

T. P. O'CONNOR'S
LETTERRUSSIAN REVOLUTION REACTS
ON ENGLISH CONSERVATIVESIRISH OPINION SETTLING INDEFINITELY
IN FAVOR OF CONSTITUTIONAL
IRISH PARTYSpecial Cable to the CATHOLIC RECORD
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London, March 31st.—In a quiet way one feels a thrill of electricity in the air from the sense that we are approaching, in England, on all sides, the greatest moment of the War.

This accounts, to a large extent, for such a crop of ill-rumors which have sprung up since the last week end, when troops were maneuvered for test purposes on the coast line. Because of these troops being connected with the Home Defense Corps, there was a tendency to interpret this movement on the part of many people into confident statements that either one of three things had happened; a big battle in the West which had gone against our troops or that the German fleet had succeeded in running past the British Grand Sea Fleet and had defeated our naval forces in the North Sea or that the Germans had landed a great army on either the coast of England or Ireland.

Yet in spite of all those signs of unrest, there was still a strong spirit of self-control so that even such great victories as have been reported at Bagdad and the forcing back of the German lines on the Somme front and the consequent retaking of thousands of miles of territory in France, which has been under German occupation, were taken more coolly than were the reports of successful little skirmishes last year.

This is but one of the many proofs that indicate that this country has settled down to war as one of the normal things of life. Still stronger is the proof that there remains the same set determination that the War must go on to a great knock-out and that it can end in only one way.

Recent events strengthen these feelings, for to the revolution in Russia is added the closer approach of the intervention of the United States on the side of the Allied Powers as a gigantic addition to our forces.

The Russian revolution, except among some of the die-hard reactionaries, has been hailed with extraordinary enthusiasm. Its reflective action on this country is seen in the growing acceptance, even by Conservatives, of big democratic changes in the vote of the people and forcible proposals which will agitate against any landlord who will not use his estates for the maximum production of food-stuffs, for which there is, despite the most optimistic of reports, the greatest need.

There is even a strong demand by a certain section of the Conservatives for the entire reconstruction of the House of Lords. The English Jews are loudest in their expressions of delight as they see in the new regime the realization of their long delayed liberation and receive with tears every allusion to new Russia at any gatherings at which they predominate in numbers.

Russia also reacts on the Irish question, where all reactionary tendencies are purposely discredited, but up to the present time no progress can be reported on the new attempt for a settlement of this extremely great national problem, though in spite of some vicissitudes which are inevitable amid such a conflict of interest of both political and sectarian natures, I still believe that a settlement of the Irish question will soon come.

At this time the situation is somewhat complicated by the strained relations between Lloyd George and his former Irish friends through his tactless speeches of late and therefore there are no longer free interchanges of ideas between the Premier and the leaders of the Irish party which are so essential to arriving at any deal between such extreme demands.

Another difficulty, of course, is Lloyd George's entire absorption in the War problem, in this the most critical hour of the great conflict, and Lloyd George has long been credited with having the faculty of becoming so absorbed in one great problem as for the moment to shut his mind absolutely against any profound consideration of any other problem.

One must add to this that in his present cabinet Lloyd George finds himself hourly in touch with the strongest personalities on the Orange side, while on the other hand, the Irish cause has the advantage at this moment of being bound up with the fortunes of Lloyd George's ministry.

Everybody in England, everybody in the House of Commons, with infinitesimal exceptions are crying for a settlement of this most vital question. If, therefore, this settlement has failed of accomplishment, unless it be shown that this failure is due to an unreasonableness on the part of Ireland herself this failure would be received with such dismay and disgust that the prestige of Lloyd George's ministry would be profoundly weakened.

Further failure must mean such an increase in opposition to the Irish question in the House of Commons as would drive Lloyd George to agree to a general election, which is regarded by all sane men as a disaster by the bringing about of much turmoil and dissension at a moment when the state of the European War demands the most tranquil concentration and the inflexible unity of all

parties and of all parts of the British Empire.

Thus many things combine at this moment to make such a settlement, if not inevitable, at least much easier than ever before. Reports are common to the effect that the Orangemen are ready to make such concessions as will safeguard and symbolize the indivisible unity of Ireland and that they will agree to such recognition of an Irish Parliament in Dublin as will come from joint consultations on national matters as distinct and separate from mere provincial interests.

But again trusting to rumor they still insist on six county blocks which under no circumstances would receive the consideration and consent of the Irish party.

