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Northwest Review.

TUESDAY, MAY 16 1899

CURRENT COMMENT

"More things are wrought by prayer than this world dreams of," and we cannot help thinking that the present dark and chilly weather, which keeps back the prospect of good crops, might change into bright and warm sunshine, if only we all prayed therefor with earnestness and trustfulness

We owe to the courtesy of the "Free Press" the permission to reproduce the interesting article, with the two excellent cuts, on St. Joseph's Orphanage. This charitable undertaking deserves and is already receiving the heartiest support of our generous people. Mr. Deegan finds it is a good thing, and, with his usual skill and contagious energy, is pushing it along.

The new and yet young Bishop of Buffalo is immortalizing himself as a peacemaker. An offer of amicable settlement, which had been first rejected, was received with favor as soon as it was known to have been made by Monseigneur Quigley, and a committee was appointed to bring about a settlement of the grain shovelers' strike on that basis.

What the Tablet calls "the chorus of dithyrambic nonsense in beatification of Cromwell" is a curious and very persistent phase of ultra-Protestant perversion of history. A generally sound historical scholar, Dr. S. S. Gardiner, refuses either to palliate or condone Cromwell's ghastly cruelty in Ireland. No supposed holiness of end could justify such means.

In St. Louis and most of the great cities of the Western States people who value their household goods have taken to keeping their houses brilliantly illuminated all night. Gas or electric light bills cost less than a burglar's raid, against which the police are powerless to protect them, and from a repetition of which the venal courts of justice will not save them. This beautiful result of up-to-date civilization is spreading to

Ontario, where, within the past year, fifteen banks have been robbed and none of the robbers arrested. How sweetly the Saxon continues

To seek another's profit
And work another's gain!

We have received from Rev. Father Kavanagh, S. J., formerly of St. Boniface College, a very interesting report of the Montreal Catholic Sailors' Club, of which he is the devoted chaplain. From the statistics for 1898 we gather that 19,112 seaman visited the club during that year and that the receipts from annual subscriptions, concerts, etc., amounted to \$3,618.52, with a cash balance on hand of \$411.79.

The "Catholic Record" reports that Branch No. 51 of the C. M. B. A. held a social at Barrie, Ont., in the programme of which there were just seven numbers: three vocal solos, two instrumental solos, an instrumental duet and a chorus. This was eminently sensible. A programme that is too long takes all the pleasure out of a social. Everybody feels this, but few organizers have the necessary firmness to choose only the cream of the talent offered and mercilessly to exclude performers whom only their too partial relatives and friends could admire.

His Lordship the Bishop of Christchurch, New Zealand, who, it will be remembered, passed through here last winter, has sent us a copy of the Press, a fine eight-page daily, published at Christchurch, N. Z., containing a report of His Lordship's lecture, March 19th, on the prospects of a cathedral. Hitherto the Catholics of this antipodal diocese have had only a pro-cathedral. Bishop Grimes has already promised for about £8,000, but he will not begin to build till £10,000 (\$48,600) have been subscribed. Coming through America, Bishop Grimes says he preached nine times in one day in New York. Throughout his European tour he had raised £1,266, of which £800 came from faithful, but poor, Ireland.

One of the sisters in the Potsdam Orphanage, near Berlin, was charged with cruelty because she had caused a boy to be thrashed. The case against her broke down, as it was shown that the punishment was neither undeserved nor excessive, and that the boy's health was not injured. "Meanwhile," says the Tablet, "it is announced that a teacher named Zaeske at Pudliski, in the province of Posen, has actually caused the death of a boy named Grzelczak, by cruelly beating him for the atrocious crime of speaking Polish, his native language, in school. The post-mortem examination showed that the poor lad's vertebral column was broken. In spite of this the Protestant papers do not exhibit one-tenth of the indignation against Zaeske which they poured forth upon Sister Carola." This is Protestant fairplay.

