

THE WORLD OF BOOKS.

The recent death of the great humorist who so long instructed as well as amused the world, under the pseudonym of "Petroleum V. Nasby," has drawn renewed attention upon his writings. America has created a class of humorous writers more universal and potent in their charm, perhaps, than those of any other country or period.

In this compact little volume, we have in fact two works—an abridgement of Dr. Withrow's well known History of Canada, and a sketch-survey of Canadian literature, by Mr. G. Mercer Adam.

The Algonquin Maiden is a Canadian romance, written in partnership. Mr. Adam furnishes the historical setting from his rich knowledge of our history and our local development.

The Works of David Ross Locke (Petroleum V. Nasby). The Struggles of Petroleum V. Nasby. New edition, illustrated by Thomas Nast. 1 vol., 8 vo., \$2.50.

Wide Awake for June is a delightful magazine. This number, fresher and brighter than ever, begins the 27th volume. The illustrations are numerous, varied and good; the contributions as usual above the standard.

A new book by Robert Louis Stevenson is about to be published by Scribners under the title of The Black Arrow: A Tale of the Two Roses.

A new collection of short stories by H. C. Bunner is announced for early publication by the Scribners.

Prof. Drummond, the author of Natural Law in the Spiritual World is just about to publish, through Messrs. Scribner & Welford, a new book, entitled: Tropical Africa.

NEWS OF THE CHURCHES.

The Presbytery of Halifax will apply to the General Assembly for leave to receive as a minister of the church the Honorable and Rev. Reynolds Moreton, son of the late Earl of Ducie and brother of the present Earl.

At the morning and evening services in St. John's church last Sunday, hymns were sung illustrative of the history of Psalmody in the Christian church.

The Early Church: (a) "O Jesus, Lord of heavenly grace." (No. 2 in H. C.)—Translation by the Rev. John Chandler from the Latin of Ambrose, bishop of Milan (340-285) the reputed author of the "De Dominibus," and the creator of western hymnology.

Somebody with the above cognomen ("A Methodist layman") writes a letter to the St. John Sun in criticism of one of the sermons preached at the recent convention, and of the manner of conducting the convention, and of holiness as presented by the brethren there.

A MAN OF THE PEOPLE.

A SHORT BIOGRAPHY OF HIS LORDSHIP, BISHOP SWEENEY.

The Works of His Life Have Been Many and Great.—The Welfare of His People, His First Consideration—The Jubilee Address and Charity Hospital.

The portrait of Bishop Sweeney given below is the first likeness of his Lordship which has appeared in any journal. The biography which accompanies it aims not at minuteness—it would take pages in that case—but to collect and note the important events in the life of this man who has done so much for the city in which he was reared, educated, and has lived.

Everyone knows Bishop Sweeney. He is a man of the people. Bred with them, taught with them, he is loved by the people of the Roman Catholic church and respected and honored by those of other denominations.



RIGHT REV. JOHN SWEENEY, D. D.

The success of his work for the church. Today he has in hand another noble effort, the completion of that fine brick structure on Sydney street, which is popularly known as the Charity hospital.

Bishop Sweeney was not born in St. John, but in county Tyrone, Ireland. When his father, Mr. James Sweeney, came to St. John his son, who was but a boy, accompanied him, and from the time he set foot in the new hemisphere he began to display those habits of industry and application which have helped his advancement, and, with native ability, placed him in his proud position of today.

His education was begun in the old grammar school, where he attended many years, and gained a thorough preparation for more advanced studies pursued in later days at college. These he pursued at St. Dunstan's college, P. E. Island for a time, after which he went to Quebec, where, after continued and hard study, he graduated in 1844.

Sussex, Chatham and Barachois knew him in later years. He was located in Barachois when called to the episcopate. Bishop Connolly appointed him vicar-general, and while holding this office, he preached before the Halifax council. He visited Rome in 1866, in 1870, when he attended the vatican council, and in 1881.

When New Brunswick was divided into two dioceses, Vicar-General Sweeney was consecrated bishop and given charge of the southern diocese. This was in 1860, 25 years ago. There are hundreds in the city who remember the day and occasion of his consecration. It took place on Low Sunday, April 15, and Rev. Dr. Connolly, archbishop of Halifax, performed the ceremony, assisted by the bishops of Boston, Portland, Me., and Arichat, N. S.

No place knows Bishop Sweeney so well as his native city, which year after year has seen the fruit of his great and successful labors. The visible results are many and substantial. Since he assumed charge, it can be said that the cathedral has been completed and ornamented. The last word implies much, for no structure in the country presents a more beautiful or attractive interior, or is more comfortable.

In the first days of his ministry, the Ladies of the Sacred Heart and the Sisters of Charity occupied low wooden buildings. All is changed now, and the former's convent is one of the finest structures in St. John; the latter occupy handsome and commodious brick buildings, which allow them to widen their sphere of usefulness.

Several buildings in Portland and Carleton can be pointed as evidences of his energetic interest in everything which was for the peoples' good. One of his greatest works in this respect was the establishment of St. Patrick's Industrial school in 1880.

His great completed works of later years are the magnificent edifices in Portland and the church of St. John the Baptist in Lower Cove.

So much has been said of his Lordship's regard for the welfare of his people that Progress will cite but a few instances. The most successful of his schemes are the prosperous settlements in Johnville in Carleton county and St. Paul's in Kent county. Hundreds of poor men who found it difficult to eke out an existence in the city, now possess happy homes in these places.

