

CARDINAL TASCHEREAU.

A Great Sainly Prelate

CALLED TO HIS REWARD.

Death Came on Tuesday Evening After a Long Illness.

Sketch of his Noble Life—A Prince of the Church and of Humanity—Dearly Cared for the Crowning Characteristic of his Service in the Church—Loved by Irish Canadians for his Christian and Fatherly care of the Farine Victims of 1847—A Leader in the Cause of Higher Education—Vital to Ontario Recalled—His Declining Years.

(SPECIAL TO THE REGISTER.)

QUEBEC, April 13.—At twenty minutes after six last evening the event so long expected by the general public, the event which the Catholic people of Quebec shrink from almost up to the last moment, as from the departure of a life-long friend and protector—

the demise of the venerable and saintly Cardinal Taschereau—occurred, and evoked on all hands a feeling of sorrow as keen as if the city has been entirely unprepared for the announcement. For more than a week it was known that the end could only be a matter of a few days at most; for weeks the faithful had prayed for the beloved chief Pastor whom they knew to be at the point of death; indeed, for several years they had been prepared for the loss that has at last fallen upon them by seeing how old age and increasing feebleness had confined him almost constantly within the walls of his palace. The heart-felt sympathy of bereaved Quebec will be shared throughout Canada and the United States, and wherever the heroism, the faithfulness and the deep-seated piety of Cardinal Taschereau have been heard of. He was well-known in Ontario, his last visit to the capital of that province being on the occasion of installing the present Archbishop of Toronto, Most Rev. Dr. Walsh. To the Catholic world outside of the Dominion with his name was associated with the great distinction which it shared with Canada; he was the first Canadian Cardinal.

During the protracted period of the deceased Cardinal's declining strength, all the work of the archdiocese fell upon the shoulders of his Coadjutor, Most Rev. Louis Nazaire Bégin, Archbishop of Cyrene. Mr. Bégin was consecrated Bishop of Chicoutimi in 1889, made Archbishop of Cyrene and Coadjutor to Cardinal Taschereau, cum jure successione on Dec. 22, 1891, and has been administrator of the diocese since 1893.

The late Cardinal was one of the most distinguished-looking "old men" in Canada. He had all the respect of his race for the observance of order and etiquette. In matters of ecclesiastical form he was a model of punctuality. Even in his later years, and when not strong in body, he was strict in the discharge of whatever duties of his high office he undertook to perform. He was all his life a terribly hard worker. His pastoral letters, and mandatories fill eight folio volumes of about 900 pages each. He was always very abstemious. Milk and water were his only beverages, and he devoted very little time to his meals, which were always of a most frugal character. His habits were extremely regular and methodical.

The Cardinal's death was most peaceful. His spiritual and medical attendants and representatives of the family who were at his bedside say he simply slept away. Among those present were his two nephews, Alexander and Edouard Taschereau; His Grace Mgr. Bégin, Coadjutor of Quebec; Mgr. Marois, Vicar-General, and the other members of his household. The funeral will be held on next Tuesday in the Basilica here, the body being embalmed.

Sketch of His Life.

When the future historian takes up his pen to record the deeds and services

of eminent Canadian prelates, the name of the late illustrious Cardinal Taschereau will be entitled to a high place among the distinguished churchmen whose lives have shed lustre upon the Catholic faith in Canada. His record contains many strong claims upon the respect and affection of the Catholic community at large; and it is but natural that his demise should cause widespread sorrow in Canada and in the United States, not only in Catholic circles, but among calm-minded Christians of various creeds, who cannot withhold a tribute to the memory of the late prince of the Church, who constantly preached the gospel of truth, justice and charity, and who so conspicuously exemplified those apostolic virtues in his own dignified personality. The deep sense of loss which is felt in the death of a great pillar of the Church will be especially noticeable in Quebec and throughout the archdiocese, where in the venerable Cardinal had been for so many years a generous and wise ruler as well as a kind and just father over his flock, and a devoted guardian of the well as especially missed and mourned by the Irish Catholic race in the Dominion, whose love and gratitude he earned in the dreadful famine and orphan-stricken years of '47-'48, when his liberal and generous gifts were the mainstay of the Irish Celts from health and home; and lauded a broken remnant of them sick, despairing and fever-stricken, on the banks of the St. Lawrence.

