

the Bishops and clergy, the second belongs to the laity, who have it in their power to aid the apostolic efforts of the clergy by the probity of their morals and the integrity of their lives. Great is the force of example; particularly with those who are earnestly seeking the truth, and who, from a certain inborn virtuous disposition, are striving to live an honorable and upright life, to which class very many of your fellow-citizens belong. If the spectacle of Christian virtues exerted the powerful influence over the heathens blinded, as they were, by inveterate superstition, which the records of history attest, shall we think it powerless to eradicate error in the case of those who have been initiated into the Christian religion?

Finally, we cannot pass over in silence those whose long-continued unhappy lot implores and demands succor from men of apostolic zeal; we refer to the Indians and the negroes who are to be found within the confines of America, the greatest portion of whom have not yet dispelled the darkness of superstition! How wide a field for cultivation! How great a multitude of human beings to be made partakers of the blessings derived through Jesus Christ!

Meanwhile, as a presage of heavenly graces and a testimony of our benevolence, we most lovingly in the Lord impart to you, venerable brethren, and to your clergy and people, our Apostolic Benediction.

Given at Rome, near St. Peter's, on the sixth day of January, the Epiphany of the Lord, in the year one thousand eight hundred and ninety-five, the seventeenth of our Pontificate.

LEO PP. XIII.

RELIGIOUS NEWS ITEMS.

The Czar has made up his mind to establish a Russian legation at the Vatican.

The New York Archdiocese is under an annual expense of \$100,000 for the maintenance of 1,100 orphan children.

The Spanish Ministry is in treaty with the Episcopate for the establishment of a *modus vivendi* respecting religious teaching in the schools.

There is a proposal to establish a Catholic diocese in Wales owing to the increase in the principality. At present Wales is divided among some of the English dioceses.

According to the latest available returns the Catholic native population of Corea amounts to 22,419. The Almanach de Gotha and the Statesman's Year Book give the number of Protestant natives as only 300.

Father Keesen, parish priest of Ter-senderlo, in the Provincial Council of Limburg, has been elected a senator in the Belgian parliament. He is the only clergyman occupying the position. As an authority on social and economic questions, he has a high reputation.

Rev. Father Tighe, the well-known Newark priest, is hard at work at present upon a book which is anxiously awaited by his brother priests in the diocese. Father Tighe's new literary work will be on the all-absorbing topic of the relation of the Church to the State, and is expected to make its appearance shortly.

Rev. Robert Fulton, the well-known Jesuit, has retired to the head house of his community in Frederick, Md., to end his days there. His place at St. Lawrence's Church, Park avenue and Eighty-fourth street, has been taken by the Rev. Thomas McCloskey, who was formerly an assistant priest of the New York Diocese, and served under Father Ducey and Father Lavelle. He entered the Jesuit community in 1889, and after five years of study returns to mission work in his native city. He is an eloquent preacher.

AT THE CATHEDRAL.—Sunday being the Feast of the Purification there was special Masses at St. James Cathedral. In the morning the choir sang Godfroi's *Messe de la Resurrection*, which was performed at Christmas, the *Credo* from Gounod's *Messe Ste. Cecile*. At the Offertory Mr. E. Label sang Gottschalk's *Ave Maria*. At the evening service the musical programme was Riga's *Kyrie*, Liszt's *Pater Noster* and Lotti's *Gloria Tenore*.

CATHOLIC ORDER OF FORESTERS.—The High Chief Ranger and High Secretary of the Order, Mr. Thos. Cahnon and Mr. Theo. B. Thiele, of Chicago, paid an

official visit to the courts of the Order in Montreal. On Wednesday afternoon they were taken for a drive through the city. On Thursday they were at the St. Lawrence Hall the entire day, and in the evening they were tendered a banquet at the Richelieu Hotel by the combined courts of the city. On Friday morning they left for Toronto.

RESULT OF HALF-YEARLY EXAMINATIONS

IN ST. MARY'S BOYS' SCHOOL, JANUARY, 1895.

1ST CLASS.—1,000 notes being the maximum—Wm. Glennon 927, Thomas McCormack 919, Emile Charbonneau 904, James Gallagher 900, Arthur Beauchamp 891, Francis South 878, James Glennon 861, William Dunn 832, John Farrell 795, Reginald Palmer 776, Arthur Crevier 741, Neilan Herbert 701, Charles Street 685, Joseph Brien 662, George Gallagher 621, A. Robinson 579, David O'Rourke 548, John McKown 518.

2ND CLASS.—Maximum number of marks given being 500—John Corcoran 474, Frank McGue 450, John Hummel 412, James Duran 410, Lorne Evans 401, Fred Brown 400, Albert Blount 398, John Kavanagh 395, Peter Brennan 345, Peter Rice 336, John McLaughlin 314, Linwood Reeves 310, George Fox 306, William Showers 300.

