

To-morrow the church celebrates the great feast of Christmas—the day on which the God-made-man left His Throne in the starry heavens and became as one of us, in order that the promise made to Israel by God the Father and repeated at intervals to His chosen people might be fulfilled.

Not as the lovers of pomp and power had hoped came Christ. His arrival was not heralded with flourish of trumpets. No gilded palace sheltered His Blessed Mother. No costly crib, no fine clothing had been provided against His birth. In a lowly stable by the wayside the Virgin Mother lay and when He who was to conquer the world by peaceful means opened His eyes in this wicked world a manger was His crib.

Herod and Pontius Pilate held high revel in their palaces. No evidences of poverty in their surroundings was betrayed. Had any person told them that on that day in Bethlehem was to be born one who would shake Rome to its very foundation and whose influence would overturn the Roman system of which the cardinal principles were self-love, self-gratification and everything but self-conquest and love for their neighbors. He would have been scoured out of Palestine. Had Herod or Pilate ventured such a prediction to Caesar he would have been tried and executed for high treason.

Could Caesar have peered beyond the Appennines and could the heavens have opened before his eyes he would have seen a miserable stable and in the open door some kneeling shepherds. Within the stable he would have seen a young mother on her knees before a little child who lay on a bundle of straw on the floor. He might have heard a whisper, "There is the God who shall be worshipped on the heights of the Capitol." He would have heard with the shepherds the singing of the angels. He would have seen the great, bright star overhanging the hill, while the village on its top shone like silver in the starlight. Had he listened closely he would have heard the angels' chorus of "Gloria in Excelsis Deo, et in terra pax hominibus, bona voluntatis."

May the spirit of the Infant Christ hover over the home of each reader of the JOURNAL this Christmas eve and may He bring a special blessing to the little ones whom He always loved and may they grow more and more like the Christ child.

To all our readers we wish a joyous, happy Christmas and may good cheer be their portion to-morrow.

OUR CHRISTMAS-PROGRESS NUMBER.

To-day's issue of the CATHOLIC JOURNAL will be a welcome one to our readers and many who are not enrolled on our books. During the past sixteen years the church has progressed, the diocese of Rochester, the United States, the city of Rochester and the JOURNAL has progressed, and this splendid number has been especially prepared to give a brief historical sketch of the diocese and a history of our progress.

Sixteen years ago the first number of the CATHOLIC JOURNAL was issued. It was a four page sheet one-half as large as the present sized pages and it was set up, printed and published in a little 7x9 room in the old Sibley building that stood where the present handsome Triangle building does now.

There were those at that time who threw cold water upon the new publication. Its projectors were told they had entered upon a losing venture. They were told that the diocese of Rochester never would support a Catholic paper. These and other gloomy predictions were hurled at its owners.

Time went on and every little while the gloomy predictions were reiterated. We must confess that at times the signs indicated that the prophets of disaster were justified, partially at least. Subscriptions came slowly, advertising patrons were slow in responding. But we had faith in the good judgment of the Catholics of Rochester and we felt that when they saw a Catholic paper that stood for the right, that strove in the best way it knew to represent Catholic interests, to expound Catholic thought,

to defend Holy Mother Church and to treat all matters from a purely Catholic standpoint, they would accord it support. In this belief we have gone on and the Catholics have justified our opinion.

Looking back over the days that are gone, there comes the remembrance of many a staunch friend, of many a kind word of encouragement and sometimes more substantial token of regard and appreciation of our work. These refs in the first day gloom have lightened our pathway and they are cherished by us.

Whether we have been true to our ideals; whether we have fought a good fight; whether we have kept the faith we leave to our readers. What we do know is that the JOURNAL has broadened its field and, that its plant has been enlarged and its equipment bettered by reason of the sturdy support which has been given by the Catholics of Rochester diocese. We have endeavored to return our appreciation in the shape of a constantly improved paper and it is our intention to continue this improvement day by day believing that hearty support invites co-operation on our part.

This number is an earnest of what the JOURNAL plant can turn out in the way of handsome work.

The progress number will go into the homes of a large number of Catholics in the diocese of Rochester who are not regular subscribers to the JOURNAL and we take this opportunity of asking their subscription to the paper.

That the business men of Rochester realize the superior advantages of the JOURNAL as an advertising medium is endorsed by the generous advertising patronage they have accorded the issue. We trust that our readers will avail themselves of the invitation extended in the advertising columns and that they will not fail to mention the JOURNAL when they make their purchases. Such tribute pleases the merchant and helps the JOURNAL. The more heartily the JOURNAL is supported, the better paper we will be able to make it.

