

DOINGS IN THE ANCIENT CAPITAL.

The Site of the New Bridge Across the St. Lawrence.

The Provincial Exhibition Now in Progress—The Hum of Prosperity is Heard in the Historic Districts of the Old City.

QUEBEC, Sept. 13.

At the present time old Quebec is astir with commercial projects designed to lift her to a higher mercantile status, and to give her a more commanding position among the rival cities of the Dominion in the keen contest for the growing business of the country. The construction of the proposed bridge across the St. Lawrence is one of the problems to be dealt with now, and as it involves millions of dollars, engineering experts have been exercising their professional skill to find a proper site for the proposed great structure. After months of practical tests and foundation borings, the engineers have made their reports, and have agreed that at the Chaudiere is the right place to bridge the great river. Many Quebecers favored the idea of spanning the river directly in front of the city; others at the Isle d'Orleans. Both of those sites, however, proved impracticable when subjected to the test of expert engineers, except at a cost that would be ruinous or prohibitory of the carrying out of the scheme. So that the choice is narrowed to the acceptance of a bridge at Chaudiere or no bridge at all. The last named point is some distance above the city; hence the objections to it; but on account of its cheapness and adaptability, and for the sake of securing the long desired highway, all objections will be smoothed away, and the "Ancient Capital" will rejoice in the possession of this great commercial link which will unite her with the outside world in all seasons of the year. The project once realized others will follow suit, and the venerable city will rise with renewed commercial vigor to assert her prominence in the race for business and mercantile importance that of right belongs to the old centre that flourished before her present day rivals had existence at all.

This week the Provincial Exhibition is in full blast. Its buildings have been greatly enlarged and improved, and throughout all its branches, this season a newly imparted vigor and energy seem noticeable. This is chiefly due to the care and vigilant efforts of the Board of Management and its energetic and wide-awake secretary treasurer, Mr. P. T. Legare, who is himself a shrewd practical man of business and a prominent manufacturer in this city. Exhibits have poured in from all quarters; those representing the products of the soil being very numerous and creditable. The machinery departments attest the march of science and the increasing labors and genius of the inventors. The minerals for which the Province of Quebec is noted, are here in profusion, and the exhibits from the Lake St. John district prove the rapid advance made by that region within the past decade, and its future possibilities as a great commercial factor in the resources of the province. Samples of wheat and grains, fruits and vegetables, from Roberval and the rich soil along the shores of Lake St. John, prove the agricultural capabilities of the locality, and will act as an encouragement to intending settlers. Here may be noticed a very pleasing circumstance to the credit of the Quebec and Lake St. John Railway, which first opened up the cold region named, and yet continues to offer many facilities to its inhabitants. In this case it carries the exhibitor's goods to, and from, the exhibition grounds free of charge.

From the recently closed exposition at Sherbrooke an abundance of exhibits have been brought here, together with the rare show of choice cattle from the famous stock yards of Hon. Senator Cochrane, of Compton, "Hillhurst." The Eastern Townships division altogether makes a prime display, showing the richness of that fine farming region, which may be called the garden of the province.

The show of thoroughbred horses of the racing qualities was ample enough to delight the hearts of all the sporting men of the Dominion; in this branch \$2,500 in prizes are offered, added to an aggregate of \$12,000 in general prizes. After the results of this year's exhibition it may be predicted that this popular institution, held annually in Quebec, will take higher rank among Canadian autumn fairs, and that its success in the future is assured. I would like, had I space, to give particulars of some at least of the splendid displays made by leading Quebec firms, such as the famous house of Mr. Z. Paquet, now headed by the Hon. Arthur Paquet, recently elevated to the Senate at Ottawa; Mr. J. B. Laliberté, G. R. Renfrew & Co., etc., noted furriers. The first named house has risen to fame and prosperity through the efforts of the venerable Mr. Z. Paquet, who, after fifty years of commercial life, retired a few months ago in favor of his sons. The goods exhibited by this firm are mostly of its own manufacture. The glove and fur manufacturing establishments at Mars Point, and in other buildings attached to the main foundation in St. Joseph street, employ hundreds of hands in the shaping of the raw material into the elegant article to be sold over the counter.

Apart from these things, named, and the presence of the International Conference and its attendant following of rich American visitors, the old city is getting ready for the discharge of a great many entertainments and social functions which are to run all through the autumn season. It is "putting its house in order," ridding old streets, putting down asphalt pavements in its leading thoroughfares, weeding out unbecoming eyesores, decayed monuments of the past, presenting its best side to the yearly increasing influx of American and European tourists, and awaking to an idea of its own prestige generally.

