

The Catholic Journal

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Weekly Church Calendar.

SUNDAY, Mch. 9—Third Sunday of Lent.
Gospel, St. Luke xi, 1-19. St. Frances
of Rome, Widow.
MONDAY, 10—St. Kessoge, Bishop and
Confessor.
TUESDAY, 11—SS. Cyril and Methodius,
Confessors.
WEDNESDAY, 12—St. Gregory, Great,
Pope and Confessor.
THURSDAY, 13—St. Gerold, Bishop.
FRIDAY, 14—St. Mathilda, Queen.
SATURDAY, 15—Bl. Clement M. Hofbauer

NATURAL VS. POLITICAL RIGHTS.

In the February number of the *Nineteenth Century*, Professor Huxley has an extremely fair, yet caustic, essay on "Natural Rights and Political Rights" in which he in a manner which will appeal to all thinking people, completely demolishes Henry George's theories. In opening, the famous agnostic observes that some people think the doctrines of that school of political philosophers of which Rousseau was the typical representative, are not only killed but dead. He says he fondly believed Hume, Kent and Hamilton had slain the "Absolute," and that it must decrease, but that it seems as lively as ever. He admits the doctrines of that school of thinkers of which Henry George is the exponent, are exerting considerable influence, and that *Progress and Poverty* has had a surprisingly large sale. This much being true, he thinks the theories therein expounded worthy of analysis. He charges George's philosophy with being in principle, though by no means in detail, identical with that of Rousseau, who belonged to the school of Quesnay. Quesnay's says: "Natural Right may be vaguely defined as the right which a man has to the things which are for his enjoyment." His friend and collaborator, Dupont de Nemours, says: "Natural Right is the right a man has to do that which is to his advantage." From these definitions Huxley infers, "Natural Right is the right of a man to do anything necessary for his own preservation, and to possess himself of any means of enjoyment," and that it is possessed in its entirety by every isolated individual; but if this principle be carried out in a community of individuals, all asserting their natural rights, a state of war must necessarily ensue unless they agree to conventions that will allow each one to profit by the advantages which he is competent to obtain from the order of nature. Huxley thinks this a wonderful admixture of wholesome truth and very unwholesome fiction. If "Natural Right" is susceptible of such opposing predicates, it must be that it stands for two or more widely different ideas. He then proceeds to show that this solution of the difficulty is correct. We leave his solution until next week.

NOT OUR FUNERAL.

Our readers remember some time ago an amendment was passed by the Board of Education in reference to transferring students from one school to another. This created considerable talk a few weeks since. It has again broken out, as can be seen by reference to another column. The probability is the by-law will be repealed. Whether it is or not is of small consequence to us. If the strenuous upholders of state schools wish to receive with open arms a child guilty of misconduct in a parochial school, we are not grieving our selves to death. If the child's parents choose to uphold him in wrong doing and see fit to debar him and themselves from the sacraments, we cannot prevent them. On their heads rests the blame. So Catholics can afford to laugh at the dilemma in which the Board of Education has unwittingly placed itself. The whole dispute was

caused by what was intended as an amicable arrangement between a particular state school and a particular parochial school, and unintentionally extended by the Board to all the schools of the city.

HEIGHT OF ABSURDITY.

Last week we commented upon a proposed amendment to the constitution of New Jersey, making it unlawful "for any power, foreign or local, to use dictation or coercion in order to compel the attendance of children upon any particular school or to compel their absence from any particular school." We believe the amendment, if passed, would be declared unconstitutional by any court. But as drawn, it is absurd upon the face. Bishops or priests cannot compel the attendance of Catholic children at parochial schools, and no constitutional amendment can increase or diminish the potency of this fact. Attendance or non-attendance is discretionary with the parents. But the Bishops say to the parent: "Your child's moral welfare is imperilled by attendance upon such and such a school; you must remove it to some place where the moral atmosphere is more pure." The parent says "No." The bishop or priest says "Very good. But if you do not you are guilty of a moral sin and we will be compelled to refuse you the sacraments." That father or mother goes to Confession and is denied absolution. The State does not know what has passed in the confessional and what is it going to do about it? Is the State going to compel priests to absolve. This is the height of absurdity. Should the State even attempt such a step, it would soon find itself floundering in mud of its own creation.

