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This condition of affairs he declares to be general in the towns of New England, Fall River being only a sample of what is going on all over the district. He infers that the Catholic Church alone is now the Church of the people: it alone supplies the spiritual needs of the whole people, and will be able to preserve in them all the spirit of Christianity, unless there be a radical change in the mode of operations of the Protestant communities. Mr. Hale's object is to excite their zeal and to bring about a change in the condition of things.

THE POPE AND THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT.

The officers of the United States cruiser Detroit visited the Holy Father Pope Leo XIII. on Wednesday, the 26th ult., and were very kindly received. They were in charge of the relics of Christopher Columbus which were sent to the Chicago World's Fair, and were returned on board the cruiser.

Commander Newell, in a brief address, thanked his Holiness for granting an audience to himself and his fellow-officers. No American visiting Europe, he said, thought his visit complete unless he had seen his Holiness the Pope. The Pope replied in Italian, as follows, his words being translated by Monsignor O'Connell:

"I regret my inability to express in English how pleased I am to receive you who were entrusted by the American Government to bring back the objects which I sent to Chicago. It is a source of great pleasure to me to recall that these relics were received with honor, and were given a place of distinction. I am also highly gratified to perceive the care which the American Government took to assure their safe return. I feel a lively satisfaction to see the progress which America makes daily among the civilized nations, which it outstrips, though younger. But while I am happy to see your national advance in numerous branches of civilization, I am more particularly pleased to note her religious progress. The Catholic Church flourishes, and I desire to see her more flourishing still. At the same time, though I express a special paternal solicitude towards American Catholics, yet it is with peculiar pleasure that I receive you because you are Americans. I hope to publish in a few weeks an encyclical to the Episcopate of the United States and Canada conveying the sentiments of my special satisfaction for your country. In the meantime I bless you all, and when you return to your fatherland, tell your families that the Pope blesses them with the paternal affection which will accompany you in the midst of the fatigues of the long voyage you are about to undertake." The last words of the Pope referred to the Detroit's approaching voyage to China. All the officers of the Detroit, although there was only one Catholic among them, received the Papal Benediction kneeling. The American officers visited the Raphael galleries and the Sistine chapel before leaving the Vatican.

It will no doubt be gall and wormwood to the Traynors and Lintons and other Apostles of the great Republic, that the illustrious Head of the Catholic Church should have been so honored by the President of the United States, and they may raise a howl of indignation on account of the event, and perhaps they may demand a court martial for the trial of the Protestant officers who dare to receive on their knees the blessing of the venerable Pontiff; but the nothingness of these fanatics shows itself everywhere: and everywhere the grandeur of the Catholic Church and of its Head compels the respect of thoughtful people. It is only the brainless fanatics of the Lord George Gordon stamp, so well described by Dickens in "Barnaby Rudge," that raise the cry of "no-Popery" to excite a senseless rabble against the creed of the Christian world which has been handed down to us through more than eighteen centuries, and through all the vicissitudes of dynasties and their empires.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

It is now announced that the movement to establish an Independent Polish American National Church with the pretended Bishop Vilkate and the pseudo Pole Kolaszewski at the head, has completely collapsed, because it could get no followers. The Poles of America are not to be so easily seduced from their allegiance to the Holy Father as the concocters of the movement expected.

W. J. H. TRAYNOR, who is President of the A. P. A. of the United States, is just as boastful concerning the pretended success of Apisism as is the President of P. P. Aism, the Rev. J. Madill, of Ontario, concerning P. P. Aism in this Province at the elections.

