

The Charlottetown Herald.

NEW SERIES.

CHARLOTTETOWN, PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND, WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 20, 1899.

Vol. XXVIII, No. 39

Calendar for Sept. 1899.

MOON'S CHANGES.
New Moon, 4th, 11h. 21m. p. m.
First Quarter, 12th, 5h. 37m. p. m.
Full Moon, 19th, 5h. 19m. a. m.
Last Quarter, 26th, 10h. 50m. a. m.

Day of Week	Sun rises	Sun sets	Moon rises	High Water
1 Friday	5 28 30	6 54	5 54	8 02
2 Saturday	5 30	6 55	5 51	8 01
3 Sunday	5 31	6 56	5 48	8 00
4 Monday	5 32	6 57	5 45	7 59
5 Tuesday	5 33	6 58	5 42	7 58
6 Wednesday	5 34	6 59	5 39	7 57
7 Thursday	5 35	7 00	5 36	7 56
8 Friday	5 36	7 01	5 33	7 55
9 Saturday	5 37	7 02	5 30	7 54
10 Sunday	5 38	7 03	5 27	7 53
11 Monday	5 39	7 04	5 24	7 52
12 Tuesday	5 40	7 05	5 21	7 51
13 Wednesday	5 41	7 06	5 18	7 50
14 Thursday	5 42	7 07	5 15	7 49
15 Friday	5 43	7 08	5 12	7 48
16 Saturday	5 44	7 09	5 09	7 47
17 Sunday	5 45	7 10	5 06	7 46
18 Monday	5 46	7 11	5 03	7 45
19 Tuesday	5 47	7 12	5 00	7 44
20 Wednesday	5 48	7 13	4 57	7 43
21 Thursday	5 49	7 14	4 54	7 42
22 Friday	5 50	7 15	4 51	7 41
23 Saturday	5 51	7 16	4 48	7 40
24 Sunday	5 52	7 17	4 45	7 39
25 Monday	5 53	7 18	4 42	7 38
26 Tuesday	5 54	7 19	4 39	7 37
27 Wednesday	5 55	7 20	4 36	7 36
28 Thursday	5 56	7 21	4 33	7 35
29 Friday	5 57	7 22	4 30	7 34
30 Saturday	5 58	7 23	4 27	7 33

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September 6th, 1899—4m

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Chaplain's Soldier Priest.

(The San Francisco Monitor, of the 2nd inst., contains the following account of the welcome extended to our friend, Rev. W. D. McKinnon, on his return from the Philippines. As our readers will remember, Father McKinnon is a native of Melrose, in this Province.)

Since the return of the First California Regiment from the Philippine Islands the soldiers have been outpouring one another in expressions of admiration and affection for their gallant Chaplain, Rev. William D. McKinnon. Father McKinnon is the idol of the Eighth Army Corps, and a visit to the Presidio leaves little doubt of that fact. When his name is mentioned among the brave boys in blue their only difficulty is to find adjectives strong enough to eulogize his heroism and his self-sacrificing fidelity to duty.

Many interesting little incidents are now being recalled by the returned veterans. It is recalled, for instance, that Chaplain McKinnon was the first American under fire at Manila, and that if he wasn't the first American killed there it was because half a thousand Spanish sharpshooters were not accurate shots. This was when the American army was outside the gates of the Philippine capital and battle was momentarily expected. Alone, unarmed, without even the protection of the Red Cross badge, and with no knowledge of Spanish he walked from the American camp through the Spanish lines into the city of Manila, in order that a capitulation might be arranged upon terms honorable to both parties and the further effusion of blood stopped. This act is characterized by a non-Catholic eye-witness as being "without parallel in the history of modern warfare—an act of unselfish bravery, of devotion to the sacred cause of peace which should make his name live forever." "And yet," he adds, "the heroic priest was honestly surprised to find his pluck had made him a hero when he returned to camp."

