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Michael's Dedicated.

BY MCQUAID OFFICIATES AT THE IMPOSING CEREMONIES.

Bishop Wigger Celebrates the Mass and Bishop Zardetti Preaches the German Sermon—Bishop McQuaid's Address.

St. Michael's new church was dedicated last Sunday, the services beginning at 10 A. M. Bishop McQuaid officiated at the dedicatory exercises, assisted by Rev. Felix O'Hanlon, of Mary's and Rev. P. C. Oberholzer, the Most Holy Redeemer. Rt. Rev. Ferdinand M. Wigger, of Newark, N. J., officiated at High Mass, with Very Rev. Dr. James F. O'Hare, V. G., assistant priest; Revs. Felix O'Hanlon and Felix C. Oberholzer, deacons of honor; Revs. Joseph G. Magin, of Piermont, and John B. Ege, of SS. Peter and Paul's Church, deacons of the mass; Very Rev. H. DeRegge, master of ceremonies. The choir and orchestra under the direction of Director Messner furnished excellent music.

Bishop McQuaid, as bishop of the diocese, occupied a magnificent throne on the Gospel side with Revs. P. McCormott, of Philadelphia, Pa., and P. Hutzler, of Cleveland, as attendants. Bishops Wigger and Zardetti occupied seats on the Epistle side. The service was attended by Revs. Dr. Clair and M. Kuborn, of SS. R. The scene was a magnificent one; the purple robes of the bishops, the golden hued vestments of the assistants at the mass, the red cassocks of the acolytes, the white surplices and black cassocks of the priests, melowed by the sunshine which streamed through the stained glass windows, combined to render the sight a most striking one.

The following priests were in the sanctuary: Revs. Fridolin Pascalar, pastor of St. Michael's; A. A. Notebaert, of Our Lady of Nictry; Jacob Staub, of the Holy Redeemer; J. P. Kiernan, J. E. Hartley, and J. G. Van Ness, of the Cathedral; Herman Renker, of St. Boniface; M. Hargather, of St. Francis Xavier; Dirich Laurentis of the Holy Family; Monsignor F. Braecker, of Wilkes-Barre, was also present.

When the Gospel had been sung by Rev. Otto Zardetti, of St. Cloud, Minn., preached the sermon in German from Eph. ii 19-23. A brief synopsis follows: "In building this magnificent temple for the glory of God, Christian brethren you have acted according to the words of the great apostle of the Gentiles, in taking as your foundation the prophets and apostles, and Christ as chief cornerstone. You have built wisely and well. You have built for the foundation to completion. Everything is perfect in this beautiful use of God. Since Solomon built a Temple at Jerusalem and since Constantine assisted for the first time the dedication of a Christian church no more worthy structure has been dedicated to the service of the Most High. Not since the time when an angel first winged his way over the ocean to bear the light of the Gospel to this hitherto unknown continent, has a more worthy edifice reared of the Episcopal benediction. The edifice like this is a symbol of the living Church of God. Everything it is perfect. It is joined upon solid vaulted pillars, as is the big Church of composed of the faithful members, priests and bishops and the Holy Spirit in Rome, repenting the pillar and the roof, which rests over all.

In this church we realized the words of our Divine Master to St.

Peter, 'Thou art a Rock, and upon this Rock will I build My Church, and Feed My Lambs, Feed my Sheep.' The most of you came from a far-off country. Nevertheless, you find yourselves united here in your holy religion under one common head, under a bishop who knows neither nationality, class or rank, but looks upon all as his children entrusted to his care by the Divine founder of our Church."

The right reverend speaker referred in an eloquent manner to the good work the congregation had done, saying that in rearing so splendid an edifice they had erected a lasting monument of their religious zeal and generosity. He also alluded to the work the pastor had performed in undertaking so great a task and bringing it to completion, in the most laudatory manner. The right reverend speaker

beginning to end has, I might say, known no bounds, none but the capacity of your own purses. The church speaks for itself. As seen to-day one is lost in its majesty and carried away by its exquisite taste. It speaks for itself. It is a fit temple for the God of Heaven to dwell in. No one knows the sacrifice, the pain; no one has a knowledge of the persevering endurance needed to bring this work to an end. That which is known to me is only, I might say, a mere scintillation. I look back to the first day the proposition to erect a church for the German Catholics on North Clinton street was made to me. I looked at the men who presented the subject and feared to give my consent. They insisted. I put them off. Finally I gave my consent. The church was built. They would not

down to the little children, who stinted themselves of their little luxuries. The whole parish united in the work all through these years, sometimes, of course, feeling that it was a great deal to have this church built, but knowing it was God's work and should be His, from beginning to end.

"It is a great thing for you to have built this church. Every one admires it and wonders how you could have accomplished so much. But this is not all. Your priest was not content when he had provided a church for his people. He came to me and said, 'There are those poor Poles. They ought to have a church and a priest of their own.' And so he took the money that they had paid toward this church and gave it back to them, that they might have a place of worship that they could call their own. He might have said: 'This is my church, my money and my people,' and stopped there. But his large heart would not permit him to do so." The bishop closed with an appeal to the people of St. Michael's to go on and build up the spiritual work of the church to as high a standard of excellence and superiority as that which had been reached in their beautiful church. The services closed with the "Te Deum," sung by the entire congregation.

A description of St. Michael's has already been published in the JOURNAL.

IRISH NEWS.

The Irish Registrar-General's annual report shows that the estimated population of Ireland in the middle of the year was 4,730,566, the losses by emigration being 70,477, showing a decrease of 45,544 in the population during the year.

