

Northwest Review.



Senate Reading Rm dec 7

"AD MAJOREM DEI GLORIAM."

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MATAAFA NOW KING.

CRAFTY WORK OF THE MISSIONARY SOCIETY UNDONE IN SAMOA.

Catholic Columbian.

A bit of news which the state department has not yet made public, for obvious reasons, is that which reaches us by way of the London Catholic Times, to the effect that the Samoans have their wish and Mataafa has at last been enthroned their king.

The Times' correspondent says:

For a time the chances of this fine old man seemed past hoping for. That he, the idol of his chiefs and people, would ever again occupy the throne of his dusky forefathers was impossible so long as the influence, supported by force, of the two English-speaking partners in the joint control was against him.

But all that is changed. England, for a consideration, has backed out of an uncomfortable position that gave trouble and anxiety to her statesmen, without any return either in honor or real gain. American land-hunger has also been satisfied elsewhere; and now Germany, always favorable to the claim of Mataafa, finding herself paramount and unfettered in Samoa, has declared him king, as appears from the following cutting from a recent paper:

"The news from Samoa announcing the popular election of Mataafa as king under the new German régime will be interesting news to all Stevensonians. It will be remembered how eloquently and forcibly Robert Louis Stevenson pleaded the cause of Mataafa eight years ago. He described that chief as 'holding an unrivalled position in the eyes of his fellow countrymen.'"

Comment is almost superfluous—at least to those who have watched Samoan affairs for the last few years. With one stroke of a pen the German Colonial Secretary has made amends for a flagrant act of stupid injustice towards Mataafa personally, and by it probably secured the lasting good-will and gratitude of their newest and latest subjects, the Samoans. Verily we must look to our laurels in the matter of native administration in our dependencies. Everybody believes that it was the religious opinions of Mataafa alone that made him so unpalatable to the missionary societies, who in turn influenced the consuls of their respective governments, Britain and America. I myself read an article in an American paper which stated that Mataafa was completely under the dominion of Catholic priests, and therefore an impossible candidate for the throne.

Yet German statesmen, for the most part Protestant, have seen neither danger nor difficulty in giving to the Samoans the king they wanted and have fought for, as we know to our cost, even though he was a fervent Catholic, and under the spiritual direction of some priest of that Faith.

As far as possible the infamous work of Kautz and Chambers, abetted by the London Protestant Missionary Society, has been undone.

A VORACIOUS PLANT

Written for The Review by an English Banker.

The most wonderful plant which probably exists, and which the great botanist Linnaeus called the miracle of nature, the Venus Fly trap (*Dionaea muscipula*), appears to be a sort of link between the animal and the vegetable world. In appearance it is not very different to other plants, but instead of deriving its sustaining nutriment solely from earth and air, it largely supplements those sources of plant food by devouring considerable numbers of small insects, flies, etc.; and if deprived of this nitrogenous food the plant very soon gets out of condition, and may perhaps be starved to death. The apparatus by which the small flies are captured is furnished by the strangely spiked hinged leaves of the plant, which are studded with a number of sharp spines, which, when a fly alights upon the armoured leaf, immediately commence to close upon it, the lance points puncturing the struggling insect, and slowly and surely imprisoning it within a spiked chamber of death, as effectively as that terrible, and somewhat similar, instrument of torture termed the "Iron Maiden." The dead insect being now enclosed in the tightly compressed leaf, a fluid possessing similar properties to those of the gastric fluid of animals is exuded, and the ordinary process of digestion commences to take place, the indigestible remains of the insect being eventually discarded, after the whole of the nutritive portions have been absorbed, the leaf then opening and waiting in readiness for further prey.

An analogous plant, the common Sun-dew of our marshes (*Drosera rotundifolia*), is another specimen of the carnivorous plants, and is furnished with a somewhat similar apparatus to that of the Venus fly-trap; the spines of the leaf, however, are less powerful, the plant therefore preys upon smaller insects, midges, etc., a diet which is essential to its healthy growth. A plant fairly common in Portugal, the *Drosophyllum*, is so expert in capturing flies that it is used in that country as a fly-catcher.

