

THE CATHOLIC RECORD

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Catholic Record.

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TO OUR READERS.

Last week we mailed accounts to all our subscribers who are in arrears for the CATHOLIC RECORD.

We therefore hope that before the new year our kind friends will not forget to square up accounts for their Catholic paper.

HAPPY CHRISTMAS.

Christmas! How many joyous memories does this word recall! With what anticipation did we look forward in the days of childhood to the day which brought with it always some new and unexpected pleasure.

The Festival of Christmas was kept in the Church from a very early date. There can be little doubt that it is of apostolic origin, though positive evidence which would make this historically certain is difficult or impossible to be obtained after so great a lapse of time.

"Observe the days of the festival brethren, and first the Nativity, and let this be celebrated by you on the twenty fifth day of the ninth month."

This was the 25th December according to the Calendar in use in Palestine.

St. John Chrysostom, in the 4th century, attests that the date on which the Nativity of our Blessed Lord was observed in the East was different from that used in the West, until ten years before he delivered his famous sermon on the Birth of our Lord: but he adds "This day was known from the beginning to the inhabitants of the West."

This great feast has always been held as one of the most important festivals of the year, and St. Chrysostom, already quoted, says we "would not be in the wrong in calling it the chief of all festivals."

1 Cor. xv. 14. The same is true of the

birth of our Lord, which is also an essential part of the mystery of salvation. The two feasts may therefore be regarded as of about equal rank, and they are universally esteemed as the most important in the Christian Calendar.

It is not, then, merely on account of the social memories which are attached to the feast of Christmas, that we should greet its approach with joy, but because it is the birthday of the true life of the world, because on this day our Divine Saviour, our Deliverer from sin and death, came to earth to save mankind.

It is by devotedness to our holy Religion, and strict observance of its precepts that we may, all of us, secure the blessings which are attached to the devout celebration of this sacred feast.

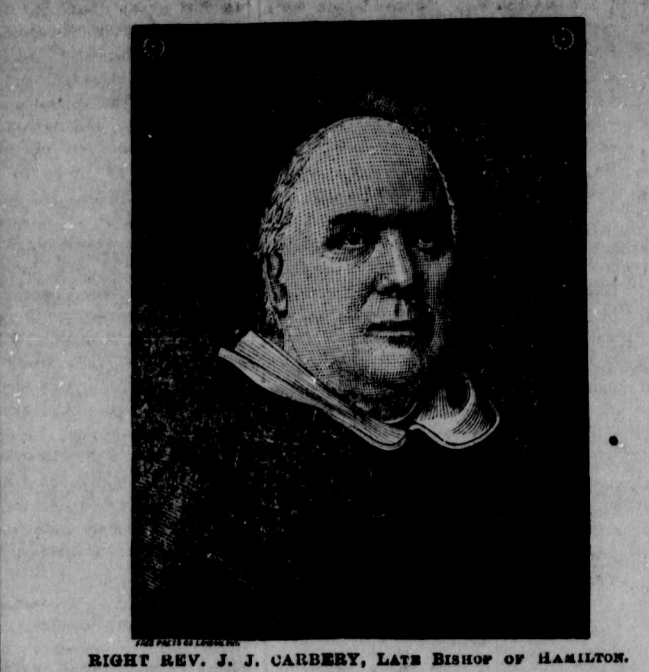
THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT AND MGR. PERSICO.

The following despatch from New York is evidently a hoax. We wonder that Mr. Gill has given to it the importance which he seems to attach to it.

New York, Dec. 15.—T. P. Gill, M. P., cables to the Tribune:—The following communication has reached me through a person in London, whose position and character lend it a special importance.

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RIGHT REV. J. J. CARBERRY, LATE BISHOP OF HAMILTON.

DEATH OF RIGHT REV. DR. CARBERRY.

We regret exceedingly to have to record the sudden death of the Right Reverend Dr. James J. Carberry, Bishop of Hamilton.

The Right Rev. Dr. Carberry was born in Mullingar, Co. Westmeath, Ireland, in 1822, and was for many years sub-Prior of the Dominican Convent attached to St. Clement's Church, Rome.

In the month of November, 1843, he was admitted to solemn profession on taking his religious vows, and was detained in the same place to make a course of two years' philosophy under excellent professors, Fathers Vincent Aguroni and Pelliquetti, and here he received sub-deaconship from the hands of Cardinal Pianetti, Bishop of Verbo.

The annexed reference to the death of the distinguished prelate is taken from the Hamilton Times of the 19th instant:—"Bishop Carberry died today," was the brief message I received this morning from Vicar General Heenan from St. Mary's Priory, Cork. It was signed "W. Keeler," the name of the Bishop's nephew.

