



## Clerical News.

His Grace, our beloved Archbishop, accompanied by the Very Rev. A. Dugas, V. G., left on Tuesday for St. Paul, where they will meet the Rev. Father Lacombe. What the object of their visit may be is still a secret, the manifestation of which we hope will soon come to us, we hope in tidings of great rejoicing.

The Rev. Father Defoy came from St. Anne on Monday. He is rather exhausted by his labor, and may have to take a few days' rest.

The Rev. Father Dufresne, of Lorette, was also visiting at St. Boniface. As the saying goes, this is one that is almost now resting on his laurels. Father Dufresne has accomplished a great deal in his parish, no wonder that his parishioners should almost idolize him.

A quiet but pretty wedding took place on Tuesday morning at 9.30, at the Church of the Immaculate Conception, when Mr. Thomas A. Horan and Miss Mary E. McCague were united in wedlock by the Rev. A. A. Cherrier. Mr. P. Eugene Wallace acted as best man, whilst Miss P. Kileen played the part of bridesmaid. The happy couple left on their wedding tour by the C. P. R. Safe journey! Prompt return!

## Regina Notes.

On Wednesday the Feast of Epiphany, Miss Rusk, of Stony Beach, was received into the Catholic Church. The ceremony was grand. Simply grand. The young lady was, on that day baptized for the first time, and immediately after received Holy Communion. This is one of the occasions when we cannot express our deep feelings. Rev. Father Kasper, O.M.I., performed the ceremony, and Miss O'Connor of Halifax, acted as God-mother for Miss Rusk. The altar so tastefully decorated for the feast, the crib, where lay the Holy Infant, the beautiful girl kneeling, first with head covered, then wearing, after baptism, her lovely white veil and wreath, symbolic of the purity of her immortal soul, and the saintly Father so solemnly performing the Sacrament, all lent a heavenly air to the occasion. Those privileged to be present will certainly never forget it. To picture such a ceremony as the baptism of an adult, the reception of a grown person into the bosom of our Holy Church, in cold type seems incongruous. Surely it is impossible; we can only see it, and almost catch its glare; the chief actor alone can realize it. But there, the pen must cease. It is a memory to carry through life, but even to one, who has knelt and received the Benediction of God's anointed, after being received into the One Fold, it is not a recollection to describe. To Miss Rusk we tender our most hearty congratulations.

Rev. Father Kasper, O. M. I., spent Sunday in Grenfell, returning Monday evening, Sunday afternoon the trustees of last year in St. Mary's congregation were re-elected for the ensuing year.

Most beautiful weather prevails, and even during the present month—a circumstance before unknown in Regina—several buildings are in course of erection.

The Misses McCusker, daughters of Mr. and Mrs. C. J. McCusker, left on Sunday evening to resume their studies in St. Mary's Academy. A number of their friends were at the depot to see them off, and wish them a prosperous year at school.

GENA MacFARLANE.

## St. Pie Letellier Notes.

As usual, the church was crowded at Midnight Mass. Nearly all the congregation approached the sacraments, which must be very consoling to our priest.

Father Veilhen, of St. Boniface College, assisted Father Poitras, and preached to attentive audiences on Christmas day, and on the following Sunday.

The new French-Canadian flag was blessed on the evening of Christmas day. The Rev. Father explained the origin and reason of the various parts of this flag. This one, which now floats on grand occasions before the presbytery, is the first in our village, but we think it will soon have many companions.

Father Perrissette, a newly ordained priest, sang High Mass on New Year's day.

The new convent is completed, and is to be blessed by His Grace the Archbishop, on the tenth.

There was dismay in our village this week, when the railway station was closed. It had been threatened for a week or two, but no one believed that it really would happen in such a busy place. We are glad to say that it only remained closed about one day, petitions and requests to the right quarters having prevailed.

The usual round of gaities have accompanied the festive season, and our young people have had a number of visitors staying with them.

The choir gave us some well prepared music for Christmas, the congregation taking part in the refrain of the old Christmas hymns.

Mr. Gravelines, one of our prosperous merchants intends starting in a few days for a trip to Oregon, California, etc.

Your correspondent heartily wishes the Northwest Review and its staff a happy and prosperous New Year.

The 9th of January, 1904, was beautiful and mild for the time of year, which increased the pleasure of our congregation, who were thus enabled to assemble at Letellier, at half past three, to welcome our beloved Archbishop on his visit to bless the new convent, which has just been completed. Immediately after the arrival of the train, Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament was given in the Church, and His Grace preached an impressive sermon on the text "Glory be to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men of good will." He dwelt on the words "men of good will," explaining how we all might have this good-will, and that then in spite of trials and sorrows, peace would be with us, according to the Divine promise. His Grace expressed himself so pleased at seeing so many people before him, remarking that it was an instance of good will to assemble to honor the Lord in the person of his servant.

