

THE TRUE WITNESS

AND CATHOLIC CHRONICLE

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1888.

Another year is rapidly drawing to a close, and we who have been permitted by God's mercy to live through it, should be filled with gratitude to the giver of all good.

At this season it has ever been the custom of men to take mental stock, as it were, of the year through which they have passed, and cast their eyes forward to the future and what it may have in store for them. By so doing they discover the errors of their conduct, and observe in the cold light of an awakened conscience how time was misused, opportunities neglected, evil passions gratified, duties shirked, and much that should have been done for our own moral and material welfare, as well as for the like advantage of those among whom our example extends, left undone.

If we are wise, these wholesome, sobering reflections will revive in us a strong desire for amendment. Indeed, as anyone may see, this is the usual and general result. Men call it "turning over a new leaf," and the New Year always is a time for good resolutions. Unfortunately, poor human nature is prone to error, and old habits assert themselves before we are quite aware of it, and we slide back into our former careless or vicious ways of thought and action. Nevertheless, the duty of combating our evil propensities and habits is an ever present one, and we must be ever on our guard endeavoring

"To rise to better things
On stepping stones of our dead selves."

From the contemplation of the microcosm of individualism, we naturally widen our gaze to the macrocosm of the world.

The year now passing away has been one of strange activity in preparation for a conflict of the nations, which cannot be continued much longer on the same lines without producing widespread disorder. The nations of Europe have pushed their preparations for war to the verge of financial disaster. Just think that now, at the closing years of the nineteenth century of the Christian era, twelve millions of men are enrolled in the armies of Europe, ready at any moment to spring at each other's throats and spread ruin and desolation over the countries which are regarded as the most civilized in the world, and far in advance of any preceding age. The spectacle is one which may well dismay those who long to see the reign of peace upon earth established when

"The war drum throbbed no longer,
And the battle flag is furled
In the parliament of nations—
Federation of the world."

It would seem, indeed, as if the wickedness and ambition of men and nations, their neglect of the divine commands, were preparing for them a terrible punishment. Science, that science which this boasting, braggart age so loudly vaunts, has brought the arts of destruction to such perfection that the "war lords" of Europe, while not averse to taking the field, tremble at the prospect of a conflict of whose elements they know just enough to make them feel their danger and weakness. They actually stand in the presence of explosive forces of such tremendous potency that no man can even guess what may follow the ignition of the first spark, the firing of the first shot. Nor is the materially scientific aspect of war the only thing that keeps the commanders of armies in check. The social atmosphere is charged with moral dynamite as heavily as the arsenal of the nations are with the elements of warlike destruction.

During this century the growth of ideas has kept pace with the advancement of the arts of industry, and the wonderful success with which men have striven to obtain mastery over the forces of nature has been paralleled by the development of thought. Thus we see that since the gigantic upheaval with which the beginning of the century was marked there have arisen broader ideas of life. The struggle between the old spirit of militarism and the younger spirit of commercialism has been long. It has lasted for centuries. In fact the military age, the age of war and conquest, has been projected, so to speak, into the age of commerce. England has built up her power and greatness by directing her arms and her trade in combination. This union must continue for a long time to come, inasmuch as the system is of world-wide extent and founded on the necessities of mankind.

But a new power is looming up among the nations. As the military forces of a bygone civilization are being marshalled for their final catastrophe, the forces of industry are increasing in strength.

The tollers have learned to think!

And the result of their thinking is that the waste and agonies of war are only in a measure less inhuman than the villainies of commerce. If the military spirit must be repressed, the commercial spirit must be restrained, and both made subject to the spirit of industry. How this is to be accomplished is the problem set before the world for solution.

