

Events of The Week.

ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL.—On Monday last, 29th June, the Church celebrated the double feast of St. Peter and St. Paul; to-morrow is the solemnization. This is decidedly one of the great commemorative occasions of the year. Two such saints, united in one celebration would suffice to render the day one of special devotion; but when we consider that one of these was the prince of the Apostles, the first Vicar of Christ on earth, and that the other was the Apostle of the Gentiles, the great Roman citizen whose life was dedicated to the cause of Christ, and whose imperishable Epistles have constituted such an important portion of the New Testament. To relate the lives of these two great saints would simply mean to tell the entire story of the foundation of Christianity of its first establishment as a Church, of the centering at Rome of all those mysterious and supernatural influences that overthrew the greatest Empire of antiquity and the false gods of the ancients, and that on the ruins of the Caesars built up that Eternal Rome that governs the religious world twenty centuries after the time of Christ and His Apostles.

But it must not be forgotten that the Church which to-day celebrates the feast of St. Peter and St. Paul is the same Church that Peter administered in the catacombs and that Paul preached on the Acropolis of Athens. We know how Peter, the poor fisherman of Galilee, became converted to Christ, and was to become yet the mighty Pontiff of the sublimest system that ever came to man from God. We know how Paul, a Roman legatus, was stricken with a flood of grace on the road to Damascus, and how he eventually trod the paths from city to city of Asia Minor, spreading the very gospel that he had once set out to destroy. We have also to turn to Rome for the consummation of both their lifeworks. In the Mamertine prison both carried chains; and when one was crucified—head downwards—the other had his head cut off—as became a Roman citizen. We have in the two a perfect illustration of the Church that they co-operated in establishing. We have the poor and the rich, the lowly and the titled, the ignorant and the learned, the one with no social claims and the one with the proudest citizenship of that age; yet both doing battle in the same cause, both propagating the same principles, both suffering for the same faith, both dying for the same Christ. And such is the Church to-day. There is no position so exalted within her gift to which the most humble, the most poor, the most unknown may not rise; and there is no position in life so exalted that she cannot level it to the dust in the hour of Truth's inevitable triumph.

It is then in a spirit such as the Church inculcates, and such as animated Peter and Paul, the zeal of Paul that we must bring ourselves to the celebration of this grand feast. It is an occasion when every Catholic can raise his voice in tones of legitimate pride, and sing a Te Deum of gratitude to God for the wisdom that sent to the human race at the dawn of Christianity, two such mighty Apostles as St. Peter and St. Paul. And as a practical result we must invoke their combined aid for ourselves, the Church, and the Holy Father.

THE HOLY ROSARY. — To-morrow, the first Sunday of July, the Church celebrates the grand and lovable feast of the Holy Rosary. This is a feast especially belonging to the Catholic Church, for she alone of all churches preserves and propagates the sacred devotion to Mary, the Mother of God. All who know the great role that the Rosary has played in the spiritual life of the Church and of the faithful need no explanations regarding that feast and require no urging appeal to celebrate it in a manner that will be worthy of such a glorious occasion. To the one who is a stranger both to our faith and to its consolations, we need say nothing, for lack of experience causes such to ignore the inestimable boon of the Holy Rosary. The entire month of July is consecrated to that devotion, and as in the month of May Catholics flock to the altar of Mary with gifts, flowers, prayers and hymns, so do they honor her during this month with the practice of a devotion that is specially dear to her maternal heart.

So important is the occasion that

this Saturday, being the eve thereof, as well as the eve of the solemnization of St. Peter and St. Paul's day, it is observed in abstinence.

