

THE MANITOBA SCHOOLS.

Premier Greenway and His Government
Refuse Positively to Do Justice to the
Catholic Element.

Here is a summary of the reply made by Mr. Greenway and his Government to the representations made by the Catholic minority of Manitoba:

"Previous to the year 1890 there had been two sets of schools, Protestant and Catholic, and provision was made by law for their maintenance and government. The maintenance was effected by a special school rate levied upon each district for its own purposes, a general municipal rate levied by the municipality and divided among the school districts in the municipality, and a grant from the Government, which came out of the provincial treasury.

In 1890 the above system was entirely changed and a single set of schools was established. These schools are maintained by rates and grants, as above set forth. They are non-sectarian public schools. The law makes no distinction between Catholics and Protestants, or between denominations of any kind. It is true that the Catholic people complain that they are not treated as they should be, but the ground of complaint has not been properly stated. It is said that unfair distinction is made against Roman Catholics. As a matter of fact no distinction has been made against any one. The Roman Catholic people demand that they shall be singled out from the rest of the community, and that special class legislation shall be afforded to them as against all others. Our law is attacked because our Legislature has refused to thus favor and distinguish them as against other citizens. The ground of complaint, therefore, is not that an unfair distinction is made against Roman Catholics, but that the Legislature declines to make an unfair distinction against others in favor of Roman Catholics.

No citizen of the province has any justification in fact for claiming that he has not the same rights and the same privileges respecting education that any other citizen possesses. In addition to establishing the above principle in public schools legislation of and subsequent to 1890, it has been made the duty of every ratepayer to contribute to the support of the public schools.

The statement that the Catholic people are compelled to pay for the education of Protestant children creates a false impression. The law is not responsible for any such effect. The correct statement of fact is that all taxpayers contribute to the education of all children whose parents send them to the public schools. All taxable property is assessed for public school purposes, and all citizens have the same right to make use of the public schools. Catholic people have the same power to avail themselves of the schools as Protestant people. The religious exercises are non-sectarian and are not used except with the sanction and with the direction of the trustees elected by all the ratepayers without distinction of creed. If a Catholic refuses to take advantage of the public school, and decides voluntarily to maintain another school, he is exercising his own judgment in the same way as any other person who prefers to send his children to a private school, to the support of which he contributes. Neither of such persons, however, by so doing gains any immunity from payment of school rates.

As to the question of confiscation of school property, it is to be observed that the same question was the subject of argument before the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council in the case of Barrett vs. Winnipeg, and that tribunal expressed the opinion that the Roman Catholics were somewhat better treated than the Protestant people in regard to the disposition of school property under the act of 1890. In so far as the act of 1894 is concerned, there is no ground for the statement attributed to the memorial that it decrees the confiscation of school property in districts which had not submitted their schools to the new law. The act of 1894 has reference to the distribution of grants of money raised by taxation upon all taxable property. It deals with the public school system and in no way affects the ownership of any property of a school district which does not submit to the Public Schools act, and which is, therefore, not a public school.

WILL NOT ADVISE A CHANGE.

The questions which are raised by the report now under consideration have

been the subject of most voluminous discussion in the Legislature of Manitoba during the past four years. All of the statements made in the memorial addressed to the Governor General, and many others, have been made, reiterated to and considered by the Legislature. That body has advisedly enacted educational legislation which gives to every citizen equal rights and equal privileges and makes no distinction respecting nationality or religion. After a harassing legal contest the highest court in the British Dominions has decided that the Legislature in enacting the law of 1890 was within its constitutional powers, and that the subject of education is one committed to the charge of the provincial Legislatures. Under these circumstances, the executive of the province sees no reason for recommending the Legislature to alter the principles of the legislation complained of. It has been made clear that there is no grievance, except it be a grievance that the legislature refuses to subsidize particular creeds out of the public funds, and the Legislature can hardly be held to be responsible for the fact that their refusal to violate what seems to be a sound and just principle of government creates, in the words of the report, "dissatisfaction amongst Roman Catholics, not only in Manitoba and the Northwest territories, but likewise throughout Canada."

OBITUARY.

THE LATE MR. CHARLES F. MACCALLUM.

