

CARDINAL GIBBONS

ANSWERS EX-PRESIDENT ELIOT OF HARVARD

SAYS "NO!" TO CLAIM THAT WAR HAS PROVED CHRISTIANITY A FAILURE

"'Is Christianity a failure?' When a man of the prominence of ex-President Eliot, of Harvard, asks this question and answers it in the affirmative, it is incumbent upon the Church to accept the gauntlet thus thrown down and to bring to bear against her antagonists her strongest

controversial weapons." Thus spoke His Eminence James, Cardinal Gibbons, writes Edward S. Van Zile in the Chicago American of January 28, as I sat with him in the of his residence adjoining the Cathedral in Baltimore, Mary land, His Eminence had granted me an audience that he might make public comment upon a recent utterance of ex-President Eliot, running

For nineteen hundred years the of Jesus of Nazareth have been in the world, but have had no effect to prevent or even reduce the evils of war, the greatest of the evils which afflict mankind. The ethical doctrines of Christianity in regard to justice, humility and mercy have not found expression in the relations between Christian nations, whether in peace or war, or indeed in the hisof institutional Christianity

I have great respect for Dr. Eliot as an intellectual force in the world, went on His Eminence thoughtfully, kindly smile playing across his delicately molded face, the counten-ance of a scholar, thinker, ascetic, who shows in the brightness of his grayish eyes and the activity of his slender frame evidence of the strong vitality that remains to him after more than eighty years of the most strenuous kind of ecclesiastical life.

Dr. Eliot has had a great career. His achievements in various lines of high endeavor are worthy of respect

> CALLS DR. ELIOT'S LACK OF APPRECIATION INCREDIBLE

Nevertheless," and here the smile faded from the Cardinal's face and was replaced by an expression of un-compromising sternness. "I am amazed at his sweeping denunciation of Christianity. It seems incredible that a man of his learning, experience and opportunities for observation should not realize that Christianity has been for centuries a softenelevating, civilizing influence

upon the human race." Suddenly his voice, hitherto carefully modulated, rang out harshiy:
"Is Dr. Eliot blind? When he can remove from my sight our ols, our asylums, our homes for the old and the poverty-stricken, our institutions for helping the afflicted of all kinds, for providing for the orphans and the friendless; when I can no longer see colleges and hos-pitals and temples for prayer and meditation scattered throughout the

world, then only will I admit that Christianity is a failure. When I can no longer see dispersed over the groaning earth that magnificent army of saintly men and women who are warring, in the name of Christ, against sin, and disease, and all forms of human weakness and error, then-and then only-will I acknowledge that Dr. Eliot is right and that I, and my Church, are

The Cardinal sat silent for a mo-Then he said gently:

Let us take, for example, our hospitals. I wonder if ex President Eliot ever reflects upon the significant fact that a hospital, in our sense of the term, is an institution having its direct origin in Christianity?

The great pagan civilization produced nothing of this nature. To Greece and Rome, in their days of greatest material splendor, hospitals were unknown. You may go through the writings of the classic authors of old with the most minute care and find nothing therein to suggest that before the time of Christ the basic idea underlying our word 'hospital' had come to the minds of men.

'If Christianity had done nothing more in the world than to make hospitals an adjunct of civilization, it could, upon that fact alone, base its claim that it had been something more praiseworthy than a dire fail-

"JESUS OF NAZARETH WAS NOT A PACIFIST"

The Cardinal sat back in his chair, and it seemed to me that his eyes suggested an inclination upon his part to allow me an opportunity to answer, if I was inclined to, the arguments that he had been presenting in behalf of his religion and his

Presently, after earnest consideration, I put to the Cardinal a question that precipitated the most dramatic moment of the afternoon.