In no country, perhaps, with whose affairs we are intimately acquainted, are the elements in this problem more clearly to be seen, than in Ire-

land. There we see, as we see nowhere else, the face to face struggle of those who toil with those who live in idleness on the produce of others' toil. There, as nowhere else, we see fanatical fighting in its last ditch, backed by the military power of an empire; but, nevertheless, doomed to utter annihilation. The rising spirit, to which we have alluded, is nowhere more fully displayed as in Ireland. Compared to all the former attempts of the Irish people to secure their civil and national rights, the present struggle is sublimely suggestive of the change that is coming over the world. By unflinching adherence to an unyielding principle the peasantry of Ireland have taught mankind the lesson that lies in passive resistance. They can neither be conquered nor extirpated in their stubborn determination of asserting their right to the land they cultivate. Everywhere the subjects of tyranny are watching the progress of the struggle in Ireland, and the inevitable triumph of the industrious will be the signal for a world-wide advance of the toiling masses of men along the lines laid down in tears and blood by the people of Ireland.

In Canada, while we have had much to endure through misgovernment, much to bear in the way of unnecessary and unjust taxation; crippled though we have been by exclusion from the rest of the continent, we have, on the whole, much to be thankful for. But there are not wanting indications of uneasiness. A somewhat fierce controversy has taken place in the press as to the future of our country and that a change in our relations to the Empire is imminent has taken possession of many minds. Thus it seems that at home, as well as abroad, the year 1888 has been one of preparation. It has been a year more remarkable for what it has thought than for what it has done. But, as action is the fruit of thought, we may judge by what has been said and written how the social and political forces will be ranged when the time for action arrives.

Meantime, strengthening our resolution to stand firm and true whatever may betide, that the blessing of God may attend us in the sphere of duty to which we are called, we wish one and all

A MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND
HAPPY NEW YEAR.

OBSTACLES TO CONTINENTAL
UNITY.

Mr. Butterworth's resolutions for the admission of Canada into the American union form an interesting study for Canadians. We may read in them what one of the best instructed of American public men knows about our people and think of our country. They take in the broad facts of the situation, but they do not seem to measure and weigh the obstacles to the proposed union. The broad facts are: A continent divided across the middle by an imaginary line separating two peoples identical in race and language, the one enjoying national independence, the other clinging to colonial dependence; the one prosperous beyond all precedent, the other languishing; the one possessing all varieties of soil and climate from the torrid to the Arctic, the other holding but one general character; to crown all, the one has fixed national institutions, a recognized leading place in the comity of nations; the other with an unsettled constitution and an undecided future.

Thus, surveying the situation, it appears to the American statesman that Canada ought to be glad to become a part of the great republic, round off and complete the magnificent system of continental unity. This is the view expressed years ago by John Bright, by Mr. Gladstone, by Earl Russell, and advocated more recently by Goldwin Smith. It is the Monroe doctrine carried to its full conclusion.

The obstacles to its fruition are mainly on the side of Canada. They may be enumerated as follows:—1. The loyal sentiment of a section of the English-speaking population. 2. French-Canadian fear that their language and religious immunities would be destroyed. 3. The manufacturers' dread of American competition. 4. The Canadian Pacific Railway. 5. The interests created by Sir John Macdonald, by which the resources of the country are made to feed his political machine. Only those intimately acquainted with Canada and Canadians can estimate the potency of these influences.

Against them, however, there are counteracting forces at work which must, in the long run, produce a crisis. Indeed it may be said that each of the influences we have enumerated carries with it an element of antagonism to the others which contains the seeds of disintegration of the hard and fast political system imposed by the British Parliament to satisfy the temporary needs of political factions.

Thus, if the Tory party were driven from power, its loyalty would not survive an extended exile from the crib where it has been long and luxuriantly feeding. French-Canadian expansion and aggressiveness, on the other hand, have created a profound mingling among the English loyalists, many of whom in Ontario declare annexation the only escape from French and Catholic domination. As for the manufacturers, they are not united on a trade question, while their interests are opposed by the great agricultural class who have discovered that no protection does, or can, protect their industry. The opposition of the Canadian Pacific Railway is direct and intensely practical. It partakes of an imperial character and has ramifications knitted into the fibre of monetary and political institutions in England, Canada, and the United States which actually make it a fourth party to any arrangement the three countries may contemplate. But, as it is in its essence commercial, it is subject to the laws and revolutions of commerce. To these it must conform and a change of circumstances is sure to pro-

duce a change of policy. A European war, for instance, or American retaliation, would undoubtedly revolutionize the railway policy of Canada.