In a recent letter issued to the members of the association, President Traynor declares that the Apostles carried all before them. Professor Sims, however, in another letter, lets out the truth apparently, stating that there will be forty Apostles in the new House of Representatives. This will be but as a corporal's guard in a house of three hundred and sixty members, after all their braggadocio. Nor can these claim to hold any balance of power, though nearly all are on the Republican side in general politics, for the Republicans will be strong enough to throw them overboard; and the pseudo Professor admits that this is what will be done, and that some of the forty "will not be able to hold out against party pressure, as the Republican leaders are at heart as much opposed to the A. P. A. as are the Democrats." This confession is timely, as it shows that neither Democrats nor Republicans will let this old Man of the Sea fasten himself around their necks. The A. P. A. has had a more miserable fate, apparently, in the great Republic than even in Ontario, where its discomfiture has been so complete—for here it did actually fraternize with a party, bringing it to destruction, but on the other side of the line no party would take the foul thing to its embrace. Only a very limited number of Republicans coquetted with it, and it may be relied on that forty members of the society is the highest estimate of those elected with A. P. A. sympathies.

We are pleased to notice that Mr. M. P. McDonagh, barrister, of Wallaceburg, has taken up his residence in London, and will practice law in partnership with Mr. D. H. Tennant. We welcome him to the Forest City, and trust his success will be proportionate to his talents and integrity of character.

Some of the Ontario papers have of late been again dealing with the Noble case. This matter we referred to editorially a few weeks ago in the CATHOLIC RECORD. All the additional light thrown on the circumstance serves to confirm the opinion that a cruel injustice has been inflicted upon a most worthy and enterprising business firm by a Government official through a spirit of vindictiveness. Indeed, it is only too apparent that this vindictiveness was accentuated because of the connection of this Government servant with the Protestant Protective Association. Nothing short of a parliamentary enquiry will now satisfy the public in regard to this occurrence, and we hope that on the assembling of Parliament a commission will be appointed for this purpose. The hearing of the case which took place some time since before the Commissioner of the Fishery Department, Mr. Wilmot, was nothing more nor less than a farce. His action throughout resembled very much the conduct of an attorney for the fishery inspector.

WE GAVE a full account some time ago of the brutal treatment of the Poles of Krusze who were sentenced to banishment to Siberia for having resisted the Cossack soldiery sent to close St. Benedict's church of their parish. We expressed the well-founded hope that the Emperor Nicholas would reverse this cruel and unjust sentence of the late dying Czar. This hope has been realized, and it is now stated in a despatch from Warsaw of the 23rd ult. that the Emperor has ordered their unconditional release. This was to be expected from the orders already given to General Gourko to cease the work of persecution which he was so relentlessly carrying on. In consequence of this order the general resigned his Governorship of the district, but this has not deterred the Emperor from continuing the policy of toleration which he has so auspiciously inaugurated. All these facts bode a new era in the Russian Empire.

THE Toronto Mail of Thursday, the 27th ult., says:

"It looks like a strange coincidence that all the old members of the Separate School Board of Toronto should be returned by acclamation. Separate school elections are very harmonious affairs, thanks to the system of open voting."

Our contemporary does not inform us what parallel event comes in to make up the coincidence, so we are left to conjecture this. Perhaps the coincidence is found in the fact that all that journal's efforts to persuade the Catholics of the city that they are suffering under a grinding despotism have fallen flat on those who were alone concerned in the matter. We are happy in being able to confirm the Mail's remark that the Catholic school

elections, and the Catholic school management in general, are really "harmonious affairs." The same harmony which was evinced in Toronto was shown in London and Hamilton, where also the Separate school trustees were all chosen by acclamation. In Ottawa, matters were somewhat more lively, as the trustees were elected in four wards by acclamation, and in four there will be a contest. We are by no means sorry to see a contest sometimes in these elections, as it shows that the people take an interest in education.

DEATH OF MONSIGNOR ROONEY.

It is our sad duty to announce in this issue of the CATHOLIC RECORD, the death of Monsignor Francis P. Rooney, V. G. of the Archdiocese of Toronto, and pastor of St. Mary's church of that city, on Wednesday, Dec. 26.

The Very Rev. Father Rooney was one of the ablest and most beloved priests of the Archdiocese, being held in the highest esteem both by priests and laymen. He had been pastor of St. Mary's church for a quarter of a century, during which time he was indefatigable in his labors for the spiritual welfare of his congregation, and for the good of religion throughout the Archdiocese.

