

and, indeed, of everything;" again the man directed the same shameful glance as before toward Dion. "Knowing, probably, your unexpertness in horses, which is no secret among your fellow-slaves, and in truth, among all your acquaintances, Tiberius Caesar has, in the first place, selected for you the very animal, out of all his stables, which you are to ride at the games in the circus before the couple of hundred thousand people who will crowd the champaigne."

"At the games!" interrupted Claudius, "and in the circus! Why, all who know me know that I an arrant coward." Like a burst of bells, peal upon peal, irrepressible, joyous, defiant, and frank, as if ringing with astonishment and scorn at the thing, yet also full of friendliness and honest pitying love for the person, broke forth the laugh of Paulus. It was so genuine and so infectious, that even Dion smiled in a critical, musing way, while all the slaves chuckled audibly, and the slave chained to the staple near the door rattled his brass fastenings at his sides. Only three individuals preserved their gravity, the shame-faced steward, poor little frightened Benigna, and the astonished Claudius himself.

"In the second place," pursued the magister or steward, "besides choosing for you the very animal, the individual and particular horse, which you are to ride, the Caesar has considerably determined and decided, in view of your deserved popularity among all your acquaintances, that, if any acquaintance of yours, any of your numerous friends, any other person, in fine, whoever, in your stead shall volunteer to break this horse for Tiberius Caesar, you shall receive your freedom and the fifty thousand sesterces the very next morning, exactly the same."

A rather weak and vague murmur of applause from the slaves followed this official statement. "And so the Caesar," said Claudius, "has both selected me the steed, and has allowed me a substitute to break him, if I can find any substitute. Suppose, however, that I decline such conditions of liberty altogether—what then?"

"Then Tiberius Caesar sells you tomorrow morning to Vedius Pollio of Pompeii, who has come hither on purpose to buy you, and carry you home to his Cumæan villa."

"To his tank, you mean," replied poor Claudius, "in order that I may fatten his lampreys. I am in a pretty species of predicament. But name the horse which I am to break at the games."

Dion turned his head slightly toward the steward, who was about to answer, and the steward remained silent. A sort of excitement shot through the apartment.

"Name the horse, if you please, honored magister," said Claudius. Even now the steward could not, or did not, speak.

(To be continued)

ENTERTAINMENT AT ST. MARY'S SCHOOL.

The Brothers of Mary have reason to be gratified at the brilliant success of their musical and dramatic entertainment last Monday. The convocation hall of the new St. Mary's School was thronged. The clergy present were Very Rev. Fr. Magnan, O. M. I., Rev. Father Cahill, O. M. I., who presided as pastor, Rev. Father Gendreau, Beaudin, Frigon and Portelance, O. M. I., Rev. J. Dugas, S. J., and Rev. J. McDonald, S. J.

Cyril P. Shea
Music Orchestra
Joe L. Troy
Music by Orchestra.
King John - Act IV, Sc. I.
Arthur, Duke of Bretagne . . . G. Barry
Hubert de Burgh . . N. McInnis
Executioners . . . W. Richardson
J. Raleigh
Song "Jingle Bells" Chorus and Orchestra.
God Save the King.

The words and air of "Jolly Pupils," composed as a school song for St. Mary's were much admired and given with lots of spirit. Master McLean's rendering of "Only a boy" was delightfully natural. N. McInnis played the part of Hubert de Burgh with true dramatic effect. "A Hockey Meeting," as a bit of real boyish dialogue, in which all the players entered fully into the spirit of the thing, could hardly be surpassed.

**FROM THE EARTHQUAKE
SCOURGE DELIVER
US, O LORD!**

The earthquake season is upon us, and San Francisco has been treated to several mild shakings during the past few weeks. Though we boast of the progress of science and sing its praises, still here is a great phenomenon in the presence of which science is blind and ingenuity powerless. We have as many theories to explain earthquakes as there are scientists, but of what avail are all the theories? One severe shock would tear down the work of ages. The earthquakes teach us one necessary lesson, that we are utterly in the hands of God. Behind all the convulsions of nature there is a Power and an Intelligence. At no other time is the lesson so apparent that we must always be prepared. The earthquakes serve one good purpose in reminding people of that lesson.—The Leader (San Francisco), Dec. 10.

