#### AUGUST 3. 1912

tent in them, which will sconer or later ad opportunities for development ; but

there are too many others among them whose simplicity and utter unsophistica-tion unfit them for the struggles insepar-able from pioneering in a new country. They are handicapped in dozens of ways, and problems are bound to rise in consequence, the unravelling of which will call for charitable efforts on our part. We can trust our laws, however, to do them justice, and the action of time to effect the work of their assimila-tion and social betterment. There is no doubt that when the new comers have experienced the generous treatment they are sure to receive at the hands of our stauch love for their new home will take possesion of them, and we can have the question of their citizenship to work out its own solution. What particularly interests us is the arrivals are Catholics. They come to us with their own language, religious rites and oustoms which, while well understood in Europe, are less so in Canada ; their presence consequently presents a condition complex enough to give our Church authorities for thought. Instead of mering in groups to the West, where their very grouping would help the Bishops to provide for them spiritually, many of those Catho-lies prefer to stay in our large citles, isolated and very often unknown, and with their needs the Church, notwith-standing her splendid equipment, is not able to cope. The lack of a clergy who can speak their tongues or who are fam-inistry among them especially difficult. Efforts are being made by the Canadian Bishops and clergy to meet the needs of this foreign population : witness, for in-stance, the number of Italian parishes the thave sprung up in Eastern Canada in the Church is heavy. One some-times wonders why those European of the Church is heavy. One some-times wonders why those their own istance, the number of Italian parishes the thave sprung up in Eastern Canada is not spoken, cannot get their own istance, the number of Italian parishes the the curve the is neavy. One some-times wonders why those European of the Church is heavy. One some-tim

arrive, who can give them sound advice and direction and render other impor-tant services to those helpless strangers in a strange land. Agents are now stationed in Quebec, Montreal and Winnipeg, and, if we mistake not, at Halifax and St. John. These are excel-lent works and if carried out in a businesslike way, will save many a poor Catholic newcomer from falling by the wayside, or maybe from swelling the ranks of Socialists and other criminal degenerates.

But looking after Catholic immigrant But looking after Catholic immigrants in our large cities is only one phase of the problem that is presenting itself. The vast majority of those Catholics pass on the Western prairies. There new difficulties spring up, differing only in kind from those met with in olties, but, for all that, not less real. The drawback inevitable in new countries is the absence of churches to worship in, and of priests numerons enough to minister to the spiritual need of Catho-lics spread over vast stretches of terri-tory. This being so, the important tory. This being so, the important questions that one has to face is, how are those Catholics to fulfil their religious duties ? How can they keep the faith if their souls are left to starve for want of the sacraments ?

want of the sacraments? And yet we should not be too exact-ing. In a great long land like the Canadian West, where the buffalo trails are still visible, or at least were a short while ago, where the gopher and the prairie dog are still in possession, where there are but few centers of population, where only lonely cabins dot the home-steads here and there, one cannot ex-pect to see the Church fully organized or a clergy equipped to exercise the ministry of souls. One of the direct penalties of early settlement in every country is this spiritual penury, and we



coming settlers, so that compact parishes may be formed. At present, the energy and the means of the priest are largely absorbed in going about the country, looking after two or three farmers in one place, a dozen miners twenty miles away, and a score of mill-workers fifty miles up stream." Here is a plain statement of the problem. There are no forests on the prairies to be cut down ; nothing but the prolific sod to be overturned ; but the prolific sod to be overturned; the new-comer does not feel the need of mutual help; he is independent; he settlez where he likes; and the ques-tion of the next season's crop of wheat occupies his thoughts more than the question of religion. But the home-stead is his, and the settlement he makes on it is usually permanent. If it happens to be an isolated spot, where there is no church, and Mass only at rare intervals, the Catholic immigrant may court suc-cess in worldly affairs, but the spiritual element in him soon pines away and dies. And then there are the children of the immigrant, who nave neither Catholic

But if this grouping of Catholics is impossible, the charity of those Canadian children of the Church whose fathers

children of the Church whose fathers have passed through similar crises, should be invoked, in order to provide churches and support for priests. The missionary spirit is not dead in the Cath-olic Church; what she is doing in other parts of the world, in this twentieth century, she can do in Canada. Let lay-men provide support for clergy to keep the faith in isolated Catholics and the clergy will do the reat. Little by little

this work ? Now that the opportunity is with us we should seize it. The Church in the Dominion is passing through a delicate phase of her history; every little help of her history; every little help

