

The True



Witness

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Obeying God, Not Man.

Mgr. Vaughan, who is thoroughly conversant with the details of the present French situation, thus says of the present conditions in France:

The conditions of affairs in France seem to be but little understood in America. If it were understood it would arouse a feeling of the greatest indignation throughout this country. The Americans love liberty and offer to all freedom to serve God as their consciences dictate. In France there is the greatest profession of freedom, but it is mere empty sound, signifying nothing.

The words "liberty, fraternity and equality" are emblazoned in large letters on the walls of the great public buildings, but these words find no place in the laws, and no echo in the hearts of the legislators. On the contrary, where the Church is concerned the greatest tyranny and injustice everywhere prevail. The French Government is not Catholic, it is not even Christian. Nay it is strongly anti-Christian. Hence its continual attacks upon the Bishops, priests and religious persons whose only offence is fidelity to their religion and to their God.

So long as the civil government confines itself within its proper and legitimate sphere, it would find no more loyal, no more devoted subjects than Catholics, but when it breaks through its proper boundaries and attempts to trample under foot the rights of conscience and the laws of God, then we all admit that obedience in such matters would be but another name for perfidy and apostasy, to which death itself is greatly to be preferred.

What the French Government is asking is that we should not alone render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's but also the things that are God's. But this can never be. When a choice has to be made between God and man, between our duty toward the State and toward Him "by whom Kings reign and the princes of earth exercise their power," there can be no room for hesitation. We must prefer God. From the time of the Apostles this has been recognized, and will always be recognized as the only course that an honest man can take. When St. Peter himself, in obedience to his divine Master, openly proclaimed the teaching of Christ, and promulgated the great truths of the Gospel, he, too, was abused and hounded down as a rebel. The authorities were angry, and summoning him before them they bade him desist, saying, "Commanding, we command you that you should not teach in the name of Christ." And what did the great Apostle reply? Did he quietly submit to this unwarranted exercise of authority? Did he meekly obey the law of the land? No; he replied as a true Christian will always reply, namely, "We ought to obey God, rather than man."

The Catholic Church was founded by Christ, who is as truly God as He is man, and from Him is derived its beginning, its hierarchy, its laws and its mission. None of the ecclesiastical powers which are proper and essential to the Church are derived from any earthly authority—they come from God. The Pope, successor of St. Peter, has been appointed by God, as its supreme chief. "To Thee do I give the Keys of the Kingdom of Heaven." He holds from God his rights and duties. "As the Father hath sent Me, so I send you."

Protestant churches are altogether different. The King of England is head of the Established Church, the Emperor of Russia of the Orthodox Church, the Emperor William of the Evangelical Church, and so on. But the Catholic Church is neither the servant nor the mental of any earthly sovereign, nor of any temporal government. And no Catholic who respects himself will give up his religious convictions or abandon the teaching of Christ at the bidding of any one whatsoever. Rather than do so he will do what Cardinal Fisher and Blessed Thomas More and hundreds of other heroic and noble souls did in England in the sixteenth century. He will shed his

blood, knowing that death is better a thousand times than perfidy.

The French government has withdrawn salaries from the priests and bishops. In fact, of course, they may set all laws of equity and justice at defiance. There is nothing new in this. It helps to confirm the truth of the Catholic Church, for we see in it the fulfillment of God's words, "They have persecuted Me, and they will persecute you." They may even imitate the early Roman emperors, who put tens of thousands of Christians to death, on the very plea urged by the French ministers, that Christianity is a danger and a menace to the State.

I must say I never consider the State of France without thinking of the old fable of the wolf and the lamb drinking from the same stream. The lamb of course is at fault, and the wolf is always the innocent party. The French government has been striving in every way possible during the past twenty-five years to pick a quarrel with the Church, and has sought, little by little, to deprive it of every scrap of liberty, until at last a stand had to be made. The government seeks to place the Church of God under its heel, and in order to exercise pressure it has recourse to many infamous means.

For example it has suppressed the stipends due bishops and priests, yet nothing can authorize such injustice except the right of might. Such actions, odious enough in themselves, are rendered still more odious when applied by a minister who is himself a laicized seminarian, as in the present case.

