

Persons and Facts

It was 66 degrees below zero at Dawson a week ago.

In the Voce della Verita for January 20 we read: "Ieri in particolari udienze il Santo Padre ammetteva le famiglie Mochamps (sic) ed Intyre (sic), canadesi;" — which means "the Holy Father admitted to a private audience the Mochamp and McIntyre families," that is to say, Mrs. and Miss Mochamp, Mrs. and Jim McIntyre; these four were alone with the Pope for 25 minutes. The Voce is the daily organ of Catholic interests in Rome.

Mr. Arthur Bleau, of the Archbishop's House, returned last Saturday from a month's holiday in and around Montreal.

The coldest day yet was last Sunday, when certain thermometers in this city registered forty degrees below zero. Brandon reported 48 the same day.

The rumor, which we quoted a fortnight ago for what it was worth—that Mr. de Blowitz was a convert—turns out to be exceedingly wide of the mark. The Voce della Verita, a well informed Catholic daily published in Rome, prints a telegram from Paris, dated January 19, which we translate from the Italian: "The famous Times correspondent, Blowitz, died last evening about six, of peritonitis. He was a German Jew (his real name was Oppert, who was accused of serving the interests of the enemies of France, while taking advantage of French hospitality and of a mysterious immunity from prosecution (intangibilita) which came to him from certain powerful political clubs of Paris." The "Pilot" (of England) says: "He was to the very last what the friendship of Gambetta and the circumstances of his life had made him; a disguised Semite, a delightful 'boulevardier,' a Dreyfusist, and an anti-clerical." Just the sort of person to please the Times.

A recent number of the Montreal "Star" contained two pictures, one of the Indian boys at St. Joseph's Industrial School, Dumbow, Alberta, another of the Mission house and group of Indians at Black Foot Crossing Reserve, Alberta. The school boys look bright and intelligent. The Indian group is flanked on the right by one of the Oblate Fathers and on the left by a state-ly Indian chief.

One of our contemporaries remarks that the extreme cold of the beginning of this week is unusual so late in the winter. The ancient Catholic tradition here, on the contrary, looks upon it as quite usual, for, as the saying goes, the coldest weather may be expected between the two Chairs of St. Peter, i.e., from January 18 to February 22. This is based on almost three centuries of Canadian experience.

Mr. Herbert Cecil Boothby writes from Fork River, on Feb. 13, that he is in charge of Mossy River School, No. 999. There are over 40 children on the register, but about 25 in regular attendance, who put on more style than one would expect in this out-of-the-way place. The Mossy River, which flows close by, is dangerous and treacherous, warm water from the bottom of Lake Dauphin, so that the surface is alternately freezing into thin ice and then thawing. The river, when he wrote, was flowing full, and had to be crossed by a rickety bridge, 292 feet long. Thirty-one miles north of Winnipegosis, which is ten miles north of Mossy River, is the Oblate Fathers' mission at Pine Creek.

Mr. Aime Cinq-Mars is undergoing treatment for his eyes in Montreal. His brother, Marius, a distinguished St. Boniface graduate, came off first in the winter examinations at the Polytechnic School.

On Tuesday evening, the 24th inst., at eight o'clock a very pleasing entertainment, in which both ladies and gentlemen take part, will be given in the hall of St. Boniface College. The title is "Denx Heures de Vaudeville." Tickets, 50 cents. Proceeds for the New Cathedral fund.

Last Sunday many Winnipeg thermometers misbehaved shockingly. While one marked 20, another dropped to 56 below zero. They were all, we need hardly say, mercury instruments, and science has long since ascertained that such tubes become unreliable when the cold gets below fourteen degrees above zero Fahrenheit. The temperament of these quicksilver thermometers becomes altogether too mercurial at the approach of the mercury freezing point, 40 below. Meanwhile Sunday last the sedate, spirit thermometers at St. John's College, St. Boniface College and elsewhere all agreed in marking as the minimum 35 degrees below zero. Cool enough, thank you.

Mr. Jobin, formerly a teacher in the Mount St. Louis College of Montreal, arrived here last week, and is now staying at St. Boniface.

Last Monday afternoon at 5 a meeting of the Queen's Memorial Committee was held in the Hon. R. P. Roblin's office in the Parliament buildings, with Hon. Senator Bernier in the chair. Mr. C. N. Bell, Mr. Chesterton, Rev. Dr. Patrick, Hon. C. Campbell, Mr. Gilroy, Rev. Father Drummond, Mr. G. F. Carruthers and Mr. Muir were present. A sketch model of Her Majesty Queen Victoria sitting in a high-backed ornamental throne-chair, submitted by Mr. George Frampton, R. A., of 32 Queen's Road, St. John's Wood, London, N.W., was viewed with interest and admiration, coupled with a few suggestions for improvement. It was decided that letters embodying the sentiments of the committee should be sent to the distinguished artist, Mr. Frampton, and to Mr. Justice Bain, who is negotiating this contract in London. The design receives general approval and will commend itself to all lovers of art who remember the appearance of the late Queen. The monument will be ready for shipment to Winnipeg next summer.