The handsome church and presbytery of St. Mary's parish were erected through his efforts, and will stand as a memorial of his zeal and disinterestedness as a priest. He was also prominent in the work of Catholic education, and almost from the first year of his incumbency of St. Paul's church on Power street he was continuously chairman of the Board of Separate School Trustees for the city; that is, from the year 1858, when he was appointed by Bishop Charbonnell pastor of St. Paul's church—a position which he held until he took charge of St. Mary's, to succeed the present Most Reverend Archbishop of Toronto, who held St. Mary's parish until his election as Bishop of London. He ceased to be chairman of the Board in January, 1894, as his state of health would not permit him longer to fulfil the duties of that office.

In addition to the church buildings we have already mentioned as having been erected through his efforts, he also built the presbytery of St. Paul's parish, and St. Helen's church at Brockton, and a handsome church at Seaton village, the two last named being within the limits of St. Mary's parish.

Monsignor Rooney's illness began on 6th Jan., 1893, two years ago, and since that date he was considered as rapidly approaching his end, and several times he was thought to be at the point of death, though his naturally vigorous constitution carried him through his very severe illness, until he finally succumbed to it. The sickness from which he died was uraemic coma, together with a disease of the heart.

Monsignor Rooney was ordained priest on 30th August, 1857, two others receiving the sacred order of priesthood at the same time. He was a native of Newry, Armagh county, Ireland, where he was born in 1822. In 1853 he entered St. Michael's College, Toronto, and there prosecuted his ecclesiastical studies till his ordination. He then became parish priest of St. Basil's parish, while teaching in the college. Thence he was transferred to St. Paul's parish in 1858, and in 1870 to St. Mary's, where he labored till his death.

In 1871 he was appointed Vicar-General of the Archdiocese, and during the absence of Archbishop Lynch in Rome, and after the late Archbishop's death, he administered the Archdiocese in conjunction with the late Vicar-General Laurent.

In 1892 Monsignor Rooney was honored by being appointed Domestic Prelate to his Holiness Pope Leo XIII.

We copy from the Empire the following reference to the life of the deceased priest:

Monsignor Rooney, V. G., parish priest of St. Mary's, died at his residence, McDonnell square, at 1 o'clock this morning.

Although the veteran priest has been ailing for three years past, and was at the point of death a year ago, his sudden demise this morning will be a shock to the people of the Roman Catholic faith of the city.

On Saturday last the aged prelate visited His Grace Archbishop Walsh at his residence on Sherbourne street, and paid his respects to the head of the Church in Toronto. He had his medical adviser's permission to make the trip, and returned to his residence during the afternoon evidently much brightened by the interview with His Grace.

That night Rev. Father Rooney's strength failed him, and one sinking spell followed another until

death. Father Rooney was a whole-souled Irishman, whose great heart found a charitable word for everybody, and whose work among the poor of the city will be greatly remembered by the thousands who have shared his life.

AN INCIDENT BEFORE DEATH.
Ill unto death as he was on Christmas morning, he desired to give his blessing to all who called upon him. A lady of his parish told last evening of a pathetic scene she witnessed at his bedside on the afternoon of Christmas day. A poor woman who has been kept for years from starvation by the deceased was kneeling at his bedside and asked his blessing. Turning to her he held his hands above her head and pronounced the benediction, after which he said, "It will not be long before I shall make your wants known personally to God."

REV. FATHER ROONEY'S CAREER.

Francis Patrick Rooney was born in the county of Armagh, Ireland, where he received his classical education in the diocesan seminary. About the time he was finishing it was commonly reported that Father Dowd, who was well known in that part of the country, was to be appointed coadjutor Bishop of Toronto. This determined Father Rooney to come to Canada; and on writing Bishop de Charbonnell he received a letter in reply which was a most cordial invitation.