A remarkable feature of the moment and also an additional help towards the settlement of the Irish question, is the extraordinary and incredibly rapid transformation of opinion on the part of the public towards Ireland.

There was a violent tide running some weeks ago especially at the Rosecommon election against the Redmond Irish party which turned into equally violent expression of ire against Count Plunkett as a life-long office seeker while posing as a leader of an incorruptibly pure party. This may be the first rent in the new anti-party movement. And a bigger rent was made by his circular to local bodies asking for representatives at the National convention. Irish newspapers contain columns every day of reports of these bodies in which the unfortunate Count is roundly assailed and the only choice of most of the councils is whether or not the circular shall be read or thrown into the fire.

This accompanied by vehement renews of expressions of confidence in Redmond and his party, even in councils, whose congratulations were sent to Plunkett after the Rosecommon election; but these same bodies have now unanimously rejected his policy.

Up to date thirty-four local bodies have rejected and five have accepted Plunkett's convention plans and each day brings a new list of scornful rejections.

This steadying of opinion on the Irish question has helped enormously in the Irish party's acceptance of reasonable and the rejecting of unreasonable proposals from Lloyd George.

I am convinced, but I am giving expression in these words to the opinion of the overwhelming majority of the British people; I know I am expressing the opinion of men of all parties in the House of Commons; in fact, I am positive that the voice of the whole British Empire joins in the chorus for the settlement of the question which lies so near to every true Irishman's heart.

ON THE BATTLE LINE

NATIONAL SERVICE

London, March 30.—The Right Hon. William Hayes Fisher, Parliamentary Secretary to the Local Government Board, in an address at Hull to-night, said it was not an exaggeration to say that the country was in deadly peril at the present moment.

"We must have national service for everybody."

The opposing armies are now in contact along the Hindenburg line, but, pending the bringing up of guns and supplies, which is hampered by bad weather, a lull has succeeded the recent heavy fighting along the Western front. German official reports admit the continual withdrawal in front of Cambrai, on which the British are steadily advancing. The Kaiser, it is reported, has visited the Western front, and urged the German troops to hold the new line at all costs. With the coming of dry weather military experts are of opinion that a further German retreat is possible, owing to the weakness of their new defensive positions. Interesting developments are expected soon near Arras.

The French recovered lost ground in the Champagne region in the west of Maisons de Champagne in a vigorous counter-attack.

On the Belgian front sharp fighting took place at Steenstraetes, when a Belgian raiding party entered the first line of German trenches at the bridge of Steenstraete. Heavy losses were inflicted on the enemy, and some prisoners brought back to the Belgian lines.

The importance of the Champagne operations is liable to be underestimated unless the relation of Champagne to Verdun is borne in mind. Failing in his offensive at Verdun, the Crown Prince last month launched his right wing at the French positions in the Champagne, smashing through four lines of strongly-defended trenches, and capturing eight hundred French prisoners on Hill 185 and at Maisons de Champagne. The lost ground has been recovered, the temporary occupations costing the Germans dearly. A German advance in this region would endanger the French line at Verdun as the scene of all the fighting in the Champagne is only ten miles from the Paris-Verdun railway. The cutting of this railway east of Reims would isolate the French forces at Verdun. Hence the persistence of the Crown Prince in the Champagne region.

The Defence of Constantinople which General von Mackensen is reported to be organizing, will tax all the resources of the Ottoman Government.

It is unlikely that Turkey, for the remainder of the War, will be willing or able to aid any of her Allies. Since the War Turkey is said to have mobilized in all not more than a million and a quarter men. Of these half have been used up in the fighting at Gallipoli, Armenia, Mesopotamia, Arabia, Egypt, and by the ravages of disease to which Oriental armies are subject. About half a million men are now available, but as these are scattered over the various fronts in the Near East—the bulk of them operating in Asiatic Turkey—the task before the Ottoman Government is much greater than that undertaken at the Dardanelles. The immediate plan of the Allies in the Near East is to destroy the Turkish forces in Mesopotamia, and Persia. News regarding the success of the British and Russian armies in these regions should soon be received.—Globe, March 31.

VETERAN BASILIAN PRIEST
PASSES TO REWARD

In the death of Rev. F. X. Granotier, C. S. B., Owen Sound loses a venerated and beloved personality endeared to all by over a half-century's kindly and fruitful work in the ministry. He was born in France in 1838 and in 1913 celebrated his golden jubilee as a priest.

