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THE CHURCH IN SOUTH AMERICA.

ITS HIERARCHY AND NUMBERS—A GRAND SHOWING.

Few Catholics in this country are fully aware of the numbers and importance of their brethren and the Church in South America. In a recent issue of the "Catholic Standard and Times," of Philadelphia, W. D. Kelly gives the following interesting account of the state of the Church in the countries south of Mexico:

The United States of Brazil is the South American country whose hierarchy is the most numerous body in that half of our hemisphere. Bahia and Rio de Janeiro are both archiepiscopal sees, the former being the elder episcopate. The present Archbishop of Bahia is Most Rev. Da Silva, who has occupied the See since Sept. 12, 1893. As metropolitan he presides over a district in which there are seven episcopal sees, all subject as suffragans to Bahia. These sees are Amazonas, Belem de Para, Fortaleza, Goyaz, Maranhão, Olinda and Parahyba. The Archdiocese of Rio de Janeiro has eight suffragan dioceses, to wit: Cuiaba, Curitiba, Diamantina, Marianna, Niteroy, San Paulo, San Pedro, Rio Grande and Espiritu Santo. With the exception of the See of San Paulo, all these Brazilian dioceses and archdioceses have ordinaries at the present time. The Catholic population of the country—three dioceses omitted because they make no reports—is 14,675,000 and the priesthood is correspondingly large.

Second in importance from a numerical point of view is the hierarchy of the United States of Colombia. At the head of this hierarchy is Mgr. Restrepo, Archbishop of Santa Fe de Bogota, which See he has filled since 1891. He has 12 suffragans, the Bishops of the Sees of Antioquia, Cartagena, Santa Marta, Medellin, Neiva, Nueva Pamplona, Panama, Pasto, Popayán, Tolima, Tunja and Socorro. The last mentioned See, however, is now vacant, and in addition to these bishops the Vicar Apostolic of Cassanare should be counted as suffragan of Mgr. Restrepo. Leaving out three dioceses, the reports of which are lacking, the Catholic population of this South American land exceeds 3,500,000 souls.

Third in point of numerical strength is the hierarchy of the Argentine Republic, at the head of which stands Mgr. Castellano of Buenos Ayres. This prelate has an auxiliary bishop and eight suffragans, namely, the Bishops of Cordova, La Plata, Santa Fe, San Juan de Cuyo, Tucuman, Parana and Salto, with the Vicar Apostolic of North Patagonia. The Catholic population of Argentina—two dioceses not reporting—is very close upon 4,000,000 souls, and the Bishop of San Juan de Cuyo has an auxiliary.

Fourth in order comes the Peruvian hierarchy, the head of which is Mgr. Tovar, who last year succeeded Mgr. Bandinini in the See of Lima. He has an auxiliary bishop, and his suffragans number seven bishops and one Vicar Apostolic. The other Peruvian Sees in Lima are Arequipa, Chacapoyas or Maymas, Cusco, Guamanga or Aya-

chacho, Huanuco, Puno and Trujillo, with the Vicariate of Tarapaca. As far as reported, the Peruvian Catholic population counts up 2,784,500 souls, and the vicariate Apostolic is the only non-reporting district.

Ecuador's hierarchy consists of one Archbishop, Mgr. Gonzalez of Quito, and six resident bishops, the ordinaries of the Dioceses of Cuenca, Guayaquil, Ibarra, Loxa, Porto Viejo and Riobamba. There are also four vicariates in the country, Mendez, Canelos, Napo and Zamora, of which the third and last are vacant. As far as reported the Ecuadorian Catholic population is close upon 1,500,000 souls, but one diocese and all four vicariates make no reports.

Venezuela has an Archbishop, Mgr. Uzcategue, the incumbent of the See of Venezuela or Caracas, as it is sometimes called and four bishops, whose Sees are Merida, Guayana, Calabozo and Barquisimeto, all of which are occupied. Its Catholic population, according to the diocesan reports, is 2,187,500 souls. The Archbishop of Santiago de Chile, Mgr. Casanova, has as suffragans the Bishops of San Concepcion, San Carlo di Ancud, La Serena, and the Vicar Apostolic of Autofagasta and the Prefect Apostolic of South Patagonia. In his province there are upwards of 3,000,000 Catholics.

The Bolivian Republic has an Archbishop, the Most Rev. Mgr. De la Llosa, of Charcas or La Plata, and three bishops, whose Sees are Cochabamba, Santa Cruz de la Sierra and La Paz, and the number of Catholics in this South American State is estimated at 1,466,000 souls. The Archbishop of Uruguay, whose See is Montevideo, is directly subject to the Holy See, and he has two auxiliary bishops. Another suffragan of the Archbishop of Buenos Ayres is the Bishop of Paraguay, in which country 800,000 Catholics are reported. British Guiana constitutes a vicariate and French Guiana a prefecture apostolic. The Capuchins have charge of the prefectures of Rio de Janeiro and Pernambuco, in Brazil; of that of Aracuania, in Chile; and they have apostolic missions at Bahia, Piracicaba and San Luis de Maranhão, in Brazil; at Montevideo, in Uruguay; and in the United States of Colombia.

