

A GREAT PAINTING UNVEILED.

On Sunday, Mr. Ernest Laurent's picture, "The First Mass in Montreal," which was presented by the French Government to Mgr. Bruchesi, for his Cathedral, was duly unveiled, and the occasion was marked by imposing ceremonies, splendid singing and two admirable addresses. Rev. Father Turgeon, S.J., Rector of St. Mary's College, delivered the sermon. The preacher took for his text the words: "Be mindful of the glorious past." He began by referring to the happy idea on the part of the French Government to present this appropriate and magnificent tableau to the Montreal Cathedral. It is a mother offering her daughter a souvenir of their most glorious days. Then turning to the picture itself, he detailed in glowing language the subject which had so fired the artist with a sublime inspiration.

It was the Rev. Father Vimont, a Jesuit, who celebrated the first Mass in Montreal. Around him are seen de Maisonneuve, the founder; Mlle. Mance, who established the Hotel Dieu; Mme. de la Peltrie, whose zeal did so much for the young colony; and about forty others who comprised the whole Catholic population of the place. It was a wonderful assemblage; the Church, the State, the pastor, the faithful, the great and the lowly mingling together in the act of adoration whereby they called down the blessings of God on the new colony. The preacher then quoted the words—prophetic words—pronounced by Pere Vimont, after the Gospel, on that sublime occasion. He said:

"What you here behold, gentlemen, is only a grain of mustard seed; but it is cast by such pious hands by those so filled with faith and religion, that heaven must have grand designs upon it since such instruments have been chosen for this work; yes, I have no doubt but that this little seed will produce a grand tree, that wonderful progress will some day be made here, and that it shall multiply and be scattered on all sides." Starting from these words, spoken by the pioneer missionary over two and a half centuries ago, the preacher traced the growth of the great tree of Catholicity, from that rude and humble altar, down to this magnificent Cathedral in which this artistic representation of the memorable scene is suspended. Needless to say that the sermon was historically, as well as otherwise, a masterpiece of eloquence.

After the Mass, and before proceeding to the blessing and unveiling of the picture, Mgr. Bruchesi, spoke as follows: "My Brethren, — It belongs by right to a brother of the Rev. Pere Vimont, to deliver the sermon on the occasion. I might say the feast which unites us here; and to content myself upon the prophecy pronounced by that zealous missionary, in 1642, at the Pointe a Callieres. "After that eloquent address I have only a word to add. In a few moments I shall unveil the picture presented to the Cathedral Church of Montreal, by the touching generosity of the Government of the French Republic. You will see therein a masterpiece.

"The artist Mr. Ernest Laurent, grand prize of Rome, put into the work his whole artistic, Catholic and French soul. He worked at it with love and religious sentiment. For us it shall be a precious souvenir and a grand lesson. Does not our past, so glorious and so pure, spring again into life before our eyes? Yes, at the foot of an altar Ville-Marie came into existence. Poor little altar, raised by the pious hands of Mlle. Mance and Mme. de la Peltrie, adorned with garlands and the first flowers of the field, that had budded in the month of the Holy Virgin, how can we think of these without a feeling of tenderness?"

"My brethren, it is a long distance from the humble cross towards which Pere Vimont raised his suppliant hands, in performing the sacred mysteries, to the dome of our magnificent Cathedral. But the Lord has done all those things; may His name be ever blessed!"

"Beside this painting, which represents the first eucharistic sacrifice of the Man-God upon our soil, I would wish to see another that would recall the admirable sacrifice of our early martyrs. We await it from some generous donor whom God will raise up."

"To-day I desire to publicly express my deep gratitude towards the French Government; and in blessing the faithful of my own city and diocese, may I be permitted to beg of God to bless France."