In far off Montana, in the little town of Annaconda, the Angel of Death appeared on the 26th September last, and in passing he struck down one of Canada's most respected citizens in days gone by, one of the truest and best Catholics that ever crossed the line from our country, in the person of Mr. Charles F. MacCallum. His was a rich character, comprising a lofty and patriotic soul, a heart of deep piety and humility, and a disposition as mild as an infant and as daring as a hero. Through all his long sufferings Mr. MacCallum evidenced his sincere Catholic faith and noble resignation to the will of God. From the day of his departure from Canada he never ceased to take part in all benevolent and charitable, as well as national, projects affecting his native land. He died far away from the shrine of his early devotion and the friends that were dear to his youth. He remained actively connected with the St. Vincent de Paul Society, the League of the Sacred Heart, the Apostolate of Prayer, and the Union Catholique, of Montreal. His life was exemplary, his death edifying, and his example will long remain a beacon light for good before the eyes of his fellow-countrymen. He was in his sixty-eighth year when the summons came. May his soul rest in peace.

REV. MADAM MARY OF THE ANNUNCIATION.

This week we have the sad duty of recording the death of Miss Margaret Agnes Mary Doherty, in religion, Madam Mary of the Annunciation, which event took place at the Convent of Jesus and Mary, Sillery, Quebec. The deceased was a daughter of Hon. Mr. Justice Marcus Doherty, and a sister of Hon. Judge Charles Doherty, of this city. It seems but yesterday that we penned a humble tribute to the memory of that promising and noble young advocate, the late Mr. Thomas Doherty, brother of the deceased lady. It would appear that the Death Angel had not departed from the family of our esteemed and honored citizen, Mr. Justice Doherty, even when the first victim had perished beneath the shadow of its wing. Still hovering around that domestic hearth the messenger of God's mandates seemed to await a second crushing blow, and to bear aloft at once the spirits of brother and sister. In His wise Providence God knows what is best for us, and He certainly must have considered that earth was no longer the fitting habitation for souls so devout and for hearts so truly Catholic in every pulsation.

The deceased member of that splendid religious Order was a model of womanly grace, virtue and sacrifice. Fitted to occupy the highest rank in the social sphere of this world, she abandoned all for the glorious life of a consecrated spouse of the Eternal and the perpetual servant of the Queen of Angels. Brightly as might have shone her talents, her acquirements, her educational as well as general charms in the dazzling sphere of this world's attractiveness, still more gloriously did they appear under the veil

of religious humility and in the beams of the sanctuary lamps of devotion. She was of those who knew the value of sacrifice, and animated with the Christ-imparted spirit of the Catholic virgin, she left home and friends to take up her cross and follow Him. During her lifetime any just tribute to her noble gifts and grand qualities might have grated upon the spirit of religious humility that animated her. But she is now beyond the reach of human praise or human censure, and we deem it a duty to the departed, to those so near and dear whom she leaves behind, to the congregation of which she was a distinguished member, and to the Church of God, one of whose ornaments her life has been, to tell to the world the true and ever-hidden beauties of that sweet and saintly character.

Were we to apply to her short and meritorious career the words of Gerald Griffin's imperishable poem on "The Sister of Charity," we would be simply doing justice to her memory. But we prefer to close our tribute in the language and spirit that she would most have appreciated could she have read our few remarks. Her life was consecrated to God, to the Church and to the works of salvation; it is over, and we pray with confidence that her spirit has ascended unfettered to the glorious source whence it sprang, that from the ranks of the Church Triumphant she looks down with love and encouragement upon all who struggle in the phalanx of the Church Militant, and that the salvation she sought for others has already dawned—in an undying day—upon her future.

To those of her family left behind, we extend the sincere expressions of our heartfelt sympathy, and we trust they will be enabled to bear this second loss with that Christian fortitude and Catholic resignation which characterized their acceptance of the recent sacrifice demanded of them. They may rely that above, away beyond the clouds and mists of this life, the spirits of brother and sister are united in a bliss unending, are participators in the reward promised to every "faithful servant" of the Most High; and that when again the Angel of Death descends (and may it be a long day before he returns to their family circle), he will summon them to the presence of the Father of all Mercy, in whose mansion they will be welcomed by the dear departed. May her soul rest in peace.

THE LATE MR. MARTIN MULARKEY.

At Chambly, on Sunday, the 21st October, death visited one of the oldest and most respected citizens of the district in the person of Mr. Martin Mularkey. The deceased gentleman and his brother, Mr. Daniel Mularkey, came to this country, from the county Sligo, Ireland, about forty years ago, establishing themselves in Chambly, where they gained the esteem and deep respect of all who knew them. Mr. Martin Mularkey was sixty-five years of age when he received the final summons to his eternal reward. On Tuesday, the 23rd inst., the funeral took place and the large concourse of neighbors that attended gave evidence of the popularity and high standing of the departed gentleman. Mr. Mularkey was a true Irishman and a most fervent Catholic; he always took the deepest interest in all matters affecting the Old Land, and his thorough Catholic life has been the guarantee of a grand reward in the eternal home to which he has gone. While expressing our sympathy with his brother, friends and acquaintances, all of whom will miss his genial presence, we unite with the Church in that consoling prayer for the departed—"May his soul rest in peace."