To all who have co-operated with us to make the progress number a success the JOURNAL returns hearty thanks.

THE DIOCESE OF ROCHESTER

Rochester was formerly under the jurisdiction of the Archbishop of New York. There is no record that the first Bishop of New York, Rt. Rev. John Connolly, ever visited Rochester but his successor, Bishop Dubois, came here in 1834 and Archbishop Hughes and Cardinal McCloskey both visited the city.

In 1847 the diocese of Buffalo was formed and Rt. Rev. John Timon was appointed first bishop. He exercised jurisdiction over Rochester until 1868 when Monroe, Livingston, Ontario, Wayne, Seneca, Yates, Cayuga and Tompkins Counties were made into the diocese of Rochester, Rt. Rev. Bernard J. McQuaid was named as its first bishop. When Bishop Ryan died a few years ago the counties of Steuben, Chemung, Tioga and Schuyler were taken off the diocese of Buffalo and added to Rochester, thus making the area of the diocese 7,456 square miles. The diocese comprises 122 parishes and missions, attended by 135 priests. It has one preparatory seminary and one full-fledged theological seminary for the education of students for the priesthood.

Bishop McQuaid is known as the "Father of the Catholic school system of the United States." He has developed a system of Catholic schools equal to the public schools in every respect and they are supported by the contributions of the individual Catholics. Today there are 43 parochial schools in the diocese with an attendance of nearly 16,000 pupils.

To-day there are 20 Catholic churches in Rochester: St. Patrick's, organized 1820; St. Mary's, 1834; St. Joseph's, 1835; SS. Peter and Paul's, 1843; Our Lady of Victory, 1848; Immaculate Conception, 1848; St. Bridget's, 1854; St. Boniface, 1861; Holy Family, 1864; Holy Redeemer, 1867; St. Michael's, 1874; Holy Apostles, 1884; St. Francis Xavier, 1888; Corpus Christi, 1888; St. Stanislaus, 1890; Holy Rosary, 1890; St. Augustines, St. Monica's, the Blessed Sacrament and Our Lady of Perpetual Help.

CATHOLIC EDUCATION.

Rochester stands pre-eminent among all the dioceses of the country in its interest in education of students for the priesthood. When Bishop McQuaid came here in 1868 students had to be sent abroad to be educated for the priesthood and the expenses was so great that whenever an applicant for holy orders appeared who was willing to pay his own way the bishop felt bound to accept him.

Mgr. McQuaid resolved to remedy all this as soon as possible. With the financial and actual physical assistance of the late Mgr. H. DeRegge he founded St. Andrew's preparatory seminary where lads wishing to become priests might make their preliminary studies and where their vocations might be tested under the bishop's eye. There are priests to-day in all parts of the country who began their studies in St. Andrew's. A few days ago the institution was removed from its rather unpretentious quarters to a handsome brick building on Frank Street, the gift of the priests of the diocese as a thank

offering.

But Bishop McQuaid had planned for an ecclesiastical seminary of its very own where students might make all their studies. For years he laid aside and invested all his personal funds in a "seminary fund." A few years ago this had attained such proportions that he felt warranted in building the handsome St. Bernard's Seminary on the Boulevard. Personally he oversaw all the work of building and, probably no contractor ever did a better job.

The seminary, in the main, is officered by children of the diocese of Rochester—picked students selected for their particular aptitude in special lines and sent to the European universities there to be educated as members of the faculty of St. Bernard's. When a professor of St. Bernard's writes "Dr." after or before his name you may be sure that the title is not honorary but that it was won in open competition with the brightest minds gathered from all the dioceses in the world.

St. Bernard's fame has spread all over and to-day there are students there being educated for the far-off diocese of California, from the South and from the East.

The institution is supported in the main from the small contributions of the faithful.

HOSPITALS.

Rochester is blessed with one of the best equipped Catholic hospitals in the state. St. Mary's on West Avenue maintained and conducted by the Sisters of Charity. It has had a long and honorable existence and it is patronized by many non-Catholics who prefer the ministrations of the gentle-faced Sisters to the trained nurses of their own denominations.

ORPHAN ASYLUMS

There are three Catholic orphan asylums—St. Mary's Boys Asylum, St. Patrick's Girls Asylum and St. Joseph's. The first two named are under the control of the Sisters of St. Joseph and the last under that of the Sisters of Notre Dame.

