

The Catholic Register.

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

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PRICE FIVE CENTS.

Death of the Archbishop of Kingston

WRITTEN FOR THE REGISTER.

The great Archbishop of the ancient diocese, now the Catholic province, of Kingston—Most Rev. James Vincent Cleary, S.T.D.—breathed his last shortly after the noon hour on Thursday, Feb. 24th, at the episcopal palace, Kingston. His demise had been regarded as soon inevitable for some weeks past, but was not deemed so near until two days before the end came. The news created the most profound sympathy throughout Canada, and will be learned elsewhere with no less deep and heartfelt a sense of loss. The best scholarship and the noblest line of the defence of Catholic truth in every part of the world will feel the loss of the Archbishop of Kingston. In Ireland and in the United States, where he was as widely known and as well loved as in Canada, the intelligence of his death will be read with sorrow. In Kingston it is only the simple truth to say that the full extent of the loss sustained cannot yet be realized. But his own people, as well as his friends and admirers in many lands beyond the borders of Canada, will in a measure be comforted to know that he died the happy death he had always prayed for. An extended sketch of his life appears on pages 2 and 3 of this issue of THE REGISTER; and an accurate account of his last illness is given below in the words of his physician, Dr. Edward Ryan. It is only necessary to say further that the great Archbishop, in addition to all the holy comforts of divine religion, had his last moments in this life blessed by the prayers at his bedside of those who for years had been nearest to him in his official and private life. Very Rev. Andrew Wynn, C.S.S.R., Toronto, who was his confessor, came down on Monday the 14th, and remained to the end. On Wednesday his life-long friend, the Most Rev. John Walsh, Archbishop of Toronto, administered the last sacraments. The dying Archbishop made his profession of faith in the presence of the Archbishop of Toronto, Right Rev. Mgr. James Farrelly, Very Rev. Thomas Kelly, V.G., Very Rev. C. H. Gauthier, V.G., the Sisters of the Holy Sacrament, and the Sisters of the Congregation of Notre Dame, Kingston. Death came at twenty minutes past one o'clock.

Dr. Edward Ryan, physician to the late Archbishop, gave the following account of his last illness to a representative of THE REGISTER. Dr. Ryan said: "The Archbishop's health had been more or less impaired by the nervous prostration from which he suffered here for some time. Although in poor health, he was never in such poor health as would prevent the performance of his episcopal duties. But these duties were undoubtedly a great strain upon him. It was, however, his character as a man that he would do from the sense of duty even if he went for a week without sufficient rest. It was about two years ago that his poor health began to take a little serious turn. I advised him then to rest altogether, and he had been advised him all along to take more rest than he did. He consulted Dr. Graham of Toronto, a specialist, upon my suggestion; and Dr. Graham also advised rest. About a year ago he went to the South and remained away for some time. Upon his return there was evidence of improvement, and he returned to the performance of his duties with his old earnestness. Again his ill-health returned, and about two months ago his appetite failed almost entirely. He was incapable to take any food and he began gradually to weaken. He kept thinking from the consequences of this loss of appetite. His growing weakness was accompanied by insomnia. When he could take a little food he was restless a little; and when he had grown so weak to take a drive he could get no sleep. In his last illness there was no pain at all, and he was cheerful all along. The character of his last illness and patient character may be conveyed by saying that at this time of weakness and constant sleeplessness he would tell pleasant stories to those around his bed. While he was speaking he would give a ray of light upon the subject of what was before him. That condition continued until two nights before he died. Then he began to vomit and soon passed into a state of semi-unconsciousness and then to unconsciousness. He passed away quietly without any pain.