Another variety of the carnivorous plants, which perhaps is equally extraordinary as those we have been considering, is the Pitcher plant of the tropics (*Cephalotus follicularis*). This wonderful example of plant-life, however, adopts an altogether different mode of capturing its prey, the flower, a marvellous organism in the shape of a jug with a close-fitting lid, instead of the leaf, being the scene of the shambles into which the unsuspecting victims heedlessly enter, never to emerge.

Attracted by a luscious and alluring sweetness, and anticipating a rich and honeyed repast, the incautious fly alights on the brim of the pitcher, and commences to regale itself on the fragrant and delicious juices, descending lower and lower into the enticing and seductive chamber, until, satiated to repletion with the pleasurable joys, it attempts to regain the free air. But it is too late; the lid has closed tightly down, and the poor dis-

solute is entombed alive in a lethal death chamber, to be slowly devoured by the alluring destroyer.

Fit emblem, all this, of the life of many of us here below! Attracted by the specious and attractive seductions of sinful pleasures, and tempted out of the right way by the fascinations and enchantments of that which we know to be wrong, we commence to sip the forbidden delights, and to indulge in acts and pursuits which we know to be displeasing to our Maker, until, satiated with the unsatisfying pleasures which we feel we cannot much longer enjoy, we perhaps begin seriously to consider our position, and to look forward with trepidation to the fast-approaching end. But, as a tree falls so must it lie; as a man lives so, unless he sincerely repents, must he die! And then the poor voluptuary or the heedless pursuer of vain pleasure, instead of being borne in triumph by angels to scenes of enraptured delight, which, if he will, are his inheritance in virtue of the sacrifice made for him by the Redeemer, is dropped into a weird and hideous perdition, and the lid is closed upon him for ever!

AN IMPOSTOR! BEWARE!

College of the Holy Cross,
Worcester, Mass.

Jan. 18, 1900.

Rev. Sir—Enclosed please find portrait of a swindler who assumes the part of a Catholic priest and sometimes that of a bishop. He has passed under the names of Rev. John and Thomas Lawrence; of Father Duperron, a Jesuit missionary from France; of Bishop Meerschaeert, of the Indian Territory; of Bishop Dubois, of Vancouver. He is supposed to be a Russian Jew.

Age, apparently 65 or 70 years; height, 5 ft. 4½ in.; dark complexion; black eyes; gray hair; one or two upper teeth missing; scar over one eye, on upper lip and on wrist. Speaks German fairly well, French poorly, English poorly, with a German accent, using many German expressions. Appears to be very humble and very pious.

Arrested Sept. 6, 1896, by chief of police of Fitchburg, Mass. Pleaded guilty to six counts. Sent to state prison for three years for forgery and larceny. Has resumed his former career. Priests and Sisters should be on their guard against him.

Respectfully yours,
HOLY CROSS COLLEGE.

OF INTEREST TO FARMERS

We are informed that the Canadian Catholic Emigration Society, whose headquarters are at New Orpington Lodge, Hintonburgh, P. O., is prepared to receive applications from farmers for the coming season for strong lads of 17 or 18 to be placed with them on agreement. It is the policy of this society to draft such of its senior boys westward as have already learned something of farming in Ontario, and who are desirous ultimately of taking up homesteads in Manitoba or the Territories.

Mr. Lucien Dubuc was sworn in barrister and attorney yesterday.

DISTRIBUTION OF SAMPLES OF SEED GRAIN.

To the Editor of the NORTH-WEST REVIEW.

Dear Sir,—Under instruction of the Hon. Minister of Agriculture another distribution of sample packages of the best and most productive sorts of cereals, &c., is now being made from the Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa. The distribution will consist, as heretofore, of samples of oats, spring wheat, barley, field peas, Indian corn and potatoes. Each sample will weigh three pounds. The quality of the seed will be of the best, the varieties true to name and the packages will be sent free to applicants, through the mail. The object in view is the improvement of the character and quality of the grain, &c., grown in Canada, an effort widely appreciated, and the choice of varieties to be sent out will be confined to those which have been found to succeed well at the Experimental Farms.

