

The Catholic Register

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AN IGNORANT CRITIC.

Newspapermen have been laughing over a "criticism" (save the mark) of Mr. Willard in "The Cardinal," which has appeared in Saturday Night.

After criticizing the critics, Saturday Night turns the vial of its outraged irreligiosity upon Mr. Willard. He "deceives himself, but he cannot deceive the audience."

Now, what sort of an ignoramus wrote all this? If a smart boy in an Ontario village who has learned the rudiments of a professional training-by-beating a drum in the P. P. A. band should get a job on a Toronto paper, he is let loose upon the drama without other credentials.

LORD SALISBURY IN A SAD MOOD.

Lord Salisbury's sad speech on the war, delivered at the Mansion House banquet is the leading topic of the week. The most depressing part of the address upon the assembled guests was that in which he declared it impossible for the Government to take the public into their confidence.

These words fully justify the suspicion now expressed in many quarters that the Government has been deliberately deceiving the public. There can be no doubt at all that such deception was practised when, on the eve of the dissolution of Parliament, the war was declared over and the recall of the army imminent.

place in South Africa that the Government dare not let the public know. One of these suppressed occurrences is alleged to have been the capture by the Boers of the principal British remount station within four hours journey of Cape Town.

FRANCE FRIGHTENS THE SULTAN.

The signal triumph of France in the diplomatic rupture with Turkey, which has been developing since before the visit of the Czar, has annoyed some leading British journalists, because it has been represented by the lesser sheets of Paris as a revenge for the Fashoda incident.

CARDINAL SVAMPA.

The Associated Press brings the news that Cardinal Svampa is dying. Cardinal Svampa is Archbishop of Bologna. His name has come up in every latter day forecast of the next conclave.

Leo XIII, while 'Ignis Ardens' stands for the next Pontiff. The explanation of these mottoes are most wildly extravagant in many cases. 'Ignis Ardens' is said to refer to the Archbishop of Bologna, because he is named Svampa (Extinction) and his arms are a burning torch; but this motto might also be applied to Cardinal-Vannutelli, whose name is Serafino, which means "inflamed by divine zeal."

MORE AMALGAMATION TALK.

Once again the Collegiate Institute Board has thrown out a resolution favoring amalgamation with the Public School Board. This matter has become a hardy annual in Toronto. Members of the High School Board doubtful of re-election are prone to place all their dependence upon it.

There can be no sense in any attempt to rush amalgamation through, and in the absence of a satisfactory plan safeguarding all interests the annual up-cropping of the theme must be regarded simply as election talk.

MAGISTRATE DENISON TALKS

In the course of a police investigation into the alleged gambling scandal overshadowing Toronto, Magistrate Denison, on Tuesday laid down this dictum, as reported in The Toronto World:

"Even doctors and ministers who had received information in confidence could not claim privilege, the only person who is entitled to such being a lawyer."

We often hear from individual judges of this legal theory that confession to a priest is not privileged, and may be forced from the confessor. But if the law be such a coach-and-four is driven through it by every level-headed judge throughout Christendom.

Apparently, however, Magistrate Denison goes beyond ordinary lengths in challenging the secrecy of the confessional. He is conducting what is called a fishing investigation into a charge which is not made, except in a newspaper, which is irresponsible.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE "DEMONSTRATORS."

The Toronto Grand Jury last Saturday made the following reference to the Christian Science case before the Assize Judge: "The weakest point in this case appeared to be that the party most directly and morally responsible for the imposture—if it be such—is the demonstrator, and, as the law stands, he cannot be

held liable, therefore a change seems desirable which would prevent any one not a legally qualified physician acting as a substitute for such aid; the prescribing of medicine or other physical treatment should not be necessary to render the demonstrator liable to action."

While the Grand Jury's presentment may be well intended, it can hardly be called practical. Perhaps Goldwin Smith is right when he says the law cannot do much in rescuing people from their own delusions. But some practical change in the law, that would practically demonstrate to the "demonstrators" that weak-minded people are not entirely at their mercy is badly needed.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Rev. J. R. McKee, M. A., formerly curate of St. Agnes and St. John the Baptist, Tuebrook, Liverpool, has, announces The Tablet, been received into the Catholic Church.

Some Canadian papers would have their readers believe that only the anti-British sentiment of the United States supports Mr. John Redmond and the Home Rule delegation now visiting the Republic. It certainly was not a mere anti-British spirit that filled William Lloyd Garrison, when he presided at the Boston reception to Mr. Redmond.

