## NORTHWEST REVIEW, TUESDAY, FE . 6

## NORTHWEST REVIEW

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Review. Aorthwest TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1900

## CURRENT COMMENT

When non-Catholic editors wish to avoid gross blunders in Catholic matters, the wisest course is to question an intelli gent Catholic layman or a priest Had the Free Press done so las Saturday it would not have put the heading "New Roligious Or der" to the news that the Re demptorists were applying for incorporation in Canada. sounds funny to Catholics when they read of "The Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer" as a new religious order. This learned and zealous body was founded 168 years ago, in 1732 at the very time when LaVéran drye discovered this Red River country. It is now one of the most numerous religious orders in the world, and has been established in Canada for many years past. "The Redemptor ists," as they are commonly called, have a flourishing little community at Brandon.

They were founded by Si Alphonsus Liguori, whose first companion has lately been de-

case" is made by Mr. d'Hotman, a judge in Pietermaritzburg, writing to the "Univers" of Paris. He asserts that the Afrikander Bond was a secret society having for its object the overthrow of British supremacy in South Africa, and that m order to precipitate matters the Transvaai five years ago commenced to worry the Uitlanders. If we may judge by the ponderosity of his son's loyal letter, which The Tablet triumphantly prints in the original French. Judge d'Hotman must be afflicted with a mind utterly devoid of suppleness and therefore incapable of seeing both sides of a question: for his son has the rare faculty of writing ponderously in that lightest and airiest ot epistolary media, the French ianguage, and we may safely

say : "Tel fils, tel père."

We gather from the Inland Revenue report just issued at Ottawa that Electric Light Meters are still in their infancy so far as accuracy goes. Of 199 presented for inspection in Sherbrooke, only 14 or about 7 per cent. were correct; in the Quebec division only 34 out of 359 or about 10 per cent. were correct; Toronto had 70 out of 628, or about 11 per cent., correct. The best showing is in the

Hamilton division where 220 out of 356, or almost 62 per cent., were correct. Though one would hardly expect it of the stand city by the eastern sea the banner division for fast meters is Halifax, where 114 out of 254, or about 45 per cent., worked too fast, and only 5, or less than 2 per cent., ran too slow. How ever, it is consoling to know that all these errors fell within the limits of inaccuracy tolerated by law.

Hysterical as are the wailings of the English press over the casualties in the South African battles, history shows that the percentages of the losses have not been very great as compared with other wars. So far the British loss has seldom risen

interest to Farmers." The Cana- Mr. J. Snead Cox, replies, also in district. But Milton-another dian Catholic Emigration Society |"The Times," and shows that has long been well known in leading Protestant newspapers Canada under the name of the Southwark Catholic Emigration | ing those opinions himself. In Society; but it has, within the last year, been amalgamated with another, under the presidency of His Eminence Cardinal Vaughan. It has three houses in has about six hundred boys in tains that a denial of themwell and giving satisfaction to their employers. Miss Procter time." and Miss Urquhart, who are the chief organizers of the Society in Canada, under the direction of the Rev. Edward St John residing in England, were here

last summer and had the honor of meeting His Grace the Arch bishop, who gave them great encouragement and expressed his interest in their project of extending their work westward. This is an excellent opportunity for farmers who want to secure strong lads of 17 or 18 for regular and continuous farm work.

Mr. E L. Fayollat, of St Claude, writes to us protesting against what we said, in our issue of January 2, about "a bad lot of Frenchmen from France.' and hoping that we will retract this expression. Considering that his letter is dated January 24, it strikes us, in the first place, that he is rather behind the age in promptness of repartee Secondly, we invite him to re read with us the whole sentence. There is nothing like the context to clear up a text, and this

is the more necessary in this Toronto, a copy of "The Crucicase as Mr. Fayollat evidently fixion of Phillip Strong," by never saw our paper but has simply been put up to this by Charles M. Sheldon, the now "L'Echo de Manitoba," which well known author of "In His Steps." The story of Phillip asked us to explain the exact Strong is a tragedy full of vigor bearing of that phrase. What and pathos. The hero strives to we said was: "In Lorne the follow Christ through the haze majority of the French polls of Protestant Christianity, and over 8 per cent., whereas in the were in favor of the Conservative candidate, and in those of course the result is disastrous. clared Venerable. The news in fierce battles of the American Although the only allusion to places where the vote went Catholics is a kindly one, yet Liberal this was either because on both sides approached in the author unconsciously betrays the voters were a bad lot of some instances one-half the total Frenchmen from France, very the awkward unreality of his strength of the contending point of view, when he makes armies. The Federal loss at different in religious training and national aspirations from the wife of Phillip Strong say, Frederickburg was estimated at French Canadians, or because "There are other things that are about 50 per cent., the same the French voters were deceived Christian which the Church of figure is given for the Confederby the absurd promises of Mr. Christ on earth does not do, Rochon." It will be observed Phillip." The serene ignorance which prompts a nameless sect that we divided the French to ignore the larger half of Liberal voters into two classes, ranged between 16 and 18 per one, "a bad lot," and the other Christendom and call itself and the unrelated fragments of the dupes of Mr. Rochon. Hence. other sects "the Church of though Mr. Fayollat boasts of Christ on earth" is deserving of being a representative of the the Liberal party at the poll of all pity. Unwittingly also the book becomes a revelation of the St. Claude, he need not belong tionate loss of officers in the uncharity and intense worldliearlier South African battles to the "bad lot," he may be, for was really appalling, the British aught we know, merely a dupe ness of apparently pious Protes-From what we hear of St. Claude | tants. Phillip's brave but inlosing about one officer to six we are inclined to think that effectual fight to get a negro men, yet there have been accepted as a member of his Many of our readers have been previous instances of very the dupes were much more church is the sort of thing that numerous than the "bad lot." the most indifferent Catholics For the majority of the Frenchwould never dream of. men from France at St. Claude have recently given substantial The scene is laid in Milton, a proof of their good dispositions town of 80,000 inhabitants, and we are told there was not a towards the Catholic Church. single church in the poorer Dr. St. George Mivart has quarters of the town. This does written to "The Times" a letter not seem true to the realities of in which he deprecates being the present day. We should held responsible for the opinions like to hear of a town of 80,000 We beg to direct our readers' proach to anything like what attention to the paragraph we of others which he merely quot- inhabitants without a single lawyers would call "a good print elsewhere, headed "Of ed. The editor of the Tablet, Catholic church in the poor