The new Augustinian College of Our Lady of Good Counsel New Ross, opened auspiciously on September 8, Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin. The school has been designed by Mr. W. Hagne, erected by Mr. Andrew Cullen, and decorated by Mr. P. Finn.

At a recent conference of the priests of Westport deanery at the Presbytery, the Very Rev. P. Greally, P. P., V. G., Newport, presiding, a resolution was adopted to the effect that the potato crop had failed more disastrously this year than any year since the famine, and that immediate Government intervention can alone save the people from the deplorable consequences of misery and starvation. "Unless the Government recognizes its duty at once," concludes the resolution, "it will be responsible for the lives of many of Her Majesty's subjects."

CARDINAL MANNING, by order of the Prince of Wales, takes his place at official receptions directly after the royal house. At the recent dinner given by Governor-General Stanley at Quebec, in honor of Prince George of Wales, Cardinal Taschereau was placed several seats from the prince; his Eminence thereupon intimated he would not attend; the table was consequently rearranged, whereat the Protestant and Orange papers of Canada are indignant. They have no reason to be. The Pope, even by non-Catholics, is regarded as a deposed sovereign; the members of the Sacred College are the Princes of the Church and co-heirs of the Sovereign Pontiff. As such, according to any European table of precedence, they rank next to royal princes. Cardinal Taschereau could not have accepted a lower place without compromising, not only his own, but the dignity of the office of the Sovereign Pontiff.

A Protestant Answered.

CRITICISMS ON THE CHURCH CLEVERLY REFUTED.

Statistics Show that in Catholic Countries Education is More Widely Diffused than in Non-Catholic—Do not Bear False Witness.

(Contributed to the JOURNAL.)

So much by way of introduction. Now, as to your specific charges. You make use of the words "free" and "oppressed" without giving your meaning of these words. You ought to know they have been made susceptible of a multiplicity of contradictory meaning. They are the most abused of any words in the vocabulary of the English language. The second sentence of your letter, in which you charge "priests" with "keeping the Bible from the people," is probably intended as a key to or an illustration of your meaning. If so, it is a very easy matter to prove that your statement is false in the extreme and that there is consequently no ground for your charge of oppression or deprivation of freedom. Pay a visit to any of our Catholic book stores and witness the array of Bibles for sale and every copy marked next to the title page with the approbation of the highest authority of the Church encouraging "the reading of the Holy Scriptures." And, bear in mind, the proprietors of these establishments are generally obedient, good Catholics. They issue and sell thousands of copies of this precious Book every year. There is hardly a Catholic home in which the Bible is not found. The priest must read the Bible to his people every Sunday. Our literature abounds with quotations from the Sacred Volume. Its words form a part of our daily prayers. It has a most affectionate place in the heart and conscience of priest and people, and its acceptance as the revered and inspired word of God is a condition without which membership in the Catholic Church is impossible. The Bible is studied daily in our Catholic schools. These facts prove that we are quite free to pay the respect due to the Bible, and to read and study it. We are not free, it is true, to misrepresent and malign our neighbor, or to make groundless charges, for "the end does not justify the means," though Protestant tactics say it does.

After your charge of opposition to the Bible, you make priests guilty of "keeping the people in ignorance." But "the Catholic Church" in the words of an honest and unprejudiced Protestant who knew whereof he spoke, "the Catholic Church was the ship that brought down over the dark and troubled waters of the Middle Ages all of law, civilization and learning that was worth preserving, and to Catholics we owe the very knowledge of the Christian religion. To the Catholic Alfred we owe the whole of our common law, our judge, magistrate, sheriff and elective systems, our courts of justice and that great bulwark of our liberties, the trial by jury. You probably do not know that Catholics established and endowed almost all the famous universities of Europe—Oxford, Cambridge, Paris, Bologna, Padua, Salamanca and Alcalá. There are now in the Bibliothéque National, of Paris, 80,000 volumes, written by the so-called tyrannical priests of the Middle Ages. There are 100,000 volumes in the library of the British Museum, 20,000 in the Royal Library, of Munich, 30,000 in the Bodleian Library at Oxford, and 25,000 in the Vatican Library, besides numerous collections in the monasteries and other religious.

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ST. MICHAEL'S NEW CHURCH.

charged his hearers never to forget the duties they owed their church, their pastor, their bishop, their country; to thank God that they enjoyed religious liberty in this glorious republic; and to pray that the blessings which they had enjoyed to this day may continue for all time to come.

At the conclusion of the mass Bishop McQuaid addressed the throng which filled the vast edifice to overflowing. He spoke with much feeling and the audience was evidently in perfect sympathy with him. In the course of his remarks he said: "Your most noble and worthy rector would be both pained and grieved and your bishop would be heartily ashamed of himself were he to permit such a ceremony as this to pass without a word of approval. And yet what shall I say? I might bid you look around and behold this magnificent temple of God, compliment the skill of the architects, praise the labor and perseverance of your rector, eulogize your own generosity, which from be-

content with any small lot. They wanted room for a church, a convent, a school and a place for their children. They bought the present site. God in his mercy sent your good pastor. It is not for me to say what he has been to you since the first day he was your priest. What his labors have been you know better than I. You know how he lived many years in the miserable little hut at the corner, with a basement, damp walls and other bad surroundings. You know how faithfully he has guarded your honor; how carefully he watched over your possessions; it was your money and it went to you; and so you learned to know him, to trust him. You gave him the fullest and unbounded confidence and you never for a moment wavered for fear of loss or disappointment. And so he worked and you stood by him. You, I say, the whole congregation. I am sorry all cannot be gathered here; Even the children took part, with their fathers, mothers, sisters, brothers; yes, even