If one will only take up a Rosary and for a moment reflect upon what those fifteen decades tell us, the vast horizon of thought will beam and spread out before the gaze, studded with stars that have each the power to guide the soul to a shrine of untold blessings. The mere mention of the different mysteries in the life of the Blessed Virgin that the contemplation of the Holy Rosary evokes would suffice to give us an outline of that glorious life. They are sorrowful—with a sorrow such as no other mother's heart has known on earth; they are joyous—with a joy that transcends all that human nature can know of bliss; they are glorious—with a glitter of divinely-fashioned rays such as the Eternal alone can fling over any human life or human achievement. And in the glory of the present, and in the joys and sorrows of the past, Mary had but the one grand aim, the fulfillment of a two-fold mission—that of Mother of the Son of God, and that of mother of the human race. She it was, in person, who designed and bestowed on us the Holy Rosary, and the history of time is full of evidences that no one who has been faithful to Mary and who has decked his or her life with that holy chaplet of sweet prayer, was ever known to have perished.

And as it has been in the past so shall it be in the future. There is no more simple form of prayer than that of the Rosary. So much so that the most illiterate can participate in its benefits, even as the most learned; from the Sovereign Pontiff, seated upon the throne of Peter, and surrounded by the regal splendors of the Vatican, down to the aged woman, whose eyes are too dimmed with years to read, and who awaits the great end in the cottage of the indigent, the Rosary is a link that binds soul to soul and weaves the entire Catholic world into one holy communion of spirit with Mary the Fountain of Grace and the Advocate of Sinners.

EVENTS IN FRANCE.

Last week was an ominous one for the Combes ministry. There is such a thing as the "beginning of the end," and Campbell's oft quoted line:—

"Coming events cast their shadows before"—

has its application in politics as well as in war. The most significant event has been that of the clash between Waldeck-Rousseau and Combes. Ever since the former's resignation of the Premiership he has kept aloof from the hot discussions of the hour, and appears to have allowed Combes to rush on to the abyss for which he has all along been steering, without caring to raise a hand to assist or to check him. It is clearer to-day to us, than even it was when we wrote our comments on Waldeck-Rousseau's resignation and the advent of Combes, that the latter has been merely the shield and cat's-paw of the former. Waldeck-Rousseau prepared the Law of Associations, but was too much of a statesman not to foresee its bitter consequences and too much of a politician to risk the responsibility of its enforcement—with the odium that would ruin his popularity. He stepped out and made way for the lesser light, the man of passions and hates, the one who had no popularity to risk and no name to sully. And now that Combes has done the executioner's work, Waldeck-Rousseau feels that it is time to commence the undoing of his henchman and the preparing of the public mind for his own return to power. This is plainly set before us in the following despatch, dated Paris, June 27:—

In the Senate to-day the debate on the Government project requiring communes to build schools to replace those of the religious congregations brought out a divergence of views from the Premier, M. Combes, and the former Premier, Waldeck-Rousseau, the latter taking part in the debates for the first time in months. M. Combes supported the law and M. Waldeck-Rousseau, who followed, pointed out the enormous cost involved in the project, nearly \$25,000,000, and urged caution, lest the benefits of the law of 1901 be checked.

Following M. Waldeck-Rousseau's speech the Senate, by 183 to 95 votes, decided to discuss the law in detail. This constitutes a partial check to the government plan to limit the discussion of the measure as a whole.

The reappearance of M. Waldeck-Rousseau aroused intense interest.

As if to give approval to M. Waldeck-Rousseau's views the Senate voted in support of his contention. This, following the narrow government majority in the Chamber yesterday, led to much excited comment regarding the permanency of the Combes Cabinet.

The President of the Council in his speech gave no evidence of any intention to retire, but stated that a group of Senators did not intend to permit minor reverses to precipitate a Cabinet crisis. M. Waldeck-Rousseau's opposition assumed added significance because of its being made on the eve of the summer adjournment of Parliament.

Does not this carry out exactly our prediction of many months ago, as well as our course of reasoning regarding the situation brought about by the change of Premiers at that time? There are mutations that we do not always fathom in the affairs of nations, and, as in the individual, Providence permits deeds and even crimes that sully the standard that once waved to triumph. But, also as with man, there is never a wrong done that does not have, sooner or later, its retribution, and there is no depth to which a mis-governed nation may sink out of which it cannot rise again under better auspices and in the light of truer principles. And as it has been with men and nations, so shall it be with France—and sooner than people imagine.