It was, however, after the capture of Manila that Chaplain McKinnon showed even a higher type of bravery—the heroism of a Dominican—in his ministrations at the leper and small-pox hospitals. But more of that anon.

Last Wednesday morning Father McKinnon looked the gallant soldier-priest he is, as he stood outside officers' row at the Presidio. In his long military overcoat, his fine features bronzed by the tropic sun, he made a handsome, soldierly figure. When requested to give The Monitor readers an account of his Philippine experiences, Father McKinnon hesitated. It was easy to discern the fact that he was unwilling to talk about himself. Nor would he. He had plenty of praise for others. For the officers and private soldiers of the First Regiment of California Volunteers, for their late leader, Brigadier-General Smith, and many others, he said he could not speak too highly. But of his own splendid career in the Orient he would say never a word.

"You see," he explained, "there was work for me to do and I did it. There is really little to be said." Father McKinnon says he will return to the Philippines.

Private Florencio Figueroa, of Company A, First California Volunteers, then visited. Private Figueroa hails from San Jose and is an old student at Santa Clara College; he speaks Spanish fluently and acted as Chaplain McKinnon's interpreter in the Philippines. Mr. Figueroa did not agree with Chaplain McKinnon, that there was little to be said about the latter's career since he left San Francisco on the Peking, fifteen months ago.

"Early in September of last year," said Mr. Figueroa, "Father McKinnon was detailed by General Hughes, the Provost Marshal of Manila, to be superintendent of the city's cemeteries, the public school and the San Lazaro Hospital for Lepers. I was his daily and constant companion from that time until the first of March when our command was ordered to Negros Island.

"Any one of the three positions have named would have kept busy a man with a good capacity for work. The cemetery superintendent, especially in war time, was, you can well imagine, no sinecure. I and Fred Healy, the newspaper correspondent, were associated with the Father in his task of reorganizing the schools, which were in a chaotic state, and we will testify that there was plenty of work to be done in that field.

"I would like to say a few words about the excellent school system which the energy and executive ability of the Father made possible. The schools like everything else in Manila, were in a woful condition on account of the unrest incidental to the warfare on the island. There were few pupils in attendance, discipline and order were unknown in the classrooms and a child may well have been in the street as in school. Indeed, even the regular scholars were as often out of school as in for the authorities were extremely generous in providing holidays. Apropos, I will say that if Chaplain McKinnon has any enemies in Manila he will find them among the Filipino children, as he ordered that hereafter, like any other little American, they must be contented with the Fourth of July, Thanksgiving Day, and the other American National festivals, for their holidays.

"Father McKinnon's work in the leper and small-pox hospitals was especially heroic. It is not always hard to not bravely in battle when the excitement naturally in such a case spur one on, but to coolly face death in a hideous form in the plague-stricken hospitals, is the highest type of heroism. I often tried to dissuade the Father from his frequent visits to these places. He would simply reply quietly: 'It is my duty.'

"At the leper hospital there were always two or three hundred inmates. They were clothed and fed and supplied with one dollar apiece every ten days. It was a frightful, brain-baunting procession that would form when Father McKinnon visited the hospital to distribute the Mexican dollars to the deformed and unfortunate.

"Another task, and an important one, that was entrusted to the Chaplain was the relief of the families made destitute in consequence of the war. Many of them were proud Spaniards whose father or husband had been killed or made captive by Aguinaldo's army. Nearly all had to be sought out with the assistance of the Manila clergy. Father McKinnon, however, easily won their friendship and confidence, and it was not long before they believed the one hated American the finest people in the world. We would visit the distressed families regularly and give them provisions and money according to their needs. Their expressions of gratitude were touching.