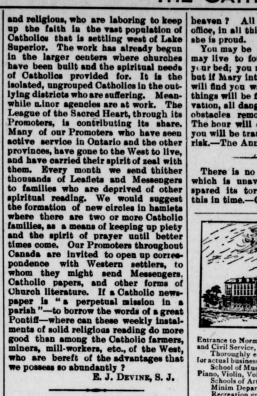
immigrant, who nave neither Cati schools nor Catholic influences to g immigrant, who nave neither Catholic schools nor Catholic influences to give a trend to their lives. Can we wonder that lukewarmness and loss of faith are the results? Can we wonder that the second generation is no longer Catholic? "Individualism with all its weakness," writes the prelate quoted a moment ago, " is the cause of leakage in the west. If it continues," he adds, "thousands upon thousands of Catholics will be lost to the Church in spite of all the Bishons

upon thousands of Catholics will be lost to the Church in spite of all the Bishops and priests can do. We cannot do im-possibilities. Of ourselves we cannot reach the root of the evil. We cannot prevent Catholics from coming West, and we cannot get them to pome in groups." Grouping of Catholics, there-fore, in compact settlements is, in this prelates opinion, the solution of the im-migrant difficulty, and we verily believe him. "Finally, the Catholic Church has

coming of Christ, manual and even mechanical work was regarded as servile by the freemen of Pagan Rome, and was consequently relegated to the slave. "These, then, are some of the bless-ings which the Catholic Church has con-ferred upon society. The beneficent movements inaugurated by her, the phil-anthropic institutions which she has founded, the innumerable works of Chris-tian benevience which she originated. tian benevolence which she originated, have all stimulated and encouraged other Christian denominations in their noble efforts for the moral and social regeneration of mankind."- Cardina Gibbons.

the faith in isolated Catholics and the elergy will do the rest. Little by little the essential grouping will come about ; the centralization of Catholic efforts will take care of itself ; churches will be built, and the recuperation of Cath-olic strength will soon be an accom-pliahed fact. We must not be too pessimistic, how-ever. The work outlined here has al-ready begun. In Winnipeg and other important centers the Knights of Colum-bus have started a campaign to group " Mary !"- This sweetest of name lation, and the directrix of the Important centers the knights of Colum-bus have started a campaign to group together Catholic settlers. They have published an excellent map of the three prairie provinces which points out to intending settlers where there are resi-

## THE CATHOLIC RECORD



WHAT THE CHURCH HAS ACCOMPLISHED

" The Catholic Church has purified "The Catholic Church has purified society in its very fountain—which is the marriage-bond. She has invariably proclaimed the unity and sanctity and indissolubility of the nuptial tie, asying with her Founder, 'What God hath joined together, let no man put asunder." "The Catholic religion has proclaimed the sanctity of human life, as soon as the body is animated by the vital spark. In-fanticide was a dark stain on Pagan

body is animated by the vital spark. In-fanticide was a dark stain on Pagan civilization—being sanctioned, and even sometimes enjoined by such eminent philosophers as Plato and Aristotle, Solon and Lycurgus. "There is no phase of human misery for which the Church does not provide some remedy er alleviation. No dis-tinction is made either of person, nation-ality, color or creed, for true charity embraces all.

ces all. "The Catholic Church has even

"The Catholic Church has ever exerted her influence toward the miti-gation and abolition of human slavery. From the earliest ages, Christianity has been the unvarying friend and advocate of the bondman. Before the time of Christ, slavery was universal in civilized as well as barbarous countries, and the as well as barbarous countries, and the Apostles were everywhere confronted by the children of oppression. No Chris-tian country contains to-day a solitary

always been the staunch, unwavering friend of the sons of toll. Before the coming of Christ, manual and even

"MARY STAR OF THE SEA"

ignifies also Star of the Sea; and such, in fact is Mary. She is the Star of the Sea, because she is the light, the consosource on the set of this world. Mary is a very useful star for the purpose of conducting us to our heavenly home; yes, useful even for the purpose of bring-ing as through the set of this world to



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3

country is this spiritual penury, and we regret to say that it has been the occa-sion of many losses to the Church in Canada. Else how can we explain the meetings with so many good old Catho-lio names borne nowadays even by the ministers of various sects, names that are to be found on the roll-call of martyrs for the faith in the Motherland ?

