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London, Saturday, October 21, 1899

CONFERENCE AT WASHING TON.

The annual Conference of the Arch bishops of the United States was held at Washington on the 12th inst. Nine Archbishops, including Cardinal Gib bons, were present and three absent. It was expected that some action would be taken in regard to the desecration of Catholic Churches in the Philippines by United States soldiers and officers, but this question was not taken into consideration, as matters relating to the new territorial acquisitions of the United States are under the jurisdiction of Mgr. Chapelle, Archbishop of Naw Ocleans, who was not present at the Conference.

THE POLYGAMOUS CONGRESS. MAN.

Brigham Henry Roberts, the Congressman from Utah who has three wives, was interviewed a few days ago by a Brooklyn reporter in regard to his expectation to take his seat in Congress. Roberts' admitted that he has the wives, but he asserts that he broke no law, as his marriage took place before the law of 1890 was ed. He says that if he had broken the law, the Mormon Church would have disciplined him as quickly as the laws of the land. He declares that he is ready to face Congress, and that he has no fear in regard to the outcome of the situation. The Mormons, he declares, observe the antipolygamy law, and there have been no polygamous marriages since the law was passed. Notwithstanding Roberts' protestations on this point there is overwhelming testimony to the fact that the law is disregarded and that polygamous marriages are numerons

SEPARATE SCHOOLS IN BELLE RIVER.

Catholics have good reason to com plain of the very unjust manner in which matters connected with the secular press. The reporters seem to tolic Delegate to Canada was read. have an inclination to twist the rethey desire, without cause, to create ill feeling against our Protestant fellow-citizens. The latest announcement of this kind occurred recently in Belle River. The pronouncement of His Lordship Bishop McEvay that his and French secretaries respectively. people there should avail themselves of the opportunities provided by law for the establishment of Separate schools contrary to the wishes of the Catholic ratepayers. The letter which we publish in another column, in the form of a resolution unanimously passed at a meeting of the Catholic people of Belle River, proves conclusively-if should be slow to give credence to the statements of the secular press in regard to matters Catholic. We are pleased to note the prompt and praiseworthy action of those concerned in regard to the carrying out of the wishes of our chief pastor as to the proper method of educating their children.

THE RITUALISTIC CONTRO-VERSY.

The Rev. Dr. Malcolm McColl, Canon Residentiary of Ripon, has just issued a book on the Ritualistic controversy, entitled "The Reformation Settlement Examined in the Light of History and Law."

The Canon is not himself a Ritualist. but! belongs to that section of the St. Louis with their band, and the Church of England which may be regarded as Erastian, and in his book he Colleges. does not treat the Ritualistic discussion from the standpoint either of the Rit. with members of the press did not state ualists or of their extreme opponents of any special business which may have the Kensit school, and the book is on caused the Holy Father to send him on Holy Scripture. King David did not work. That it was never intended to testantism is based, this would follow

violently attacked.

Canon McColl admits that some of the Ritualistic clergy have broken the law by the introduction of practices which have been rejected by the English Reformation Settlement of the seventeenth century, but he maintains that, either through haste or prejudice, the Kensities and Sir William Vernon Harcourt have wrongfully brought the charge of unlawfulness against practices which are allowed and have always been allowed by the laws which established the Church of England, and he draws the inference that the English Church Association and its patrons are now waging war, not merely against Ritu alistic practices, but against the doctrinal basis of the Common Prayer book itself, however unintentional it may be on the part of Sir William Harcourt and his supporters to do this.

The case amounts to this, that though the laws of England established a new religion to take the place of the ancient Catholic Church, they did not entirely abolish positively either the Catholic faith or ceremonial, and it is still a matter of debate how far Catholic faith and ritual are consistent with the profession of full-fledged Anglican Protest-

The Canon shows very clearly that High Churchism in the Anglican Church is quite legal, even though extreme Ritualism transgresses the limits of lawfulness on minor points.

THE APOSTOLIC DELEGATE.

His Excellency the Most Reverend Monseigneur Falconio, the Papal Delegate, is now fully installed in Canada, having been officially received by the ecclesiastical authorities in Quebec, Montreal and Ottawa successively with the respect due to his high and sacred office.

