



CURRENT COMMENT

In an elocution contest last week a young man, Mr. Lawrence Palk, won a gold medal in competition with four young ladies. Both he and the judges deserve to be congratulated on this new departure. Hitherto the young ladies have so generally won the medals that it looked as if no young man need apply. This would be little short of a calamity for the interests of first-rate elocution in this city. The predominance of the feminine element tends to make mawkish sentimentality more popular than deep, manly pathos. Too much stress is laid upon willowy gestures and too little upon the inflections and quality of the voice, which, after all, the great factor in human speech. And in this latter respect no woman ever could compete with a man who knows how to use a flexible, resonant voice of wide compass. Most women's voices are limited to the soprano register, and even those who can wield the deeper, contralto notes cannot vie, in energy and earnestness, with the grip and crispness of a manly voice. In lighter veins of comedy and feeling women may often excel men, but when it comes to tragedy unassisted by costume and stage surroundings, the resources of a man's throat and lungs are vastly superior.

On Friday of last week the Montreal Star began its lively report of the previous evening's match with the remark: "There was a happy time once, when Stanley Cup matches were worth seeing. Let us hope such time may come again." It came sooner than was expected by the "Star" reporter. He sang quite a different tune last Monday. Writing of Saturday's game, he says: "It was without exception the most remarkable hockey match ever played in Montreal. . . . It was a feast of excitement, a banquet of nerve racking incidents."

Chicago has long been aiming at the title of the greatest city in the world. Last Monday it strengthened this claim by wrapping itself in a mantle of impenetrable fog, just like the hugest of all human hives, London.

Rev. Father Dowdall, who is himself a very successful editor, writes to our publisher: "Allow me to congratulate you on the work you have achieved in placing the Review easily and prominently in the front rank of the Catholic weeklies of America."

According to the official "Fourth Census of Canada, 1901," Great Bear Lake, with its area of 7,565,000 acres (11,821 square miles), is larger than Great Slave Lake, which covers 6,860,000 acres (10,718 square miles), and also larger than Lake Winnipeg, which has an area of 9,459 square miles. According to these latest figures, as yet unknown to popular geographies and even to most of the learned experts in geography, these three Northwestern lakes must now take a high rank among the freshwater bodies of America and the entire globe. They come, respectively eighth, ninth and tenth in the following list of the largest freshwater lakes in the world, and fourth, fifth and sixth among the great lakes of the western hemisphere. The figures stand for square miles.

Lake Superior	31,200.
Victoria Nyanza	26,500.
Huron	22,322.
Michigan	21,729.
Tanganyika	15,000.

Baikal (Siberia)	14,000.
Nyassa	12,000.
Great Bear	11,821.
Great Slave	10,718.
Winnipeg	9,459.
Erie	7,800.
Ontario	6,900.

As some of our readers may remember, two or three years ago we directed the attention of the Dominion Statistician at Ottawa to the fact that these three Northwestern lakes were each larger than Lake Erie and Lake Ontario; and he wrote us agreeing that, in consequence of this hitherto unobserved fact, the name "Great Lakes" should be changed to "Laurentian Lakes." This change Mr. George Johnson embodied in "The Statistical Year Book of Canada for 1900," p. 21, adding the areas of Lakes Great Bear, Great Slave and Winnipeg. And now the more accurate figures of the Census Report published last year are a still stronger confirmation of our view.

The Association of the Propagation of the Faith in Lyons, France, records with gratitude a noble example of generosity towards the great cause of foreign missions. It announces in the diocese of Ross the receipt of £1,000 through the executors of the late Mr. C. McCarthy, J.P., Bushmount, Clonakilty, being that gentleman's bequest to the work in which the association is engaged. The announcement adds that a sum of £3,000 was received by the association during Mr. McCarthy's lifetime. He was an enterprising merchant in Clonakilty, and died some months ago. Besides his munificent contributions to the Association for the Propagation of the Faith he was most generous to local charities.

The strenuous efforts making just now to get prominent men to say out loud that the Manitoba school question is dead only show how very much alive it still is. If the iniquitous 1890 law be not cancelled by Ottawa or London it will be struck off the statute book as soon as we Catholics become the controlling factor in Manitoba elections, and at the rate at which Catholics are pouring in from outside and being born from inside, that will not be long.