The magnificent painting, now blessed and unveiled, is placed in the transept on the Gospel side. It is laid against the wall and carries its own framework of green foliage strewn with golden fleurs de lys.

ly tunnel the Quirinal, an incursion of automobile, or motor, carriages, which will ply for hire on the streets. Between all these modern improvements, so ill-suited to the narrow streets of the Eternal City, the poor vetturini, or cabmen, will find themselves presently without occupation.—Padro Bernardo dell' Uomo, the head of the Benedictine-Tercians, and Abbot of Santa Croce Gerusalemme, has just died in Rome. R.I.P.—A sad occurrence took place in connection with the recent English pilgrimage to Rome, when an old lady of nearly 82 years of age, who had come to Rome with the pilgrims especially to see the Holy Father, was taken ill and died on the very day of the pilgrim's audience with His Holiness.—The memorable wooden cross erected on the heights of Tusculum so many years ago by

Cardinal Wiseman and the students of the English College during their villegiatura at Monte Porzio will be replaced in the Jubilee Year by a metal cross, which will be publicly blessed and inaugurated under the auspices of the Catholic associations of the rural districts.—The Pope has just shown an especial mark of Pontifical favor to Mgr. Gouthie-Soulard, Archbishop of Aix, by sending the Archbishop one of his own beautiful episcopal rings of precious sapphires and brilliants.—A solemn Te Deum was sung in the Church of San Silvestro-in-Capite on Tuesday evening last on the conclusion of the English pilgrimage. The Most Rev. Archbishop Stonor gave Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, and the function ended with the singing of the hymn, "Faith of Our Fathers," by the pilgrims.

HIS HOLINESS AND IRELAND.

The reception of what is known as the English Pilgrimage by the Pope is always a most interesting event, and never more so than this year. The names of the pilgrims, however, indicate that it was principally composed of Irish; and the Pope must have been made aware of this fact, for in his address he made special mention of Ireland. It was the Rev. Father Bannin, Rector of St. Peter's, London, who led the pilgrimage. They were received at noon, in the Sala Clementina of the Vatican. They numbered about 150, and about 150 of the English Colony in Rome were admitted to witness the reception. The pilgrims were presented by Mgr. Stonor, Titular Archbishop of Trebisond, and they offered His Holiness the many gifts which they had brought with them. Mgr. Merry Del Val then read in English the following translation of what the Pope wished to say:

"Our pleasure is great in seeing a band of English Catholics around us. This is the third pilgrimage which, during our Pontificate, has come to us from the ancient land of saints."

"The proximate recurrence of the great jubilee, proclaimed by us for the coming year, leads us to hope that we will soon see a fourth. We even cherish the confidence of seeing it conducted by that generous nobleman, the Duke of Norfolk, a real honor to the English patriots, whose nobility shines fairer in the light of the Catholic faith, professed by him with such zeal and multiplicity of works."

"The homage of filial affection which you now render to us, beloved children, after having venerated the tomb of the Prince of the Apostles, is most dear to us."

"Coming to Rome, to the feet of the Vicar of Christ, you make a solemn act of public faith, and you give likewise a most noble example of sincere attachment to the Apostolic See, with the docility which, without preconceived ideas, without unjust opinions and judgments or rash appreciations is owing full and entire to Him who

holds the supreme magistratum, and the Divine mandate to rule and govern the Church. Would to Heaven that your example may be fruitful of salutary imitation!

"Many amongst you belong to Catholic Ireland. Oh! how noble are the traditions of that blessed Island! How many continuous proofs of devotion and generosity come to us from her sons! We rejoice to see the children of the one and the other country here united before the common Father, in kindly brotherhood under the standard of the same faith. To the one and to the other we demonstrate equally our satisfaction and our approval. To the one and to the other we recommend obedience to your pastors, and perseverance in well doing."

"And as a pledge of our paternal affection to you all here present, to your distant families, relations, and friends, we most heartily impart the Apostolic Benediction."