ST. MARY'S FANCY FAIR.

St. Mary's Fair under the auspices of the Ladies of the Sewing Circle closed on Wednesday evening. The Fair was a grand success, as it deserved to be, and the entertainments provided on the two evenings of the fair were first-class. Messrs. J. S. Shea, J. Shea and Miss Shea gave a musical selection on the violin, cornet and piano; songs were given by J. S. Slatery, Mr. Harkins and others. The Mandolin club, of St. Mary's, was very much in evidence and delighted all with their sweet music.

On Wednesday evening Mr. Heffernan, the brilliant professor of English at the Montreal college, was present and made some telling remarks. The ladies had worked for weeks and weeks with energy that was unabating, and the fine stock of

goods bore testimony to their generosity. The hall was charmingly decorated with Chinese lanterns and evergreens.

The ladies who deserve special mention for this generosity and great energy are many, among whom are the following: Mrs. C. x, Mrs. Thos. Jones, president, and Mesdames Mento, Finley, Lowe and Lynch. The handsome Fair Journal, which formed a supplement to the usual Calendar issued monthly, was a literary effort of high quality, and contained a large number of cuts, humorous anecdotes, poetry, stories, etc., in addition to a well written history of St. Mary's parish. Altogether the Journal was one of the most attractive, instructive and amusing Fair Journals that has ever been issued in the city.

RESOLUTIONS OF CONDOLENCE.

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC YOUNG MEN'S SOCIETY

At the regular meeting of St. Mary's Catholic Young Men's Society, on Friday evening, the 26th inst., the president, J. J. Maguire, occupied the chair. Rev. Father O'Donnell was also present and made some important remarks in the interests of the society.

The president read a very instructive paper on "Contracts," for which he was accorded a vote of thanks.

It was decided to have the members of the society take part in a debate at next meeting, 2nd November. The subject for discussion will be, "Would Home Rule be beneficial to Ireland or not." With such an interesting subject to debate on, a lively time is expected.

The following resolution of condolence, moved by Mr. F. Cotter and seconded by Mr. T. W. Puelan, was unanimously passed: That we, the members of St. Mary's Catholic Young Men's Society desire to express to our fellow-member, Mr. P. Macauley, our most profound regret on the death of his brother.

That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the bereaved family and to the press.

RESOLUTION OF CONDOLENCE.

Whereas, it has pleased the Almighty God, in His divine wisdom, to remove from our midst a most upright and faithful brother Hibernian in the person of Phillip Malone; and

Whereas, in his death, his wife has lost a faithful and a loving husband, his children a devoted and attentive father, and the community an honest and upright citizen; therefore be it

Resolved, by the Brothers of No. 1. Division of the A.O.H.—That we tender the most heartfelt sympathy to the family of our deceased brother, in this the hour of their sad trial and affliction, assuring them that their deep sorrow is shared in common by the brothers of this Division.

Resolved, that these resolutions be placed on the records of this Division and that a copy of same be forwarded to the family of the deceased, also to THE TRUE WITNESS for insertion.

(Signed) PETER JAS. KENNEDY.
BERNARD FEENEY.

SAILOR'S CONCERT.

The weekly concert at the Catholic sailors' club was well attended last Thursday. The programme was a first class one and was much enjoyed. Mr. Frank Butler was there and his splendid voice was heard to the greatest advantage both in comic and serious songs. A deal of Mr. Butler's success is due to the excellent way in which he manages his voice. Another fine singer there on Thursday evening was Mr. McCarthy, whose charming voice would be heard to advantage and give pleasure in any concert room. There will be another concert to-morrow evening.

THE ARNOLD READING CIRCLE.

The members of this circle had a very instructive programme for last week's meeting. President T. J. Donnelly being unable to attend, Vice-Pres. T. Gleeson presided. The members are at present reading Canadian History. Interesting papers were read by T. Gleeson, C. Lennon, W. Healy, R. Hart and F. Burns.

Build up.

When the system is run down, a person becomes an easy prey to Consumption or Scrofula. Many valuable lives are saved by using Scott's Emulsion as soon as a decline in health is observed.