Father Rooney reached this city in July, 1853. When St. Michael's College opened the following September he entered upon his theological course, and became prefect of studies. He continued in the college as professor until after his ordination as priest, which took place August 30, 1857. He remained in the college for a year, combining with his duties as professor that of parish priest of St. Basil's. The following summer he was appointed pastor of St. Paul's. This parish was at that time in a state of excitement and anger. It required prudence and firmness to adjust matters. Father Rooney, notwithstanding his inexperience, acted with such caution and determination that in a short time he had the satisfaction of reigning over a peaceful and united people. For twelve years he labored at St. Paul's earnestly, zealously and successfully. When he took charge of the parish there was no presbytery; he built a large one, which stands to-day. He provided for the spiritual wants of the people in repairing and decorating the church, in establishing new schools and enlarging old ones, and equipping all at his own personal expense.

WHAT HE DID FOR SEPARATE SCHOOLS.
At this time the Separate schools were in their infancy; the means at their disposal for their sustentation were very limited. It was largely owing to the efforts of Father Rooney, who purchased school sites and erected school houses, that the Separate schools of Toronto were brought out of their swaddling clothes of poverty, weakness and inefficiency and placed in the satisfactory position they occupy to-day. Father Rooney's influence was soon felt. He had secured not only the hearts of his own people but also the respect and confidence of the many Protestants in the city who knew him.

Archbishop Lynch appointed him Vicar-General in 1867—an appointment which met with universal approval. When Archbishop Lynch died, Vicar-General Rooney was appointed co-administrator of the diocese with the late lamented Father Laurent. This appointment was made at Rome and lasted until Archbishop Walsh was inducted to his high office. In 1870 Vicar-General Rooney was appointed parish priest of St. Mary's, where it was thought necessary that his brilliant executive mind should dominate. He found the parish disunited and its finances in bad shape. The first fruit of his labor in the new field was the building of St. Helen's church at Brockton. A presbytery for St. Mary's was next erected. He next purchased land at the corner of Bloor and Bathurst streets, where a school was soon erected. Mass is said in this building every Sunday. Following in quick succession came several Separate schools in the parish, until at last the parish is one of the most flourishing in the province. All this is to a large extent due to the zeal and prudence of Father Rooney, who watched and fostered it for the past twenty-three years. Last year he was signally honored when he was created a noble of the Church, with the title of Monsignor, conferred by His Holiness the Pope. Beloved by all who knew him, he died leaving his name inseparably connected with the history of the Catholic Church in Toronto during the past forty years. In the parishes where he had served his name is a household word, and for many years to come he will be remembered as a holy priest, a noble man and a true friend to the poor and needy.

TRIBUTE TO THE DEAD PRELATE.

Hon. J. J. Curran's Address at the Sir John A. Macdonald Club.

In consideration of the fact that Hon. Mr. Curran's address, on the death of Sir John Thompson, was the only one delivered by an Irish Catholic representative, we deem it proper to give our readers the benefit of those touching remarks.

The president called upon Hon. J. J. Curran, the Solicitor-General, who said: "The occasion that brings us together is inexpressibly sad. What can my feeble words add to the chorus of pain and praise that resounds in waiting notes around us? How could I be expected to give utterance even to my own sentiments on the calamity that has befallen our country through the death of Canada's best and brightest son, the Right Hon. Sir John Thompson? He was my friend, I loved him as a brother; he treated me as one. He was a great man; the Empire, the English and French speaking worlds testify to it. He was a good man—that his bitterest foes have with singular unanimity accorded to his memory. As a rising statesman the statute book of his native province gives evidence of his ability, and in later years the imprint of his genius is to be seen on every subject within the jurisdiction of the Dominion Parliament. Outside of his Canadian home—in London, in Washington and in Paris, he has left imperishable monuments to his fame.

Sir John Thompson had labored with the mighty problems of Canadian nationhood, and amidst untold difficulties had struggled for the good and glory of his country and the Empire, crowning his illustrious career by laying down his life at the foot of the throne. His brief but brilliant career is a model for the public men of to-day as well as for future generations of servants of the people. He has given a tone to the leadership that will cause Canada to exact private worth as well as public virtue. He was no mere wire-pulling politician,—and knavish tricks he despised, and I can apply to him now, with still greater force than

of the revered dead. The church was heavily draped, the windows curtained and the arches fastened from pillar to pillar. The lovely floral decorations of the scarce-expired Christmas festival still lent beauty and perfume to the scene, and the contrast between the snowy blossoms and the sombre mourning, between the symbols of Divine birth and human death, was striking and pathetic.