To all appearances the Bishop was in fair health, but the change of climate must have affected his constitution more than was then to be seen. To a man of his age, over sixty-two years at the time of his consecration as Bishop of a Canadian See, the change from the mild climate of Italy to Canada was not without many dangers.

Dr. James Joseph Carberry was born in Mullingar, County of West, in 1822. He received the rudiments of his early education in the principle school of that town, under a teacher whose name and abilities have not yet died out of the memory of that locality, Mr. John Hogan.

city (during which Dr. Carberry had been on a visit to his convent of St. Mary and had left en route for Rome) the Most Rev. Dr. Delaney had forwarded to the Bishop of Hamilton an episcopal ring of great value and beauty, as a most significant souvenir in perpetuum memoria of His Lordship's long and most cordial friendship with the Dominican Bishop.

Dr. Carberry was the third Bishop of the Diocese of Hamilton. He succeeded the late Bishop Grinnon, who was consecrated at Stratford in 1874 and died in Florida, where he had gone in search of health in November, 1883.

It is altogether likely that the remains of the deceased Bishop will be interred at Cork. He was the fifth bishop which the Dominican Community at Cork gave from its members to serve the cause of religion at home and abroad.

A GOSSIP.

The Mail has a London correspondent who, under the name of "Our London Gossip," telegraphs all kinds of rumors which may be expected to injure the cause of Irish Home Rule.

The character of the "news" which the "Gossip" thinks it worth his while to send by cable. A short time ago he telegraphed that the statements concerning Mr. O'Brien, as wearing his own clothes, were false, and that he was wearing actually the prison uniform.

However, we admit, that this statement may not be intended to refer to the plot of which we have spoken, and which has been so thoroughly exploded, but only to the newer plot which he has discovered, the forgery of tickets of admission to the "great Unionist meeting at Dublin."

It is very possible that, as a war measure, an attempt was made by some Nationalists to enter Leinster Hall, in order to protest against the impudence with which a packed meeting professed to speak in the name of Dublin's wealth and intelligence.

It would seem incredible that any modern Government could be guilty of such duplicity and tyranny, and a letter has now been unearthed which exposes the whole plot. It was a private, a secret letter, and the public are indebted to United Ireland's energy and patriotism for its discovery and publication. The letter is written by S. A. W. Waters, the Chief of the Crime Special Branch of the Royal

Ireland what they are capable of in this line.

The "Gossip" further speaks of "Mr. Balfour's despotic and brutal rule which trampled out the last vestige of liberty, 'bodad'!" as if it were merely imaginary.

The same correspondent informed us that owing to Mr. Gladstone's silence at the present time, the Liberal party are in a state of discomfiture.

This telegraphic correspondent further bespawls with falcons flattery the Duke of Argyll, who delivered "the most masterly speech" of the evening at the great Unionist meeting in London.

It will be noticed that "Gossip" acknowledges that the admission to the Unionist meeting at Dublin was by ticket.

DISGRACEFUL TACTICS.

While Mr. O'Brien is serving his time in prison, for advising Mr. Posonby's tenants to hold out for the very moderate reduction of rack-rents which they demanded, it has occurred to Mr. Balfour that possibly Mr. O'Brien was in the right.

Numerous were the cases perfectly like these, and it was this wholesale robbery which Mr. O'Brien advised resistance. It was on this estate that honest and hard-working families were driven from homes built by themselves, and lands made valuable by their own capital and toil.

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Irish Constabulary, Dublin, I dressed to Mr. Jones, who occupied similar, but subordinate position.

My DEAR JONES: I want Government use a short and coteroy of the Posonby estate agitate you do it for me?

Here is a complete vindication wronged and persecuted patriots the same time an unblushing beeble government which now the destinies of the British Empire actually knew nothing of the case on which they adjudge twelve months ago, and the going to look into it! And he proceeding! Their method is par with their antecedents.

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THE SCHOOL SYSTEM.

The Mail is much troubled, fate which impends over States schools. "They are the destruction." We read in the 13th list:

The people of the United Kingdom evidently becoming awake to which threatens their schools. And what is the danger! found stated in an address the Rev. Dr. Justh L. Stron of the Christian Conference, ton, in which he appeals to for united action, thus: "we doubt that the ten or twelve of Church members in this if united in aim and method any moral reform within possibility. Christian sentiment organized, and cannot, the due weight upon public question the Ultramontane attack schools, and the attempt to funds to the support of the of the body politic, in which generous material coming to and assimilated."

There is no attack made from any quarter, and Catholic Schools, which the adopt and make its own; the greatest liberality toward particular affection for Catholic it feels so giving an interestingly giving us advice how enjoy civil and religious Mail is, in fact, like "the snuff," a direction post telling the way to a place goes there."

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Catholics do wish to children religiously. We