conviction to Every Loyal Catholic and Fair-Minded Non-Catholic.

To our Venerable Brothers, the Archbishops, Bishops and other Ordinaries of the Dominion of Canada, having peace and communion with the Apostolic Sec, Leo P.P. XIII.:

Venerable Brothers, health and Apostolic Benediction:

In addressing you, as we most willingly do, there naturally occurs to our mind | The act of Confederation had secured to the continual interchange of proofs of in public schools, in keeping with their mutual kindliness and good offices that has ever existed between the Apostolic See and the people of Canada. The charity of the Roman Catholic Church watched by your very cradle, and she has never ceased since she has received you! fits of education in schools in which the into her maternal bosom to hold you in Catholic religion is ignored or actively a close embrace and bestow benefits on combatted; in schools where its doctrine you with a prodigal hand. If that man of immortal memory,

Francis de Laval Montmorency, first where permitted this it was only with Bishop of Quebec, was able to happily great reluctance and inself-defence, and accomplish for the public good such deeds of renown, as your forefathers which, however, have too often been witnessed, it was because he was supported by the authority and favor of the In like manner one must, at all cost, Roman pontiffs, nor was it from any avoid as most pernicious those schools other source that the works of succeed ing bishops, men of great merit, had ently admitted and placed on an equal their origin, and drew their guarantee

In the same way, to get back to earlier days, it was through the inspiration and initiative of the Apostolic See, that generous bands of missionaries undertook the journey to your country, bearing, together with

The Light of the Gospel, a Higher Culture and the First Germs of Civilization.

It was these germs, rendered fruitful by their devoted labors, that have placed the people of Canada, although of recent origin, on an equal footing of culture and glory with the most polished nations of the world. It is most pleas. ing to recall those beloved facts, all the more so because we can still contemplate their abundant fruits. Assuredly the greatest of these is that amongst the Catholic people there is an ardent love and zeal for our holy religion, for that religion which our ancestors, coming providentially first and chiefly from France, then from Ireland, and afterwards from elsewhere, faithfully practised and transmitted as an invaluable de posit to their children. But if the children have faithfully preserved this precious inheritance it is easy for us to understand how much of praise is due to your vigilance and your zeal, venerable

How much also is due to the zeal of your clergy, for all of you have labored with unanimity and assiduity for the preservation and advancement of the Catholic faith, and we must pay this homage to the truth, without meeting with disfavor or opposition from the laws of the British Empire. Thus it was that when moved by the consideration of your common merits we raised, a few years ago, the Archbishop of Quebec to the Cardinalate dignity, we had in view not only to recognize his personal merits, but also to repay a tribute of homage to the piety of all our Catholic people. As regards the education of youth, upon which rest the best hopes of religious and civil society, the Apostolic See has, never ceased, in conjunction with you and your predecessors, to occupy itself. Hence

The Rights of Catholics under the guardianship and protection of the Church. Amongst these the university of Quebec adorned with versity of Quebec, adorned with all the titles and enjoying all the rights which Apostolic authority is accustomed to confer, occupies a place of honor, and sufficiently proves that the Holy See has no greater preoccupation nor desire than the formation of youthful citizens dis tinguished by intellectual culture and commendable by reason of their virtue. Therefore, it was with extreme solici tude, as you can readily understand, that we turned our mind to unhappy events which in these latter years have

Marked the History of Catholic Fduca-tion in Manituba.

It is our wish, and this wish is a duty for us, to strive to obtain and to effectively obtain by all the means and all the efforts in our power, that no hurt shall come to religion among so many thousands of souls whose salvation has been specially committed to us, especially in the country which owes to the Church its initiation in Christian doctrine and the first r diments of civilization. And since many expected that we should make a pronouncement on the question, and asked that we should trace a line of conduct and a way to be followed, we did not wish to decide anything on this subject before our apostolic delegate had been on the spot, charged to proceed to a serious examination of the situation, and to give and account to us of the state of affairs. He has faithfully and diligently fulfilled the command which we had given him. The question agitated is one of great and exceptional importance. We speak of the decision taken seven years ago by the Parliament of Manitoba on the subject of education. is despised and its fundamental principles repudiated. If the church has any after having taken many precautions, found unequal to parrying the danger. wherein every form of belief is indifferfooting, as if in what regards God and divine things it was of no importance whether one believes rightly or wrongly, whether one followed truth or falsehood. You well know, venerable Brothers, that all schools of this kind have been condemned by the Church because there can be nothing more pernicious or more fitted to injure the integrity of faith. and to turn away the tender minds of youth from the truth.

