

### MIRACLES.

#### THE CARE AND CAUTION OF THE CHURCH

In the Investigation and Accrediting of Reported Miracles—Mgr. O'Reilly's Pamphlet.

Mgr. O'Reilly's pamphlet upon the wonders said to have been wrought in the Church of St. Jean Baptiste, New York, is soon to appear. He gives in his pamphlet to the reader, the motives of the Church with which the Catholic Church proceeds in investigating and accrediting reported miracles. "The whole," he says, "in perfect submission to the will of God."

#### THE HOLY FEEL.

The representation of defining or of the miraculous facts... upon him. His opinion and sentiment... the Church of St. Jean Baptiste... the ordinary... exclusive prerogative... facts and judge them... of a Christian and a... working power... her in the beginning... death, over nature... during... the narrative of the... of St. Jean Baptiste... the theatre, the writer... already known in the city... arrival was quite... No one knew what had... the venerable prelate's... and no one here... knowledge of his... of St. Ann... by Leo XIII... among the par... St. Jean Baptiste by the

From La Semaine Religieuse.  
The retreat for the Archdiocese of Toronto is to commence on the 28th August next at St. Michael's College.  
They are preparing at Valerius, for the 26th July next, the feast of St. Ann, a grand celebration. It will be the 50th anniversary of the crowning of the picture that represents the patroness of the Province of Quebec.  
On Monday, the 19th July, the town of Beauharnois was *in* the presence of the visit of Bishop Emard. An address was presented by the citizens of the town. His Lordship attended an entertainment gotten up by the amateur performers of Beauharnois in his honor.  
Some ten days ago the funeral of the late Rev. Abbe Arsene Vinet took place at Chateauguy, his last parish. Mgr. Emard sang the *requiem*, and a large number of the clergy and faithful attended, and by their presence gave expression to their sentiments of deep regret.  
Last week a touching ceremony took place at the provincial house of the Brothers of Christian Instruction at La Prairie. The three first Canadians to enter that community made their vows for one year; seventeen other brothers made their vows for five years; and three made perpetual vows.  
Rev. Father Maunon, Provincial of the Basilian Fathers, who resides at St. Michael's College, Toronto, is now in France, where he will take part in the General Chapter of the Order to meet on the 5th and 6th August next. He expects to be back in Toronto on the 21st August to take charge of the Basilians' retreat then to commence at St. Michael's College.  
The mother provincial of the Good Shepherd Convent of Montreal, and the other sisters who went as delegates to the general chapter at Angers (France) for the election of a Superior-General, have returned to town. They were accompanied by the superiors of their house in Lima (Peru), who is of Canadian nationality, and who for long years has not seen her native country.  
The French nuns, who have several institutions in India and China, are making advances towards the C. P. R. Company for a special agreement with regard to the sending out of missionaries by way of Canada. He, who two hundred years ago, dreamed of a highway to China by Canada, was not far astray. His dream is now realized. Mr. Leclercq, parish priest of St. Joseph, who approached the railway magnets upon the subject, has reason to think the conditions to be made by the company will be acceptable.  
Archbishop Thomas of Rouen (France) celebrated, on the 1st July, the 25th anniversary of his episcopal consecration. The eminent prelate—who was a fellow-seminalist of Archbishop Fabre, with whom he has ever kept up most intimate relations—celebrated his silver wedding by a solemn benediction of a monument raised to Joan of Arc upon Bonsecours hill. The celebrations were grand. Rev. Father Monsabre delivered an eloquent panegyric on the virgin of Domremy. At the request of that prelate, he refrained from speaking of Mgr. Thomas, confining himself to the one who had saved France.

#### WENT TO JERUSALEM CITY

the first of Him who wept over the impending fate of Jerusalem? No! We do not for a moment think that the almighty virtue of our Emmanuel is less than in the days of His sojourn in Galilee or Judaea. Why should He not impart to the lifeless bone and flesh of the genius which fondly held His infant mother, the healing power giving to the woman of Elisha? Our Lord and His holy and pure, so our simple hearted folk believe, were visiting our shores. Catholics are predisposed to seek and to accept this divine miracle working power always abiding in the Church of Christ. But the educated and well informed among them, knowing how cautious the Church is in examining reported miracles, and pronouncing on their genuineness, are slow to credit rumors of wonderful cures. Nevertheless, there are certain things in these preternatural or supernatural happenings which the common sense of the unlearned and the learned alike can judge of rightly. The sudden and instantaneous cure of a chronic ailment is a fact which comes home to the sufferer's innate consciousness. A certain relief, both unreasoning and irrational, lays it down as a universal and unchangeable law that

#### MIRACLES ARE IMPOSSIBLE.

Those who are ruled by this blind prejudice close their eyes to the simple and irrefragable evidence of facts. Catholics, on the contrary, are firmly convinced that God can and does suspend for the good of His human children the physical laws of this universe. Man, in the Creator's design, was not made to be the

### THE HOME RULE CONTEST.

#### SKETCHES AND PORTRAITS OF GLADSTONE AND BLAKE.

Details of the Campaign—Comments of the English and Irish Press—A Bird's-eye View of the Whole Situation.

