

The Catholic Record.

"Christianus mihi nomen est Catholicus vero Cognomen."—(Christian is my Name, but Catholic my Surname)—St. Pacien, 4th Century

VOLUME XXX.

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2089

HIS SAVING BLOOD

The story may be found in legend lore,
That long ago when Christ was crucified,
And hung in mortal pain upon His cross,
The barren ground in reddest blood was dyed.
And whoso'er a precious blood-drop fell,
There bloomed a rose with petals crimson red,
Till all that stony hill—so legend goes—
Was changed into a fragrant flower bed.
Today I know those precious blood-drops flow
Each morning at our Calvary—the Mass;
And, bent in prayer, my sinful heart entreats
The same glad miracle may come to pass—
That He who in the days of long ago
Caused blossoms from the arid ground to start
May pour His saving Blood upon my soul,
And wake the sleeping roses of my heart.

THOMAS A. BURKE.

THE BABBLING OF MR. BABIZE

Buffalo Union and Times

Anthony Matre, K. S. G., national secretary of the Catholic Federation of the U. S. A., takes issue with Auguste C. Babize of the Investment News who has published an editorial and is circulating a pamphlet entitled: "Pope Benedict, the Hun, and Peace Propaganda."

Mr. Babize, who is also president of the Investment Co., has announced himself as a candidate for the United States Congress (he has since withdrawn his name). He makes charges which reflect upon the earnest efforts made by Pope Benedict XV. with regard to the establishment of a just and lasting peace. Mr. Babize charges:

(1) That Catholics are disappointed and discouraged by the attitude of the Pope.
(2) That Cardinal Mercier and the people of Belgium received little sympathy from the Pope.

(3) That President Wilson gave a stunning rebuke to the Pope.
As a reply to these charges we print herewith the statements made by Mr. Babize, and the statements made by Pope Benedict XV. with regard to the establishment of a just and lasting peace. Mr. Babize's accusations are justified:

POPE BENEDEKT AND CATHOLICS

Mr. Babize says:

"There is hardly a country in the civilized world to-day where Roman Catholics do not predominate. These Roman Catholics are not only disappointed and discouraged but distraught because of the attitude of the head of the Church, Benedict XV., (meaning no doubt, Benedict XV., representative of the Prince of Peace, in direct line the descendant of Peter, the beloved Disciple, Defender of the Faith, Pope Benedict, while eloquently discoursing on peace, has lifted neither his powerful voice, nor his finger, to check or denounce the barbarous atrocities perpetrated in all invaded countries by the Hun."

Catholics say:

The Catholic Federation of the United States voicing the sentiments of eighteen million Catholics at its last convention held in Kansas City, Mo., said: "The Catholic Federation of the United States reverently and joyfully acclaim the action of our Most Holy Father, Benedict XV., in his proposal of a basis for the negotiation of peace between the warring nations; and that we mark with pardonable pride the accord between the articles of agreement offered by the Supreme Pontiff and the tentative suggestions formerly made by the President of the United States."

"We acknowledge the timely intervention of His Holiness as a distinct advance towards the defence of humanity and the preservation of democracy in His insistence upon the principles of Christian charity and justice."

"We recognize the eminent fitness of definite initiative on the part of the Vicar of the Prince of Peace to bring about the abolition of all war and perpetually to maintain concord between Christian rulers."

"Foremost among the leaders of the world, Pope Benedict deserves our deepest gratitude for all that he has done to accomplish in ameliorating the sad condition of captives and wounded, and in lessening the dire hardships of those who have been rendered homeless and destitute by the ravages of the War."

POPE BENEDEKT AND CARDINAL MERCIER

Mr. Babize says:

"Notwithstanding the outrageous humiliations visited upon his eminent colleague Cardinal Mercier; not-

withstanding the wholesale murders, rapine, executions, tortures and crucifixions visited upon non-combatants in Belgium; notwithstanding Cardinal Mercier's first-hand reports of barbarisms perpetrated by the Huns in this land, Benedict the Pope has never uttered a word of protest—as far as we know—even though these crimes shocked civilization and shamed humanity."