The Owen Sound Sun thus refers to one who had been identified with the town since 1862:

"Blessed with a kindly and sympathetic disposition, Father Granotier won the hearts of the adherents of his church, and the respect and admiration of everyone who knew him."

"His congregation revered him for his saintliness and those of a different belief respected him as a man who fulfilled all the qualities necessary to good citizenship."

The tribute is eloquent testimony to the genial adaptability combined with the true sacerdotal spirit which characterized the priests whom the missionary spirit of old France sent to Canada in times past when the call of our needs found a response in their generous zeal.

SACRED HEART
ACADEMYCHARTER WITH DEGREE-
CONFERRING POWERS

The State Board of Regents has granted a charter to the College of the Sacred Heart, and the academy, for many years of Manhattanville, will be the nucleus of the new institution.

The High school classes of the academy have been registered by the Regents for a long time, and in the last two years of the course followed there the pupils received a training equivalent to two years of college work. Pupils of the highest class of the academy are eligible for the junior class of the new institution.

The trustees are the Right Rev. William J. Guinan, the Rev. John J. Wynne, S. J.; Thomas F. Woodlock, Walter George Smith and officials of the college.

The Board of Regents has unanimously granted the charter and approved the courses of studies which meet the requirements of the board. These courses will embrace the various branches that qualify a student for academic degree. The higher studies offered in the junior and senior classes have the same character as those that distinguish the previous years, predominantly literary, with a strong basis in ethics and philosophy. The social and political sciences will receive full attention. The literatures of the modern languages, French, German, Spanish and Italian, as well as the familiar use of these languages, will be taught thoroughly.

The new college will start with exceptional advantages, as Manhattanville is the central base of a group of academies of the Sacred Heart in the eastern part of the United States. Closely connected with it are the two other New York houses of the order, 450 Madison avenue and Maplehurst, in the Bronx.

Manhattanville is peculiarly suited to this extension of educational work undertaken by the Religious of the Sacred Heart. Its surroundings make it an ideal spot for such development. To the north are the Gothic structures of the City College and far to the south the Columbia, Barnard and Teachers College buildings. The Sacred Heart property was formerly the country estate of the Lorillards.

The Religious of the Sacred Heart are proud of their alumnae in all parts of the United States. Among them are Louise Imogen Guiney and Agnes Repplier. Cardinal Farley, writing to the Rev. Mother Moran of the new college, says:

"I received your announcement of the charter granted by the State Board of Regents for the College of the Sacred Heart."

"This news is very gratifying to me, as I have always been convinced that an extension of your educational work to include the college courses was necessary. With the splendid material available for the formation of a teaching staff I have every confidence that you will make the College of the Sacred Heart a recognized power in the field of higher education."

"I congratulate you and the ladies of the Sacred Heart on the new policy you have adopted and wish the new college every success."—N. Y. Sun.

IRISH CANADIANS AND
HOME RULEPATRIOTIC DUTY TO FIGHT
THOUGH RESENTFUL OF
INJUSTICE TO IRELAND

Montreal Gazette, March 23

Ottawa, March 22.—In a statement issued to the press this evening, Major Rev. John J. O'Gorman, parish priest of the Blessed Sacrament Church, who is convalescing from wounds received in the Somme, showed how intense indignation at the refusal of Ireland's autonomy is, in the Irish Canadian, combined with intense devotion to the Empire. An ardent Irishman and fluent Gaelic speaker, Dr. O'Gorman dismisses the refusal to enlist till Home Rule be granted, as the policy of sulks.

Father O'Gorman's statement is as follows:

The eloquent and vehement denunciations of England's policy towards Ireland heard in many meetings in Canada during the past few days have raised in many minds the question: Should the indefinite refusal of Home Rule by the British War Cabinet and the continuance of martial law in Ireland, interfere with the enlisting of Irish-Canadians for overseas service? I have heard Irish-Canadians say: "I'll enlist when Ireland gets Home Rule—and not before." Is this attitude justifiable?

To answer this question we should distinguish the double duty of the Irish-Canadian—the duty he owes to Ireland, and the duty he owes to Canada. For there certainly exists this double duty. There are indeed some who claim that we of Irish descent are Canadians pure and simple; that Ireland was indeed the land of our ancestors, but it is not our land, and that consequently we have nothing whatever to do with it. This claim we Irish-Canadians cannot admit. Ireland has bequeathed to us, in addition to the Catholic faith of St. Patrick, an intellectual, moral, emotional and artistic inheritance, which is of the highest spiritual and cultural value. It is our right, as it is our duty, to know Ireland's history, her great saints, her mighty men and women, to impregnate ourselves with the ideals which they realized, that we, their descendants, may be imbued with their high spirituality. We have inherited as a legacy from our ancestors, whether we will it or not, an Irish temperament. If we ignore or neglect its existence it may rush us into many mistakes or sink us in many sorrows, sorrows so tender, so sad that only Irish music can describe them.

