THE CATHOLIC CHURCH.

Observance of the Forty Hours' Devotion Yesterday—An Account of the Institution and the Indulgences Attached—The Imposing Ceremonies at St. Michael's Church.

SERMON BY REV. FATHER WALSH.

[SPECIAL PHONOGRAPHIC REPORT FOR THE EVENING TELEGRAPH.]

The Devotion of the Forty Hours in honor of the Blessed Sacrament is one of the most solemn and edifying in the ceremonial of the Catholic Church. It was first introduced in Milan, in 1534, in memory of the forty hours in which the sacred body of our Lord reposed in the sepulchre. The pious practice afterwards spread to other cities of Italy, and by the instrumentality of St. Philip Neri, was celebrated at Rome, especially, with much solemnity, A. D. 1548, in the Church of the Most Holy Trinity of the Pilgrims, on the first Sunday of every month, and A. D. 1551, on every third Sunday of the month, in the Church of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Prayer. In other churches also this pious exercise was practised, that the devotion of the faithful towards this Most Holy Sacrament might be satisfied. Finally, in the year 1592, Clement VIII., in his Constitution (*Graves et diuturnæ*), seeking a heavenly remedy for the public calamities of the Church, ordained that this devotion of the Forty Hours, beginning from the first Sunday of Advent, on which day it would be celebrated every year in the chapel of the Apostolic palace, should proceed from one church of the city of Rome to another successively, so that through the whole course of the year the faithful should be able to visit somewhere their Lord in the Most Holy Sacrament, exposed to public veneration, and should embrace the occasion of pouring forth their prayers day and night before Him, and of craving His mercy in their necessities. The same Pontiff conceded, morever, many indulgencies to all the faithful who should pray devoutly before the Most Holy Sacrament thus exposed. Pope Paul V confirmed the same, and made them perpetual.

The indulgences which may be gained by the Catholic faithful during this pious devotion of the Forty Hours are as follows:—

First. A *plenary* indulgence to those who, after confession and Holy Communion, devoutly visit, for a becoming space of time, the church where the Most Holy Sacrament is exposed.

Second. A *partial* indulgence of ten years, and as many quarantines to those who visit the church in which the Most Holy Sacrament is exposed, with a firm resolution to make a good confession, to be gained every time taey make such visit. Both of these indulgences may be applied by way of suffrage to the souls in purgatory, according to the rescript of Pope Pius VII.

The following Document of the Communication of the Indulgences from the present Pope, Pius IX, and preserved in the archives of the Bishop of Philadelphia, will prove interesting:—

"Most Holy Father:—John N. Newman, Bishop of Philadelphia, humbly prays that your holiness will be pleased to grant to him the Communication of the Indulgences conceded to the churches of Rome for the Forty Hours' Devotion. This Devotion has for two years past been celebrated in his Diocese with great concourse of the faithful."

To this the following reply was received:—

"In an audience, held July 22, 1855, his Holiness, by Divine Providence Pope Pius IX at my instance, as Secretary of the Propaganda, granted the grace. Given at Rome, from the Propaganda, on the day and year before mentioned. *Gratis omnino.*

"AL. BARNABO, Secretary.

The devotion was commenced yesterday morning at St. Michael's Catholic Church, Second street, above Master, one of the handsomest church edifices in Philadelphia. The congregation attending was unusually large, and the altar and sanctuary presented a magnificent appearance. The sacred host reclined thereon, and was surrounded by flowers and many burning tapers.

At 10½ o'clock solemn High Mass was celebrated by Rev. T. W. Powers, assisted by Rev. P. A. Treacy (late of St. Michael's), as Deacon; and Mr. Rowan, of the Seminary, as Sub-Deacon.