The episcopal official telegrams and intimations to friends in Ireland and throughout America were at once despatched. When the Archbishop learned that the end of his earthly life was approaching he asked that a despatch be sent to the Holy Father announcing the fact and asking for the Pope's blessing. The blessing was accordingly received on Saturday the 10th. On Thursday evening the Catholic people of Kingston congregated in St. Mary's Cathedral and

heard Vicar-General Kelly make a touching reference to the profound loss that had befallen them a few hours before, after having been long expected. Every one present in the vast Church

parlour of the palace and hundreds of pious men and women came to see it. In connection with the tombing of the remains it is interesting to state that the late Archbishop had himself ordered that his tomb be prepared in the new St. James' Memorial Chapel. At the time of the construction of the chapel he expressed a desire to be buried there. Mr. Joseph Connolly, R.C.A., architect of the chapel, has furnished us with the following description of the monument designed for the last resting place of the ashes of the late Archbishop. The only feature lacking is the inscription, which His Grace had intended writing before he died. The design for the monument is in the form of an enriched Gothic

by beauty of proportion and richness of detail, for its comparatively small size, and so leave a gem of gorgeous beauty. The drawings, etc., are already in the hands of the sculptors for the preparing of their estimates. The monument will be about 12 feet in height. The work has been designed by Mr. Joseph Connolly, R.C.A., architect, of Toronto, under whose superintendence it will be carried out. Beneath the monument will be placed a medallion shield of polished brass, engraved with the inscription, dates, etc., etc. The monument will be placed directly over the head of the vault already built under the chancel floor of the chapel, and in which will be laid the remains of the deceased

of the brothers, Thomas, resides in the United States, and the other, William, lives in Australia. There was an older brother, Patrick, a very distinguished man, professor in Waterford College and Doctor of Divinity, who died while he was comparatively young. There were in the family altogether thirteen children, twelve sons and one daughter. This daughter, the late Mrs. Lyttleton of Limerick, had two sons who joined the Dominican Order. One of them is a very learned man, being at present employed at Rome in editing the complete works of St. Thomas, a task undertaken by the Dominicans on the advice of Pope Leo XIII. The work will include all the writings of St. Thomas,

the more so because it is essentially little, although no doubt done mistakenly upon the supposition of serving the public interest. A pathetic fact in connection with the Archbishop's final illness is the construction of a handrail on the stair of his palace leading to his private oratory on the first landing. The Blessed Sacrament was kept here for his devotion in the little tabernacle surrounded by a beautiful copy of the miraculous picture of Our Lady of Good Counsel. He was very fond of praying before the Blessed Sacrament in this oratory, and when he had grown too weak to mount the short stair the handrail was constructed; but he never used it. All the Catholic buildings in Kingston were draped after the news of the death became known, and all the flags in the city were hung at half mast.

Opinions of the Press.

Kingston Whig: "In the death of Archbishop Cleary a striking personality has been removed from the sphere of action. He was most active in his attitude and action. All his education, his training, and his experience, had served to make him such.

It is regretted that he was somewhat stern, that in his official character and capacity he was rigid and forceful, that he represented in the church the authority that once spoken knew no change, the idea portrayed by the Roman contention in his interview with Cleary beneath the official exterior he was the most capable of men, and in his late illness showed his consideration for friends by his desire to spare them all the care he could. Most touching, indeed, have been his farewell thoughts, as they have been communicated to the press. He had, in what he said or did, been inspired by what he deemed was right, but he was not infallible, and archbishop though he was he saw the necessity of the perfect execution and forgiveness. He proceeded the perfect peace. A big man, a man of rare scholarship, sturdy temperament, and distinctive leadership, has gone to his reward.

Kingston News: "A truly great man passed from the sphere of toil to the sphere of reward when Archbishop Cleary breathed his last yesterday afternoon. His sincerity, his profound piety, his single-minded devotion to the interests of the Church, which he was identified with, and his total commitment to his cause, were generally acknowledged. Those who suffered from him and who were widely in religious faith could not admire his indomitable energy, of which many leading institutions can be seen in the city. His views on the diocese and his unflinching support and impetuous enthusiasm in the defence and propagation of his views of Divine truth in their application to human society. Of course, he was himself only human. Perhaps he had some of the drawbacks as well as the advantages of genius. Certainly he had a keen sense of humor. Great as a scholar, great as a diplomat, the diocese's people will feel the loss of a man who was a true leader by his fellow citizens in Kingston, who one sorely expected to see many years to come to see his life again."