It feels the glory and the worth of the historic fame it has accumulated during the 290 years of its existence, and the memorable events through which it has passed, the sanguinary battle fields it owns, its unique geographical situation, unrivalled scenery, the glorious traditions of its early martyrs for the sacred cause of faith and fatherland, and above all for its good fortune in being the cradle-land of Christianity and civilization in the New World.

This is a combination that no other city in the Western hemisphere can boast of, and old Quebec is justly proud of its inheritance. Grouping all its attractive features together, it presents to outsiders and all foreign travellers a unique magnetism which they can't resist or find equalled elsewhere—and its outside surroundings are as romantic as the old city itself is irresistible and inviting. Nature itself, has bestowed this distinctive mark upon it and no art of man can ever change the conditions. The progressive spirit of the age may tear out many of the old landmarks and plant new structures in their stead, still the old memories and traditions will remain and the events that history has inscribed on the old city's records will endure. Some hardened matter of fact travellers are disappointed with Quebec at first sight, especially if they happen to arrive on a muddy day, when its lower levels look their worst, and its narrow, crooked and irregular streets appear uninviting, but the sober second thought will repair all this impression on the morrow when the sparkling sunshine reveals the fascination of the outward landscape, and the spectator takes into account the varied history of the venerable city through all its vicissitudes.

"To its virtues be very kind,
And to its faults a little blind."
WM. ELLISON.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS IN MONTREAL.

Some Interesting Statistics of the Attendance.

Increase in the Number of Pupils this Term—Proceedings at the Meeting of School Commissioners.

Few people reflect seriously upon the vast amount of responsibility which rests upon those who are charged with the education of the youth of this city. It amounts to the government of a small world and includes the guardianship of the moral and physical training and moulding of a majority of the future men and women of the community. The duties of the School Commissioners of Montreal are indeed no sinecure; they are arduous, solemn and deeply important. They have to render an account of their stewardship both to God and to man, for the well-being of tens, ay, hundreds of thousands depend upon the direction which is given to their education, and this is in the hands primarily of the members of the commission. That their work is shared and lightened by the splendid corps of male and female teachers which constitute the staff of the many educational establishments of Montreal, is admitted, and it is no depreciation of the Board to say that without this invaluable support they would be powerless to manage the vast system placed under their control. It is an immense work and requires, and fortunately has, all the machinery necessary for working it, as is evidenced by the facts contained in the following reports submitted at the last meeting of the commission.

The regular meeting of the Catholic School Commission of Montreal took place on Tuesday evening, the Very Rev. Vicar-General Racicot presiding. There were present Rev. Father Leclerc and Rev. J. Quinlivan, pastor of St. Patrick's, together with Messrs. Beaulieu, Martinneau, P. J. Hart, B. Connaughton, and Mr. U. E. Archambault, the secretary treasurer.

The first business was the nomination of two professors for Montcalm school, this being necessitated by the very considerable increase in the number of pupils attending that institution. The two professors named were Messrs. Gelineau and Bond. By the appointment of these two gentlemen the commissioners say they have effected a saving of \$1,750.

Mr. Archambault presented the report of the principals of the several schools on the number of pupils registered up to the present for the current year. The following is the number in attendance at each particular school:

The Commercial Academy.....	369
Montcalm School.....	528
Champlain School.....	639
Sarsfield School.....	683
Belmont School.....	324
Olier School.....	494
St. Mary's School.....	496
Institution of the Young Blind.....	39
Madame Marchand's School.....	348
Madame Cronin's School.....	60
Madame Richer's School.....	60
Madame McKay Wolfe's School.....	62
Miss Labelle's School.....	200
Miss Campbell's School.....	14

of the Christian Brothers and of the Nuns of the Congregation of Notre Dame:

AT THE SCHOOLS OF THE BROTHERS	
St. Joseph's, St. Martin Street.....	618
St. James'.....	580
St. Patrick's.....	389
St. Lawrence.....	477
St. Anne's.....	486
Soulanges.....	178
St. Gabriel's.....	440
St. Bridget's.....	314
Sacred Heart.....	989
Academy.....	177
5089	

There are besides these, Mount St. Louis, the Archbishop's Academy, and the Schools of St. James', St. Patrick's, and St. Lawrence, receiving no aid from the Commissioners.

The attendance at the schools under the direction of the Nuns of the Congregation is divided as follows.