"Despite these manifold duties, Father McKinnon never forgot his position as Chaplain of the California Regiment. He responded to the bugle call to arms as quickly as a private soldier. And when an engagement was on, he seemed to be every where. One would think him a member of the Hospital Corps. As soon as a man was struck in the trenches or on the field the Chaplain was at his side and assisted in carrying him to safety, utterly heedless of the storm of bullets. He has been wounded slightly and had a great many perilous escapes from death. On one occasion at San Pedro Macati, where assisting Sergeant Dunn and Private Brandt, a bullet whizzed past his head striking the rim of his hat. Another time, when Lieutenant Hogan of Company M, was shot, Father McKinnon was in attendance on the battle-field. He was seen to drop as if severely wounded. He was only slightly hit in the hand, however, and continued his ministrations as if nothing had happened.

"In the army hospitals, Father McKinnon was a constant and welcome visitor. Always obsequious, always kind and smiling, his entrance into the wards immediately brightened the sick and wounded soldiers. A large number of Protestants in the hospitals were converted to Catholicity by Father McKinnon.

"The secret of Chaplain McKinnon's great popularity with the soldiers, if you cannot find it in what I have already said, is in his many little kindnesses to them. Their comfort and happiness seemed to be his constant thought. He was requested to act as a savings bank for many of the thirty ones, and quite often, I imagine, he played the role of paying teller.

"So you can easily believe that Chaplain McKinnon has spent some busy months in the Philippine Islands."

As Mr. Figueroa finished speaking an orderly gave him a package, "with Chaplain McKinnon's compliments," to be distributed among the boys."

SUPPER'S ENTHUSIASTIC RECEPTION.

SEPTEMBER 23.—Chaplain McKinnon of the First California Volunteers, was this evening received the most enthusiastic reception ever given to a resident of this community. The local branch of the Red Cross Society in anticipation of the gallant priest's return to his old parish had prepared an elaborate welcome for him, and from the arrival of the evening train until late at night the streets of the town blazed with patriotic decorations and fireworks.

It was an event long to be remembered by the residents of Suvaan and this part of Solano County. Although the time for preparation was short the ladies of the Red Cross

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Society, aided by the fishermen and citizens, worked with an energy and zeal that produced wonderful results, and the Chaplain was accorded a welcome that was spontaneous and enthusiastic. All day long busy hands were at work making preparations for the reception. Decorations of red, white and blue flags, streamers, var-color lanterns, etc., were placed in position, many of the business houses being decorated in an elaborate manner.

A handsome arch was erected in the plaza, which was a mass of star-shaped banners, surmounted by a well-executed portrait of Father McKinnon and lighted by a large number of electric lights, presenting a brilliant spectacle. When the evening train arrived a vast throng was assembled at the depot to welcome the returning chaplain, and when he alighted from the train he was received with buzzes and cheers of welcome. A procession was formed, consisting of some sixty mounted horsemen, a brass band, carriages filled with members of the press and a long line of firemen and citizens on foot.

After marching through the principal streets and illuminating the avenues with fireworks a halt was made at Native Sons' Hall. This was quickly filled and the oration there rendered Father McKinnon was full of that patriotism characteristic of California. An impromptu programme of music, consisting of national airs, was rendered, after which an address of welcome was made by Judge A. J. Buckle, a veteran of the Civil War, who voiced the sentiments of those present in his hearty words of welcome, his remarks being frequently interrupted by the cheers of the audience.

Father McKinnon in response spoke at length. He first paid a glowing tribute to the officers and men of his regiment and especially to General Smith. He then told of his experiences during the war, of his entry into Manila to see the Archbishop whom it was generally supposed the only one who desired to hold out, but who, in fact, was earnestly desirous of peace and favoured capitulation. He also had a long audience with the Governor-General who acknowledged to him the folly of holding out, but told him that it would be fatal for him to surrender, something which his present fate corroborated.