3RD CLASS.—Maximum number of marks, 800—Ernest Stewart 795, Jos. O'Connor 755, William O'Dea 750, Michael O'Brien 735, Oswald Brissette 725, James Carroll 720, Ronald Croke 720, Harry Brown 720, Adolphe Schultze 700, Georgie Daly 695, Hugh O'Neill 685, Andrew Purcell 685, William Flynn 685, Henry Belleville 675, Jas. Sandilands 660, John Kelly 655, Frankie Walsh 650, Chas. Ball 645, Nivard Lamoureux 630, Wm. McKeon 625, James Baker 610, Wm. McDonald 610, Patrick Scott 595, Carryll Daly 590, Patrick J. Sexton 585, Wm. Clarke 585, Jas. Flynn 585, Peter Ryan 575.

4TH CLASS.—Maximum number of marks 600.—Percy Reynolds 580, Dan. McLaughlin 550, Patrick Scott 525, John Premo 510, Edward Carroll 500, Henry Allaire 500, Michael Fogarty 486, Henry O'Rourke 460, Willie Frawley 450, F. Cummings 445, Geo. D. Minick 430, Chas. Douglas 420, Albert Toupin 400, R. Read 400, Philip O'Reilly 400.

5TH CLASS.—Maximum of marks given being 500.—Frank Evans 497, Peter McDonald 490, Godfrey Keegan 485, Thos. McEates 482, Daniel Noonan 475, Valentine Dunn 470, Frank O'Dea 466, James Snaw 460, Simon McEureo 457, Patrick O'Brien 449, J. Shower 440, Joseph Bell 428, Martin Evans 400, James Wallace 380, Arthur O'Brien 375.

6TH CLASS.—300 marks given—Herbie Reynolds, 270, Willie O'Hara 265, Harry O'Reilly 260, Tommie Keegan 260, Willie Barnston 255, Johnny Reilly 250, Harry Jaslow 250, Irvin Hultnar 245, Raymond Dean 240, Johnnie Scott 240, Leslie Ferguson 240.

F. D. DALY.

THE LATE FATHER LEFEBVRE.—The obsequies of the Rev. Father Lefebvre, principal of St. Joseph's College, Montreal, N. B., were attended on Monday at Memramcook by four thousand people. Protestant and Roman Catholic, English and Acadian, did honor to this distinguished priest and educationist. The decorations of the church were chaste, and on a catafalque surrounded by lighted candles and surmounted by a canopy of mourning emblems were his remains. Bishop Sweeney and fifty priests took part in the ceremonies, assisted by a full choir and the college band. Bishop Sweeney, Provincialist Father Baudet and the Rev. A. R. Roy, Montreal, deacons, and the Rev. Father Cavilier, Quebec, sub-deacons, were the celebrants. The Rev. F. Belleveau, of Barachots, delivered a funeral oration in French. Bishop Sweeney also addressed the assembled people.

COLONIZATION.—The Rev. Abbe Morin, who takes an active part in the colonization of the Canadian North-West, states that in Minnesota, Kansas, Dakota and Nebraska, whole villages completely composed of French-Canadian families are anxious to return to their native land. The abbe is seeking help from the government to bring returning Canadians as far as the frontier, the Canadian Pacific Railway offering to convey them from that point to any place where they wish to settle along their line.

THE POPE'S HEALTH.

SOME PLAIN TRUTHS ABOUT IT.

AN AUTHORITATIVE STATEMENT BY HIS PRIVATE PHYSICIAN. HE SHOULD LIVE FOR MANY YEARS.

"Petra," the Roman correspondent of the Philadelphia Catholic Times, sends the following most interesting and timely letter, concerning the present illustrious Pontiff, Leo XIII.

"Let us go and interview Dr. Lapponi, the Pope's doctor," was the proposal put to me by Dr. Eyre, the clever Roman correspondent of the British Medical Journal. I have been annoyed by reading of the supposed weakness of the Pope, and was not unwilling to interview his own physician, who would be able to communicate so much not simply about the actual condition of the Pope's health, but also about his habits of life. Your readers will observe certain discrepancies between the present and other accounts, even when proceeding from comparatively authoritative sources. But no one is in a better position to speak than the "diettore D'igiene e di assistenza sanitaria dei SS. PP. AA."

His first words were: "This interview I have foreseen, being asked to give it by—. Moreover, I have asked His Holiness about it, and he has authorized me to give it, bidding me to supply information about everything which concerns his health." It is, therefore, hardly necessary to add that the following is not only one of the most authoritative, but also one of the most exceptional honors of the kind.

IN "VERY GOOD HEALTH."

"In the first place," said Dr. Lapponi, "His Holiness' health is very good, and for at least eight months he has had no need of medical attendance. Descending to medical particulars, he said that "the Pope's sight was good, the cornea of his eyes being transparent, and there being only a very slight ('eggerissimo') arcus senilis, the necessary effect of great age (leggierissimo arco senile). He is moreover slightly presbyopic or longsighted and dispenses with the use of glasses when he reads. He can hold a newspaper at a great distance from his eyes and read it easily and well." Next came the examination of his hearing. This is also good. And so on about all his organs. "Sano, sanissimo, healthy, quite healthy," were the epithets used, all being finally summed up in the general declaration that his Holiness was free from every complaint.