The sermon was preached by Rev. Maurice A. Walsh, Pastor of St. Michael's Church, from the following text:—

"At that time, when Jesus entered into the boat, His disciples followed Him. And behold a great tempest arose in the sea, so that the boat was covered with waves; but He was asleep. And they came to Him, and awakened Him, saying, Lord, save us, we perish. And Jesus sayeth to them, Why are ye fearful, O ye of little faith? Then rising up, He commanded the winds and the sea, and there came a great calm. But the men wondered, saying, What manner of man is this, for the wind and the sea obey him?"—*St. Matthew* viii, 23–27.

The speaker said:—To the vain Christian, to the infidel, to the lukewarm Catholic, the scene presented here to-day may seem strange. More than the ordinary number of lights are upon the altar—other decorations manifesting the authority of the high priest, and incense going up—the priests decked in their most costly robes, altogether tell that a festival of more than ordinary importance is being celebrated here to-day; and so it is, beloved friends. The festival of "Forty Hours' Devotion," a special grace given by Almighty God Himself to all of you, when He condescended to come from heaven above, and to be in your midst for the space of forty hours.

The Forty Hours' Devotion is an old institution. It was instituted at Milan, in the year 1534. It was introduced into Rome about eighty-two years afterwards by the great modern Apostle Saint Philip, and framed that same year by Pope Clement VIII. Of all the festivals we celebrate, there is none like the Forty Hours' Devotion. We celebrate some divine festivals, such as the Nativity of our Divine Lord, when every Christian heart turns almost involuntarily towards the Lord. We celebrate His Resurrection. We celebrate the festivals of the Blessed Virgin. What are all these festivals without the blessed sacrifice? If we only think for a moment, we will be struck with the greatness and the dignity of that most adorable sacrifice.

Only to think, that God Himself, who created everything; who created us; who sustains the world; who gives us the present life and existence, and everything we have—to think that He comes to us in the humble form of bread and wine, is the most astounding and astonishing of all miracles. Our blessed Saviour was born in an humble condition of life, and like unto the rest of mankind; growing up from boyhood to manhood—boy-god and man-god—and then suffering and dying on the cross to redeem and save us; but He said, "Before He went to Heaven, He would leave us a pledge:" and that pledge was no other than His sacred body and blood.

When persons are about to die they mean what they say. They make what is generally called a testament, or last will, declaring their last words to their friends, whom they are about to leave. They are very anxious that the will shall be properly settled, and that those words shall be fully and truly understood by the persons whom they leave behind. If, beloved friends, such is the manner of transacting business here below among mankind, how much more anxious the Son of God must have been when He was about to go up to Heaven Himself for the love of the world!

Before he was crucified he called to his apostles to come. They knew he was about to leave them. Christ, before he left them, said he would leave them a pledge, and that pledge was his own self. Therefore, taking the bread into his hands, He blessed, and brake, and gave to His disciples, and told them, "Eat you all of this, for this is my body."

There was no figure here. There was no figure under the sun, because the Son of God Himself always spoke the truth; and even when He spoke in parables, He took care to explain all those parables to His disciples. Is it possible, or is it probable, that He would deceive them? He said unto them, Do this in commemoration of me. Sacrifice should be offered from the rising to the going down of the sun. The Holy Communion is the life of the soul. "I am the living bread," says our Divine Lord. "They that take of me shall live forever." "For my flesh is meat indeed, and my blood is drink indeed." "He that taketh worthily of my body, and drinketh my blood worthily, shall have life everlasting." God's blood is given for the existence of man of all ages. It is called in the English Church the sacred banquet, in which Christ is received, and the memory of His compassion is revived.

In all ages bread and wine have been the supports of men. And Christ knew how the natural appetites of men tended, so He left Himself in that form which would be acceptable to everybody, and which was also accessible to everybody, the humble form of bread and wine. This most adorable sacrament is the foundation of all our faith. If you take away the most adorable sacrament from the Catholic Church, what remains? You have the church, the walls, and the roof—nothing else. No priests, no sacrament. It is itself the soorce from which baptism derives its efficacy, as well as all other sacraments.

