

Northwestern Standard.

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OUR SALUTORY.

Our entry into the journalistic field needs little or no comment; but, in justice to those who have already endorsed our project, a public definition of our policy becomes necessary.

The need of such an organ—more especially at the present time, on the eve of Parnell's glorious conquest—is, and has been, a long admitted fact. To urge the Irishmen of Minneapolis and the Northwest in general to uphold that patriot's hands in his fight with British tyranny, that the doubt may yet become a certainty, is our main object. All things else are secondary.

Again, the interests of our people have been ignored, and oftentimes have they been insulted, by a monopolistic, prejudiced and bigoted press—with due deference to the few exceptions—hence, in our humble sphere, we stand to defend them.

The interests of our Church will be guarded with a sacred care, and we doubt not sufficient encouragement will be given by the Catholics of Minneapolis and the surrounding country.

In the war between capital and labor, we are on the side of the latter, and will not hesitate to render such assistance to the mechanic and the artisan as in our power lays.

Advertisers will see the benefits to be derived from using these columns, going as it will to the consumers of the Northwestern metropolis and capital, consequently, we feel assured of their support.

The general management of the paper will be in the hands of Wm. Kilday, to whom matter for publication and of a business nature may be addressed.

Trusting our people will judge us justly, and thanking those advertisers who have generously patronized us, we remain, as ever, your obedient servants.

sible. At no time has the situation of Irish affairs presented so striking an illustration of this originality of method, of this readiness of resource; of this flexibility of adaptation than the present. If in the year 1880 a person had written a forecast of the political events in England for the last five years it would have been regarded as more wildly improbable than the battle of Dorking. If any one in 1880 had been bold enough to predict that within five years the Parnell movement would result, not only in the alterations in the system of land tenure then existing in England, Ireland and Scotland that have been made, but also in the defeat of the liberal party in Parliament, with the most popular and powerful statesman of England at its head, and should, after making the ascendancy of the Tory party possible, reduce the issue upon Irish affairs down to the simple question whether entire independence should be granted to Ireland or home rule under a local Irish parliament only, he would have been regarded as a dreamer, without knowledge of the subject upon which he spoke; and yet, this is but an outline of a few of the apparent impossibilities that have been accomplished.

It is a proud reflection for the Irish race that these results have been attained solely through their sagacity and endurance. In the methods that have been followed, so disproportionate to the means at hand—the Irish people have won the admiration and applause even of their enemies. The Land League, though not having for its avowed object the obtaining of home rule, must be largely, if not entirely, credited with its attainment. It was through the League that the people of Ireland formed the perfect organization by which the expression of their opinion became potent, and in which the power of that opinion made itself manifest. It solved in another way also that last and most powerful objection to Irish home rule—namely, that the people of Ireland were not capable of self government. This was an objection which was most frequently made by English politicians, and was frequently confessed by Irish sympathizers. The apparent dissensions among Irish leaders as to the means by which the existing evils might be remedied, were triumphantly pointed out by objectors to home rule as clear evidence of the incapacity of the Irish for self government, and oftentimes the force of the objection was sorrowfully admitted by Irishmen themselves. It was quite conceded that the people of Ireland, whatever their virtues might be, had one fault wherein they were peculiarly to blame, and that was a want of agreement among themselves. This was admitted without an accurate estimate of the actual condition of the Irish people. As a matter of fact there is not, and never has been, as great a conflict of political opinions among the Irish as is observable in other nations. People of such different

The Month of November.

"It is a holy and a wholesome thought to pray for the dead, that they may be loosed from their sins."

During this month of November, dedicated by the Church to the poor souls in purgatory, our Catholic readers ought not to need reminding by their pastors of their duty to deceased relatives and friends, and if not already attended to, have the Sacrifice of the Mass offered up for the repose of their souls. Too often, alas, we neglect this important work. What more consoling doctrine is there to one bereft of a loving parent, a fond sister, a dutiful son or an affectionate wife or husband, than that which enables us, even after death, to show our love and affection for them and give them succor in the hour of need? Catholics, be mindful of the obligation upon you, and, at least, join with Holy Church in prayer and good works for the eternal repose of the faithful departed.

THE GAOL REACHED.

"Tu Es Sacerdos in Eternum Secundum Ordinem Melchisedech."

Thursday morning the sacrament of Holy Orders was conferred upon five levites at the Seminary of St. Thomas, Merriam Park. The solemn ceremony, being the first ordination witnessed at the new Seminary, drew thither a large number of the reverend clergy of the diocese and immediate relatives and friends of the young aspirants for the holy priesthood. Old Sol had scarcely risen ere the residents of Merriam Park began wondering why the road leading to the Seminary presented so animated an appearance. The little chapel could not hold all who desired to witness the occasion, and the worthy rector, Rev. Father P. Gorman, expressed regrets at the disappointment so caused.

