

Y CO. LIMITED
James St., Montreal

Carpets
of patterns in every
ch, and all of this
low cuts in prices,
those contemplating
makes a rosy outlook

ETS. Regular
S. Regular 60c
ETS. Regular
Patterns, slightly
with borders to
Regular \$1.25

PET. Regular
order to march.
Sale. \$1.38
PET. Regular
\$1.49

on Rugs.
in the newest
s and crimson.
\$29.75

urniture.
and for "The Merry
and await your sele-

or 14 x 24 in.,
ers, very pretty
h. \$7.35
ed of hardwood
turned legs, all
duced to, each \$6.00
e design, worth
at \$3.15

Y CO LIMITED

ws of a local
These should
of the TRUE

Oil
antica
s, 25c and 50c.

scribers.
gn \$1.50.
\$1.00.

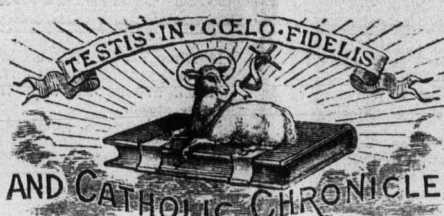
WITNESS, MONTREAL.

months
h I enclose \$.....
" here.....

NEEY BELL COMPANY
TROY, N.Y. 177 BROADWAY
NEW YORK
Manufacture Superior
SCHOOL A. BELL

BELLS
WITNESS is printed
d at 816 LaSalle
rest, Montreal, Can.,
Plunkett Magan, Toron

The True



The Witness

MONTREAL, THURSDAY, JUNE 25, 1908

PRICE FIVE CENTS

Papal Letter to Canadian Bishops.

In connection with the commemoration of the third centenary of the founding of Quebec and the two hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the consecration of Mgr. de Laval, the first bishop, and the second centenary of the death of this saintly prelate, one of the glories of the Church in America, the Holy Father has issued the following pontifical document:

To Our Venerable Brothers Louis Nazaire, Archbishop of Quebec, and to the Archbishops and Bishops of the Dominion of Canada.

P. IUS X., POPE.

Venerable Brothers, health and Apostolic Benediction.

It is truly fitting that the immortal obligations conferred on us by our ancestors and the great deeds done by them should be commemorated at fixed and suitable periods—piety itself and gratitude invite us to do this, and the souvenir of great virtues also admonishes and urges us to work together for the cause of public prosperity.

This duty of gratitude you are, we believe about to fulfil in June on the occasion of the third centenary of the foundation of Quebec and of the second centenary of the death of Francois de Montmorency-Laval. And surely, when one reflects on the great soul of the hero and on the importance of your city of Quebec, it becomes clear that the noble nation of Canada has good reason to honor the double event by special demonstrations, nor is it at all surprising that even outside your country there should be such a great movement to make those feasts now being prepared, most solemn and most brilliant, as they already promise to be.

From this joyous concert of grateful souls we do not wish that our voice should be absent—the very special affection and the close ties that unite us to you would not permit that. For your historic life teaches you that while you are able to vie in social activity with the most progressive nations, you are second to none in safeguarding the religion of your forefathers. We know that, thanks be to God, in your country Christian institutions flourish and prosper, and that it is not alone private life which is permeated with the Catholic spirit, but also, as should be the case, public life, and even the organization and government of the State. Moreover, among you the Church enjoys a liberty greater perhaps than anywhere else; and in this fact you are pleased to recognize at once the courage and perseverance of the Catholic citizens and the just influence of the British regime.

But most of all are we pleased with your devotion towards our person. For if you have had manifest proofs of the kindness of the Roman Pontiff towards you, we, on our side, cannot doubt the affection and obedience with which you honor the Vicar of Jesus Christ. We had a very eloquent testimony of it years ago when our temporal dominion was attacked by armed enemies and the youth of Canada were the first to hasten in large numbers to the Roman Pontiff, ready to give their lives to defend the rights of the Apostolic See.

But in thus praising the virtues of Canadian people a great share of our eulogy must go to you, Venerable Brothers, and to your clergy, and to all those among the laity who are working with you for the defence and prosperity of the interests of religion. For it is owing on the one hand to your vigilance and care and on the other to the most prudent activity of those faithful that the Church of Canada has been enabled to maintain in all their beauty those works of the past and to strain forward towards an increasingly better future.

You will understand, therefore, how heartily we take part in your common joy, and this we do all the more willingly from the fact that on the occasion of the coming celebrations people will inevitably remember all that the Canadian nation, from its origin down to the present day, owes to the Catholic religion and to the Church.