HOME OF THE AGED

For years there has been a home for aged women on Main Street East near Corpus Christi Church. Last year Bishop McQuaid conceived an idea of establishing a home for aged persons of both sexes. He purchased a site on the Boulevard near the Seminary and last spring a fair was held at which over \$45,000 was realized. Work is now progressing on the building and it will be opened in a few months.

HOLY SEPULCHRE CEMETERY

One of the crowning glories of the diocese is the beautiful Catholic City of the Dead. Holy Sepulchre Cemetery located on the Boulevard. It is one of the handsomest and best kept burying grounds in the United States.

BISHOP McQUAID.

It is unnecessary when writing about Rt. Rev. Bernard J. McQuaid to give a chronological biography. Every Catholic in the United States has heard of "The Grand Old Man of Rochester." They all know the grand work he has done in behalf of Catholic education. They have heard—especially his brother bishops—of the splendid plane to which he has elevated education of students for the holy priesthood. Every visitor to Rochester has remarked the number of Catholic churches, convents, schools and other splendid church property which has been accumulated during his episcopate—the term of the only bishop of the diocese of Rochester has ever known.

Look about the diocese and read the life of his bishop.

To write a comprehensive sketch of Bishop McQuaid's life and labors would be to write the history of the Catholic church in the United States. Few living prelates there are who have not been glad to avail themselves of his advice or knowledge of past events—there were none of those who were called away in the last twenty-five years who did not know him well. The fame of the diocese of Rochester has reached even unto Rome because of its progressive, sagacious bishop.

The bishop of Rochester has seen all the bishops of the New York province who occupied sees when he was named to be the first bishop of the newly created diocese in 1868, pass to their last reward. He has participated in the election of their successors and assisted in their consecration. As senior bishop he administered the affairs of the province in the interim between the death of Archbishop Corrigan and the appointment of Archbishop Farley.

The bishop of Rochester has seen the organization and development of the C. M. B. A., the L. C. B. A., of which he is supreme spiritual adviser—the C. R. and B. A., the Knights of Columbus and other great Catholic fraternal organizations. He has seen the church grow and develop into a mighty power in the land. He can look back upon "know-nothing riots" and other manifestations of hostility to the Catholic church which to-day, prudence if naught else would forbid.

Active and hale, the bishop of Rochester has supervised personally the business of the diocese, has overlooked the building of the preparatory and diocesan seminaries and even now is personally superintending the buildings designed for the Home for the Aged.

As has been said the history of the bishop of Rochester is intertwined closely with the history of the Catholic church in the United States and THE JOURNAL hopes he will be spared to the Catholics of Rochester for many a year to come.

A. O. H.

The following societies have elected officers for 1905:—

Aux. No 1: Pres., Mrs. James F. Finn; 1st vice pres., Miss Ellen T. McCarthy; sec., Mrs. M. Bradish; fin. sec., Miss Mae Murray; treas., Miss Kittie Rigney; marshal, Mrs. Morse; guard, Mrs. M. Lewis; standing committee, Mrs. Margaret Sheehan, Mrs. Sloan, Mrs. M. Morse; financial committee, Mrs. Johnson, Mrs. Ford, Miss McCarthy.

Aux. 4 Pres., Arline Bren; vice pres., Julia McCarthy; rec. sec., Mary Horan; fin. sec., Kate Bauman; treas., Rose Schubert; standing committee, Mesdames Ellen Adams, Francis McCarthy, Rose Ruby, Julia Bourne, Anna Flynn.

At the last regular meeting of the County Board of Monroe Ladies Aux. the following were installed:

President Margaret Lynch; vice pres., Kate McIntee; rec. sec., Arleen Bren; fin. sec., Mae Murry; treas., Mary Markey.

\$1 25 Buffalo and Niagara Falls and return via New York Central on Monday, Dec. 26, tickets good on all morning trains and returning on afternoon and evening trains up to 9 p. m.

Ten dollar excursion to Boston and New England points, including Greenfield, Gardner, Fitchburg and Ayer on Friday, Dec. 23rd, via West Shore Railroad, tickets good to return on or before Monday, Jan 2nd. For further particulars call on West Shore ticket agents or address city ticket office, No 20 State street.

\$1 65 Syracuse and return via New York Central on Monday, Dec. 26th, tickets good going on all morning trains and returning on afternoon and evening trains.

NATIONAL THEATRE.

