

Catholic Items.

The death of Cardinal Gonzales reduces the number of Spanish representatives in the Sacred College to three. The senior Spanish cardinal is Monsignor Benavides, the archbishop of Saragossa, who was created in the consistory of March 12, 1877. Simultaneously with the late Cardinal Gonzales, Nov. 24, 1884, Monsignor Monoscillo, the archbishop of Valencia, was proclaimed a cardinal, and Monsignor Sanzay Fores, the metropolitan of Seville, was created a member of the Sacred College Jan 16, 1893. The death of Cardinal Gonzales will, doubtless, lead to the creation of another Spanish cardinal at the next consistory.

The Papal consistory, it appears, has been postponed until next March, probably because the Holy Father could not complete the arrangements preliminary to the creation of the new cardinals upon whom he intends conferring membership in the Sacred College. It is no very unusual thing for the Pope to pass over one consistory, and in that case the cardinalial creations at the next consistory are generally large in number. Easter will come in early in April in 1895, so that the consistory that is to be held in March will fall due shortly the feast which is the usual time for the holding of the earlier one of the year, as just before Christmas is the ordinary time for the holding of the second consistory.

That "American Catholic Church" which was begun with such a parade of trumpets at Cleveland, a few weeks ago, has come to speedy grief. The prime mover in the new departure is said to be now seeking restoration from Monsignor Satolli, who will probably exact disciplinary penance from him before acceding to his request. Before he started for Rome, where he now is, Bishop P. of Cleveland addressed a public appeal to the Americans of his diocese to their revolt and in vain. The "American Catholic Church" has recently gone the way of many previous similar enterprises.

Monsignor Satolli continues to furnish the gossip with a fruitful theme for their observations. The past week saw a lengthy dispatch cabled from Paris, to the effect that the delegate stands on better relations now with the American hierarchy than, so the allegation goes, he did shortly after his arrival here; that he recognizes that his made some mistakes at the outset of his American career, and is anxious to avoid any repetition of them. All this is interesting, but how much truth there is in it is another question. The relations between the Papal representative and the American prelates have always, outwardly at least, been of the most cordial character, and it is worth while emphasizing the fact that those prelates whom misrepresentation made antagonistic to him have shown him, perhaps, more deference than others. The Monsignor may have made some mistakes—he would be more than human if he did not—but his course since he came to this continent has been marked with singular prudence and discretion, and he has won golden opinions from all classes by the admirable manner wherein he has discharged his onerous and delicate duties.

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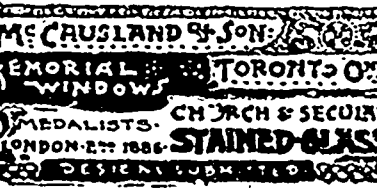
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