

The Catholic Register.

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

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Register of the Week.

The Prohibition Commission has evolved a good deal of evidence and newspaper correspondence upon the subject. As might be expected, it varies, although the temperance opinion back of it is unchanged and displays a healthy state of the public mind upon this very important social virtue. Goldwin Smith appeared with a straightforward letter against prohibition, on the ground that it interferes with individual liberty, and that no legislative measure can eradicate the evil of drink. He advocates the use of wine and beer as substitutes for the stronger and more injurious liquors. This letter called forth a number of replies, forcible in argument and more temperate in language than prohibitionists usually employ.

We should like to see the Commission extend its sessions and take evidence of the working of prohibition in one or more of the United States where it has had a trial. The evidence placed before it, so far, concerns the evils of drink, and what were the indications of public opinion in the Province. It is really very desirable to find out how such an act works. Prohibitory measures, which are partial because they are confined to a limited locality, were not a success: in fact they demoralized the districts in which they were tried. Would it be the same with Provincial prohibition? If the evidence upon this point is not more unanimous than upon the questions already answered by witnesses, better have temperance grow naturally and leave prohibition alone.

A Russian view of the state of Italy's finances appears in the Roman correspondence of the *Irish Catholic*. It was stated some time ago in a Berlin journal that war between France and Italy was at hand, and that Italy had an arm by which she would surely conquer France. The arm was a declaration of bankruptcy. The French people understood the situation and allowed the ever shrinking Italian stocks to drift into the German market. The French Government has not been so careful. It has been the creditor of Italy to an enormous extent. France is a member of the Latin Monetary League; and the coins of Italy, depreciated as they are elsewhere, are received in France at par, and consequently France is inundated with them. If France withdraws from the League then Italy is obliged to redeem all her silver by paying its normal value in gold, which, according to computation, would cause Italy a loss of 250,000,000 of francs. If France does not withdraw, Italian silver continues to flow into France. When war breaks out,

Italy declares herself bankrupt and France will have her hands full of worthless silver.

The Russian journal concludes that, by remaining in the League, France is sustaining Italy to the great advantage of the Triple Alliance, and she is putting it in the power of Italy to strike a terrible blow at French finance in case of war.

Reports appeared in the telegraphic despatches during the week concerning the Holy Father's health, stating that he was suffering from nervousness, which caused anxiety to those near him. It is gratifying to find that these coined rumors are not true, and that the Venerable Pontiff was able to enjoy the delightful October weather in the Vatican gardens for a longer time this year than usual.

The following address has been issued by Justin McCarthy in the interests of evicted tenants:

FELLOW COUNTRYMEN—As Chairmen of the Irish Parliamentary Party I venture to address to you an urgent appeal on behalf of the evicted tenants.

It was in order that the Home Rule Bill might be carried through the House of Commons in the face of unprecedented difficulties and delays that the claims of the evicted tenants were not this year forced upon the attention of Parliament.

The evicted tenants have consented to undergo a further period of suffering and suspense rather than that their individual interests should be insisted upon to the prejudice of our National cause. They have made this further sacrifice in the confidence that the Irish Party will not brook a day's unnecessary delay in the Parliamentary settlement of their claims, and that their fellow-countrymen will not desert them in the interval.

I venture to express a confident belief that in their reliance upon the Irish people and the Irish Party they will not be disappointed. The Government have pledged themselves to give a bill for the reinstatement of unjustly evicted tenants a front place among the Ministerial measures of next session. It is difficult to imagine that any class of the community will be able to bring themselves to offer an irreconcilable opposition to a measure which is universally acknowledged to be the first condition of permanent peace in the country.

But before Parliament can come to the rescue there must elapse an interval during which evicted tenants must rely upon the generosity of their fellow-countrymen alone to sustain them and preserve their children from starvation. Their need is most urgent, the funds subscribed for their relief are exhausted, the Irish Party are not in a position to make any further provision for the evicted tenants out of their own slender resources, and no other source of supply is at this moment available.

Under these circumstances we have no alternative but to appeal to the ever-generous hearts of our fellow-countrymen to save from privation and ruin men to whose self-sacrifice and endurance our nation's cause owes a never-to-be forgotten debt. To recount their sufferings or the advantages which their brother tenants and their country owe to their struggle would be but repeating facts which are present to the mind of every Nationalist, and as to which all sections of our people are absolutely united.

Owing to the necessity for an immediate and constant attendance of the Irish members at Westminster it will not be possible for us to make an appeal to the country in detail by means of county conventions. We shall have to rely upon the usual parochial organizations to undertake the work of collection as promptly as may be found possible in the circumstances of the different districts.

Deeply though we grieve to be obliged to have recourse once more to the generosity of our already overburdened country, I trust and believe the response will be one which

will attest the confidence of the Irish people in their representatives, will discharge cheerfully a debt of national honour and gratitude, and convey a message of relief and confidence to the starving families of the evicted tenants.