Without the sun there would be no vegetation. Nothing would grow; all would die, even we ourselves. So in the church where there is not a blessed Sacrament—the churca that has not that treasure is no church—God is not in that church; but where the blessed Sacrament is there God Himself is—there is where Christ is—every celestial blessing and happiness. The most adorable sacrifice is therefore for the support of our souls, as blood is the support of the human body. If there is no blood in the human body, and no action of the heart, then the person ceases to live. So also if the blessed Sacrament is not in the Church, the Church ceases to live. Life everlasting is happiness itself, and he that taketh worthily of the most adorable Sacrament shall have life everlasting.

How many a poor one of this world, trudging along, weary of the paths of this life, would have fainted on the way and become desolate, had not this most holy sacrifice been made in the Church to refresh them when melancholy seems to surround them. What is it that helps men's souls to Heaven? Only the worthy reception of the most adorable sacrifice. When in youth; when we are good and holy, and when we do not know sin, what a befitting receptacle is the hour of childhood for the blessed sacrifice! As we advance in life and fall into sin, we become reconciled to Almighty God by another sacrament, and we receive the Holy Communion as the pledge that we shall live forever in the ways of Almighty God.

The Lord said, "Come unto me all ye that are weary, and I will refresh you." Refresh all of you who are in sin, who feel the burden of life; all of you who have been for a long time away from your home, journeying. You need refreshment. God Himself is the author of this, who said "Let there be light, and there was light; let the earth be made, and the earth was made." To be refreshed, you must come to Him.

We read in the fourth verse of the nineteenth chapter of the First Book of Kings, that the Prophet Elias, fleeing from the wrath of Jezebel, came, after a day's journey, and sat down under a tree to sleep, and the Angel of the Lord appeared to him, and gave him some bread, by which he was refreshed, and was enabled to proceed on the long journey he had before him. Now, beloved friends, our condition is just the same. We are on a pilgrimage, and hence we are refreshed by the body and blood and soul and divinity of Jesus Christ.

In the Gospel for to-day you see that our Saviour is represented as entering a ship going along with His disciples, and that a storm arose, and that they were nearly submerged in the deep; that they came and woke Him up, and that He told them to fear not: "Why have you so little faith?" We, too, are travelling, beloved friends, in the ship of the Catholic Church. Sometimes there is danger of our submersion in the waters—the waters of sin. Sometimes there is danger that we be lost; but we must be like the disciples, come to our Lord, and cry out, "Lord, save us, or we perish." We must perish inevitably if we continue in sin; and having now so many opportunities when our Lord is here amongst you, you would be very foolish to let this time pass by. He may never come again. A great many who were here a year ago are now in the sweet sleep of peace.

Many of those who have gone to their homes have made good use of the opportunities extended to them by the Catholic Church. It is well with them; but if they have not, they themselves are responsible. My beloved friends, you too are responsible for yourselves: and if you do not accept the opportunities, you will have to answer for it. If you do accept them, the Lord will strengthen you to approach the holy communion table, where all shall be refreshed, and living this life worthily, you know the reward—life everlasting, and the Lord himself shall raise you up the last day, and you will receive the rewards that He has promised to all those who faithfully served Him.

The Services After the Sermon.

The service was sung by a powerful choir, of great excellence, and many parts of the Mass were most expressively and effectively given. The "Gloria in Excelsis," "Qui Sollis," "Pleni Sunt Cœli et Terræ," and "Dona Nobis Pacem," were admirably sung, and reflected much credit upon the solo executants, especially the Misses E. and T. Keenan, soprano and contralto; Philip Moore, tenor; and G. Antoni, basso profundi. The choral force was also remarkably good, the voices harmonizing well.

We observed in the choir many Philadelphians well known to musical fame, among them being M. Durand, of Signor Perelli's Italian Opera Company; Professor Schirmer, baritone; Professor S. W. Budd, former tenor of St. Mark's Episcopal Church; Lorenzo Quike, of St. Peter's; Herr Muenster, basso, of the Jewish Temple "Keneseth Israel;" Miss M. C. Elters, of the Richings Opera Troupe, and many others. Miss Agnes Ash presided with much ability at the organ, and the accompaniment was well and regularly performed.

