The Catholic Register.

"Truth is Catholic; proclaim it ever, and God will effect the rest."—BALMEZ.

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TORONTO, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1896.

JH.

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

The Feast of "La Purissima."

[WRITTEN FOR THE RESIDER. Barrellox. Dec. 8. The sweet silvery notes of the numerous peals that rang out last evening from church and basilic, announced to a busy city of wealth, of enterprise and of crasseloss industry and trafile the Vepera of the grand national and traditional feast of Spain's patroness—the popular "La Purissima"—a feast that for Spainish hearts has not a compeer in the Cathodic calendar of that nation. In other Catholic nations of Europe, through coldness or apathy in sonae, through base fawning subservience to the spirit of revolution and Protestantism in others, the glory of its coloration has been dimmed or suspended, but not so in Spain. Love, to day, as in centuries past for the "La Purissima" is "as tender as the love of a son for a mother, strong as the pillars of death." Consequently here in its brilliant festive magnificence it has nover ceased to shine—no, never has it discontinued to throw, like the refugility of its weekness, in fact, nover has it discontinued to throw, like the refugility of its weekness, in fact, nover has it discontinued to throw, like the refugility of the sweetness, in fact, nover has it discontinued to throw, like the refugility of the sweetness, in fact, nover has it discontinued to throw, like the refugility and "res to day, as of old; to day, as in the golden ones of the sainted Eredinand, Vival Viva Maria Santissuma, is the unanimous greeting of her children—the one sweet salutation that breaks the stillness of the dark, louely midnight hour in the streets of its cities, as the "Serano," or might watchman proclaims in stentorian notes the last stroke of the clock. And why this national devotion? It is none other than that Mary loves Spain and Spain loves her Immeulate Mother. Therefore, not alone in the "Condal City" but through the length and breadth of the Peninsula, from the Cantabrian shores of the Biscay to Britain's fortress rock of Gibraltar, the festivities of today, which in this city commences, as the thunders of the cannon from the loty heights of Mortiuch and the sa

widence a mother was given to man—a protector to the world, and a Queen to heaven.

And athough the country is saddened and the people sit in mourning, whilst two wars insatiably devour the flower of its youth, and waste the wealth of its treasury, still, to-day with hearts strong and confident, they give a truce to their grief and a respite to their weeping, for at an early hour the festive joy of old re-asserts itself, and at once the domestic hearth becomes deserted and the churches crowded, for around the altars of Mary Immaculate her countless children seek to have their sorrows soothed, their tears dried and their necessities supplied. Although the gray dawn of morning has not yet burst its leaden canopy and foggy shrouds, still already many of her city's churches are densely thronged, notably that of the "Sacred Heart"—Calle Lauria—it is already ablaze with light and radiant will festive beauty, and its altars are wreathed and festeoned with natures floral westlin—the generous and costly offerings of sinless Mary's pious and devoted daughters of truly Catholic and industrious Cataluna. At every altar, the holy sacrifice is being offered by some faithful son of the militant penient of Marress—the glorious Ignatius—in the presence of the young and of the old, the rich and the poor, who promisconously crowd themselves into every available space from door to sanctuary, and on whose lips there is one unanimous supplication, "Oh Mary, day, conceived without stain, pray for un who have recourse to you."

thout stain, pray for us who have re-ures to you.

This is no solitary instance, o special privileged courch, for so seed Heart, capacious and highly manuental as it is, does not contain title of Mary's Barcelouian army, be "Purissima," "Santa Anna," "Stata Anna," "Suta Anna," "Suta Sulin," de Joseph Mary, "Pino," "Belin," de notably its beautiful Cathedral, sides a host of others, have each their

battalions. each their sodalitios, each their confraterative, of men and of women of the young and of the old and what can be written to day of Barcelona motwithstandimental a hort time ago it had been honeycombed by the indificial and the anarchist and by the secure of the auti-Catholic legions of the control of the co

the praced dignity belongs to Spain of being the first Catholic nation that houred by magnificent featwitles the feast of "La Purlssuma" would need more space, and far sur; ass the limits which the generosity of the I-ditor could possibly concels, since in many other nations. learned churchmon at various epochs have each sought for his own coveted distinction of being the first. So for the present we leave this controversy unsolved; but giving the controversy unsolved; but giving the controversy unsolved; but giving the Archibishop Auselian of Canterbury in 11:11 was the originator of this testival. The Church of Naples asserts that as early as the "the century the feast of the "Pulssuma" was there solemized, while Normandy disputes with Lyons the lotter, and faris too claims that in the 15th century its Bacilica colebrated with control and faris too claims that in the 15th century its Bacilica colebrated and the subsequently of Lotter of the probability of Lotter in the subsequently of the subsequently of Lotter of the probability of Lotter in the subsequently in the time subsequently in the subsequently of Lotter in the subsequently in the subsequently in the subsequently of Lotter in the subsequently of Lotter in the subsequently in the subsequently of Lotter in the subsequently and the subsequently of Lotter in the subsequently of Lotter in the subsequently an