UNDER CONTROL OF THE COMMISSIONERS.	
The Bourgeois Academy.....	1180
The Visitation Academy.....	574
The St. Joseph's Academy.....	574
The St. Anne's Academy.....	315
The St. Patrick's Academy.....	347
The St. Catherine's Academy.....	602
The Notre Dames Anges Academy.....	180
The Notre Dame de Bon Conseil Academy.....	240
St. Agnes' Academy.....	188
The School of Notre Dame.....	42
The School of St. Alphonsus.....	80
The School of St. Louis.....	370
The School of St. Charles.....	261
The School of Notre Dame de Grace.....	66
5019	

The following is the list of and attendance at those schools which receive no state assistance and are classed as INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS.

Villa Maria.....	176
Mount St. Mary.....	260
The St. Denis Academy.....	171
The St. Anthony's Academy.....	125
The St. Leon Academy.....	150
The St. Urban Academy.....	157
St. Lawrence School.....	242
St. Anthony's School.....	134
Bonne-croix School.....	160
St. Ursuline's School.....	221
1796	
5019	
6815	

The following is the distribution of pupils attending the schools under the direction of the Sisters of Providence:

Salle d'Azile, Fullum street.....	343
Visitation street.....	287
St. Vincent de Paul classes, St. Denis street.....	157
787	

Of these several teaching institutions, that on Visitation street is the only one that receives assistance from the Commissioners. The Academy of St. John the Baptist, at Point St. Charles, under the nuns of the Congregation of the Holy Cross and Seven Dolors, has an attendance of 634 pupils.

ST. MARY'S PARISH.

The Interior of the Church to be Decorated—Subscribers to the Fund to Defray the Cost.

St. Mary's Calendar in, its last issue, says: "The Church is a beautiful one. Few enter it without falling in love with its piety inspiring attractions. Yet it is now sadly in need of an almost entire internal beautifying operation. Will the admirers of our cherished shrine give expression to the extent of this love and admiration? The most persuasive and at the same time the most convincing answer we can now receive must come in the form of dollars and cents."

We hereby give the list already prepared for this praiseworthy object:

Mr. W. H. Schultz.....	\$50.00
Mr. Thos. Heffernan.....	60.00
Mr. John McIlhenny.....	60.00
Miss May Mullins.....	5.00
A friend.....	1.00
Mr. Wm. Dunley.....	2.00
Mr. A. J. Snowers.....	10.00
Mrs. McHugh.....	5.00
Mr. Christopher McGuire.....	5.00
Miss Mary Reilly.....	5.00
Mr. Jas. Murphy.....	0.50
Mr. Wm. Coughlin.....	5.00
Mr. Francis McGovern.....	5.00
Mr. James Clark.....	1.00
Mrs. Street.....	5.00
Mr. J. Street.....	5.00
Mr. W. Street.....	5.00
Mrs. Connaughton.....	5.00
Mrs. Geo. Singleton.....	5.00
Mr. Jas. Mullaly.....	20.00
Mr. John McCall.....	10.00
Mr. John Sheehan.....	40.00
Mr. P. McCall.....	10.00
Mr. Thomas Goulet.....	5.00
Mr. T. Sullivan.....	1.00
Mrs. Nicholas Smith.....	5.00
Miss Mary Murphy.....	2.00
Mrs. Jas. Fairburn.....	5.00
Mrs. P. Norton.....	25.00
Mrs. William Thompson.....	5.00
Mr. John Cleary.....	5.00
Mr. Wm. Brennan.....	5.00
Mrs. Peter Ryan.....	5.00
Mr. Luke Mullin.....	5.00
Mr. Thomas McDonnell.....	5.00
Mrs. P. Fox.....	5.00
Mrs. Geo. Faingale.....	5.00
Mr. John Dwyer.....	5.00
Mrs. Thos. Hammel.....	0.25
Mr. Pat. Carroll.....	1.00
Mrs. P. McCall.....	1.00
Mrs. Thos. Harvey.....	1.00
Mr. Lavery.....	0.75
Mr. J. Rigney.....	1.00
Mr. Boyce Cianey.....	5.00
Mrs. Thomas Hammel.....	1.00
Mrs. Callaghan.....	5.00
Mrs. G. Snyder.....	2.00
Miss Finerty.....	1.00
Mr. Jos. Burns.....	3.00
Mrs. Stephen Blount.....	2.00
Mrs. O'Neill.....	10.00
Mr. Francis Lawlor.....	2.00
Mrs. Francis Lawlor.....	2.00
Miss Mary Ann Lawlor.....	2.00
Mr. L. J. A. Derome.....	5.00
Mr. Hugh Butler.....	5.00
Mr. R. J. Perry.....	5.00
Mr. W. Brennan.....	5.00

CATHOLIC SCENES IN ENGLAND.