The entire musical department was under the direction of Thomas E. Harkins, Esq., leader of St. Michael's choir, and to him principally is the attending congregation of yesterday indebted for this very creditable rendition of superb Catholic Church music.

The Evening Services.

Last evening, an able sermon was preached by Dr. Ignatius Horstmann, a newly ordained priest from Rome, and at present one of the professors in the Theological Seminary of St. Charles Borromeo. He is an eloquent and pleasing speaker, and has much clearness in his enunciation—a most desirable faculty. The devotion will not terminate until to-morrow evening.

Since writing the foregoing, we learn the same religious exercises were commenced yesterday in the Church of the Holy Trinity, corner of Sixth and Spruce streets.

The Medal Presentation to General Grant and Admiral Farragut.

LETTERS OF ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

At the recent distribution of medals to the veteran soldiers and sailors of Kings county, a gold medal was presented to Admiral Farragut by the city authorities. The Admiral has written a letter of acknowledgment to Mayor Booth. On Tuesday morning last, Captain Schwrig was entrusted with the mission of delivering a medal to General Grant, similar to that presented to Admiral Farragut. On the following day he presented the medal to General Grant, in the presence of General Sherman and General Grant's staff.

General Grant has sent the following letter of acknowledgment:—

"HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES, WASHINGTON, D. C., October 31.—Sir:—I have the pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of the gold medal, counterpart of bronze, presented to the veteran soldiers and sailors of Kings county on the 25th inst. Too much honor cannot be done the brave men who left their homes and made every sacrifice to save their country. But we, who were educated at Government expense for just such exposure, do but a sworn duty when we take upon ourselves the dangers and trials of the battle-field.

"The graduates of West Point are not entitled to the mark of respect paid by the citizens of Kings country to her brave veterans for the mere performance of a duty. This mark of your esteem is, therefore, all the more gratifying, because, whether deserved or not, it indicates, as does the tone of Captain Charles Schwrig, conveying the medal, an appreciation of my humble efforts in behalf of my country beyond my claims. I have the honor to be, etc.,

"U. S. GRANT, General.

"To Hon. SAMUEL BOOTH, Mayor."

—A boy less than twelve years old, but with rascality and impudence beyond his age, called for and ate a stew at an oyster saloon in Portland, a few days ago, and was walking out, when the attendant reminded him that he had not paid for his repast. "Oh, no," said the lad, "and I've got no money." "Why did you not tell me that before you called for the stew?" "Oh," replied the boy with much nonchalance, "I tried that at Atwood's, but it wouldn't work;" and thereupon departed with great apparent satisfaction.

—A thunderbolt from a perfectly cloudless sky struck a church and three dwelling-houses at Rising Sun, Indiana, a few days ago. It killed a girl outright and stripped all the clothes from a boy, whom, strange to say, it only stunned. A more remarkable electrical phenomenon has rarely occurred.

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November 7, by catalogue on a credit, commencing at 10 o'clock, the entire balance of the above firm's importation of rich Paris fancy goods, comprising, viz:—

Fancy glove boxes, in wood leather, and papier-mache, from medium to very richest styles; cabas, sewing necessaries, shell boxes, toilet sets, dressing-cases, handkerchief boxes, gents toilet boxes and dressing cases, pencil boxes, writing cases and desks, a splendid assortment of mahogany and bronze inkstands the finest imported; comb boxes, money safes, French mirrors, pests of boxes, tea and perfume boxes, cigar and tobacco stands ash stands and match-holders, card presses fancy bells, reading desks, jewel boxes, fancy glass, water, wine, liquor, and Madeira sets; fancy butter, cheese, and egg dishes with antique cut-wood stands.

