

Echo de l'Ouest, 25 February 1885

“Do what you ought to do whatever may happen”

Demeules & Laramee, Proprietors; E.R. Dufresne, Editor

(Minneapolis French Newspaper, Published from 1885 to 1929.

Translated by Bill Horn, Assisted by Kathy Horan-Grambsch.

Additional translators for this project would be appreciated.)

Minneapolis

The members of the Candian-Francois Democate Club will meet next Sunday to elect their officers.

Sixty prisoners found guilty before Grand Juries last week were brought into court Monday to undergo their trials.

The employees of the manufacturers of glass of this city are on the way to causing trouble for their bosses.

The Reverend Fathers Gamach of Gentilly, and Landry of Terrebonne, Polk County, Minnesota passed through this city yesterday. {Terrebonne was a town near Montreal after which a town in Polk County was named]

M.J.B. Olivier of St Paul returned last Saturday from a long and pleasant voyage to New Orleans. [We note a number of French Canadians of Minnesota did a river trip to New Orleans]

The Governor's Mardi Gras Recognition in the evening in the Capital in St Paul and the dance which followed was a grandiose affair. There was an immense crowd. Nothing was left to desire. Sumptuous decorations, superb dress of the ladies, music, food, etc. etc. The space was the only problem; one felt cramped a little throughout the vast halls of the Capitol.

M.G.H. Lessage received a telegram yesterday from West Newton Minnesota, telling him of the death of Madam Louise Bouchard. She was the sister-in-law of M. Jacob Bouchard, former merchant of this city.

We have the pleasure of announcing that some of the French Canadian ladies of Minneapolis are preparing a magnificent dramatic and musical evening, with presentation of “tableaux vivants”, for March 19 at market hall.

If one judges by the program and amateurs who are to give their support, this musical fete will be interesting and worthy in all respects of the kindly patronage of all our compatriots. We hope, therefore, there will be a packed hall on March 19 at Market Hall.

We will be providing the time the program of the soiree.

It is rumored that the Protestant Archbishop Trench of Dublin, Ireland has just converted to Catholicism.

The journal of O'Donovan Rossa, published in New York, offers \$10,000 for the head of the Prince of Wales.

Again an outrage equal to the explosion at the Tower of London and which will not fail to draw to the dynamiter, “the good graces” of John Bull.

Literary Circle

Last Friday the members of the Literary Circle of Young French Canadian Ladies of Minnesota had a very interesting gathering on the occasion of installing their officers.

Next Friday, the 27th, there will be a new meeting at the same place, the hall of the French Canadian Association at 7 pm. All members are asked to come.

Timber Cutting in the Western States

The Northwest Lumberman of Chicago recently published a very detailed review on the products of cutting of pine forests in 1884. [The column continues with several paragraphs telling the amount of board feet cut in various districts of Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, and the Great Lakes. The grand total for 1884 was 8,090,533,654 feet, an increase of about 500,000,000 over 1883. It continues:]

Since 1878 the annual harvest of wood has always increased and today, the supply exceeds greatly the demand. However small this progress continues in the future, it is greatly to be feared that the forests of the state are disappearing contrary to the demand of public interest. The Northwestern Lumberman with good reason, advises to go slowly on the job, to show more economy in the cutting of trees and more conserving of our forests.

Births

In this city, the 9th February, a daughter to Mrs. Pierre Bourgeois.

In the same city, the 6th, a son to Mrs. Joseph Baillargeon.

Deaths

Mr Abner Mead died the 16th February in this city of an advanced age. His service was held February 23 at Notre Dame de Lourdes.

A madam Cavlin of Dubuque, Iowa was found dead in her bed on Monday. Her daughter and son suspected of being the perpetrators have been arrested.

Louis Riel Banquet

On January 6, Louis Riel, leader of the Metisse-French Canadian population of the Territories of the Northwest and Manitoba, was the object of a grand demonstration of sympathy in St Anthony of Padua, Northwest Territory, in recognition of eminent and numerous services which he rendered to this compatriots.

[Louis David Riel – A Metis who led several insurgencies against the Canadian government. Originally concerned about Metis land rights when the Northwest Territory was absorbed into the Dominion. At one time in exile in Minnesota. Final all-out war in 1885 began about March in Manitoba, but apparently the French Canadian community was following his move as reported in the February 25 issue. By November he had been captured, tried and hanged.]

