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LETTER FROM HIS LORDSHIP BISHOP WALSH.

DEAR MR. COFFEY,—As you have become proprietor and publisher of the CATHOLIC RECORD, I deem it my duty to announce to its subscribers and patrons that the change of proprietorship will work no change in its tone and principles; that it will remain, what it has been, thoroughly Catholic, entirely independent of political parties, and exclusively devoted to the cause of the Church and to the promotion of Catholic interests.

Catholic Record.
LONDON, FRIDAY, JULY 2, 1880.

A REQUEST.

Many of our subscribers are yet in arrears for the year 1879. We would feel much obliged if our kind friends would send the amount due as soon as possible.

THE CINCINNATI NOMINATION.

The choice of the Democratic party for President is Gen. Hancock, of Pennsylvania, and for Vice-President, Mr. W. H. English, of Indiana. This ticket is one of the strongest that could be formed, and will, without doubt, carry the election.

Mr. English, the nominee for Vice-President, is one of Indiana's favorite sons. He is a lawyer of merit and ability, and enjoys great personal popularity. His selection for the Vice-Presidential candidature ensures the success of the ticket in Indiana.

The Democratic platform is an able and more statesmanlike document than that adopted by the Republicans at Chicago. We cannot, however, see what necessity there was to add to the second resolution, repudiating centralization, clauses so meaningless in one sense and so offensive in another as those affirming the principle of separation of Church and State for the good of each, and the advisability of protecting and fostering common schools.

The resolution concerning Chinese immigration is moderate, but firm and unmistakable in its significance. The American people have found Chinese immigration a great social evil, and are certainly justified in arresting it. This resolution will, of a truth, be received with favor on the Pacific coast.

On the whole, we may justly say that the Democrats go to the country with good candidates, and a much better platform than the Republicans. With skillful and judicious manage-

ment in the canvass their success is as much a matter of certainty as anything in politics can be a matter of certainty. It were, at all events, in the interest of the country that General Hancock should be placed in the White House for at least one term.

THE WONDERS AT KNOCK.

There can be no longer any doubt that miraculous manifestations of divine mercy and power have been witnessed in the chapel of Knock, county Mayo, Ireland. The large number of respectable witnesses who have borne loving and grateful testimony to the wonderful facts would be, to ordinary intelligences, sufficient ground for belief. But the miraculous cures that are recorded day after day, through the intercession of the great Queen of Heaven, who condescended to glorify with her presence the humble chapel of Knock, leave all speculation and cavil out of the question. It is true the Church has not yet pronounced on the verity or the divine nature of the manifestations. But the people of Ireland in a body, and hundreds outside of Ireland, have given their verdict—and we have not the slightest hesitation in pronouncing their verdict to be the true and correct one—based as it is on most unimpeachable evidence, and upon facts of supernatural potency that cannot be controverted.

BORRISOKANE, County Tipperary, June 10, 1880.

MY DEAR NORA:

I told you in my last letter that I meant to go on a pilgrimage to holy Knock. Well, my dear, I have been there twice since—the first time in March, and again in May for the feast of Corpus Christi. I paid but one visit in March, and came away very much improved in sight and hearing; you may remember how very deaf I have been for the last twenty years—how distressing it was for myself and friends to engage in conversation. How grieved I used to be, sitting or standing a mute witness to social interchange of thought that made those nearest me appear so happy. My sight also failed me very painfully these last three years. Now, my dear, thanks to God's never failing mercy, and His Blessed Mother's intercession, I am, I may say, fully restored to both sight and hearing. I can read and see without glasses ever since I returned in March, and I hear every word of Father Phelan's sermons. The Sunday following, Nora Gleason and Ellie Carroll, who is suffering from spinal disease, encouraged by my success, came with me the last time. We remained from Tuesday till Friday, May 25th. That morning, while attending Mass in the little chapel, flames, or rather flashes, of white light swept over the altar. A cross and crown were then seen distinctly on the ceiling over the altar. Two white globes of light arose in the centre of the chapel and moving slowly seemed to fall and disappear at the corner of the side wall—just like the corner wall of the gallery in this chapel. The people, about a thousand in number, all saw it—the men raised their strong voices in prayer or ejaculations, the women screamed, many fainted away—no one could keep back their tears.