Religious Teaching and Good Citizenship.

There is another point on which even those who differ from us in all else will agree with us, namely, that it is not by means of a purely scientific instruction, nor by vague and superficial notions of virtue, that Catholic children will leave school such as their country desires and expects. They must be more deeply and fully instructed in their religion if they are to become good Chris tians, honest and upright citizens. The formation of their character must be the result of principles which, deeply engraven on their consciences, will impose themselves on their lives as the natural consequences of their faith and religion. for without religion there is no moral education worthy of the name, none truly efficacious, seeing that the nature and force of all duties are derived chiefly from those special duties which bind man to God, who commands, who forbids and who had appended a salvation to good or evil. Wherefore, to hope to have souls imbued with good morals, and at the same time to leave them deprived of religion, is as senseless as to invite to virtue after having overthrown its very foundation. For the Catholic there is but one true religion, the Catholic religion, hence in all that concerns doctrine or morality or religion, we cannot accept or recognize anything which is not drawn from the very sources of Catholic teaching. Justice and reason demand then that our children have in their schools, not only scientific instruction, but also moral teachings in harmony, as we have already said, with the principles of their religion, teachings, without which all education will be not only fruitless but absolutely pernicious. were founded in great numbers in your Hence the necessity of having Catholic country institutions destined for the teachers, reading books and text books

therein shall be in full accord with the Catholic faith as well as with all the ties

that flow therefrom. The Inherent Rights of Parents.

For the rest, to decide in what institution their children shall be instructed, who shall be their teachers of morality, is a right inherent to parental authority. When, then, Catholics demand, and it is their duty to demand and strive to obtain that the teaching of the masters shall be in conformity with the religion of their children, they are only making use of their rights; and there can be nothing more unjust than to force on them the alternative of allowing their children to grow up in ignorance or expose them to manifest danger in what concerns the supreme interests of their

It is not right to call in doubt or to abandon in any way these principles of judging and acting which are founded on truth and justice, and which are the safeguards both of public and private

Wherefore, thus when the new law in Manitoba struck a blow at Catholic education, it was your duty, Venerable Brothers, to freely prote-t against the injury and disaster inflicted; and the way in which you all fulfilled that duty is a proof of your common vigilance, and of a spirit truly worthy of bishops; and although each one of you will find on this point a sufficient approbation in the testimony of his own conscience, learn, nevertheless, that you have also our concurrence and our approbation, for the things which you sought and still seek to protect and defend are most sacred.

The difficulties created by the law of which we speak, by their very nature. showed that an alienation was to be sought for in a united effort. For so worthy is the Catholic cause that all good and upright citizens, without distinction of party, should have bunded themselves together in a close union to uphold it. Unfortunately for the success of this cause the contrary took place. What is more deplorable still is that Catholic Canadians themselves failed to unite as they should in defend ing those interests, which are of such importance to all, the importance and gravity of which should have stilled the voice of party politics, which are of much less importance.

The Rights of Catholics Not Sufficiently Provided For.

We are not unaware that something has been done to amend the law. The men who are at the head of the Federal Government and of the Province of Manitoba have already taken certain measures with a view to decreasing the difficulties of which the Catholics of they rightly continue to protest. We have no reason to doubt that these measures were taken from love of justice and from a laudable motive. We cannot, however, dissimulate the truth, the law which they have passed to repair the injury is defective, unsuitable, insufficient. The Catholics ask, and no one can deny that they justly ask for much more. Moreover, in the relief measures that have been proposed there is this defect, that in changes of local circumstances they may easily be value less. In a word, the rights of Catholics and the education of their children have not been sufficiently provided for in Manitoba. Everything in this question demands, and is conformable to justice. that they should be thoroughly provided for, that is, by placing as security and surrounding with due safeguards those unchangeable and sacred principles of which we have spoken above. This should be the aim, this the end to be zealously and prudently sought for.