There is something very significant in this recommendation of the Holy Father made to the Catholics of both countries—England and Ireland. It is evident that the Pontiff distinguishes between the two countries, especially when dwelling upon the history of our faith in both lands. It is wonderful how deeply Leo XIII. has ever sympathized with the Irish people. Possibly no man living has a better and more exact appreciation of all that the Irish have suffered for their faith; and the story of that grand old country has not been a mere hurried study of the erudite Vicar of Christ. He appears to have gone to the very depths of Ireland's history, and to have followed carefully the record of long centuries, during which the Faith was preserved despite the most terrible persecutions and subversive ostracisms to which its possessors were subjected. For this, even apart from the more religious obligations of Catholicity in general, the Irish love and venerate the aged and glorious successor of St. Peter.

CATHOLICITY PERSECUTED IN FRANCE.

While we are praising the Government of the French Republic for its generous gift to Montreal's Cathedral Church, we are at a loss to conceive such an action with the systematic persecution of the Catholic Church—in her priests, bishops, congregations, and associations—persecuted by the same power. Last week a continental correspondent of an English paper drew a most appalling picture of the fanaticism now reigning in high places in France. The writer treats of convent inspections, or religious orders, of the clergy and the people, and of kindred subjects. It will be highly instructive for many of our friends to read the following extracts.

Amongst other things the correspondent says:

"Fresh vexatious measures, apart from fiscal laws, are in store for religious communities in France. M. Millerand's recent circular on the subject of closer inspection of religious houses means this. Though it may not be in itself an evil that convents and religious establishments such as orphanages and 'convalescents' be subjected to close inspection from without, yet this fact of M. Millerand's, taken in conjunction with that Minister's notorious anticlericalism, forbids mischief to military interests here. The fresh inspectors will be chosen, no doubt, from the ranks of anticlericals of their class. Armed with the full powers of the law, they will be at liberty to ransack religious houses and to verify at pleasure the inmates. Their task will be all the easier since the words equality and liberty have no meaning in France when the interests of religious communities are in question. The campaign has opened by an attack on the congregation of the Religieuses of the Bon Pasteur, of Nancy. These religious for the past few weeks have been the object of violent abuse from the whole anticlerical press. Their principal work is in connection with an immense orphanage. They shelter homeless girls, teach them to work, prepare them to earn an honest livelihood in the world, and, in many cases, save them from a life of sin on the streets. Their action in France has already extended over a period of fifty years. They have at their head the Very Rev. Pere Dore, of the Congregation of the Eudistes, whose name is in itself a guarantee."

AN ATHEIST'S ARGUMENT.—M. Viviani, director of the "Lanterne" draws a line between associations and congregations, and he does so with all the cynicism and want of logic which attacks of religion in France are now displaying. Read this quotation and the succeeding commentary:

"There are three things," says M. Viviani, "which distinguish associations from congregations; these are the vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience. An association is a grouping together of human beings for the defence of common interests, whose guiding rule depends upon the laws of their country and who are expected to bring initiative and energy to bear on their efforts without accepting their liberty. A congregation acts on a different principle and pursues a negative object. The triple vow of poverty, chastity, and obedience, contains our authority, 'is in itself opposed to all ideas of association.' The vow of chastity strikes at the root of family life, the vow of obedience leads to submission to the Pope, a foreign potentate, and the vow of poverty leads to idleness and non-production." It is easy to see to what conclusion such arguments as these would lead. One would be that if celibacy be unlawful in the members of an association it should also be unlawful for citizens at large. It is easy to see, too, that the projected law about to be presented by M. Waldeck Rousseau is framed with the object of not giving the religious congregations a shred of law whereon to entrench themselves. On the opening of the session the Chamber will also be called upon to consider the question of the expulsion of the Jesuits."