The appalling scourge that had made havoc among the outcast Celts was contagious and dangerous to the last degree, but that did not deter the then Rev. Father Taschereau and a band of heroic confreres from coming to the assistance of the famished and fever-stricken Irish, who had spiritual charge of his flock of St. Patrick's church. In the face of plague, famine and death, those devoted men of God were willing to sacrifice their own lives to save the afflicted Irish peasants, and as many as tender nursing could not save were spiritually prepared for heaven. This sacred service done by Father Taschereau and his reverend co-workers to the aid of the unfortunate Celts could never be forgotten by the grateful Irish Catholics in Canada, and it is no wonder that they should love and venerate the Cardinal in life and mourn him in death.

While it may be fittingly said that in the lamented demise of his Eminence Cardinal Taschereau, the Church in Canada has suffered a great loss, it cannot be called an irreparable loss, because the providence of God has provided a worthy successor to the interests of His Church on earth, and when a worthy servant drops in the way or falls in the heat of battle, a worthy successor steps into the vacant place. This has been a remarkable case of God's providence in the selection of a worthy successor to the Cardinal in life and mourn him in death.

When the renowned and saintly Bishop Laval, who ruled the diocese in the last days of his life, was called to his eternal reward, a worthy successor took his place, and so it has been through the long and illustrious line of prelates who have filled the episcopal throne of the archdiocese in the present case. The Most Rev. Archbishop Bégin, who was appointed Coadjutor to his Eminence, and who now assumes full episcopal authority, is a prelate of extraordinary gifts of intellect and of a most generous and fatherly care for their temporal and spiritual welfare.

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See. He visited Montreal, Kingston, Toronto and other episcopal cities at the call of duty and courtesy; but to all of those outlying places he must have gone with a feeling of reluctance or constraint, for he preferred to stay with his own beloved flock, and to rejoice in the progress and perfection of his great University, his seminars, his various institutions of learning and charity. And of course he penetrated into the extreme ends of his wide archdiocese with great frequency and regularity. No Bishop could have had a clearer or juster conception of the sacredness of the ties that bound him to his episcopal and faithful laity, but his especial care was given to the students of the Seminary and the Laval University, whose many years of his professional life were spent. To him these halls of theological instruction seemed as God's nursery, wherein youthful minds were bent in the direction of purity and virtue, and he was ready to minister to the altar.

These he loved as the very apple of his eye, and he bestowed upon them his unceasing fatherly care, and never seemed happier than when he walked in their halls of learning or in the grounds attached thereto.

In the discharge of his professional and episcopal duties the late Cardinal had the benefit of the good example set by illustrious predecessors who had immediately preceded him as well as by the holy Bishops who labored in the same episcopal field more than two centuries ago. All of these zealous prelates had the benefit of the good example set by illustrious predecessors who had immediately preceded him as well as by the holy Bishops who labored in the same episcopal field more than two centuries ago.

Speaking of the late Cardinal's life it is difficult to convey a clear idea of his individuality. It may, however, be truthfully stated that he was in many ways a very gifted man. Endowed with keen perception and intellectual faculties of a high order, he was not only a brilliant speaker, but a clear thinker. He was not only a brilliant speaker, but a clear thinker. He was not only a brilliant speaker, but a clear thinker.

Those who had business with him and who knew his habits, could tell where to find him at any particular hour of the day. It was by this economy of method that he was enabled to do so much in his short life.

It was very reserved in manner and uniformly dignified, and he had the true instinct of the Christian gentleman, combined with the characteristic politeness and courtesy of the French race, and it made his personality admirable, and it raised him far above the level of ordinary men.