His Excellency arrived in Quebec by the steamer Vancouver, and was met on landing by Mgr. Marois, V. G., as representing the Archbishop, and by a large number of the clergy of the city and many leading citizens and public men, among whom were the Hon. Mesers. Scott, Dobell and Fitzpatrick of the Dominion Cabinet, the Hon. F. G. Marchand, Premier of the Quebec Government, and Mr. Comme tant, Governor of Anticosti. Subsequently Lietenant-Governor Jetté and his aide de-camp paid their respects to his Excellency at the Archbishop's Palace.

From the landing the party pro ceeded to the Archiepiscopal palace and thence to the Basilica where the ceremonial prescribed for the reception of an Apostolic Delegate was duly carried out, and the Papal Brief ap-Church are treated by a section of the pointing Mgr. Falconio resident Apos-

The "Veni Creator" and other marks of our Bishops and priests in hymns were sung, Benediction of the such a manner as to lead the public to Blessed Sacrament was given, and believe that they are the enemies of afterwards His Excellency gave the civil and religious liberty, and that Apostolic blessing to the large crowd which was assembled to welcome him to Canada.

His Excellency has with him two Secretaries, namely, Father Edward Fisher and Father Clautte, as English The Delegate speaks English beautifully, and after the ceremonial in the Quebec Basilica he delivered a short was heralded far and near as being address in English, thanking the people for the warm welcome extended to him.

In Montreal his Excellency's recep tion was quite as enthusiastic and cordial as that given him in Quebec. The Rev. Canon Dauth of Montreal went to proof were needed-that the public the Ancient Capital to meet him and accompany him on the journey to the most important of our Canadian cities. He was met at Viger station by Mgr. Racicot, V. G., as representing Arch bishop Bruchesi, and by Canon Arch ambault, the Very Rev. Superior Colin of the Seminary, Rev. Father Columban. Prior of the Franciscan monastery the Rev. Father Strubbe, C. SS. R., Acting Mayor Prenveau, and many others of the clergy and prominent citizens, including aldermen and city officials. A procession was then formed and the march to S: James' Cathedral was commenced from the station to the Cathedral. The procession was headed by a detachment of fifty city policemen with the police band. Next came the cadets of Mount students of St. Mary's and Montreal

Mgr. Falconio in his conversations

much as it throws a strong light upon Pope Leo's desire to be in immediate the lawfulness of the practices of the and close communication with every extremest Ritualists in regard to those country in which there is a large and usages which the Kensitites have most important population of Catholics, so that the wants of religion everywhere may be known by him exactly, and be provided for. Hence the Brief appointing Mgr. Falconio as his Canadian Representative confers upon him "all the necessary and expedient powers which will place him in a position to provide efficiently for the needs and welfare of the Church of Canada." His Excellency's jurisdic tion extends over the whole Dominion

The Apostolic Delegation in the United States has been of very great benefit to religion, settling many disputes and troubles of long standing. It has in some cases prevented serious local schisms, and the two delegates who have so far held office successively have by their personal qualities gained the esteem and good-will of all who have had any intercourse with them, Protestants as well as Catholics.

From all that is known of Mgr. Fal conio, we are certain that he will also gain the respect and esteem of all the people of Canada, whether belonging to the government or to the general population of the country.

The Catholic body in all the provin ces will welcome Mgr. Falconio, and will rally round him on every occasion when it may be needful to testify their loyalty and veneration for the Apostolic See and its present illustrious occupant, Pope Leo XIII., whom Mgr. Falconio will undoubtedly represent with ability and discretion of the highest order.

We heartily welcome Mgr. Falconio to Canada, and we feel certain that the whole Catholic population will welcome him with equal cordiality.

A curious incident occurred a few days ago which shows how we can never be long without having some meddlesome outsiders to interfere as far as they dare with matters which concern Catholics only.

A deputation from the Ottawa Ministerial Association waited on the Hon. R W. Scott to enquire whether he recaived Mgr. Falconio as representative Minister of State, or in his private capacity.

The Hon. Mr. Scott replied that his visit was purely personal, and he represented no one but himself on that ecasion.

"In the elastic conditions prevailing in Canada," he said, "I regard my action as perfectly natural. I am sure that if Bishop Potter, of New York, were to come here, Hon. Mr. Mulock would be one of the first to welcome him, or, if some prominent Baptist divine should come, he would likely be greeted by Hon. Mr. Fielding. I went to welcome Mgr. Falconio as a Catholic and not as representative of the administration with which I am connected."