The bishops are not officeholders and their stipends are not salaries. The stipends which they have been receiving until lately are simply indemnities or compensations. The American people do not realize the origin of these stipends. So let me explain. Suppose I possessed a landed estate which gives me \$100,000 a year, and that some one more powerful turns me out and takes forcible possession of my house and land. Is this not downright robbery? Certainly.

Let us further suppose that after a time the robber dies and his sons, under pressure from the courts of justice, at last agree to see that justice is done. He regrets that he cannot return me my actual estate, which has been divided and is now owned by various persons. But he agrees to pay me \$100,000 a year, which is its equivalent.

This annuity is my due. It is not a loan, nor a salary, nor a gift, it is what belongs to me by absolute right. If at any period he should refuse to pay then he does me a gross injustice. Yet this is precisely how the French government is now treating the Catholic Church. The goods of the Church were confiscated, and when Napoleon arose in his strength to put things right, and to produce order out of chaos, he was able to persuade the Pope of that day to leave the purchasers of those ecclesiastical goods in peaceful possession, simply because Napoleon undertook to indemnify the Church in another way, namely, by assuring to all the bishops and parish priests a suitable stipend.

Hence the government can no more in justice deprive the bishops and priests of these stipends than a company can justly deprive me of the interest of the money that I have loaned to it at an agreed percentage.

Not one person in one hundred in the United States seems to realize the nature of the separation of Church and State which has been brought about in France. People fancy the Church there is placed in the same position as it is here in America. Were this true, then there would be nothing to fear, and France would soon become more Catholic than ever. But this is in no sense the case. The separation simply means that the government disavows all its obligations to the Church while it reserves to itself the right to persecute and tyrannize over it, and to restrict its liberty just as it pleases.

Outsiders talk very glibly of the duty of obeying the law of the land, but let me ask every law that an unscrupulous government chooses to make to be obeyed? When Herod commanded all the male children under two years of age to be slain, did that law carry with it the obligation of obedience? When the law demanded the execution of Christ did that possess any binding force? Is there to be no limit to the exercise of civil authority?

The Pope is a great lover of peace, but there is one thing he loves far more, and that is truth. He has done all that it was possible to do to conciliate the French government and to smooth the way, but when asked to do wrong and to sacrifice the essential liberties of the Church, of course, he replies as a true successor of St. Peter, "We ought to obey God rather than man." In England St. Thomas of Canterbury died a martyr's death in defence of the liberties of the Catholic Church, and Pope Pius X. breathes the same splendid and magnanimous spirit to-day. He will never betray his charge, for he is as firm as he is gentle.

It is impossible, of course, to look into the womb of time and see what it is going to bring forth, but the powers of darkness and irreligion are so powerful in France just now that I greatly fear there will be a period of storm and violence before the atmosphere clears. In the long run, however, and after passing through a dark night of trouble, I think the light of a brighter day will dawn, and that the Church will become a power in France. A great part of the nation is absolutely rotten, but if some judicious cutting and pruning can be done—and persecution is often an agent in God's hands—then we may still hope for the recovery to spiritual health of this once great people.

An Irish Saint.

"An Important Artistic Discovery" is the heading of a paragraph in "Fanfulla della Domenica" of December 2nd. And in the paragraph it is told that Corrado Ricci, the Governmental Superintendent of Picture Galleries and Art Collections in the Kingdom of Italy, has charged the painter, Vincenzo Perazzo, to carry out an inspection of the churches in the neighborhood of Florence in order to take an inventory of the artistic works, unknown or forgotten, so as to render their preservation more easy and to safeguard them from the frequent robberies which happen. In the course of his inspection he found numerous works in painting and sculpture of much merit; but the most notable of his discoveries was that made in the church of San Marino a Mensola (Florence). Between the setting of the altar frontal and the altar, Perazzo noticed traces of paintings. Having removed some stones, there was discovered a sarcophagus formed of wood finely carved, with gilded bas-reliefs and pictures well preserved. This, as is evident from the records of the time, belongs to a certain Blessed Andrew, who was buried here in 1300. The pictures represent exactly the salient events in the life of the saint.

This is the matter of the paragraph. The interest of the information for us is in the fact that the saint referred to is an Irish saint!

The Care of a Baby.