Also, new perfume fruits on plates, baskets, and trees.

Also, a fine assortment of opera-glasses chess sets and boards, fancy bronze goods, calenders, Paris fancy brushes, meerschaum pipes, German and French metallic and mechanical toys etc etc

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FIFTH EDITION

LATEST FROM BALTIMORE.

Affidavits and Arguments in the Case.

Capture of 300 Muskets from a Notorious Rebel.

Three or Four Persons Killed During the Capture.

The Court Decides that the Swann Commissioners Must Remain in Jail Until Thursday.

Etc., Etc., Etc., Etc., Etc., Etc.

[SPECIAL DESPATCH TO EVENING TELEGRAPH.]

BALTIMORE, November 5, 1·30 P. M.—At 1·20 o'clock, the affidavits of Messrs. Schley and Horwitz were read and presented to the Judge. One showed that the writ had been served at a quarter before 8 o'clock this morning, and the other that the Warden of the jail had been lounging about the Court House all the morning. Upon these affidavits a motion for producing the bodies of the Warden and his prisoners without further delay was based. The argument commenced upon the motion, and is still being continued. Points made by the counsel on both sides are being very nicely drawn and thoroughly elaborated.

Mr. Schley, who has been on the floor half-a-dozen times, contends that it is plain to every one that the Warden is seeking to evade the requirements of the law, to detain these important officers of the city of Baltimore in custody, in order that they may be prevented from holding an election to-morrow. The principal difficulty with the Judge appears to be the provision of the code which requires the return to be made within three days after service of writ.

Mr. Horwitz undertook to remove this difficulty by suggesting that their bodies must be produced at once, while the return of cases of detention might be delayed not longer than three days. Messrs. Rogers and Alexander counteracted this position by a forcible argument, still leaving the Court inquiring—"How do we know that the Warden is in default until the time allowed him by law has elapsed?"

Mr. Stockett Matthews, one of the Warden's counsel, has appeared, and stated that it is the intention of his client to make a full and complete return to the writ, at the same time producing the bodies of the prisoners, as soon as his colleague, State's Attorney Maund, has had time to complete the necessary legal papers.

During the argument, which still continues, the proceedings were frequently interrupted by applause or expressions of approval. Those at last were effectually checked by Judge Bartol, who assured the spectators that, if necessary, he thought he could find power to enforce respect to law, even though it was represented by himself sitting alone.

The principal streets are still crowded with people, some of whom are moving rapidly in crowds from one point to another, while others have taken up stationary positions to await developments. Every now and then large squads of police are seen proceeding in some direction, upon some mysterious errand, but thus far everything has remained quiet, there having been but one disturbance, which was of a trivial nature, and quelled by the police on the spot.

[FROM THE ASSOCIATED PRESS.]

BALTIMORE, 2·30 P. M.—The proceedings before Judge Bartol are still in progress. The counsel for the Sheriff and new Police Commissioners have introduced a petition that, inasmuch as there is reason to believe that the Warden of the jail is seeking to evade a prompt return of that writ by unnecessary delay, that, therefore, a new writ be issued, directed to the Sheriff or his deputy, to bring the Warden of the jail before the Court with the prisoners. Upon the admission of this petition, the counsel are now arguing.

Capture of Fire-Arms.

[SPECIAL DESPATCH TO THE EVENING TELEGRAPH.]

BALTIMORE, November 5—2 P. M.—The police authorities have just captured a lot of muskets, some two or three hundred in number, in the possession of some notorious Rebel sympathizers on Charles street. It is rumored that two or three persons were shot during the attempt to get possession of these arms, and that the driver of the wagon in which they were taken away was killed.

The arms were conducted, guarded by a strong force of police, to the headquarters of the Commissioners, on Holiday street. A large, excited crowd followed the procession through the streets, but no attempt was made to interfere.

[FROM THE ASSOCIATED PRESS.]

