

# The Catholic Register.

"Truth is Catholic; proclaim it ever, and God will effect the rest."—BALMEZ.

VOL. I.—No. 52.

TORONTO, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1893.

PRICE 5 CENTS.

## Register of the Week.

The usual joyousness that the happy Christmas-tide brings is overshadowed by a cloud, which hangs like a pall over the whole world, that is the hard times, which are felt by all classes but particularly the laboring class. The outlook in the old world is very bleak indeed. Grave rumours come across by cable of increasing numbers of armed men in Europe, 130,000 more, under arms, than this time last year. That old proverb "a green Christmas makes a fat church yard," is spoken of so frequently this season in the old country, that it has a most depressing effect.

A strike by the journeymen bakers is impending in Madrid. The Governor has applied to the military authorities to erect temporary bakeries outside the city, and to have military bakers make bread for the use of the population. The Governors of adjoining Provinces have been required to hold supplies in readiness for use in Madrid.

The Holy Father has recovered from his recent indisposition and is now enjoying good health and spirits. The despatches say his voice is clear and powerful. In a reply to an address from the Sacred College he said: "Great and signal, without doubt, have been the blessings which we have received from a loving and divine Providence. We are pleased that the Sacred College recognizes them, and gives praise and thanks to blessed God, for our praises and thanks alone would be little to offer for such abundant mercies. It is the hand of God that gives us the great comfort of seeing an increase in the various peoples' reverence and devotion to this apostolic see, and which leads us in the midst of the cares of a ministry which even in less difficult times and circumstances would have been heavy on our shoulders." Speaking of the part the Pontiffs have always taken in regard to the peace of Europe, he thus beautifully says: "It is certain that we by the nature of our office are zealous defenders of this peace, since true peace in individuals as well as in the human race is the daughter of justice. Justice lives only by faith, just as man lives by faith. The high priesthood of Christianity is then the incorruptible custodian of the faith and champion of all justice. Therefore its nature is an apostolate unity. Peace will give free scope to this apostolate, which holds its commission from on high. Receive without hesitation the message of its doings. Let it penetrate freely the minds of the people in families and in states, then you will see reflowering tranquility, well-being and order, which are the all nations. The

moral reason of the troubles and evils which are deplored is of the enfeebling religious belief and the separation of the world from God. When man in his pride disdains to turn his eyes to heaven and fixes them only on the earth, then charity diminishes, then iniquitude increases in all the social grades, which causes an outbreak." And with such sublime sentiments as these the Holy Father sends his message of Peace over the whole world, fit sentiments for the Christmas season, whose message from Heaven nearly 1900 years ago was "Peace on earth, good will to men."

The impression at the Vatican, made by the return to power of Signor Crispi was cautiously intimated to the New York *Herald* correspondent, recently by a prelate who has the closest relations with the Holy Father, and were expressed as follows—"We do not think anything about it at all," he said, "because Crispi, Zanardelli and Rudini are all the same to us. Whoever may be the head of the Italian Government, the relations between the Quirinal and the Vatican will remain the same. When Signor Crispi was in power he waged open warfare against the Pope and the Catholics. Nevertheless, in spite of his enmity to the Papacy, he has at least the merit of being frank. With Signor Crispi we know what we are about, it is better to meet open hostility than underground opposition."

When the prelate was asked if he thought Signor Crispi could solve the present crisis, he answered: "To judge from his antecedents we have strong reason to doubt it. To think so would be to suppose that Signor Crispi could change his political skin, but that is scarcely possible for a man at seventy-four years of age. You remember the Italian proverb, "The wolf may change its skin, but not its vices."

The Encyclical Letter on the Bible which the Holy Father has issued recently is considered one of the most important documents published during his Pontificate. It will create an impression which will influence men in every part of Christendom, and upon Catholics, ecclesiastical and lay, it will confer lasting benefits by stimulating them in Scriptural research.

Mr. Gladstone is said to be busily engaged on a prose translation of Horace. There are several good translations of the kind, but it is interesting and almost unique in one over four score years, holding the reins of a government of one of the most powerful countries in the world, thus employing his leisure moments.