Some hours before the time set for the services the church began to fill up until probably 3,000 persons were crowded within its walls, and half as many more failed to secure admission. Grouped in the chancel, before the altar, and around the casket, was an imposing array of clergy, including a majority of the priests of the Province. Among them being Archbishop Walsh, Toronto; Archbishop Cleary, Kingston; Bishop O'Connor, London; Bishop O'Connor, Peterborough; Bishop Dowling, Hamilton; Rev. Dr. Kilroy, Stratford; Vicar-General McCann, Toronto; Dean Harris, St. Catharines; Dean Egan, Barrie; Dean Conway, Norway; Dean Bergin, Toronto, and many more. In the vast congregation were noticed many prominent citizens, including Hon. Timothy Anglin, H. H. Cook, ex-M. P., E. F. Clarke, ex-M. P., Chevalier Gianelli, Patrick Boyle, Patrick Hughes, B. B. Hughes, R. W. Riddell, E. King Dadds and Mrs. Dadds, ex-Ald. Pape, Ald. Wm. Burns, William Ryan, James Ryan, Eugene O'Connell, James Gormally, J. C. Walsh, Frank P. Lee, P. O'Connor, John Stock, Geo. Evans, William Clarke, James O'Malley, Thomas Flynn, Michael Walsh, Matthew O'Connor, T. J. Lee, J. J. Nightingale, and scores besides. The members of the Toronto Separate School Board were present in a body, together with large contingents from the Ancient Order of Hibernians and the Emerald Beneficial Association, of which latter body the deceased had been Grand Chaplain for over twenty years. The Christian Brothers, the Sisters of Loretto and St. Joseph and representatives from every other Roman Catholic body in the city were also present in large numbers.

Pontifical Requiem High Mass was celebrated by Bishop Dowling, assisted by Father Flannery of St. Thomas as deacon and Dean Conway of Norway as sub-deacon. The full choir, whose performance was particularly excellent, was under the direction of Rev. Father Murray of St. Basil's, the soloists for the occasion being Mr. F. A. Anglin. At the close of the service His Grace Archbishop Walsh preached an eloquent funeral oration from the altar rail, taking for his subject the certainty of death and the need to occupy this life in preparation for the life to come. Referring to the dead, in whose home they had gathered, His Grace spoke of his thirty years' labor and untiring zeal in the city, particularly in the upbuilding of new parishes and the erecting of church edifices. The venerable prelate spoke in terms of affection and sorrowful remembrance of his dead colleague, and commended the bright example of his piety and devotedness to his hearers.

Shortly after the noon hour the lengthy cortege formed and started for St. Michael's cemetery, where the remains were laid to rest beside those of the late Vicar-General Laurent. The pall-bearers were Dean Harris, St. Catharines; Dean Bergin, Toronto; Father Ryan, Toronto; Father Killelin, Adajala; Father Duffy, Dixie, and Father Allain, St. Catharines.

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I once had the privilege of doing on the floor of the Parliament, on a memorable occasion, the words of Norman McLeod:

"Perish all that fear the light,
Whither winning, whither losing,
Fear the Lord and do the right."

Sir John Thompson's influence for good has already made itself felt throughout the country. He was persecuted for conscience sake, but those who assailed him are amongst the most grief-stricken to-day. In this solemn moment can we forget Lady Thompson and her five orphan children in her and their unutterable affliction. Most affectionate husband, tender hearted father that he was, he had to sacrifice the interests of his home upon the altar of his country. Surely the appeal to his grief-stricken family will find an echo in every generous Canadian heart, and on the tombstone of the illustrious departed will be engraved indelibly: "His Countrymen were not Ungrateful."

Hail Mary; Blessed Art Thou Among Women.

BY G. A. DAVIS.

Thou art high in the fathomless splendor,
that knoweth to sun or star,
Thou, human, yet higher than angels, where
the mightiest angels are
And hast thou forgotten, O Mary, in that
ageless glory of thine,
The rising and setting of suns in the heavens
of Palestine?