Cardinal Mercier says:

In his pastoral letter, Cardinal Mercier, on April 25, 1915, says to the people of Belgium: "From the beginning of the War certain cunning, evil and treacherous minds have persisted in encouraging the rumor that the late Pope Pius X. and our Holy Father Benedict XV. gave help and moral approval to our enemies, and through weakness did an injustice to the rights of the Belgian people. These are calumnies, my brethren—noting but infamous calumnies. As for our Holy Father Pope Benedict XV., what could he do for the Belgians that he had not done? His very first pontifical blessing was for us, and he charged me to bring it to you in his name. On two occasions he was good enough to send generous donations to Belgium in spite of the poverty of his resources. In his fatherly goodness he addressed to us two letters of consolation designed for you."

In his Lenten pastoral of 1916, Cardinal Mercier says: "Our Holy Father showed me the most touching kindness. During the many hours I had the consolation of spending in his august presence, he comforted, illuminated and encouraged me personally. In an inscription traced by his own hands beneath his portrait which he gave me, he writes: 'To our Reverend Friend, Cardinal Mercier—We give the apostolic blessing with all our heart, assuring him that we are always with him and that we share his grief and his anguish, inasmuch as his cause is our cause.'"

In an interview with the Pope granted M. Landet, editor of the Revue Hebdomadaire, (Paris), in July, 1915, His Holiness said: "At the beginning of the bombardment of the Cathedral of Rheims we charged the Cardinal-Archbishop of Cologne to convey our protest to the German emperor. . . . I condemn strongly the martyrdom of the poor Belgian priests and so many other horrors on which light has been cast."

Mr. Babize says:

"Pope Benedict did not remain silent when his voice and his pen, by urging a premature peace, effectually aided the arch-enemy of humanity and Christianity. On the pretense that he wanted peace—who does not want peace?—a message was sent forth so clearly inspired by the Hapsburgs, that blood-stained ruling house of Austria; so decidedly prejudicial to civilization that it brought forth a stunning rebuke from no less a man than the great President of the United States, Woodrow Wilson."

POPE BENEDEKT AND PRESIDENT WILSON

President Wilson's secretary says: "To ascertain the correctness of Mr. Babize's statement, the Secretary of the Catholic Federation of the United States, on July 23, 1918, addressed a letter to the Secretary of President Wilson, as follows:

"A pamphlet has been in circulation in Chicago and elsewhere, in which Auguste C. Babize makes the following statement: 'A message was sent forth (by Pope Benedict) so clearly inspired by the Hapsburgs, that blood-stained ruling house of Austria, so prejudicial to civilization that it brought forth a stunning rebuke from no less a man than the great President of the United States, Woodrow Wilson.'"

"Will you kindly advise us whether such a rebuke was ever administered by the President of the United States?"

Very respectfully yours,

ANTHONY MATRE,

National Secretary, Catholic Federation of the U. S."

To the above letter, the following response was received:

The White House, Washington, D. C. July 25, 1918.

"Mr. Anthony Matre, Chicago, Ill.: My dear Sir—Your letter of the 22d of July. There is no foundation in fact for the statement that the President took such action as is attributed to him by Mr. Auguste C. Babize."

Yours faithfully,

JOSEPH P. TUMULTY,

Secretary to the President."

PATRIARCH OF JERUSALEM

POPE MAKES APPOINTMENT—NOTE TO THE RUSSIAN GOVERNMENT

By CATHOLIC P. A.

Rome, Aug. 13.—Sincerely grieved at the unhappy position at present occupied by the ex-empress of Russia, Alexandra Alice, and her four daughters, Olga, Tatiana, Maria and Anastasia, Pope Benedict has sent a note to the Russian government asking that they be released and permitted to leave the country, offering to pay the expense of their maintenance himself.

Pope Benedict has appointed Msgr. Barlassina, Bishop of Capernaum, Auxiliary Patriarch of Jerusalem. It will be remembered that the Turks deported Msgr. Camassei, the Patriarch of Jerusalem, before the British troops entered the Holy City, and have refused to permit him to return. The appointment of an Auxiliary Patriarch, who will at once proceed to Jerusalem, will provide on the spot the episcopal authority which is so necessary for the assertion of Catholic rights and the promotion of Catholic interests in the Holy Places.

