

DIOCESAN NEWS.

What Our Friends in the Surrounding Parishes are Doing.

From Our Special Correspondents. (Continued from 7th page.)

TO CORRESPONDENTS

Correspondents will please bear in mind that all communications should be received at this office not later than Wednesday morning.

Ithaca.

Neil Money of New York is visiting friends in the city.

Rev. J. Kelly was in Rochester during the early part of the week.

Miss Mamie McAllister of South Aurora street entertained a number of friends last Monday afternoon, the occasion being her birthday.

Miss Katherine McManus has returned from Aurora, where she attended the funeral of her uncle, Andrew Neville, last week.

Drs. Conway and Hughes of Auburn visited friends here last week.

One day last week while hunting near Brookton, John Blodgett, Jr., accidentally discharged his gun, and the bullet passed through his right arm. He was immediately brought to Brookton, where he received medical attention. It was found that the shot just grazed the bone. He was brought home and is now in a fair way to recover rapidly.

Mrs. John Lynch of 69 Willow avenue met with quite a serious accident last Thursday. In attempting to fix the fire she burned her arm quite badly from the elbow to the wrist. This is quite unfortunate for Mrs. Lynch, as her husband is confined to the house with a stroke of paralysis.

Caledonia.

On Sunday morning occurred the death of Mrs. McQuillan aged 88 years, at the home of her daughter, Mrs. John Callan. The deceased had been an invalid for 20 years. She leaves three sons, as follows: Thomas McQuillan of Wheatland, Bernard of Logan, Ia., and Patrick of this village. The funeral was held on Tuesday, interment at St. Columba's cemetery.

Patrick Murray of Kansas is spending some time with his sister, Mrs. Patrick Connor, whom he has not seen before in 28 years.

On Wednesday evening, Dec. 1st, at St. Columba's parsonage, occurred the marriage of Mr. Fred Heiffer and Miss Bertha Talfe.

Mrs. J. H. Martin and daughter F. Anne, of Dunkirk, spent the past week with Mrs. Mathew Martin.

Mr. and Mrs. Francis Jopp spent Sunday with friends in Avon.

Newark.

Mrs. B. C. Williams spent Tuesday with her son George, in Rochester, who is studying law with Mr. Greene of that place.

Miss Stella Shutz, has a position in Harvey's confectionary store.

Mrs. J. McCarthy having spent several months at her father's, Mr. P. Walsh, returned to her home in Helena, Montana, last week.

Miss Emma Gentner spent Wednesday with Rochester friends.

Mrs. W. A. Roe will attend the wedding of her brother Bert Coleman, of Sodus Centre, and Miss Out of New York, next month.

Rev. D. W. Kavanaugh has returned from Colorado. His parishioners are pleased to hear his health is improved.

Miss Mamie Roe attended the party at Sodus Centre, Thursday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Hottchiss of Cortland, are spending the winter here with relatives.

Miss Hill of Stanley is visiting West Miller street friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Will Peiron have moved into town for the winter. Mr. Peiron is assisting his father-in-law, S. D. Smith, in his grocery store.

Miss Johnson has a position in Mr. Greenwood's law office as copyist.

The Military Band fair was a success. The entertainments were given under the management of Dr. Mills each evening. About \$800 was cleared.

Mr. Wilcox and family will move to Dispatch in a few weeks.

F. C. Wickham of Sodus Point, was in town Tuesday.

L. H. Wheat has a position in Sandusky, Ohio. Mrs. Wheat expects to go there soon.

Seneca Falls.

The funeral of Bernard Devlin was held at St. Patrick's church Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock. Rev. Father Dwyer officiated.

Mrs. Michael Carnher died at her home on Ovid street, Tuesday afternoon at 4 o'clock. Deceased is a member of the L. C. B. A., Branch 80. The cause of her death was peritonitis. She is survived by two sons and two daughters.

Two masses were said at St. Patrick's church Wednesday in honor of the feast of the Immaculate Conception.

Palmyra.

Miss Anna Ryan spent Sunday with Miss Lula Engel of Lyons.

Lawrence Kelley of Newark was in town Saturday.

Miss Annie Walsh of Rochester is spending a few days with Mr. Eddy Parker.