Emigration

The repeal of the law entitled “Timber Culture and Pre-Emption laws” will necessarily have the effect of increase in emigration in the Northwest during the next season. The bill has already passed the Senate and everyone believes it will be voted through by the House of Representatives. It carries a clause inserted in the bill that this act of repeal takes effect this July 1. In the meantime, the field is open to all who desire to take advantage of their rights under the former law which permits obtaining simultaneously 320 acres of land, of which 160 are by virtue of the “Preemption Law” and 160 by the privilege of the “Timber Culture Act” which doesn’t require its occupation by a colonist of good faith.

After the disposal of the present act, the colonist will have to live on his land and will have the right to only 160 acres. [This article appears to say that, because of a forthcoming change in US law, there will be a temporary increase in emigration out of the Northwest of the US]

It is rumored that Mr. Roswell Miller, Assistant General Manager of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St Paul Railroad will be the successor to the deceased S.S. Merrill who died fifteen days ago and was General Manager.

President Arthur has officially recognized the nomination of Professor F.C. Boucher as Consular Agent of France in St. Paul.

Obituary

Last Saturday, Madam Pierre Legros of this city, succumbed to a long illness, suffered with great resignation to the will of God and fortified by the solace of her church. Madam P Legros was 65. The funeral will be Monday, the 23rd, at 10 AM at Saint Clotilde amidst a great gathering of relatives and friends. Madam P. Legros was the mother of Madam Frank Thibault of this city.

We offer to the family of the deceased our sincere condolences.

An Anti-French Bishop

We announced Saturday the closing of the French-Canadian church of Fall River. By order of Monsignor Hendricken, the Bishop of the diocese, the doors of that church were closed and nailed shut Thursday evening and his Grandeur has made it known that they will not be reopened as long as the French-Canadians refuse to accept the Irish Pastor He has tried to impose. In the meantime, they will make their devotions as they can. The Monsignor washes his hands.

Carried away from the temple were all the ornaments and sacred chalices, bought by the deceased Abbé Bédard with the money of our nations and they were transported by unknown hands. An equally stripped was the presbytery furnished by M. Bédard.

Monsignor Hendricken sent out Friday this proclamation: “ The Bishop of Providence has closed the church and retired the priests of the parish of Notre Dame in the village of Flint. He was obliged to take that measure because of the insubordination of several years by parishioners, who by a rather strange caprice, wished to impose their wishes on question relevant to his authority. The priests of other Catholic parishes of Fall River have instructions to administer the sacraments in their respective churches to all the parishioners of Notre Dame who wish it, provided that they did not take part in the present plot to resist ecclesiastical authority. These priests are equally instructed to visit all the sick who have called for them.” – Thomas Hendrichen, Bishop of the diocese.

Thus because of the “insubordination” of some parishioners, His Grandeur forbids worship in the French Church of Fall River. It is true that He deigns, at the same time, to allow our nationals, to the men, to the women, to the children, of whom the greater number do not understand English, to drag themselves down the aisles of other churches, where they don’t have seats and even to confess in a language they don’t understand.

It is exactly as if Monsignor Fabve, here, closed Saint Patrick’s and obliged the Irish of that parish to go to Notre Dame (our Minneapolis Lourdes) or other French churches of the city.

Mr. Hendricken has even gone further yet for those who have protested against the imposition of an Irish priest at Notre Dame de Lourdes of Fall River. For them, no sacrament, no salvation, but excommunication and damnation.

One sees that His Grandeur doesn’t do things by halves. He doesn’t even want to wait for the result of the appeal these poor citizens have made to Rome. He treats them as rebellions, in the English fashion,

and as if they were vulgar disciple of the Mahdi, all simply because they do not recognize his authority as supreme and they place the Pope above the Bishop.

However, it is known the Holy See is aware of the question, as it is considering it and one must hope it will be resolved in time to not put the Canadians of Fall River in the situation of changing their diocese and leaving their happy domain from Mgr Hendricken for their Easter services. For the present, the Supreme Pontiff has addressed to a committee of the “rebels”, mad outlaws by the blessed Bishop, a kind letter in which His Holiness said that He is to examine the causes of their pleas and He will give a definite response soon.

