

The Catholic Record.

"Christianus mihi nomen est Catholicus vero Cognomen."—(Christian is my Name, but Catholic my Surname)—St. Pacien, 4th Century.

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LONDON, CANADA, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 1914

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THE SICK MAN

Turkey, defeated two years ago by three Balkan states, has thrown down the gauntlet to the allied powers. The diplomats vary as to the motives of this misdirected energy but they all agree that the Sick Man of Europe's doom is guaranteed by his alliance with Germany. For many years he has been in a precarious state of health and has been kept alive mainly by the nations for reasons which could not be called disinterested.

Toward Turkey England adopted a policy which Lord Salisbury described as "backing the wrong horse." She fought for Turkey in the Crimean war, and bolstered up on other occasions because the downfall of Turkey would affect the Mohammedan subjects of England in India who regarded the Sultan as their religious chief. For some time past, however, Turkey has been cultivating the friendship of Germany. Bismarck used to say that the whole Eastern question was not worth the bones of one Pomeranian grenadier, but the Emperor of Germany, guided by diplomats who had neither the foresight nor the subtlety of the man of blood and iron, thought otherwise. And so Germany is the Sick Man's physician. It doctored his army in 1912, and, nevertheless, it was soundly thrashed. Just now it is propelling Turkey down the way to destruction. It smoothed the way by predictions of a "Holy War," but there are no gatherings in the halls, no sound of clamorous marching squadrons to justify the doctor and prophet. And the reason is plain. The Mohammedans are averse to parting with British rule for the sake of placing themselves in the possession of a power which has governed, and for many years by brute force, terror and assassination. And Germany's methods, writ in fire, outrage and desolation, are not unknown to them. And so the Sick Man whose power had once smitten the Balkans, taken Constantinople, held sway for the greater part of the Mediterranean and surged northward and westward, is dying.

After his death Russia may obtain a direct route to the ocean through the Dardanelles and the Bosphorus. This we know not, but Christendom will not grieve over the passing of the Sick Man.

THE TEMPORAL POWER

We have a suspicion that the Italians would rejoice to have the universal spiritual power of Peter free from any menace of the secular state. We do not refer to the Italians who chant the praises of the apostate Bruno but to those who are aware of the duties of the Papacy and of its services to Italy. They know that the Pope created and safeguarded Italian nationality. They protected her from Goth and Vandal; from Byzantine despotism. They know that Rome is an international centre and belongs much more to Christendom at large than to Italy. Its very monument is an eloquent testimony to the fostering care of the Papacy that has been the heart and shield of Italy from the day the seat of empire was transferred to Constantinople. "We shall win," says Bishop Hedley, "in the fight over the Vicar of Christ. We shall win back his independence. No Catholic should be half-hearted in this. Nothing but the temporal independence of the Pope, under the guarantee of the Holy Father himself or the wishes and intentions of Catholics. As soon as the Catholics take the matter up it will be done. There will be no fighting, no disturbance. It will be done by the votes of the millions as soon as the millions learn a little more explicitly the lesson of their faith."

THE OLD GAME

Across the border there is at present a recrudescence of shameless bigotry. Because a man is a Catholic he must not, whatsoever his qualifications, be given any public office. Because of this he must be vilified, attacked by political braves who ply their dirty trade for pay and in the

dark, preening themselves the while on their devotion to liberty. Canada also has some knowledge of gentry of that type who are dominated by politicians. They too are very vociferous on the subject of liberty and yet all the while they are subservient to every whim of the Lodge and to every caprice of the politician who plays upon their ignorance and uses it for his own ends. Some day they may discover what an asset their inexhaustible credulity is to some preachers and politicians.

LEST WE FORGET

Once more let us say that we must not forget the dependents of those who are at the front or on duty throughout Canada. It is not a matter of charity but of justice. It is a solemn duty of which we are aware, but we are prone to forget those who are playing a noble part in the Empire's defence and their wives and children who are already on the firing line of suspense, anxiety and fear. Wise administration of funds is necessary, but this can be had without undue red-tape formalities.