Among the most distant memories of history stands out the figure of Samuel de Champlain, a Frenchman by birth, distinguished for his genius as well as for his courage, but still more distinguished for his Christian wisdom. Charged by the King of France to found a new colony on your continent, nothing was nearer his heart than the propagation of the name of Catholicism in those regions—he rightly deemed that he could not better serve his King than by procuring the glory of Jesus Christ. Thus from the very outset, by the foundation and dedication of a temple, he consecrated the cradle of Quebec, which was to be, as it were, the centre from which the influence of Christian civilization was to spread all over North America. Shortly after, animated by the hope of a more abundant harvest and with the cordial approval of this Apostolic See, he secured missionaries upon missionaries, from France, the first arrivals bringing others after them, who worked with what ardor we

know, in rescuing from savagery multitudes of the natives, and in civilizing and evangelizing them. Everybody knows that among all those apostles, the members of the Company of Jesus especially distinguished themselves—many of them, indeed, in the exercise of their sacred ministry, met with the cruel death of the martyr.

Champlain, too, with rare prudence, after having made such excellent provision for the conversion of the inhabitants of the country, took measures for preventing the licentiousness of newcomers from compromising the success of the works of the colony. Not everybody was permitted to cross to America—only those might do so who had given sufficient proofs of the practice of the Christian virtues. And it happened that when men of evil life penetrated into New France, care was taken to have them arrested and sent back to their own country. An admirable policy! and the fact that the French governors who succeeded Champlain maintained and followed it has, we are convinced, greatly contributed to the preservation of the faith and of Christian life among the Canadians.

These happy beginnings were wonderfully continued and built upon by the man chosen by Providence to be the first Bishop of Quebec. So many and so great were the happy results that adorned his long episcopate that he was in a manner the creator and the artificer of almost all the glory which continues even to-day to illuminate Canada and its Church. Reaching the diocese entrusted to him by the Roman Pontiff he began with all that courage, he possessed to develop the works successfully established there for the common weal, and he labored with the utmost diligence to organize such others as he thought opportune. Thus greatly enlarging the sphere of the religious missions, he sent all over North America, as far as the Gulf of Mexico and throughout the full extent of New France, the heralds of the gospel. To the missionaries he added nuns who served as precious aids to them in all their works and all the duties of Christian charity. Careful as he was to preserve the colonists from all corruption of morals, he was still more solicitous in preserving their faith from all danger. And at a time when many were imbued with the spirit of Gallicanism, and looking in deference for the Apostolic See, Francois de Laval required that in his diocese the liturgy should be in full conformity with the Roman rites and above all things he inspired his clergy with the affection and devotion which he himself professed for the Sovereign Pontiff; in short, thanks to his perfect wisdom he drew closer and strengthened forever that intimate union with the Roman Pontiff which, as we have already said, forms our greatest joy.

These services rendered to your country are surely great ones, but in our opinion the greatest of all of them is that Seminary of Quebec which Francois de Laval founded and organized with great wisdom. Thanks to that institution, the Canadian Church began to provide itself with numerous priests who formed in virtue and in knowledge, most devoted to the Sovereign Pontiff and their Bishops, united among themselves by a charity all fraternal, have fulfilled with great piety the duties of their ministry. From that same house excellent citizens have come forth at all times, well instructed in all that appertains to social life, and it is by their action, seconded by their Bishops, that the Canadian nation has acquired the rights and liberties which it now possesses.

That seminary still stands, a most noble monument of pastoral solicitude, preserving intact the character impressed on it and the spirit bequeathed to it by its founder. It is as it were the mother and the model of almost all the other institutions among you which are specially consecrated to the education of ecclesiastical youth. But it must be remembered especially—for this is the greatest glory of the Seminary of Quebec—that from this Seminary has been born, under the auspices of the Apostolic See and of the Canadian Episcopate, the Laval University, that splendid sanctuary of science and fortress of Catholic truth.

Finally, Francois Laval, as everybody knows, was the first to work to establish that concord between the ecclesiastical and the political power which very happily exists among you; and this serves to explain why, on the occasion of the honors that are about to be paid to him, the heads of the State are uniting with you in one common and unanimous sentiment.

The memory of all these great things which will be recalled by the solemn celebrations that are to take place should stimulate all the faithful of your country to render public thanks to God whose helpful Providence has brought such prosperity on Canada; it should also prove an invitation to them to love with more affectionate devotion the Church who through her most illustrious sons has constituted herself for

Bishop de Laval. Imposing Ceremony at Quebec at Unveiling of Monument by His Excellency Earl Grey.