The depopulation of Ireland goes on to a most alarming extent. Last

year there were 50,867 emigrants from that country. Of these the greater part, ninety-one and a half per cent., went to America, nearly four per cent. to England, and the remainder not quite five per cent., to British Colonies and foreign countries.

For many years the Christian Brothers in Ireland have been working silently and successfully. Indeed with such success that in many towns Protestant parents have asked and obtained permission to send their boys to be taught by them. The religion of such boys has not been interfered with, of course Catholic prayers were always said, but never once was a charge of proselytism made against them. They managed to maintain their schools on the pennies of the poor assisted by an annual collection at a charity sermon. A promise of a general character was made by the Government that long delayed recognition in the shape of financial aid would be granted to the Christian Brothers, but this is not as yet forthcoming.

Recently in the House of Commons the Irish members made it clear that they would stand by the Christian Brothers even if their opposition should involve the defeat of a Government which has been more helpful than any administration that ever ruled the British Empire. On this point Mr. Redmond and Mr. Sexton are agreed. Mr. Sexton asked for an explanation of the delay. Mr. Bryce made a statement of a procrastinating and indefinite character. And then Mr. Sexton gave notice that, "as the Government have notified their intention to bring in a bill to amend the Education Act of 1892 and as the declarations of the Irish members with regard to that act have been disregarded, and as the understanding on which they allowed the act to pass has not been observed, unless and until arrangements are made by which efficient elementary schools in Ireland willing to accept the conscience clause and to satisfy the State as to the character of their secular education, are admitted to a fair proportion of State aid no further legislation on the subject can be treated by the Irish members as non-contentious."

Catholics in England are deeply convinced of the necessity for religious education, but they would be indeed a helpless few without the aid of the ever-faithful Irish in the Legislature. It is to be hoped such bitter partisans as the English Catholics in their opposition to Home Rule for Ireland will join the Irish members in this question of Catholic Education.

Mr. John Patrick Hopkins has been elected Mayor of Chicago after one of

the hottest campaigns ever known in that great City. Notwithstanding the full force of the Apatist bigotry arrayed against him Mr. Hopkins, the Catholic candidate succeeded, in getting first position the city can give. It was a bitter contest, the Protestant places of worship were turned into sources of opposition to him. On the Sunday just two days before the election, nearly every person on entering or leaving the Protestant churches was handed a paper which bore this in bold type: "The two candidates— which? George B. Swift, Protestant. John Patrick Hopkins, Romanist!" There was religious prejudice openly appealed to. The Apatists used to meet nightly, and in the day-time under their usual cover of secrecy and organized their forces against the Catholic candidate and the *Inter Ocean*, to excite the prejudice against those of Irish blood, printed Mr. Hopkins' name in full, John Patrick Hopkins, thus saying to those people of foreign nationalities who hate the Irish. "This man is Irish, therefore vote against him. The Catholics of Chicago are to be congratulated in their victory over Apatism.

John P. Hopkins, the newly elected Mayor of Chicago was born in Buffalo, thirty-six years ago, so is an American by birth as well as sentiment. He is essentially a self-made man, whose success in any undertaking is sufficient evidence of his high character, and executive ability. In 1885 Mr. Hopkins organized the Secord-Hopkins company, which has now the largest general store in Chicago south of Congress street and whose sales aggregate \$400,000 annually. When as treasurer of the village of Hyde Park, in 1885 Mr. Hopkins had the custody and disposition of \$2,000,000. Five months ago he was appointed Receiver of the Chemical National Bank, and since then he has by his vigorous policy, succeeded in distributing a dividend of 70 per cent.

Many sham infernal machines sent by practical jokers as Christmas presents to friends have passed through the Berlin post-office in the last few days. In a number of cases persons receiving the suspicious-looking parcels were afraid to open them, and consigned them to the police, thereby giving the examining experts a great deal of useless work. The police are on the track of a number of the senders, and they intend to prosecute the offenders with rigorous severity.

Two thousand men out of work paraded the streets of Amsterdam yesterday under Socialistic auspices. They were repeatedly dispersed by the police, but quickly gathered again. Finally, one hundred policemen were ordered to charge the paraders with swords. The police were received with volleys of stones, and a savage fight ensued.