Owing to the immensity of matter and the lack of space we are obliged to give only a synopsis of the leading features of the great political struggle now drawing to a close.

We will commence with a sketch of Hon. Mr. Gladstone and one of the Hon. Edward Blake.  
Mr. Gladstone, who will complete his eighty-third year on Dec. 29 next, is the son of Sir John Gladstone, who lived to be eighty-seven, so that Mr. Gladstone may be said to have come of a long-lived stock. He is a product of English family life, and his family life is one of the most beautiful domesticities of our time. Mr. Gladstone is a compound in equal proportions of his parents; he has the independent spirit, the unbending will, and inexhaustible energy of his father, and the deep religious spirit of his pious mother. On his father's side he is a lowland Scotchman with all the common-

#### FROM LA SEMAINE RELIGIEUSE.

of the long-headed race. On his mother's side he is a Highlander of the Donachie clan, whose habit was far away in the extreme north beside Stormorway. It is from his mother's side that he has the imagination and the poetry of his nature, and from her also he has that leaning towards the occult, which, however, he has sedulously kept in check.

#### AT ETON.

When Mr. Gladstone was twelve he went to school and was declared by Sir Roger Murchison to be "the prettiest little boy that ever went to Eton." A scholar he was by common consent, says Mr. George Russell, acknowledged to be God-fearing and conscientious, pure minded and courageous, but humane. He was never seen to run, but was fond of sculling and even then given to the fast walking which he has practised all his life. At school he distinguished himself by turning his glass upside down and refusing to drink a coarse toast at an election dinner.  
Mr. Gladstone was familiarly known by the name of Mr. Kipple. In the School Debating Society he naturally took a high place. In one of his earliest recorded speeches, he declared that his "prejudices and predilections have long been enlisted on the side of Toryism." So Tory was he that seeing a colt named Hampden entered for the Derby between two horses named Zeal and Lunacy, he declared he was in his proper place, for Hampden in those days was to him only an illustrious rebel.

When eighteen, Mr. Gladstone contributed under the nom de plume of Bartholomy Bauverie to the *Eton Miscellany*. To this magazine he contributed not only leading articles, classical translations, and historical essays, but even ventured into the domain of humorous poetry.

#### A MODEL UNDERGRADUATE.

At nineteen he went up to Oxford and became a model undergraduate of Christ

Church. Ten years after he left college it was said that undergraduates drank less wine in the forties because Mr. Gladstone had been so abstemious in the thirties. In 1831 he made his first great speech at the Oxford Union, of which he was first secretary and then president. It is notable that it was in denunciation of the Reform Bill, which he declared was destined to break up the foundations of social order.

After taking a double first Mr. Gladstone left Oxford, leaving behind him a great reputation for industry, brilliance and piety. After Homer, Dante is his favorite poet. He has always solace and refreshment in the study of his verse. "Dante," he once wrote, "has been a solemn master for me. The reading of Dante is a vigorous discipline for the heart, the intellect and the whole man. In the school of Dante I have learned a great part of that mental provision which has served me to make the journey of human life. He who lives for Dante lives to serve Italy, Christianity and the World."

#### HIS MARRIED LIFE.

Mr. Gladstone's wedded life has been idyllic and ideal. Seldom, indeed, has a marriage taken place of which it might so truly be said, in the hackneyed phrase of the story book, "they lived happily ever after." Mr. Gladstone's simplicity of character and "matter-of-factness" give his family great facility for what is called the "managing" him.



JOHN W.M. E. GLADSTONE.

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A great illusion which prevails about Mr. Gladstone is that he is always supposed to be fighting for the leadership, and that he is consumed by a passionate desire to be Prime Minister for the fourth time. Those who live with him know that the very reverse is the fact. Instead of restraining him and holding him back, as they are supposed to do, they have actually to egg him on, and force him to quit his sylvan retreat for the turmoil of political life. This is partly because of the extraordinary intensity with which he throws himself into everything he does. Again and again, he has striven to rid himself of political embarrassments, and he is never so happy as when he is romping with his grandchildren. Twenty years ago he argued himself into a belief that he ought to retire. He was "strong against going into politics to the end."