THE WAR

Preaching at Southwark cathedral, England, recently, Bishop Amigo said "that God permitted a nation to be scourged and defeated in battle for the sins that had been committed. The war might prove a blessing in disguise, and as a result of the proclamation of freedom of religion to the Poles the Catholic Church would be able to make progress amongst the people of that country. France had persecuted the Church. There might in punishment be many sufferings brought upon the people of France, and this war might be a scourge upon that country which is the eldest daughter of the Catholic Church. In England also a considerable amount of irreligion existed not only amongst the rich but amongst the poor. He urged his people to pray, to do acts of penance, to fortify themselves so as to bring down God's blessing upon them and not his curse."

AD MULTOS ANNOS

Catholics everywhere will rejoice at Monsignor Shahan's elevation to the episcopate. For many years he has been a tireless worker in the field of higher education and he has the satisfaction, denied to many workers, of seeing the result of his labours. It is not for us to review them; suffice it to say that the Catholic University of Washington is his monument. It is a testimony to his administrative ability, to his splendid and acknowledged scholarship, to his invincible determination. Time was when the outlook was dark and pessimism grew apace, but Monsignor Shahan conquered difficulties, reassured the doubting, infused into those about him his high courage and enthusiasm and placed upon solid foundation the Great University which is now a centre of light, truth and inspiration. It is no exaggeration to say that his place among great churchmen is secure. His pen is ever at the service of the Church. His influence is not only felt in academic circles but it is far-reaching and is a factor in nearly every department of Catholic activity. He arrays truth in garment of splendid diction and is insistent in telling us that we custodians of immortal principles and inheritors of the wisdom of the ages have a mighty work to do in America. Like all the truly great—like the Cardinal who consecrated him—he reads men and things by the light of a kindly heart and sees good in all.

GENEROSITY OF THE GERMANS

That the Catholics of Germany are doing what is possible for their co-religionists, even among their antagonists, is shown by the news that Cardinal von Hartmann, a personal friend of the Kaiser, has interceded with him to obtain special privileges for French priest soldiers taken prisoners. These he has obtained. All priests serving as soldiers in the French army who may be so unfortunate as to be taken prisoners will be treated as officers, no matter what rank they hold in the army and will not only be allowed better food and greater freedom than would otherwise be theirs, but will also be permitted to practice their religion—

to celebrate Mass and to minister to their fellow prisoners. These facts have been communicated through the Prussian ambassador to the Holy See, with an assurance that Catholics will receive sympathetic treatment as regards the practice of their faith.—Church Progress.

PUBLIC VS. CENSOR

DANGERS OF A "PEPTONIZED DIET ON WAR NEWS"

Arnold Bennett in the Daily News and Leader warns English readers of the effects of censorship. As we are in the same predicament his reflections may be useful to us also. The public in doing its share in the war, is under the disadvantage of working in the dark. The Allied Governments are engaged in a conspiracy among themselves to deceive the enemy as to what their armies are about. But the Allied Governments are also busy with a further enterprise, that of misleading and keeping in ignorance their own public, not for the good of their own publics and for the stability of themselves. Of all their daily business this is perhaps the part which Governments enjoy the most. At the same time, I am convinced, and so are most folks, that the British censorship is still badly organized and administered, and that it might, without offending the other censorship, be considerably less foolish than as a fact it is. I am further convinced that all the Allied censorships are running the same danger which we so clearly and so disdainfully see the enemy censorships to be running in Berlin and Vienna. Still, the censorship exists, and it is not going to be appreciably altered. We are forced to accept it. The duty of Governments is to govern, especially in war time; and the responsibility of their acts is theirs. The duty of the public is to submit with cheerfulness to the restraint of being governed more than usual. And to submit with wisdom and cunning also. But above all the duty of the public is to decline to live in a world of illusions, for illusions magnify crises and weaken the power to meet them. Now, as regards the censorship, it rests with each member of the public to render it ineffective so far as he himself is concerned—and this without siding the enemy! Indeed by rendering the censorship essentially ineffective so far as he himself is concerned a man harms the enemy because he increases the strength of the Government by one undecided.