Striking Lessons of A Catholic Family

On Sunday last very imposing ceremonies took place at the Church of the Immaculate Conception, in connection with the Jesuit novitiate. His Excellency, Mgr. Sbarretti, the Apostolic Delegate, ordained ten young members of the Jesuit and other Orders throughout the city. The Church was never so gaily and artistically decorated, nor did it ever witness so much pomp and ceremonial. The Delegate was mitred and robed in all the vestments of Archiepiscopal dignity, and his attendance and surroundings corresponded with the distinction of the personage and the solemnity of the occasion. He was assisted in the capacity of deacon of honor, by Rev. Father Charlebois, S.J., and sub-deacon of honor, Rev. Father Sylvestre, S.J. The deacon and sub-deacon of office were, respectively, Rev. Father Cote and Rev. Father Chartrand. In the sanctuary were noticed Rev. Father Turgeon, S. J., Rector of St. Mary's College; Rev. Father Adam, parish priest of the Immaculate Conception; Rev. Fathers Bourinot, Kavanagh, Durocher, Dupuis and others.

Amongst those newly ordained was Rev. Father Carriere, who on Monday said his first Mass at the Hotel-Dieu, in the presence of his father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. Carriere. This venerable couple celebrated on that same day the fiftieth anniversary of their marriage. It was surely a day of untold joy for that pious and devoted family. The child ascending for a first time the altar of God to offer up the holy sacrifice, and the father and mother counting, at its foot, the two score and ten years that have elapsed since they—in their prime—gave their hearts to each other at the altar of the Holy Church, one of whose priests their son is to-day. What a magnificent lesson! Such the fruits of a pure, holy and noble Catholic life; such the results of that sacramental marriage the boon of which none but Catholics can fully appreciate.

The aged couple are both sixty-nine years of age. They were married in 1853. They have had fourteen children, of which number eight are alive. The eight children are Rev. Father Carriere, above mentioned; Sisters Carriere and LeRoyer of the Hotel-Dieu; Sisters Marie-Barthelemi and Marie-Rodrigue of the Sisters of Ste. Anne, Lachine; Mr. Ulric Carriere, optician of St. Lawrence street; and Miss Florence Carriere. In religious life this venerable couple have also one sister, four nephews, three nieces, and several cousins—all priests and nuns well known and beloved throughout the Province of Quebec. We need scarcely say that the occasion was marked with many splendid gifts and tokens of love and veneration. The Sisters of the Hotel-Dieu deserve to be highly congratulated upon the manner in which they organized and assisted to bring that memorable event to a successful issue. They spared no pains. And surely the entire Catholic population of Montreal joins them in the congratulations that have poured in upon the young priest and his venerable parents.

Winnipeg Catholics And the School Question.

(From Northwest Review, June 27.)

A mass meeting of the Catholic residents of the city was held at the Catholic Club recently for the purpose of receiving the report of the committee that recently waited on the public school board, and to decide what further action should be taken, if any, to secure redress of the grievances under which the Catholic minority of the province claim they suffer in the matter of education. The gathering was one of the largest ever held by the Catholics in Winnipeg, and was thoroughly representative, members of each of the city congregations being present in large numbers. The proceedings throughout were marked with even more than the usual enthusiasm, some of the stirring speeches eliciting hearty cheers, the assemblage being evidently deeply stirred by the failure of the negotiations with the School Board, and determined to carry the matter once more to the highest governing authority in the Dominion, if necessary, to secure relief.

The meeting organized by unanimously selecting Mr. F. W. Russell for chairman and Mr. D. F. Coyle, secretary.

The chairman opened the proceedings in a brief and pointed speech, and then called on Mr. T. D. Deegan, who gave a lucid explanation of the various steps that had been taken to get a satisfactory arrangement with the city school board. He stated that, notwithstanding the reasonable attitude taken by the Catholics, their advances had been met by a series of refusals on the part of the School Board to do anything for them, and it was evident now that relief could not be looked for from this quarter.

