

## THE CARMELITES.

Laying of the Cornerstone of the Hospice at  
Niagara Falls, Ont.

One of the sublime ideas of the late Archbishop of Toronto, Most Rev. John J. Lynch, is approaching realization. What promises to be a monumental edifice has been begun by the Carmelite Fathers at Niagara Falls. The foundation of a large hospice, or Retreat House, are now completed, and the cornerstone of the building was laid amidst the most imposing ceremonies by His Grace John Walsh, Archbishop of Toronto, on Monday, the 16th of July. Great numbers of pilgrims to the shrine of Our Lady of Peace had gathered from all surrounding cities to assist at this interesting ceremony, and at the same time to make the visits to the Church in order to gain the Plenary Indulgence attached to each visit on that day to a Church of the Carmelites. There were visitors from Toronto, Hamilton, Guelph, London and all the towns nearer to the Falls. Hundreds came from Buffalo, Rochester, Lockport, Niagara Falls, &c. These were benefactors of the Hospice present who had interested themselves in its erection at their homes in California.

At ten a.m. solemn High Mass was sung by the Very Rev. Provincial of the Carmelite Order in America, Pius R. Mayor, his Grace the Archbishop assisted in mitre and cope, attended by the Very Rev. President of Niagara University, P. V. Kavanagh, and Rev. F. Lynch. The Deacon of the Mass was Rev. Dominic O'Malley, O.C.C., and the Rev. Bernard Funk, O.C.C., subdeacon. The Rev. T. J. Sullivan of Thorold was Master of Ceremonies. Among the numerous numbers of the clergy who were present, we noticed the Very Rev. J. J. McCann, Vicar General of Toronto; the Very Rev. J. J. Barrett, C.S.S.R. of Toronto; the Very Rev. Casimir, O.S.B. of Erie, Pa.; the Very Rev. Louis Guenther, O.C.C. of Pittsburgh, Pa. Other clergymen from the diocese of Toronto were: Fathers Jas Walsh, F. Ryan, F. Frachon of St. Michael's College, L. McEntee of Port Colborne, F. Allain and Smyth of St. Catharines, J. Lynnett of Merriton, J. Lafontaine of Smithville. From the diocese of Buffalo were present: Fathers J. Lanigan of Niagara Falls, N.Y., A. Bachman of Tonawanda, N.Y., Wm. McNab of Medina, N.Y., P. T. Mullaney of Lewiston, N.Y., and Jno. Schaus of Buffalo. From Erie the Rev. F. Celestin, O.S.B., F. Marinus, O.S.B., and F. Becherini. From Rochester, the Rev. F. Oberholzer, and from Hamilton the Rev. Fathers Hinchey and Murphy.

We understand that many bishops and priests from Canada and the States sent letters of regret at not being able to be present at this solemnity.

The choir sang a Cecilian Mass, composed by Professor Seibold of Rochester, under his personal direction. The choir of the Church of the Holy Redeemer of Rochester had sent a double quartette of its best singers to render the music.

At the conclusion of the Mass, his Grace Archbishop Walsh delivered a short but warm address to the large congregation, congratulating them on the strong proof of the devotion which they showed to the Mother of God, Our Lady of Mount Carmel, by assembling in such large numbers from all parts of the country to assist at the feast. He drew attention, in eloquent words, to the spirit of the Church, which loves to seek out the beautiful spots of God's earth, to worship Him, and which had prompted his predecessor, the late Archbishop Lynch—a man who was governed not only by the intuitions of science, but also by the inspirations of faith—to select this most wonderful spot, in the neighborhood of this sublime river, when the voice of the Lord is heard upon many waters, for the creation of great religious institutions. Hence he founded Niagara University on the American side, then Loretto Convent on the Canadian side, and finally he had placed the Diocese of Our Lady of Peace into the hands of a religious body of men, who were to found a retreat house for clergy and laity, where all might come to find peace for the soul. The ceremony of this day was the beginning of the realization of this idea. His Grace concluded by again paying tribute to the Catholic generosity of the assembled visitors, and urged them to continue to manifest their interest in the hospice by liberally aiding this great work. He then gave the Papal Benediction according to the privilege granted to the Carmelite Order on this feast.

A procession was then formed and all proceeded to the site of the new building. The cornerstone was in position to be laid. It is a magnificent stone, and we heard that it is a gift from a generous Protestant, owner of the Queenston quarries. After the singing of the Litany his Grace blessed and laid the stone.