No doubt Rome will consider that the French-Canadians have the right to be treated as are Catholics the world over at least like those savages who are not obliged to learn the language of missionaries, but to whom are sent missionaries speaking their language.

The desires of centralization, of uniformity of language, of forced anglicizing which the venerable Bishop of Providence nourishes and which he endeavors to satisfy by such energetic means may be commendable from the Yankee point of view, but that is not a preemptory reason to put these desires before the interest of the religion and the health of souls.

Next Monday the 48th Congress of the United States will end its days. The next week the inauguration of the President and Vice President elect, Cleveland and Hendricks will take place in Washington. [Prior to the 20th Amendment in 1933, the new President didn't take office in March, resulting in three months under the former executives and Congress] The event and the new state of things which it will create in high governmental circles of the nation, is the great preoccupation of the moment for all the America's union. The formation of the Cleveland cabinet is another mystery for the common people

Good News

The Honorable Washburn, member of the appropriations committee, has succeeded in having inserted in the appropriation bill an extra \$200,000 to continue the work on government buildings in this community.

Religious Ceremony at the Church of Saint Clotilde

Last Sunday, after Vespers there took place at St Clotilde, a beautiful and touching ceremony – the blessing of The Way of the Cross. The faithful of the parish came in crowds to testify to their faith, to their zeal and their generosity in the fulfillment of the work of the church and to follow the wishes of their well-beloved pastor. The strong voices of the choir, harmonized by the notes of the organ, beautifully rendered the hymns appropriate to the mass of the day. Reverend Father Retz of Stillwater was the officiating priest and the preacher for the occasion was Reverend Father Genis of St. Paul. As always, the fervor, the spirit of living faith of which the words of Father Genis were imprinted, went right to the heart of the attendees. The ceremony of the Benediction of The Way of The Cross was made by the Reverend Father Nongaret, pastor of St Clotilde.

Korti 18th – Eighty Canadian volunteers are staying in Korti to continue their service in the Sudan (relief of General Gordon). All the officers have offered to stay until the end of the campaign. The offers of Dunson, Kennedy and Neilson have been accepted.

Commercial Review

The market transactions in grain have lessened for eight days and sales have moderated. The arrivals Monday came to 47,500 bushels. Saturday closed ½ cent over winter wheat. [There follows an extensive market report]

Do you know what you must do to preserve your watches? Have them cleaned yearly by M.W.C. Leber

watchmaker and jeweler, No 209 Hennepin Avenue.

HAIL THE T MAN has returned from the East with 15 cases of magnificent gifts to distribute to all who come to shop at his place of business. He is disposed to sell at the best prices ever.

Less Expensive Than At Auction

SEGELBAUM BROS now offers spring merchandise at a lower price than the old stocks sold at auction – observe: [There follows a list of quantities and prices for such as cloth for spring clothing, wool cloth in various colors, shoes, short sleeve blouses, underwear, slippers of Irish quality, material for linen table clothes, 3000 yards of undyed cotton @ 5 cents per yard, 4000 yard of printed calico @ 4 cents per yard]

All coats for ladies and children offered at half price. You can't buy anywhere else at such good prices if you consider the quality of the merchandise. Nowhere will you have the same satisfaction in your purchase than at SEGELBAUM BROS, Nos 257*259 Nicolet Ave., corner of 3rd street.

[Following is a summarization of various ads, some owned by French-Canadians or trying for their business]

Blacksmith Shop

M. Antoine C. Labreche announces to the public, and in particular, his compatriots, that he has just opened a blacksmith shop at 119 1st Street, North. He will specialize in horseshoes at which he excels.

Calhoun & Lon[?]

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Empire Baking Powder

Sold at Z. Demeules' 1st Street South and all grocers in the city.

Bank of North Minneapolis

Corner of Washington and Plymouth Avenue

Deposits pay 4% interest for 3 months

Deposits pay 5% interest for 6 months

The patronage of citizens of North Minneapolis and Canadians is especially solicited.

Geo. R. Newdl and Company Corner of Washington & 1st Avenue North

Merchants of Tobacco, groceries, etc.

Inviting specially French Canadians to patronize this magnificent commercial establishment.