"And what about the War, Your Eminence?"

eyes grown black with the fervor my

question had aroused. How dare Dr. Eliot imply that the Christ ever said anything against war ?" he returned sharply. they have beard at Harvard the prophecy. 'There shall be wars and of wars.' Dr. Eliot must know that the Christ said that He

His Eminence paused for moment, his pale, thin face slightly flushed by the earnestness of his

"Do not mistake my meaning," he urged presently. "Do not imagine, for a moment, that I am advocating warfare as a desirable, or even neceshuman activity. But I deny that there is anything in the authen ticated teachings of Jesus of Nazareth that would place Him among those whom we know today as pacifists. On the contrary, He repeatedly recognized the moral value of strife and conflict among men, and implied in all His teachings that warfare, the eternal struggle between good and evil, is inherent in the nature of the universe. 'Render unto Cæsar the things that are Cæsar's, and unto God the things that are God's.' these words the Christ makes a disthe lips of Him who came to bring not an olive-branch but a sword to earth.

CHRISTIANITY HAS MADE WARS LESS FREQUENT

The Cardinal paused, and leaning ack again in his chair, gazed musingly at the ceiling.

When we discuss the subject of war," he went on presently, 'we need historical bases for any conclusion we may reach. War, though it apparently has received divine Prof. Cramb asserted," I asked, "that and abnormal manifestation of human nature. We get the right recent centuries with those more remote

'In former ages war was universal and continuous; the main occupation of men in those dark times consisted in the slaughter of their

'Take, for instance, the seven hundred years in the history of Rome from the time of its founder, Romuthat whole period the Romans were in practically a permanent state of war. During these seven centuries they enjoyed only seven years of what could be reasonably called peace.

"Contrast this appalling record with that of the United States for the past century. We have had in that publicist."-Catholic Columbian. time only ten years of war—that is one year of war for ten years of peace in contrast with Rome's ten years of war for one year of peace. This decrease in the activities of war during the lapses of centuries can be traced directly to the influence of Christianity. It is a demonstrable fact that paganism has always made for war and Christianity for peace,"

moment, I ventured to ask: "Do you consider, Your Eminence, the expression 'civilized warfare' a living as estimated by the Don contradiction of terms?" I am of Government's Labor Bureau. diately:

unprincipled conqueror Titus, who, in the year 70 A. D., captured and partially destroyed Jerusalem. The details of his methods as warrior and on it. victor are frightful. Gibbon asserts to commemorate the glory of Titus and their own defeat and degradation. And the Romans of that period, who seem to have been strangely lacking in a sense of humor, conferred upon their slave making Emperor grandiloquent title of 'Glory of the Human Race."

His Eminence gazed dreamily at the sunset glow pouring through a western window into a room that seemed to me more than ever haunted by the grim shadows of mankind's bloody past.

Let us compare the record left by Emperor Titus with that of our own General Grant," suggested His Eminence presently. "Supposing that, at the end of our Civil War, Supposing General Grant had forced General Lee and his heroic followers into give him absolution for his sins! captivity and had compelled them to build in Washington a monument perpetuating the memory of their

failure and humiliation. 'Can you imagine for a moment that the American people, whether North or South of Mason and Dixon's line, would have permitted such barbaric outrage to be perpetrated? Stern and uncompromising as Grant the spirit of a Titus. Upon Grant's tomb are carved his immortal words:

Let us have peace!' "Would Dr. Eliot contend that enough? between the words and deeds of a Grant and those of a Titus there is nothing to show that Christianity, far from being a failure, is a strong, triumphant force in our modern

The Cardinal bent toward me with ence to voice his views regarding ost startling suddeness, his gray the tragedy now being enacted in grown black with the fervor my Europe, I could not refrain from the temptation to refer to Belgium, his recent words having brought that afflicted country vividly into my

mind. "Belgium,!" exclaimed His Eminence "How sad itallis, is it not? Iam actively engaged in raising funds for Cardinal that afflicted country. came to earth to bring not peace, but a sword."

His Eminence paused for a amount of suffering the world is called upon at present to endure.

