

Brandon Notes.

Mrs. Parcell and little daughter, Mary, returned from the West on Saturday morning. While away, Mrs. Parcell visited her mother, Mrs. Scanlan, of Nelson, B.C., and friends in Vancouver, Victoria and other coast cities.

The ladies aid of St. Augustine's Church will hold their grand bazaar, preparations for which have been so long under way, on the 14th and 15th of October.

Mr. E. F. Boisseau, who has been visiting the Minnesota State fair, has returned to the city.

Mr. L. Bagge was unfortunate enough to lose his residence and all that it contained by fire on Tuesday night. A high wind was blowing and ere the brigade could reach the building it was too late to do anything.

Miss Lizzie Murphy is in Winnipeg visiting her brother Mr. James N. Murphy, of the C.P.R. construction department.

Much sympathy is felt for Mr. and Mrs. Kidney, who lost their baby boy a few days ago.

Regina Notes

It was with feelings of deepest regret that Regina Catholics heard Rev. Father Van Heertum announce the serious illness of Rev. Brother Michael, now in De Pere, Wisconsin. This much loved religious lived for two years in Regina with Rev. Father Van Heertum, and by his saintly life endeared himself to young and old. That his malady is incurable is indeed to be regretted, and there is no doubt that from every home earnest prayers have been sent up on dear Brother Michael's behalf. The pupils of Gratton school especially remember him affectionately.

St. Mary's Church has been moved back and now faces Cornwall street. The work of moving was most successfully done. The sanctuary has been enlarged by taking down the vestry partition. We hope soon to see the handsome new church towering up where it once stood.

Quite a few Regina young men have left the city for Edmonton, which town seems to be growing rapidly. We regret very much that Mr. C. Hall is among the number. Mr. Hall left on Thursday morning for his new home, and our very best wishes follow him. During the few months he was here he proved himself a valuable acquisition to our congregation. As leader of the choir he will be greatly missed, for he did his best to further its interests against many inconveniences, and in all church matters he and his estimable wife proved themselves indefatigable workers. Mrs. Hall follows her husband in a few weeks. We congratulate Edmonton as our loss is most assuredly their gain.

The Misses McCusker left on Sunday night to resume their studies at St. Mary's Academy, Winnipeg. Miss McCarthy also left for the same institution, and the Misses Wilson, daughters of S. Chivers Wilson, Government offices, left by the same train for Lebert convent. We wish them all a pleasant and most profitable term.

GENA MACFARLANE.

Obituary.

We regret to have to record the almost sudden death, from heart failure, of Miss Johanna Cleary, which occurred last Sunday about 10 p.m., at Portage la Prairie, where deceased had for some three weeks been a guest at the residence of Mr. S. Swinford.

Miss Cleary would have been 31 years of age on the 1st of November next. Many severe attacks of illness she had had to struggle through. When about 15 she was laid up for weeks with typhoid fever; some years later she suffered from rheumatic fever, and lately she was for more than three months under Dr. McKenty's treatment, chiefly for heart trouble. Still she had stood this last heavy trial most bravely and was con-

sidered on her way to a complete recovery, when a very unexpected and sudden failure of the heart carried her away.

What was most surprising throughout all these different courses of sickness is the constant cheerfulness of character which everybody that knew her remarked in Miss Cleary. Her friends, whom her amiable disposition had made so numerous, will mourn her untimely departure.

Miss Cleary, as a child, was one of the first who were prepared by and made their first communion under the Rev. Father Cherrier at the Immaculate Conception. She was also one of the first to join the Sodality of the Children of Mary Immaculate, and her merits were soon recognized by her companions, who elected her to the responsible position of President of the Sodality. During her term of office she discharged her duties in a most creditable manner, both to herself and the Sodality. Her demise will be sorely felt by all and each of her companions.

The members of her family, with whom she was a great favorite, will deeply mourn her loss, but none will feel it as keenly as her aged mother. Mrs. Cleary loves tenderly all her children, but she was wholly wrapped up in her daughter Johanna as the consolation and comfort of her old age.

The funeral took place on Wednesday morning from the residence of Mr. John Markinski, brother-in-law of the deceased lady, to the Church of the Immaculate Conception, and thence to the St. Mary's cemetery, where the remains were laid at rest side by side with those of her late father, who died on the 20th of March, 1894.

The Review extends its sincerest sympathy to Mrs. Cleary and the members of her family in their sad bereavement. R. I. P.

CONFIRMATION AT THE CHURCH OF IMMACULATE CONCEPTION.

On Sunday last at the 8.30 a.m. mass, which he celebrated at the Church of the Immaculate Conception, His Grace, the Most Rev. Rev. A. Langevin, Archbishop of St. Boniface, administered the Sacrament of Confirmation to 36 persons, of whom 14 were males and 22 females.

His Grace impressed upon all the members of the congregation, and particularly those who were to be confirmed, the necessity of receiving this great sacrament. The dangers by which the young especially are surrounded the whole world over, but more so perhaps in this country, demand that they should be thoroughly equipped to go through the battle of life without ruin to their faith and moral virtues. The ceremony was very imposing and a large congregation filled the church.

THE WAY TO THE HOSPITAL.

When two of Casey's customers got to arguing on religious subjects trouble began to brew. And when a foolish person in the dignified stage of intoxication expressed his disapproval of the Roman hierarchy it was time to turn in a riot call. Just as the dignified person struck the sidewalk and gathered himself together, a pale faced man came around the corner and asked: "Can you tell me the quickest way to get to St. Vincent's hospital?"

Straightening himself up, and regarding his interrogator fixedly the man with the dignified jag replied:

"If you are in a big hurry, just step inside that saloon and holler, 'Down with the pope!'—New York Press.