ST. MARY'S

Christmas Services and Exercises.

tian Festival-Boy. Present an Address—Pass Lists in Junior Classes.

Christmas at the above named church was colchrated with more than usual grandeur this year.

Fre the first streaks of day-light had begun to close the horizon the streets of the control of the

Augels' choir under the direct control of the Sisters of St. Joseph sung accompanied by organ and violins the usual christmas Hymns, and the sweet young voices in the "Gloria in excelsis Dec were most improssive. Carand High Mass with Rav. W. McCann delebrant, Vicar General McCann, deacon, Father John Kelly, sub-deacon and master of ceremonies commenced at 11 o'clock the splendid pipe organ accompaning the rendition of Millard's Mass in B. Solos by the Misses Clark, Murcch, Rolleri, Walsh, Memory and Messrs. Rolleri and McCabo.

After Mass' Vicar General McCann ascended the pulpit and in his usual seasy and dignified tyle, wished his congregation a holy and a happy Christmas. Then he took for his bett—"For the Son of Man is come to seek, and to save that which was lost." Luke xix. 10.

The preactiver dwelt on the three thoughts:—We were fallen, Our Lord came to lift usin; were sick He came to heal us.

During Advent a time set apart by the church to prepare for the great festival of Xmas, pious Christians costemplated man's fall and all its attendant miscrier, and with the patriarches sighed for the Messiah. Impressed with the thought of their woes they invoked the Redeemer who alone could save them, the Doctor who could enlighten them, and the great physician who could heal them.

Now that the gloom of Advent has given place to the brightness of Christmas and the Infant Savior is born at Bethlehem the Dynch and presence, fine physique and a rich musical and peace on earth to men of good will. The yoar possesses an imposing appearance, fine physique and a rich musical voice, which gives his cloquence an additional charm and has the wonderful power of holding his audience spellbard of the Augels as midst heavenly brightness of christmas additional charm and has the wonderful power of holding his audience spellbard was a day of devotion combined with pleasure brought to a grand and peaceful close.

St. Mary's School.

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The closing exercises of the boys of St. Mary's school was a very successful affair. Vicar-General McCaus presided and with lim on the platform arranged for the occasion were Rev Father Minchan of St. Peter's, Trustees D. A. Carey and Thomas Baff. There was a lare attendance of the pupils friends present, and as each number of the following programme was given, expressed their appreciation of the advance the boys are making under the direction of the Christian Brothers. Evidence of caroful training in music, under Prof. Donville, was also a prominent feature of the entertainment.

Opening March.

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Choir.

"In Bethlem Town."

Recitation....."In Rome."

Choir.

Recitation "In Rome"

W. Maguire.
Solo "Beautiful Star" B. Breen. "Star of Peace" Chorus. "State t etc."

Choi. "Boys Rights"
Junior Papils.
Testimonials to Forms II. and Junior III.
SECOND PART.
Chorus. "Christmas Greetings"
Choir. "Christmas Speech"
T Madigan.

Before the close of the entertainment Master O. Smillie read the following address to Vicar-General McCann, at the conclusion of which the Vicar thauked the boys for their words of kindness to him and oxpressed the hope that they would spend an enjoyable Christmas time and return with renewed energy to continue their studies.

General Constitution of the constitution of th

Winners of Testimonials at St. Mary's School for December.