"But is it not marvelous how all that is best, most Christlike, human nature has been brought forth by this great cataclysm of war? On the one side we see, with horror, man's inhumanity to man, but, on the other, gloriously resplendent appears what is noblest, most godlike in the soul of the race."

But the question of responsibility?" I could not refrain from exclaiming.

The Cardinal smiled sympathetic-You have in mind, I see, the

great problem of free will," he remarked. "But is there not given to nations, as to individuals, the power to make the crucial choice between good and evil? We must believe this. We must believe that there is a tinction that comes logically from divine purpose in it all that is being

"WHO CAN DOUBT GREATNESS OF AMERICA'S DESTINY ?" HE ASKS

"And the destiny of America?" I

'Who can doubt its greatness?" returned His Eminence warmly. "We came into the family of nations with a mission, and that mission grows constantly clearer to our sight

sanction, is inherently a pernicious in the modern world Corsica has con quered Galilee ?"

"As I have said," answered the light upon it only by employing a Cardinal gravely, rising to intimate long perspective and comparing that my audience with him was at "they who, like Dr. Eliot, an end, argues that war demonstrates the failure of Christianity reason upon false premises and so reach a false conclusion. "Christianity has prevailed upon

centuries of its increasing influence war has changed from a permanent manifestation of man's baser qualilus, to the age of Augustus. During ties into a sporadic and occasional.

"And until Dr. Eliot can bring proof to show that the Christ based the success of His mission upon earth upon the elimination of war from man's activities, his recent utterances will remain unworthy of his exalted position as a thinker and

A SUGGESTIVE COINCIDENCE

An interesting fact has developed in connection with the Patriotic Fund. It has been found that, broadly speaking, the sums granted from the Fund, as supplementary to separation allowance and the As the Cardinal paused for a assigned pay, bring the total income of families on the Fund, in each province, to a parity with the cost of living as estimated by the Dominion the belief that the great cleric did not result goes to confirm the substantial hear my query, for he went on imme- accuracy of the Labor Bureau's estimates, and also indicates that "There was that most efficient and the administrators of the Patriotic Fund in each province are keeping their grants reasonably close to the actual wants of the people dependent

Naturally, the cost of living inthat the siege of Jerusalem resulted in the annihilation of nearly a million therefore the grants from the Fund Jews. Large numbers of them were increase also. For illustration, the brutally massacred and thousands of average grant in Prince Edward them expatriated to Rome, to adorn Island is about \$10 per month, while the triumphal ceremonies attending in British Columbia it is nearly \$21 the return of Titus to that city. With most ingenious cruelty the Emperor about \$16. It is estimated that the compelled these captive Jews to degree of comfort ensured by the erect a monument in the Eternal City Patriotic Fund is practically the same in each Province, notwithstand. ing the difference in the average

DANTE GABRIEL ROSSETTI'S DEMAND FOR A PRIEST

A terribly significant passage, de scriptive of the last bours of Dante Gabriel Rossetti, is quoted by a cor-respondent to the London Tablet. It is taken from the "autobiographi cal Notes of the Life of William Bell Scott." The full import of the scene it pictures will be intelligible to the Catholic reader.

"A new idea had taken possession

of his mind, which caused us painful . . . At first no one took any notice of this demand for a confessor. about that,' was his puzzling reply: I can make nothing of Christianity, little, too!' some outsider in the

has always seemed to me a terrible passage." And well it might. Dante Gabriel Rossetti, he adds, was assuredly never a Catholic, although his poem "Ave" shows his acquaint ance with Catholic teaching and his first picture, "The Girlhood of Mary Virgin," with the sonnet accompany ing it, "This is that blessed Mary lect God's Virgin," is entirely Catholic in conception.—America.