understood Mr. Mivart as hold-

"The Tablet" the same editor pins the slippery Doctor down to "the essential point-and one which no amount of pleading can be allowed to obscure,' Canada: a distributing home for which "is not whether Dr. boys at Ottawa, a home for Mivart personally denies the young servant girls in Montreal, doctrines of the Virgin Birth and a farm for older boys at and perpetual Virginity, but Makinak, Manitoba. The society | whether he personally mainthe country, placed for the most (whether by himself or by part in Ontario. These, with others, it matters nothing)-is very few exceptions, are doing compatible with Catholic faith either now or at any future

> Mr. Woollev left Winnipeg yesterday a disappointed man. So were those who invited him to lecture here. He was heralded as the greatest temperance lecturer in America, if not in the whole world, and, when he spoke in hall or church, he shocked the best Protestants by the irreverence and flippancy with which he handled, in a spirit of well-meant but ill-bred humor, the most sacred subjects. His lectures were utterly devoid of great ideas. As one clergyman wrote to the Free Press, they could not be called temperance lectures at all. There was no central thought, no sequence of argument or illustration. They were merely a disjointed series of questionable jokes. This is one more proof that a public speaker may have a first class reputation in the United States and be a failure in Canada.

## ANOTHER OF SHELDON'S BOOKS.

We have lately received from he Poole Publishing Company,

anomaly-had no Catholic church at all, and the seven Protestant churches were all in one fashionable street.

As illustrating the difference between Protestant and Catholic standards of action, we may mention what happened when we related to some Catholic young men Phillip's noble offer to the church trustees. Feeling that his salary of \$2,000 a year was too much for a fervant minister with only a wife and no children, he asked the trustees to apply one half of his salary to the poor of the town. "Why didn't he give it away himself to the poor without bothering the trustees?" said one of our Catholic hearers and all the others chimed in to the same effect. There you have the Catholic impulse-to go and do it yourself without any public fuss-as opposed to the Protestant tendency-to think, speak and act in committees or battalions. And facts prove that the Catholic is the more effective way. An ounce of example is worth a ton of corporate resolutions. The author catches glimpses of this truth, as when he makes Phillip say: "The world of sin and want and despair and disbelief is not hungering for money or mission schools or charity balls or state institutions for the relief of distress, but for live, pulsing, loving Christian men and women. who reach out live, warm hands, who are willing to go and give themselves, who will abandon, 11 necessary, if Christ calls for it the luxuries they have these many years enjoyed, in order that the bewildered, disheartened, discontented, unhappy, sinful creatures of earth may actually learn of the love of God through the love of man. Phillip acts up to what he preaches, but he cannot make his people imitate him. Perhaps some of them might do so, if he

fact has recently come to us from Civil War the percentage of loss Rome of the introduction of the cause of beatification of Cesare Sportelli, who was, like St. Alphonsus, a barrister. At 32 years of age he left the bar and retired with Dom Liguori to the solitude of Scala. John Mazzini and others who had joined ate loss at Gaines Mill, and in the Saint, left him because they about fifty other battles of the wished to devote themselves to same Rebellion the percentage education. The Venerable Cesare Sportelli and the lay bro-cent. In the famous charge of ther Vito Curzio were the only the Light Brigade at Balaklava ones that remained faithful to the loss was 37 per cent., and at the great founder in that crisis Metz the Gardeschützen, lost 46 of his early life. Thus Sportelli per cent. Though the proporwas really the first permanent companion of St. Alphonsus. He became a priest and a missionary, and died April 19, 1750.

commenting on the weakness of numerous casualties among Cardinal Vaughan's letter in officers. Thus at Spicheren, in defence of the war, which we the Franco-German war the reprinted in our issue of Jan-Germans lost 223 officers and uary 23. Weakness seems the 4,871 men, and at the siege of inevitable result of trying to Ciudad Rodrigo, in the Peninsujustify this war. Even Mr. lar war, the British loss in one Geoffrey Drage, M. P, with all desperate charge was 90 officers the resources of his talent and and 1,200 men.

lovalty, had to deal largely in platitudes. The nearest ap-

principles in the world than thousand of Mr. Sheldon's well intentioned and pathetic stories ceuld ever effect. It is because at least one million out of  $2^{50}$ million Catholics have given up all things for Christ that the 249 other millions are less worldly and less uncharitable to the poor than their Protestant, neighbors. What the Rev. Mr. Sheldon preaches is what is being done every day, silently and therefore effectually, all over the Catholic Church. Nor, in order to compass that end, does the real Church of Christ need to exaggerate as Phillip does when he says to his people that if they are unwilling to sell all they have and give it to the poor. Christ would say to them that they could not be his disciples (p. 191). Our Lord

talked less about it. Catholics

who become poor for Christ's

sake don't talk much about it,

but their actions do more for

the preservation of Christian

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