In closing the Chaplain spoke of the grave criticism upon the conduct of General Otis, which he had seen in some of the newspapers. His vigorous repudiation of all assertions that the charges against Otis were true. Because of the long time which he was in direct contact with the commanding General, Father McKinnon feels that a great injustice is done to him by the press. He said:

"I do not think that one in his position could have done more than he has done. He has been pictured as doing everything wrong upon his own responsibility, while, as a matter of fact he always consulted with his officers in regard to the plans of the campaign. All the officers uphold him and history will vindicate him. Campaigning in Luzon is very different to campaigning in California. And taking into consideration the great difficulty of moving about it is wonderful that 'that' man has done so much. He has been pictured as a few months the life of Otis, while he has been in the Philippines for nearly two years, and the time he has spent in the Philippines has been spent in the most heroic and devoted manner."

The accounts of the burning of the home for destitute children in charge of the Sisters of St. Dominic, at Nyack, N. Y., are painful reading, but it is relieved by the glow of most heroic devotedness. Nine buildings were destroyed; and although the fire broke out when the inmates—numbering 365—were sound asleep, only four or five lives were lost. Not a single child was burned, though several of the Sisters were terribly, perhaps mortally, injured in their efforts to save them. "All the Sisters refused to leave the burning buildings until they saw that every child had gone. One went back to make sure of the count, lost her way in the smoke, and was almost killed in making her escape." The last Sister to leave will probably die, she was so badly burned and injured in jumping from a flaming height. It must have been a pitiable sight, those antecur-

OTTAWA LETTER.

(Field over from last week.)

THE PREMIER AS PEACE-MAKER.

It was mentioned a fortnight ago that Sir Wilfred Laurier had expressed a desire to have his friend Mr. Ernest Pacaud, of Haldé des Chateaux railway notoriety, elected in Lotbinière. But there are local aspirants who have something to say about the representation of this place, and Mr. Pacaud's prospects are not so good as they appeared. While Sir Wilfred rejects Mr. Pacaud, Mr. Pacaud writes strong articles in his paper complaining that the management of the party in Quebec district is not good. The Quebec government organ points out that Mr. F. Langlois and Mr. Choquette, who have been prominent leaders in the district, are no longer available. Sir Henri Joy has never shown his face at a meeting since he became a minister, while Mr. Doherty is an old conservative, who is tired and gray when the party came into power, and was made a minister the next week. The premier concedes to Quebec, but Mr. Pacaud says that Sir Wilfred is so busy with affairs of state as to have no time left to look after local appointments and dismissals. In this state of affairs it is necessary, according to Mr. Pacaud, that some one should be elected in Lotbinière who can stand up to these matters. No doubt it would be a good place for Mr. Pacaud. It would open to him and his friends one more good opportunity which he lost when Melrose was turned out.

JOYOUS, BUT COSTLY.

The Toronto Globe correspondent, who has been with the commission appointed to issue scrip to the Half-breeds in the North-West confirms the worst fears expressed by Mr. Doherty and other conservatives. These opposition members proposed that the payment of three quarters of a million dollars to the Half-breeds should be made in such a way that it would do the Half-breeds some good. They suggested that the assistance should be given in the shape of farm stock, farm implements, seed grain, or in money then in annual payments, and not all at once. Mr. Sifton had his own way and made the payments all at once, and the Globe writer tells how the brokers, gamblers, peddlars and other trades and adventurers followed up the commission. Here is an extract from the Toronto Globe's account of what happened:

"It was indeed a gala time, and the effect of the issue and the sale of the scrip were soon manifest in our neighborhood. The traders' booths were thronged with purchasers; also in the afternoon, when the scrip and ginger ale were sold, and in the evening, improvised from an improvised game with spinning carrels, the night at some interesting but easy way of losing money, illuminating the scene with gasolene lanterns, and presenting a picture worthy of an impressionist's pencil. But the two dancing floors were the chief attraction."

"This carnival cost the country \$340,000—that is to say \$240 each to 1,400 Half-breeds. Like scores of like expenses were enacted elsewhere."

NOTES.

Mr. Tarte is expected home in a fortnight.

Mr. Foster was one of the speakers at the meeting of the people held at the school house in St. John's, in Mr. Blair's constituency.

The Newest Thing

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WM. DENNIS,
Managing Director
Halifax, Sep. 13, 1899—31