To those who only know him at a distance he appeared stern and austere. To those who had more intimate relations with him his feeling was overflowing by the graciousness of his manners and his cheerful disposition.

by the English Government the year before.

The half century and more which intervened between the event above named and the elevation, in 1895, of the venerable Cardinal whose life we are reviewing, Catholicity and Christianity had made wonderful progress, so that the Supreme Pontiff considered Canada entitled to have a representative in the Sacred College. How fortunate, then, that the additional honor should fall upon such a distinguished churchman as was the Archbishop of Canada's most ancient See. Speculation is rife and opinions are varied as to who will succeed the venerable man who has gone to his eternal home.

If the honor goes to Montreal, Toronto, Kingston or Halifax, or if it is retained in the ancient See, the Canadian Catholic hierarchy will be worthily represented in the Sacred College at Rome.

The lot of the eminent deceased to celebrate the second centenary of the establishment of the See of Quebec, the spiritual jurisdiction of whose first incumbents extended not only throughout New France but as far westward as the Rocky Mountains, and embraced several localities which are now comprised within the limits of the United States. The old-time allegiance and veneration for the ancient See was never forgotten by the presence of many distinguished American prelates, who attended as representatives of those portions of the United States which were formerly subject to the spiritual jurisdiction of Quebec.

On this occasion the historic city, which nature had already beautified, was by the power of art and science turned into a veritable fairyland which fairly enraptured the souls of those who witnessed the imposing religious functions and the beautiful decorations. All of this and more was repeated twelve years later when Archbishop Taschereau received the red hat from the hands of Mgr. O'Byrne, the eminent Irish prelate who had been appointed to the See.

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The late lamented Cardinal, whose life we are here briefly reviewing, Most Rev. Alexander Taschereau, was born on the 16th of February, 1820, in the parish of Sainte Marie du Beauport, province of Quebec, and came from a family which counts among its illustrious members some of the most notable Canadian families, and among his ancestors is inscribed the name of Louis Joliet, the discoverer and companion of Perce Marquette on that historic and far-famed expedition which resulted in the discovery of the Mississippi. His father, the Hon. Thomas Taschereau, was an enthusiastic patriot possessing the strong principles of honor which marked the true gentlemen of the old school, and was a member of the Legislative Assembly of Lower Canada. He was distinguished by his ability and force of character. He was also a warm supporter of the popular movement inaugurated by the famous Papinist in his day. On his father's side also the late Cardinal claimed kinship with the Panets, a family whose name ranks high in the annals of the country, and one of his brothers, and two of his nephews, have occupied a prominent position in the judicial bench of the city and province of Quebec.

From a very early age the future Cardinal had, by his pious disposition and studious habits, given proof of a strong inclination toward the study for the Church, he entered the Seminary of Quebec, where, making of his collegiate course a played such application and industry that he was named Legation of the Archbishop of Quebec to Rome to complete his studies.

In the month of September he returned to his native city and was appointed to the parish of St. Ignace on September 10th, 1842.

Quebec Seminary. He had not long served in this capacity when his rare intellectual abilities and aptitude for professional duties began to unfold, and in a short time afterwards he was appointed rector of the Institute of the Holy Sacrament.

In 1852 Quebec's educational facilities were supplemented by the establishment of Laval University, and the qualifications of the future Cardinal pointed him out as his fitting Superior. He was, therefore, elevated to that responsible office by Archbishop Pargson, who at the same time named him as one of the two Vicars-General of the archdiocese.

In 1854 he carried to Rome the decree of the Second Provincial Council of Quebec. This mission performed, he returned to his official duty as head of the University, where he steadfastly labored for the next sixteen years, and then being in the very prime of his early manhood and intellectual strength, it was not too much to say that he imparted fresh energy and prestige to the renowned seat of learning over which he so wisely presided, and that it owes to his vigilant and able management much of the credit which it has since enjoyed among the noted universities of the new world. Notwithstanding the manifold duties that pressed upon the Very Rev. Superior of Laval, he still found time to write a learned and valuable history of the Quebec Seminary, a work that at once reflects the erudition and unweary industry of its author, and which contains a large store of information regarding the earliest annals of Canadian Catholicity.