All subscriptions, as heretofore, should be made payable to the National Trustees, Messrs. Justin McCarthy, Thomas Sexton and John Dillon, and all communications in connection with this fund should be addressed to "The National Trustees, care of David Sheehy, M.P., 20 Rutland Square, Dublin. Signed, JUSTIN MCCARTHY.

London, Oct. 21st, 1893.

The death of Dr. Knox, Protestant Archbishop of Armagh and Primate of all Ireland, on the 28th of October, has removed not a high dignitary only, but a large minded, learned and courteous gentleman. He was born in 1808. His death excited regret amongst all classes wherever he was known.

John Redmond, leader of the Parnellites, comes out with a statement of which the following is a portion:

"It is, in our opinion, necessary that Ireland should continue, in Mr. Gladstone's own words, to 'block the way.' No, we cannot consent to postpone Home Rule for the Newcastle programme, and whatever power we possess must be used to prevent any such fatal calamity occurring.

"What, then, is our position? On the one hand we insist upon Ireland blocking the way' and protest against an indefinite hanging up of Home Rule; on the other hand, we recognize that, owing to the change which the destruction of Parnell brought over the position, prestige and power of our cause, Gladstone cannot, perhaps, afford to dissolve Parliament without some dealing with British affairs.

"We are prepared for a compromise autumn session. Just now the commencement is to be devoted to two British bills of great importance—Employers Liability and Paris Councils bills—we are willing to attend to support them on the condition of one single week being devoted between now and the end of the year to passing the Evicted Tenants' bill—to restore the thousands of victims of landlordism to their homes.

"Surely this is a moderate demand. The session of 1894 will commence in January, and we are quite content that it should be devoted, in the main, to British reforms, but upon two conditions—the bills to be dealt with must be bills likely to help Home Rule, such as the Registration bill for widening and extending the franchise, and not bills such as the new Liquor bill, which is certain to divide the Liberals and lessen their chances at the polls.

"Secondly, if we agree to support these British measures and to have Home Rule in the meantime hung up we must have a clear and definite understanding that the dissolution of Parliament will not be delayed. It must take place at the end of 1894, or, at the latest, when the new Registration of Electors law takes force.

"On these conditions we are content to help purely British measures during all next year, and to agree that during the year the Home Rule bill should not again be introduced in the House of Commons.

The English Parliament opened its full session on the 2nd instant with little public attention and in the presence of but few members. Mr. Fowler, President of the Local Government Board, moved the second reading of the parish councils bill, which provides for councils in parishes similar to the county councils, elected annually. They are to take over all the existing powers of vestries, excepting what concerns church affairs and church charities, and they are to have control of parish property, land allotments, roads, water supply, local watching and lighting and sanitation. It was well received by all the House,

and will create no party controversy, the Conservatives criticizing only a few of the details.

Special despatches from South Africa state that the troops under the command of Major Forbes occupied Buluwayo, the capital of King Lobengula, after severe fighting, in which the Matabeles suffered heavily. Gatling guns and British bravery were too much for savages armed only with their native weapons.

Later in the week came reports that Lobengula was captured. This monarch is described as a man of great force of character, whose will is law, and whose law is cruel to extreme. Some years ago his sister ruled his household. When he married the daughter of a neighboring king the sister became quite jealous, which greatly displeased Lobengula. To get rid of the annoyance he had her smothered. Clever, he reads character with great quickness and correctness; and, being deceitful himself, he is always on his guard against being deceived. What would he have done if he had seen his picture in last Saturday's *Globe and Mail*?

The Spaniards are having a harder time against the Moors than was at first anticipated. F. General Macias, who succeeds Gen. Margallo in command, has adopted the system of worrying the enemy by repeated sorties, alarms and cannonades. The 7,500 troops are strong enough for defensive purposes, and later advices gave a more cheerful account of the Spanish position. The Spanish Cruiser *Conde de Venadito* has prevented the Rifians from occupying any place of strategy; while the forts keep shelling tribesmen who are striving to erect trenches. Before the sortie made by General Ortega the Spaniards were in serious difficulties; food and water supplies were exhausted and communication with Melilla interrupted. General Ortega made a dashing sortie notwithstanding the heavy fire of the Rifians, who failed by their bad aim. Through the trenches the Spaniards burst with fixed bayonets and routed the Rifians, who fled in great disorder.

Very Rev. Edward Sorin, Superior General of the Order of the Holy Cross, founder of the University of Notre Dame, and first editor of the *Ave Maria*, died last week. Father Sorin was born near Paris in 1814. He graduated at the University of Paris, afterwards studied for the priesthood, and was ordained in 1838. In about a year he felt a desire to become a missionary among the American Indians. With a view towards this he entered the Order of the Holy Cross. He was shortly after appointed Bishop of Bengal, but declined. He came to America in 1841 and devoted his time and work to the Indians of Indiana. He was instructed to abandon this field by the Superior of his Order, who directed him to establish schools wherever opportunity offered. He arrived at the present site of Notre Dame on November 24, 1842, with but \$5 to begin the work. It was thus the foundation of Notre Dame was laid; and owing to the great energy of its founder, who crossed the Atlantic fifty times in its interest, has become one of the first Catholic educational institutions of the United States.