PRISONERS OF WAR IN GERMANY

The Post Office Department is in receipt of a cablegram from the British authorities stating that no parcels containing food-stuffs or articles of clothing should be forwarded in future from Canada for

Prisoners of War in Germany. The British authorities represent that it is absolutely necessary that the above regulation should be complied Therefore, on and from the 1st February, 1917, the Post Office Department will refuse to accept any such parcels for prisoners of war in Germany. The Department is advised by the English authorities that such parcels cannot be accepted for transmission to the prisoners, and

could not get through.

The Canadian Red Cross Society through its London Office undertakes that every Canadian prisoner shall receive adequate relief in food and clothing, sending one parcel every week to each prisoner. Therefore, existing Organizations should continue their work of collecting funds to be sent to the Canadian Red Cross Society; and it is most desirable that they should not relax their efforts in this respect.

Persons desiring to have additional food or supplies sent to a Canadian Prisoner should send money for that Department, Canadian Red Cross

and asking the Prisoners of War townsfolk, as their water supply has Department, Canadian Red Cross Society, to send food or other articles to a prisoner of war should be addressed to the Prisoners of War Department, Canadian Red Cross earth in spite of war, and during the Society, and should contain information in the following form-

No. 12345 Pte. A. G. Robinson, 48th Highlanders, Canadian Contingent, B. E. F.,

Canadian Prisoner of War, Gottingen, Germany, c/o Prisoners of War Dpt. Canadian Red Cross Society.

The remittance should be in the form of a Post Office Money Order drawn in favour of the Prisoners of War Department, Canadian Red Cross Society, for the Prisoner of War in Any person wishing to send a re-

mittance direct to a Prisoner of War may do so by means of a Post Office Money Order, which is issued free of Commission. Instructions as to how to proceed can be obtained from Postmasters of Accounting Post Parcels for prisoners of war con-

taining articles which are not pro hibited, may be sent fully addressed to the place of destination in the form above care of Prisoners of War Department, Canadian Red Cross Society, London, England, to be forwarded after they have been censored.

Detailed regulations respecting communication with Prisoners of War are being issued to the Postal Service generally, and full information may be obtained by making at \$25,000; site for Cathedral School application to any Postmaster.

CLERICAL HEROISM

PARIS ARCHDIOCESE HAS LOST SIXTY OF ITS PRESTS IN WAR

Paris, Jan. 11, 1917. The French army counts amongst its members thousands of priests, many of whom have been cited in the Order of the day and have received decorations, but few have yet reached the superior grades in the army. A Canon is the first amongst French ecclesias tics to receive the honor of wearing four galons on the kepi and sleeve Canon Remond, Chaplain of the Lycee of Besancon, and Captain of the 54th Territorials, has been nominated Chef de Batillon in the same regiment. He has already been twice cited in the Order of the day, and has received the Legion of Honor for his fine conduct on the Somme. Cardinal Amette, Archbishop of Paris, in his New Year reception to his Cures, spoke of the sixty priests of the archdiocese of Paris who have fallen on the field of honor. His Eminence also wrote a touching letearnest repetition, with his eyes open, I for one put him in mind of his not being a Papist, and of his his not being a Papist, and of his extreme agnosticism. 'I don't care bringing them that interior peace which was so precious in the of the fracas of battles. Speaking to the few clergy left in the parishes Stern and uncompromising as Grant was as a warrior, he showed in his hour of victory that the spirit of Christ was infinitely more powerful in America even when the passions of fratricidal war were still hot, than the spirit of a Titus. Upon Grant's Tammake nothing of Christianity, but I only want a confessor to give me absolution for my sins! This was so truly like a man living, or rather dying, in A.D. 1300, that it was impossible to do anything but to the Church's spirit. He also asked them to keep before the minds asked them to keep before the minds of the people, the parishes the few clergy left in the parishes the factor of the parishes the few clergy left in the smile. Yet he was serious and went on: 'I believe in a future life. Have I not had evidence of that the collection of the birth-Have I not heard and seen rate, called for their cooperation in enough? Have I not heard and seen those that died long years ago? What I want now is absolution for my sins, that's all!' 'And very little, too!' some outsider in the work of the Cures for the national work of the Cures for the national room whispered, as a gloomy joke.
None of us, the deeply interested few six millions of gold in the banks of Realizing as I did that it would be in bad taste for me to ask His Emin. word." (ii. 307-8.)

