

RELIGIOUS.

CATHOLIC.

The Very Rev. Neil McLeod, Vicar-General of the diocese of Antigonish, was recently made a domestic prelate to the pope. This honor was conferred on Monsignor McLeod on the occasion of his golden jubilee to the priesthood, which he recently celebrated. May he be long spared to further the good work he has been zealously engaged in during his long and good life.

Mgr. Palma, Archbishop of Bucharest, is building a magnificent ecclesiastical seminary, towards which the pope has contributed \$40,000.

Tuesday, 25th ult., was the first anniversary of the first pontifical mass celebrated in Copenhagen since the Reformation.

Cardinal Lilliani, the famous theologian, whose works almost every Catholic ecclesiastic must be familiar with, has been appointed prefect of the Congregation of Indulgences and Holy Relics, in succession to the late Cardinal Franzelin.

The Parisian Commune now demands that the grand cathedral of Notre Dame de Paris be razed to the ground.

The order of Jesuits is now over 350 years old. It has furnished 340 saints, 1,500 martyrs, 20 popes, 60 cardinals, 4,000 archbishops, 6,000 authors, and 2,500 missionaries.

The ladies composing the Children of Mary, St. Joseph's parish, in this city, intend giving a dramatic performance in the Lyceum about the middle of this month, the proceeds of which will be devoted to alleviating poverty and distress.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND.

The Church of England Institute of this city will hold its anniversary service in St. George's Church on Feb. 15th, not Feb. 8th as previously announced.

Rev. F. F. Goo, bishop designate of Melbourne, will be consecrated in Westminster Abbey on St. Matthias' Day, Feb. 24.

The sum needed for the endowment of the bishopric of Wakefield has been completed.

Another church middle-class boys' school, in connection with the corporation of St. Nicolas' College, founded by Rev. Canon Woodard, has been built and opened at Ellesmere, in Shropshire. £60,000 sterling has been spent on Denstone College, the chapel of which cost £11,000, and is to be consecrated by the Archbishop of Canterbury in July. The Ellesmere school above mentioned is yet another outcome of the zeal and liberality of churchmen of the midland diocese. The school is constructed for 500 boys and is already full. The fees for board and education are eighteen guineas a year. In the same neighborhood have been established two boarding schools for girls on freehold sites at a further outlay of £11,000.

The Woman's Jubilee movement, which has for its object a personal offering to the Queen from women of all classes and opinions, is assuming important proportions, and bids fair to become one of the most remarkable developments of the Jubilee year. The central committee is composed of ladies of the highest social standing.

PRESBYTERIAN.

On the 23rd ult., a new Presbyterian Church was dedicated at Baddeck. It is a very neat and commodious building, and is quite an addition to the town.

Knox Church, St. Thomas, Ontario, has during the past year grown to such an extent under the pastoral care of the Rev. F. W. Archibald, formerly of Amherst, that it is proposed to establish another congregation in that town.

The Rev. Mr. Gerrior was inducted into the pastorate of the Presbyterian Church at Summerside, P. E. Island, on Tuesday last.

BAPTIST.

Last month a new Baptist Church was dedicated at Argyle, Yarmouth County.

The Rev. J. W. H. Stewart, of Hamilton, Ontario, who has been for four years secretary of the Foreign Mission Board in connection with the Baptist Church in the Upper Provinces, has received a call from Rochester, N. Y. This will be a severe loss, as he is one of the ablest preachers in the denomination.

On a recent Sunday, at Fairville, Ky., a new Baptist Church was dedicated. It was erected on the site of the building where the Confederate President, Jefferson Davis, was born. The ground was purchased and given to Mr. Davis, who in turn gave it for the location of a Baptist Church.

METHODIST.

The report of the Missionary Society of the Methodist Church of Canada for 1886, shows an increase in the receipts over the previous year. The total amount raised was \$189,811.37, or an average of within a fraction of one dollar per member. Gratton St. Church of this city, contributed last year for missions, \$2,751.

On account of illness the Rev. R. Brecken will be unable to occupy the pulpit of Gratton St. Church for a week or two.

Last Friday evening the Rev. J. L. Batty delivered a very interesting lecture on "A week among the sights of London," in the Robie Street Church.

CHIT-CHAT.

The Bible published in Latin in 1435 is the earliest complete printed book known.

The Lennox property on Central Park, which in 1864 was valued at \$9,000,000, and now far exceeds that sum, was brought by Robert Lennox in 1818 for \$6,920. In his will he advised his son to keep it, as "it may at no distant day be the site of a village."