The time had now arrived when the worth of the learned and zealous Superior of Laval should receive fitting recognition from Rome, and on the 17th of the Vatican Council Mgr. Taschereau was appointed Coadjutor with the right of succession to Archbishop Baillargeon, whose fast falling health necessitated the change.

Before the day had come for the consecration of the auxiliary prelate the venerable metropolitan was called away to his eternal reward, consequently Dr. Taschereau was consecrated the sixth Archbishop of Quebec, on St. Joseph's Day, 1871, the late lamented Archbishop of Quebec, being the Archbishop of Quebec's record of his administration of his diocese for nearly a quarter of a century is before the world and by it the measure of success attending his energetic and able administration.

Of course an old See like Quebec was not susceptible of improvements and innovations like young and growing dioceses elsewhere, but it is just to say that by the eminent man who has gone to his eternal home, the ancient and honorable traditions of the See were strengthened and every religious and educational institution within his episcopal jurisdiction prospered and extended their benevolent arms under his unswerving rule. He was essentially a man of large governing powers, including perhaps to the safe principle of conservatism with great fidelity. He thought it may be the rule he rigorously insisted upon, which he adapted to the traditional spirit of the venerable archdiocese which he governed, and it enabled him to uphold and preserve intact the beneficent power of religion and morality in spite of the threatened encroachments of the modern world. And it may be safely stated that neither in the new or old worlds was there a diocese in which the Catholic Church overcame a higher way or held a higher status than she did in the old Quebec archdiocese when the illustrious deceased Cardinal handed over his charge to his successor.

Viewed in the light of his exemplary life, his professional and episcopal career, his high scholarly attainments, and his apostolic personality, the Catholic Church in Canada may well mourn the death of a man whose removal was the loss of one of her strongest pillars.

Holy Week at the Cathedral.

The ceremonies of Holy Week were conducted with unusual solemnity at St. Michael's Cathedral, on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday evening, the office of Tenebrae was chanted by the choir. The solemnity of the ceremonies was increased by the presence of the Rev. Father Traylor and Mgr. Coyle, who desired to witness the religious ceremonies.

On Holy Thursday morning at 8 a.m. His Grace the Archbishop of Toronto said Pontifical High Mass, assisted by Very Rev. Vicar General McCann, Arch-priest, and Fathers Ryan and Hand, Chaplains of Honor at the Throno. Fathers Traylor of Port Colborne and Coyle of Dixie, assisted as deacon and sub-deacon of the Mass. Rev. Father Traylor was master of ceremonies assisted by Mr. Aveling. After the elevation and before the "Agnus Dei" His Grace the Archbishop began the Solemn Blessing of the Holy Oils. Amongst the priests who were present at the ceremony were the Rev. Dr. Teoy, Principal of St. Michael's College; Rev.

Fathers Sullivan, Morris, Aternan, Genard, Dully, Cantillon, Du Cantillon, O. P., Grogan, C.S.S.R., Kelly, C.S.B., J. Minahan and J. Minahan, J. G. Gallagher, Cruise, Whittney, Cassidy, Whelan, Fungagan, McElate, Doherty, Arthur Barbeau, Carberry, Murray, O. S. B., McEachern, Smith, Rev. Fathers Murray and Rolleder, assisted by the ecclesiastics of St. Michael's College, chanted the "O Redemptor" before the blessing of the holy chrism. It was certainly a most imposing sight to see the large sanctuary of the cathedral with the priests robed in their white vestments and surrounding the person of the venerable chief pastor of the archdiocese, all giving one idea of the unity of Catholic faith and teaching that can result only from union with apostolic authority represented by the Bishop of the Catholic diocese. In the Cathedral that morning the whole church was represented in miniature. After the Mass the usual procession was formed. The cross-bearer and acolytes carrying lighted candles leading, followed by the sacristy boys and priests walking in pairs, bearing lighted candles in their hands. His Grace the Archbishop bore the Blessed Sacrament, attended by the deacons of honor and the deacon and sub-deacon of the Mass. The "Pange Lingua" was intoned and the procession proceeded down the middle aisle and to the side to the repository. There the Blessed Sacrament was placed in repose amid a pyramid of flowers and lighted candles. Before the termination of the ceremony the venerable metropolitan, part of the Archbishop, published the usual indulgences granted on the occasion.