It is not yet definitely decided whether the permanent residence of His Excellency the delegate will be in Ottawa, the capital of the Dominion, or n Montreal as the centre of Catholicity. before long.

THE KIST O' WHISTLES.

The German Baptists of America long since decided that it is unscript ural, and therefore unlawful to use musical instruments at all, and sacrilegious to use them in the worship of God. Hence it has been prohibited the teaching of them in Baptist schools.

Notwithstanding this prohibition it appears that in a number of educational institutions under control of members of the brotherhood instrumenta music is still being taught, and many of the brethren are receiving instruc tion on musical instruments of all kinds from the violin and mouth or-

gan to the piano and pipe organ. Elder C. M. Yeant, on behalf of the Church, gives in a Baptist paper the following explanation of the prohibitory decree. He says:

"The Church has decided that we shall not have instrumental music in our churches, yet the institutions controlled and owned by the brethren and under the profession of the brotherhood are teaching the very thing the Church says they shall not use. The organs are coming into the Churches of our brethren, and it is the product of the teaching of our brethren. The Gospel is all in opposition to instrumental music, from the fact that the Church is to sing for the Lord, and a dumb organ has no soul. We might as well get the grammophone to do our praying for us. There is just as much power and just as much spirit in it."

This reasoning is somewhat like that of the Presbyterians of the old school who were likewise resolutely opposed to the use of instrumental music in the Church. This condemnation of instru-

God with all his faculties :

"My heart is ready, O my God. I will sing and rehearse a psalm. Arise @ my glory: arise psaltery and harp: I will arise early. (Psalm lvi; 9, 10.)

The trouble with the German Baptists arises from a similar cause to that which gave rise to fierce controversy among the Presbyterians years ago. The youthful generation could not see any reason for rejecting the use of musical instruments in serving God. whereas they assist in raising the soul to God in the solemnity of divine worship, and as instrumental music has gained the victory in Presbyterianism, it will, no doubt, before long gain a similar victory among the Baptists.

THE RITUALISTIC WAR.

It has been stated on apparently good authority that the majority of the Ritualistically inclined clergy of the Church of England will conform themselves to the decree of the Archbishops of Canterbury and York by discontinuing the use of incense in their Church service and of candles in Church processions. Nevertheless most of the Churches appear to have set this pronouncement at defiance, and from what we learn concerning the extent to which the various Ritualistic rectors and vicars have obeyed, it does not appear that the optimistic prediction, which affirmed that there would be a general acquiescence, will be verified. Of all the Ritualistic churches of London, it is stated that only one has conformed to the Archiepiscopal mandate by suspending at once the use of incense. At Brighton, out of six churches, only one has conformed and the vicar of one of the best conducted and best attended churches of Boston, Lincolnshire, has publicly announced that it is not his intention to make any change in his Church services in consequence of the decree; and many of the clergy throughout England have made the same declaration in face of the fact that several Bishops not accounted as Evanglicals have sent letters to their clergy requesting them for the sake of peace in the Church to comply with the decree or opinion, by whichever name it ought to be called.

Lord Halifax, the President of the English Church Union, which is an association formed with the avowed purpose of promoting "the Catholic move ment in the Church of England," has published a manifesto addressed to the laymen, in which he does not openly plead for resistance to the decision of the two Archbishops; yet it is very plain that on this question of the use of incense in the Communion service, he would like to see that decision dis regarded by the clergy, and his advice to the laity is to "stand by their priests whether they conform or rebel. He savs:

"Whatever course your priests deem it their duty to take, stand by your priests. Help them, if need so require, to bear the pain of depriving their ministrations of a lawful and Catholic adjunct should conscience tell them that they must yield to the opinion, and be true to them in the dark and difficult days that will be in store for them if they say that they must regist the efficars of the We shall probably learn of this matter the Divine Master bids even Bishops to

On this question there is evidently some confusion in Lord Halifax's mind. He maintains that it is necessary for Bishops as well as the priests and laity to "hear the Church," and in this he is undoubtedly correct. But it is admitted, and Lord Halifax himself pro-

claims it, that: claims it, that:

"No one disputes the fact that the use of incense in public worship was never by name forbidden, though it was commonly so employed at the time of the compilation of the Book of Common Prayer. The utmost that was done at that time was to omit all reference to the use of incense in the rubrics. In this respect the use of incense stood in exactly the same position as the use of an organ in public worship. Both were custom arily used in divine service before the promulgation of the English Prayer Book. Neither was mentioned as required to be used in that book. Neither was forbidden. Or gans, only by use and wont, and by the toleration of authorities continued to be used. Incense dropped, almost generally out of use.