D. Cavanaugh of Rochester is in town organizing a branch of the C. R. & B. A.

T. B. Griffin was in Rochester Tuesday on business.

Westport.

James Bolway of Syracuse was in town Sunday, visiting friends.

William Deenen of Jordan was in town Saturday.

Frank Cort of Memphis spent a few days last week visiting friends and relatives in this village.

William Clossy of Buffalo was the guest of Miss Kittie Wesley.

Henry Burns and Philip Cline of Jordan were in town Sunday.

8200 Howard 8100.

The readers of this paper will be pleased to learn that there is at least one dreaded disease that science has been able to cure in all its stages, and that is Catarrh. Hall's Catarrh Cure is the only positive cure known to the medical fraternity. Catarrh being a constitutional disease, requires a constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system, thereby destroying the foundation of the disease, and giving the patient strength by building up the constitution and assisting nature in doing its work. The proprietors have so much faith in its curative powers, that they offer One Hundred Dollars for any case that fails to cure. Send for list of names of druggists.

THE SUICIDE.

[Written for the CATHOLIC JOURNAL.]

Who is the suicide? Wherefore we ask: Who in the sun of prosperity bask, Little ye care—'tis forgot in a breath— Only an outcast gone to her death. Months had she wandered through the great city, Hopeless, disconsolate, seeking for pity. Man's inhumanity, down to the water Drove that poor erring one—somebody's daughter.

When from the pier she leaped, none saw her quiver— None heard that gasp of fear, hushed by the river, And that repentant cry—is it forgot?

Praying that mercy which man giveth not? And ye who scorned her plea—scorned from her mouth. What though a soul be lost? 'tis not your own.

Women, your sister erred; where was the aid Given to help that poor, weak, sinful maid?

Spoke ye a kindly word? took ye her arm? Nay, 'twould contaminate—shrink in alarm! Proud in the virtue that ne'er has been tried, Well may ye shrink from her, strong in your pride.

But she was your sister, and from her ye turned, Denying the pity for which the soul yearned. Her heart ceased to beat when ye pity denied. Ye murdered her! Yes, she was no suicide.

LEO A. MCSWENEY.

PATRONESS OF THE UNITED STATES

Catholic Belief in Mary's Immaculate Conception.

One of the favorite arguments of those individuals who dispute the divinity of the Catholic church is the accusation that she teaches to-day other doctrines than those which were known to and accepted by the early Christians; and among such new doctrines they usually assign a prominent place to the dogma of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin, whose feast under that title the whole church celebrated Wednesday.

While it is true, of course, that belief in the Immaculate Conception did not become an article of Catholic faith until the time of the definition of the dogma by Pius IX, in 1854, it is equally true that from the earliest Christian ages that belief was universally held by the faithful. Even were authentic early declarations in that belief lacking—which is far from being the case—that fact would not militate against popular faith in the Immaculate Conception; but would simply argue, in view of the character of the belief itself, that such faith was so general, so universal, that nobody dreamt of doubting it, and nobody, in consequence, felt called upon to proclaim or defend it.

But early declarations of Christian faith in the Immaculate Conception are not lacking. There are a few of such testimonies. The Epistle of the priests of Achaia, describing the martyrdom of St. Andrew the Apostle—the original Greek copy of which was found some years in the Bologna library—makes that martyr, an Apostle, declare to the proconsul who condemned him to death: "Because the first man had been created of an immaculate earth, it was necessary that the perfect Man should be born of an Immaculate Virgin, in order that the Son of God, who had previously formed man, should restore the eternal life which they had lost in Adam." There is testimony that takes us back to the very origin of the church, and shows that the Apostles themselves firmly believed in the dogma which it was reserved for Pius IX. to define.

Coming down to the third century, we have St. Dionysius of Alexandria declaring Mary "sealed by the Holy Ghost, and ever protected by the power of the Most High, preserved without corruption and blessed from head to foot," in a letter written against a dissenting bishop of Antioch, St. Ephrem, in the following century, in a sermon on the Mother of God, calls her "immaculate, all pure, exempt from stain." St. Augustine, in the fifth age, arguing against the Pelagians, asserts that "All are children of wrath except the Blessed Virgin, concerning whom, for God's honor, I wish there to be no question when sin is treated of; for we know that more grace for overcoming sin in every point was conferred upon her, by her meriting to conceive and bear Him who evidently had no sin." Skip six centuries now and come down to St. Peter Damian, and he tells us, in a sermon on the Assumption: "The flesh of the Virgin, assumed from Adam, bore none of Adam's stains;" and in the next centuries we have the abundant testimonies to the Immaculate Conception by St. Bernard and St. Bonaventure; all of which evidences amply show that faith in the dogma was universal in the church from its very beginning and long before the dogma was authoritatively defined.

