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CATHOLIC POPULATION AND PAROCHIAL SCHOOLS.

Two statements are going the rounds of the Catholic press that we believe are open to argument. The first one we would very much like to credit, but do not think it pays to make assertions incapable of confirmation—we allude to the published claim, credited to Bishop Hogan, of Kansas City, that there are nineteen millions of Catholics in the United States. It is hard to believe this in view of the published statistics. Sadler's *Catholic Directory* gives 8,271,039; Hoffman's *Directory* makes the number 8,301,367. These figures are in a measure conjectural; but they certainly are not ten millions out of the way. In the west, where dioceses are large and parishes scattered, it is not an easy matter to give a correct enumeration; but, making allowances for such cases, the number cannot possibly exceed ten millions, and probably not many above nine millions. It is hard to see upon what ground Bishop Hogan bases his estimate. He says upon baptisms. That can hardly be. Both the authorities we have quoted, and which contain the only published statistics, are sadly deficient in figures on baptisms. In comparatively few instances are they given; so where does the Rt. Rev. Bishop obtain his statistics? If he has any private sources of information we would like to know what they are. It is a matter of congratulation if there are as many Catholics in this country as he affirms, but we cannot see where they can be figured out.

The other statement is "Chicago has more children in parochial schools than any other diocese in the country." In point of numbers it certainly is entitled to the claim, but, when the number of pupils in parochial schools is compared with the number of Catholics in the diocese, it is considerably behind. Below will be found a table giving the number of Catholics in each diocese in the country, the number of parochial schools in each, the number of pupils in the parochial schools, and an approximate percentage of Catholic population in the parochial schools. It will be seen that Chicago's percentage is but 9.3, while there are twelve dioceses with a percentage of 12 and over. St. Augustine is first with percentage of 26, N. Carolina second, with 21.3, Philadelphia third, with 19.3, Vincennes fourth with 16.3, Little Rock fifth, 15.8, Newark sixth, 14.7; Rochester is twelfth, with percentage of 12.4.

Taking the comparison by provinces, we find that Cincinnati has 11.1 per cent. of its total Catholic population in the parochial schools; Milwaukee, 9.9; Chicago, 9.8; Baltimore 8.6; Philadelphia, 8.2; New York 7.3; St. Louis, 7; Boston, 6.6; San Francisco, 6.3. The grand total shows that at present 7.7 per cent. of the Catholics of this country are in the parochial schools. Cincinnati leads in the total number of schools, having 649; New York is second, with 514; New York has the most children in the parochial schools, 138,405; Cincinnati is second, with 111,038.

Taking all things into consideration, we are inclined to the opinion

that the diocese of Newark makes the best showing in the matter of parochial schools. To be sure it stands sixth in the table we have made out, its percentage being but 14.7, but still it is a comparatively young diocese, having been erected in 1852; Philadelphia was erected in 1808, Vincennes in 1834, Little Rock in 1843. St. Augustine was erected in 1857, and the vicariate apostolic of North Carolina in 1868, but these are made up of some of the oldest Catholic settlements in the country. So we make the claim that Newark is entitled to the palm as regards parochial schools. The archdiocese of Boston, however, is entitled to great credit. Though but lately have its Catholics taken up parochial schools, they have done great work, and it will not be long ere New England's metropolis takes rank well up in the front. And for this the *Boston Pilot* deserves some share of the credit, because of its fearless battling in behalf of the parochial schools. May our parochial school system grow and increase until our opponents are forced by sheer shame to give us our rights.

In the following table the first column represents the number of Catholics; the second the number of parochial schools; the third the number of pupils, and the fourth the percentage of the whole Catholic population now in parochial schools:

Baltimore	220,000	88	16,000	7.2
Charleston	8,000	8		
Richmond	15,000	32	2,000	13.3
Savannah	20,000	6	1,500	7.5
St. Augustine	5,000	16	1,339	26.
Wheeling	20,000	14	1,800	9.
Wilmington	18,000	9	1,718	9.4
N. Carolina	30,000	13	641	21.3
TOTAL	309,000	185	24,998	8.5
Boston	510,000	50	27,500	5.3
Burlington	40,000	18	4,000	10.
Hartford	175,000	36	15,000	8.5
Manchester	73,000	42	7,000	9.5
Portland	75,100	15	4,000	5.6
Providence	150,000	25	11,200	7.4
Springfield	170,000	23	10,000	5.8
TOTAL	1,189,100	209	78,700	6.6
Chicago	460,000	100	43,000	9.3
Alton	75,000	56	7,000	9.6
Belleville	50,000	55	5,810	11.6
Peoria	150,000	43	7,000	1.4
TOTAL	685,000	254	62,810	9.8
Cincinnati	189,500	89	21,864	11.5
Cleveland	*209,325	127	26,492	12.6
Columbus	34,000	37	7,332	13.5
Covington	44,000	30	5,718	12.9
Detroit	125,000	61	13,098	10.4
Fort Wayne	*62,125	64	7,290	11.7
G'd Rapids	*114,925	34	7,244	6.2
Louisville	125,000	132	8,000	6.4
Vincennes	84,384	24	14,000	16.3
TOTAL	1,008,259	649	111,038	11.1
Milwaukee	180,000	125	20,000	11.1
Green Bay	100,000	70	10,271	10.
La Crosse	67,000	58	6,206	9.2
Marquette	45,000	13	2,500	5.5
TOTAL	392,000	266	38,977	9.9
N. Orleans	300,000	70	8,092	2.8
Galveston	*410,000	17	3,147	7.6
Little Rock	*9,000	27	1,430	15.8
Mobile	*25,000	18	1,533	4.3
Natchez	15,391	28	2,107	13.
Natchoches	33,000	11	684	1.9
San Antonio	50,000	26		
Brownsville	44,550			
TOTAL	529,947	197	16,994	3.2
New York	800,000	160	38,383	4.7
Albany	*200,000	35	11,192	5.2
Brooklyn	230,000	90	25,161	10.8
Buffalo	132,551	61	16,000	12.
Newark	168,000	75	24,731	14.7
Ogdensburg	65,390	17	2,800	4.2
Rochester	72,000	36	9,637	12.4
Syracuse	100,000	15	4,401	4.4
Trenton	100,000	25	6,100	6.1
TOTAL	1,872,941	514	138,405	7.3
Oregon	11,000	9	2,040	12.
Helena	30,000	7		
Nesqually	40,000	5	625	1.5
Vancouver's Island (Alaska)	2			
Idaho	7,300	2		
TOTAL	94,100	25	2,665	2.8
Philadelphia	400,000	77	77,432	19.3
Erie	60,000	50	5,832	9.4
Harrisburg	36,430	27	4,344	11.9
Pittsburg	135,000	79	21,000	11.3
Scranton	65,000	25	8,570	9.
TOTAL	776,430	253	67,633	8.2

St. Louis	280,000	94	20,000	7.3
Cheyenne	4,500	2	200	4.4
Concordia	14,500	10	1,000	6.8
Davenport	51,750	34	3,940	7.4
Dubuque	*100,000	54	6,676	6.6
Kansas City	28,437	28	2,943	10.3
Leavenworth	60,000	55	4,600	7.6
Lincoln	20,000	11	680	3.8
Nashville	*21,200	16	2,750	12.9
Omaha	53,640	33	3,127	5.8
St. Joseph	17,591	13	1,759	10.
Wichita	8,000	9	584	7.3
TOTAL	659,612	359	48,224	7.
St. Paul	*155,000	66	11,000	6.9
Duluth	35,000	5	900	2.5
Jamestown	*30,000	12		
St. Cloud	30,000	12	4,000	13.3
Sioux Falls	*50,000	14		
Winona	50,655	19	2,650	5.2
TOTAL	350,650	128	18,550	5.2
S. Francisco	220,000	60	15,000	6.8
Monterey	40,000	15	1,346	3.3
Sacramento	25,000	10	1,500	6.
Utah	3		300	
TOTAL	285,000	88	18,146	6.3
Santa Fe	*100,000	53	1,500	1.5
Denver	50,000	21	4,250	8.5
Arizona	*20,000	9	500	2.5
Indian Ter.	50,000	9	448	8.9
TOTAL	175,000	62	6,598	3.8

GRAND TOTAL:
8,277,039 3,194 633,238 7.7

*CONJECTURAL.

FAITH VS. UNBELIEF.