"As to his appetite," continued the doctor, "it is always moderate but good. It has been the same for thirty consecutive years and has, therefore, become habitual. He gave himself this slight regime at Perugia, when Archbishop there, and he has never changed it since. He has few teeth, and this naturally makes him a slight eater. [I may here say what I know from the doctor's indication. He has never recommended the Pope to use false teeth, so that his appetite may remain unchanged. Im-mobility is the panacea for such age as his.]

HIS DAILY FOOD.

This is his daily food: After Mass, coffee and milk, with a little dry bread; when work is over, at midday, or 1 or even 2 o'clock, he takes a little soup, then boiled meat or roast lamb, occasionally with potatoes or other wholesome vegetables, and lastly fruit. Sometimes he takes a small pudding of spinach.

"His drink is not generally more than a 'petit verre' or vermouth glassful of claret. I have endeavored at times to induce him to take more generous wines, but after trying them he has declared that they load his stomach. Of course he sometimes takes more than one glass of wine, but not often. If he occasionally feels weak between meals a little soup is brought to him. At night he takes more soup and a little bread and fruit, with the same quantity of wine; never anything else. I really believe that his food during a week would not suffice to me for a single dinner. He would like to observe the law of abstinence, but this I cannot allow him, though on some rare occasions I do permit it. He takes regular exercise, when the weather is fine and not too cold, in the Vatican gardens, otherwise in his apartments, walking up and down through

the rooms. As to his rest, he reposes for a few minutes after his dinner, lying on a sofa. At night he goes to bed late, about ten or eleven, rising to say Mass at seven a.m. precisely. Of course his sleep is only of four or five hours' duration, but this is quite enough for a person of his age.

PRESCRIBES FOR HIMSELF.

"About his general health I can only repeat what I said in the beginning; it is excellent. So trifling are his indispositions when they occur that occasionally he prescribes for himself, taking a pill or a slight dose. Grave attacks fortunately do not occur; the wear and tear of his daily work have but the least possible effect on him, though he often says jestingly: 'Oh, if I were only freed from these cases I should settle down to live a hundred years.'"

"And his faculties?"

"Oh, they are lucidissime, most lucid. His memory in particular is portentous, and younger people might feel envious. Take his speeches as an example. He jots down a few words representing leading thoughts, one for each division, on that part of the paper which it would occupy if the discourse were written out, the rest of the paper being a blank. Then he ponders his speech and delivers it without transcription, trusting solely to his wonderful memory; and you know as well as I do how splendid they always are in point of thought and diction. Not only that, but he remembers them afterwards. Shortly after his beautiful and eloquent address to the Cardinals at Christmas time. I went to pay him my regular Sunday morning visit. He began to speak about it and repeated it to me word for word! His daily work is fifteen or sixteen hours at the very least, and he receives from 9 o'clock till his dinner hour, which he accommodates to the amount of his morning work."

"Does he not snuff much?" I asked.

"Yes, he does; it is a habit of his from youth, I may say. Therefore, I do not make war on it lest it should be ill advised to abruptly hinder a habit resulting in habitual secretions."

"How about his strength?"

"Absolutely speaking, of course, it is not very much, but relatively to his great age it is very considerable, and it is very much greater, thanks to his methodical and abstemious life."

"Has he had any severe illness?" asked Dr. Eyre.

"Yes, but only one. He was seriously stricken with typhoid when living at Benevento, as Governor of the province, but he says that Dr. Vulpes, of Naples, cured him with three cold baths. Speaking of this the Pope rightly observes that it is one of the earliest cases of such treatment now so common in Germany and elsewhere."

SHOULD LIVE MANY YEARS,

I here interrupted:

"I read once that the trembling of his arms results from an epileptic attack suffered years ago. I read at the same time that his arms had been operated on and that this and the illness were the direct cause of the trembling."

"It is altogether untrue. He never had a nervous illness and the trembling is solely the effect of his great age. But he has a nervous temperament, and putting aside accidents according to the present condition of his health, he should live, I will not say some, but many years, nondirei alcuni ma parecchi anni. And this is not bad for one who will be 85 years in March next."

My thankfulness to Dr. Lapponi for his interesting interview was only equalled by the satisfaction which I felt at his optimistic conclusion, a satisfaction which will be shared by all your readers.

LADY THOMPSON IN TORONTO.—Lady Thompson has gone to Toronto to look out for a residence, as she intends making that city her home in future.

A JAPANESE CONVERT.—The wife of the Japanese Minister to the court of Austria has become a Roman Catholic and will be baptized in the faith by Archbishop Agliardi, the Papal Nuncio to the Austrian court.

His Holiness the Pope, says a Rome despatch, is thoroughly determined to make an appeal to the Anglican church for union, and will summon the Roman Catholic bishops of Nottingham and Southwark to Rome to consult with him in regard to the plan.