

The Indian Shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes, Near Duck Lake, Sask.

Where the Oblates of Mary Immaculate and their Charges, Honor the Queen of Heaven.

Does it not seem fitting that Our Lady who appeared in apparition to Bernadette Soubirous at Lourdes, saying, "I am the Immaculate Conception," should be pleased with the efforts of a poor missionary priest, an Oblate of the Order of Mary Immaculate, to establish a shrine in her honor under that particular title?

This is what the good Father O. Charlebois, O.M.I., known to our readers through his interesting accounts of his work among the poor Cree Indians, is trying to do. At St. Laurent, about six miles from his Indian orphan school, a statue of the Blessed Virgin was placed in an humble little shelter where the Indians could visit and venerate it. They frequently did so, and many favors were granted them in response to their prayers.

There was no place there where a priest could celebrate Mass, and Father Charlebois has long been anxious to build a small chapel where the Holy Sacrifice could be offered. Lately the good priest sent a Brother of the Order and some Indian boys from the school to erect there a shelter for this purpose. They built a tiny chapel large enough to contain an altar, but too small to afford accommodation for the worshippers. For the latter a sort of shed was erected facing the chapel, where they could see the altar and assist at Mass.

The following account is given by an eye witness of a pious pilgrimage which took place at this favored spot on the feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, July 16. He writes: On the eve of the feast a number of pilgrims arrived at St. Laurent. Mass was celebrated, and during the day the echoes resounded with canticles of the Blessed Virgin. The people made garlands of grasses and wild flowers and gracefully decorated the tiny chapel and the grotto of Our Lady.

At dawn on the great day the desolate shores of the Saskatchewan River were alive with the pious pilgrims coming to her shrine. Mass was offered at 6 a.m., and the Queen of Heaven showed her pleasure at the piety of the faithful, for she obtained a cure from her Divine Son for a poor man who suffered from a rupture. As he knelt with others to receive Holy Communion, he felt a wonderful change take place in his weak body. Meeting the Rev. Father Charlebois, he told him of his sudden feeling of release from pain. "I am cured; I feel like a young man again. Now I can go to work; I feel so strong and healthy."

At the writing of this narration, the cured man, who is 70 years old, is working at his occupation with the vigor of an active young man. He resides at Fish Creek, not far from the shrine.

A great cry of thanksgiving at this favor of the Blessed Virgin went up from the pilgrims. It was not only Indians who were present at this gathering, but pious Catholic settlers in the surrounding country, Germans, Poles, Galicians and Hungarians were represented, accompanied by their devoted pastors, who preached to them in their own tongue. A second Mass was celebrated at 8 a.m. At 9.50 the little bell of the chapel rang out a welcome to the pilgrims. With recollected and pious bearing, they assembled to assist at High Mass. It was a beautiful sight to see these good people coming to honor Mary Immaculate.

At the commencement of Mass the Rev. Father Vachon, O.M.I., advised the pilgrims to pray fervently and to keep in mind the true object of the pilgrimage; not to regard it as a pleasure party, but to consider that all had come here with the sole aim of giving honor to God and His Blessed Mother. At the Gospel the Rev. Father Lacaste, O.M.I., curate of the cathedral at Prince Albert, gave an eloquent and appropriate sermon, taking as his text the words of Jesus to the multitude: "What went ye out in the desert to see? A reed shaken with the wind? But what went ye out to see: a man clothed in soft garments? Behold, they that are clothed in soft garments are in the houses of kings. But what went ye out to see? A prophet? Yea, I tell you and more than a prophet." With sublime effect Father Lacaste put to the assembled pilgrims the question: "What came ye here to see? A

handsome church? Nay, for there is none here. Only a little grotto and an humble chapel are here to testify to the homage our Catholic hearts would gladly give to Mary." After the Credo the Rev. Father Vachon again addressed the throng, recommending them to unite their intentions with the priest during the Mass, to pray for special needs and graces for themselves, their families, their relatives and friends, for the sick and the infirm.

The Mass was sung by the pilgrims, and it was an inspiring moment when their united voices burst out in singing: "Hosanna in the highest, Blessed in He that cometh in the name of the Lord, Hosanna in the highest." In the tiny chapel knelt, in turn, about 600 pilgrims to receive Holy Communion. During the last Gospel a voice trembling with emotion cried out: "Let us pray for the Pope." The pilgrims responded with fervor: "Lord, preserve our Holy Father the Pope." After High Mass the people retired to return later to visit the statue of Our Lady in the grotto.