The Archdeacon, Father Kavanagh, came out of the sacristy where he had been making his thanksgiving after mass, and tried to calm the excitement. He begged of them to go on their knees again, and thank God for the divine manifestation. I thought an hour had passed during the vision, whereas it only occupied some minutes. I shall never forget it—the more I think on it, the more wonderful it seems. I never witnessed such entire and earnest devotion as is to be met with there. The place is crowded both day and night with fervent worshippers. They, some of them at least, spend the whole night in the chapel. You must take lodgings in some one of the very clean though very scantily furnished cottages of the neighborhood—and indeed you will meet with many strange incidents whilst on your pilgrimage. Some fastidious ladies remain over night in the town of Clonmore, about six miles away, and drive out every morning, but we went on like poor pilgrims, and took our privations as they came.

Ellie Carroll feels much better. Poor Nora, who had gone to Corfians, Paris, where she entered as novice in the Sacred Heart, and was obliged to return on account of white swelling in the knee, suffered intense pain during our journeying, but last week she wrote to me saying she had felt as if something gay was inside, and she has been improving ever since. There were fifteen thousand persons at Knock to celebrate the feast of Corpus Christi. We saw one cure of paralysis whilst we were there; several were cured besides. One blind girl, who had not seen the light of day for fifteen years, I saw cured. I knelt beside her while she was making her thanksgiving before the altar. With love to yourself and dear Nora, I am, your affectionate cousin, JULIE.

AMNESTY TO THE COMMUNISTS.

The French Government has at length yielded to radical pressure, and decided on supporting a measure for plenary amnesty to the exiled communists. This action, following so soon its expressed determination to insist on the banishment of the Jesuits, fully demonstrates the true character of the present administration. To qualify it by the term irreligious were to convey but an inadequate idea of its principles, tendencies and purposes. It is atheistical in the worst sense of that odious term. Its evident determination is to rule not only without God, but in positive defiance of His justice. The radical element could not tolerate the presence of the Jesuits, but demand the return of the remnant of the very worst element of disorder that has ever afflicted France. The Republic is no longer safe. Its own supporters have decreed its downfall. France was Republican in 1870. She had just survived the greatest national disaster which ever visited her. Her armies had been scattered, her strong places had fallen, her prestige and power were gone. In the eyes of the world there was no more helpless nation. While still writhing in the agony of her defeat, still mourning her humiliation, a band of communist traitors rise in revolt and take possession of her metropolitan city. At the very moment when unity and determination and self-negation were required from all classes and individuals, these enemies of France, nestled within her own generous bosom, seek the destruction of the mother who had given them life and strength. Bleeding, prostrate and humiliated, as France then was, these miscreants re-open her wounds and trample on her noble but lacerated form. This outrage excited the astonishment and indignation of the world.

When the rebellion was, after a desperate struggle, suppressed—only after men of virtue and renown had given up their lives to the licentiousness of the communist rabble, and the best blood of France dyed the streets of Paris—no punishment was looked upon as too severe for the traitors. The French Government was then considered generous when it decided to exile the offenders whose crimes, infamous beyond example, called for instant capital punishment. The radical sympathizers in the national assembly of the communists dared not, for some time, show their sympathy. But they soon threw off the mask. Their influence forced the government to grant at first a partial amnesty, and some of the worst enemies of France were thus recalled from exile. They now go farther and seek a plenary amnesty. This action, taken at the moment when the banishment of the Jesuits has been decided on and likely to be vigorously prosecuted, is a sign of the true tendencies of French Republicanism. It is not republicanism, but radicalism of the purest dye. Its monstrous perversity will, however, effect its destruction, but not, we fear, till new rivers of blood have irrigated the soil of France, which, when redeemed from the tyranny of communist demagogism, will take its place as the first and greatest of Catholic nations.

THE BRADLAUGH CASE.