The population of Austria proper is 22,701,683, and of Hungary, 16,117,288, giving the total population of the Austro-Hungarian empire at 38,818,971. In addition, Bosnia and Herzegovina, at present occupied and administered by Austria, have a population of over a million and a half.

METEOR SHOWERS.—Prof. Richard A. Proctor maintains that most of the meteor streams with which the earth comes in contact are derived from the earth itself; that is, thrown off by volcanic action at a time when the internal forces of our planet were sufficiently active to give the initial velocity, some twelve miles a second, requisite to carry them beyond the earth's attraction.

AN ELECTRIC SOLDERING IRON.—A "new" soldering iron has been introduced. It is described as "a kind of Jablochkoff's candle, which is welded so that the blindingly hot flame at its tip is made to melt the surfaces, or the edges of the surfaces which are to be soldered together." The effect is said to be very satisfactory, and the action as good under water as in the air; the heat is so intense and localised within such a small space. This is an idea which has been before worked out and patented by the late Richard Werdemann.—*Electrical Review*.

A traveller in Australia discovered two toadstools which at night gave out an extremely curious light. When the plant was laid upon a newspaper it emitted by night a phosphorescent light which enabled persons to read the words around it, and it continued to do so for several nights with gradually increasing intensity as the fungus dried up. The other species was detected some years afterward. This specimen measured sixteen inches in diameter, and weighed about five pounds. This plant was hung up to dry in the sitting-room, and on passing through the apartment in the dark it was observed to give out the same remarkable light.

PRINTING BY ELECTRICITY.—The *American Inventor*, of Cincinnati, a large monthly journal, says:—"We print this month's issue, for the first time by means of electricity. The Sprague motor is used, and is an immense advance on any other kind of power. We are running four presses with a single motor, and it is quite a novelty in action. The motor is built in a very substantial manner, and there are no parts that wear rapidly even with ordinary care. The expense for repairs cannot amount to 10 per cent. of that required for either steam, gas, or hot-air engines, and we now see no reason why it will not give, for many years to come, as good results as at present."

THE DYNAMITE GUN CRUISER.—The recent announcement that Messrs. William Cramp & Sons, shipbuilders, of Philadelphia, have contracted to construct a dynamite cruiser for the American Government, marks an important event of marine warfare. The cruiser, to be built of steel, is to be 230 feet long, 26 feet wide, with 7½ feet draught, and of 3,200 horsepower, and to have the high rate of speed of twenty knots an hour. Her chief armament will be three dynamite guns. The peculiarity of this ordnance, which is an American invention, is that, instead of hurling a projectile by means of an explosion in the breech of the cannon, the explosion is transferred to the point of impact on the enemy's vessel.

ANIMAL SAGACITY.—While several Kingston men were conversing the other night regarding the intelligence of animals, one man said that he owned a mule once that, when ploughing, recognized the sound of the dinner-horn. It could distinguish a particular horn from all the other horns in the neighborhood. Whenever it heard that horn it would immediately raise its voice and commence to bray. Another man said that once upon a time he owned a horse upon a farm, and the horse, too, became well acquainted with the sound of the dinner-horn, and in ploughing corn or doing any other work of that kind the driver would be forced to stop, unhitch and take the horse to dinner, for the animal would refuse to plough any longer. No matter how well the horse worked, making a bee-line across the fields in running the plough, its course would be for the gate the moment it heard the horn. "Now didn't that horse think, and didn't he reason with himself, 'That means dinner?'"

THE HOLY LAND.—The *London Spectator* tells of remarkable progress in Palestine. The population of that once-favored land is, it seems, increasing steadily. Commerce is making rapid strides, and manufactures are being instituted. Seaports and inland towns are growing almost out of recognition to those who had seen them twenty years ago, and land has risen very greatly in value. As an instance of this rise it is stated that a piece of property in Jaffa (Joppa) which would scarcely have sold for £5 twenty years ago is now worth more than £50. Bethlehem has been almost entirely rebuilt and greatly improved. Jerusalem is being modernized, and a new city is growing up outside the walls, which bids fair to be more populous than the old city before many years. Agriculture is also attracting greater attention. Large orchards are being planted, and considerable sums have been invested in cattle raising. If the people could only have the protection of a free, strong and righteous government, Palestine might yet again rise to take her place as a power among the nations of the earth.