#### IN POLITICS.

Mr. Gladstone entered Parliament for the first time in 1833, when he was elected to represent Newark by the Duke of Newcastle. Few men have entered public life with greater advantages. He was not only healthy and wealthy, but the ripest representative of the University culture of his time. His personal appearance is said to have been striking, but his strongly marked features were pale, and their purlor was set off by the abundance of his dark hair, nor did the piercing lustre of his eyes diminish the impression that the young member was somewhat too delicate for the stress and strain of Parliamentary life. Of those who entered Parliament at that time, there is not one left in the House of Commons to-day. Mr. Gladstone was then the rising hope of the stern and unbending Tories.

In the first ten years of his Parliamentary life Mr. Gladstone was in all things a thorough-going Tory. In 1846 Mr. Gladstone first had his attention seriously drawn to Ireland, and in that year he entertained the idea of devoting the month

of September to a tour in the distressed land—"Ireland is likely to find this country and Parliament so much employed for years to come, that I feel rather oppressively an obligation to try and see it with my own eyes, instead of using those of other people, according to the limited measure of my means." One passage in Mr. Gladstone's career is often forgotten, namely, that when Secretary of State for the colonies in Sir Robert Peel's administration in 1846, he did not offer himself for re-election, the Duke of Newcastle, his former patron, being a stout protectionist, and hereinafter outside the House of Commons during the great free trade agitation which resulted in the repeal of the Corn laws.

#### ANTI-JINGO.

It was not until 1850 that Mr. Gladstone first took a distinct stand on the ground which he afterwards made so peculiarly his own, that of the opponent of the policy of bluster, which had its apostles in Lord Beaconsfield's Eastern antics. The occasion was in the debate on the alleged abuse of English authority to secure the redress of Don Pacifico from the Government of Greece. Lord Palmerston made his famous speech laying down the doctrine of *vis Romana visum*, and Mr. Gladstone replied by denouncing the doctrine that England or any other nation could arrogate to herself in the face of mankind a position of peculiar privileges.

#### THE CONSCIENCE OF THE CIVILIZED WORLD.

It was in this speech also that Mr. Gladstone first made his appeal to the conscience of the civilized world which he so often makes in connection with the Home Rule question.  
In 1852 Mr. Gladstone wrote a letter to the Bishop of Aberdeen on "the position and function of the city which Bishop Wordsworth declared contained the germ of liberation and the political equality of all religions. Mr. Gladstone had obviously been travelling somewhat since he published his book on Church and State but thirteen years before.

#### A TEACHABLE MIND.

Mr. Gladstone began as the defender of the Irish Church; he ended by demolishing it. No one ever opposed more vehemently the extension of British influence in Egypt, but it was under his Government we bombarded the Alexandrian forts, fought the battle of Tel-el-Kebir and reduced Egypt to the condition of a British Satrapy. He was the most conspicuous advocate of peace with Russia when Lord Beaconsfield was in office, until Constantinople was in danger. Five years later he left office, after having brought England to the verge of war with Russia for the sake of Peshawar. One year he clasps Mr. Parnell into prison, the next he proposes to make over to him the Government of Ireland, and then again he deposes him from the leadership. Yet he has always been consistent and anxious for his consistency. Circumstances alter cases, and Mr. Gladstone is not above being taught by events.

#### THE HON. EDWARD BLAKE.

Ye Blakes and O'Donnells, whose fathers resigned  
The green hills of their youth among strangers  
To find  
That repose which at home they have sighed  
for in vain,  
Breathe a hope that the magical flame which  
you light  
May be felt yet in Erin's calm and as bright  
And forgive even Albion while blushing she  
draws  
Like a traitor her sword in the long-sighted  
cause  
Of the Shamrock of Erin and Olive of Spain.

Such was Thomas Moore's mention of the Blakes of Ireland. Singularly appropriate is it, as even now Edward Blake goes back, as a knight of old, to do battle for the land of his ancestors. For it is not an abstract constitutional question that moves our great lawyer and statesman to take up the cause of Ireland—it is influence of blood and heredity.

Charles Lever, the great expounder of Irish life, has written in "Charles O'Malley" of the Galway Blakes, and whoever turns to Burke's "Landed Gentry" will find that in that fighting country there are any number of Blakes who ably maintained that celebrated district's reputation for gallantry, hard riding and good shooting. It is from these Blakes of Galway that our statesman springs.

