

# **ST. MARY'S CHURCH DEDICATED**

## **ARCHBISHOP JOHN IRELAND AND MANY OTHER PROMENENT CLERGYMEN PRESENT. THE CEREMONY IS A COMPLETE SUCCESS.**

It is not often that Sleepy Eye is so honored by the presence of such distinguished men as Archbishop Ireland, Bishop Cotter and Bishop Trobec. These prominent priests of the Catholic church together with about forty priests were here and took part in the dedicatory exercises of the new St. Mary's church. The program as published was carried out. The services throughout were impressive and interesting. An orchestra and chorus of well trained singers under the direction of Prof. Beck rendered beautiful music during the services. The dedication of the church consisted of the distinguished priests and clergy, all clothed in their clerical robes, forming a procession and encircling the church, reading and chanting appropriate psalms at the same time sprinkling holy water and blessing the magnificent structure. This same thing was done in the interior of the church.

The services proper began at 10 o'clock with Bishop Trobec conducting High Mass, assisted by the leading priests, who were present. Rev. Sandmeyer of New Ulm delivered a sermon in German that was listened to with much interest. He is a fluent speaker and said many things that the large audience could carry away with them.

It was late when the Archbishop began his discourse. The large audience was anxious to see him, for he is one of the most distinguished men in America. His fame as a priest, bishop and archbishop, writer and orator is not only confined to America but in Europe. At the Vatican he has more influence than any one man in the western hemisphere. The address was not long but it would be hard to say so much in the small space of time he occupied. The archbishop is adept in the use of the English language. Every sentence is a profound thought.

The Archbishop said that wonderful in Gods love and mercy, all around we see the visible manifestation of love. Only a few years ago this section was a wilderness, now we see temples built where Jehovah is worshiped, honored and revered. Churches are built, children educated in right living and civilization advanced. Among the choice utterances of the Reverend gentleman was "These temples stand for a message of salvation. Temples bring us nearer God. These temples of worship are the outward manifestations of our faith."

He ended up by congratulating the people of St. Mary's church on the wonderful work of building so good a church.

The services throughout were impressive and much interesting. The music during the day was furnished by the Second Regiment Band of New Ulm. This is one of the leading bands of the northwest and are always good.

There were probably more than 5,000 people at the dedication, many of whom could not get in the church.

The dedication of the new St. Mary's church is an event in the history of Sleepy Eye long to be remembered. The new building is a monument to the enterprise of its people.

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