Nothing can be more injurious to the attainment of this end than discord. Unity of spirit and harmony of action are most necessary. Nevertheless, since as frequently happens in things of this nature, there is not one fixed and determined, but various ways, of arriving at the end which is proposed, and which should be obtained, it follows that there may be various opinions all equally good and advantageous. Wherefore, let each and all be mindful of the rules of moderation, gentleness and mutual charity; let no one fail in the respect that is due to another, but let all resolve in fraternity, unanimity, and not without your advice, to do that which the circumstances require and which appears best to be done.

The Righteousness of the Cause.

As regards especially the Catholics of Manitoba, we have every confidence that with God's help they will succeed in obtaining full satisfaction. This hope is found, in the first place, in righteousness of their cause; next to the se se of justice and prudence of the men at the head of the Government, and, finally, in the good will of all upright men in Canada.

In the meantime, until they are able to obtain their full rights let them not refuse partial satisfaction. If, therefore, anything is granted by law, or custom, or the good will of men which will render the evil more tolerable and the dangers more remote, it is expedient and useful to make use of such concessions, and to derive therefrom as much benefit and advantage as possible. Where, however, no remedy can be found for the evil, we must exhort and beseech that it be provided against by the liberality and munificence of their

conducive to the prosperity of his country, than to contribute, according to his means, to the maintenance of these

There is another point which appeals to your common solicitude, namely, that your authority and with the assistance of those who direct education al institutions, an accurate and suitable curriculum of studies be established, and that it be especially provided that no one shall be permitted to teach who is not amply endowed with all the neces-sary qualities, natural and acquired, for it is only right that Catholic schools be able to compete in bearing, culture and acholarship with the best in the

country. As concerns intellectual culture and the progress of civilization, one can only recognize as praiseworthy and noble the desire of the provinces of Canada to develop public instruction, and to raise its standard more and more, in order that it may daily become higher and more perfect.

A Word to Catholic Journalists.

Now there is no kind of knowledge to perfection of learning, which cannot be fully harmonized with Catholic doc trine, especially Catholics who are writers on the daily press can do much to-wards explaining and defending what we have already said. Let them, there fore, be mindful of their duty. Let them sacredly and courageously uphold what is true, what is right, what is useful to the Christian religion and the state: let them do it, however, in a decorous man ner. Let them avoid personalities, let them never overstep the bounds of mederation. Let them respect and religiously take heed to the authority of the bishops and all legitimate authority. The greater the difficulties of the time and the more imminent the danger of dissensions, the more studiously should they endeaved to promote unity of thought and action without which there is little or no hope that that which we all desire will be

As a pledge of heavenly gifts and a testimony of our fraternal goodwill r ceive the Apostolic benediction, which we lovingly impart in the Lord to you. Venerable Brothers, and to your clergy and people

Given at Rome, from St. Peter's, on the 8th of December, 1897, in the twentieth year of our pontineate. LEO PP. XIII.

The St. Vincent de Paul Society in connection with the parish will hold their annual concert on Monday next. Manitoba complain, and against which | Prof. James Wilson, the musical director of the church, has been for some time actively engaged in preparing a very in teresting programme fo the event. which will embrace instrumental and vocal selections. The St. Vincent de Paul Section is a most deserving organizution, as its operations bring comfort and relief into many homes and it should be warmly supported. The entertainment will afford an excellent opportunity to the parishoners to offer their assistance to the praiseworthy work, and we look forward to a bumper house for the organization on the occa-

> The pupils of the various schools have resumed their studies after the Caristmas

There is an agitation going on in the circles of English speaking Catholics with a view of securing the appointment of a thoroughly competent English speaking Catholic School Inspector. The matter will be brought to the attention of Premier Marchand after the acssion.

FIRE AT LOYOLA COLLEGE.

Destructive Blaze Awakens the Board ers From Their Stumbers.