GREAT MISSION OF WAR CHAPLAIN

CARDINAL ADDRESSES THOSE CALLED TO DUTY

Cardinal O'Connell gave an audience recently to several of the priests of the diocese who have been appointed chaplains and are soon to leave for their duties with the army or the navy, and addressed them. His Eminence said:

"Reverend dear Fathers, called as you have been by the nation to serve your God and your country as chaplains to the United States forces, I know that you will respond to the duty of duty with the noble and unselfish sentiments which ever and always mark the true priest and the minister of Jesus Christ."

"The tremendous crisis, which our beloved nation now faces, demands from each of us the best we have to give, and in the end the priest has it in his power to give more than any other man the spiritual power, without which all material forces are inanimate."

"Whenever humanity finds itself in the face of difficulties whose enormity seems almost insurmountable, it instinctively turns to God for aid; and when material forces work their havoc upon civilization, the great hope has always been that the strengthening of the powers of the soul will give that vigor, energy and resistance before which brute forces utterly fail."

"We have watched, day by day, the progress of the powers of material energy against right and we have seen under our eyes how the noblest sentiments of the soul—the sense of justice and duty, have risen like a tremendous tide, lifting the soul of the nations above all petty personal considerations into the ample realms of true patriotism in which only the consecrated love of country rules."

"Stunned momentarily at the beginning by the considerations of the enormity of the task and surprised in our trustful unpreparedness to meet it, we have beheld, with a glorious satisfaction, how under the stress and strain America, with an amazing energy and alertness, has gathered into her powerful hands the tremendous forces which like thunderbolts she is now hurling against the foe."

"But with even greater joy and satisfaction have we witnessed that while she collected from the four corners of this great land the material resources of men, munitions and money with a wisdom evidently inspired by God Himself, she has gathered, too, those spiritual means and measure which alone abroad both in the fighting forces and in the quiet workers at home that spirit of moral courage, the determination to bear and suffer as faithful unrepentant to the very end, the very presence of our final and speedy triumph."

"Our hearts have been thrilled to the core by the voice of the nation's President calling the whole country to kneel before the God of Nations and humbly acknowledge our own defects and deficiencies, implore the aid of His almighty power."

"That is an example of high wisdom and still higher duty which Americans may well be proud to set before all the other nations in the conflict. It is the living proof for which we thank God that if our nation has been blessed by Providence as none other with all the resources of wealth and prosperity, the great bulk of the people has kept its soul unsullied by them and the rulers of America know the mind and heart of the people and recognize that all true power is from God."

"In all this sudden leap into the light of the highest moral forces which a mollifying prosperity had momentarily dulled, the great and historic Catholic Church of Christ has been the leader and the guide. Its hierarchy, priests and people, from the moment the nation entered the conflict, have pointed the way to highest patriotic duties by inculcating instant obedience to those laws and measures, which the emergency demanded, with the result that over a third of the forces in the field and on the sea are at the same time her loyal children and America's defenders. At the very front and in the very first trenches side by side with our soldiers, are the priests, living the same life of hardship, facing daily the same danger of death."

"It has filled my soul with consolation to learn through messages sent from our generals highest in command in France that our priests

are a constant sublime example of purest life and unflinching courage and that this sublime example held at the very closest range is a daily inspiration to all the soldiers, no matter what their faith."

"From both the chaplains, Doherty the Catholic and Rollins the Protestant, the story is precisely the same: so that sending you as we now do, to answer the nation's highest call, we do so with the conviction that you, like your brother priests already in the field, leaving all else behind will face your very highest duties and embrace the most difficult of them as your very sublimest opportunities."

"Go, therefore, beloved sons, your heart filled, to overflowing with the love of Christ who goes before you. Go, beloved children of America, courageously to take your part in this war against war and may the blessings of God go with you."

"May your holy deeds sanctify a holy cause. May those to whom you go, gather from your presence and your actions a deeper love of God, a greater flame of enthusiastic love of America."

"As today you aid America in her fight for justice and right and for all who are oppressed by tyranny, so may you soon, with God's help, ring out a glorious Te Deum of victory, the first notes of the anthem which America, leading all the nations of the earth, will raise to the eternal God, our highest ruler, our only King."—Buffalo Union and Times.

"GOD'S SOLDIER BE HE!"