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THE "LOURDES OF WALES"

WATER OF ST. WINEFRIDE'S WELL CEASES TO FLOW, FOLLOWING MINING ACCIDENT

The famous well of St. Winefride at Holywell, in Wales, has suddenly run dry. The news will cause regret amongst Catholics all the world over, as the well was justly termed the "Lourdes of Wales." The well was situated at the bottom of a steep hill, and many were the cures which wrought there, as is testified by the crutches, sticks and other apparatus which were left behind by grateful clients of St. Winefride wh to show the world that they had really been cured. It is said that two thousand gallons an hour flowed purpose to the Prisoners of War into the baths; there was one for women and another for men.

The stoppage of the water has not A letter containing a remittance alone affected the well, but also the ceased also. The stoppage is due to the fact that some workmen who were draining an abandoned lead mine in the vicinity blew in an obstruction, and diverted the water downhill into Bagilt, and thence by way of a ditch into the river .-Philadelphia Standard and Times.

SCHOLARSHIPS

TO SEPARATE SCHOOLS FROM CATHOLIC SOCIETIES

Hamilton Times, Feb. 6

At the meeting of the Separate School Board last evening a report was brought in by the special committee appointed to revise the insur It reported that some changes had been made in insuring buildings and contents, in every instance more

being added.

Several offers of scholarships were received, which the board accepted with thanks. They are to be offered for composition, and come from the Knights of Columbus, Catholic Orders of Foresters and Hibernians.

Special committees were appointed for the purpose of visiting each of the schools every two weeks during the year. They will report on the conditions and surroundings of the schools which are visited.

A vote of thanks was passed to His Lordship Bishop Dowling for many favors and gifts. During the past five years he gave the following: Site for St. Patrick's School, valued valued at \$15 000; site for St. Ann's School, valued at \$25,000; Mount Carmel site and school, \$4.000; gift to construction of Cathedral Schoo \$5,000, and a similar amount to the construction of St. Ann's School.

It was reported that Mr. Edwards, caretaker of St. Vincent's School, was unable to fulfil his duties. The board decided to pay his salary during his illness.

Accounts totalling \$1,150 were passed by the board. Chairman W. D. Keating presided.

KEARNEY .- In London, on May 10 1916, Mrs. Mary Ann Kearney, wife of R. J. Kearney. May her soul rest in

KEARNEY .- In London, on January 10, 1917, Mr. T. W. Kearney, son of Mr. R. J. and the late Mrs. Mary Ann Kearney, aged twenty seven years. May his soul rest in peace. Kearney.-In London, on February

6, 1917, Miss Margaret, daughter of Mr. R. J. and the late Mrs. Mary Ann Kearney, aged twenty years. May her soul rest in peace. BLANCHFIELD.—At Osgoode, Ont. on Jan. 27th, 1917, Terese M. Dolan.

beloved wife of Chas. Blanchfield, aged fifty years. May her soul rest BELL.-At Wyman, Que., on Jan. 27, 1917, Mr. Peter Francis Bell, one of the most highly respected residents of Bristol Township, aged seventy years. May his soul rest in

peace. TOBIN.-At St. Mary's Hospital, Minneapolis, Minn., on January 10, 1917, after a short illness of pneu-1917, after a short illness of pneu-nonia, James Angus Tobin, of Moose Jaw, Sask., formerly of Smith's Falls, Ont., aged thirty-eight years. May

Charity to our neighbor is more pleasing to God than solitude and pious thoughts.—St. Teresa.

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paid at his hest bank rate on savings deposits of \$1.00 and upwards.

"A man may, if he knows not how to save as he gets, keep his nose all his life to the

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