Open Air Preaching in Hyde Park, London.

Some of the Speakers and Their Style—The Part Which the Guild of Ransom Takes in the Work.

REV. THOMAS HUGHES, S.J., contributes a very interesting article to the current number of the Messenger of the Sacred Heart, under the title of Catholic Scenes in London. We take the following extract, which describes the Sunday meetings in Hyde Park, from it.

The Hyde Park preaching is a noteworthy manifestation of the religious sentiment, which is so deep in the heart of the English people. On any Sunday in the year, one may find some afternoon services going on near the Marble Arch; but in the summer months the development they receive is quite extraordinary to a stranger. I have counted as many as fifteen preachers at one time, round the bend of the ample sidewalk and in the meadows adjoining. And from about three p.m. to six o'clock, a place as soon as vacated by one preacher is promptly taken up by another speaker and another concourse. Some of the speakers devote their attention and that of their hearers only to social or socialistic matters, anti Catholic or infidel. But the greater number treat of religion, a little of it being dogmatic, the rest of it a vapory morality.

There are Salvationists here and there; a couple of Hebrew preachers with standards corresponding; and I saw the peculiar case of a German Hebrew delivering, as it were, by inspiration (or from memory) a biblical flow of text, which another Hebrew, who spoke English imperfectly, translated it as it fell from the master's lips. There is a colored preacher, of old standing; his raven hair is as black as his face, longer far than conventional admittance, though not out of keeping with the pitch of his voice, and the spasmodic explosion of his lungs. A smooth, oily, smiling talker of St. James' West End Mission comes with a splendid standard, escorted by a party of devout ladies, who bring their voices and their smiles to help him, while the orchestra which has marched with him to the Marble Arch will take up the strains there again to march the conquering hero back in triumph, when his smiles have melted hard hearts, and his oily eloquence flowed with his honey.

It may be interesting to note that the site of the old Tyburn, with its recollections of the hanging and quartering of old Catholic heroes, is just there, outside of the gate, hard by the scene of all these religious demonstrations. Then there is the anti Catholic zealot, who is being nagged and badgered by some innocent looking young questioners; and I have a strong suspicion that they are Catholics and Irishmen to boot—a suspicion which becomes a certainty, on my finding one of them subsequently setting up the speaking stand for Mr. Moore and the Guild of Ransom.

There is the talker about things in general, the funny man at the far end of the line, who can joke and blaspheme like Ingersoll, and always has a large crowd; but I observed, on one occasion, at least, that he was having a hard time of it, from I could not see whom; only I did see that the Park policeman came to the rescue. Particularly striking is the Protestant monk of the John street community, close by Farm street; he is dressed in clock, cow, scapular, triple cord round his waist, and a dark habit. The head of the community is the son of Aberley, Lord Norton. Not to mention others there, we have our own preacher, a layman of the Guild of Ransom. It is Mr. Lister Drummond or Mr. Moore, who take the stand on alternate Sundays.

This Guild of Ransom, like the Catholic evidence lectures in the town halls, is under the general management of Mr. Vaughan, whom the Cardinal has commissioned with the charge of this apostleship. The Guild has some three sets of lectures going on in the parks, to wit, Hyde Park, Regent's and Victoria. The subject, which the lawyer Mr. Drummond treated, was the Bible as a rule of faith; and he handled it extremely well, talking as a layman to laymen, and drawing copious illustrations from his profession of law. He talked with great deliberation and courtesy. Mr. Moore, whose profession I do not know, was treating, while I heard him, the popular fallacies about the Catholic Church; and the vivacity, point and vigor, with which he disposed of such ideas as persecution by the church, the condemnation of every one outside of her pale, etc., were marred to my mind by only one drawback, that he spoke with such rapidity as scarcely to allow his excellent points time enough to come quite home. Both lecturers announced at the beginning, or when occasion required it, that plenty of time should be allowed for questions or objections at the end. Still, either of them might stop a moment to notice an intrusive remark from some irrepressible interlocutor, and that with perfect self-possession. Someone interrupted Mr. Moore, who answered with a word. The other rejoined that he could not stand there and listen to such a thing. "Then go elsewhere," resumed the lecturer, quietly taking up the broken thread of his discourse, as if no interruption had occurred.