His Lordship Bishop Grouard, O.M.I., arrived here from the east last Sunday, accompanied by Rev. Father Ducot, O.M.I., an oldtime missionary, by a new recruit Rev. Father Frapsauce O.M.I., from France, and by a Breton laybrother, Br. Cremm, O.M.I. Mgr. Grouard and party continue their westward journey to-day.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

The very enjoyable social held last week under the auspices of the children of Mary Sodality of the Immaculate Conception Church was so eminently successful that we can only hope it will serve as an incentive to the young ladies who arranged it to repeat the experiment as soon as possible, and that our other Catholic societies may feel inspired to follow their good example. It is a long time—very much too long—since any thing of the kind was last attempted in this city and it is to our mind a matter of regret that Catholics are not more often given such opportunities as this of meeting together for a few hours of social entertainment and pleasant and profitable intercourse. We firmly believe that if local Catholics possessed a hall of their own, gatherings of this nature could be held at least monthly during our long winters. And no one can gainsay the many advantages which would be gained by thus periodically bringing our people in this way together.

It would not be necessary on every occasion to arrange such a high class programme as that which was carried out last week, in fact we think that the object should be to introduce as much as possible the talent which may undoubtedly be found amongst the little ones now being educated in our schools and convents. We are sure that the adult members of our congregations would find nothing more attractive or more enjoyable than entertainments by their own children and we consider too, that it would be a great thing for the juniors themselves, inasmuch as it would tend to develop whatever talents they possess and be a valuable experience which they would profit from in after life. Not much can be done in this direction, however, until we have a hall of our own, and we trust, therefore, that during the summer months some practical scheme will be devised for providing one before the season for social entertainments comes round again.

Amongst the encouraging signs of the times is the evident fact that amongst the thousands of immigrants who are just now pouring into the west there is quite large percentage of Catholics. We do not here refer altogether to the foreign element amongst the new comers, but our statement embraces and includes the English speaking additions to our population which the last few weeks has witnessed. We fancy that never before in the history of the Province has this been so apparent, and we are very glad to hear that a large number of Catholic young men are finding work in the city and settling down here. We venture to say that when the next census is taken the Catholics in the city of Winnipeg will be shown to have made a most gratifying increase, and we may reasonably hope that the time will come when we shall form such an important element in the population that our numbers at least may induce the powers that be to shew a little more respect for our rights and privileges than we can ever expect whilst we remain numerically weak. As

to the rural districts the report is equally satisfactory. We have many good settlements now scattered over the country and more are being formed which are destined to grow into thriving Catholic parishes which cannot fail to have an important and beneficial influence on the future of the Province, at any rate from a Catholic point of view.

A LETTER FROM ATLIN.

Mr. Martin Berrigan, who left St. Boniface College last winter, writes from Atlin, B. C., under date of April 30: "I came here from Wellington about two months ago, so that you see I did not go to the Klondike as I first intended. Perhaps it is all the better, for, as this is a new mining camp which is just now being opened up, a person ought to stand a better chance. As yet things are practically at a standstill, and as a consequence men are walking about doing nothing. In the first place there is too much snow to prospect, and, in the second, on account of the unsettled state of the townsite, there is no building of any account going on. Atlin is 100 miles from Skagway and 600 from Dawson. There are two American Fathers stationed at Skagway, where we had to stay over one day on our way in. It happened luckily enough, for it gave me a chance to serve and attend Mass on the first Friday of March. Although they have only, as yet, a temporary chapel for Sunday service and are obliged to say Mass on week days upstairs in their room, they are perfectly happy and contented. I wish there was one of them here. We have no priest as yet, but I think some good Father will pay us a visit when navigation opens. There must be quite a number of Catholics here, for the population is estimated at about 4,000 men in and about the district, besides some 300 women.

There is a Presbyterian minister here by the name of Pringle; he comes from Glenora on the Stikene river. The first few Sundays he had a large crowd to hear him; but now he has lost part of the crowd by an English Church man coming in. A few Sundays ago my partner went to hear him. That Sunday he was trying to raise a hospital fund, and amongst other things he said: "We Protestants are just behind the times as compared with our Catholic brethren in the work of organizing charitable institutions, and the sooner we realize this fact, the better." I think he was right there.