Montreal Star: "Dr. Cleary, as one who had known him, said he would not have been in Canada, perhaps, if he had not been in Kingston, and it would be difficult to say what the centre would have been had he not been ready to step along a movement that was public and was being carried out by himself to be a man of action in Kingston. He could never be charged with concealing his sentiments on the question, nor with neglecting the spiritual interests of his diocese. To say he was alert in this respect is to say the mild; Dr. Cleary was a delightful man to meet privately, while on special occasions, he was always a great favorite. His remarks were most entertaining and his wit as brilliant."

Bellefleur Sun: "Archbishop Cleary's rule over the members of the Church in his diocese has been a most happy case, and while many very important subjects have been brought before him, he has always adjusted them with a great thought for the welfare of the particular diocese over which he had spiritual rule. The people of this city, who are members of the Catholic Church, will deeply regret the death of one who was respected and honored by all."

Brookville Recorder: "In social life he dealt with Liberals and Conservatives alike, and was a friend of both, while in matters of purely ecclesiastical or civil character, he was frequently asked with a fellow-citizen of Kingston, often delivering addresses that commanded reverent attention from all good men of all creeds."

Lacknow Dedication.

The dedication of the new Catholic church here took place under the direction of Right Rev. Denis O'Connor, D.D., Bishop of London, on Sunday, February 27th. Rev. Father Dixon, the general pastor of Ashfield parish, has also been given charge of this parish in conjunction with his own at Ashfield. The people of Lucknow have spared neither time nor money to have the church affairs working in a proper manner, and have so far been successful in buying a church which certainly does reflect credit upon them as Christians and members of our Holy Church.

Mr. Frederick Tenyson, the poet, eldest brother of the late poet laureate, Lord Alfred Tenyson, died on Saturday.



MOST REV. JAMES VINCENT CLEARY, S.T.D., LATE ARCHBISHOP OF KINGSTON.

was deeply moved and Father Kelly was himself greatly affected. After asking the prayers of the congregation for the soul of their late chief pastor, he said they could readily understand why he was unable to enter into any lengthy remarks with reference to the death of the Archbishop after having been closely identified with him during his episcopate's whole life. The Archbishop's constant prayer had ever been that he might be granted the grace of a happy death. That prayer had been fully answered. A more peaceful death he had never witnessed. The Vicar-General briefly made the following announcement: That Mgr. Farrelly, of Belleville, would be administrator of the diocese until a new Archbishop should be appointed. Announcing the funeral arrangements he requested that no flowers be sent, the view of the church in this matter being strict. The cross is the only emblem of man's redemption and resurrection. From Friday until Monday the body of the Archbishop lay in state in the

Niche, containing a seated figure of the late venerable Archbishop in his robes of office and in the act of bestowing his episcopal blessing on his people. The figure will be in alto-relievo, with a background in bas-relief of the more prominent architectural details, he erected during his incumbency, and of the Papal, diocesan and private coats-of-arms, the entire sculpture being carved in purest white Carrara marble. The niche itself, forming with its gorgeous canopy and richly carved pillars and corbels an appropriate setting for the marble portrait, will be of finest alabaster, with Mexican onyx pillar-shafts, etc. The work is designed in the 14th century ("Decorated") Gothic architecture, with the beautiful foliage, crockets, pinnacles and finials, etc., etc. of that period, in which some of the grand old abbey (Holy Cross, Tipperary; Millfont; Adare; Millkenry, etc.) have been erected.

The space allotted for the monument in the chancel of the memorial chapel being of small dimensions, great care was bestowed on the design, to make up

and the committee charged with it consisted of five members of whom Father James Lyttleton is one. The others are three Belgians and one Englishman, Father Peter Paul Mackey. The late Cardinal Zigliara was first president of this committee of publication. The Archbishop left his English books and pictures to Vicar-General Kelly. His Italian books he left to his cousin, Father Noville, and all the books in other languages remain in the Palace library for the use of his successor in office. It is to be requested that the newspapers, through lack of understanding the regular process in such matters, obtrude the question of the Archbishop's possible successor upon the attention of the public, and in a particular manner upon the attention of the priests at the palace of Kingston, as soon as the news of the death became known. As the priests had very intimate and affectionate relations with the Archbishop they could not help but ponder this as a very harsh matter of discussion,

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