In the first place, the wise reader should remember that the official newspaperman, just like ourselves, employs two different vocabularies to describe similar events. Thus, the German army may suffer a defeat. The Allied Armies may only suffer a reverse. We feel this in ourselves. Who among us would dare to say that the British Army was ever defeated? Nobody. Even in the worst days of the Boer War the British Army was not defeated, and anyone silly enough to assert that it was defeated would have been hauled on the head for a Pro-Boer. Reverse, yes. Defeat, no. Only an enemy can be defeated. The thing is natural; it is inevitable. Nevertheless, the wise reader of war news will remember that defeat and reverse are absolutely interchangeable terms, denoting precisely the same phenomenon. If in the privacy of his mind he constantly interchanges them he will constantly produce within himself an effect which is destructive of illusion.

In the same way, the enemy retreats, but we retire; the enemy is routed, but we retire rapidly; and the enemy dies, but we retreat fighting obstinate rear guard actions. Again, there are those remarkable words "successful" and "unsuccessful." Who would suppose that two such opposites could ever mean exactly the same thing? But they often do. A good example of their interchangeability may be seen in their connection with the word "sortie." All depends upon the manner in which you regard a sortie. A sortie is always successful in that a party comes out; it is always unsuccessful in that the party re-enters. A German sortie is not and cannot be successful; the Allied sortie must be successful. Beware, therefore, of being influenced by these deluding adjectives.

Beware, also, of vagueness in official reports. A grain of detail is usually more important than a ton of generality in any official report. If you read that "the German have advanced somewhat" at E—, our forces have made good progress elsewhere," you may assume that the German advance was more important than the Allies' progress. And seriously beware of one-sided statements as to losses. "The German losses exceeded 8,000 killed and wounded." They may have; the figure may not be exaggerated. In our minds we accordingly write off with glee 8,000 from the effective strength of the German army, and that is the end of the transaction for us. We forget the Allies' losses, be-

cause they have not been brought to our notice. Yet the very fact that they have not been brought to our notice (as they often are not) should make us pause. The Allies' losses may have been only 1,000, but they may have been 5,000; the chances are that they are round about 3,000. There cannot now be much difference in the wastage of the opposing forces, but while reading the news this fact is extraordinarily difficult to keep in mind. The picture of a German army continually ravaged by death, disease, and demoralization, and an Allied army always miraculously at full strength and full of courage simply cannot be permanently destroyed. It reconstructs itself each morning at breakfast by a magic process of its own. Intensely ridiculous, it still imposes itself even on the sagacious. It is one of the very worst psychological effects of the official bulletin. It can only be nullified by persistent mental effort, and by persistent reading of the Berlin wireless reports.

We pursue the same ways with conviction and a scornful scepticism. But despite our just resentment of German semi-official lying, we have to admit that officially Berlin is seldom fatuous enough to depart from fact in its Marconi communications. The evident partiality of its summaries, together with their brilliant omissions, should help us to be critical of the bulletins which form our own daily bread.

In other words, all official bulletins are deliberately intended to give an impression different from the impression of an impartial spectator. This has always been so. It may be right, for there are workings in all lands. But whether it is right or wrong, we should remember it and allow for it in our conclusions.

