

The Catholic Register.

"Truth is Catholic; proclaim it ever, and God will effect the rest."—BALMEZ.

VOL. I.—No. 34.

TORONTO, THURSDAY, AUGUST 24, 1893.

PRICE 5 CENTS.

Register of the Week.

Meetings similar to those held in this city last winter for the purpose of uniting the various Churches have been in session lately in Switzerland at Lucerne. As usual, the English Church showed a divided front. The last year that such a gathering took place an Anglican bishop so far belittled ordination as to advocate a free interchange of pulpits between the Church of England and many of the dissenting bodies. This year the High Church had their innings, and one of their clergymen delivered an address before the assembled ministers of various sects containing powerful reasons for clinging to the view that Christ's Church was but one, and that that was a visible Church. He insisted that, no matter what was the provocation, schism was a terrible sin; for the Scriptures teach most emphatically that whatever may be the corruptions of the Church we must on no account separate from it. How like the Rev. Dr. Langtry to his Presbyterian friends! But there is no escape; that argument is a boomerang in the hands of any English Churchman who uses it; it strikes the man who wields it.

A writer in one of the Reviews asking the question whether England will become Catholic, considers that her return to the faith is not only among the possibilities but the probabilities. Although he is a Protestant, and zealous for the welfare of the English Church, he does not conceal the chaotic condition of the Anglican creed. The Thirty nine Articles have according to him, become utterly out of date. And he regards those clergy men who swore to these Articles at ordination, and afterwards trampled on them, as handicapped in religious controversy. Nor will the relation of the Church to the State stand against the march of democracy. And in a battle with Catholicism "a Church which is at once Protestant and Catholic, fallible and infallible, black and white, hot and cold, priestly and congregational, dogmatic and latitudinarian, cannot secure a victory." If Anglicanism were defeated Nonconformity, the writer thinks, would not prove a serious obstacle to the steady advance of Catholicism in England.

The Roman correspondent of a Catholic newspaper informs the public "that the question of civil marriage, as it is styled, so long agitating the public mind in Hungary, where it is viewed with favor in official circles—as also in Italy, where it is sought to grant obligatory precedence—induces the Holy Father, ever watchful in the defence of the interests of the Church and of the public morality, to inaugurate an exhaustive examination of the

question, consulting the legislations of all civilized lands, whether Catholic or not, in order to embody the results in a document to see the light, it is stated, early in the coming autumn, and destined to constitute one of the most notable acts of the present Pontificate, as laying down clearly the extent to which the Church can recognize the action of the civil power, and where it must be actually repelled."

The Feast of the Assumption was in the city of New York memorable for the long expected visit of his Excellency the Papal Delegate. "It is," said Father Lavelle, the Rector of the Cathedral, in announcing the programme, "it is no matter what may be said to the contrary, purely an act of courtesy to Archbishop Corrigan." The Pontifical Mass was celebrated by Archbishop Satolli, while the Archbishop of New York occupied a throne in the sanctuary. After the Gospel Archbishop Corrigan ascended the pulpit and delivered an eloquent address upon the oath which a bishop takes before his consecration, and in which he promises fidelity and obedience to "Blessed Peter the Apostle, to the Roman Church, to the Sovereign Pontiff for the time and his legitimate successors," and moreover that he will treat a legate of the Holy See, both coming and going, with honor, and assist him in his necessities. After alluding to his own studies in Rome, he said. "All one's subsequent study and reading in theological channels strengthen and intensify the convictions of early years, and one who has enjoyed such advantages counts it no glory, but rather a humiliation, that it should ever be come necessary for him to avow that the thought even of resisting the Holy Father's will, much more of disobeying his positive enactments, never found lodgment in his mind. More than this one cannot say. After the guilt of offending God a conscientious Bishop feels no wound more keenly than his faith be impugned or his oath of loyalty called in question."