This devoted Empire is waiting to hear from Mr. Chamberlain in regard to Canon Gore's appointment to the Bishopric of Worcester. Canon Gore is a pro-Boer—a crime in Irish members for which Mr. Chamberlain proposes to cut down the representation of Ireland in Westminster. Why should the Canon secure preferment with such a stain of his scutcheon?

The report that the Duke of Norfolk is to marry Lady Alice Fitzwilliam is repeated in face of recent denials. The intended bride of the Duke of Norfolk is the oldest daughter of Earl Fitzwilliam. She recently became a Catholic, to the great indignation of her family, and it is since then that the Duke met her. His first wife, Lady Flora Hastings, when he met here, was also suffering for having joined the Catholic Church. But when she became Duchess of Norfolk her defection was readily forgiven.

The proposal to erect, in the Catholic Church at Maidstone, a memorial to the memory of Father O'Coigley, who was hanged on Pennington Heath, near Maidstone, England, in May, 1798, on a charge which is now known to be false, of being a French emissary of sedition, recalls the fact that to his presence as a witness in this trial Henry Grattan owed his life. He was summoned as a witness as to character on behalf of Arthur O'Connor, who was tried with Father O'Coigley, and was acquitted. The Irish Government suborned a Castle spy to accuse Grattan of complicity in the scheme and policy of the United Irish movement.

In the Life of the late Lord Russell of Killowen, which Lord Justice Mathew has contributed to the supplementary volume of the Dictionary of National Biography, some interesting figures are given of the enormous sums earned by the late Lord Chief Justice during his career at the Bar. Judged by the great advocate's fee-book, which Lord Justice Mathew has had the advantage of consulting success seems to have come to him by leaps and bounds. The Bar is notoriously a "waiting" profession for most people. Charles Russell was making more than £1,500 in his fourth year when he refused the offer of a county court. Until he took sick ten years later his earnings averaged £3,000 a year. After that the average for another ten years was £10,000, and for the succeeding decade £16,000, until during his last year of practice he made the record sum of £22,826. The life of Lord Russell, on which Mr. Barry O'Brien has been engaged for some time past, is also to be issued immediately by Smith,

Elder and Co. In addition to the narrative of Lord Russell's career which Mr. O'Brien has compiled, the book will also contain an appreciation of the late Lord Chief Justice as an advocate, contributed by Lord James of Hereford, while there will be an estimate of his judicial career by the eminent lawyer who is now Mr. Justice Jelf.

An interesting ceremony took place recently in the quiet little town of Slough, Buckinghamshire, where a Catholic social club was formally opened. From the Reformation until a few years ago no Catholic service had been held in the town, but with the arrival of Father Clemente, a zealous Italian priest, a marked change took place, and Slough has now a Catholic Church, Catholic schools, and lastly a Catholic club. By invitation of the committee Mr. Jeremiah MacVeagh attended to open the club formally, and addressed the members on the religious benefits accruing from such institutions. During the proceedings the following letter was read from the Duke of Norfolk: "My Dear Father Clemente—I am most sincerely sorry that it is not possible for me to accept your very kind invitation to the opening of your club. I much wish I could be present to congratulate you on the efforts you are making, and on the response which those for whose benefit the work is undertaken are making to your efforts. I am convinced that the work you are getting on foot will bring solid good and many opportunities of recreation and pleasure to those for whom it is intended, and I trust earnestly that everyone that joins it will remember that he is doing so not only for his own sake, but to help a work which is for the good of others as well as himself. This thought ought to nerve everyone to a keen determination to work towards the success of the undertaking. It is very good of you to invite me, and I am sincerely sorry that I cannot come, with every best wish."

THEY HAVE A NEW LEAD.

