

NORTHWEST REVIEW

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED EVERY
TUESDAY
WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL
AUTHORITY.

At St. Boniface, Man.

REV. A. A. CHERRIER,
Editor-in-Chief.

Subscription, - - - - \$2.00 a year.
Six months, - - - - \$1.00.

The NORTHWEST REVIEW is on
sale at R. Vendome, Stationer, 290
Main St., opposite Manitoba Hotel, and
at The Winnipeg Stationery & Book Co.,
Ltd., 364 Main Street.

ADVERTISING RATES.

Made known on application.
Orders to discontinue advertisements must
be sent to this office in writing.
Advertisements unaccompanied by Specific
instructions inserted until ordered out.

AGENTS WANTED.

Agents wanted, in town and country
places of Manitoba and the Northwest,
who shall solicit and collect subscrip-
tions for the NORTHWEST REVIEW. Very
liberal terms made known on applica-
tion to the Publisher.

Address all Communications to the
NORTHWEST REVIEW, St. Boniface, Man.

Northwest Review.

TUESDAY, MAY 23 1899

CURRENT COMMENT

With Volta and Marconi at
either end of the glorious cur-
rent of modern electrical pro-
gress, how very backward in-
deed the most Latin of Latin
nations does seem.

Our Western brethren do not
run in ruts. The merchants of
Calgary have agreed to close
their stores on Wednesday after-
noon during the summer months;
the business men of Lethbridge
have chosen Thursday as a week-
ly half-holiday. This is better
than tacking on Saturday after-
noon to the day of rest. Two
doses of holiday in one week
duly separated are better than
one big dose taken at once; but
then among non-Catholics Sun-
day is not much of a holiday.

Those who are in a position to
know say that the real motive of
the Catholic gathering of college
representatives in Chicago was,
not to form a federation of col-
leges, but to persuade the Catho-
lic colleges to help the Catholic
University of America. The lat-
ter institution, on which such
great hopes were founded and
so much money bestowed, is, we
regret to say, very much of a
failure. Hitherto its policy with
regard to Catholic colleges has
been one of haughty aloofness.
Now that better counsels prevail
and that it holds out to them the
hand of fellowship, let us hope
that they will help it to prosper.

The "University of Ottawa
Review" for April, though
rather late in coming, amply
makes us for the delay by the
interest and importance of its
leading articles. "Catholic In-
fluence on English Literature"
is a long and thoughtful essay
showing the influence of Catho-
lic thought from Chaucer to
Aubrey de Vere. So many great
writers are therein passed in re-
view that one regrets, for the
sake of completeness, the omis-
sion of Ruskin and Longfellow
among non-Catholics with Catho-
lic leanings, and of all Amer-
ican Catholic writers. Surely
Brownson at least deserves a
place in this noble gallery of
moulders of English speech.
Were this article retouched by

some older hand, who should
correct a few faults of style and
modify some rather crude opin-
ions, it would deserve republica-
tion as a Catholic Truth Society
pamphlet.

Last week we suggested pray-
ers for sunshine and warmth,
and the beautiful growing
weather came. Let us be duly
thankful and ask that it may
come to stay.

"The West" is a new Conserva-
tive weekly published at Regi-
na. Its eight pages of seven
columns each are typographical-
ly perfect. Its news and editor-
ial departments are very well
managed. The fact that a new
venture can make so brilliant a
start speaks volumes for the pec-
uniary resources of the territorial
capital. In the advertising
columns, however, there is just
one piece of puffery about "un-
surpassed circulation" that is
hardly in keeping with the gen-
tlemanly reserve and refined
humor of the editorial columns.

To-morrow our gracious Sov-
ereign, Queen Victoria, will ce-
lebrate her eightieth birthday.
May God bless and prosper her
long reign of sixty-two years!
Rumors are rife that Her Ma-
jesty's health is failing very se-
riously, and, although these
rumors are as faithfully contra-
dicted as they are assiduously
circulated, every year necessar-
ily increases their likelihood.
The approach of the inevitable
end of this wondrous Victorian
era makes the agitation which
Father Fallon started for abrogat-
ing that objectionable portion
of the coronation-oath all the
more opportune. We are glad
to see that Catholic societies are
protesting all over Canada.