The fifth consideration is one which indicates direct action on the electorate, the latter mentioned making their influence felt by the votes they can bring to the polls. But the process of using government patronage and the national resources as means for securing political support has a limit. The ruinous rate at which the public domain has been alienated, the colossal public debt, the heavy and increasing taxation, the exodus of our people, all indicate that that limit has been reached.

The bubble may burst at any moment.

THE MILITIA.

A pretty strong case has been made out against the Minister of Militia, at whose door is laid the charge of having disorganized the militia in Ontario by neglect and favoritism. Some of the instances given in support of these allegations are particularly damaging. It is charged that when Sir Adolphe Caron took charge of the department, there were ten batteries of garrison artillery in the Province of Ontario, nine of which have ceased to exist, having been starved out, as likewise was the Toronto company of engineers. At the same time all the garrison batteries in Quebec province have been carefully nursed and encouraged except one, an English battery at St. John's, which has been allowed to die out. It is also alleged that much needed drill sheds in Ontario were refused, and large sums of money wantonly expended in Quebec on similar buildings. Favoritism in making appointments to the permanent staff is also pretty clearly established and a glaring instance of injustice in the awarding of pensions cited. As this case has a local application we give it as stated by the Mail:—

"Gunner Ryan, of the Montreal Garrison Artillery, and Sergeant Valiquette, of the 65th Battalion, contracted diseases in the Northwest and died. Gunner Ryan left a widow and a child. Sir Adolphe Caron at first only gave a pension to the widow, the sum being \$84.40 per annum. His attention was subsequently directed to the child and he gave it a pension of \$14.60. The total pension on account of Gunner Ryan is thus \$99.04. Valiquette had no widow and no child. The Order-in-Council of July 8, 1885, governing the awarding of pensions provides that pensions shall only be given to the widows and children of those who have died from illness contracted during actual service, or to sisters who are orphans without surviving brothers and were dependent for support upon the soldier during his lifetime. There was no pension for a father, a brother or a sister, unless the sister had really no means of support. Yet Sir Adolphe awarded the father, the two brothers and the three sisters of Valiquette \$51.33 per annum each—\$153.99 in all."

The bone of the militia has always been politics. Having had some experience of the volunteer service, and knowing what it costs a captain to keep a battery of artillery in working order, we can bear evidence as to the demoralization of the force caused by the intermeddling of politicians with it and by favoritism in promotions and the distribution of supplies. Sir Adolphe may not be blameless in the matters charged against him, but we venture to assert that any Minister of Militia would be open to the same imputations, because the fault is in the system.

From the organization of the department to the present time it has been made an engine for party purposes, and has gone on from bad to worse, till there is hardly an officer in the force without a tangible grievance, except those who have benefitted by the system. Nothing short of a radical re-organization will improve it, and that cannot be looked for under the present government.

THE IRISH EXHIBITION OF 1890.

The Irish Textile Journal has a special article on the proposed Art and Industrial Exhibition of 1890. Where is it to be held—at Dublin or Belfast? Dublin is the Irish capital, and has better sites for an exhibition, but Belfast is the commercial centre, has great energy, and has never had an exhibition yet, though both Dublin and Cork have had theirs. Still, there is a feeling abroad that because Belfast has made itself so objectionable to the political interest of the rest of Ireland, it may not be cordially supported, and if all do not eagerly join, the exhibition will be, as the Lord Mayor of Dublin says, an utter failure, and failure would dispirit the country. The object of the exhibition is "to stir up stagnant industries by putting before them the best work of competing countries and districts." Education, practical education, will be thus promoted. Efforts will be made to organize the forces of each industry, of the dairies, the agricultural industries, of the fishing industries, as well as of the woolen and flaxen industries.