Mr. William H. Turner is announced to appear as "David Harum" at the National Theatre for three days, opening with two performances on Monday, Christmas day, and including the usual matinee on Tuesday and Wednesday.

Harry B. Smith's musical comedy "Liberty Bells" which ran for nearly an entire season at Madison Square Theatre, New York, will be the attraction at the National Theatre next Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

A Notable Philanthropy.

M. Chaudard, head of the Magasins du Louvre in Paris, has handed over his superb property at Versailles for the benefit of all his employees who can show at least twenty-five years' service, and do not receive more than \$800 a year. The immense park has been divided into 105 lots, so as to insure to each meritorious servant a holding of about 600 square yards. The land is given free, and the employees can erect houses to their liking. So pleased are they with the gift that a building society has been formed, and it is expected that by next October a little colony will be well started. A small castle occupies a place on the estate, and this will be converted into small flats for the accommodation of aged bachelors.

A Full House.

President Roosevelt says that the incident on the long trip that amused him most occurred at a small town in Kansas where a two-minute stop was made. The President had been talking freely of his "race suicide" notion that day. At the station in Kansas a man stood holding three small children on his shoulders and a woman close beside him carried two babies. The President's speech was going along smoothly when suddenly the man with the three children broke in with a voice that could be heard a quarter of a mile.

"Hey, Teddy," he shouted, "can you beat this? It's a full house, Teddy—triplets and twins; three of a kind and a pair!"—Kansas City Journal.

Russian Forests.

On the old principle that misery loves company, it is good to hear of a country whose forests have been wasted even worse than our own. Con. sul-General Guenther reports from Frankfort that while the forests of Sweden amount to 48.6 per cent. of its whole area, in Russia they are but 36.7 per cent. and in Russian Poland only 21.3 per cent. Russian forest resources are less than even in Austria-Hungary and the United States, and the Czar's Government is studying ways and means of reforesting.

LARGEST GREEN DIAMOND.

Prince of Wales' Apple Green Gem Found in South Africa.

One of the unique stones is an apple green diamond owned by the present Prince of Wales. It was discovered in South Africa, and is the largest stone of the shade in the world.

Apple green is a very rare and precious species. It was found two and a half years ago and weighs three and a half carats. The value placed upon it by connoisseurs is \$8,000, but it is practically a priceless jewel, as the Prince of Wales would not part with it for anything. The ordinary price of a diamond is \$150 a carat weight, and on that basis of valuation the Prince's stone would be worth only about \$500; but its rare shade is its charm.—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Teachers in Philippines.

Salaries paid school teachers in the Philippines range from \$800 to \$2,000, and from \$1,500 to \$2,500 for division superintendents. A candidate must pass examination in a thesis, penmanship, arithmetic, English, geography, history and civil government of the United States, physiology and hygiene, nature study and drawing, science of teaching, and experience, training and general fitness. There is quite a severe medical test as to physical fitness to stand the climate.

An Ancient Bell.

The bell which Gov. Miguera A. Otero found at the old mission fort of Algodones, N. M., was made, presumably in Spain, in 1365, and was taken to Algodones, N. M., by a Catholic priest who accompanied the invading army of Coronado in 1527. It has been at Algodones ever since. What is more remarkable, no one outside the little village, where it has been ringing nearly 400 years, knew of its existence until Gov. Otero found it.

Public Lavatories in England.

The public works committee of Birmingham, England, in submitting to the city council a proposition for the construction of an additional underground lavatory, etc., announces that where small charges are made there are profit possibilities in conveniences of this kind. The committee said that the four underground lavatories, etc., were paying the city a net profit of \$2,433 a year.

Queer Slamese Justice.

In Siam, when there is a question at law between two parties and a scarcity of witnesses to establish the truth in the case, it is customary to resort to the water test. Both parties are required to dive simultaneously into deep water, and the one that stays the longest under is adjudged the truth teller and gets the verdict.—Exchange

Good Selling Points.

An exchange says the Japanese soldier has muscles like whiplords, is a sure shot, has a good eye for landmarks, sleeps only three hours out of the twenty-four, is cleanly and patriotic, and costs the nation only nine cents a day. Sounds as if some big department store had just received a choice lot of Japanese soldiers and was bound to have a run on them.—Buffalo Express

Railroad Up Gray's Peak.

A new railroad, planned to scale Grays Peak, near Dillon, Col., will attain a height of at least 300 feet greater than the road which climbs Pikes Peak. The new road will tap an important mining area, the Georgetown district, and will be a feeder for both the Colorado and Southern and the Denver and Rio Grande railroads.