Thus we see that there is a Catholic population in these Spanish-American countries of nearly 40,000,000 of Catholics, a number four times as large as that of the Catholics of the United States. But we also glean from the statistics of the Church in these countries that the proportion of Archbishops, Bishops and priests to the general Catholic population is much smaller than in the United States. It is, doubtless, for the purpose of increasing the hierarchy and priesthood, as much as for other reasons, that the Holy See has summoned a general council of all the prelates of South America to convene in Rome at an early date.

CATHOLIC MISSIONARIES AND MISSIONS.

"Catholic Sentinel," Portland, Or.

..... Even at the present time, wherever the religious families are found, how speedy and how fruitful a harvest of good works do they not bring forth! How very many leave

home and seek strange lands to impart the truth of the Gospel and to widen the bounds of civilization; and this they do with the greatest cheerfulness amid manifold dangers.

(Leo XIII). In these days of exotic speculation, when the press with hourly news carries one's thought, across seas and continents, away to the very antipodes, and one's mind in a mighty flight encompasses the globe, it may not be amiss to consider the suggestive remarks above quoted from the recent letter of Pope Leo to Cardinal Gibbons. Much is said and much is written about Colonial Empire, territorial expansion; but little do we read about another sort of expansion, one of unquestionable pre-eminence from a Christian point of view, one which admits of no diversity of opinions, and which is, in the economy of divine Providence, the necessary companion of civilization, its ultimate end and its triumphant crowning: Religious expansion.

Religion is a nation's most precious treasure, and the richest gift in its power to bestow. Hence the sacred duty for all civilized and cultured Societies to endeavor to impart to the numerous groups of the human family less favored than we are and still groping in the mazes of barbarism, a knowledge of eternal truth, faith and religion, wherein lies the highest type of human progress.

How well the Catholic Church has understood and fulfilled this duty is well known to all students of her apostolic annals. She has ever considered it, and nowadays more than ever—as the charity of charities to partake of her divine heritage with the rest of the human kind, and year after year she sends out her pioneers to foreign shores with a message of peace and salvation, begging at the same time from the Catholics who remain at home the co-operation of their alms, wherewith the missionary can traverse the seas and support himself on the field of his labors. During the last 75 years the Church has sent to, and supported on foreign missions thousands of missionary priests and nuns, heroic heralds of the Gospel, indefatigable workers under the threefold banner of poverty, chastity and obedience. (1) That the blessings of heaven have followed them in their wonderful existence is evident from authentic figures. In 1818, when the Society for the Propagation of the Faith was founded, the various countries under the jurisdiction of the Propaganda Fide numbered scarcely five millions of Catholics. At present they number between 25 and 26 millions. This splendid result is due to the incessant efforts of an army of apostolic men composed chiefly of Religious belonging to 35 various religious orders. These priests are assisted on the mission-field by the members of 20 Congregations of Brothers, and last but not least by over 30,000 Sisters, (not including native Sisters) members of 93 religious Congregations, or Communities. We add a list of the religious orders

(1) The Society for the Propagation of the Faith, whose headquarters for the United States are at St. Mary's Seminary, Baltimore, supports at the present day over 5,000 priests and 10,000 Sisters on the foreign missions, out of a fund made up of subscriptions of 60 cents a year collected from benevolent Catholics all over the world.

which appear on the missionary roll, together with their allotted fields of labor; this survey, wearisome as it may seem, cannot fail to arouse a sense of pride in every Catholic heart, as it constitutes the fondest hope of Mother Church and the brightest gem of her brow:

Augustinians—Hou-nan, Philippines.

Augustinians of the Assumption—Turkey.

Basilians of Bavaria—Southern Zanzibar.

Benedictines—Turkey, Ceylon, Indian Territory, N. Nursia, New Zealand.

Carmelites—Palestine, Syria, Mesopotamia, East Indies.

Trappists—Palestine, China, Africa.

Dominicans—Curacas, Mesopotamia, Kurdistan, Lesser Armenia, Eastern, Northern and Central Ton King, Fokien, Hanoi, Trinidad, Jerusalem, Brazil, Peru, Chili, Canelos (Ecuador).

Fathers of the Holy Ghost—Senegambia, Gabon, Sierra Leone, Lower Niger, Congo, Cimbeneza, Zanzibar, Oubanghi, Cunebia, Guinea, Betchoualand, in Africa.—French Guiana, Mauritius, Antilles.

Children of Mary Immaculate—West Indies.

Children of the Immaculate Heart of Mary—Fernando-Po (W. Africa).