The Bradlaugh case has assumed a new phase. The House has, by a decisive vote, refused him the privilege of affirming, and he is thus excluded without being expelled. The constituency which returned him has certainly a right to representation, and also a right to make choice for representative of any one not ineligible by law. The letter of the law does not indeed pronounce Bradlaugh ineligible, but any reasonable interpretation of Parliamentary law and practice bearing on this question clearly demonstrates his ineligibility. The House must, therefore, if it wishes to decide the matter finally, declare the seat vacant, and adopt a measure preventing the return of such men as Bradlaugh to Parliament. The course hitherto in this matter adopted will unfortunately tend to strengthen rather than weaken the claims of Bradlaugh in the eyes of the people. The government should at once have taken the matter in hand, and led the House to a peaceful solution of the difficulty. When the administration did step in it was to receive a very severe rebuff from the House it is supposed to lead. If a new writ be issued for Northampton, Bradlaugh is, in the present temper of the people of that

radical stronghold, almost certain of re-election. The case has excited a great deal of interest and will continue to occupy a large share of public attention till finally disposed of.

TURKISH MISGOVERNMENT.

The misgovernment of the Ottoman Empire is proverbial. Fraud, plunder and poison have had, and yet have so much to do with the administration of affairs in that ill-fated country, that disorder, rebellion and massacre have come to be looked on as matters of course under Turkish rule. Turkish finances are in a state of inextricable confusion; in fact, the credit of the empire is gone, for it is now considered that its debts cannot be paid. Its army and navy exist but in name—nothing but the fanaticism of the Islamite creed keeping them even in partial efficiency. In every department peculation and incapacity reign supreme. The people have lost all respect for the government. It has ceased to do the duty of government, to protect all its subjects and enforce just laws. Its authority is neither admitted nor followed outside the metropolitan city, and its envious individual communities throughout the empire govern themselves as circumstances best permit. But as far as stability, security, or content, is concerned, there is none. Mr. Layard, the British Ambassador at Constantinople, has used every effort to bring the Turkish Government to a true perception of its precarious position. In one of his despatches Mr. Layard says:

"I have exhausted every diplomatic resource in endeavoring to bring the Sultan and his advisers to a sense of the danger to which the empire is exposed in consequence of the state of things I have described. I have used every representation and remonstrance—I may almost say menace—to induce them to put into execution and carry out loyally and fully the promised reforms. I have made incessant personal appeals to the Sultan; placed before him, even in writing, without reserve, the condition of his Empire, and the consequent disaffection of his subjects; exposed to him the incapacity and corruption of his Ministers and high public functionaries, and pointed out to him that as the inevitable consequence of a disregard of the warnings he received the forfeiture of the sympathy and friendship of England, and the possible further dismemberment of his Empire if the European powers should find themselves compelled to interfere to end the anarchy which exists, and ensure justice and good government to the suffering populations under his rule, but hitherto in vain. His Majesty is ever ready to give promises, which, unfortunately, are not fulfilled, owing to the evil influences always ready to counteract any impression made upon him. It is of no use making threats which are not to be put into execution. If we are in earnest in wishing to save this country, and at the same time reform its administration, so that its population may be justly and impartially governed, we must be prepared to go further than mere menaces."

This language, on the part of Mr. Layard, shows the utter hopelessness of expecting any change of policy from the Turkish Government. Turkish rule in Europe is evidently doomed to an early destruction. The disappearance of the Ottoman Empire may precipitate a crisis, but the result cannot, in the end, fail to be of benefit to the Christian populations in the east, and to Europe in general.

A RADICAL DEFEAT.

The municipal elections in Rome have resulted in a total overthrow of radicalism. Out of fourteen successful candidates, thirteen are clericals. Garibaldi himself is amongst the slain. The hero was badly beaten by Prince Chigi of the Pontifical Court.

In the face of this result, how can infidel and Protestant journalists assert that the people of Rome are hostile to the Pope? With a restricted franchise, and a very inefficient system of voting, giving every opportunity to radical manipulation to defeat the clearly expressed wishes of the people, the victory achieved by the Catholic party is certainly satisfactory. The good people of Rome have had ten years' experience of unification, and received no benefit from their incorporation with a bankrupt Kingdom and increased taxation. The fact is, that if to-day an honest expression of public opinion could be obtained, King Humbert would not be twenty-four hours a resident of Rome. His Kingdom is slipping day by day from his control, and one of the results of the impending changes in Italy will certainly be the restoration of the temporal power, under which the Roman States enjoyed peace, security and content.

RELIEF FUND FOR IRELAND.

The total amount sent by His Lordship Bishop Walsh to the relief of Ireland is \$5,160. \$100 of this amount was given by the pupils of the Sacred Heart Convent. They generously contributed the amount intended for the purchase of prizes to be sent to suffering Ireland.

