

# Messenger and Visitor.

THE CHRISTIAN MESSENGER  
VOLUME LXI.

Vol. XV.

ST. JOHN, N. B. WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1899.

THE CHRISTIAN VISITOR  
VOLUME I.

No. 8.

**Defiant Ritualism** The present result of the strife between the evangelical and the ritualistic party in the Church of England is described by Mr. Herry Norman, London correspondent of the New York 'Times,' as a sweeping victory for the Romanist party in the church. "The plain fact is," Mr. Norman says, "that the bishops who are between two fires—Romanism and disestablishment—have not dared to provoke an issue." Sir Vernon Harcourt, who has contributed not a little to the agitation by a series of letters in the 'Times,' in which the aims and doings of the ritualists were exposed, left England for a holiday just before the subject came up for discussion in Parliament. Evidently he considers the Parliamentary debate on the subject as an incident of comparatively little importance. The harvest for which he is looking will perhaps ripen later. The Archbishop of Canterbury's speech in the House of Lords is described as "timid, evasive and time-serving." Lord Halifax, the champion of the Romanizing party, on the other hand, "took the floor like a conqueror." The tone of his speech was, "We think, and we shall continue to think." "We say, and we shall continue to say." "We have done, and we shall continue to do." "It was a triumphant, an almost contemptuous defiance. Every clergyman celebrating the Roman Catholic mass, reserving the sacrament, using those vestments and altar ornaments which are forbidden by the Prayer Book, hearing confession, and employing ceremonial incense, now knows that he has nothing more to fear."

**The Romeward Drift.** As evidence of the growth of sacerdotalism in the Church of England, Mr. Norman cites the following facts: "In England and Wales in the Church of England's established places of worship during 1897 no fewer than 5,185 masses were offered to get souls out of purgatory. In one church, that in Brighton, last year 10,000 confessions were heard. Some 1,800 clergymen are members of the confraternity of the Blessed Sacrament, which exists to propagate the sacrifice of the mass, and the doctrine of transubstantiation. A book called 'The Lesser Hours of the Sarum Breviary,' used in many of the theological colleges, contains a Latin litany giving precedence to the Pope, with the bishop and abbots placed over the Queen. Another book called, 'The Parish Priest of the Town,' written by one bishop and recommended by seven others, commends Pusey's work, called 'A Manual for Confessors.' And in this connection the correspondent of the 'Times' recalls that Lord Salisbury himself once said of the confessional: "We know that besides its being unfavorable to what we believe to be Christian truth in its results, it has been injurious to the moral independence and virility of the nation to an extent which probably it has been given to no other institution to so affect the character of mankind." The Roman Catholics of England regard with great complacency of course this ferment and increase of the sacerdotal leaven in the Anglican communion. Archbishop Vaughan is quoted as saying: "They are doing our work much better than we ourselves could do it. They are sowing the seed while we with folded hands, are standing by waiting to reap the harvest." The end to which all this is tending can hardly be anything less than disestablishment. The falling out of evangelicals and sacerdotalists in the Establishment may result in Nonconformists getting their just rights. When that end comes each sect will go to its own place, the Romanist will turn to Rome, and the Anglican will seek comfort in his episcopacy, and the Nonconformists will be able to worship according to the dictates of his conscience, without being taxed for the support of a religion against either the form or the spirit of which his conscience protests.

**Fortunate Filipinos** The Filipino leaders are doubtless very ill-advised in inciting their people to resistance to the authority of the United States, both because war with so powerful a nation is hopeless and because in fighting against government by the United States the Filipinos are fighting against their best interests. It is pretty certain that they are now in no condition to undertake the task of self-government with any hope of success, and it is by no means probable that, if they were possessed of the qualities necessary for self-government, they would be allowed to work out the problem without interference on the part of European powers. Alluding to the present position of the people of the Philippines the 'Montreal Witness' says: "Their knowledge of world politics must be very elementary if they imagine that the grasping and, as events have proved, unscrupulous powers of continental Europe would leave them in peace to work out their own national problems. The archipelago contains too many fat morsels, occupies too commanding a position on the highway of commerce not to excite the envy of German, French and Russian expansionists. One or other of these powers would soon find cause of quarrel with the islanders, who, without a navy fit to defend their shores, would quickly see their best ports seized and held against them. Or these powers might combine to divide the islands among them, in which case the Filipinos would be still more helpless. Their last position would then be worse than their first. Under the flag of the United States they would have the assurance of political liberty and personal freedom. But under any other flag, excepting that of Great Britain, they would be allowed neither one nor the other. The mailed fist, while directed by as firm a will to crush their spirit of independence as ever animated Spain, would have infinitely greater strength and power to do so. If the Filipinos are wise they will consider these points and co-operate with the United States in the establishment and development of free institutions, of the working of which they can really have no adequate conception. They have been extremely fortunate, if they only knew it, in having fallen into the hands of the great republic. It is able to defend them against all encroachments and willing to extend to them the same blessings of freedom and security as are enjoyed by its own citizens."