And nearly all that I have said about official news applies to unofficial news. I have remarked that Governments are engaged in the enterprise of misleading us. But we ourselves are an active part of that conspiracy. We want to be deceived; we do not want the whole plain to be of a certain color. The man who dares look the facts in the face is stronger than the man who dares not. Military experts in particular are to be treated with caution just now. The fault is not altogether theirs; indeed, it is very little theirs. The censor has them in his grip. He allows them to moralise and to prophesy, and that is about all. But even when they moralise sternly they end with a note of sentimental good cheer which nullifies all that precedes it. As to prophecy, the prophecies are usually quite wrong. Up to within a week of the fall of Antwerp the most prominent military experts were convinced that that which has happened would not happen some of them were even convinced that it was the German force, and not the Belgian, that was being contained. Practically all military experts have assured us daily for many weeks past that we were with in a day or two of a decisive event, though on the surface there was nothing to suggest the imminence of a decision. "The crisis is at hand, and the Allies have no reason to fear," etc. You see, they wanted a decision. So did we readers. The prophecies were conceivably excusable. What is less excusable is the apparent determination of some experts to see German failure in everything. Thus: "The appearance of a German army corps at—proves that Von Kluck is seriously alarmed for his safety in that region." Possibly the recent appearance of a German army corps in Antwerp proved that the Germans were seriously alarmed for their safety in Antwerp. The influence of such comment upon the mind of the reader is insidious and terrible, and it should be fought with might and main.

Let it not be supposed that the sole danger of the well-meaning honest citizen in estimating the progress of the war, despite the efforts of the censorship to prevent him, is the danger of undue optimism. It is almost inevitable that undue pessimism will at intervals take the place of undue optimism. Events themselves such comment upon the mind of the reader is insidious and terrible, and it should be fought with might and main.

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therefore, the Germans, knew a lot) are involved in the fall, either that unpleasant detail, too, must emerge or the German official wireless bulletins must be mutilated for us to save our stomachs. The censorship, having shorn its lambs, is obliged to push them out into the icy wind, and the consequences are instantly manifest throughout a darkened London. That is an inevitable sequel of censorship. Each citizen must guard against it for himself, and each citizen, by the daily practice of scientific detachment in his heart, is capable of so doing.

STORIES OF THE TOMMIES

From the letters published in English papers T. P. tells these stories: There is a story of an Irish boy in the famous Irish regiment—the Connaught Rangers, who, unable to bear the moans of his thirty comrades any longer, crawled out to pick some apples; he was killed as he was returning with his booty; another soldier who followed on the same quest was wounded. A Highlander sees a cow; he rushes out to milk it while there is a hailstorm of bullets all around; he is wounded; but he brings back some milk to his thirty comrades.

There is another story which I give with pleasure—for anything is welcome which relieves the ferocity of the battlefield. A Highlander is discovered by his comrades wearing a German helmet, and is asked for an explanation. This is the explanation; he was lying with a wounded leg which was bleeding freely, and close to him was a German soldier also severely wounded and also bleeding freely. "I managed to crawl up to him and bound his leg as best I could," said the Highlander. "He did the same for me. A bit of course, was now, said between us, for I know a German, an' the other mon no a word of English. When he'd done, not seen' how else to thank him I just smiled, an' by way o' token handed him my Glen-garry, an' he smiled back and gave me his helmet."

The story leaves a sweet taste in the mouth. These soldiers' letters are creating an extraordinary wave of enthusiasm and affection for our Tommies; and every one in these countries feels prouder and fonder of him every day. It is probably one of the reasons why recruiting is going on at such a desperate rate; and that the war fever in England, instead of abating, becomes daily hotter and hotter.

MEXICO IS NOW IN WILDEST CHAOS

Referring editorially to the split between Carranza and Villa and to the choice of Gutierrez as provisional president of Mexico, the Washington Post, the most widely-read and influential daily paper at the national capital, says: "The immediate result is chaos in Mexico. There cannot be two supreme governments. With the two factions struggling, outside nations are unable to locate final authority. Claims for indemnity in prospect will have to be made against military chieftains, who are here to-day and gone to-morrow."

"What will the United States government do when the murder of Americans is resumed? Will it continue its policy of watchful waiting for a solution that never arrives? Will it merely receive and record claims against Mexico, without making any effort to settle them? Will it still act as a dog in the manger toward other nations, refusing to permit them to protect their own people in Mexico, and refusing itself to protect them?"

"The people of this country do not care who becomes president of Mexico. They have no interest in Carranza or Villa or Zapata. But they will not rest easily if another season of terror and bloodshed brings about the pillage of Americans. They will not be content to see Gen. Funston's troops standing idly at Vera Cruz while Americans in other parts of Mexico are being robbed and murdered."

