



CATHOLIC CHRONICLE.

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ST. PATRICK'S DAY

How Montreal Celebrated It.

GRAND MASS—NO PROCESSION

THE 1,389th ANNIVERSARY.

THE SERMONS.

The Concert and Addresses.

THE DAY ELSEWHERE.

In pursuance with the arrangements previously made the several Irish societies who had agreed to meet opposite St. Patrick's Hall, assembled March 17th between eight and nine o'clock.

"The chosen leaf of bard and chief." Irish flags were floating from many a window, and in some instances the tri-color of France could be seen flaunting gaily side by side with the green banner of Erin.

A more pleasant day could not be desired by those who participate in the celebration of Ireland's natal day, for the sun shone brightly above, while the air was sufficiently cold to prevent the snow from melting and making the road sloppy.

Mass was celebrated in St. Patrick's Church by His Reverend Bishop Fabre, after which the Rev. Father Bray ascended the pulpit to deliver

THE ANNIVERSARY SERMON.

"Instead of speaking to-day I would fain remain silent and contemplate in reverence, and with feelings of ecstasy and enthusiastic rapture the truly Catholic character of this glorious celebration in which it is our privilege to participate.

IN THE CHARACTER OF A MISSIONARY,

but there were stronger and holier influences which determined to carry out the impulse of his heart; and when the struggle between combatant influences was over an angel was sent to convey to him the message of the Irish people.

"Our Father and our friend, come, oh! come, to teach us the doctrine of the true God."

In course of time His Holiness Pope Celestine sent St. Patrick to Ireland. The Saint obeyed, and in pursuit of his onerous duties he lived there for over three-score years, and died with the pleasure of seeing the Island converted to the true faith.

A PROSPEROUS PEOPLE IN IRELAND,

as some historians would tell us. He found a people who knew the value of precious metals; who knew the value of the arts, embracing both music and science; St. Patrick was for years amongst them, reclining on his pastoral staff; he came unknown to them; he explained the beauties of the mountain ranges, how the turf-clad hills were beauteous in their robes of green; he told them why their lakes seemed with living food.

Apostle. He knew full well the value of earthly wealth and sought not thereafter. It is forgotten in a few centuries at the utmost, while

THE MEMORIES OF SAINTS

live forever, until the latter end of time. We should also remember that the saints were as brave as the bravest warriors, and have done deeds of daring which exceeded those of the most chivalrous and boldest soldiers; deeds from which they would have shrunk.

IRELAND REMAINED STRAIGHT

and not for a single hour did she prove recreant to the trust. St. Patrick prayed for three blessings for Ireland. In the first petition he asked that the men of Ireland should be rich in gold and silver.

COMPARED WITH OTHER COUNTRIES,

Ireland seems to possess a singular fate. It is the only nation which entered the fold of Jesus Christ unstained by the blood of martyrs. She built up a Church which became light and a power of future government.

THE SCANDINAVIAN CORSAIRS

proposed to invade the country; it was all-important to meet them, and the element which could be counted on to take the field against the invader was distracted with internal dissensions, occasioned by provincial jealousies. On the other hand, the foes were without religion and bent on conquering the country.

ATTEMPT AGAINST CATHOLIC IRELAND

and to prevail upon her to accept of the Protestant faith, the system of proselytizing forced upon the people was done by England, the chosen nation, than whom no better instrument could be found.

truth and religion by disseminating the Catholic truths throughout New Zealand, United States and Canada. These facts briefly stated, all assist to prove that Ireland is chosen for a great mission as truly divine as that of Saul of Tarsus, for which God chose her from the beginning, and from which He preserved her from all danger.

At the occasion of Mass the societies

At an early hour in the morning the streets in the neighborhood of St. Bridge's Church were crowded with persons eager to catch a glimpse of the societies, which were to participate in the demonstration.

At the occasion of Mass the societies quietly dispersed their homes without any addresses being delivered.

"For I will show him how great things he must suffer for my name's sake."

Deep feelings of joy and sorrow are pressing in your hearts on this festival of St. Patrick's, which reminds us all of the noble blood from which we spring.

Shortly after eight o'clock, Mr. F. B. McNamee, President of St. Patrick's Society, appeared on the platform, arm in arm with Mr. John O'Donohoe, Q. C., of Toronto.

Mr. F. B. McNamee, in opening the concert, referred to the progress made by St. Patrick's Society, and the benefits it had conferred on their fellow-countrymen in distress.

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the principle of her national strength. Find me another nation standing obliterated from the face of the earth.

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notably in one instance. He desired to thank Mr. Douglan for that gentleman's courtesy towards them, for the *Witness* had published a very elegant advance notice of the festival held that evening.

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