MUNICIPAL CHANGES.

The result of Tuesday's elections affords an opportunity for congratulating the citizens of Rochester. Granting that Mr. Parsons made a most acceptable executive, he has been so long in office that a change was highly desirable. Mayor Carroll is an honest, respectable, sincere and conscientious citizen and will, we believe, give the city a pure administration during his term of office. To him will belong the task of appointing a new Excise Board in 1891. It is to be hoped Mayor Carroll will choose commissioners who will raise the minimum rate for license and clean out the low groggeries and vile dens, of which there are too many in this city. The present board has, of late, been doing a little in this direction, but it is a notorious fact it has done so under compulsion, and because the Police Department was crowding it to the wall. Appoint decent commissioners and then let the citizens see their duties are performed to the letter. We believe the Excise Board is responsible for a great number of the city's low gin-mills and their consequent evils. There was no hope of a change under the Parsons regime, but there is a glimmering ray now. It cannot come too soon.

Catholics do not need to be informed that a man who knowingly defrauds his neighbor, be that neighbor a municipality, a corporation or a private citizen, will be debarred from the Sacraments, and hence from the spiritual privileges of the church, if he refuses to make restitution when at all possible. Thus it can readily be seen that the man who is a defaulter, an embezzler, who betrays public trusts cannot be a true Catholic. And the man who is guilty of these sins, no matter though he may attend mass and outwardly belong to the Catholic church, has no real part in her. We make these statements simply to let our non-Catholic friends know a defaulter or embezzler cannot be a true Catholic, and also that when they find an earnest and devoted Catholic they have a man in whom they can place confidence without fear of betrayal.

Cardinal Gibbons recently wrote a letter favoring the International Copy-right law. We congratulate the Cincinnati *Telegraph* on its new dress and improved appearance.

Chicago seems to have bitten off more than she can swallow in the World's fair. Now she comes forward with a pitiful wail that she never expected to stand all the expense of the affair and wants Congress to grant an appropriation. Congress should do nothing of the kind. Send the fair to New York and we will bear all the expense. Money talks, Chicago! If you have a white elephant on your hands now, what will it be in 1892?"

Cases have recently been brought to light in this city in which money-lenders, Shylock-like, have wrung from those who were unfortunate enough to fall into their clutches, extortionate and exorbitant rates of interest. This is contrary to the law of both God and the land, and the offenders should be punished to the full extent of the law. These purse-proud individuals should not be allowed to prostitute their wealth to robbing their fellow-citizens, who by force of circumstances are forced to appeal to them for aid.

Mayor-elect Wm. Carroll is an Irishman and a Catholic—a staunch member of St. Bridget's church. Really, Rochester Catholics have reason to congratulate themselves—an Irish-Catholic Mayor and a German-Catholic City Treasurer. Sectarianism has not much hold on the Flower City's fair-minded citizens.

We would like to call attention to one fact: In public schools, if a teacher in the state schools tells a child to apologize for misconduct, that child must apologize or be expelled; parents submit to this restriction and make no objection. But if a child is required to do as much in a parochial school, some parents fly into a passion and threaten to withdraw their children to place them in schools where they will be compelled to do the very same thing. Yet if the upholders of the state schools wish to make them a dumping-ground for our suspended and expelled scholars, we see no reason for a lavish outburst of grief.

MRS. CHAS. McCORT.