At the "Fountain of the Virgin" as they called it, they drank the blessed water and took away some of it to their homes. At 1.30 p.m. thirteen priests knelt at the foot of the altar. The rosary was recited and hymns were sung in honor of the Blessed Virgin. Rev. Father Pineau, O.M.I., assisted by Rev. Father Charlebois, O.M.I., conducted the procession to the cemetery. With the crucifix borne aloft in advance, the clergy led the way, followed by the pilgrims, who separated into two files, the men on one side, the women on the other.

On the road to the cemetery the rosary was recited in the different languages of those present. Arrived at the top of the hill whereon stands the first Catholic graveyard of this part of the country, the reverend Fathers, standing at the foot of the cross which marks it, chanted the De Profundis.

The solemn and touching prayer brought tears to the eyes of the listeners, some of whom have loved ones reposing in this consecrated spot.

Returning to the grotto prayers were said and beautiful hymns were sung. Solemn Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament was given, after which Rev. Father Vachon treated the pilgrims to an interesting account of the history of this mission and shrine. He told them that the Mission of St. Laurent was founded by the Rev. Father Fourmond, of holy memory, and that this statue of Our Lady of Lourdes was sent to him from Lyons, France, in 1881. A pious Brother of the Order made for it this little grotto. Father Vachon recalled the instant cure of a blind person who drank here some of the water blessed in honor of Our Lady of Lourdes, which had been sent from France.

After the death of Pere Fourmond a large number of the inhabitants dispersed, and by the Bishop's authority, the parish was dissolved in 1896. One part was annexed to the Duck Lake Mission, and the other to the Batoche reserve across the river. Father Charlebois has taken care of both these missions. The spot was deserted but by Mary Immaculate. She alone remained to welcome her dusky children of the woods.

"Here we come to-day," eloquently said Father Vachon, "from far and near, to render the homage of our love and filial devotion to the Queen of Angels and of men. We cast ourselves at her feet; we consecrate to her our souls and our bodies, the dearest wishes of our hearts and those of our relatives and our friends. We come to tell her that we love her as the best of mothers. We come to pray for our Holy Father, the Pope; for the first pastor of this mission; for the conversion of sinners, and for our separated brethren." Rev. Father Charlebois then recited the solemn act of consecration to the Holy Virgin, all kneeling and uniting fervently with him in their appeals to Heaven for special favors.

Following Father Charlebois to the foot of the mission cross, a wave of pious enthusiasm swept through the throng as with united voices they cried out: "Refuge of sinners, O Mary conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee!" The Magnificat closed the religious

exercises of the day. The pilgrims returned to their homes saying: For us, to-day, heaven has bent down to earth. We will return next year in larger numbers to this blessed shrine.

In a lonely cave dug out of the side of a hill this statue of our Blessed Lady has long waited for the generous hearts of her faithful clients to make for her a more fitting shelter. The good Brother Piquet, now dead, toiled with love to give her a sanctuary. Rude though it was, Mary was pleased to show her gratitude to those who went there to venerate her statue. The poor Indians had no money, no gold nor silver to donate in order to erect even a log hut for her shelter. Here the storms of winter and the fierce heat of summer beat down upon her statue, while the snow drifts and the rains discolored it. The Indians could twine around it garlands of wild flowers and kneel in fervent prayer before it; their poverty prevented them from doing more. Mary listened to their appeals and obtained the favors for which they besought her powerful aid.

The devoted Father Charlebois, zealous in his love for Mary Immaculate, deprived himself of necessities to pay for the tiny chapel. He still owes money on it. Small as it is, the cost of the lumber means much to him, and the little sanctuary does not satisfy him as an offering to the "Mother of the Missionary," as the Oblate Fathers affectionately call the Blessed Virgin.

Here is an opportunity for the clients of Our Lady, who read this, no matter where they are, to testify to their devotion to her. The act will be very pleasing to God, and will bring a reward. A gift of money for that purpose will be gratefully acknowledged if sent to Father Charlebois. It can be enclosed in a letter and addressed as follows: Rev. Father O. Charlebois, O.M.I., St. Michael's School, Duck Lake, Sask., Canada.

Nothing looks more ugly than to see a person whose hands are covered over with warts. Why have these disfigurements on your person when a sure remover of all warts, corns, etc., can be found in Holloway's Corn Cure.

Correspondence.

To the Editor True Witness:

Dear Sir,—There is a very unfortunate state of affairs at present existing, when our parish of St. Patrick's, instead of retaining the district wholly hers, demands are made upon her to give up a considerable portion. St. Agnes Church could not accommodate the number living in the district it is desirous of annexing, so why make such a move. Now, Mr. Editor, please use all the influence your pen exerts to put this thing in its proper light, and so encourage our people of St. Patrick's to resist the demands of St. Agnes and keep St. Patrick's boundaries as they are. It gave a very generous portion not very long ago, so the present demand is anything but just.