Franciscan Fathers—Turkey, Moldavia, Syria, Jerusalem, China, Egypt, Arabia, Morocco, Tripoli, Philippines, Oceania.

Capuchin Fathers—Turkey, Syria, Aden, Agra, Allahabad, Candia Island, Gallas, India, Seychelles Islands, Sofia, Erythraea, Barbary States, Brazil, Chili.

Missionaries of Algiers (White Fathers)—Algeria, Congo, Jerusalem, Sahara, Ounyaney, Central Africa, Tunis, Soudan.

Missionaries of Issoudun—Micronesia, New Guinea, New Pomerania, (Oceania).

Jesuits—India, China, Madagascar, Zambesi, English Guiana, Jamaica, Honduras, Turkey, Balkans, Armenia, Syria, Egypt, Central America, Brazil, Ecuador, Peru, Chili, Paraguay, Philippines, Batavia, Australia, Alaska, Pines, Ventanas (Lazarists)—Abysinia, Persia, China, Turkey, Syria, Madagascar, Egypt, Central America, South America, Australia.

Marist Fathers—New Zealand, Polynesia, New Caledonia, Fidji Islands, Central Oceania, Solomon Islands, New Hebrides.

Mechitarist Fathers—Armenia. Fathers of the African Missions of Lyons—Benin, Dahomey, Egypt, Upper Niger, Ivory Coast, Gold Coast, West Africa.

Fathers of the African Missions, of Verona—Central Africa. Fathers of the Foreign Missions, of Mill Hill—Borneo, Kafiristan, Madras, Upper Egypt, Maoris (New Zealand), Central Africa.

Belgian Foreign Missions—China, Mongolia, Congo.

Fathers of the Foreign Missions of Mill Hill—Birmaniam, Cambodgia, Cochim China, Coimbatour, Corea, Japan, Malasia, Mandchouria, Mayssour, Siam, India, Tonkin, Thibet.

Foreign Missions of Steyl (Holland)—China, Togoland.

Foreign Missions of Milan—Birmaniam, China, India.

Foreign Missions of Rome—China.

Oblates of Mary Immaculate—Athabaska, British Columbia, Colombo, Jaffna, Natal, Transvaal, Cimbeneza, Orange Free State, Alaska.

Oblates of St. Francis of Sales—Orange Free State.

Pious Society of the Missions (Pallottins, of Rome)—Cameroun. Redemptorists—Dutch Guiana, W. Indies.

Resurrectionist Fathers—Turkey.

Fathers of the Sacred Hearts (of Picpus)—Marquesas Islands, Hawaiian Islands, Tahiti.

Fathers of the Holy Cross—Dacca (Bengal).

Missionaries of St. Francis de Sales (of Ancey)—India.

Salesian Fathers—Patagonia, Terra del Fuego, S. America.

IT WAS GREAT

THEY BOTH AGREED, THOUGH THEY COULDN'T UNDERSTAND IT.

Chicago News.

"Oh, Alice! I'm so glad to see you. Why haven't you been over oftener?"

"Well, Grace, dear, I really have been so busy that I couldn't get anywhere. My aunt from the east has been visiting us, you know. How is your literary club getting along?"

"Splendid! Have you read 'The White Man's Burden'?"

"Yes; isn't it lovely?"

"Just beautiful! How grand it must be to have such a genius as Kipling's! By the way, there's something in the first verse that bothers me, I can't quite make out what it means. Those lines:

To wait in heavy harness,
On fluttered folk and wild—
how ought they to be interpreted?"

"Really, I don't know just what his meaning is there. I've been puzzled by those lines myself. And in the next stanza there is something else that I haven't quite grasped—

'To veil the threat of terror—'
what does that mean?"

"I don't know, I'm sure. It's probably some poetic symbol. There is that line, too—

'By all ye will or whisper—'
I can't make sense of that. Do you know what it signifies?"

"No, I really don't try to understand Kipling. He uses so much slang, or, at least, talk that isn't common, that a person would have to make a regular study of it in order to know what he meant. What lovely swing there is to his poems, though, don't you think?"

"Yes, isn't it sweet? Oh, Tom Witherington has sent me a beautiful copy of 'Lucile.'"

"Is that so? Let me see it. Really, after all, isn't that the most splendid poem that ever was written?"

"Yes, to be candid, what are 'White Man's Burden' and such claptrap in comparison with it? Let's go into the library and read that lovely passage about—

When my nature is purest and
its thoughts are most fair;
When my spirit is best, beloved
thou art there,
or something of that kind."

Rev. Father Viens not having yet been able to move to Portage la Prairie, services were conducted there last Sunday by Rev. Father Tourangeau, S. J.

Rev. Father Kulawy, O. M. I., heard the confessions of Galicians and Poles and said mass at the Immaculate Conception Church last Sunday. He will start next Saturday for Beauséjour and Sifton.