Thou art crowned as a mother in heaven—
but low at the feet of the Son,
Canst thou look back and remember the life
of the years that are done?
Thou art woman, not angel, O Mary! and
safe in the folds of thine heart
I ween that thou still keepest all things to
ponder, as high as thou art.

Through the sweep of the song that forever
and ever ascends round the throne
Canst thou catch, O dear Mother, the echo of
prayers once thine own?
The whippers that rose on the darkness when
moonlight was dying in dawn
And outwaded and upward thy soul like the
breath of a flower was drawn?

The nine ranks of seraphs bend round thee,
the angels encircle thy place;
Down the measureless regions of heaven
thou knowest each rapturous face;
But deep in thy heart undergotten the sun-
shine of Nazareth lies,
And the shadows of old human faces float up
in thine eyes.

They tread the rough hill-path beside thee at
evening, when the sun is low,
When the last flame of sunset is smouldering,
burned down to the edge of the plain;
The girls lean and laugh at the well-side—
thou a girl with the rest,
The mystery of God round about thee, His
love in thy breast.

Thou keepest the sound of their voices, the
touch of their hands;
Thy feet know the dew of the rock clefts,
the heat of the sands,
While over and always, O Mary, thy soul in
a rapturous pain
Broods over the Bethlehem stable, adoring
again.

Thy lips keep the touch of old kisses, and
kindling as fire
The lips of the Babe as they turned to the
mother's desire;
Thine ears hold the mystery and wonder,
His first trembling word,
Who lay on thy heart and looked upward,
thy God and thy Lord.

Thou hast not forgotten one heart-beat—
thou, whose sorrows were seven
Thou, Mother and maiden forever, crowned
Mother in heaven?
We have the Arch-Gabriel, we bless thee,
where low at the feet of the Son
Thou kneedest, wrapped round with His
radiance, O humble and glorified one!
FRANK LESTER.

Leaflets from Loretto.

Among the good things that Christmas brought to our sanctum was this excellent publication of the pupils of Loretto Abbey. Opinions may differ as to what the standard and character of a school journal should be. As a stimulus to earnest study, an aid to thorough scholarship, and an evidence of correct literary taste and culture, we consider the Leaflets a very good model indeed. It is interesting, bright and sparkling from beginning to end. And it is suggestive, solid and instructive, without showing extensive, varied and thoughtful reading on the part of the pupils, and judicious, thorough training on the part of the teachers. And, what seems to us most commendable, it is evidently the honest work of the pupils themselves, with very little, if any, outside aid.

Each contributor has something good and all are well worth reading, from the pretty opening poem to the capital musical catechism and the graceful obituary tribute to the memory of Miss Chopitea. Milton says Eve was "the fairest of his daughters," and Miss O'Leary might therefore justify her telling us that the "Father of his Country" was "his country's best beloved son." But we beg to assure Miss Robinson that Mrs. O'Leary never said "asleep." Dialect is not the strong point of writers or teachers at the Abbey this year.

In general, however, the contributors of last year show marked improvement in purity of diction and perfection of style, and the new recruits give hopeful promise of successful work. This Christmas number is, on the whole, a credit to the gifted pupils of Loretto Abbey, and will be a Christmas joy to their teachers and friends. We wish the Leaflets many Happy New Years.—Catholic Register.

E. B. A.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.
St. Mary's Branch, No. 24, Almonte.
At their regular meeting, held on the 15th, the following efficient staff of officers were elected for 1895:

Chaplain, Very Rev. Canon Foley; Chancellor, Timothy McAniff; President, John O'Leary; Vice-President, E. J. O'Reilly; Rec. Sec., C. E. Leamy; Fin. Insurance Sec., P. L. Dowdall; Treasurer, R. M. Tolson; Stewards, Robert Johnson and P. O'Brien; Marshal, Peter Colero. A grand concert will be held by the branch in January. Grand President D. A. Carey will deliver an address, and the committee are engaged arranging for a first class programme for the occasion. W. LANE, S. T.