AMERICAN ANNEXATIONISTS.

Mr. James Craigie, a Canadian resident at Lansing, Michigan, has a letter in the Hamilton Times on the question of annexation, in which he says "the talk about annexation emanates almost exclusively from native born Canadians resident in the United States. American born citizens, as a rule, pay very little attention to the subject." These Canadians inspire the politicians almost entirely, and appear to be intent on bringing about a union of the two countries. Mr. Craigie also tells us that the same is true of the Irish question. There seems to be some force in what he writes:—

There are at least two millions of people resident in the States to-day who were either born in Canada or emigrated from there to the States. Take Ernest Wiman as a sample of his class. He is one of a thousand who has not become a citizen of Canada, and Canada is not constantly bringing Canada and Canadian topics before him. He has made an immense fortune here, and undoubtedly feels the disadvantages Canadianism in the States. In Canada remains a British subject, while the other thousands see and act differently. They become citizens as soon as they

possibly can under the different State laws that regulate citizenship where they reside. Wiman's tactics in advocating Commercial Union simply intensify the feeling felt by a large majority of our Canadian element for political union. They, in turn, impress this feeling upon the politicians of the Butterworth stripe, and consequently the subject is under discussion all the time. Take Michigan as a fair example. The Lieut.-Governor of that State is a New Brunswicker; seventeen members of the State Legislature are Canadian born. I was in one town in the interior of the State a few days ago, and found that the three leading churches there were presided over by Canadian ministers, viz., Methodist, Baptist and Presbyterian. The Legislature of Michigan will elect a United States Senator for six years in January next, and that Senator will be James McMillan, of Detroit, who will for years remain on the Michigan scene in the little brick building where Blaine's barber shop now is, or will when I was last in your city. It is the Canadian element here that harks on annexation, just as it is the Irish element that is forever discussing Irish affairs. As Canadian emigration increases this agitation for the annexation of Canada will increase. No matter how your extreme loyalists feel about the matter, the extreme Canadian element here will for ever keep annexation before the Canadian public one way and another until it is accomplished either peacefully or by war. I have yet to meet the Canadian in the States who has become a citizen and voter here who opposes annexation. Whenever the class in geography reaches Canada in the public schools the youngsters are taught by a Canadian teacher, that Canada will, some day, not far distant, become part of this union. Then the starry flag will wave from the North Pole to the Gulf, etc. So you see the only way to put a quietus on annexation over here is to keep your natives at home. As long as Canadians float over here by the thousand just so long will the annexation wave keep rolling.

Thus it would appear that Canadians in the States would pull their country after them. They see and know the difference between nationality and colonialism and rightly prefer to see their country part of a sovereign republic rather than see her remain a stagnant colony, ground down under the quadruple oppression of Imperialism, Colonialism, Toryism and Monopoly.

HOW SALISBURY WAS COERCED BY
BISMARCK.

England appears to have been compelled, by Bismarck's superior astuteness, to play a very ignominious part in conjunction with Germany on the east coast of Africa. On a former occasion we showed how Salisbury was coerced, by a threat to reopen the Egyptian question, to order the British fleet to cooperate with that of Germany. More recent occurrences have shown that Bismarck is determined to make the Tory Government of England toe the mark he has laid down. Those who understand how the press is manipulated in Germany will smile when they read the "semi-official note" which has been going the round of the German "Kupplie" Press, and is "quoted" in the official organ of the German Chancellery about the relations between England and Germany as affected by the situation in East Africa. If Lord Salisbury went into his bargain with Prince Bismarck with any idea that he was going to perform his share of it in a perfunctory sort of way, or to put it in plainer language, to cheat in his dealing, the "semi-official note" referred to, dispels all chances of his succeeding. There is no opening for such a game, and his lordship, whether he likes it or not, is bound to follow the lead of his master, for such Prince Bismarck is to all intents and purposes. This is what the German Chancellor says by his mouthpieces in the Press:—