Could the founder of that institution—the first Bishop of St. Paul, Right Rev. Joseph Cretin—have witnessed that joyous gathering, his heart would have been filled with rapture at the auspicious commencement of the work of his chosen sons—Right Rev. John Ireland and Father O'Gorman. In the year 1853, taking these two from the Cathedral school before the altar of the Blessed Virgin, he bade them kneel, and then and there blessed and consecrated the work of the Seminary. Later they were committed to the care of Father Ravoux, whose venerable features graced the event of Thursday, and by him taken to the home of their studies in France. What a happy termination of events! One of them training with the zeal of a true father of the Church, young souls destined for the holy office; the other to be the first to raise to the dignity of the priesthood the first fruit of his labors. The Seminary of St. Thomas has a bright future, numbered among the

The ascendancy of the parochial schools is becoming more apparent, and the recently enlightened press is beginning to show the inutility of the public school system. The New York Sun—the illuminator of the metropolis—recently gave a practical illustration of the uselessness of a so-called "public school education." The majority of our children under the existing system are compelled to leave school before they attain the knowledge to fit them for an ordinary business career. In too many cases—but more especially in the East—a child is crammed with physiology, hygiene, botany, etc., before he can plainly recite the rules of a common arithmetic or speak the English language correctly. Teaching the child how to earn his daily bread—namely, by being enabled to write and punctuate his own composition, and tell the result of 5 minus plus 3—has become monotonous, hence to relieve this "physical exercises" and "how to make your escape in case of fire" have been introduced, and are practiced five or six times a day.

Spontaneous combustion seems to be the cause of numerous fires, and there is much combustible material made from these nonsensical essays. Not only does complaint come from New York, "Boston"—in the person of President Eliot of Harvard University—raises his voice against the system. This latter gentleman, referring to the fact that Catholic schools are springing up all around us and drawing large numbers of pupils from the public schools, said: "The great problem is that of combining religious with secular education. This was no problem sixty or seventy years ago, for then our people were homogeneous. Now the population is heterogeneous. Religious teaching can best be combined with secular teaching in the way followed in countries of heterogeneous population like Germany, Austria, France and Belgium, where the government pays for the instruction and the religious teachers belonging to different denominations are admitted to the public schools at fixed times. That is the only way out of the difficulty, and it is the way in which American governments have treated American churches. I see growing up on every side parochial schools—that is, Catholic schools—which take large numbers of children out of the public schools of the city. That is a great misfortune, and the remedy is to admit religious instructors to teach these children in the public schools. This is what is done in Europe! And all those who are strongly interested in the successful maintenance of our public school system will urge the adoption of the method I have described for religious education."

The significance of this utterance is plainly seen, and it is important as the latest words of an admitted authority, addressed, as they were to the public school system.

Expansiveness of the Irish Question.

Great enthusiasm was manifested at the meeting held at Holy Rosary Temperance hall, Nineteenth avenue south and Sixth street, for the purpose of raising money for the Parliamentary Fund. Good speakers were in attendance, and a large sum of money was subscribed toward the fund.

Dr. Curry's appointment is analogous to the devil set preaching. He is appointed, rabid anti-Catholic though he be, to a Catholic court and country. It seems singular that Mr. Keiley was so offensive in reality, while Dr. Curry remains a martyr in sentiment.

Arrangements are being made for a large meeting under the auspices of the Irish National League of this city, to raise funds to be applied to the Parliamentary Fund. Good speakers will be in attendance and address the meeting, and among them will be Hon. Ignatius Donnelly.

The result of the elections on last Tuesday brings joy intermingled with sorrow in the both Democratic and Republican camps—the former, however, getting the lion's share of gladness. New York was the center of attraction, and to a disinterested observer it was interesting to note the loud-mouthed bragging of the mugwumps before, and laughable to see them crawl into their holes after election. That this election was a strong faction in '84, evidence has clearly proven, but the Democracy having got the upper hand many of them must have been converted—for what re-sons we will not venture to say—and failed to join the prodigal horde in '85. New York a "doubtful State?" We think not. It has shown itself to be thoroughly Democratic.

Virginia and Maryland also held their own in the Democracy, while Massachusetts and Iowa gave rousers to Robinson and Larrabee. New Jersey still carries a Republican legislature.

Many false reports have been circulated in this country, having their origin in reports transmitted from London through the cable dispatches, to the effect that Mr. Parnell has been and now is, in league with the Tories in the recent defeat of the Gladstone ministry, but the subsequent acts of Mr. Parnell have branded these reports as malicious, false and utterly without foundation. Mr. Parnell and his followers have no interest in either the Whigs or the Tories, or the success or defeat of either, only so far as the interest of the cause for which they are so patriotically struggling is concerned. Heretofore Parnell and his followers, in the high

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