Winnipeg is fast becoming noted for its enterprise. The enterprise of the city at large can be judged best by the enterprise of individual firms. In the establishing of this reputation for Winnipeg the firm of Clark Bros. & Hughes, funeral directors, are playing no little part. Since the inception of their business some years ago their development has been continuous and rapid, and deservedly so; for always have their eyes been open to the wants of the people. In order to satisfy the needs of the Catholic people they have secured in Mr. H. Pelissier the service of one who understands the ceremonies of the Catholic Church. Their white funeral car, built to order of sufficient length for the burial of those in the full-development of manhood as well as children, is an innovation. The latest addition to their business is the installation of an ambulance. The great need of such a vehicle in Winnipeg may be judged by the fact since the last of November there have been over a hundred calls for its use. This investment of Clarke Bros. & Hughes is the more praiseworthy as it is less a business of profit than public accommodation.

The usual literary of the National Business College was held in the college rooms on Thursday, Feb. 5, 1903, the president, Miss Scott, in the chair. The evening took the form of a musical entertainment, in which Misses Mathison, Gillies, Stanners, Mrs. H. Sprague, Master Johnnie Gibson and Mr. Loos took part. This was followed by a distribution of valentines from the "post office," presided over by Messrs. Hinds and Canning. Refreshments were served by the ladies and a very pleasant evening brought to a close by a chorus.

Sir Charles Gavan Duffy passed away on the 9th inst. at his villa near Nice. With Davis and Dillon he founded the "Nation," which was seized by the Castle government in 1848. Duffy escaped and for some years struggled for Irish reforms in Parliament. The betrayal of the independent opposition party by Keogh and Sadlier caused its collapse, and Duffy, disheartened, emigrated to Australia, where he soon came to the front in politics, becoming Prime Minister of Victoria and subsequently Speaker of the Legislature, he was knighted by Queen Victoria. His literary work, chiefly in the field of Irish history, is extremely valuable. It comprises "The Ballad Poetry of Ireland"; "Young Ireland: A Fragment of Irish History, 1840-50"; and "Four Years of Irish History, 1845-49." He was born in Monaghan in 1816 and was therefore in his 87th year at the time of his death.

A. F. Banfield's neighbors are congratulating themselves on the solidity of the stone walls of the burnt building. With so fierce a fire as that which last Tuesday morning fed upon the inflammable Banfield stock and completely destroyed it in spite of the valiant efforts of the fire brigade, it would have been impossible to confine the conflagration, as it was confined, to one building, had the walls been at all weak or too thin.

Mr. D. M. Duncan, of the Collegiate Institute, requests us to announce that the Rev. Father Drummond will lecture on "Characteristics of the Irish people," Friday evening, February 27th, in the hall of the Collegiate Institute. This is the fourth of the series of five entertainments arranged for the winter season by the Collegiate Institute Literary Society. Although Father Drummond's title suggests some of his past lectures on a similar theme, the lecture of next Friday evening will break new ground. The greater number of the humorous and pathetic illustrations which he introduces have been gathered since he last spoke on this subject. Tickets, 25 cents.

Answer to E.P.—You are mistaken. Brandon is not north, but four miles south of Winnipeg.

The Paris correspondent of the London Standard is informed that the French ministry has been warned that if the English Benedictines are expelled from Douai, as is proposed under the Associations' Law, a demand for compensation amounting to £100,000 will be supported by the British government. Five years ago Mr. Graville Ward spent £10,000 in building a guest house and a cloister at Douai.

To W. Q., Ont.—The best places for what you want are Brandon and its neighborhood, Portage la Prairie, Rapid City, Treherne, Manitow, Austin, Carberry, McGregor, Deloraine, Gretna, Morden. There are hardly any in the places you mention.

Mr. L. J. A. Leveque left on Wednesday for Regina to enter on his duties as Indian Inspector.

Miss Anna Keroack left lately for Portland, Oregon, to join the Sisters of the Precious Blood.

Mr. Roger Goulet, Inspector of French schools, and Mr. Jehan de Froment, left last week for a three months trip to England and France.

Matrimony is reported to be epidemic amongst the Galicians of the city. A well known resident wished to engage a Galician maid-servant a few days and telephoned to Rev. Father Kulawy, asking him if he could recommend one. The reverend gentlemen replied that he could not as all the Galician girls of a proper age are getting married and added that he had officiated at thirteen wedding ceremonies on Sunday last.—Free Press, Feb. 19.

Mr. and Mrs. N. Bawf are enjoying the balmy climate of Florida.

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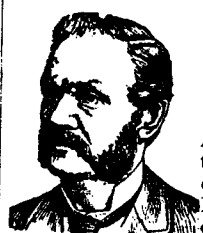
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