It is estimated that fully a hundred thousand people were present at the unveiling of Mgr. de Laval, first Bishop of Quebec. We reproduce the following from a despatch to the Star of this city:

Spectators thronged the Dufferin Terrace and completely filled the park at the head of Mountain Hill, which was the scene of the old Parliament House. All the surrounding streets, the Grand Battery, the roofs and windows of buildings in the neighborhood were also crowded.

Some twenty archbishops and bishops and many hundreds of priests were amongst the guests. Traffic by way of Mountain Hill was naturally suspended.

His Excellency the Governor-General, who was accompanied by the Countess Grey and Lady Sybil Grey and Col. Hanbury-Williams, was escorted by the Queen's Own Canadian Hussars, and received by a guard of honor of the Royal Canadian Garrison Artillery, the band playing the National Anthem, as usual, upon His Excellency's arrival.

His Grace Archbishop Begin, who presided at the ceremony, received the Governor-General at the foot of the stand erected for the invited guests, and escorted him to a seat upon his right, while the Papal delegate, Mgr. Sharette, was seated on the left of His Grace.

The Priests' March, by Mendelssohn, was played by the band, and then the president of the Laval Monument Committee, Mr. Sirois, N. P., gave a short account of the work of the committee, thanking the subscribers, and saying that nothing remained to be done but to formally present the monument to the people of Quebec, after it had been duly unveiled by His Excellency the Governor-General.

Eight young children, four boys and four girls, each carrying a basket of flowers and the end of one of the ribbons hanging from the veil of the statue, advanced to the stand and presented the flowers and the ribbons to the Governor-General. The children represented the families of the four last bishops of Quebec: Turgeon, Baillargeon, Taschereau, and Begin.

As His Excellency pulled the ribbons, the slight drapery of the statue was raised, together with the garland that encircled the head of the Bishop, until the garland was caught up into the base of a magnificent crown suspended in mid-air some twenty feet directly over the head of Mgr. de Laval. The opening at the same time of a spring door in the crown, permitted a number of white doves to fly out, and flowers to fall upon the statue.

The troops presented arms and bombs thrown into the air fired a veritable salute and dropped small French and English flags and other mementoes of the occasion among the people.

His Excellency the Governor-General, amid applause, which lasted for a considerable time, expressed the pleasure with which he was present as representing His Majesty to lay a tribute of respect and homage at the foot of the bronze which was as imperishable as the name and the virtues of the great apostle of Canada, Francois Montmorency de Laval. Of all Canadian heroes, said His Excellency, Laval stands amongst the most noble. His devotion to works of charity, his care for the poor, and for the working classes, his work as an educator, his zeal for the conversion of the Indians and for their protection from the demoralizing influences of the liquor trade, no less than his work as first chief pastor of his people, merit the recognition of succeeding ages. His Excellency rejoiced that the liberality of British institutions was such that under the present regime the good work of Mgr. Laval had continued to flourish, and that the liberty and protection enjoyed by the church under British rule had been repaid by an unaltered loyalty to the Crown. He referred to the magnificent work done by Laval university, and to the character of the men whom it had produced.

City of Three Rivers Devastated.

Three Rivers was visited on Monday by the most disastrous fire ever known in its history. Almost a thousand persons are homeless, and more than a million dollars' worth of damage has been done, for the heart of the old city has been wiped out of existence. For half a mile square in the business section only blackened ruins remain, with a few gaunt chimneys standing intact. While furniture saved from the doomed buildings is piled upon the public square.

Starting in a wooden shed shortly after 12 o'clock, and fanned by a strong southwest wind, the fire had in one hour's time developed into a sea of flame, with which the local fire brigade of six men, assisted by volunteers, had to cope unaided until after eight o'clock, when the first outside contingent from Grande Mere arrived. Though the doomed district presented a vast scene of wild confusion, there was no loss of life.

Five banks and eleven hotels were burned to the ground in the pathway of the conflagration, and the old parish church of Three Rivers, originally built in 1664, and rebuilt in 1744, is destroyed, except for the walls, which remain standing. Near the church the Custom House is also in ruins. The latter building is also an historic one, having been used as a barracks in the past.

It was at first thought that the Ursuline convent was doomed, but the Quebec fire brigade stationed themselves in front of that and cut off the sweep of the flames just at the critical moment. Many of the townspeople believe, however, that the building was miraculously saved.

So sweeping was the conflagration that not far at least half a century will the city recover its former prosperity. The heart has been taken out of the city and only a fringe of residences and houses of inferior class remain.

Montreal sent down a detachment of the fire brigade, headed by Deputy Chief Tremblay. They worked in the business district.