Demise of Another Faithful Servant. A figure long familiar among Rochester Catholics was taken away Sunday morning at 4 o'clock. It was that of Mrs. Charles McCort. For many years her face was a familiar one at fairs and festivals, but will be no more. Sadly will she be missed by St. Mary's congregation, of which she was an earnest and devoted member. Were there anything planned in which woman's fertile brain was needed, Mrs. McCort was always called upon and she was always ready to respond. Both her purse and time were at command if needed for church or charitable purposes. Even in her last days this characteristic trait was manifest. Five weeks since she was stricken with pneumonia. Hardly had she recovered when she went to nurse her sister, the late Mrs. Jeremiah McCort, and in attending her funeral contracted a severe cold. Pneumonia again set in and despite all that could be done by loving relatives and kind friends the Dead Avenger claimed her as his own. But his coming possessed no terrors for her. Fortified by the last sacraments administered by Father O'Hanlon, she breathed her last, calmly and peacefully. She leaves besides her husband, one son, Dr. Jas. H. McCort, and two daughters, Minnie and Sadie. They have the sympathy of all in their sad bereavement. The funeral took place Tuesday morning from St. Mary's church. Rev. J. P. Stewart was the celebrant at the solemn high mass of requiem. Rev. Wm. Mulhern of Auburn, N. Y., deacon, Rev. Wm. Gleason of the Immaculate Conception, sub-deacon, Rev. F. O'Hanlon master of ceremonies. The bearers were P. Judge, P. Cooper, A. Connolly, John Sullivan, Wm. Egan, and Joseph Colligan. The interment was at Holy Sepulchre cemetery. Mrs. McCort was a subscriber to the *JOURNAL*, and we commend her soul to the earnest prayers of all our readers. Corpus Christi Branch 139, C. M. B. A., adopted resolutions of sympathy on the death of Mrs. McCort, at its last meeting.

THAT AMENDMENT Causes Trouble in Two-State Schools—Facts in the Case.

Our readers remember the amendment adopted by the Board of Education providing that pupils should not be transferred into any public school without a letter of dismissal from the school previously attended.

Two cases have arisen in which the amendment has caused trouble in the city schools. The parochial schools have had no hand in the matter. The first occurred a few days since. A lad named Culey, living with his uncle and aunt, was grossly impertinent to Sister Catherine at St. Mary's parochial school. She punished him slightly, at which he became mad and said he would not attend the school any more. He went home and informed his aunt and uncle what had occurred. Next day his aunt took him to school No. 13. As the principle knew nothing of what had happened, the boy was allowed to remain several days. Meanwhile, President Noyes of the Board of Education, learned what had happened and went to No. 13 and informed the boy he must bring a letter of dismissal from the Sisters at St. Mary's before he could enter No. 13. Mr. Noyes then wrote a letter to St. Mary's teachers, telling them not to give Culey a letter unless he apologized for the misconduct. This was told the aunt when she called with the boy to ask Father Stewart for the letter. He further informed her that, although he gave the boy a letter of dismissal, that by no means released her from the spiritual penalties incurred in removing the boy from the parochial schools. The boy was told to come again Sunday to see Father Stewart, and a *JOURNAL* representative was present at the meeting. Father Stewart told the boy to apologize to Sister Catherine and he could come back to school again. The lad said his uncle would not allow him to come back. Then the Father told him to apologize to the Sister and he would give him his letter, saying it was not the question of going to the public school that was causing trouble, but the fact that he refused to apologize for his fault. [The *Democrat* will please note this point; it is a state school regulation that pupils thereof must make public apology when requested to do so for offenses committed.] Young Culey refused to apologize and has not received his letter of dismissal from St. Mary's.

The other case was at No. 14. John Galvin's son was guilty of misconduct at Corpus Christi parochial school, for which he was required to apologize. The father became incensed and wanted to send his boy to No. 14. Principal Searing told Mr. Galvin he would have to get a letter from Corpus Christi. This he refused to do and the principal informed him the boy would be refused admission. Superintendent Ellis was appealed to and sustained Mr. Searing in his position. The matter is still in statu quo.

TUESDAY'S ELECTION.