The noble women of Toronto having wearied of doing good on the golf links; and on sundry patriotic committees, have hit upon a new idea for settling all the outstanding difficulties of society. They are going to import negro servants from Barbadoes; and as far as we can judge from the reports in the newspapers, they intend to make the new industry a department of the civic administration. Their initial meeting was held in the City Hall. It is quite a remarkable thing that no matter what object attracts for the moment the merry women of Toronto they always call their meetings in the City Hall. Incidentally, perhaps, it saves the hire of a hall whilst it also gives no little prestige to the business on hand. A Rev. Mr. Speer, who was among the ladies present, was more impressed with the heathen Chinese than the negro. However, whether black or yellow be the winning color in this new game for the entertainment of our women folk, one thing is settled—that they must have entertainment. At present their position is very trying. Who is to mind the baby while mamma is away at golf or a five o'clock card party? The "white servants," it would appear, think their employers (or "mistresses") ought to contribute something to the care of their own limited contingent of the rising generation. This is the crux of the "servant girl" problem. This is the reason why more doable black women, or yellow men, are desired. Happily there are many still left of the old-fashioned mothers who do not deserve satire but are worthy of all praise. But, though few, these noisy, all-reforming females of Toronto do constitute quite a large-sized nuisance. Perhaps it is their own business what use they make of their time. But at all events, it is high time the doors of public places like the City Hall were shut in their faces. Mayor Howland, who is a bachelor, ought to beware of them.

MR. REDMOND TO VISIT MONTREAL.

Montreal, Nov. 11.—A large gathering, composed of the officers and members of the several Irish societies took place at St. Patrick's Hall, St. Alexander street, last week, under the presidency of Mr. W. E. Doran, president of St. Patrick's Society, under whose auspices the meeting was called. The object of the meeting was to prepare a reception to Mr. John Redmond, the Irish Nationalist leader in the British House of Commons, and his two colleagues, Messrs. McHugh and O'Donnell. It was decided to hold a public meeting in Windsor Hall, on Nov. 20th, to be addressed by the visitors. This arrangement has been communicated to Mr. Redmond, who agreed to follow it. Speeches were made by representatives of the various organizations, after which a committee of seventy was formed to complete the arrangements for the reception of the visitors and the meeting on November 20. The committee will appoint sub-committees to see to the different arrangements that have to be made.

AN ALLEGED SYRIAN PRIEST IN MONTREAL.

A Montreal despatch says: Philip Giraud, the alleged Syrian priest, who claims by his notices to be a miracle worker, has by his conduct in some of the west end parishes, made it necessary for His Grace Archbishop Bruchesi, to warn the faithful of the diocese against having any intercourse whatever with him.

The letter prohibiting Giraud from saying mass in the diocese, warning the faithful not to receive him into their homes and forbidding them to read a pamphlet supposed to be issued by Giraud and known as the "Catholic Review," was read in all the Catholic churches in the city at the different masses Sunday.

In the letter His Grace explains that in August last he summoned Giraud to the palace to show the papers proving that he was a Syrian priest and had a right to say mass. This Giraud refused to do. As no priest has a right to celebrate mass without first obtaining permission from the Archbishop, the latter has, therefore, formally forbidden him to celebrate mass, and the faithful to attend any service at which he may officiate.

The letter goes on to state that Giraud has been asking for money for masses. This is a thing that is never allowed by any priest, as more masses are asked for than can possibly be said by the number of priests.

In conclusion the letter refers to the pamphlet The Catholic Review, as unfit to be read by the faithful and warning them that they are not to read it nor to allow any of their children to do so. At the end of the pamphlet the announcement made that mass is said in Father Giraud's Chapel every morning, during the week at eight o'clock, and on Sunday at ten o'clock. As the Catholic Church does not recognize any such chapel, the Archbishop closes by forbidding the faithful to visit its place.

After a Struggle

"Georgie," said a fond mother to a little four-year-old, "you must take the umbrella to school with you, or you will get wet. It rains hard."

"I want the little one," he said, meaning the parasol. "No, my dear, that is for dry weather. You must take this and go like a good boy."

Georgie did as he was bid and got to school comfortably.

After school hours it had stopped raining, and Georgie trudged home with the remnants of the umbrella under his arm.

"Oh, Georgie, what have you been doing with my umbrella?" said his mother, when she saw the state it was in.

"You should have let me have the little one," said he. "This was such a great one, it took four of us to pull it through the door."—Leslie's Weekly.

THE CROWN OF OLD ENGLAND.

Goldwin Smith, in The Weekly Sun: "The Crown of Old England has been a glorious crown, but old-fashioned people would have preferred letting it be as it was to bedizening it with any Chamberlainian additions. It is the remark of a historian that increase of titles is not increase of strength, but rather an indication of the reverse. No monarch probably is stronger in titles than the King of Siam. One alteration there was which might have been profitably made in the Royal title. 'Defender of the Faith' is a piece of political lacquer. The title notorious was bestowed by the Pope on Henry VII, in consideration of that King's defence of the faith which the present King or his successor to the throne abjures as false and idolatrous. It ought to have been returned to the owner."

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