Probably more fortunate for the portion of the city that still remains intact than even the quick arrival of outside firemen, however, was the presence of the 85th Regiment and the 11th Arquebuse Regiment, which had arrived for summer camp. They set to work to fight the flames as if they had been long accustomed to the work. To them also is largely due the credit of keeping down a panic, as men, women and children struggled out of their homes, carrying their furniture with them. Other soldiers were detailed to guard the furniture, as thousands of dollars' worth was piled upon Champlain Park.

By 7 o'clock the fire had been cut off, though it still continued to burn fiercely, and though the electric light had been cut off, the doomed area was well lighted by the flames that still burned in the ruins of what were once solidly-built stone buildings.

The principal buildings that fell a prey to the flames were: The Bell Telephone Company, the Great North Western, Dominion and Canadian Express buildings, and the main banking buildings, including the Hochelaga, Quebec and Provincial.

The fire started first at about ten minutes past twelve in a shed back of a livery stable on St. George st. How it started is a mystery, but in a few minutes flames from the shed were leaping into the air and had

SURROUND YOURSELF



With a liberal supply of Fine Furnishings. We have anything you want in Men's wear, everything is the latest and the prices are lower than other stores.

BRENNAN'S

2 Stores: 251 St. Catherine St. West East

INCIDENT NOW CLOSED.

Regret Expressed Over Occurrence in Y.M.C.A. Building.

(Gazette.)

When the late last procession of St. James' Cathedral last Sunday a little incident occurred which was regretted at the time by all who heard it, and which led yesterday to an apology being made to Archbishop Bruchesi. Several young men who were lodgers in the Y.M.C.A. building were interested in the crowd and being seized inadvertently by the spirit of levity began to whistle in unison an air from a comic opera just at the moment preceding Benediction of the Host. The interruption was marked though it lasted but a few seconds. The matter was referred to the secretary of the Y.M.C.A., who expressed his regret at what had occurred, making it clear that the Y.M.C.A. as an organization was not responsible for the acts of its lodgers. But Secretary Calhoun did not let the matter rest there. He called upon the young men for an explanation, and they seemed surprised at the turn of affairs. It was then recognized that an official disavowal was required. Secretary Calhoun readily consented to accompany the party to the archiepiscopal palace, where the Secretary of His Grace, who was absent, received them, and to whom they offered an apology for what had happened. The incident was then closed with expressions of good will on both sides. The whistling was, it appears, done more in a moment of forgetfulness than in ridicule, and the secretary of His Grace, in a courteous manner, assured his visitors that he was pleased to receive them, and declared their visit was a proof of their good-will.

The whistling was done from one of the upper windows of the Y.M.C.A. building by the young men who had been watching the procession for some time.

TRAGIC DEATH OF A YOUNG PRIEST.

The young secretary of His Lordship Bishop Emard, of Valleyfield, met an untimely death on Monday by drowning at Port Lewis. He had gone in the absence of the Bishop at Quebec, to the episcopal country house for a few days' rest. The boat was found floating in the bath which is right opposite the episcopal residence, and was taken to Valleyfield on Tuesday the funeral taking place this morning at 9.30. The deceased was but 25 years of age, and was ordained only last November after an exceptionally brilliant course at the Valleyfield College. He leaves to mourn their loss his mother, two sisters and three brothers. We desire to express our deep sympathy with Bishop Emard in the loss he has sustained, also the bereaved family.

No Me Ovides.

(From the Spanish.)
Forget-me-not, the parting hour has come,
And winged time bids me all haste depart.
A thousand things to tell you I had thought,
But I can only whisper this "Forget-me-not."
Perhaps on brighter shores when anchored, some
May greet me in sweet music of the heart;
Yet, I shall miss thee though in every spot
You walk with me and speak, my own Forget-me-not.
Hoist sail, O ship, and reach the port of home,
She calls, upon the hill I see her start,
And waving rocks she for me had brought,
I see above them all my own "Forget-me-not."
MAX WALTER MANNIX.

the dispenser of the Divine
bounties.
Your authority, Venerable Brothers, will ensure the fulfillment of all these common duties. You have inherited as a sacred legacy, the dignity and the glory of the most holy Bishop, and it is fitting that every day you should keep your eyes attentively fixed on the example he has left you.

For our part, that your centenary feasts may be fruitful for you, and for the abundance of heavenly gifts. As a pledge of these and as a testimony of our paternal affection, we receive the Apostolic Benediction which we grant most affectionately to the Lord to you, Venerable Brothers, to your clergy, and to your people.

Given at Rome, at St. Peter's, on the 31st day of March, 1908, in the fifth year of our Pontificate.
P. IUS X., POPE.