A Remarkable Career.

A remarkable veteran soldier in England is Lord Chelmsford, now 77 years old, but appearing like a man in the 50s. It is 60 years since he entered the army, and he is among the now thinned ranks of those who served before Sebastopol. He was in the Mutiny, and later experiences were his in the Abyssinian, in the Kaffir and then in the Zulu wars.

Lily of the Valley Poisonous.

In spite of its beauty, the lily of the valley is denounced by scientists on the ground that both the stalks and the flowers contain a poison. It is risky to put the stalks into one's mouth, as if the sap happens to get into even the tiniest crack in the lips it may produce swelling, often accompanied by pain.

Bank for Workingmen.

To encourage working people to establish homes of their own, Norway has founded a bank for working men. It lends money at 3 1/2 and 4 per cent., and gives the borrower 42 years in which to pay the loan. The total cost of the house must not exceed \$160, and the area of land must not be more than five acres.

The Kaiser an Early Riser.

The Emperor of Germany usually rises about 5 o'clock and generally to be found in his workroom at 6 o'clock. First there is served to him a cup of tea or bouillon and a sandwich. Then, lighting a cigar, he reads over such clippings from newspapers and magazines published all over the world as are deemed worthy of his attention.

Impressions About Rubber.

The general impression prevails that rubber is a product like wheat or corn to be obtained from a given tree. The idea is quite erroneous. It has been estimated that 1,000 different species contain rubber, though commercial quantities have been obtained from only 40 or 50.

Sir Thomas Lipton has an Italian knighthood as well as his English baronetcy.

FATHER KOENIG'S NERVE TONIC

Strength Has Improved.

Rev. E. Le Guillou, of St. Germaine, New Mexico, writes about the effect of Pastor Koenig's Nerve Tonic for R. Martinez: "I suffered terribly of headache so much that it seemed as if my eyeballs were coming out and my stomach rejected all kind of food. For a long time I couldn't sleep during the night, but only a little during the day. I became so weak that I couldn't do any work without getting severe palpitation of the heart. At last a general nervous prostration resulted, which prevented me even from writing the simplest thing. As soon as I took the Tonic I felt the benefit of it. My strength has been improving all the time, and I am therefore very thankful for the valuable Tonic."

FREE A Valuable Book on Nervous Diseases and a Sample bottle to any address. Fear patients also get the medicine free. Prepared by the Rev. F. Koenig, of Fort Wayne, Ind., since 1870, and now by the **KOENIG MED. CO., Chicago, Ill.** 100 Lake Street. Sold by Druggists at \$1 per Bottle, 6 for \$5. Large Size, \$1.75; 6 Bottles for \$8.

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BOOK OPERA HOUSE

WEEK DEC. 26

Della Fox, the famous singer
 Rose Wentworth Trio,
 Exhibition of horsemanship
 Charlie Case
 Rochester's favorite monologist
 Waterbury Bros. and Tenny
 Comedians and musicians
 Nichols Sisters
 Singing and dancing
 Chas. Hera, a juggler
 Besnah and Miller
 Comedy act
 Kinetograph. all new Pictures

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MATINEES DAILY:
 10, 15, 20, 25c.
 Evenings—10, 20, 35, 50c.

\$16 Buffalo to Chicago and return via Nickel Plate Road. Low round trip rates to intermediate points. Tickets on sale Dec. 24, 25, 26, 31, and Jan. 1 and 2. Good returning to Jan. 4th inclusive. For further information write R. E. Payne, general agent 291 Main St., Buffalo, N. Y.

Girl Babies Running Short.
 So the Census Bureau regrets. Well there's plenty of Langie's "gilt-edge" coal left in the mine. Central office, Triangle building; phones 930.

The Most Durable Shoes
 for the money are Schreiner's handmade shoes for \$2.50. Corner South avenue and Gregory street.

Beware of Ointments for Catarrh that Contain Mercury.
 as mercury will surely destroy the sense of smell and completely derange the whole system when entering it through the mucous surfaces. Such articles should never be used except on prescriptions from reputable physicians as the damage they will do is ten fold to the good you can possibly derive from them. Hall's Catarrh Cure, manufactured by F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, O., contains no mercury, and is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. In buying Hall's Catarrh Cure be sure you get the genuine. It is taken internally and made in Toledo, Ohio, by F. J. Cheney & Co. Testimonials free. Sold by druggists. Price 75c. Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

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