Shortly after the afternoon service the Archbishop and priests wended their way to the new convent, to be first guests of honor there. The ladies of the parish had prepared a banquet to do honor to the occasion. The supper was served in the Sister's refectory, which was tastefully decorated for the occasion. Mrs. Gravelines and Mrs. D'Euchambault were the chief promoters of this success, but they were cordially seconded by Mesdames Desrosiers, Aibiens, Joseph Parent, P. Frazer, J. Saurette.

Great credit is due the choir for their musical efforts. We particularly remarked Mrs. Horace Dansereau's singing.

The Archbishop celebrated the first Mass in the convent chapel on Sunday morning, afterwards assisting at High Mass in full regalia and preaching an appropriate sermon for the Octave of the Epiphany, explaining to us that the human race, descendants of Shem, Ham

and Japhet, were represented in the persons of the Magi, and drawing lessons from their offerings, etc. It is a pity that I cannot give his Grace's sermon as well as your Regina correspondent would do, but it is the talent, not the will that is wanting.

At half past two we assembled anew in the Church. After a hymn the Archbishop again favored us, speaking in part on Catholic education, then after the singing of the Veni Creator, the procession formed to proceed to the blessing of the convent. It was a pretty sight to see the long procession wending its way over the snow. And the men's voices rang out strong, singing the hymn of the League of the Sacred Heart, which Father Proulx had established in this parish at the last mission held in the spring of 1903. The Rev. Father had arrived with Father Fillion, just before the service began. They were escorted by a number of rigs from St. Jean Baptiste.

When the new building had been blessed inside and out, Benediction was given by His Grace in the convent chapel. The pretty chapel, the sacristy, and corridor were taxed to their utmost to hold the people.

Immediately afterwards a seance was held by the pupils in the school. The room was not large enough to hold those who wished to assist and besides the building was not strong enough. Before all had gone upstairs it was noticed that the floor had sunk several inches on one side. Being one of those disappointed, I cannot tell you of the pretty things there enacted.

I had almost forgotten to say that an address of welcome was read on Saturday afternoon by Mr. Jacques Parent's eldest son. Each word was distinctly pronounced, and could be heard all over the Church.

The Archbishop left on Sunday afternoon between half past five and six for St. Jean Baptiste, and thus closed a happy and memorable event in the annals of the parish of St. Pie Letellier.

## Obituary

At St. Boniface, on the 12th inst. Arthur Leveque, aged 59 years.

Mr. A. Leveque had come to Manitoba some 33 years ago, a sergeant in the first detachment of soldiers who came by the Lake of the Wood's route.

The year following his arrival here he married Miss Mary D'Eschambault, a daughter of Geo. D'Eschambault, an officer of the Hudson's Bay Co. Mr. Leveque had occupied for many years prior to his death the position of Indian Agent, the last place of his operation being in the Qu'Appelle district. His amiable qualities in society as well as attractive voice as a singer were particularly well known, and highly appreciated at St. Boniface, where he had resided until recent years. It was only natural that he should return to his old home, now occupied by his dear son Taillefer Leveque, to spend the last days of his earthly life. He breathed his last after a Christian preparation for the dreadful journey into eternity.

To his bereaved wife and sons the Review extends its sincerest sympathy.—R. I. P.

## At St. Norbert

On Wednesday, the 6th inst. the presbytery of the venerable Prelate who presides over and ministers to the spiritual wants of the good people of St. Norbert, was made the scene of a most enjoyable love feast.

A large gathering of the members of the Manitoba Catholic clergy and of leading citizens and ladies

of Winnipeg, St. Boniface and St. Norbert, at the invitation of the very Rev. Mgr. Ritchot, marked the continuance of an old French custom carried out sacredly in old Gallic settlements.

For a number of years back it has been the custom to feast at the presbytery of the venerable prelate on the festival of the day, the Epiphany, partaking of a banquet and electing annually a king and queen. The festivities began on Wednesday evening at 6.30 o'clock, and the regal function resulted in the choice by drawing lots, of Hon. A. A. C. LaRiviere, M. P., Mrs. Couillard of Montreal, who is visiting her daughter, Mrs. J. Dubuc of Winnipeg, as the royal majesties for the evening.

A most appropriate speech was delivered by the new king, who, although not forgetting the jolly side of his royal dignity, found happy words to congratulate Mgr. Ritchot on his hospitality, and he referred also in glowing terms to the services rendered the country at large by the venerable prelate, when, in 1870, he went to Ottawa as a delegate to defend and advocate the rights of the then Red River Settlement people. He said that our privilege of being a province, a privilege which is so craved by the people of the West, we owe to a great extent to the work of Mgr. Ritchot. Mgr. Ritchot is now 78 years of age, but is still with a warm heart, and we still feel at home in his presbytery, and for this reason their royal majesties felt they could not meet under a more hospitable roof, especially during these days of socialistic efforts to "upset the thrones of the great rulers of this earth. The speaker concluded with asking the blessing of Mgr. Ritchot on the assembled guests.