The Dominican Sisters in Dublin open this year a college for the higher education of women, in which the pupils will be prepared for the intermediate and university examinations. In addition to the ordinary subjects of these courses, music—vocal and instrumental—the theory and practice of education will form part of the very extensive curriculum; and last but by no means least on the programme is an advanced study of Religious knowledge. The staff of Sisters is to be helped by lay professors, graduates of the Royal University. His Grace the Archbishop of Dublin writes to the Prioress that it has his blessing and best wishes for its success, because it

relieves a long felt want, and fills a gap in the education of Catholic women in Ireland. As an earnest of his good will the Archbishop has generously placed at the disposal of the College Council £500, to be applied to scholarships or in any other way which may be considered but calculated "to encourage that work and its development." Erin will soon have "some sweet girl graduates" among her fair daughters.

A very serious fight took place on the 17th instant between a body of French and Italian workmen at Aigues-Mortes, in the south of France. It was an unprovoked attack upon the Italians, who were foreigners. Despite the efforts of the police, who seemed powerless, as many as 50 were killed and 150 severely wounded. After the fight the French workmen started a man-hunt, for the ostensible purpose of exterminating the foreign workmen.

Italians are not of such a character that when struck on one cheek they will turn the other; and they are not particular about striking the right man. Revenge is what they want. This they sought by raising at Rome an anti-French agitation. A mob attacked the French College, tore down the escutcheons, smashed the windows and tried to force the doors. Further damage was prevented by the police; although the strong feeling afterwards expressed itself in the more harmless way of street marching, songs and cries of revenge. But on Monday last a mob attacked the French Embassy. At the various foreign offices excitement prevailed, wondering whether France would give satisfaction. At Berlin the Emperor made special efforts to keep posted upon the whole affair, the general impression being that he is determined to stand behind Italy in her demand upon the French Government. Troubles growing out of the fight threaten grave international complications.

The French elections passed off without sensation, except a slight disturbance where M. Clemenceau was running. The returns received on the 21st show that 105 Republicans, 12 Royalists and 6 other divisions have been elected. Amongst the defeated we are sorry to see the name of the Count de Mun, the great Catholic leader.

News was received last week at Montreal that Rev. Abbe Proulx, the rector of the Laval University in that city will be appointed Bishop of Sherbrooke, to fill the vacancy which occurred by the death of Bishop Racine.

The Rt. Rev. William Joseph Hugh Clifford, Bishop of Clifton, England, died on the 14th instant. He was born

in 1820, and consecrated on February 6, 1857.

The Behring Sea award has been made public, and contains three important points. A neutral zone of 60 miles around the Pribyloff Islands has been established; fire arms, except shot guns have been abolished outside the Behring Sea, and a close season established in the Northern Pacific from the first day of May to the thirty-first of July. The practical result of these regulations is favorable to the United States, which, even according to the English, got the better in the question of the method of hunting seals.

Prime ministers in England have generally a hard time of it; but few ever had such trials as Gladstone is having at present. His difficulties are even more trying to him than is the unprecedented measure he is passing through the House. These difficulties come not only from Tories and bitter Liberal Unionists; they come from threats of divided Nationalists and the discontent and jealousy of dissatisfied Liberals. No sooner was the Bill virtually through the House than these groups set upon the veteran Premier. The Welsh members sent what looked like an ultimatum, that if Welsh Disestablishment was not the next measure proposed they would leave the Ministry in the lurch. In somewhat the same manner the Scotch Liberals threatened the Government, and now the Radicals insist that a Parish Councils Bill must be passed in an autumn session, though other business go to the wall. Through all these shifting rocks and shallows the Grand Old Man is steering his course boldly on with a skill and tact which were never equalled. The Welsh are not united, Gladstone has written a conciliatory letter to the Scotch, and he has asked the impatient Radicals to wait.

Serious coal strikes in South Wales have given the country the appearance of being in a state of siege. The coal owners have asked for 2,000 infantry and 1,000 cavalry to protect the working colliers. Sentinels are stationed on hill tops and around the colliers to announce the approach of strikers who are now threatening to march to the working district to the number of 50,000 strong. The mine owners are resolute in refusing the demand for 20 per cent increase, and the men have already lost £300,000 in wages. The output of coal, which ordinarily is 23,000,000 tons, has fallen to 2,000,000, causing great inconvenience amongst the tin-platers and Scotch ironmasters.

The reports from some of the French electoral districts show the return of 315 Republicans, 30 Socialist-Radicals and Socialists, 18 Conservateurs Rallies, and 56 Conservatives. Second ballots are necessary in 170 districts.