A FEEBLE RECOGNITION.

The Roman municipality has erected a marble bust of the late renowned Jesuit scientist, Father Secchi. This is certainly a praiseworthy action on the part of the municipality, but does not adequately convey to the world the appreciation in which Italy holds the greatest astronomer of the age. Father Secchi gave all his powerful intellect to increase the stock of human knowledge in a direction which feeble minds could not dare explore. His marvellous acumen enabled him to solve many difficulties hitherto considered insuperable. His services in the advancement of astronomic knowledge were held in such high esteem that, Jesuit as he was, the infidel government of Victor Emmanuel secured his retention in Rome after its banishment of the order of which he was a member. The Roman municipality has, since the usurpation of September, 1870, been always of an aggressive infidel tendency. Its work as an auxiliary of the irreligious administrations that have held office since that time, has been always done with a view to win the approval of the radical leaders. Under these circumstances the raising of a statue of Father Secchi—a feeble recognition in itself—does some honor to the municipal authorities—but throws into bold relief the ungrateful oblivion by the Italian Government of the life and genius of one of the greatest of Italians. It is not Rome alone, nor even Italy, that is indebted to the industry and learning of Father Secchi. The whole civilized world is to him under an obligation which no honors, however great, paid to his memory, can fulfil. But Italy, as the nation which gave him birth, should certainly show, in some manner worthy of itself, its appreciation of his exalted genius.

THE PIC-NIC.

We hope our readers will not forget the grand pic-nic to be given in aid of the orphans at Mount Hope on Dominion Day. We do not know any place where the day can be spent in a more thoroughly enjoyable manner. The excursions of the present time have very objectionable features which will not be experienced at Mount Hope, and we feel entirely satisfied at the list of amusements provided. In addition to other attractions, the full band of the 7th Fusiliers will be present on the occasion. But to the unselfish object for which the pic-nic will be held is a great consideration of itself. When it is remembered that over one hundred children are now in this institution depending on the charity of the public, it will be seen what a heavy task the good Sisters of St. Joseph have undertaken, to provide sustenance for this large number of inmates. We, therefore, hope to see a grand turn-out of our people on the day named to assist this truly noble, charitable institution in its divine mission.

LORETTO CONVENT, NIAGARA FALLS.

The pupils of this favorite institution had the honor of receiving their prizes from His Grace Archbishop Lynch, on Monday, June 21st, after he had administered the Sacrament of Confirmation to some of their number. The Carmelite Fathers and other reverend gentlemen also witnessed the interesting ceremony, the usual invitations being dispensed with, but not so the exertions necessary to secure the awards, as a very searching written examination concluded and helped to decide who were victors in the contest. Where so much emulation existed, it is easy to picture the brightness of the scene as described by one privileged to behold it in the handsome reception room—one whose chief regret appeared to be that principally Americans won the crown. However, as the homes of the majority of the young ladies are in different cities of the States, (notably Brooklyn and New York) this is by no means surprising or alarming, and withal we have pleasure in noticing that at least St. Cecilia is as propitious to her Canadian as her American votaries, the crown for the "heavenly art" being as generously merited by Miss Doty, of Lugersoll, as Miss O'Riley of Brooklyn. The Gold Medalist on this occasion, Miss Symons, says "adieu" to her Alma Mater under most enviable circumstances, followed to her distant home in Savannah by such affectionate remembrances as rarely fall to the lot of one who, though richly endowed with superior qualities of mind and heart, remains so wholly unassuming. The surroundings of this Academy are simply enchanting, and could the managers of the Canada Southern and other railways, who at present afford the pupils at the Falls the benefit of half-fare, discover the charms and advantages within, some further

reduction might be offered to assist in filling to repletion the new part of the building now in course of erection. This sign of prosperity must have been a source of satisfaction for His Lordship Bishop Walsh, community of Loretto, whose generous interest, particularly in the early days of an enduring impression that it is needless to add that his recent visit was most welcome, and a source of such gratification as to be numbered among the most agreeable incidents of the year.

THE NEW VICAR GENERAL OF THE DIOCESE OF OTTAWA.