In our issue of January 24 we ventured upon one plausible explanation of the fable that has gathered round the name of Jesuit. About the same time our thoughtful Antigonish contemporary offered another explanation, which is more luminous and wide-reaching than ours. "We have often wondered," remarks the Casket, "why it is that those who justify regicide when executed by a Cromwell, high treason when committed by a future duke of Marlborough, non-payment of taxes when threatened by English Non-conformists, infanticide when practised to save the mother's life, and so many other things subversive of public and private morality, we have often wondered how people who justify their deeds on the ground that they were done for a good purpose can have the hardihood to call the doctrine that 'the end justifies the means' Jesuitical. No Jesuit moralist has ever taught this doctrine; on the other hand, almost the whole world outside the Catholic Church may be said to practice it and defend the practice. Yet the world persists in saddling this immoral principle upon the Jesuits. Why? The only explanation we can give is that the end the Jesuits have always had in view is the destruction of heresy. This end or purpose being, in the eyes of heretics, the worst of all possible ends, the means employed to secure it must

be the worst of all possible means. It is precisely because so many non-Catholics are in the habit of judging the lawfulness of the means by the end which these means are intended to accomplish, that they condemn the Jesuits so unsparingly. Had the actions of Loyola's sons in England, France and elsewhere been directed to the extension of Protestantism instead of the repression of that heresy, we would never have heard them called immoral by those who now use the term 'Jesuitry' to denote everything that is bad."

Advices from Rome inform us that the Feast of the Epiphany was celebrated, as usual, by religious functions in many of the Oriental rites, thus affording striking testimony of the real Catholicity of the Church. During the octave of that great festival Masses were celebrated in the following rites: Syro-Maronite, Greco-Ruthenian, Syriac, Chaldean, Greek and Armenian.

If we quote the following paragraph from the "Irish Standard" of Minneapolis, we do so not because of the original remark in "United Canada," which, like most of the ideas that originate in that journal, is extremely silly—neither Father Lambert nor Father Cronin having ever been singled out by those who know them as probable candidates for episcopal honors—but because of our Minneapolis contemporary's comment thereon.

"The United Canada, of Ottawa, remarks that the names of Father Lambert and Father Cronin do not appear on the list of New York priests mentioned as probable successors to Bishop Quigley. Why should they? It is easy to select a priest who will make a good bishop, but it is very hard to find priests to fill the places of Fathers Lambert and Cronin. Editors, like poets, are born and not made. Both of them deserve every honor in the power of the Church to bestow, but we hope they will not be elevated to the episcopacy, for that would end their journalistic work forever."

Clerical News

Rev. Father Perreault of Fannystelle, was in town at the beginning of this week.

"The Messenger" for February gives an interesting description with views, of the new Jesuit novitiate at St. Andrews-on-the-Hudson, N.Y. The noviceship was removed thither from its old habitat in Frederick, Md., on Jan. 15.

"L'Echo de l'Ouest" of Minneapolis announces that Rev. Father Guillet, O.M.I., has been appointed pastor of St. Jean Baptiste church, Duluth, with Rev. Father Lacasse, O.M.I., as assistant and preacher of retreats and missions in other parishes.

Cardinal Serafino Cretoni has been appointed by the Holy Father Prefect of the Sacred Congregation of Rites and Cardinal Luigi Tripepi Prefect of the Sacred Congregation of Indulgences and Relics.

Mgr. Schroeder, of the University of Munster, has been selected for the chair of dogmatic theology in the new faculty at the University of Strasburg, and Dr. Schaefer, of the University of Breslau, has been appointed professor of New Testament exegesis.

Rev. Father Emard, O.M.I., from Prince Albert, spent a few days at St. Mary's Presbytery this week on his way to preach Lenten missions in the States.

Rev. A. Defoy arrived here this week, and goes as curate to Rev. Father Giroux at St. Anne's.

Rev. Father Cyril, C.S.S.R., of Brandon, came in on Monday and returned on Tuesday last.

Rev. Father Campeau was the Archbishop's guest at the beginning of this week.

Rev. Father Ferland, who was recently ordained by His Grace at Sorel for this diocese, sang High Mass at the cathedral last Sunday.

Rev. Father Bastien was at the Archbishop's house last Tuesday.

Persons and Facts

Two of the Rhodes scholarships have been awarded by the Rhodesia government to two Catholic students of the Jesuit college at Bulawayo, and it is said that these were among the first awards made.