**Death of President Faure.** The death of M. Felix Faure, President of France, occurred on Thursday evening last. The announcement was received everywhere with a painful shock of surprise, for no one except M. Faure's physicians and immediate friends seem to have known that he was not in vigorous health, and not even by them was it supposed that there was any cause for anxiety as to his condition, though they knew that he had suffered at times from a weakness of the heart. The president had been engaged as usual during the day with his official duties. On Thursday morning he rose at an early hour, as was his custom, but decided not to take a ride on horseback, which the evening before he had intended doing, telling his secretary, M. Legall, that though he did not feel ill yet he had concluded to abstain from fatiguing exercise during the day. At 9 a. m. M. Faure presided at a council meeting with his usual ability, took his luncheon as usual at noon, returned to his study at 2 o'clock and spent the afternoon conversing with his secretary until five, when M. Legall obtained permission to retire. Returning at six, he found the president signing decrees presented by General Bailloud, according to his general custom. This was soon done, Gen. Bailloud had been gone only a few minutes when

the President called M. Legall, saying: "Come quickly, I feel ill." Physicians were at once summoned, but their skill was of no avail. M. Faure sank gradually into a condition of coma, and at 10.30 breathed his last. President Faure was a man who, by energy of purpose and ability, had risen from a humble place in society. It is said that he began life as a journeyman tanner in Lorraine, but afterwards became a ship-owner in Havre, where for some time he was president of the local Chamber of Commerce. Entering public life in 1881, he was under-secretary of State in Gambetta's Cabinet of that year, was recalled to the same position under M. Jules Ferry in 1883, and also in the Tirard Cabinet of 1888. Later, in connection with the Dupuy administration, he was Minister of Marine. On January 17, 1895, he was elected to the presidency. M. Faure was known politically as a moderate Republican. He was born January 30, 1841, so that he had just completed his 58th year.

Very naturally there was apprehension that amid the excitement prevailing in France over the Dreyfus case and the aggressive activity of the Monarchists, serious complications might arise upon the death of President Faure. But the danger point appears to have been passed without any outbreak of a serious character. The National Assembly, composed of the members of the Senate and the Deputies, met at Versailles on Saturday and proceeded in due form to elect a successor to M. Faure. M. Loubet, president of the Senate, was elected to the presidency of the Republic, receiving 483 votes against 270 cast for M. Meline. M. Emile Loubet, the new president, is sixty-one years of age. By profession he is a physician. He entered political life as a member of the House of Deputies in 1876. Police measures for the preservation of order were taken on an extensive scale, as trouble was feared, and violent collisions are reported to have taken place during Sunday night between the friends and opponents of M. Loubet, and there were also anti-Jewish demonstrations, but the crowds gradually dispersed and at midnight it was reported that peace had been restored.

**The New Brunswick Elections.** Elections for the Provincial Legislature were held throughout New Brunswick on Saturday last. The result has been so great a victory for Mr. Emmerson's Government as to be probably a surprise to the Government itself. The Opposition claim only four members out of a House of 46. The Government has carried all the seats both in the City and County of St. John, also in Kings, Queens, Albert, Kent, Charlotte, York, Restigouche, Carleton, Madawaska, Victoria and Gloucester. The Opposition have carried two seats in Westmorland and perhaps two others in Sunbury, though their claim to one of the latter is at present writing disputed. It will be seen, therefore, that the two parties will be very unequally represented in the Legislature. The Government will certainly be under no embarrassment from lack of numerical strength necessary to carry its measures into effect. But a Government may be embarrassed by too much numerical strength as well as by too little. A good vigorous opposition in the Legislature is a wholesome thing for the Government as well as for the country.

Rudyard Kipling has intimated his willingness to accept an invitation to Toronto as a guest of the Canada Club, and a member of that Club has gone to New York to arrange the matter. A banquet will probably be tendered him by the club during his visit.