FAIR PLAY.

Sept. 29, 1906.

IS ST. PATRICK'S TO BE DIVIDED?

To the Editor True Witness:

Dear Sir,—I had been awaiting your opinion of the present state of affairs in St. Patrick's parish. In your short comment last week we were sanguine that if such a thing came to pass as there is reason to believe is at present in the wind—that St. Agnes parish is desirous of extending its boundaries to Park Avenue and Sherbrooke street—that every effort will be put forth to stay this aggressive move. I sincerely hope that there are sufficient parishioners in old St. Patrick's to stand by their guns and stop any encroachment on the present limits.

Yours truly,

A LOYAL PARISHIONER.

Montreal, Oct. 1, 1906.

MONTREAL WHOLESALE PRICES

October 3. Flour—Manitoba spring wheat patents, \$4.40 to \$4.50; strong bakers, \$3.90 to \$4; winter wheat patents, \$4 to \$4.20; and straight rollers, \$3.80 to \$3.90 in wood, in bags, \$1.75 to \$1.85; extra in bags, \$1.50 to \$1.60.

GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY SYSTEM

Thanksgiving Day October 18, 1906

Quebec..... \$4.50 Toronto..... \$10.00 Sherbrooke..... 3.35 Hamilton..... 10.65 Ottawa..... 3.50 London..... 12.95 Detroit..... 15.00 Pt. Huron..... 14.85

and all other points in Canada, also Massena Springs, N. Y., and intermediate stations, and Return at

SINGLE FIRST CLASS FARE Going October 17 and 18. Return Limit, Oct. 22, 1906

Cheap Excursions Boston, Mass..... \$10.00 Springfield, Mass..... 9.60 Worcester, Mass..... 9.85

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Second Class Colonist Fares from Montreal to

SEATTLE, VICTORIA, VAN. COVVER and PORTLAND..... \$48.90 ROSSLAND, NELSON, TRAIL, ROSSO, SPOKANE..... \$46.40 ANACONDA, BUTTE, HELENA, SALT LAKE..... \$45.30 COLORADO SPRINGS, DENVER, PUEBLO..... \$45.50 SAN FRANCISCO, LOS ANGELES..... \$49.00 MEXICO CITY..... \$48.00

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CANADIAN PACIFIC CHEAP EXCURSIONS FROM MONTREAL

Boston and return..... \$10.00 Worcester and return..... 9.85 Springfield and return..... 9.50

Tickets good going October 3rd. Return limit October 13th, 1906.

THANKSGIVING DAY CHEAP TRIPS:

Toronto..... \$10.05 Hamilton..... \$10.65 Ottawa..... 3.50 London..... 12.95 Quebec..... 4.50 Peterboro..... 8.15 Sherbrooke..... 3.35 Fernham..... 1.30 St. Johns, Q..... 1.00 St. John, N.B. 14.40 Ste. Agate..... 2.00 Labelle..... 3.20 Magog..... 2.75 Knowlton..... 2.10

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LOWEST ONE WAY FIRST CLASS FARE.

Good going October 17th and 18th. Good for return until October 22nd, 1906.

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7 TRAINS A DAY EACH WAY LEAVE WINDSOR STATION

8.45 a.m., *8.40 a.m., *9.00 a.m. 14.00 p.m., *9.40 p.m., *10.15 p.m. Parlor or Sleeping Cars on above trains. LEAVE PLACE VIGOR

7.25 a.m., *7.45 p.m. *Daily, †Daily except Sunday, ‡Sunday only.

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Mill Feed—Ontario bran in bags, \$19 to \$19.50; shorts, in bags, \$22 to \$22.50; Manitoba bran in bags, \$20; shorts, \$23.

Hay—No. 1, \$12 per ton on track; No. 2, \$11; clover, \$9; clover mixed, \$10.

Beans—Prime pea beans, in car load lots, \$1.40 to \$1.45 per bushel, hand-picked, \$1.70 per bushel.

Peas—Boiling, in broken lots, \$1.10 per bushel; in car lots, \$1 to \$1.02 1-2.

Potatoes—90c to \$1.10 per bag of 80 lbs. Honey—White clover in comb, 14c to 15c; buckwheat 10c to 11c per pound section; extract, 8c to \$1-2c; buckwheat, 7 1-2c per pound.