BALTIMORE, Nov. 5—3 P. M.—About 2 o'clock the Marshal of Police, having learned that arms were being distributed to certain parties at Bennett's auction store, on Charles street, went thither with a strong force of police, and found in an upper room parties engaged in loading pistols and other arms.

Resistance was offered, and one man, a citizen, was shot; but the police seized the establishment, together with the parties therein, and about 150 boxes of firearms and ammunition.

The New Commissioners to Remain in Jail Until Thursday.

BALTIMORE, November 5—3·10 P. M.—The Court has decided that the Warden of the city jail has three days to make his return, which will not expire until Thursday morning at 9 o'clock.

FIRE IN NASHVILLE.

NASHVILLE, November 5.—An extensive fire occurred last night in the wholesale grocery store of James Walker, involving Adler & Co.'s clothing store, the Broadway Varieties, and the grocery house of Blood, Gregory & Co. Walker's loss is $35,000—insured for $26,000. Adler's loss is $30,000—insured for $20,000. Variety Theatre building, loss $25,000—insured for $12,500. Davis, proprietor of the theatre, loses $7000—insured for $1000. Blood, Gregory & Co.'s loss is fully covered by insurance.

SIXTH EDITION

BALTIMORE MUDDLE.

Details of the Capture of 4000 Muskets.

They Were Loaded With Buckshot.

Etc., Etc., Etc., Etc., Etc., Etc.

BALTIMORE, November 5, 2·30 P. M.—The first skirmish in the campaign has been fought and won by the radicals. Information, during the day, was conveyed to the police authorities by certain Union parties, who keep a sharp lookout for such items, to the effect that four thousand muskets were stored in Bennett's auction house, in Charles street, between Lombard and German.

It is very remarkable that at this same place the same quantity of arms was found secreted, and were seized by the authorities on the 19th of April, 1861. When the capture of the present lot was resolved on, Marshal Carmichael, headed by a party of twenty policemen, under the immeidtae command of Sergeant Marion W. Hoffman, of the Eastern Division, proceeded to the auction store, and found some fifteen persons engaged in loading muskets with large buckshot, about four inches of these destructive missiles being found in each musket that had been loaded.

Parties engaged in loading arms were taken into custody, and the police proceeded to remove the arms to the office of the Marshal.

In so doing one of the guns went off accidentally, inflicting a dangerous, but, it is believed, not fatal wound in the face of a young man standing on the opposite side of the street. At this time all of the arms which have been taken from the boxes have been removed to the office of the Marshal, and those in boxes are being transported to new quarters as rapidly as possible.

It is believed that there was no intention of using the arms in question before the evening. During the ceremony of taking possession of the muskets, a man in citizen's dress made a rush at Marshal Carmichael with a bayonet: the weapon was warded off, and the man knocked down, and conducted to the Station House.

Judge Bartol has at length given his decision in the matter of the habeas corpus cases of the new Commissioners and Sheriff. Much to the surprise of his conservative friends, to whom he is known to be politically favorable, he decided that the Warden of the jail could not be held in contempt until three full days from the time of service of the writ upon him had elapsed.

This would carry the whole proceedings over to Thursday morning, on which day, at 10 o'clock, Judge Bartol will resume proceedings in the case.

Mr. Schley, on hearing the decision of the Judge, said that if such was his decision in the case, he had nothing further to say, as he had no doubt the prisoners would be detained until after the election, and then released.

Mr. Stockett Matthews replied that the prisoners would not then be released except by due process of law.

FROM MEXICO.

WASHINGTON, November 5.—The Mexican Minister has received a letter from Vera Cruz, dated October 25, by way of New Orleans, stating that Maximilian left the city of Mexico on the 23d, without resigning verbally in favor of General Bazaine.

TERRIBLE RESOLUTION OF THE FENIANS.

BUFFALO, November 5.—At a Fenian meeting on Saturday night resolutions were passed "that we will wage war against Great Britain until we achieve the emancipation of Ireland."

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