Carroll Defeats Parsons for Mayor—Results in Other Contests. Rochesterians, Democrats and Republicans alike, were treated to a great surprise Tuesday, when Cornelius R. Parsons, fourteen years mayor of the Flower City, and supposed to be invincible, was defeated for the mayoralty by William Carroll. The victor's plurality was 346. William W. Barnard succeeds James M. Aikenhead in the Executive Board, thus making that body Democratic. While the new member is parties in public service, a change in the politics of the Board will do no harm. No party should be permitted to hold office so long that they have the idea of a mortgage on it. Many close struggles were reported in the ward elections. Lyman M. Otis, who headed the committee which investigated the court house scandal and was defeated in the Republican Fourth ward caucus, was elected on an independent ticket; School Commissioner Charles S. Cook, the man who sold supplies to the Board of Education, while a member, was defeated by Robert M. Hodgson, an independent candidate; Supervisor Mc-

Kelvey, also connected with the court-house scandal, was defeated for alderman in the Ninth, by an overwhelming majority. Supervisor Mohr of the Sixteenth, a partner in the court-house doings, was also defeated. Tuesday was fraught with surprises to many, even the Board of Supervisors, usually strongly Republican, going Democratic.

The new Board of Supervisors stands 18 Democrats, 17 Republicans. The Common Council is composed of 10 Democrats and 6 Republicans, and the Board of Education of 11 Republicans, 3 Democrats and 2 Independents.

LENTEN SERMONS.

Instructions to the Faithful by Diviney Appointed Ministers. Rev. Father Notebaert preached at the French Church Wednesday evening. In the course of his sermon he said: That religion is a divine law, and we should live up to its teachings. That God has spoken to man is proven. This we can conclude in the Book of the Holy Scripture. He spoke to Abel and said that his sacrifices were agreeable. He spoke to Noah and told him to prepare for the deluge; 3,300 years ago he spoke to Moses, and 1,890 years ago he came on earth and told us what we ought to do in order to become good and true Christians. We cannot doubt the word of Him who made us to His own image and likeness. He sent His son among us to teach us how we should walk in the pathway He had laid down for us, and do we follow His footsteps as we should? If there is a veil over our hearts, oh, let us pray that it be raised and we can then see wherewith we sin. It will be like the breaking of twilight and we shall then commence a new day.

ST. MARY'S. Wednesday evening Rev. O'Hanlon preached an eloquent sermon at St. Mary's on "Mixed Marriages." He argued from the standpoint that a house divided against itself shall surely fall. He instanced the possible consequences of such marriages, and said though in some cases they turned out all right, in many more they were productive of the most undesirable results, both in a spiritual and in a worldly sense. He said the natural outcome of a union between religion and non-religion was infidelity. If children saw their father did not believe the same as the mother, did not go to church with her, very often they became indifferent and careless and grew up lukewarm Catholics or unvarnished infidels. His discourse was listened to with great interest, and it is to be hoped Father O'Hanlon will continue the subject at an early day.

OTHER CHURCHES. At the Church of the Holy Apostles, the pastor, Rev. T. C. Murphy preached the second of a series of sermons on the Sacraments. "Confirmation" was the subject of Wednesday evening's discourse. Father Murphy spoke of the graces received with the Sacrament and explained its use and meaning in a thorough manner.

Rev. Dr. Hanna preached at the Cathedral Wednesday evening on the "Last Supper." Last Sunday evening's sermon at the Cathedral was an impressive one, and preached by Rev. J. E. Hartley.

At Corpus Christi Father Leary delivered his second sermon on "The Stations of the Cross."

Funeral of Dr. and Mrs. Anderson. The funeral of the late Dr. and Mrs. Anderson took place Tuesday at 2 p. m. from the Second Baptist Church. The large edifice was filled to overflowing with the family, trustees of the University, students of the same institution, and friends and acquaintances. Revs. Geo. Patten, F. L. Anderson, Dr. James B. Shaw, and Presidents Hill of the University and Strong of the Theological Seminary participated in the exercises. The prayer offered by Dr. Shaw was a peculiarly affecting tribute to the memory of the departed dead, while all the others bore cheerful testimony to the esteem in which they were held.

"All things come to him who waits." Rochester waited a long time to find a man who could down Parsons. He has been found and his name is Carroll. Bob Roy Cough Drops are the best.