Other speeches were made by Chief Justice Dubuc, the Rev. A. A. Cherrier, the Very Rev. Louis, superior of Notre Dame des Prairies, the Rev. Father Thibeau, superior of Notre Dame des Chavagnes, also the Rev. Dr. Beliveau, of the Archbishop's palace, the Rev. Father Lalonde, of St. Adolphe, Mr. Lacompt and Mr. Mager, of St. Boniface, and J. Dubuc of Winnipeg. All spoke in the same vein, expressing their respect, admiration and gratitude to Mgr. Ritchot. His Grace the Archbishop of St. Boniface, who had fully intended to be present, expressed his deep regret at being unable to carry out his wish, and directed the Rev. Dr. Beliveau to convey his sincere congratulations and best wishes to the very Rev. host and their future majesties as well.

After the enjoyment of the agape the evening was spent in the singing of French and Canadian songs and other music, and about 10 o'clock the party adjourned, promising not to miss the feast another year, and wishing that Mgr. Ritchot may be spared many years to his parish, the diocese and the country at large. About seventy guests were present.

The custom of an agape on the evening of the feast of the Epiphany is observed still among the eastern Catholic colleges and also in the homes.

It would be leaving this report very incomplete, were no reference to be made to the happy remarks by which Mgr. Ritchot himself closed the banquet. Of all the compliments paid him by the speakers of the evening, he admitted that many were presented through magnifying glasses, some however, he accepted as having a close relation to the truth of facts. Referring to the king and chief justice of the king's realm he said that these were some of the promising French Canadians, whom he persuaded in the early '70s, to leave the province of Quebec to come and cast their lots in the far west. He

could well, on this propitious occasion congratulate himself that he had succeeded in bringing to Manitoba such men as our worthy Chief Justice Dubuc, A. A. C. LaRiviere, M. P., the late Hon. Jos. Royal, and many others, whose names shall live in the history of Manitoba.

## Notes

At Dawson, Yukon Territory, Mr. Colin Chisholm and others have been talking of getting up a Gaelic Society.

Mr. Joseph Gandolfo, of Dawson, has left for a trip to Italy. He is acquainted with Cardinal Rampolla who will probably present him to Pope Pius X.

Bishop Breynat, O.M.I., of Mackenzie, will probably be in the Klondyke again in March, 1904.

The White Pass Stage Coach Co. keep over 200 horses for their relays.

There are some dizzy curves on the White Pass and Yukon railway to Skagway. The wooden bridges on the line are gradually being replaced.

The Government will make a pack trail between Pelly River and Peace River. \$25,000 has been allotted for this public work.

Catholic South African quotes the words of Washington, in his farewell address of September, 1796:—"Of all the dispositions and habits which lead to political prosperity, religion and morality are indispensable supports. In vain would that man claim the tribute of patriotism who should labor to subvert these great pillars of human happiness, these firmest props of the duties of men and citizens. The mere politician, equally with the pious man, ought to respect and cherish them. . . . Where is the security for property, for reputation, for life, if the sense of religious obligation desert the oaths which are the instruments of investigation in courts of justice? And let us with caution indulge the supposition that morality can be maintained without religion. Whatever may be conceded to the influence of refined education on minds of peculiar structure, reason and experience both forbid us to expect that national morality can prevail by exclusion of religious principle."

The Sisters of St. Boniface and St. Roch's Hospital, acknowledge with sincere thanks the receipt of Christmas and New Year's donations.

Messrs. Allaire & Bleau, J. H. Ashdown, Ryan & Co., Boyce Carriage Co., Porter & Co., E. L. Drewry, Dr. England, J. Erzinger, P. Gosselin, G. F. Galt, Collin & Son, Clark Bros. & Hughes, Hudson's Bay Co., Jobin, Marrin, R. Leckie, J. Leslie, I. W. Martin, McDonagh & Shea, McLeod Holiday, Dr. Peatman, T. Pelletier, J. Prefontaine, J. Kerr, C. J. O'Connell, Rocan & Co., Richard & Beliveau, Jew Society per N. Rozenblot, and B. Zimmerman, J. A. Senecal, W. Harvey, D. Lennon, Ogilvie Milling Co., Ryan & Fares, Mrs. Bawlf, J. St. Laurent, The Standard Plumbing Co., Watson & Co., R. J. Whitla, E. S. Harrison, A. McDonald Co.

To friends who were so kind in sending these gifts are extended a hearty assurance that they were highly appreciated.

Special thanks are also offered to the managers of the daily papers, the Northwest Review, the Voice, Town Topics, for their kindness in providing reading matter for the patients.