"At present I am working in a saw-mill, where I expect to remain till the time arrives for prospecting.

"There is an Indian village near here. Most of them are, I think, Catholics."

SUCCESSFUL SOCIAL.

HELD UNDER THE AUSPICES OF
THE CHILDREN OF MARY OF
THE I. C. CHURCH.

A most successful social was held in Unity Hall last night under the auspices of the children of Mary Sodality of the Immaculate Conception church. A lengthy and varied programme of vocal and instrumental music, dialogue and recitations, was gone through and the crowded audience showed their warm appreciation by hearty applause and numerous recalls. They were especially delighted with Miss Samson's two songs, "Killarney" and "Hidden in My Heart," the last mentioned item scoring a great success and producing a most enthusiastic encore. Mr. Day was also a favorite, and at his last appearance had to respond three times before the audience were satisfied. Others

who were encored were: Mr. Brodie, who brought down the house with his clever rendition in dialect of "How Jean Baptist Came Home"; Mr. Fred Brownrigg, who sang "The Two Sweethearts," and Miss Middleton, who pleased the audience with a vocal selection, "Tit for Tat." Miss Brown created roars of laughter with the recitation "Mother Hubbard," and Mr. Geo. Gelley and Miss J. Perkins were greatly appreciated and received loud applause, only the length of the programme preventing other encores. Interesting items on the programme were the appearances of several juvenile performers, namely Miss Edna Landers, who sang very sweetly "Sweet Bunch of Daisies"; Master Leo Russell, who gave a masterly rendition of "She Was Bred in Old Kentucky"; the Misses Markinski and Rivers who gave a very amusing dialogue, and the Misses Jones and Boes, who sang a duet. The instrumental selections comprised piano duets by Misses Landers and McDonald, the Misses Whims and Caron, and the Misses Lauzon; and a mandolin and guitar selection by Miss Lauzon, Miss Davis and the Bouche brothers. Mr. A. Bétournay also gave a solo and with Mr. Ralph Mellor on the violin rendered a duet which brought a hearty recall. The Children of Mary choir gave a chorus. During the evening Mrs. Germain, Mrs. Landers and Mr. Bétournay acted as accompanists and Mr. F. W. Russell presided as chairman and master of ceremonies. At the close of the concert Rev. Father Drummond in a delightful little speech thanked those who had taken part in the programme and after that a pleasant social hour was spent with conversation and refreshments.—Free Press, May 11.

**HAVE YOU MADE YOUR
EASTER DUTY?**

TIMELY OBSERVATIONS FOR THE
BENEFIT OF THOSE WHO ARE
NEGLECTFUL.

Every Catholic of sufficient age to receive communion is bound to receive it on some day between the first Sunday of Lent and Trinity Sunday inclusive.

The Easter duty is not merely an obligation to receive once a year. A person may not make his Easter duty, just as one may hear Mass every day in the week and yet not fulfill the precept if he stays away on Sunday. The law of hearing Mass is not to hear it once a week, but to hear it on Sunday and holydays of obligation; so the law of communion is not to receive it once or twice a year, but to receive it at the time appointed. No other time will do.

But some may say: "I have not committed any mortal sin since my last confession; I am just as good as these people who are running to church all the time." Very good, perhaps you are; but it may be that Almighty God does not have as high opinion of you as you seem to have of yourself. But it is not the question whether you are good or not. The law is not to confess mortal sin at Easter: far from it. One ought to have no mortal sin to confess then or at any other time. No; the law is to go to communion. One should get leave to do so of course, but if you have no sin on your conscience, what is easier than to say so to the priest? You ought to be glad to be able to say it.

If you are in mortal sin get out of it by making a good confession and communion; if you are not, do not fall into it by refusing to obey this peremptory and most urgent command. Any one who has not received since Lent began and refuses to do so on or before Trinity Sunday may indeed call himself a Catholic, but he is not worthy of the name.—Exchange.