

berry Guards and the Jardin De L'Enfance Cadets. There was a choir of fully four hundred voices which sang certain portions of the Mass with band accompaniment. The effect was magnificent. Opposite the altar some five hundred seats had been placed for the officers of the various societies and the invited guests.

"Among those on the front seats were His Honor Lieut.-Gov. Jette, with Major Sheppard, his A.D.C.; Judge Loranger, the President; Mayor Prefontaine, L. O. David, Jos. Royal, Jas. McShane, J. G. H. Bergeron, M.P., J. X. Perrault, A. Lariviere, M.P., Judge Wurtele and the officers of the societies and the ladies accompanying them."

After Mass a sermon was preached by the Rev. Avila Belanger, parish priest of Maisonneuve. Archbishop Bruchesi then came forward and said that the great day was one which caused him the utmost satisfaction. It was a great spectacle which they gave in being united in their love of country and submission to God. In view of this day, he had thought of the Holy Pontiff who had received him with open arms on the occasion of his first visit to Rome, and had blessed them all. His Grace had cabled to Rome, informing His Holiness of the celebration, and had just received the following reply from Cardinal Rampolla:

"Holy Father blesses all the Catholics who are celebrating the feast of their Patron Saint, St. Jean Baptiste."

At a signal the immense gathering then knelt and His Grace pronounced the Papal benediction, adding that he granted forty days indulgence.

The proceedings were then brought to a conclusion by cheers being given, at the request of Rev. Canon Racicot, for the Pope and the Archbishop.

On the previous Sunday the Corpus Christi procession was escorted by Independent Foresters and every one praised the escort for fine marching and the nice appearance of the men.

The marvellous increase in membership of the I.O.F. in Quebec Province is not to be wondered at when we learn of the respect shown our brethren there. To be chosen "guard of honor" around the sacred altar on such an important occasion, and in the presence of so many of the distinguished and honorable men of our sister province, and to be esteemed worthy of receiving the pontifical blessing, along with thousands of others assembled on the occasion, is the highest proof of the respect in which the I.O.F. is held in the metropolitan city of our Dominion. Foresters, wherever found, are loyal and worthy citizens, staunch and patriotic, and therefore worthy to be given the post of honor.

Sympathy is one of the great redeeming features of man and the world. Take it away from life and you have but little left to elevate character or relieve suffering.

Father McDermott's Commendation.

The fundamental principle of our Order, "The Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man," obliterates all social, educational, national or ecclesiastical distinctions. Our efforts tend to unite all good men, laborer and lord, American and European, old churchmen, and no churchmen, in one common movement for the benefit of one another and of all. We note with interest the following eloquent commendation of our beloved Order:

Court 1,000 Isles, Alexandria Bay, attended mass at St. Cyril's Catholic Church Sunday morning, April 17th. In addition to the usual large congregation, nearly 100 Foresters were present, and listened with rapt attention to the very able and inspiring sermon that Father McDermott delivered, in which he told the Foresters that the purposes and aims of their Order were holy, as they were only advancing the principles which taught, charity, and "love thy neighbor as thyself."

Father McDermott is a very able speaker, and seemed at his best on this occasion. We believe we are voicing the sentiments of many of the Foresters in saying we hope this will not be the last occasion we will have to hear this eloquent and forceful Father.

Blood is Thicker Than Water.

At the last meeting of Court Kansas City, the following resolutions, which are self-explanatory, were offered and adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, the Executive Council of the Independent Order of Foresters, recognizing that love of country, which "springs eternal in the human breast," and with a laudable desire to encourage its members in the United States to defend their flag on any soil, has suspended the rule restricting its members to a residence north of the thirty-eighth parallel of latitude, as to those who may enlist in the Hispano-American war, as well as classing all such enlisted members as "ordinary or preferred," as to their indemnity policies, therefore,

Be it Resolved, by Court Kansas City, No. 3633, of Kansas City, Mo., that in thus recognizing the patriotism of the American people, and drawing about the families of our enlisted brothers the protecting folds of the flag of Forestry, the Supreme Chief Ranger and Executive Council have demonstrated again their faith in and friendship for the American membership, and justified the confidence the 70,000 patriotic Foresters of the United States have reposed in them, as the leaders of an Order which now enjoys its greatest measure of prosperity in the land of the Stars and Stripes, and where in the future it must look for its greatest growth and encouragement.

That a copy of these resolutions be forwarded to the Executive Council, to THE INDEPENDENT FORESTER, of Toronto, and *Ritual and Secret Society News*, of Kansas City, for publication.

"What ails your mistress, Norah?" asked a neighbor. "The docters do be sayin' that it is nervous pesteration she has, sure!"—*Harper's Bazaar*.