HIGH TRIBUTE TO NUNS AND PRIESTHOOD

In the August number of Brann's Iconoclast, Editor Windle pays the following tribute to the Catholic priest and nun: "Death and duty often go hand in hand. This is frequently the case in the lives of priests and Sisters of Charity. In Memphis and many other cities visited by plagues you

and monuments erected to the memory of priests and nuns who died that others might live. When friends died, when blood relations left victims to die, these strange priests and Sisters came with medicine in their hands and a message of love on their lips. They came to suffer, to serve, to die, yet these are the men and women whose lives are blackened by character assassins like Watson, Walker, Boles, Spurgeon and Seguin. Though a non-Catholic, I permit no person on earth to go beyond me in my admiration for these martyred to duty. While I live they shall have a defender."

HOLY FATHER AND PRISONERS OF WAR

TEXT OF LETTER OF POPE BENEDICT TO CARDINAL VON HARTMANN

Following is a translation of the Holy Father's letter to Cardinal Von Hartmann, Archbishop of Cologne, a summary of which was given in recent press dispatches:

To our beloved son, health and the Apostolic Benediction. We have received from you the good news that His Majesty the Emperor of Germany, acceding to your petition, has decided that the French armies, who are prisoners in Germany, shall receive the same treatment as officers.

Assuredly in this time of great bitterness, when all Europe devastated by fire and sword, is red with the blood of Christians, and when our soul is afflicted with inexpressible sadness, your words have been a great comfort to us. We have understood from that news how deep is your love towards all those who are bound to you by the sacerdotal ties.

We are convinced that your charity will be extended not only to the French priests, but as far as possible to the other prisoners, without distinction of religion or country, who are detained in your country. Let your charity be exercised especially towards all the sick and the wounded, so that their sufferings may be alleviated and that provision can be made for their spiritual welfare. If this work of charity is obligatory on all men, it belongs in a special way to the province of the ministers of God and all others who are devoted to religion. We are confident, therefore, that your example will be imitated by all who glory in Christianity, and in particular by the Catholic bishops and priests, and that this will be the case not only in Germany, but wherever prisoners arrive especially if they are sick or wounded.—Philadelphia Standard and Times.

A DEPLORABLE SPEECH

London Daily Chronicle, Oct. 26

Everywhere except in Ulster—and there only among a few unenvenomed souls—the war has extinguished party feeling, subdued old animosities, and united men and women of all classes and creeds. One of the blessed compensations of this war has been its unifying influence not merely in Great Britain and Ireland, but all over the British Empire. Very seldom, if ever, in our history have our people exhibited so much unity, of spirit and purpose, so much enthusiasm, so stern and resolute a determination, so universal a readiness for service and sacrifice as have been light in this grave crisis. Yet it is at such a time that Sir George Richardson, generalissimo of the Carsonite Volunteers, has thought it seemingly to strike the harshest chords of party prejudice. Speaking a few days ago at a recruiting meeting in Ulster Sir George said:

If any man found himself wavering, let him try and recollect the events of last March and what the Army and Navy did for Ulster. They came to Ulster's help in the day of trouble, and they would come again. It was now the Volunteers' opportunity to show them their gratitude. When the war was over and their ranks were reinforced by some twelve thousand men thoroughly well-trained and with vast field experience, they would return to the attack and relegate Home Rule to the devil.

We can take the measure of Sir George Richardson's calibre from this mischievous utterance, of which the Larkinsites and the Sinn Feiners who are yelping at Mr. Redmond's heels are certain to take advantage. How different in spirit and in substance are the recruiting speeches of the Nationalist Leader, with their stirring appeal to a large patriotism. Need one ask which sort of speech is really helpful to the Empire in the grave crisis through which it is passing?

Kindness is catching, and if you go around with a thoroughly developed case your neighbors will be sure to get it. Be kind.

Give us to go blithely about our business. Help us to play the man; help us to perform the petty round of irritating concerns and duties with laughter and kind faces.—Stevenson.