A BISHOP'S PROTEST.—In his pastoral letter to his clergy on the jubilee of the Anno Santo, Mgr. Isoard, Bishop of Angers, protests against the systematic disregard of the rights of French Catholics by successive Governments in France during the last twenty years. He says that in questions of administration, great and small, those in office from the lowest to the highest, when dealing with Catholics, adopt an exactly opposite line of conduct to the one they would adopt if dealing with non-Catholics. "There is," he says, "no kind of outrage or bias, but that has not been proffered against our holy faith. Until within the last few months those in power contented themselves with colorating and tactfully approving of attacks upon religion. Now it is the chiefs who lead the way."

RIGHT OF ASSOCIATION.—We need not add to this lengthy comments of the writer, the reading of the above will of itself suggest them. Here is another phase of this persecution:

"The Right of Association in France.—Catholics are to be denied this right in France, while Protestants, Jews and Freemasons are allowed it. The proposed law on the liberty of association about to be laid before the chamber of Deputies by M. Waldeck Rousseau on the opening of the session shows the latest attempt to fetter and cripple Catholic action in France. In the projected law the right of association is

ECHOES FROM ROME.

The Vatican events that were most noteworthy during the last days of October, and many of which are still on the tapis, have been thus summarized by a careful and trustworthy correspondent:

"In view of the approaching Consistory, the date for which, however has not yet been fixed by the Pope, the treaties with the respective Governments of Germany and France are being pushed rapidly forward by the Papal Secretariate of State for the nomination of a Cardinal Archbishop to replace Cardinal Schonborn, an Archbishop for the vacant see of Cologne, and two new French Bishops. It is definitely stated that the new Archbishop of Prague (Monsieur Skabensky) will be certain to receive Cardinal honors, possibly before the next Consistory, but before very long. The see of Cologne has been vacant since last May, when its Cardinal-Archbishop (Cardinal Krometz) died. In the natural course of things his suffragan Bishop would have succeeded to the archbishopric, but he also died a few months ago, so it was necessary to seek another successor. The Holy Father's choice has fallen on Monsignor Sinar (Bishop of Paderborn). I hear that various changes in Vatican diplomacy are imminent, among others that of the nomination of Monsignor Rinaldini, who occupies the post of Nuncio at Brussels, to the very important Nunciature of Madrid, now held by Cardinal Granica Nava di Bontife. Monsignor Granica di Belmonte, who was for a considerable time at the Paris Nunciature, and Charge d'Affaires in the interim between the death of Mgr. Clari and the appointment of Mgr. Lorenzelli, will then succeed to the position of Nuncio to Brussels. The late Intermuncio to the Hague (Mgr. Tarnassio) is detained in Italy still by his late indisposition, but at present the distinguished prelate is completely convalescent, and has left Rome for a short stay in the country house of the Roman Seminary, after which he will probably leave immediately on his diplomatic mission to the Court of Russia. One of the most important members of the Roman Curia, who holds the important position of Auditor to His Holiness (Mgr. Augusto Guidi), lies dangerously ill, and there is little or no prospect of his recovery. In the hopes of bettering his condition, which has been for some little time unsatisfactory, the Holy Father offered Mgr. Guidi the hospitality of the Papal summer palace at Castel Gandolfo, on the shores of the Lake Albano, but the pure mountain air, which is usually so beneficial, has produced no improvement in the health of the invalid,