Amongst the innumerable attractions of the cathedral during Holy Week the most striking of all was the repository. The indices of the Altar Society, untiring in their energies to make the repository a work of floral art. It was in every way a beautiful natural shrine for the most Holy Sacrament. The altar of the Blessed Virgin was draped in white muslin which reached to the window. This presented a beautiful background for the repository which was erected somewhat in advance of the altar. From a display of flowers presented the altar was completely transformed. The whole scene was surrounded by flowers of every description and var-colored lights. On closer inspection it was seen that no expense had been spared to render the whole a beautiful work of art and a tribute to the Most Holy Sacrament. Easter lilies, red and white roses, carnations, beautiful azaleas, sweet scented hyacinths, evergreen rhododendrons, and tall palms reared their heads on the altar and along the walls, and the most beautiful flowers were red, white and blue lights which gave the whole a most charming appearance. Great credit must be given to the ladies of St. Michael's Altar Society and also to the Sisters in charge and the Sisters of the Holy Family, laborers in producing this artistic floral creation which was certainly unsurpassed both for its size and beauty.

On Thursday evening the office of Tenebrae was again chanted, and afterwards the Rev. Father Ryan read prayer for the altar of repose. On Friday morning the cathedral was draped in black to signify the universal sorrow of nature for the death of her Lord and Master. The Tenebrae was chanted for the redemption of His people. His Grace the Archbishop was present at the ceremonies and gave an able and concise explanation of them to the congregation. The passion was chanted as usual by the choir. After the reading of the missal, began came the "Adoration of the cross" which is a ceremony that is oftentimes misrepresented by non-Catholics. This ceremony consists in kneeling, down and kissing the nails that were driven in to save our love and reverence for our crucified Master. After the Archbishop and the priests of the sanctuary had performed this touching ceremony the members of the congregation came forward and went through the same ceremony. Afterwards the Archbishop brought back the Blessed Sacrament from the repository accompanied by the usual procession of priests and sacristy boys, and Mass of the Presanctified was then celebrated by the Rev. Father Ryan, assisted by Fathers Traylor and Coyle.

On Friday afternoon at 3 p.m. the Stations of the Cross were made, the sacristy boys and members of the congregation singing alternate verses of the "Stabat Mater." In the evening, 7:30 p.m., the solemn office of the Tenebrae was again chanted in the sanctuary, after which the Stations of the Cross were again performed. An unusually large number of people thronged the church during the Tenebrae, this year popular devotion. On Saturday morning the Rev. Father Tracy sang High Mass and performed the other interesting ceremonies of the Blessing of the Easter and Baptismal water at the porch of the cathedral. The Rev. Fr. Coyle was deacon, with Mr. Aveling as sacristan. The Rev. Edward de Cantillon chanted the prophecies. The St. Michael's Sacristy boys rendered in pleasing fashion the Mass of the Angels, under the direction of the Rev. Director Ode and Rev. Principal of St. Michael's College. Rev. Father Rolleder presided at the organ.

DIFFERENCES OF OPINION regarding the popular internal and external remedy, Dr. DONALD ELLIOTT, O.D.—do not, so far as known, exist. The testimony is positive and consistent. That the article relieves rheumatic pain, cure rheumatism, checks a cough, is an excellent remedy for pains and rheumatic complaints, and it has no nauseating or other unpleasant effect when taken internally.