From the Ottawa Citizen, June 21. The Rev. Dr. O'Connor was born in old Bytown on the 18th of June, 1833. His father was Daniel O'Connor and his mother Margaret Power, who settled here in the month of May, 1827, at the earnest solicitation of the late Bishop of Bytown. His father carried on a very extensive mercantile business, both in town and country, and held, for many years, the position of treasurer of the old Dalhousie district, and subsequently that of treasurer for the County Carleton. In his younger years Dr. O'Connor received his education in the ordinary schools of Bytown, and subsequently in the District Grammar School. In 1848 he entered the College of Ottawa as one of its first students, on the very day it was first opened, and finished his scholastic course therein. During 1852 and 1853 he carried on the mercantile business in connection with his father, and managed for the most part the affairs of the Treasurer's office. Towards the end of 1853, he definitely decided to embrace the ecclesiastical state, and on the 24th of November of the same year entered the Seminary then conducted in the Bishop's Palace on St. Patrick's street. At the close of the year 1856, he finished his course of divinity studies, having in the meantime received the various ecclesiastical orders up to Deaconship inclusive. Considering himself at the young and aspiring age, he accepted, to a fuller extent, the serious and onerous responsibilities of ministerial life, he declined to receive the order of priesthood, until some years later, although very frequently and pressingly urged to do so, by the late Bishop of the diocese. The same year, he was appointed Secretary to the late Bishop and of the diocese, which position he held until the death of Bishop Guigues in 1873. In 1858 he was elected chairman of the Board of Separate Schools, of which he had been already a trustee for two years. This position he occupied until 1867, and during this time he succeeded in directing and managing the affairs of the School Board with comparatively little assistance, despite the numerous difficulties which beset it. In the year 1858 he became the proprietor of the Ottawa Tribune newspaper, and conducted it, in connection with the Union newspaper, associated with his brother-in-law, the late Mr. Henry James Friel, and his brother, Mr. R. E. O'Connor, until 1864. In the month of November, 1864, he, with the consent and approval of the Separate School Trustees, introduced the Christian Brothers into Ottawa to take charge of the boys' schools. In 1866, at the request of the late Bishop Guigues and of the Rev. Father Ryan, then President of the Ottawa College, he undertook to obtain from the old Parliament of Canada a charter for the University powers to the institution. On broaching the subject to the leader of the Government, and sounding the feelings of the members of the House, he found that to obtain the desired charter the most formidable opposition would have to be encountered. He, however, had the bill introduced into the House, and in a short time, by persevering efforts and adroit manipulations, he succeeded in having the bill carried by a large majority in the lower House. The opposition he had to encounter in the Upper House or Legislative Council, was, if anything, still more formidable. The leader of the House took a decided stand against the measure, and spoke against and opposed it at every stage. Notwithstanding all this, through hard work and skillful management, the bill was passed by a large majority, and the charter obtained for the college. During the same session the Government introduced into the lower House a bill to grant certain other rights and privileges in school matters to the minority in Lower Canada. The Rev. Dr. O'Connor was requested to try and obtain a similar measure from the House for the Catholic minority of Upper Canada, and the day after the Government had introduced their bill, he got the late Mr. Bell, then M. P. for the county of Russell, to introduce a bill, almost similar in its provisions, for the relief of the minority in Upper Canada. The very introduction, or rather motion for leave to introduce this Bill, created the most intense excitement in the House, and a very prominent member of the Opposition declared it was the boldest demand ever made of Parliament. The session was nearly closed, and it was evident that the Bill introduced by Mr. Bell, as a private member of the House, could not be reached before the end of the session in the ordinary course of things. The Government measure in regard to the minority in Lower Canada was to be moved to a second reading the next day. The only means of securing any chance for the Bill introduced by Mr. Bell, was to have recourse to the extreme step of having it, if at all possible, placed on the agenda of the Government Bill. This, after a great deal of trouble and manipulation, was accomplished, and the Government became seriously embarrassed, and deferred from day to day to move the second reading of their Bill. To the surprise of every one, the Hon. Mr. Galt, who had pledged the Government in a speech before the meeting of Parliament to the bill they had introduced, for some reason or other retired from the ministry, and the Government withdrew its bill. There being no longer the same effective grounds to work on, the bill in behalf of the minority in Upper Canada had, of course, also to be dropped, and thus only Dr. O'Connor's efforts unsuccessful in getting the bill to a vote in the House. One thing, at the time, appeared certain, judging from the state of feelings in the House, that the Government measure in favor of the minority in Lower Canada could not have been

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