The ceremony of blessing the throats, which took place on Monday last, was most impressive and calculated to inspire non-Catholic observers in an entirely opposite manner. To the fair-minded, and those who can admire pure and simple faith, it appeals to their innermost hearts, and makes them almost envy the Catholic who possess faith sufficient to withstand the arguments of those who seek by specious sophistries to break down his trust in his holy religion. For it is an indisputable fact that the average Catholic cares not a fig for the opinions of agnostic, infidel, atheist, etc. They may be feasible enough, and he may not be able to refute them, nevertheless they cannot shake his faith; it is too deeply engrafted on his very soul.

The second class we refer to, look down, with pitying contempt in their puny hearts, upon the Catholic who goes to the altar and has his throat blessed under the invocation of the great and good St. Blase, and ascribe it to "superstition." What a handy word "superstition" is, to be sure! Because a Catholic exemplifies the beauties of the cardinal virtue of obedience and adheres with unvarying fidelity to the precepts and principles of his Holy Church, as laid down by divinely appointed teachers, he is "superstitious." But if a non-Catholic places his trust in some human friend, who betrays his confidence; if he is sick and calls in a "Christian Scientist" or irresponsible physician, and he dies, or no good results; if he exercises his faculty of belief beyond what the inexorable laws of custom prescribe; is it ascribed to "superstition?" Not at all. He is simply erratic, eccentric. But with the average non-Catholic, faith is getting to be a matter of secondary importance. Their private judgment is paramount; if that should dictate belief or faith, well and good; but should their likes or dislikes conflict, away with faith and obedience. "We think and do as we like," say they. Well and good. But at the last day, a different story will be in your mouths. Then you will be calling on the mountains to fall and hide you from the wrath of an outraged and just God.

There be men who, while refusing to yield allegiance to, would imitate the ceremonies of the Catholic church in every respect—though of course as far removed from the church as north from south—yet in their public and published utterances show a virulence and hatred of the Catholic church wholly incompatible with the mild and gentle teachings of the loving Savior of mankind, of whose life our Holy Church is a reflection—a legacy.

Senator Blair and some of the non-Catholic sectarian papers are making the air lurid with statements about the Jesuits. Blair says they are the chief agents in the opposition to the present public school system; the others that the Jesuits control the American hierarchy. Both are wrong. As our readers well know, Bishop McQuaid is one of the prelates who have been most outspoken against the abuses of the public school system. Bishop Gilmour, of Cleveland, is another. Every one knows there is not a single Jesuit in the Rochester diocese; Bishop Gilmour has a few at two German churches. If the editors of the papers, referred to would consult any Catholic directory, they would find there is not a Jesuit in the American Catholic hierarchy, in fact, that there are but few Bishops belonging to any religious order. Bishop Ryan, of Buffalo, is a Lazarist; Bishop Haid, Vicar Apostolic of North Carolina, is a Benedictine, as are Bishops Fink, of Leavenworth, and Marty, of Sioux Falls.

Some citizens of Rochester are howling at the park commission because it don't do exactly what the aforesaid citizens think should be done; other citizens are insisting the commission is spending too much money. The first named crop up when any public improvement is mooted. The second class are making much ado about nothing; they will never have to pay for the parks; it will be a legacy handed down to their children and by the time the park bonds are due, the city will have increased in wealth to such an extent the payment will be but a comparatively light burden. And, too, when the parks once are a fixity, these same people will wonder why they objected to the expense entailed.

Yesterday's *Democrat*, in its Seneca county correspondence, contained the statement that, according to a letter received from Father Lambert by Waterloo friends, that clergyman had decided to accept the decision of the Propaganda, and would leave Rome for America very soon.

Interesting Statistics.

The diocese of Rochester comprises the counties of Monroe, Livingston, Wayne, Ontario, Seneca, Cayuga, Yates and Tompkins in the State of New York. It has 78 secular priests; 4 priests of the congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer; 53 ecclesiastical students in colleges and seminaries; 1 preparatory seminary; 3 academies for young ladies; 88 churches; 1 hospital; 5 orphan asylums; 9,637 children in the parochial schools. There were 82 adults baptized during the past year and 2,947 infants; 845 marriages; 914 adults and 509 infants died during the same time, while 94 adults and 1,865 children were confirmed. The total number of Catholics is 77,000. Out of the 9,637 children in the parochial schools, 4,818 are in the city, and 3,719 outside. One thing is noticeable in the schools, viz: the nearly equal numbers of boys and girls; in the city, the girls are slightly in the majority; in the outside parishes, there is but little difference. This speaks well for the parents. In many, yes most, cases, Catholics have large families and need the assistance of their boys, consequently they must begin at an early age to do something toward earning their own living. The statistics show the Catholics of the Rochester diocese have the best interests of their boys at heart and realize the very best way to make good and dutiful sons is to give them, at the outset of life, a good Christian education.