Ever since the English Prayer Book came into use, its services have never been performed without some adjunct not verbally prescribed in the rubrics. Every week our church papers contain accounts of rites and

prescribed in the rubrics. Every week our Church papers coulain accounts of rites and ceremonies often performed by the Bishops themselves which are not contained in nor sanctioned by the explicit directions of the prayer-book. What are we to think of the justice and righteousness of asserting, in order to put down a particular practice, a principle of interpretation of our formularies which we may confidently say our Archibishops and Bishops have not the slightest intention of impartially applying all round?"

This principle of interpretation to which Lord Halifax refers is that, in case no mention is made of a rite in the prayer-book, it must be held that it is forbidden to use it in the public worship of the Church.

At first sight this might seem a very fax points out, it is one which has mental music is of course merely the never been and probably never will be one of the many true Churches which phantasy of fickle human mindedness. atted upon. It is, in fact, one which are supposed to exist. In fact, from There is no prohibition against it in can scarcely be put into practical the primary principle on which Pro-

prayer-book itself, which are :

"It hath been the wisdom of the Church of England, ever since the compiling of her public liturgy, to keep the mean between the two extremes, of too much stiffness in refus-ing, and of too much easiness in admitting any variation from it."

What rule of interpretation, then, should be followed?

Lord Halifax states with truth that : "The appeal which the Church of England has ever made has been to the practice of the whole Catholic Church as supplying her standard of doctrine and ceremonial."

It has usually been the practice of the most celebrated divines of the Church of England to maintain that the present Church of England is identical with the Church of pre Reformation times, and that it was never intended by the Church to abolish the doctrines or discipline of the ancient Church, but only to reform it by abolishing certain designated false doctrine and useless or superstitious rites. According to this principle, it is clear that the rule laid down by Lord Halifax ought to be regarded even by the most violent Evangelicals as the correct one ; and thence it follows that as incense was used by the Cath. olic Church before the Reformation, so it is lawful to use it now in the Church of England, even though it is nowhere prescribed in the rubrics to do so. In opposing its use by others the Evangelical or Low - Church party are simply adopting the conduct of the dog in the manger, preventing others from using that for which they find no use. Hence, also, it follows that the Ritualists have not disobeyed any law merely by their use of incense in some WAY.

But herein lies one of the instance of the confusion in which Lord Hali fax is involved. The practice of the Catholic Church is to use incense only on certain occasions which are of solemn observance; but the most advanced Ritualists use it in nearly all their services, and thus detract from the soul elevating effect which it has in the Catholic Church.

It is certain that incense was much used in the Jewish sacrifices, and that by direct command of God. Why was this command given? Certainly to make the divine worship more impress ive. Human nature has not changed since then, and incense in worship has still the effect of exciting respect for that worship. It symbolizes prayer, and is spoken of as the symbol of prayer, both in the Old and the New Testament, so that its use in worship is certainly agreeable to the will of God. God has not, however, directly laid down any law for Christians in regard to the extent to which it should be used, and it devolves upon the Church to arrange this prudently and discreetly, and not according to the whims of individual ministers, as will be the case if Lord Halifax's advice be followed.

In a third matter the confusedness of Lord Halifax's position is noticeable. He declares that the usage of the Catholic Church of all ages and nations should be regarded in the decisions on such matters of discipline. The authority of the Catholic Church does not extend merely to the use of incense, which is comparatively an unimportant matter, and is not essential to worship; but it regards the whole field of doctrine and discipline. Does it not follow from this that as long as His Lordship remains outside the Catholic Church he is refusing obedience to a divinely appointed 'guide, equally with his violent anti Ritualistic adversaries?

PREPOSTEROUS CLAIMS.