Turn now to the councils of the church, and as early as 1459 we have the one held at Avignon and presided over by Cardinal Peter de Foix, confirming the decision made by the irregularly-held council of Basle, in 1489, that belief in the Immaculate Conception of Mary was in conformity with the worship of the church, Catholic faith and right reason, and setting apart Dec. 8 as the feast of

the Immaculate Conception. Among the Popes who defended this dogma, without, however, defining it, was Sixtus IV, who, in 1476, granted special indulgences to those who kept the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, Dec. 8; and who, in 1483, condemned those who called the observance of that feast sinful or who declared it heresy to believe that God's Mother was exempted from original sin. Pius V., in a bull dated 1564, confirmed these constitutions of his predecessor, and after him Paul V., and Alexander VII., both of the 17th century; and Gregory XVI., in the present age, in many ways favored the popular belief and enriched the feast of the Immaculate Conception with ample indulgences than before attached to it.

The Feast of the Immaculate Conception was kept in the East as early as the Twelfth century. England is believed to be the first land in the West to keep it, very soon after the observance of it in the East; and before the middle of the Fourteenth century its celebration in the Roman church was general. Clement VIII., in the beginning of the Seventeenth century made the feast a greater double; Clement XI. made it a holiday of obligation in the following century; Pius IX gave the feast its present title, and Leo XIII made it a double of the first class. Finally, eight years before the definition of the dogma, the Fathers of the Sixth Baltimore council, which met in 1846, declared their belief in the dogma by solemnly choosing the Blessed Virgin, conceived without sin, the patroness of the United States. — [Columbian.]

Cook Opera House. J. W. Henocksburg, Lesser. Sam S. Schubert, Mgr. Regular Matinees Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday. 3 Nights Commencing Dec. 13.

Who is Who. Thursday, Friday and Saturday. The Star Gazer. Prices Night, 25c 35c 50c. Matinee 15c and 25c.

Academy of Music. L. C. Cook, Manager. Prices 15c 50c. Matinees, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday 3 Nights Commencing Dec. 13.

Town Topics 3 Nights Commencing Dec. 16th. Manhattan Club.

WONDERLAND THEATRE. J. H. Moore, Manager. Week commencing Monday, December 13.

BIGGER SHOW THAN EVER. Special Engagement M. and MRS. WM. ROBYNS. In their beautiful one act drama, "The Counsel for the Defense."

KERNS and WELCH. B. IGO SALMO THORN and CARLTON. THE GREAT JUDGE. NETTIE PEABODY, Prof. Monk.

Twelve new life-like scenes on the Cinematograph, and the Famous Spanish Bull Fight. Performances from 1:30 to 5 and from 7:30 to 11 p. m. Admission, 10, 15 and 20 Cents.

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A Card.

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are now, and have for many years been among the most popular Christmas presents. There is good reason why they should be. In presenting a Piano to your daughter, your can find no easier or surer way of making your

Whole Family Happy.

It is a lasting happiness too, for it will be a source of continual satisfaction and benefit providing you buy a GOOD PIANO. Just think how easily you can obtain THIS BEST OF CHRISTMAS GIFTS for your own home. It cost only a little down and a little each month until paid for. You can surely afford that outlay when you think of the benefit it will secure for you and yours. Our Christmas stock, the largest and most exclusive in Western New York, now ready for your inspection.

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Crown Orchestral Piano, Ivers & Pond, Norris & Hyde Transposing Piano, Sterling, C. Kutzman, Stultz & Bauer,

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Until after the Holidays.

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- Blotters,
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- Swedish Match Holders,
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- Whisk Brooms,
- Button Hooks,
- Pocket Pencils,
- Tape Measures,
- Nail Files,
- Desk Spindles,
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