More spicy items about the
"Banjo-Bard of the Empire" are
heaped together in the Univers-
ity of Ottawa Review's "Rud-
yard Kipling" than we remem-
ber to have seen before. But,
curiously enough, no mention is
made of his latest and most life-
like sketches in the "Stalky &
Co." series. By a strange over-
sight, too, we are told that he is
"yet in his early forties" just six
lines above the statement that
he was born in 1865, which of
course leaves him yet the enjoy-
ment of his early thirties. Nor
is it absolutely safe for a college
tyro to indulge in verbal critic-
ism of so great a master of lan-
guage. Take this sentence: "It
is said he does not know gram-
mar, that he wrote 'done' for
'did' in 'Recessional';" and, when
you refer to that matchless hymn
you will look in vain for either
'done' or 'did.' Listen again to
our entertaining but too hasty
college critic: "In his proud (?)
'Recessional' he states with un-
grammatical license that the
tumult and the shouting 'dies,'
and he makes 'dies' rhyme with
'sacrifice,' an outrage on the ear
in the committal of which he
may truly be said to resemble
Keats, whose droll Cockney
rhymes are proverbial." Now
the 'Recessional' is the exact op-
posite of 'proud,' it tends to
humble national pride; as 'tum-
ult' and 'shouting' express but
one idea, the use of the singular
verb is not even a poetical li-
cense; and, considering that
Walker and Worcester, two of
the greatest orthoepists, pro-

nounce the last syllable of the
noun 'sacrifice' with the long 'i'
and the consonantal sound of 'z,'
the two words 'dies' and 'sacri-
fice' constitute a perfect rhyme.
Is it possible that the writer of
that article pronounces 'sacri-
fiss'? Even, were one to pro-
nounce the last syllable with 'i'
long and 's' hard—the only other
allowable alternative—the rhyme
would still be quite legitimate.

According to the kindly dis-
posed reports of the daily papers
the lecture on "Christian Science,"
delivered last Sunday by Judge
Ewing, who is said to be an
eminent jurist, was so devoid of
doctrinal explanations that those
who had come to find out what
the definite teaching of the sect
might be left the opera house
none the wiser. The "impre-
sive speaker with the Yankee
twang" tried to claim relation-
ship with all respectable Christ-
ian beliefs. Here is one of his
sentences: "You believe in Jesus
Christ, the only begotten son of
God, the immaculate conception
of the virgin mother, and receive
him as your Lord, Saviour and
exemplar—and so do we." Ridic-
ulous as such an interpreta-
tion may seem to Catholics, that
phrase about the immaculate
conception, taken from the very
careful Free Press report, really
looks as if Mr. Ewing thought
that the "son of God" was "the
immaculate conception"—
a mistake which is not
at all uncommon among
Protestants. Hazy notions like
these among educated people go
far to explain how such an
absurd system, based on un-
proved miracles, can have won
so many adherents among Amer-
ican Protestants. People who
seem to bid adieu to their rea-
soning faculties and give them-
selves up to mere sentiment as
soon as they approach religious
questions cannot but be "carried
about with every wind of doc-
trine."

Last Tuesday and Wednesday
"The Turtle," a thoroughly im-
moral farce, was played at the
Winnipeg theatre. Our three
dailies condemned it, but with
characteristic differences. The
"Free Press" wrote of it in such
a way as to warn off pure-mind-
ed readers and at the same time
to whet the appetite of the de-
praved. The "Telegram" in its
first notice (Wednesday) mingled
some praise with very much
blame, adding: "The less said
about presentations of this kind,
which have been suppressed in
other cities, the better for the
morals of the present genera-
tion." Unfortunately in its sec-
ond notice (Thursday) our Con-
servative contemporary lapsed
from virtue, bestowed specific
compliments on each of the ac-
tors and went so far as to regret
that "The Turtle" had not larger
audiences in Winnipeg. "The
Winnipeg Tribune," on the other
hand, congratulated the ladies of
Winnipeg on having "stayed
away, at least all but about half
a dozen or so," of whom some
left during the performance. Our
evening contemporary used the
strongest possible adjectives
"putrid comedy," "disgust-
ingly suggestive dialogue,"
"malodorous adaptation from the
French," "the acting was noisy,
clumsy, coarse," "such a vile
combination as The Turtle, that
dirty shell back, well named."

And far from relenting later on,
after three days' reflection, the
Tribune's famous dramatic and
musical critic, Mr. Chas. H.
Wheeler, carried the clean news-
paper's indignation to the point
of blaming the persons who
hired these lecherous actors:
"The ladies of Winnipeg," he
wrote in his Saturday chit-chat,
"very properly refused to attend
the Winnipeg theatre, a merited
rebuke to the local management
and those taking part in the per-
formance," which, he adds, was
"all very silly, very stupid and
very nasty." All honor to
the Tribune for its brave stand
in defence of Christian purity.

In the Hansard report of the
recent debate in the Ottawa
House of Commons on Dr.
Roche's motion for papers con-
cerning the dismissal from the
Inland Revenue service of Mr.
W. J. Christie the Hon. John
Costigan is represented as say-
ing: "With regard to the serv-
ices performed by this officer,
Mr. Christie, I say he has been
a good officer, but that he organ-
ized the service in Winnipeg is
complete nonsense. The service
at Winnipeg was under the con-
trol of one of the most efficient
officers in Canada, Inspector Bar-
rett, who organized the service
here and who is responsible for
it." High and disinterested as
this praise of our late editor, Dr.
J. K. Barrett, certainly is, it is
acknowledged, by all those who
have followed his long and faith-
ful service in the Inland Re-
venue department, to be fully
deserved.