"In judging of the present situation in East Africa it must not be forgotten that the Sultan of Zanzibar concluded a treaty with the German East African Company which he could not or would not, but in any case did not keep. There are even signs leading one to suppose that he, or at least his representatives, did not dislike the outrages against the Germans, which they perhaps even promoted and supported. According to international law the Sultan ought to be made responsible for the non-fulfilment of the treaty. On the other hand, England has always shown the greatest interest in maintaining the Sultanate of Zanzibar. If Germany joins in this policy, she does so, not in the interest of German colonial policy, but out of regard for her relations to England, which it is thought advisable to cultivate. In deciding to act with England reciprocity was anticipated—that is to say, it was supposed that England would also wish to keep up friendly relations with Germany, and that she would therefore help her at Zanzibar in the matter in which Germany's interests were greater than those of England. Thus together with England it would be possible to support the Sultan and re-establish his authority. Should an anti-German policy gain the upper hand in England, Germany would conclude that her friendship was not needed, and probably never would be. She would deplorable, but would not be in a position to change it. A complication in the European situation in which England would need Continental friendship is perhaps not probable at present, but yet it is not absolutely out of the question."

Thus it comes to pass that "Britannia rules the waves" with Tory Government under the whip of Bismarck. The note quoted shows that England is threatened with impunity, by a foreign Government that unless she consents to do that Government's dirty work it will abandon her to her fate in certain eventualities which, perhaps "not probable at present," are yet "not absolutely out of the question." The meaning of all this is clear. Lord Salisbury has been trying to slip out of his engagements, and his master has just given him a touch of the whip to keep him up to the mark. Thus the proud Tory cooer of Ireland is coerced in turn and is not resent it.

The London correspondent of the Belfast News, to whom we are indebted for this exposition of Bismarckian dealing with the Salisbury Ministry, quotes "one of the European sovereigns" as saying:—"England persisted in her policy of selfishness and isolation, which had become so marked since 1878, she must not be surprised if it led in a general coalition of the European States against her, which would strip her of her colonies and other possessions, and her commercial supremacy." Unlikely? It then

seemed, there are indications that such a combination as that spoken of is possible. Germany controls to-day two great armies besides her own, those of Austria and Italy with their fleets. Prince Bismarck has only to offer sufficient consideration to Russia, France, and Spain, to gain them over to his side. He is now holding the rod over Lord Salisbury, knowing that he has him in his power; but it is not certain that the country will consent to be driven, and if it does not, what then? And if Lord Salisbury finds he dare not place England at the disposal of Prince Bismarck, how is he going to face the consequences, while holding the Irish people by the throat, and with trouble threatening in India?

OSMAN DIGNA, the man who has suffered death at the hands of newspaper correspondents so often, yet bobs up serenely a most lively corpse on all occasions when needed to counteract the designs of the British in the Soudan, is a Frenchman. He was born at Rouen, and is the son of French parents, his family name being Vinet. He commenced his education at Rouen, and was afterwards sent to Paris to school. When still a mere lad his parents went to Alexandria, and shortly afterwards his father died there. His mother then married a merchant of Alexandria named Osman Digna. This man became very fond of his step-son, George Vinet, and brought him up as a Mahomedan, sending him to complete his education at the military school at Cairo. Here he studied tactics and the operations of war under French officers. Arabi was at the school at the same time. Young Vinet became an Egyptian patriot, and is now the ablest General among the Arabs, bound to revenge his adopted country's wrongs on Jews and Gentiles, who appear to have obtained control of British power for the purpose of executing their outrageously unscrupulous demands of interest on money lent the late Khedive of Egypt, to enable him to indulge his vices. It is to be hoped that the English will be thoroughly beaten, as they deserve, should the Salisbury government venture on another campaign in the Soudan.