The Rev. H. B. Jefferson of Alma, Mich., at the concluding session of the central convention of the Episcopal Church of Michigan held at Port Huron on the 11th inst., spoke his mind very plainly of the other Protestant Churches of the United States. He said:

"The spirit of spite as shown by the Presbyterians in some places, is everywhere prevalent. Common humanity calls the Church te rescue the people from such creatures as Methodists, Presbyterians and Baptists. Our ministers should preach the doctrine that this (the Episcopal) is God's Church, and everything that sets itself outside of it is man's invention." We are not at all in doubt that the

gentleman who thus expressed himself is quite convinced that the Episcopal (or the Anglican) Church is the true Church, but we had supposed that Papal states. Anglicans as well as the other denominations named by Rev. H. B. Jefferson practically hold to the belief that to profess belief in the Bible, and anathematize the Pope, is a full-fledged plausible principle; but, as Lord Hali- Protestant Church, and therefore the City, and the general belief is that the true Church, and at the same time this account highly interesting inso- his mission, but it is known that it is confine himself to chanting with his be a Church principle is evident from as a necessary consequence. This he has been harassed, and the persecu-

voice the praises of God, but served the first words of the preface to the primary principle is that each individual is to take the Bible and from it draw his religious belief without regard to the teaching of any Charch. It is a most preposterous claim, therefore, which Mr. Jefferson makes when he asserts that the Episcopal Church (within which we have no doubt he intends to include the Anglican) is the only true Church of God, and is alone of divine institution.

> Any one who is versed to the least degree in the history of the establishment of Anglicanism will see the absurdity of the claim. It is not divine in origin, for all know that it was founded by Henry VIII. to enable him to satisfy his unbridled lusts. It is not divine in its doctrines ; for, when we consider the warring factions of which it is composed, it is seen to be very human indeed, the more so as it can scarcely be said to have any specific doctrine at all. We all know that in its pulpits the most conflicting doctrines are taught, and there is no authority except the British Parliament, composed of men of all beliefs and of no religious belief, which can decide what the doctrines of Anglicans must be. It is evident that a Church thus constituted cannot be the one true Church which Christ established on earth.

Anglicanism is founded upon the same principle of private judgment which is the rule of faith of all the Protestant sects, and with them it must stand or fall.

If Christ left any Church on earth at all-and the Bible teaches that He did-that Church should endure for all time, as Christ declared to His Apostles that He would be with them all days even to the end of the world, and that the gates of hell should never prevail against His Church. (St. Matt. xxviii., 20; xvi., 18) It is the Church thus constituted which Christ commands us to hear." (xviii. 17.)

When Luther and Henry VIII. presumed to establish new Churches, with new forms of worship, new ministries, and new doctrines, the Church of Christ to which obedience was due was in existence, and no individual and no Parliament had the authority to institute a new Church or Churches. All the Churches thus instituted are human ; and the one Church which existed continuously from the time of Christ till Luther's time and down to the present day, is alone the true Church. It is readily seen from this that this must be the Catholic Church which alone has continuously existed. The Anglican Church is therefore in the same boat with the Presbyterians. Methodists, and Baptists, of whom Rev. Mr. Jefferson speaks so contemptuous ly: they are all man made Churches, and the only one which was divinely instituted is the Catholic Church.

It is a curious fact that a minister of a Church which only a few years ago was negotiating with Presbyterians and some other sects to bring about a union of some kind with them, should now speak of them disparagingly. The shows that the still very far from being among the probabilities of the future. We have never supposed that it was likely to be consummated, for the first principle of Protestantism tends to its disintegration into a variety of sects, and this constitutes one of the evidences that the claim of any one of them to be the only true Church is just as absurd as to pretend that their agglomeration into an organization of incongruities would make a divine institution out of a number of humanly instituted Churches. The only means whereby the sects can become members of the true Church is to give up the eccentricities of private judgment, and return to the one fold of Christ, the Catholic, which will remain on earth to the end of time, as it has existed now for nearly nineteen centuries.

THE POPE AND THE ITALIAN USURPATION.

It is stated on high authority that the Holy Father Pope Leo XIII. will soon issue another solemn protest against the position to which the Holy See has been reduced by the usurpation of the Italian Government in seizing upon the

During the pilgrimage of the Holy Year of Jubilee on occasion of the close of the nineteenth century, and the any organization which thinks proper | commencement of the twentieth century, there will be thousands and tens of thousands of visitors to the Eternal Pope will seize the opportunity on this great occasion to set forth once more the magnitude of the injustice to which the Holy See has been subjected, by enumerating the vexations wherewith

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