There should be some kind of remedy for this state of affairs. In Eastern for this state of affairs. In Eastern Canada, it-has been found that where Oatholic immigrants took up land and settled in groups fifty years ago, the faith survives to-day in their descend-ants. We could eite the example of several such colonies in Quebec and Octavic In the several such colonies and the several such colonies in Several Sector Sector Several Sector Sector Several Sector Ontario. In those years, now long past, mutual help and protection made the grouping of Catholics more or less of a necessity, for carving out homes in the dense forests of the older provinces was a strenuous task that needed the arms We trust that when it gets better known its efforts will be appreciated by wealthy Catholics. No charity that we know of, in the present condition of things, can rival that of providing centers of wor-ship and church accommodation in the small towns and isolated hamlets that However, the compensation e in the shape of the little log of many. church, or the school-house, which rose in the midst of those settlements; and s explains the prosperous condition of the Church in many out of the way corners of Canada to-day. are springing up almost weekly in the West. These churches and chapels, be

Things have shaped themselves ifferently in the Great West, whither west. These churches and chapels, be they ever so humble, become the sources of Catholic life and effort and the nuclei of what will in a near future be flourishing parishes. Who does not feel the importance—we were going to say the responsibility—of helping in this work ? athe bulk of our immigrants are fore-gathering. "The westward movement," writes a distinguised Archbishop who has studied this question, "is large and continuous, but no effort is made to direct it. There is no thought of group-ing, or organizing, or colonizing. What we need is some way of grouping in-

phase of her history; every little help given at the present moment will render the hundredfold in faith and piety in a few years. The short-sighted may not be able to gauge these results, but a little reflection will convince them that the Ohurch should secure a footing in the West; and the sconer she does this the stronger will be her influence in that new country, the more lasting the results in sound citizenship and civic integrity in the generations who in the future will owe her allegiance. Is not this a noble ambition? And is it not worth taking the trouble to attain it? Let us, therefore, second the efforts of the Bishops and pricets, both secular

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A. E. AMES & CO. Investment Bankers, Union Bank Building, TORONTO dent priests and where there are only the grace of her Son, "as to the heaven of paradise itself." missions. A glance at this map shows that the main efforts of the priests are

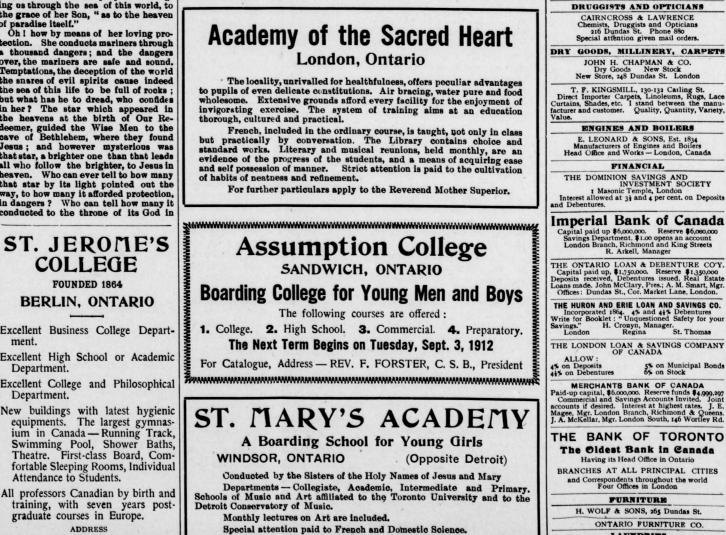
ment.

Department.

Department.

Rev. A. L. ZINGER, C. R., Ph.D., Pres.

Oh ! how by means of her loving pro-ection. She conducts mariners through almost exclusively confined to points served by the railways. Little is being done on either side of those arteries of a thousand dangers; and the dangers over, the mariners are safe and sound done on either side of those arteries of commerce, where, however, there must be very many Catholic settlers. And yet this is a good beginning. At Quebec a Catholic immigration chaplain is now employed going among the thousands of strangers who land every season to direct them towards Catholic cent rs in the West and furnish them with information about their future over, the mariners are safe and sound. Temptations, the deception of the world the snares of evil spirits cause indeed the sea of this life to be full of rocks; but what has he to dread, who confides in her? The star which appeared in the heavens at the birth of Our Re-deemer, guided the Wise Men to the cave of Bethlehem, where they found Jesus; and however mysterious was that star, a brighter one than that leads Catholic centrs in the West and furnish them with information about their future homes. The Catholic Church Extension Society of Toronto has a wider pro-gramme than this, and is laboring according to its means to build chapels and support priests in the Westeru Provinces. The work of the Church Extension is only beginning in Canada ; we trust that when it gets better known its efforts will be appreciated by wealthy that star, a brighter one than that leads all who follow the brighter, to Jeaus in heaven. Who can ever tell to how many that star by its light pointed out the way, to how many it afforded protection, in dangers? Who can tell how many it conducted to the throne of its God in



1

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