In his admirable book, "The Faith of France," M. Maurice Barres, the eminent Catholic author, has an inspiring chapter called "The Sacrifice," in which he quotes many an effective passage from letters written home by brave and believing young soldiers just before they entered an engagement. "This evening we start for the trenches," wrote Bernard Lavergne, the thirteen child of his parents. "Tonight I shall watch over you, my gun in hand. You know what watches over me."

"It is the hour of attack!" he called out to his soldiers when the time came for him to die for his country. "Forward! To the bayonet charge for France and for our mothers!" "I will fight for France, offering my heart to God," wrote young Michel Pinet, not long before he fell. Other lines, from the farewell messages sent home by the brave Catholic soldiers of France and cited by M. Barres are no less noble and striking than those we have just quoted. "I have nothing finer," he wrote in his last letter written by Jean Rival, a lieutenant of only nineteen, who was killed in Alsace two years ago, as he led his section against the Germans. "I breathe so lofty a spirit of piety, courage and patriotism that if the Frenchmen now fighting beside our American soldiers along the Marne are like Jean Rival, it is no wonder that they have such glowing accounts of their valor. On the eve of his last battle he wrote to a dear friend:

"Tomorrow at dawn, to the tunes of 'Sidi Ibrahim' and the 'Marseillaise' we shall charge upon the German lines. This attack will probably be murderous! I wish, on the eve of this great day, which may be my last, to recall to you your promise. Reassure my mother that she need not suffer as I shall be yielded to the wrong heart of the very sure presage of our final and speedy triumph."

"Our hearts have been thrilled to the core by the voice of the nation's President calling the whole country to kneel before the God of Nations and humbly acknowledge our own defects and deficiencies, implore the aid of His almighty power."

"That is an example of high wisdom and still higher duty which Americans may well be proud to set before all the other nations in the conflict. It is the living proof for which we thank God that if our nation has been blessed by Providence as none other with all the resources of wealth and prosperity, the great bulk of the people has kept its soul unsullied by them and the rulers of America know the mind and heart of the people and recognize that all true power is from God."

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young men of France described by M. Barres, shows by the beauty of his life and the Christian courage of his death, that "the spiritual element, after all, is the dominating force in this War."—America.

THREE GENERALS: THREE PRIESTS

You may prefer to set it down to mere chance that the renowned Allied Chief, Gen. Foch, has a brother who is a priest, a member of the Society of Jesus; that the distinguished English General Haig has a brother a convert and a Redemptorist; and that Gen. Mangin, who has added to his many glories by driving the enemy back from Soissons has a brother who is a White Father, a missionary in Africa. Chance does work strangely at times. But it seems to us that there was an atmosphere in the childhood homes of these great men that is more accountable for their military achievements than is mere chance. Generalship requires more than tact in handling armed units and in placing them where their effectiveness will be greatest. It has its origin in the patriotic inspiration which makes an offer of self for the service of the country. The purer and more disinterested the ideals which lead to the army, the greater will be the heights of generalship attained. Uninspired men do not become successful leaders, military or otherwise; nor do un-patriotic men. At the supreme moment these crumple like Gen. Gough before Amiens. We suspect that the call to military leadership could be heard very distinctly in the home where is heard the call to the other life of sacrifice and leadership, the call to the priesthood.

The nation yearns for great men to take the reins of leadership. But it looks too much to schools to build up the qualities of leadership, but the foundations of leadership are laid in the home, and the whole structure even can be erected there, despite or without the schools. A nation that is striking blow upon blow to shatter homes will suffer for the fully. The day will come with a cry for leaders, great leaders; and there will be none. For the leaders will have died with the homes that were producing them. —Chicago New World.

SAVE AND BE POOR

A professor in the University of Wisconsin has stated, by way of warning and advice, that during the War the ambition of every good citizen should be "to treble his savings and reduce his expenses by at least 25 per cent." The advice and the warning are pertinent. Despite the survival of early New England influences, for nearly half a century we have been recognized as probably the most thrifless people in the world. We paid little heed to economical methods of dealing with our great natural resources, until it was scientifically demonstrated that these resources were only great, not inexhaustible. Even then we changed but slowly. It is painful to remember that the impression left on the minds of the Belgian Commissioners as they journeyed from New York to Chicago a few years ago, was one of amazement at our wasteful schemes in agriculture. The national conservation of resources, until it was scientifically demonstrated that these resources were only great, not inexhaustible. 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