A CATHOLIC COUNTY.

Prosperous Irish-American Settlement in Nebraska.

Greeley is a Catholic county. Away back in the latter 70's Bishop O'Connor, Bishop of Omaha, established a colony in Greeley and thither flocked many of the old faith, both from the east and from across the ocean. For years before this migration the saintly bishop had cherished the plan to group Catholics together in selected places

where they could enjoy the privileges enjoyed in Catholic countries, and also make a start in life on cheaply purchased land. After visiting Greeley county he decided to locate his colony there, drove over the land and himself selected 25,000 acres, which were bought by the Irish Catholic Colonization Association.

Two missions were mapped out and named O'Connor and Spalding, after the bishop of the diocese and the president of the company, Bishop Spalding, of Peoria, Ill. Of the \$2,540 contributed for a frame church at the latter place the colony itself subscribed \$1,100.

In 1886 the present pastor, Father Julius De Voss, arrived, and six months later Bishop O'Connor confirmed eighty-five persons in Spalding. In this year the church yard and a new cemetery were fenced in and planted with trees; the dead were removed to their new resting place and for two days services were held in the church. Three altars were erected. A two-story parsonage was built and stations of the cross placed in the church and in the cemetery.

In 1890 a new church was built, and a grand altar in honor of Our Lady of Lourdes donated by Mrs. Koster, of Omaha. Thus, one Sunday morning when the farmers gathered for Mass, there stood the sweet statue of the Mother of God on an altar thirty feet high, a vision of heaven and a pledge of many favors through her intercession. Soon after the Sisters of Mercy established a convent in Spalding with Mother Joseph as Superior and Sister Angela and Sister Xavier, both now in Omaha, as teachers.

The erection of this church was an arduous one which would have discouraged any less fervent people. As Spalding was twenty miles from a railroad, all material was hauled that distance and a constant succession of 300 teams and wagons for weeks was seen wending their way over the sand hills to the new Catholic haven by the beautiful Cedar river. Owing to the distance, brick could not be used, and a shell of frame was put up to be veneered afterward. The church is Gothic, an imitation of the Beguine church in Belgium which was erected in the fourteenth century. The two towers, the clearstory, the transepts and the grouped windows make quite an appearance on the outside, while within, the beams and braces, the pretty scroll work and the variety of windows and colors give an air of brightness and finish not to be looked for out upon the prairies.

One hundred and five families are enrolled on the list of the congregation, besides many single men. Three-fourths of the people are Irish and the rest Germans and Belgians. The most perfect harmony reigns between them. Families of a proportion to satisfy even President Roosevelt are here to be found, and they all drive in to the parish church Sunday after Sunday, filling it for two masses. It would be difficult to find a healthier and happier lot of boys and girls and more contented families. The people have enviable homes. Their fields are large and fertile, and their houses comparing favorably with city residences.

This article would be incomplete if mention were not made of the signal answer to prayer which came to this little colony back in the 80's when drouth was devastating Nebraska and driving countless families from their homes. Those dreary days are still remembered, not only in Nebraska, but in the east also. At this time Father Finnegan, S.J., was holding a mission in Spalding. The drouth was fearful and the colonists were facing starvation. The missionary Jesuit promised rain if every family attended each service. They did so. A tridium was commenced. The third evening, when all the people were in church, such a violent storm broke forth that the congregation could not leave the church for hours. Their crops were saved.

Similar blessings have been showered upon this community in other years after the Rogation processions.

Just one incident about O'Connor, twenty miles to the southeast of Spalding. This is not even a settlement, although the large church draws between three and

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four hundred worshippers every Sunday from the farming country around. Out on the rolling prairie the church, the convent of the Sisters of Mercy, and the priest's house, stand as landmarks to be seen for miles in every direction. Twenty and more years ago Father P. F. McCarthy, a missionary priest, arrived at O'Connor to say Mass. A little shanty now used as a stable was the priest's house and to it he retired after service. Along about 5 o'clock a cloud came up in the southwest and quickly darkened the whole place. A parishioner hastened to close the windows of the church and then sat down within the edifice to wait until the storm was over. But his guardian angel prompted him and he hurried away to his own house in the rain. Father McCarthy lighted a lamp and sat down to read. Suddenly the lamp went out and he shot up toward the ceiling. There was a noise as of an explosion and then the inmates of the house ran out to see what was the matter. It was so dark nothing could be seen, but in the morning they found that the church had been demolished by a cyclone. A beam from the edifice had been driven through the roof of the pastor's house, cutting like a knife in a cheese, and coming within two feet of the faithful father's head as it fell. The next day he drove over to Spalding and said first Mass in a sod house.

Dear Father McCarthy, after over a score of years of hardship, ministering to his people upon the prairies, is still living in Omaha, beloved and honored by all, noted for his wit, his stories and his sanctity, for all three can go together. If his experiences upon the western plains should be written, they would make a romance, mingling the tragic and pathetic, relieved by flashes of humor seldom paralleled. The New Voice.

LAUGH HEARTILY.

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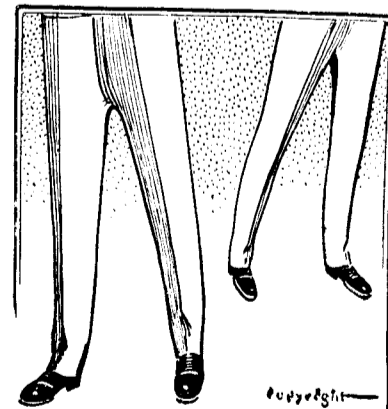
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