The Rev. Raphael Fuhr, a Francis can Friar, from St. Francis College, Quincy, Ill., who had been selected to preach the sermon on this occasion—a member of the same order to which Father Hennepin, the first white man who ever saw the Falls, belonged—then advanced and addressed the large audience. In fervent language he spoke of the day itself, the feast of the Scapular, of the many privileges and graces attached to it, of the Catholicity of this devotion, of the love of the Holy Father for the Order of Mount Carmel, of the great Indulgences of Portinucula, which had now also been granted to the Carmelite churches for this day, and of the great love existing between the most ancient Order of the Church and the Franciscan Order.

Then he spoke of the two great prerogatives of the Order of Carmel—devotion to the Blessed Virgin and hospitality. The first is recognized by the whole Church; the second, which at one time was the characteristic of every Carmelite monastery in the world, would now be illustrated by the erection of this hospice—a magnificent duplicate of that other hospice of Mount Carmel in the Holy Land. He concluded by urging his hearers to cherish the great benefits accruing to all Catholics through the instrumentality of the Order and its Holy Scapular, and to be grateful in acknowledging these gifts by a generous support of the Fathers and their work.

Then the clergy returned to the church, and the ceremonies of the day were concluded.

A large tent had been erected on the grounds for the accommodation of visitors, and all through the hours of the afternoon streams of pious pilgrims were passing in and out of the humble church making their visits.

May the good undertaking of the Carmelite Fathers, in realization of the late and present Archbishops' wishes, prove as successful as its thousands of friends hope, and the Archdiocese of Toronto will be enriched with one of the most magnificent and unique religious institutions of America.

Mr. Ignatius Donnelly, of Minnesota, has lost his wife by death. She was a devout Catholic.

Cardinal Moran, Archbishop of Sidney, Australia, has completed his "History of the Catholic Church in Australasia." It will be published simultaneously in Australasia and in England before the close of the year.

Mr. T. J. Humes, Columbus, Ohio, writes: "I have been afflicted for some time with Kidney and Liver complaint, and find Parmelee's Pills the best medicine for these diseases. These pills do not cause pain or griping, and should be used when a cathartic is required. They are Gelatine Coated, and rolled in the Flour of Licorice to preserve their purity, and give them a pleasant, agreeable taste."

## The First Mass in Canada.

The Montreal Historical Society is erecting in Saint Ann's Market Square an obelisk to commemorate the spot where the first religious service held on the island of Montreal took place. The monument is the only one of its kind in Canada, and the block of granite from which it was hewn was the largest ever quarried in the Dominion. It was brought from the Standstead granite quarries, Boebo Plain, Quebec, and is known as Standstead granite, which is the best in the Province.

The block, when taken from the quarry, was forty tons in weight, being thirty-one feet long and four feet square. It was finished in the marble yards of O. A. MacDonnell, corner of Legachetiere and Alexander streets, being reduced to seventeen tons, the dimensions now being three feet square at the bottom, tapering to about six inches; length, thirty one feet. It is to be erected on a ten-ton base, which is already placed. The base is of the same material and at the ground nine feet square. The obelisk is finished in the style known as "Rustic work," which is so very popular in the United States. It is the only one of its kind in Canada. The inscriptions are on four bronze plaques, made at the establishment of Chanteloup and Company.

The first states that a monument was erected by the Historical Society of Montreal to the memory of the generous founders of the city and of the first colonists who landed here in 1642.

Then follow the words addressed to the colonists by the Reverend Father Vimont, May 18, 1642: "What you see here, gentlemen, is only a grain of mustard, but I do not doubt at all that this grain will produce a great plant, that it will one day make marvellous progress, multiply and extend in every direction." This inscription closes with the words of M. Olier in "Les Veritables Motifs," etc.

"This project of Montreal must in time come to be a great glory of God, the power of the Church, and of great use to this kingdom."

The next gives the names of the first colonists of Montreal, from May to December, 1642, starting with that of Paul de Chomedey de Maisonneuve. The third inscription, headed by the date of May 18, 1642, is as follows: "Near this monument, between the river and the stream which runs under Commissioners street, at a place called Palace Royale by Champlain, 18th of May, 1642, Paul de Chomedey de Maisonneuve laid the foundation of the city of Montreal. He erected the first houses, the fort, the chapel, the cemetery, which he enclosed with a fence of stakes. The 23rd of February Montreal was consecrated to the Holy Virgin under the name of Ville Marie. On the 13th of February, 1644, Louis XVI. granted to it the first civic charter. The 26th of March, 1644 Chomedey de Maisonneuve was named the first Governor of it." The last inscription bears the names of the founders of Montreal. "Jerome Jacques Royer de la Dauverniere and Jean Jacques Olier, founder of Saint Sulpice, had each separately the inspiration of establishing this city. They provided for the first expense and work in common. La Dauverniere appears in outside affairs. Olier is the soul of the society whose courage and generosity he excites." Then follow the names of those whom they united around them.

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