These samples will be sent only to those who apply personally, lists of names from societies or individuals cannot be considered. Only one sample of one sort can be sent to each applicant, hence if an individual receives a sample of oats he cannot also receive one of wheat or barley. Applications should be addressed to the Director of Experimental Farms, Ottawa, and may be sent any time before the 15th of March, after which date the lists will be closed, so that the samples asked for may all be sent out in good time for sowing. Parties writing will please mention the sort of grain they would prefer and should the available stock of the variety named be exhausted, some other good sort will be sent in its place. Letters may be sent to the Experimental Farm free of postage.

WM. SAUNDERS,
Director Experimental Farms,
Ottawa, January 22nd, 1900.

CANADIAN CONTINGENTS.

PEOPLE MAY SEND PARCELS FREE TO THEIR FRIENDS.

The Elder Dempster Steamship Company, make an interesting announcement to those who have friends on service in Africa or on their way there. The Milwaukee which is to take the place of the Montezuma as one of Her Majesty's transports is expected to sail from Halifax, on February 15th. Between now and the first week in February, the Elder Dempster Company will be glad to receive, at their office in St. Sacrament St., Montreal, donations of books, magazines, or games for the use of the men during the voyage. They are also willing to receive small parcels for Canadians on service in South Africa or now on their way. All these will be carried to Halifax and on to Cape Town free of charge.

Rev. Father Albert Kulawy, O.M.I., heads the list with the greatest number of marriages performed by him in Winnipeg last month. He has ten weddings (of Galicians) to his credit, while the next in order, Rev. Joseph Hogg (Presbyterian) has only six.

CLASS SPECIMEN AT ST BONIFACE COLLEGE.

The day before yesterday, at 8 p. m., the class of Versification (Suprema Grammatica) presented an interesting specimen of class work before a select audience of invited guests. After a short prologue by D. Collin, N. Bellavance gave a topographical description on the blackboard of Gen. Wolfe's military operations before and during the battle of the Plains of Abraham. L. Pambrun then read a thoughtful essay on Henry VIII. This was followed by La Fontaine's fable, "Les Animaux Malades de la Peste," recited in character by J. Levêque, D. Collin, A. Laurendeau and A. Hogue; which elicited frequent and well merited applause. Reboul's "L'Ange et l'Enfant" was feelingly recited by A. Laurendeau. An interesting feature, revealing the pupils' familiarity with Latin was the ease and naturalness with which A. Bertrand and A. Béliveau declaimed, in the original, Virgil's First Eclogue. D. Collin did very well as a French teacher expounding the meaning and the grammatical difficulties of a passage from the second book of the *Æneid*. A military sham fight on Latin idioms, in which he who missed was supposed to be killed, was listened to with breathless interest. A. Bertrand and A. Béliveau then played a charming piano duet.

L. Pambrun, as an English teacher, construed for his supposed pupils, a passage from the *Anabasis*; after which A. Hogue declaimed in Greek the speech of Clearchus. Another sham fight on the irregular Greek verbs afforded great amusement. "Problems of Interest" was an arithmetical lesson by J. Levêque. A. Béliveau and A. Laurendeau vied with each other in the rapidity of their sums in fractions on the blackboard. A. Bertrand then played "Hannah's Promenade" on the piano.

A selection from Longfellow's "Evangeline" was rendered into French prose by A. Béliveau, who afterwards read Pamphile Lemay's metrical French version of the same passage. N. Bellavance recited "The statue of Justice," and D. Collin and A. Hogue gave the dialogue between Benedict and Basil at the fireside.

"L'Écolier fin de siècle," a clever one act comedy by Paul Croiset was admirably played by A. Bertrand, N. Bellavance and A. Hogue. The entertainment, which everybody found delightful, closed with "God Save the Queen."

The following from the New York Freeman's Journal will interest Winnipeg Catholics who remember Father Joyce: With characteristic modesty Rev. William D. Joyce, O.M.I., the beloved pastor of the Immaculate Conception Church, Lowell, Mass. observed most quietly the 20th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood at the parochial residence on Fayette street, Jan. 11. He received many congratulations.

Croups, Coughs and Colds are all quickly cured by Pyny-Pectoral. It lessens the cough almost instantly, and cures readily the most obstinate cold. Manufactured by the proprietors of Perry Davis' Pain-Killer.