Among the incidents of Mr. Gladstone's recent visit of Birmingham it is related that, having a few moments leisure, he slipped across from Sir W. Foster's house to the Oratory to inquire after Cardinal Newman. He could not see the Cardinal, but was received by the Father who habitually attends him. In conversation it came out that the venerable patient was fond of reading in bed, but that the Fathers had difficulty in finding him a safe and suitable light. Mr. Gladstone instantly replied "I have the very thing by me," and posting back to Sir W. Foster's house, returned bearing a candlestick with a reflector attached, which he left as a present for the Cardinal. Considering that this happened on the very afternoon of the Bigley Hall meeting—in the midst of the hurry and excitement of preparation—it is a striking instance of self-forgetfulness and thoughtfulness for others.

DR. HARRISON, President of the Haldimand Reform Association, has called a convention of the party to be held in the Court House, Cayuga, on Thursday, December 27th, for the purpose of nominating a candidate to contest the seat illegally held by Dr. Montague, who has been unseated for corrupt practices by the highest court in the land. It is stated that the election will be rushed as soon as the Tory agents can be put in the field. We trust that the friends of good government will get to work with a will and stamp out by an overwhelming vote the infamy of Tory misrepresentation which has been so basely forced upon the county in late elections by every species of fraud and corruption.

AN American paper observes that, if it is true, as is reported, that Lord Salisbury has concluded not to send a Minister to Washington, but to ignore the United States until the inauguration of the Republican administration, his fault, in respect to meddling with American politics, is of a graver character than that of Lord Sackville. It is to be assumed that the Republican party would itself be prompt and positive in its repudiation of the patronage of the British Government that the English premier would thus condescend to bestow upon the political organization that is about to resume ascendancy in the conduct of American national affairs.

DUBLIN, December 19.—Mgr. Kerby telegraphs to Archbishop Walsh from Rome that the story that the Pope refused to bless reliquaries sent to him by an Irish priest is an impudent fabrication.

The above despatch confirms the opinion we expressed at the time the cable brought the alleged news of the Pope having acted in the extraordinary manner reported. We knew by the wording of the despatch and by the rule of conduct observed on such occasions that His Holiness would not express himself in the way stated. This is only another proof of adroitness of "the liar on a space" at Rome, and should warn the public to put no confidence in reports emanating from that quarter concerning the policy of the Vatican in relation to Irish affairs.

THE somewhat lengthy despatches from France, received during the week, indicate nothing but a furious struggle of factions for mastery. The principal event was a powerful speech from M. Challemeil-Lecour, in which he severely denounced the ministry, which, however, still manages to hold on to power.

NOMINATIONS for the Quebec Legislature took place in L'Assomption, Dorchester, and Magalloway on the 20th instant. In Dorchester Mr. L. P. Pelletier, Liberal, was elected by acclamation. J. J. Marlon, Conservative, and

Dr. Forest, Liberal, were nominated for L'Assomption. Colonel Rhodes, Ministerial, and Mr. Johnson, Opposition, were nominated for Magalloway.

POLLING takes place in Magalloway and L'Assomption on Thursday, the 27th instant. Present indications are that both will return supporters of the Government. The Opposition appear to have concentrated their forces in Magalloway, in order to prevent the election of Col. Rhodes and thus deprive the Protestants of a Cabinet representative. We trust the Irish voters will give him a unanimous support, for Mr. Merdier has proved himself a true friend of the Irish. He was one of the first and largest subscribers to the Parnell defence fund, and has on all occasions shown his good will towards our people. Apart from that, his government is the best and safest the province has ever had and deserves the support of all good citizens on its own merits. The election of Col. Rhodes would be a wise and graceful acknowledgment of the just claims of the Protestants, as well as a well-merited rebuke to the men and the party who are striving to defeat him by incendiary appeals to the prejudices and bigotries of race and religion.

LADOUCHERE pretty correctly diagnoses the cause of the Toryism of London. The majority of the electors, he tells us, are not Conservatives, but snobs, and they fancy that they are socially superior to other people by voting for the candidates of the party which they are told includes the aristocracy. Most of the artisans are disfranchised, owing to their not remaining for a year in the same locality, and it is mainly on account of this that the snobs have it all their own way.