A noteworthy resolution. The committee felt, therefore, there was only one thing now to be done, and that was to once more appeal to the Provincial and Dominion governments, and with this in view he moved the following resolution:—

"Whereas, the lords of the judicial committee of the Privy Council of the British Government, in a judgment delivered on the 29th of January, 1895, declared that a right, or privilege, which the Roman Catholic minority previously enjoyed had been affected by the Manitoba legislation of 1890;

"Whereas, acting on that decision of the Privy Council the Government of the Dominion of Canada and of the Province of Manitoba, have by arrangement enacted certain amendments to the School Act of 1890 (generally known as the Laurier-Greenway school settlement) purposing to redress the grievance of the said Roman Catholic minority of Manitoba;

"Whereas, the said agreement, effected between the Federal and Provincial Governments, has been proved defective, imperfect and insufficient, some few only of the school districts where the Catholics practically form the total of the ratepayers having been able to take some slight advantage of it, and that only by the good will of the Local Government, whilst in those of mixed population, where Protestants are in the majority, no benefit whatever can be derived from the so-called school settlement;

"Whereas, the Catholics of Winnipeg in particular have seen their repeated efforts to obtain redress frustrated by the persistent refusal of the city school board to entertain their just demands, and

"Whereas, they have had now for more than twelve years to pay double taxes, the one for the building up and support of the public schools of Winnipeg, the other for the maintenance of their own schools;

"Be it resolved, that we, the Catholics of Winnipeg, in public meeting assembled, consider it our duty to put it on record that our grievance in school matters has so far in no way been redressed;

"Be it further resolved, that Messrs. J. G. Carroll, T. D. Deegan, P. Marrin, N. Bawlf, F. W. Russell and M. McManus be a committee with power to add to their number to approach the Local Government and lay before the honorable the Premier of Manitoba our grievances, with prayer for redress; and that in

the event of the said Local Government refusing or showing inability to grant our just demands, two of the members of the said committee be instructed to proceed at once to Ottawa, with a view to lay the matter before the Federal Government, and to pray the Governor-General-in-Council not to permit the aggrieved minority of Manitoba to suffer any longer the unjust treatment under which they have now labored for more than twelve years."

The motion was seconded by Mr. P. Marrin, who corroborated Mr. Deegan's account of the negotiations with the School Board, and commented on the evident uselessness of seeking further for any relief from that body.

The motion was vigorously discussed by several present, stirring speeches being made by the chairman, Mr. E. Cass and others, and some pertinent questions were asked and satisfactorily answered by the committee. Finally the motion was put to the meeting and unanimously and enthusiastically carried.

It is understood that the committee will immediately proceed to carry out the instructions contained in the resolution, and a most vigorous effort is to be made by the Catholic minority to secure the rights to which they claim they are entitled under the constitution and by the decision of the Privy Council.

Agitation in Russia.

A despatch to the New York "Evening Post," says:—

The revolutionist movement in Russia seems to be spreading unceasingly, and is reaching regions hitherto free from the radical agitation. Leaflets directed against the existing condition of Russian home affairs and demanding revolutionary changes were circulated broadcast during the month of May in thirty-four cities and towns of the empire. Serious street disturbances have occurred at various places, as already cabled, including Baku, Warsaw, Berdichek, Tiflis, Batum, Balakna, and Tomsak.

The multitude of arrests, in addition to domiciliary visitations, which have taken place among army officers, literary men, teachers, workmen, students, and other classes at St. Petersburg, Kiev, Odessa, Virlanen, and, in fact, in the cities and towns throughout the Empire, attest the colossal growth of the revolutionary agitation. It is naturally strongest in the pale of the Jewish settlements; but it has reached such far-off places as Koscroma, on the upper Volga, a region hitherto free from any radical movements.

A CATHEDRAL FOR SEATTLE.

Bishop O'Dea has announced that a handsome new Cathedral, which will be one of the finest in the United States, will shortly be erected in Seattle. It will cost \$250,000 and will be in Spanish Romanesque style, with imposing spires surrounded by old Spanish balconies. The new Cathedral will be built on a hill overlooking the city and is designed with a view to picturesqueness as well as solidity and strength.