**C. M. B. A.
Dec. 19 1904**

At the last regular meeting of Branch 52 C. M. B. A., the following resolution was unanimously adopted: It is with the deepest regret and sorrow that we learn of the death of one of our oldest and much esteemed members: Bro. W. J. O'Neill. Resolved that the members of this Branch hereby express our heartfelt sorrow for Mrs. O'Neill and her small children and extend to them our most sincere sympathy and condolence in their sad affliction. Resolved that the charter be draped for the usual period and that a copy of this resolution be tendered to Mrs. O'Neill and that copies be forwarded to the "Northwest Review" and "The Canadian" for publication.

R. F. Hinds,
Rec.-Sec. Br. 52.

"PEACE ON EARTH"
Most hallowed time of all the year
The sacred Christmas-tide draws near,
And bright-faced children flush with joy;
Their Christmas gold holds no alloy,
They hear the voices in the air,
The angels singing sweet and clear.
But we, grown weary in the strife,
And walking in the shadows dim,
Fainting and bruised, till all of life
Sounds but a mournful requiem;
Our dull ears cannot catch the strain
Or dim eyes see the heavenly train.
O Christ-child! Let Thy blessed peace
From grief and pain bring sweet release,
And if joy-bells we cannot ring,
Still may we hear the angels sing!
Winnipeg, Dec. 16, 1904.
M. L. MacG.

JOAN OF ARC'S SPIRIT

Once again Joan of Arc may save France from her enemies, this time the enemies being, not the English invaders, but those of her own household. Think of the professor of Condorcet College, Paris, going out of his way to cast slurs, even grave imputations, on the personal character and virtue of the Maid of Orleans! And this, too, when the vast majority of the French people are preparing to honor her as only those are honored whose virtue has been proved heroic and whose character was superhuman. Joan of Arc was a national character; and, apart entirely from her saintliness, deserves eternal honor from France. But Satanic hatred of the Church blinded Professor Thalamas to her grandeur as a national figure in French history, and he sneered at her purity. To the honor of French manhood, we are told that thousands of boys, students of different colleges, and headed by a delegation from Condorcet College itself, at once rose to the feet and marched through the streets of Paris behind white banners with Jeanne d'Arc's

name thereon in letters of gold and carrying lilies symbolic of her purity. The women of Paris, never behind in public-spiritedness, covered the statue of the Maid of Orleans, in the Place Rivoli, and her great statue by Dubois, at St. Augustine's church, with wreaths of flowers. "Down with Thalamas" rang through the streets of Paris and around the Chamber of Deputies. But Thalamas had fled from the city, frightened by the storm he had raised when he hinted that "La Pucelle" was not the handmaid of God in His merciful care of the French nation. All this happened last week, and very many members of the Senate and Chamber of Deputies and Municipal Councilors also took part, glad of an opportunity to voice their opposition to the anti-Christian policy of the Combes Cabinet.—N.Y. Freeman's Journal, Dec. 3.

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Catechism in the Church, 3 p.m.**

N.B.—Sermon in French on first Sunday in the month, 9 a.m. Meeting of the children of Mary 2nd and 4th Sunday in the month, 4 p.m.

WEEK DAYS—Masses at 7 and 7.30 a.m. On first Friday in the month, Mass at 8 a.m. Benediction at 7.30 p.m.

N.B.—Confessions are heard on Saturdays from 3 to 10 p.m., and every day in the morning before Mass.

C. M. B. A.

Grand Deputy for Manitoba.
Rev. A. A. Cherrier, Winnipeg, Man.

Agent of the C.M.B.A. for the Province of Manitoba with power of attorney, Dr. J. K. Barrett, Winnipeg, Man.

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Meets in No. 1 Trades Hall, Fould's Block, corner Main and Market Sts., every 1st and 3rd Wednesday in each month, at 8 o'clock, p.m.

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