In 1857 Prince John, second son of King Henry II., came over to Ireland and mightily offended the Irish chieftains. In consequence of this there was much war in the land, and in this fighting one Richard Caddell, alias Blake, so distinguished himself that he was granted certain lands. Burke is the Bible of those who claim good descent, and his account of the family is as follows:  
"The founder of this family in Ireland, Richard Blake, alias Caddell, accompanied Prince (afterwards King) John into that kingdom in 1155 and obtained for his military services large grants of land in the counties Galway, Mayo, Clare, and in the county of the town of Galway."

(Continued on 8th page.)

#### Religious Professions.

Yesterday the regular professions took place at the Mother-house of the Sisters of Providence; to-morrow similar ceremonies will be performed in the Convent of Ste. Croix, at Ste. Laurent.

### A BIG CONFLAGRATION.

#### MONTREAL IN DANGER OF PARY DESTRUCTION.

\$300,000 Damages—Seven People Injured—Two May Die—Several Important Places Wiped Out.

Montreal has seldom witnessed greater excitement in connection with a fire than that of Monday afternoon.  
A fire alarm was rung and the brigade fought conflagrations which will cost not less than a quarter of a million of dollars, though the proprietors claim that the aggregate loss will be far in advance of this sum.

#### The firms who are burned out are registered as follows:

- William Clendinning & Son, (Wm. sen, Wm. jun.), founders and stove manufacturers' works, 145 to 179 William street.
- Canada Pipe Co. controlled by the above firm.
- Bohemian Stained Glass and Embossing Company, A. Ramsay.
- A. Ramsay & Son, manufacturers of paints, oils, varnishes, vermilion and colors of all kinds.
- Marsan & Brosseau, dealers in hay, straw, grain and feed.
- Those who will suffer individually and without insurance are:  
Wm. Grensly, household furniture, ruined by smoke and water and rough usage.
- M. Maloney, furniture ruined and about \$200 in bills lost.
- H. Homer, William street, furniture ruined, loss \$500.

In addition to these there were fully 16 houses and business warehouse roofs on fire. The immense conflagration had, however, prepared the people and quick as the burning embers fell they were squelched by buckets of water. Buckets in many cases were unsuccessfull, as the reels were often called upon to run many yards in order to make sure that all danger was over. The surroundings of that great conflagration were so thoroughly saturated with the St. Lawrence that the hay market portion was saved.

Twenty-five thousand people were there.

It was a scene of fire excitement, witnessed only in the great conflagrations of the long past years.

Added to the general interest always taken in a fire was the arrival of fifty British tars from the I.M.S. Pylades. Imagine the thousands cheering them as they went through the fire lines, sacred to all but the brigade and press. They were gallant. They did their duty like men, and judging by the remarks of the aldermen present, the City Council will remember them.

The men from No. 4 were the first at the scene. They little thought that the fire which they were about to combat would cause such widespread devastation. They little thought it was to bring injury, perhaps death, to some of their members.

Quick though the firemen were in arriving, the small bias to extinguish which they had first been called had assumed vast proportions. As the first stream was laid on from a hydrant on William street the roof of the building in which the fire started was blazing fiercely, and the flames were spreading east and west with tremendous rapidity.

Chief Beckingham had arrived with first reel in response to the alarm that was sounded from box 41 at 2.32 o'clock.

"This is no ordinary fire," he commented, and then he ordered a second and then a general alarm to be turned in.

Reels, ladders, and engines now arrived from all parts of the city and in response to the second alarm came Chief Benoit and Sub-chiefs Jackson and Naud.

Chief Benoit at once assumed supreme command, while the three sub-chiefs took charge of as many districts likely to be attacked by the flames.

#### WORK OF THE BRIGADE.

The second reel to arrive was that from No. 3 station. Captain Phil Gibson, from another hydrant on William street, put two effective streams into the burning buildings, and then came No. 1, Capt. Nolan; No. 2, Capt. Ike Bishop; No. 5, Captain Mann; No. 6, Captain Paul Pelletier; No. 7, Captain Jim Doonan; No. 8, Captain St. Pierre; No. 9, Captain Mangan; No. 10, Captain Sparling; No. 11, Captain Rock; No. 12, Captain Mitchell, and No. 14, Captain Renaud.

Although nearly all the stations named had more than one stream on the burning buildings, the water seemed to have little effect. The fire continued to rage in ever-increasing volume, and as a strong wind from the west arose, not a few of the thousands who assembled, and were densely packed on the Hay Market square, thought that the entire quarter of this city was doomed, and that Montreal was threatened by a repetition of the calamity at St. John's Nfld. The brigade had not been at work at the fire five minutes before it spread from the finishing shop to the foundry (some say that it first started in the latter department), then to the steamfitter and paint shops, until from end to end of the block it was a fierce, angry, all-devouring flame.

(Continued on eighth page.)