It is stated that the late Monsieur de Blowitz, the celebrated Paris representative of the London Times, who died recently, was a convert to the Catholic faith.

Rev. Mr. Melzar, a former Lutheran minister, born in Germany in 1867, whose father and grandfather were also Lutheran ministers, has been received into the Catholic Church by the Rev. J. J. Gibbin, Port Angeles, Wash.

Mr. Harry Devine, one of the big farmers north of Brandon, purposes holding a sale about the 16th of March, to dispose of over 50 head of cattle. Mr. R. D. Evans will conduct the sale.—Western Sun. Mr. H. Devine is a brother of Dr. Devine of this city.

Mr. Herbert C. Boothby, B. A., (Oxon., Hon. Hist.), son of the late Sir Brooke Boothby, Bart., and cousin of Guy Boothby, the novelist, left last Monday to take charge of a school at Fork River, near Winnipegosis.

The "Augsburger Postzeitung" announces as imminent the publication of a Pontifical Decree forbidding Catholic societies having commercial objects to give themselves a religious title, the practice having led to abuses.

At the Mass on the occasion of the inauguration of a new organ in the chapel at Blairs College, Aberdeen, the chalice used belonged to King James II. of England and VIII. of Scotland. It has been in the possession of the Bishops of Aberdeen for over 200 years, and has been presented to the college by Bishop Chisholm.

Among the distinguished personages lately received in audience by His Holiness was Senor Moret y Prendergast, formerly Prime Minister in Spain, who, now that Sagasta is dead, may be expected to take a very prominent part in Spanish politics, and it is understood, says the Catholic Times Rome correspondent, that in the event of his accepting office he would speedily settle various ques-

tions still pending between Spain and the Holy See in a manner satisfactory to both.

It is semi-officially announced that the Holy Father, whose health continues to be excellent, will hold a Consistory in the month of February, when his jubilee year will come to a close. On this occasion Leo XIII. will pronounce an important allocution, in which he will briefly enumerate the principal events of his long Pontificate, deducting therefrom interesting considerations on the present condition of the Papacy in particular and of the Catholic Church in general. As there are now eleven vacancies in the Sacred College it is almost certain that several Cardinals will be created, and it is even rumored that the new "Porporati" will be eight in number, but as usual in these cases it is quite impossible to predict who will be promoted.—Catholic Times.

Mr. Tilleman has accepted the post of English teacher to the Galicians at the Holy Ghost school in this city.

At the Delhi Durbar it was announced that the King has bestowed the Kaiser-I-Hind Medal of the first-class upon the Rev. J. D. W. Sewell, S.J., Rector of St. Joseph's College, Trichinopoly.

After an extended trip east, where he went to get into touch with all the latest fads and styles in the tailor's art for the coming season, Mr. J. V. Doumelen, formerly of S. R. Hunter, has returned home to give the benefit of his recognized splendid talent and most recently acquired ideas to the patrons of W. R. Donogh & Co., McDermot Ave., with which firm he is now associated. While in New York Mr. Doumelen spent most of his time in establishments of such wide-world reputation as Rock's, Riley's & Bell's. It would seem that the energetic firm of W. R. Donogh & Co. have quite made up their minds to be the most up-to-date tailors in Winnipeg. They hope soon to be established in larger and more commodious quarters.

THE ELASTICITY OF ENGLISH

M. le Comte Robert De Montequion-Fezensac, here to lecture on French literature, met with a surprise the other day at a reception. He was talking to a dainty little lady, who spoke very good French. She was telling of the vast possibilities in the English language, and, neglectful of the fact that he imperfectly understands the language, she gave him the following: "A flock of girls is called a bevy, a bevy of wolves is called a pack, a pack of thieves is called a gang, a gang of angels is called a host, a host of fish is called a shoal, a shoal of cattle is called a herd, a herd of children is called a troop, a troop of partridges is called a covey, a covey of beauties is called a galaxy, a galaxy of ruffians is called a horde, a horde of coal is called a heap, a heap of oxen is called a drove, a drove of blackguards is called a mob, a mob of whales is called a school, a school of worshippers is called a congregation, a congregation of engineers is called a corps, a corps of robbers is called a band, a band of locusts is called a swarm and a swarm of people is called a crowd."

M. le Comte asked the fair one to please write it out for him, as he wished to use a lexicon for purposes of translation. He tried it later and gave up in despair.—New York Times.