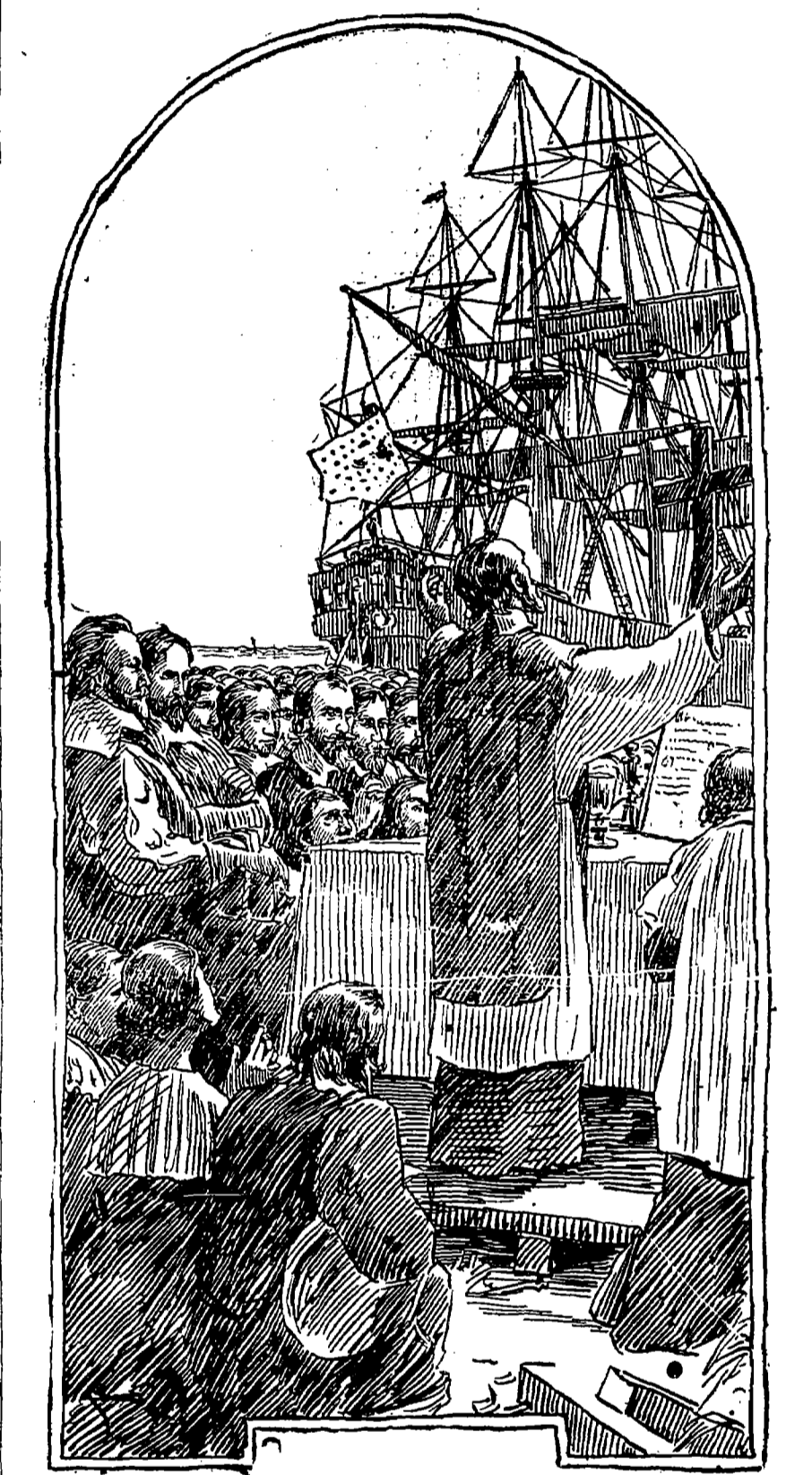
and within the last few days the prelate's state has become critical. This intelligence causes great sorrow to the Sovereign Pontiff, who, in the death of Mgr. Guidi, would lose a faithful friend and a devoted servant of the Church."

We in Canada feel a special interest in Mgr. Merry Del Val, whose charming personality and exceptional abilities were recognized by all Canadians, when that high ecclesiastical dignitary represented the Pope in this country. It is consequently with pleasure that we read this paragraph of news:

"An appointment has just been made by the Holy Father to his Secret Participating Chamberlain, the Very Rev. Mgr. Merry Del Val, son of the Spanish Ambassador to the Holy See. The distinguished young prelate, who enjoys the esteem and respect of all who have the honor of knowing him, is one of the most important members of the Pontifical Court, and held in the highest estimation by the Holy Father, who has watched his promising career from its commencement. His new duties in his appointment as President, or Rector, of the college of Noble Ecclesiastics will take Mgr. Merry Del Val from the Vatican to the college in Piazza della Minerva, where his official residence will be."