THE CORONATION OATH.

We beg to direct special at-
tention to a recent letter of
Father Fallon's on this subject
to the Montreal Star, which we
reproduce to-day. As the April
number of the "University of
Ottawa Review" says editorially:
"The Coronation-Oath agitation,
inaugurated by Rev. Father
Fallon, O. M. I., is rapidly tak-
ing on vast proportions. The
Catholic press of Canada and
England has already voiced its
approval in no uncertain tone;
while the American Catholic
journals have given the move-
ment strong moral support. The
"Catholic Record," the "Catholic
Register," the "Canadian Free-
man," the "True Witness," the
Antigonish "Casket," and the
NORTHWEST REVIEW have given
editorial prominence to Dr. Fal-
lon's project, and have one and
all enlisted in his cause. The
greatest of great English Catho-
lic Weeklies—the Liverpool
"Catholic Times"—has editorial-
ly declared that "if the Catholics
of the Empire say the objection-
able portion of the oath must go,
then go it must." The Phila-
delphia "Standard and Times,"
The Boston "Pilot," the New
York "Catholic News" and the
"Ave Maria," have encouraged
the agitators by pointed edi-
torial comment. Moreover, from
various points in Canada comes
the pleasing news of sympathetic
resolutions passed by widely-
separated branches of the Catho-
lic Truth Society, of the A.O.H.,
of the C. M. B. A., and of other
Catholic organizations. The local
(Ottawa) "Agitation Committee
has made arrangements for the
introduction of the Catholic pro-
test into the Canadian House of
Commons; and we feel as con-

fidant as the New York "Catho-
lic News" that "if the Catholics
of the other lands that make up
the British Empire take up this
Coronation Oath insult as vigor-
ously as does Father Fallon, there
will surely be a good result of
their united protest."

To any serious person who
quietly reads that oath as quot-
ed by Father Fallon in his letter
to the Montreal "Star," the en-
tire document must smack of
childish petulance and silly fear
of Catholicism. It is a foolish
survival of the callow youth of
Protestantism when it gloried
in being nothing but a negation.
Nowadays, when it is making an
attempt to appropriate the posi-
tive teaching of the Catholic
Church, this indirect compliment
to the pervasiveness of the truth
as it is in Rome ought to be gall
and wormwood to those modern
Protestants who claim for their
religion the exclusive teaching
of at least a few positive truths.
After a careful perusal of this
absurd oath one would think the
Ruler of the British Empire was
dominated by the one all-absorb-
ing dread of being mistaken for
a secret emissary of the Pope.
Perhaps the best way to get this
ridiculous formula squelched ef-
fectively and for ever would be
for Catholics to petition the
British House of Commons—
somewhat in this style:

"Whereas the Coronation Oath
bears striking, though unwilling
and unwitting, witness to the
all-pervading power of Roman
Catholic doctrine, the Roman
Catholics of the British Empire
humbly pray that every British
Sovereign may continue to hu-
miliate and stultify himself or
herself by the solemn repetition
of this childish protest."

**THE CATHOLIC WORLD
FOR MAY.**

About a month ago our sin-
gularly capable Antigonish con-
temporary, "The Casket," called
Dr. William Seton a "wretched-
ly narrow sciolist, entirely inno-
cent of philosophic knowledge."
In his article in the May "Catho-
lic World" on "The Cen-
tury's Progress in Science," Wil-
liam Seton, L.L.D., keeps up that
well earned reputation. In a
slipshod style which reminds us
of a garrulous old professor's talks
to children, he discourses of as-
tronomy, physics, electricity, ge-
ology, natural selection and med-
icine. He carefully eschews
the geological objection to evolu-
tion, viz., the absence of transi-
tional forms in the earth's strata
here there forms ought to be far
more frequent than those of the
fixed species, and he strives to
make it appear that geology
actually favors evolution, when,
in reality, it only favors
a gradual advance in suc-
cessive creations. Even if,
as he pretends, "no naturalist of
any repute declares his disbelief
in the progressive evolution of
species from other species," this
only shows that naturalists are
not true philosophers. The ori-
gin of species is not, and can
never be, a matter of observa-
tion; it can only be a philoso-
phical deduction from observa-
tion, and thus it falls into the
province of mental not physical
or biological science. The natu-
ralist furnishes the data; but,
unless he be also a philosopher,
he is going out of his depth
when he builds a theory of evolu-
tion out of those data.

The advertizing sheet sent out