Loyola College, one of the leading English Catholic educational establishments of the city of Montreal was the scene of a destructive fire on Wednesday morning, but the fire did not interfere with the session and classes were continued without interrupti n. The fire was discovered in a class room in the eastern portion of the college buildings, which are situated on St. Catherine street, and the corner of Bieury

To all appearances it had its origin in the gnawing of rats, and was probably burning quietly the greater part of the night, breaking out in the ceiling of the class-room. This building was once occupied by the Congregation of the Sacred Heart, when the substantial building on the corner of the street was added. The Jesuit Fathers have been carrying on their school here for nearly two years. The sudden outbreak of fire tended to show the admirable discipline of the institution. There was at no time any danger for the sleeping boys, but their behaviour under the circum stances was more than creditable.

Rev Father Kavanagh estimates the damage at eight or ten thousand dollars. The buildings were insured in the Nor wich Union Company ter \$9 000 and the contents in the Scottish Union | | r \$2 000.

Rev. Father Kavanagh deserves great credit for the manner in which he suc ceeded in arousing the pupils and bring moral and scientific instruction of youth, approved of by the bishops, and liberty contributions, for no one can do any it speaks well for the discipline of the institutions which are so flourishing to organize the schools, that the teaching thing more salutary for himself, or more college. ing them to safety without a panic, and

ST. PATRICK'S PARISH.

Mgr. Dontenville, of New Westminster, B.C., Preaches an Eloquent Sermon.

The Missionary Work Performed on the Banks of the Pacific-The Mode of Life of Christian Indians.

On Sunday last the pulpit of St. Patrick's was occupied by His Lordship the gifted young Oblate recently consecrated coadjutor Bishop of New Westminster, BC. Mgr. Dontenville's personality is striking; he is gifted with a voice of compass and sweetness. Although of Alsatian birth he speaks the English language with elegacce and thency and his style is enprivating in a high degree. In anticipation of hearing His Lor. ship the sacred edifice was more than usually crowded, and showe who were present with



MGR. DONTENVILVE.

that they had been favored with a more

than ordinary treat of sacred eloquence.

Having referred to the work of St Peter and his successors in their fulfilment of the Divine command toteach all nations, the gifted preacher spoke of the efforts of the Missioneries of the Caurch in many lands. Directing his remarks more particularly to the delds occupied by that indefatigable body, the Oblates of Mary Immaculate, he spoke of the leastity where his two predecessors in the Episcopate and the members of the Oblate Order have been exerting themselves for more than fifty years. Tracing rapidly the physical conditions of the diocese of New Westmirster with its majestic ranges of m untains, the Rockies, the Selkirks and the Cascades, he described the progress of the Oblate mis-ions in those distant regions. Nothing could be more interesting than the story of the miner's life and the struggles of the missionaries amiest the mostley population that is gathered in the gold fields. Yet what was most striking in the discourse of His Lordship was the account of the Indian missions. Having referred to the pagan tribes, some of weigh, owing to the direful effects of their contact with the worst class of whites, he regarded as irretrievably lest, be described the mode of life of litten thousand Christian Indians who are especially cared for by the Oblate Fathers. They are all industrious and have taken to pursuits which enable them to provide for their families. They are the Indians who have proved mest amenable and who have embraced Catholicity with genuine ferver. They practice their rebgion as people actuated by strong faith. Living in communities their lives might be termed monastic in a sense, since all their actions are regulated by the sound of the chapel bell. They get up in the morning in answer to its call and pray together as the first act of the day. The same bell calls them to their meals and to evening prayer. Those Indians are often scandalized by the corduct of the whites who are but nominal Catholics; they cannot realize that persons who have once been blessed with the faith can fall away from the teacuings of the Church and commit grievous sins against morality. He asked his hearers to pray for the perseverance of those good Indians. They are surrounded with dangers. False teachers sought to shake the confidence of the young especially, in the teachings of the Church. Sometimes they succeeded, because it had happened that these wolves in sheeps' clothing enunciated such doctrines as that there is no hell, and to those who desire to gratify their passions such teaching was acceptable. Yet they noped to retain the great majerity in the true path, and by zeal and perseverance and God's blessing upon ceaseless labor, to gain still more of those children of Nature to the saving truths of the Gospel of Jesus. He asked for the fervent prayers of the faithful children of St. Patrick; it was a great consolation to him to speak in such a magnificent temple, where the exiles of Erin and their children were gathered in such large numbers, true to the old faith and to the old land. Lat them pray for the success of his missionaries and for his own feeble efforts, that success may crown them, and they would all have a share in the rewards of

those who labored for the greater glory of God through the salvation of souls.