Weekly Church Calendar.

SUNDAY, Feb. 9—Sexagesima Sunday. Gospel, St. Luke viii; 4-15. St. Cyril of Alexandria, Patriarch.
MONDAY, 10—St. Scholastica, Virgin.
TUESDAY, 11—St. Theodora, Empress.
WEDNESDAY, 12—St. Eulalia, Virgin and Martyr.
THURSDAY, 13—St. Catherine of Ricca, Virgin.
FRIDAY, 14—St. Valentine, priest and Martyr.
SATURDAY, 15—SS. Faustin and Jovita, Martyrs.

Farewell.

[Dedicated to the memory of the late Miss Annie Mallon, in religion Sister Mary Dolores, of the Convent of Mercy.]
Thou has journeyed away to thy home with the blessed,
Where the dying find life and the weary find rest;
And tho' grief bade thee tarry, thou smiled a reply,
And passed through the gates of the sweet by-and-by,
While the chant of the faithful and pure upward rolled
'Till the notes blent with strains from the harp strings of gold.
O beautiful life, O death so sublime,
May we know that true path o'er the mountains of time.
May we learn of thy faith at the foot of the cross.
'Till we count life and earth with their pleasures but dross.
May we follow thy spirit 'neath Death's chastening rod
To the glories of Heaven, our Savior and God.
—A Friend in Union and Advertiser.

Corpus Christi Church.

To-morrow Rev. James J. Leary, rector and treasurer of Corpus Christi church, will distribute his annual financial statement. The pew rents during the past year amounted to \$2,912.10; Sunday offerings, \$847.76; school collections, \$462.66; Easter collections, \$238.60; coal collections, \$160.40; for seminarists, \$115.50; other sources swell the revenues to \$3,461.4. The disbursements amounted to \$6,122.21, including \$1,000 paid on borrowed money on note; the indebtedness Jan. 1, 1889, was \$18,988.89; Jan. 1, 1890, \$17,500; cash in treasury, \$1,176.07. The statement is attested by Charles Crowley and Frank Carberry, auditors, and Frank J. Hone and John R. Brady, lay trustees.

A Distinguished Visitor.

Last Sunday the attendants at St. Mary's church might have noticed in one of the front pews a somewhat distinguished looking stranger. It was Mr. Gottschalk, of the Rosina Yoke company, and [a nephew of the great musical composer. When Father Stewart returned from his last visit to Europe Mr. Gottschalk was a passenger on the same steamer and a strong friendship sprang up between the two, which has since continued. After Mass, Mr. Gottschalk dined with Father Stewart and spent the afternoon. Mr. Gottschalk, who is considerable of a composer himself, visited St. Mary's school and played several instrumental selections of his own composition, to the great delight of the scholars and teachers. Accompanied by Father Stewart, he went through the Convent of Mercy and expressed himself as greatly interested both in it and the Sunday school. Mr. Gottschalk, in appearance is of medium height, smoothly shaven; dark hair and dark complexion, with classic features. He is a very ready conversationalist and inimitable story teller, besides a performer of no mean order on the piano.

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The Culross bakery and cafe is patronized by ladies and gentlemen who appreciate pure edibles and pleasant surroundings. Culross baker's goods are ahead of anything on the market. 30 STATE STREET.

Aman's Cough Syrup and Aman's Worm Powders.

Amusements.
Gray & Stephens' new dramatic comedy company will appear at the Academy next week in their beautiful and picturesque dramas, "The Old Oaken Bucket," and "New Saved from the Storm," presenting the former play the first three nights of the week, and the other on the last three nights. They stand unequalled in their individual spheres, being entire masters of the work they have undertaken. This year they present an entirely new company of dramatic artists, among which are a number of sweet singers, some clever dancers, a quartette of operatic voices and three of the funniest comedians living.

Everybody uses Rob Roy Cough Drops. St. Regis Indian Basket Store.

The people are delighted with the grand display. Everyone invited to come and look at them—they will be sold at very low prices. Cost worth 25 cents to see them, and cost you nothing. FRER BROS.