A baby that does not eat well and sleep well, that is not cheerful and playful, needs attention, or the result may be serious. Stomach and bowel troubles make children cross and sleepless, but a dose of Baby's Own Tablets soon cures the trouble, the child sleeps soundly and naturally and wakes up bright and smiling. Mrs. J. E. Harley, Worthington, Ont., says: "My little one has had no medicine but Baby's Own Tablets since she was two months old and they have kept her the picture of good health." You can get Baby's Own Tablets from any druggist or by mail at 25 cents a box from The Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

Mr. Edmund Guerin Appointed Judge of Superior Court.

Mr. Edmund Guerin, K.C., was gazetted at a meeting of the Federal Cabinet on Monday last to succeed Mr. Justice Doherty on the Bench of the Superior Court for the district of Montreal. An able lawyer, and a man of sound judgment and distinguished manners, Mr. Guerin's friends all feel proud of his elevation.

Edmund Guerin is the fourth son of the late Thomas Guerin, C.E., of the Public Works Department, Ottawa. He was born in this city in 1858, and educated at Montreal College and McGill, where he won the gold medal in English literature the Dufferin medal in modern languages, and was elected valedictorian in 1878. After taking his B.A., he proceeded with his law course, taking his B.C.L. in 1881, when he



MR. JUSTICE GUERIN.

was again elected valedictorian. In the same year he was called to the Montreal Bar, where he has ever since practiced with growing success. He has been connected with various firms in the city, amongst his partners having been Messrs. G. G. Foster, J. N. and R. A. E. Greenshields, E. B. Busted, Judge McCorkill and the late Judge Madore.

Until the Montreal Pilots' Court was merged into the Exchequer Court, a year ago, Mr. Guerin was the local commissioner thereof.

In the summer of 1903 Mr. Guerin was appointed English-speaking crown prosecutor, since which time he has necessarily devoted much of his time to criminal work—the more so as he speaks French as well as English, and took cases, indiscriminately in either tongue. He had charge for the crown of many very important cases, including the famous Slater murder case at Three Rivers, the Hackett murder case here, the Laderoute murder case at Bryson, and two years ago the Giacconi murder case, in which the Italian was condemned to death, although later his sentence was commuted to life imprisonment. Mr. Guerin also acted for the Crown in numerous usury cases here, and in the Hamel case, against the defaulting treasurer of the Brotherhood of Telegraphers.

He also made his mark in many important civil cases. Up to the time of his elevation to the Bench he was counsel in the case of the William Grace Company, of Chicago, against Sir William Macdonald, in which \$125,000 is involved in connection with the Macdonald Agricultural College now being built.

Mr. Guerin unsuccessfully contested Montreal Centre in the Liberal interests in 1891, when he was defeated by the present Judge Curran. He was for some years vice-president of the Montreal Liberal Club, and was a delegate to the Ottawa convention of 1895. He has been married twice: first, in 1895, to Marie, daughter of the late John Evans, of New Orleans, who died some years ago, and in 1904 to Mary Catherine, daughter of Samuel H. Sexton, of Cess City, Indiana.

Abbey's Effervescent Salt

"TYPHOID"

This preparation puts the whole system in the best possible condition to avoid the above very prevalent malady and resist its enervating effects. A morning glass—a dessertspoonful in a tumbler of tepid water—you will not regret.

ALL DRUGGISTS, 25 and 60c. BOTTLE.

Cardinal Moran on Irish Prospect

A Warning Against Faction and an Appeal to Patriotism.

The Sydney Freeman's Journal reports a remarkable speech by Cardinal Moran at Sydney on November 17, on the occasion of the departure of Messrs. Devlin and Donovan for Ireland after a mission magnificently successful.

THE CARDINAL'S ADDRESS.

His Eminence the Cardinal said:—Before entering on the immediate purpose of our meeting, I may be permitted to congratulate the Irish envoys on the complete success which has attended their campaign of patriotism amongst us. They have visited all the States of our Southern Continent, and have at countless meetings been everywhere accorded the honors of a triumph. I congratulate them on their admirable statement of Ireland's claims, so eloquent, so conclusive, so distinctly based upon the primary principles of justice and equity, as to leave nothing to be desired. The many friends of Ireland have been quickened with fresh ardour, and those who hitherto stood aloof from the Home Rule movement have aroused themselves convinced of the necessity and loyalty of that measure and have become champions of the Irish cause (applause).

WORTHY ENVOYS.