The same of the sa

ECHOES FROM ROME,

The Appeal for Peace Made by His Holiness.

The Christman Festivities—Special Ceres moutes.-The Dreyfus Affair Again-Other Matters

Those who have been fortunate enough to pass a Christmas at Rome are almost unanimous in their decision that the observance of this great Feast of Joy in the Eternal City comes nearer to the ideal than that known in any other part of the universe. It is unquestionable that of all seasons of the year there is none when Rome looks so thoroughly Rome, when it is so clearly at its bos, t as during the Christmas term. Nightly illuminations are kept up during the inoliday season, and day and night the whole city is on the, Huminated Reme reflected in the waters of the rolls ing liber is a teast for the eyes.

A number of bilgrimages announced to take place during this month have beca postponed pending the preparations for the coming Consistery. They will probably be made in February and

The Dreyfus mystery has been heightened by a story that the Holy Pather had received a letter from Mrs. Dreyfus, asking his personal influence to secure the release of her husband, and declaring his innocence in the most emphatic language. Facsimiles of the letter were published, and it was generally believed that the Pope had really been the recipient of such an appeal. It however turns out to be a capard. Whether it was a movement on the part of the Jews to identify the Pope with the effort in progress for the release of their fellow countryman does not appear, but none know better than they that the Pope is the protector, par excellence, of the helpless, the friendless, the feeble, no matter who, what or where they are. He is, amongst men, the 'Consolator Affictorum,' and would belp a sick or needy Jew as soon as an afflicted Christian.

The English College here has arranged to receive Anglican clergymen who have become converts and desire to study for the Church. A separate establishment. has been set apart for middle-aged and elderly men, who cannot be expected to conform to the rules and regulations ipplying to young students. takes a special interest in the movement, and Monsignor Stonor constitutes himself the representative and guardian of those who enter the College to take advantage of the opportunities now offered.

The long and tediens suit which resulted in connection with the bequests by the Marquise de Plessis Bellitere has been settled by consent, the Pope getting the splendid residence on the Phace de la Concorde, and the time contemuat Morcuil with all its magnificant and immensely valuable ort tressures. The city residence will be eventually occupied by the Papet Nuncio in Paris and the Chateau will probably be converted. into a convent.

It is stated in one of the local papers that Miss McTavish, who some time since was the bearer of a portrait which the Queen of Italy " sent to Cardinal Gilbons, as an earnest of personal respect for his Eminence, and admiration or his writings, is about to revisit Rome, bringing copies of the Cardiral's various books, richly bound, as a return present to that good and royal bidy. The Queen locks upon Cardinal Gibbons as one of the most eminent, most enlightened, and most polished Princes of the Church and will appreciate his gift accordingly.

The 26th December being the Feast of St. Stephen, to whom great devotion is shown by the people of Rome, the several churches, erected to the First Martyr, were crowded, especially that which is known as the "church of St. Stephen the Round," so called from its shape. It contains a number of most magnificent frescors representing the modes of torture applied to the Martyra of the early church-most of which are painfully realistic.

A planetoid which was discovered by Mr. Charleroi, and has hitherto been known as No. 416, has been named the 'Vatacana" after the Vatican observatory. This is more especially intended as a compliment to Father Boccardi, the assistant director of the observatory, who is known as the discoverer of several double planets, and is considered as one of the most distinguished of Italian astronomers. His Holiness the Pope is much pleased at this well merited recognition of Father Boccardi' eminence in the scientific world.

The Pope received 23 Cardinals and and arge number of Bishops, Prelates and attaches of the Papal Court on Thursday before Christmas. The object of the visit was to tender the customary season's greeting, which was voiced by Cardinal Oreglin, Dean of the Sacred College. His Holiness availed himself of the occasion to deliver his annual Concluded on fifth page.