St. Joseph's college, which begins the conferring of degrees this year, can regard the subject of this sketch as one of its protectors and founders.

The great event in the life of Dr. Sweeney was the celebration of the 25th anniversary of his elevation to the bishopric. The following addresses, which were accompanied by \$1300 in cash, will give some idea of the esteem in which he was held:

The St. John Address. The Right Reverend John Sweeney, Doctor of Divinity, on the occasion of the celebration of his Silver Jubilee.

MAY I PLEASE YOUR LORDSHIP: We gather around you today with feelings of reverence and respect to express our heartfelt joy and gratitude to God, and to offer to you our deepest and warmest congratulations on your Silver Jubilee in the Episcopate—the glorious event it is our great privilege to solemnize this morning.

During the 40 years that have elapsed, since the sacred unction passed over your hands, we delight to recognize and to proclaim that you have proved in every sphere of activity and in every position of trust your inviolable fidelity to the calling and cause to which you were consecrated when ordained a priest of God.

When called by God to the responsibilities of the Episcopal office, you did not fly from the labors and anxieties of the priesthood; you sought a higher field for the exercise of its powers and the consecration of its trials. The apostolic work you have since performed bears ample testimony to the manner in which you have dedicated the precious gifts of your episcopacy to the service of God, the propagation of His truth, and the spiritual and temporal well-being of your flock.

But your lordship has special claim on the love and affection of this congregation, which we acknowledge with profound gratitude. The long term of your pastorate over us, the unremitting devotion with which you have labored for our welfare, the zeal with which you have taught us the great truths of our holy religion, the simple dignity of character you have shown, have won for you an affectionate reverence and regard.

Twenty-five years spent in the Episcopate of the Catholic church are indeed years to be contemplated with a grave and reverent mind. They are years that cannot have passed away and left an inconspicuous record behind them. Their record on the contrary, contains many things that are of vast import. Words and actions that have swayed the lives of many alive today, and that have also affected the lot of hundreds of souls now gone before the judgment seat of God.

the memory of the immortal Pius IX. for having appointed over us one not only worthy of our obedience and reverence as a prelate of the church, but in his own person eminently deserving of our love and fidelity. May God require to you even a hundred fold the benefits your Episcopal administration has lavished on us!

We have witnessed today in a spirit of joy and triumph the imposing ceremony of the solemn consecration in all the splendor of the church's ritual, of this noble temple. We congratulate your Lordship on this happy and festive solemnity so near to your own heart.

You have often spoken with love of your illustrious predecessor in this See. We would fain believe his spirit is present here now amongst us. The vision of his mitred head rises to the minds of many here today, and you would think us ungenerous and unjust, if we failed on this occasion, to offer a tribute of gratitude to his memory.

And now, my Lord, we take the liberty of offering for your acceptance, along with this address, this purse as a faint and inadequate expression of our esteem and affection. May you continue in the high place you now occupy for many years—years which we know will, if granted, be like those that have preceded them and that now go to make up your Silver Jubilee, not only golden, taken year by year, but each one composed of golden days and hours.

The Portland Address. To Right Reverend John Sweeney, Bishop of St. John.

On behalf of the Catholics of Portland, we beg to tender your lordship our sincere congratulations on this the 25th anniversary of your consecration as bishop of St. John. It is with deepest feelings of devotion towards your lordship, and gratitude for all the good you have done, that the Catholics of Portland look back upon the many years your lordship has been connected with them, both as priest and bishop, and that they see in their own parish, as well as all through the diocese, the fruits of your untiring energy and zeal during the 25 years of your successful administration.

We appreciate also your noble efforts in the great cause of education, and shall always gratefully remember how you have struggled to insure to our children the benefits of religious training, which alone can make them good, law-abiding citizens in this world, and secure their happiness in the next.

We seize also this opportunity to thank your Lordship for having placed in charge of this parish, the zealous priests of the Redemptorist order, whose unceasing efforts and anxious care for the spiritual welfare of the parishioners, have fully justified the wisdom of your choice.

Our prayers will ascend constantly to heaven to ask God to reward your Lordship's labors here and hereafter, and to grant us the blessing that your Lordship's life may yet be long preserved for the good of your spiritual children.

Signe on behalf of committee, R. V. DEBRY, Chairman. JOHN COXSON, Secretary.

Bishop Sweeney has been described as of medium stature and of slight build. Although he has reached his 67th year, the only sign of age is a sprinkling of gray through his hair. He walks with an elastic but deliberate step. His voice is low but exceedingly clear and sweet in tone, and when he occupies the pulpit of the cathedral, can be heard distinctly in every portion of the large building.

Both of these Bishop Sweeney possesses in a large degree and to these are due a great share of his success. THE HIRED MAN. I give my time, my song, my life to Thee. My brow of bronze, my arms of brown are here; For her alone each willing muscle stirs; For her I guide the plough and delve the land, For her my brow is wet, my face is tanned. Sweet Labor, brown-checked as the chestnut hue, Thy lightest law my lagging spirit spurs, And under heat and burden bids me stand. So, in thy name the old line fence I scale, Just where the whispering maple shades the place; I mount the panel with the softest rail, And let the light winds fan my patient face; And there, where birds and moments idly flit I sit, and sit, and sit, and sit, and sit. —Brooklyn Eagle.

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