Provisions—Barrels, short cut mess \$22 to \$24; 1-2 brls \$11.75 to \$12.50; clear fat back, \$23.50; long cut heavy mess, \$20.50; 1-2 barrels do., \$10.75; dry salt long clear bacon, 12 1-4c to 12 3-4c; barrels, plate beef, \$12 to \$13.00; half barrels do., \$6.50 to \$7.00; barrels heavy mess beef, \$11.00; half barrels do., \$6.00; compound lard, 8c to 9 1-2c; pure lard, 11 1-2c to 12c; kettles rendered, 12 1-2c to 13c; hams, 14 1-2c to 16c, according to size; breakfast bacon, 15 1-2c to 16 1-2c; Windsor bacon, 16 1-2c; fresh killed abattoir dressed hogs, \$9.50; alive, \$6.75 to \$6.90 per 100 lbs. Eggs—Straight receipts, 19c to 19 1-2c No 1 candled, 18c. Butter—Choicest creamery, salted and unsalted, 24c to 24 1-2c; medium grades, 23c to 23 3-4c. Cheese—Ontario, 13c to 13 1-8c; Quebec, 12 3-4c to 13c. Ashes—First pots, \$5.40 to \$5.50; seconds, \$4.70 to \$4.80; pearls, \$6.75 per 100 pounds.

Many loves will a true heart hold.

THE S. CARSLLEY CO. LIMITED THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4, 1906.

Store closes at 5.30 daily.

GREAT SALE OF ENAMELWARE! At Less Than Maker's Prices.

Our Enamelware buyer has just completed a lucky purchase of Enamelware seconds. So big was the lot that no other one store would take it en bloc. But our ready cash soon reduced the prices and you share the benefit. Remember, so slight are the imperfections that the wearing quality of the goods is not impaired one iota. Read the following.

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Hundreds of other useful articles, including Milk Jugs, Three Quart Cups, Cuspidors, Saucepans, Dish Pans, etc., at equally low prices.

WILTON VELVET and Other CARPETS AT FACTORY PRICES.

Only the latest and very best of the new season's weaves are included in this sale. Magnificent Axminsters and Wilton Velvets, exceptionally fine TAPESTRY and BRUSSELS Carpets ALL SELLING FOR LESS THAN FACTORY PRICES.

1000 yds of Wilton Velvet Stair Carpets, all new designs, worth as much as 90c. Our special price..... 65c 2500 yards of FINE TAPESTRY Carpets in new designs. Regular price 75c. Sale Price..... 49c 3000 yards of FINE BRUSSELS CARPET, exceptional value \$1.25. Sale Price..... 89c 2500 yards of MAGNIFICENT WILTON VELVET Carpets, worth \$1.25. Sale Price..... 85c 1000 yards of EXTRA FINE WILTON VELVET Carpets, usually sold for \$1.40. Sale Price..... 98c 1000 yards of VERY FINE EXTRA HEAVY AXMINSTER Carpets, the kind that you cannot buy for less than \$1.75. Sale Price..... \$1.25

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12 "MARITIME EXPRESS" for St. Hyacinthe, Drummondville, Levis, Quebec, Riviere du Loup, Moncton, St. John, Halifax and the Sydney.

Leaves at 12.00 noon daily except Saturday. Through sleeping car to Halifax.

7.30 "OCEAN LIMITED" for Levis, (Quebec) du Loup, Cacouna, Little Metis, Matapedia, Moncton, St. John and Halifax.

Leaves 7.30 p.m. daily, except Saturday. Through sleeping car to Riviere-Ouelle Wharf (for Murray Bay p. lists); Little Metis, St. John and Halifax.

11.45 NIGHT EXPRESS for Quebec and Montreal. Daily, except Sunday, at 11.45 p.m. A sleeping car is attached to this train, which passengers can occupy after 9.00 p.m.

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City Ticket Office, 129 St. James St., Opp. Post Office.

The Senate, Jan 1 1907 Vol. LVI., No. 14

"Ireland's" Such was the Large and Enth

Mr. T. P. O'Connor, M.P., in the city yesterday morning immediately registered at the Hotel. Almost his first view several reporters from the various city papers. A most reception indeed was accorded by the genial Irish member, but them to believe that a talk them would be a very pleasant he having himself formerly been to that very noble calling of journalism. The result of the interview is that Home Rule is to be accorded to Ireland during present Parliament. Hence no further could be said but that had's hour of deliverance is hand."

Mr. O'Connor admitted that attention to Home Rule might b

T. P. O'CO

pected from the House of Lords pointed out that sympathy be expected from Lord Lansdowne, and further said never known the House of Lords to reject a measure in favor of the people had expressed their measure were rejected by the House of Commons. "Well, I should think," O'Connor, "that the House would find itself face to face with Ireland, but with England I should be quite content with the issue."