These two speakers and the cultured Protestant monk were totally apart, in style of language and thought, from the ordinary run of talkers round about them. It was a positive pleasure to listen to them. The monk spoke of faith one Sunday, of hope on another, and so forth. I was told that he had fallen in to this ministry by accident. He and another happened to be passing by, when one of the preachers attacked them. They stood and listened awhile, then one of them replied: the crowd

gathered round; he continued speaking; the first talker tried to reclaim his auditory; but they would not come. And the monk started a course.

It takes but a small looking crowd of men, standing shoulder to shoulder, to make a company of three hundred listeners. Certainly, at any given time of a Sunday afternoon, there must be several thousands of listeners, massed in a dense line round the speakers. From the moment when the young man planted the little stand, inscribed, "The Guild of Ransom," for Mr. Moore to mount, there formed a solid company of hearers, six feet deep, within thirty seconds; and in another minute or two they were nine deep. While I stood there, I heard some one speaking behind me. I looked round, and saw the monk addressing a crowd fully as deep as our own. It was no longer the same speaker as on former Sundays; another of his community had taken his place.

While the park is all alive with people taking their Sunday walk, various feelings, no doubt, bring individuals within the circle of the preachers. But I believe the religious sentiment, for or against the speaker, is the predominant motive, and that is not merely a barren curiosity. When our lecturer made some statement about the means of salvation being within the Church, and not outside, a man behind me exclaimed in a subdued voice of great indignation: "Just hear him! Did you ever hear the like?"

As I walked away with a young American, who had lately been received into the Church, I asked whether he

thought in America a man could stand up in a street, and gather at once a through to hear about religion. He thought there was only one person who could do so, the Anarchist in Chicago, and his subject would not be religious; nor would his auditory be any respectable part of the populace.

LADIES' AUXILIARY, DIVISION NO. 1.

At the last monthly meeting of the above Division, the following resolution was adopted:—

Resolved: That we, the members of Division No. 1, express our deep sorrow for the loss sustained by our esteemed sisters, the Misses Maggie and Jane O'Connor, in the death of their beloved father, whom it has pleased Our Heavenly Father to call to himself from a world of pain and care. We earnestly hope our beloved Saviour and His blessed Mother will comfort them in their great affliction.

Resolved: That a copy of this be inserted in the minutes of this meeting, also in St. Mary's Calendar and TRUE WITNESS.

SARAH ALLAN,
MARY McMAHAN,
SARAH COSTRAN,
Committee.

The longest span of telegraph wire in the world is in India, over the River Krishna. It is over six thousand feet in length.

COMING
Sept. 22nd
" 23rd

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KARN HALL.

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NOW that autumn weather is with us, it behooves all to look out for a change in clothing, and remember that delays are dangerous and that procrastination is the thief of time. Therefore, make up your mind to buy and come right here for your wants, as our prices are always the lowest.

500 yards Fancy Brocade Dress Goods, worth \$1.50 for 75c.

500 yards Fancy Tweed Effect Dress Goods, worth 60c. for 40c.

200 yards Beautiful Black Crepon, worth \$1. for 75c.

700 yards handsome Black Figured Dress Goods, worth 65c. for 50c.

100 yards Ladies' Black Figured Skirts, at \$1.50 \$2.00 \$2.50 and up.

250 yards Fancy Brocade Silks, worth 40c. for 20c.

750 yards Tartan Check Silks, worth \$1.25 for 90c.

50 yards 84 Gray Cotton Sheet, worth 15c. for 12c.

600 yards 84 Bleached Cotton Sheet, worth 23c. for 16c.

1000 yards Good Grey Cotton 36 inch, worth 7c. for 5c.

1000 yards Fancy Dress Flannelettes, worth 15c. for 10c.

500 pairs Ladies' Cashmere Ribbed Hose, worth 30c. for 25c.

500 pairs Ladies' Black Woolen Hse, worth 25c. for 15c.

1000 yards Fancy Ribbons, a job lot, your choice for 10c. a yard.

500 pairs Men's Heavy Drawers, to clear at 20c. pair.

500 Men's Heavy Winter Undershirts, to clear at 20c. each.

500 sets Men's All Wool Suits and Drawers \$1.00 a set.

100 Boys' Shirts and Drawers, worth 25c. each, for 15c. each.

50 only Boys' Scotch Caps, cheap at 40c. for 25c.

250 pairs Men's Heavy Wool Bicycle Stockings, 6c. for 35c. pair.

750 Big Big Boys' Best Laundry Soap, worth 10c. for 7c.

500 Last Fall's Jackets, in all colors and qualities, cheap, cheap.

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