

The Catholic Record.

Published Weekly at 484 and 486 Richmond Street, London, Ontario.

Price of subscription—\$2.00 per annum.

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LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION.

UNIVERSITY OF OTTAWA, Ottawa, Canada, March 7th, 1903. To the Editor of THE CATHOLIC RECORD, London, Ont.

DEATH OF POPE LEO XIII.

The tolling of the Church bells on Monday last announced to the people that the illustrious, learned, venerable and kindly Pontiff Leo XIII. is no more.

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THE ELECTION OF A POPE.

Now that the gentle and kindly Leo XIII. is no more on earth to guide the destiny of the Barque of Peter, it will be interesting to our readers to know how his august successor will be chosen.

When a Pope dies, nine days are devoted to his obsequies. On the tenth day after his demise, the Cardinals who are then in Rome assemble in the Sistine Chapel, where a Mass in honor of the Holy Ghost is celebrated by the Cardinal Dean to obtain from God for them light and grace to select the man whom Heaven desires to fill the place.

Then the Cardinals and their attendants go in procession to that part of the Vatican in which the conclave is to be held. It adjoins and includes the Pauline and Sistine chapels, with three courts and the surrounding apartments.

On the evening of the tenth day, every one not entitled to be inside the conclave (cum, with; clavis, a key) or shut-in place of the election, is excluded, and the only door communicating with the outside world is shut with two locks on the outside and two on the inside.

At 6 o'clock the next morning the Cardinals go to the chapel. At 7 the Mass of the Holy Ghost is celebrated. Next the Cardinals recite the penitential Psalm and the Litany of the Saints.

At the lower end of the sheet he writes a text of Scripture, of his own choice, which is also sealed up, and which can be used to verify his signature and vote.

When all the Cardinals have prepared their ballots, they go up, one by one, to the altar, where there is a large chalice and paten, made and consecrated to receive the votes.

Then Monsignor Bisleti, the Master of the Chamber, asked for the Pope's benediction for the court, which the Pontiff granted, adding: "Be this my last greeting."

MEANWHILE THE GREAT DOOR IS UNLOCKED.

Meanwhile the great door is unlocked, the barricades are removed, and announcement is made that the conclave is happily ended.

Next the Pope-elect is conducted behind the altar, divested of his habit as Cardinal, and vested in the white robes of the Sovereign Pontiff. Then he comes out, ascends the altar, and seats himself in the sedia gestatoria.

Next the Cardinals select by lot their cells. On the evening of the tenth day, every one not entitled to be inside the conclave (cum, with; clavis, a key) or shut-in place of the election, is excluded.

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THE ACCESSION OATH AGAIN.

We learn from English papers that in the House of Lords there was a lively debate on June 25th upon the question which was so strongly agitated two years ago, namely, the desirability of abolishing or amending the Royal Declaration against the Catholic Religion, taken on the king's accession to the throne.

Lord Grey moved the second reading of a bill to abolish the Royal Declaration altogether. He contended that the law provides that "should the king at any time become a Roman Catholic, he shall cease to be king."

Lord Aberdeen followed supporting Lord Grey's argument with much force. He said that the Roman Catholic subjects of the king are as loyal throughout the Empire, as any other subjects.

The Archbishop of Canterbury made a remarkable speech on the motion, and was listened to with great attention both by the Lords, and by the visitors occupying the galleries, which were well-filled, as the debate was expected, and the subject was highly interesting.

At the present date when the fullest liberty of conscience is afforded to all creeds, the King's Declaration cannot be allowed to remain as it stands.

Some form of declaration is still necessary, because the Coronation Oath only bound the King to protect the faith of Protestants, leaving him equally at liberty to protect any other faith, including Buddhism or Mohammedanism.

The Archbishop then showed how the king of England might evade the taking of the Coronation oath, if he so desired; namely, by postponing his Coronation, which is not deemed a necessary ceremony.

On behalf of the whole bench of Bishops, I can say that they all desire an amicable solution of this question, and that the Government will introduce a bill dealing with the matter."

WHO SHOULD REDRESS THE GRIEVANCE?

Lord Rosebery also summed up the situation in much the same strain as the Duke of Devonshire. Lord Rosebery does not represent the Liberal Party but if he did so we would still answer him as we have answered the Duke.

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A Jesuit Mission.

Two English officers on their way up to the Kebraabrossa Rapids on the Zambezi in a gunboat, stopped to rest at a Jesuit mission on the way. One of them writes: "We both came to the conclusion that it would be hard to find a more cultured, self-sacrificing and capable body of men; as with all the discomforts of an African life and the monotony of teaching, they still keep up and enforce the rigid discipline of their Order."

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A CASE C...

Happily religious Province of Ontario occasionally there is a little flicker of the Monday of last week the Public School received for the school of London tender for painting the firm of Pace & committee, of which man, recommended accepted, because the firm whose tender not a Public School words, one member Catholic, and considered on the anniversary of the it would be were the committee opportunity to serve the committee. Per help it. But with the friends and religious liberty manly, and bold have no rights or respect? Hypo beings at best. be admired in the proclaim his en face bigot, who Catholic, will his liberality, a the lodge room him under the save contempt. We may ask tious committee business being ate School Public school without quest Catholic so n that Protestant jected and the ed. It is a should be fro citizens. Now that have been aff taking the hope tees we hope municipal elec home. It is being of the men positions pal affairs. We are to note that minority. The committee was of Pace & Fitzgerald, We hope this They have e of themselves. SUNDAY. We publi the Officers Day Alliance of the Cath reference to advertised last Sunday. The excu Catholic Fe purpose, a special rel and was in obligation It was, the interference to send un answered by. Informs that does not fo mode of kee The Cat Sunday years been, and olies should the Sunda Father matter so anything ject in his various s attached to the Fo to the Oth Order of the Gentlemen the Lord's express the right of the Ch observed the spirit's Act, and seven's Ontario. On acco many of being in the us Having the over this act as a action an