No more worthy envoys could have been chosen to come amongst us. They have proved themselves valiant champions of their native land, admirable representatives of the Irish Parliamentary Party, and excellent gifted sons of Ireland. I congratulate them not only on advocating the essential measure of Home Rule, but further, on having associated themselves with every movement—religious, educational, charitable, and patriotic—reflecting Celtic life in Australia, thus uniting the whole of our national strength in combating for the just claims of Ireland (applause). I congratulate them also on the unanimity and enthusiasm with which, by young and old, their crusade was greeted. Just as of old the cry, "Dieu le Veut," arose from the hearts of Christendom, even so, spontaneously from countless generous hearts, the cry came forth, and found an echo throughout Australia, "justice and the interests of the Empire demand Home Rule." Nor was this cry a mere empty sound. Munificent gifts have poured in, to sustain the Irish Parliamentary Party in their momentous struggle, and the sons of our fair Australia have avowed their determination to use every legitimate means to secure a triumph of Ireland's cause. And in this reference may I not signalize the singularly important address forwarded to our most gracious Sovereign by the Representative Assembly of our Commonwealth Parliament, and the no less emphatic address of the Senate, praying that this measure of imperative justice may not be delayed. A crowning grace was added to this petition when a few weeks ago, amid the jubilant acclaim of all Australia, the illustrious standard-bearer of the petitioners, the Hon. Mr. Higgins, was promoted to the Bench in the High Court of Justice of our Commonwealth (applause).

A NATIONAL CRIME

every attempt to sow discord in the ranks of Irish patriotism. They will tell their fellow-representatives that everything connected with the old Emerald Land is dear to us. We love every shamrock of her hills, and every daisy of her wide-spreading fields; we cherish her sanctuaries, and shrines, her traditions, her holy wells, her ruins; but, above all, we have at heart the living interests of her people, and we are resolved, to use every constitutional means to sustain those trusted representatives who, in the spirit of genuine patriotism, devote their lives to redress her grievances and to assert her just claims (applause).

MALACHY'S PROPHECY.

Is not the time at hand when the sea-divided Gael may look forward with eagerness to the complete fulfillment of the prophecy of the great St. Malachy, when on the vigil of being summoned to his reward he foretold that after seven centuries of suffering and humiliation Ireland's glory would be renewed: "With terrible discipline long shall she be purified (he said), but afterwards, far and wide, shall her magnificence shine forth in cloudless glory. And, O, Ireland, do thou lift up thy head. Thy day shall come, a day of ages. Thy light shall burst forth as the sun, and thy glory shall not pass away. There shall be peace and abundance within thy boundaries, and beauty and strength in thy defence." And then, in a loud and joyous voice, he exclaimed: "Now, O Lord, dost Thou dismiss Thy servant in peace. The Church of God in Ireland shall never fail, and, though long shall it be desired, my country shall one day stand forth in its might and be fresh in its beauty like the rose." (Cheers.)

THE DEFENCE OF JUSTICE.

It has been said by a few of our citizens that whilst we are in need of so many charitable, religious and educational institutions in Australia, and have no resources except the voluntary offerings of our friends on which to rely for their support, it is indiscreet to lessen those resources by sending money out of the

country to promote a measure which, no matter how just and patriotic, has no immediate connection with ourselves. It is quite true that we have to rely solely on the generosity of our many friends, Protestant and Catholic, for the support of our various institutions; but I am confident that that generosity shall not be lessened in any way by the Home Rule appeal. The defence of Justice cannot but add strength and vigor to the claims of Charity, and Divine Providence will not fail to recompense alike each sacred cause. No matter how great our own need may be, it is a fond duty which nature itself dictates that we should listen to a mother's appeal. Ireland is our motherland; and it is in the genuine spirit of filial piety that we endeavor to contribute in an humble way to redress her grievances and heal her wounds (applause).

MESSAGE TO THE MOTHER LAND.

As this is probably the last time I may have the opportunity of publicly addressing those worthy envoys of Ireland, I will ask them to be the bearers of a greeting and a message to our motherland. I will ask them to say to her that her Australian sons and their many friends in Australia are all Home Rulers, and that we are all indissolubly associated with the Parliamentary Party that is loyally advocating her just claims. We rejoice in the partial victories which, by their unflinching resolve and united strength, those champions of her rights have already achieved; we confidently look forward to future success and final triumph; and we desire most emphatically to deprecate as a folly and

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