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Form II. - Excellent—A. McDonatd, D. Marphy, J. Hagerty, T. O'Hanley, E. Zeagman, J. Classer, T. O'Hanley, E. Zeagman, J. Classer, T. O'Hanley, E. Zeagman, J. Classer, T. O'Hanley, D. Control, G. T. Control, T. Chang, T. C. Control, T. Chang, T. C. Chang, T. Chang, T. C. Chang, T. C. Chang, T. C. Chang, T. C. Chang, T. Chang, T. C. Chang, T. C. Chang, T. C. Chang, T. C. Chang, T. Chang, T. C. Chang, T. Chang, T. C. Chang, T. C. Chang, T. C. Chang, T. Chang, T. C. Chang, T. C. Chang, T. Chang, T. C. Chang, T. Chang, T. C. Chang, T. C. Chang, T. C. Chang, T. C. Chang, T. Chang, T. C. Chang, T. C. Chang, T. C. Chang, T. C. Chang, T. Chang, T. C. Chang, T. C. Chang, T. C. Chang, T. C. Chang, T. Chang, T. C. Chang, T. C.

The Archbishop at the Cathedral.

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His Grace the Archbishop of Toronto was present at the High Mass in St. Michael's Cathedral on Christman day and presented upon the mystery of the Indiana.

It was not been also been also been also been and alone and lone and the congregation of St. Michael's Lave coverget and and the treated the grand subject of his descurse with virid application to the blessurge enjoyed in the world to-day lone with virid application to the blessurge enjoyed in the world to-day lone in the control of the conditions of inequality and inhumanity which persined to the civilization of Rome and to earlier civilizations. He contrasted those conditions with the social freedom enjoyed under modern states, and held up as the central fact in the divine direction of human history the Incarnation. He dwelt upon the mission entrusted to the Church of Christ and showed how uncringly that mission is being planted and fostered throughout the world. He concluded by bringing all the joyful reflection upon his subject into each individual heart when comforted by the sacraments of the church. The sermon was one of the most impressive His Grace has ever delivered.

Separate School Elections.

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The nomination of candidates for Separate School Trustees took place or Separate School Trustees took place of the separate sepa

Ecclesiastical Appointments.

The Archbishop of Montreal has made the following appointments:—Rev. L. Marcehst, cure of Notre Dame de Grace and Rev. J. A. Leclairc, cure of St. Joseph, of Montreal, to be honorary Cauons of the Cathedral of Montreal. Rev. J. E. Blair to be vicar at Notre Dame de Grace, and Rev. Louis Brunet to be vicar at the Sacred Heart at Montreal.

Death of Cardinal Bover.

Cardinal Boyer, Archbishop of Bourges, died on Dec. 16th at the ago of 67. He had occupied his archbishopric since 1993, and was raised to the cardinalate only last year.

Mr. Patrick Fleming, Dundas

After a lingering illness Mr. Patrick Fluming died on the 16th inst. fortified by the Sacram of the column, to which he was so most died of the by the Sacram of the column, to which he was so most died of the the column of the sacram of the

Sad Death of Mr. Joseph Hughes.

A few weeks ago Mr. Joseph Hughes, barrister, third son of Mr. Patrick Hughes, Toronto, went to New York to take up the practice of law there. He was a young gentleman of fine abilities and life seemed to have a brillian future in store for him. He won in Toronto popularity among all who like a manly generous disposition. His numerous friends regretted to see Mr. Hughes leave Toronto, and they were shocked to hear that on Christmas eve he had accidently been reisoned by gas in Brooklyn. It seemed he was sleeping in a room in which there was a gas stove, which was not working all right. Mr. Hughes was not asphystated outright, and lingered from Thursday night till Saturday morning, the cause of death being gas poisoning. He was prayed for on Sunday in the Glurch of Our Lady of Lourdes, of which he was an attendant in Toronto. The news brought his father and relations the most intense grief and made a very general impression of sympathy all over the city. The funeral took place from the residence of Mr. Bernard Hughes, uncle of the deceased, on Tuesday, Solemm Mass was said in the Clurch of Our Lady of Lourdes by Rev. Father James Walsh, and absolution was pronounced by His Grace the Archbisehop. The interment took place in St. Michael's cometery. R. I. P.

Cardinal Jacobini.

Leo XIII. has hisherto held undisputed claim to being the best Latin verse writer in Italy, if not in the world. But now, according to the London Daily Chronicle, his aupremacy in the art is threatened by Cardinal Jacobini, the late Nuncio at Lisbon. The Cardinal has just left Portugal, and has returned to Rome, where he is about to publish a long Latin poom dealing with Modern Rome. The poam will be a history of Rome in verse since 1871, and will contain especial allusion to recent political and social events in the Eternal City.—Dublin Freeman.

Archbishop Fabre.

His Grace Archibitop Fabre was reported to be somewhat lower Wednesday, To-day (Thursday) special prayers will be offered up in all the Roman Catholic churches of the diocese for the recovery of His Grace,