A SILVER JUBILEE.

On Sunday last, Rev. Henry A. Meahan, M.A., P.P., of St. Bernard's Church, Montreal, N.B., celebrated the twenty-fifth anniversary of his ordination. Much enthusiasm was displayed by the parishioners in honoring the distinguished jubilarian whose administration of the parish has been so successful.

Father Meahan was born at Bathurst June 29, 1853. He studied in the schools of his native town, at Saint Joseph's College, and studied philosophy and theology with the Sulpicians in the Grand Seminary in Montreal, where he was ordained by Archbishop Fabre June 28, 1878. After spending four years in Saint John he was given charge of Moncton in succession to the late Father Bellevue. Thus twenty-one years of his priestly life have been spent in this city, where he is held in the highest regard by all classes, and idolized by his own people. Ad multos amos.

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Mount Royal In Summer

(By Miss K. Hanley.)

Under this caption one of our young readers sends us the following sketch which we publish with pleasure in this column. Many of our citizens go into ecstasies about many other places, but our fair young correspondent is true to dear old Montreal. She writes:—

When nature bursts the icy fetters that hold her captive during the winter, she assumes her green robe with an air of exultation in her new-born freedom. Over her fair face, the genial summer sun soon spreads a glow, such as his brilliant rays alone could impart.

Nature possesses an irresistible fascination during this period of her adolescence, when she blossoms forth bright with promises of future joy. In her vast domain, there are haunts where she delights to revel; where the picturesque beauty of the scenery captivates the mind, producing upon it an effect so tranquilizing, that it seemingly responds to the magic of its surroundings.

Not among the least of these ranks our own Mount Royal, of rugged aspect, but well defined outline, whose precipitous sides are clothed with trees luxuriously covered with foliage. Mountain grandeur and sylvan loveliness are here combined. The charms that embellish this romantic region are many: peaceful pine-clad woods, abounding in wild, fresh beauty, in which there is something exhilarating; pleasant walks, adorned with thickets of flowering shrubs and evergreens; the driveway penetrating its recesses, and disclosing scenes of rugged, untamed sublimity during its course to the summit. Here, the "Lookout," the centre of interest is located. This spot is a source of delight to all, more especially to the tourist photographer. After having enjoyed the panoramic view it commands, he may indulge his favorite pastime, and carry away lasting impressions of Canada's metropolis, the majestic St. Lawrence, and the various natural beauty spots ornamenting it. All these combined form a pleasing picture which to be seen advantageously must be viewed from Mount Royal, Montreal's striking background.

We sincerely hope that others, amongst the young friends of the "True Witness" will emulate the example of Miss Hanley and send us contributions for this column.

The Late Abbe Clement

It was a painful event that which closed the young life of a promising priest, of thirty-five years of age, in the person of the late Abbe Clement of Fickdale, Mass. The accident took place on Friday evening of last week, when the carriage in which the priest was driving was struck by a Park and Island car at Mile End. The deceased was a native of Saint Justin, in Maskinonge County, and had made his course of studies at Nicolet and Three Rivers. After his ordination Bishop Beaven gave him charge of the important parish of Fickdale, and for the last ten years he had exercised, there, his sacred ministry.

On the 10th June he had assisted at the centenary feast at Nicolet, and then stayed over to witness the unveiling of Mgr. Bourget's monument. On Friday last, in company of Abbe Bourget, a nephew of the great Bishop, and Mr. W. Lessard, the unfortunate victim of the fatal accident, had gone for a drive to the cemetery. It was in returning that their vehicle was overturned by the street car. The reverend gentleman never regained his consciousness, but died, on Saturday, at the Notre Dame Hospital. His remains were taken to Mile End, where a first service was sung. Then after the necessary inquest, the body was removed to Louisville, whence it was taken to his native place at Saint Justin. His father came to Montreal on Saturday, but had not the consolation of a word with his gifted and saintly son, as the latter was in an unconscious state till death came to him. We sincerely unite our sympathy and prayers to the numbers who sorrow to-day over the untimely end of such a bright light in God's sanctuary.