CATHOLIC NOTES

In recognition of his generous gift of a well equipped gymnasium to St. Mary's Seminary, La Porte, Texas, Louis A. Adoue, a non Catholic of Galveston, was presented with a gold medal, the gift of the late Pope Pius X, on November 7.

The Catholic Earl of Granard, Master of the Horse to King George of England, has been appointed to the command of the Fifth Battalion of the Royal Irish Regiment. A brother of Lord Granard was recently killed on the field of battle.

In Bruges, Belgium, the great buildings of the Xaverian Brothers comprising a whole block, especially the college buildings, have also been given over to the wounded and sick soldiers; the Brothers are nursing them to this they have suspended their collegiate work.

The late Monsignor Benson had completed a three-act comedy, the rights of which are held by Mr. Hugh Robinson, says the London Catholic Times. Arrangements are being made for Monsignor Benson's play to be produced first in America, in accordance with his own wish.

Mr. James B. Connolly, the famous Catholic writer of fiction and sea stories, has just been declared the winner of the \$8,500 prize given by Collier's Magazine for the best short story submitted. Hundreds of the best writers of the United States competed, and Theodore Roosevelt was one of the judges.

The death is announced in Paris of Jean Faure, the old-time singer and composer, at the age of eighty-four. In addition to singing at the Opera Comique he was the composer of world-famous melodies, the most celebrated of which is "Les Rameaux" ("The Palms").

Recently a large concourse of prelates, priests and people was present at the inauguration of a commemorative tablet in the house in Rome, where Pope Benedict XV, used to live before he was appointed Archbishop of Bologna, and where for many years he was busily engaged in the pastoral activities of the parish.

Captain Lumsden, of the Gordons, who has fallen in action abroad, was a member of a well known Catholic family in Aberdeenshire, Scotland, which has given in its time dozens of officers to the British army. The grand-uncle of Captain Lumsden was Sir Harry Lumsden, a famous Indian soldier, who had the distinction of having first introduced khaki as a uniform in the British Army.

The Holy Father has presented a rich gold chalice to the Church of Santa Maria, Immacolata di Pegli in Genoa. This is the church wherein the baptism of His Holiness is recorded. It is also a church of interest recorded the death of the great O'Connell, who died in Genoa close to this building.

When the native Indian troops which have been called up by Great Britain landed at Marseilles, a few days ago, it was a pleasant surprise to many Frenchmen to find that thousands of them were Catholics, and very good Catholics. Another thing which greatly struck the people of the south was the fact that they were well supplied with Catholic chaplains.

Mrs. Bickerstaffe-Drew, "John Hyscough," with two other Catholic chaplains, has been mentioned in the dispatches," by General French. The bravery and devotion of the clergy, chaplains, officers and privates, has been noted in every army now engaged at the front. A French colonel recently said the cheerfulness, ready obedience, and spirit of sacrifice, displayed by the priests in the ranks, more than doubled the strength of his command.

The Irish Guards were recently the heroes of an incident which has been the subject of enthusiastic comment from one end to the other of the British lines. The famous regiment were ordered to take an exposed German position, and before advancing they knelt for a moment in silent prayer. Then, springing to their feet, they fixed bayonets and dashed in wide, open order across the exposed plateau swept by the enemy's machine guns. What remained of the regiment—for many fell—looked the German position at the point of the bayonet. Eyewitnesses state that the men crossed the plain hurrahing and singing, while many of them had a look of absolute happiness and joy on their faces.

Nearly all the students from the different countries of Europe who were in Rome preparing for the priesthood have been called home by their governments to serve in the armies. It was sad to see the other day the departure of the students from the Austro-Hungarian college, these students whose bright vermilion soutanes made such a conspicuously brilliant color in the Roman landscape. They, and the French students from the Seminary of Santa Chiara, called home, as the others were, by the hard law of conscription, which does not even spare the young Levite selected for the service of the altar, were by a strange fate travellers in the same train from Rome.