Here are a number of important events recorded in a few lines. To some of them more extended reference will be found in some of our articles of this week:

A large Swiss pilgrimage will arrive in Rome for the beginning of the Year of Jubilee.—The news of the most cordial reception tendered to the new Apostolic Delegate to Canada on his arrival at Quebec, was received, with the great satisfaction in Rome.—The Spanish Ambassador to the Holy See, Senor Raffaele Merry del Val, was received in private audience by the Holy Father on the 27th inst., together with his wife and daughter.—A course of spiritual exercises are being preached in the Leonine Institute at Anagni, so richly endowed by His Holiness. Sixty-nine priests are following the course given by two Jesuit Fathers, who received a special blessing from the Holy Father before beginning their work.—The Very Rev. Mgr. Stanley has returned to Rome. On Wednesday last the Pope gave a private audience to the Austro-Hungarian Ambassador to the Vatican, who has just returned from his autumn leave of absence.—We are promised before long in Rome, besides electric trams without number, which literally intersect the streets, and will short-



"THE FIRST MASS IN MONTREAL."

NOTES FROM OTTAWA.

The work on the new Dominican Seminary is progressing. The reverend Friars are also about to complete St. Jean Baptiste Church, by the erection of the tower and spiral belfry.

The Monastery of the Precious Blood was honored on Thursday morning of last week by a visit from His Excellency the Apostolic Delegate, who also celebrated Mass in the chapel.

In reply to a cablegram sent to His Holiness the Pope by the Apostolic Delegate, in behalf of the Archbishops and Bishops assembled during the jubilee celebration of His Grace the Archbishop of Ottawa, Cardinal Rampolla replied stating His Holiness' pleasure at receiving their filial homages, and that he sent his Benediction to the honored Archbishop, and all who surrounded him on that occasion.

A Progressive Euchre Party under the auspices of the Ladies' Auxiliary of St. Patrick's Asylum, will take place before Advent. This is intended to be followed by other entertainments during the winter.

His Grace the Archbishop dedicated the new church in the mission of

Quinville, recently detached from the parish of St. Francis de Sales, Gateau Point, situated between there and East Templeton. It comprises over forty Irish families who previously had attended Mass at East Templeton or Couley. It is a neat little edifice, and is tastefully furnished. Rev. Father Xertard of Couley, will attend the new mission.

In the absence of the Rev. Father Ryan, of Renfrew, the Rev. Father McEachern of Mount St. Patrick, attended Renfrew on Sunday of last week.

The venerable mother of Very Rev. Canon Campeau was visited by the latter last week. She is in her 88th year.

The health of Very Rev. Canon Bouillon requiring a change, he has gone on a trip to the United States.

The Sisters of Mercy on the Richmond Road are about to make several alterations and improvements to their house.

Archbishop Duhamel returned to the city last week after attending the funeral of the late Mgr. de Guesbriand, late Bishop of Burlington.

The parishioners of St. Patrick's should turn out in force on Monday evening, on the occasion of the concert in aid of the Catholic Sailors' Club, which will take place in St. Patrick's Hall, Alexander Street. A programme of vocal and instrumental music in which well known local talent will take part has been prepared for the occasion. Give the organizers a bumper house, as St. Patrick's Parish should send the largest contribution to the institution.

The eleventh annual tea of the Montreal Free Library will be held this afternoon, between 4 and 6.30, at Beaman's Conservatory Hall, 2269 St. Catherine Street. Elsewhere in this issue we publish a very interesting communication showing the great work which the library has done since its foundation. This function which is always enjoyable affords all friends of Catholic literature an opportunity to assist a most deserving organization. The various parishes should be well represented.