A suggestion has been made by the Halifax Chronicle that there might be official enquiry on the part of the Provincial Government into the reasons which induce so many people to leave Nova Scotia and make homes in the United States. The St. John Globe backs this up by saying that a general enquiry into this subject in the whole of the Maritime Provinces would be quite beneficial, provided the subject were examined with utter fearlessness as to the results.

THE Ontario Legislature meets for business on January 24th.

LITERARY REVIEW.

MANUAL OF CONFIRMATION, containing Instructions and Devotions for Confirmation Classes. By F. J. Schmitt, New York: Joseph Schaefer, 60 Barclay street, 1888.

Issued with the imprimatur of Archbishop Corrigan, this work may be truly said to supply a long felt want among those to whom is committed the sacred duty of preparing the young for the Sacrament of Confirmation. It is also a work which may be placed in the hands of candidates for Confirmation, while the pastor or the instructor may, with the material collected in this volume, easily comment and dwell more at length upon the subject matter of each instruction. The work is eminently deserving of the patronage of the clergy and heads of families.

THE POPE AND IRISH POLITICS.

LONDON, Dec. 17.—In many of the Catholic parishes throughout Ireland the action and words of the Pope in refusing to bless medals and relics for distribution among Irish Catholics were freely commented upon, and it is quite evident that the ill feeling which the incident has engendered is spreading and becoming intensified.

The general drift of comment is toward the contention that the Holy Father has doubly insulted the Catholics of Ireland, and that the insult is wholly gratuitous. In the first place the Church has no more steadfast adherents than the Irish, nor have the Catholics of any other country been as regular and liberal in their contribution, in proportion to their means as they.

It should, therefore, be more than an act of justice upon the part of the Pope, leading Catholics hold, that he should permit the Irish faithful to conduct their political affairs in their own way, under the guidance of those who surely know as much about the needs of their country, gathered from a life-long residence in the Emerald Isle, as His Holiness has been able to learn by hearsay.

As far as can be discovered the attitude of the Pope, as revealed by his latest burst of indignation, has had no other effect, even among the bulk of the Irish clergy, than to create a counter feeling of indignation and determination that the Catholics of Ireland even more determined than before—if that were possible—to continue their present system of warfare against landlords and uphold their leaders in any species of agitation against English rule that their experience and the exigencies of the situation may suggest. It is also assumed that the present mood of His Holiness is inspired by the report of Mgr. Persico, which will soon be published, and, it is hinted, is decidedly unfavorable to the Irish.

STANLEY AND EMIN SAFE.

BRUSSELS, December 22.—King Leopold has received from St. Thomas a telegram confirming the report of the arrival of Stanley and Emin Pasha on the Aruwahim. Sir Francis de Winton, president of the Emin Relief committee, in an interview to-day, stated that he did not believe that Henry M. Stanley and Emin Pasha had been captured and he momentarily expected a telegram from Stanley. He declared Osman Digna's letter was a trick which had entirely failed of its purpose.

THE COLORS FOR CHRISTMAS.

The colors for Christmas are white and gold, and there is no more joyful combination of color. White is the perfect union of all colors, and always the emblem of holiness and purity. Yellow may be used with the same significance as white, representing joy and gladness. The two colors typify joy and gladness. The other colors suitable for Christmas are red, which symbolizes God's love, and green, for the boundlessness of God. It is well to remember these colors in Christmas gifts and to make use of them.

At a meeting of the Catholic Electoral Union, at Uxbridge, Dr. Schaeffer, a deputy, advocated the restoration of the temporal power of the Pope. It was resolved to send an address to the Pope, testifying to the devotion and submission of the union, also, an address to the bishops expressing homage and declaring that the union concurred in the sentiments expressed in the address addressed to the Holy See. At the banquet which followed, a toast was offered to the Pope, the King, and the bishops.