However, we wish to make this Irish temperament ours the fiercest basis of a perfect Christian character. We can be greatly aided in this building up of a new man within us, if we are swayed and buoyed with the thoughts, the hopes, the ideals, and the prayers of sixty generations of Irish Catholics. Though we were born in Canada, though our parents were born in Canada, Drummond spoke truly: "We are Irish yet." Canada is her home; she supports us in her bosom. She rears and educates us. But the life blood that is in our veins, the nerves that are the channels of our emotions, are fatherland, all the dearest and nearest to us, because the ties that bind us are wholly spiritual. He who strikes Ireland strikes us. We are sometimes advised, that Anglo-Irish history is for Englishmen to remember, and for Irishmen to forget. Well, I do not see many Englishmen remembering Irish history, and I am one Irishman who does not intend to forget it. Every act of injustice against Ireland, every insult to her, every attempt to denationalize her, every stupidly insolent and which would rivet the fetters forced on her by a feudal ascendancy party—every such act raises a shiver of sorrow from our breast, and awakens within us a burning desire to avenge the injustice.

Hence certain Irish Canadians have said and are saying: "If England won't listen to reason and give Ireland a small nation's right, then we will use an argument that she will understand. We will refuse to enlist till Ireland gets Home Rule." Now it must be admitted that this practical argument is one that Englishmen, even political reactionaries, can understand. The Irish vote prevented conscription in Australia; the pro-Ally Irish influence in the United States has been anti-English; and even in Canada, Easter Week and its aftermath interfered considerably with the recruiting of the Irish Canadian Rangers. The British Government knows these facts and they help to make her feel uneasy about her Irish policy. But this fatal flaw in this anti-recruiting policy is, that while it may indirectly help to bring about Home Rule for Ireland, it directly aids the enemy, and weakens our Allies. Ireland's liberty must not be sought at such a price, and this, the Irish being a spiritually-minded race, realized from the out-break of War.

IRELAND'S WAR RECORD

Before the victims of Bachelors' Walk were cold in the grave, Irish Nationalists were rushing in thousands into the British army. Ireland, without the rights of a small nation, began to sacrifice herself for small nations and big nations. She did this not with the foolish generosity of the Celt, but because Ireland realized that the interests of humanity are more important and must be preferred to the interests of any one nation. Of Ireland and Belgium alone of all the nations engaged in this War can it be truthfully said that they sacrificed their national interests to the wider interests of mankind. England, France, Russia, Canada, Australia are indeed fighting for noble ideals, but they are fighting for ideals co-existent with or parallel to their own national interests. Not so with Ireland. With seven centuries of wrong, in a great measure unredressed, with an arrogant anti-national ascendancy party in control of all the important military and civil positions in the country, in spite of a stupidly malignant anti-Irish campaign of the British War Office the Irish enlisted in their tens of thousands. When the Sixteenth Division was formed, a division of which the privates were 99% Irish Catholics, out of the 500 officers only three were Catholics, and they were subalterns. The War Office considered Irish Catholics good enough to go to get killed for the Empire, but an inferior, untrustworthy lot who, like the Sepoys, must be officered by Britons. The officers of the regular army who organized the Curragh Revolt could not trust the mere Irish. Yet in spite of this, and a hundred similar humiliations, there are to-day, in the British army and navy, or in the casualty lists 175,000 Irish of Ireland, two-thirds of whom are Catholics. Recruiting continued in Ireland till the country was put under martial law after the unjustifiable feign not unprovoked, Dublin Sinn Fein revolt. The men who have not enlisted are feeding Britain.

FIGHT FOR THE EMPIRE

Such is Ireland's War record. What will be that of Irish-Canadians? We can adopt the policy of sulks and not enlist, or we can continue the policy of self-sacrifice. If we have any of the high spirituality of Ireland, that Ireland which was ever ready to pardon the persecutor: even when new forms of persecution were being prepared for her, then we will scorn the policy of sulks, and continue the policy of self-sacrifice. We, Irish and kin of the men of Ireland who have no longer the rights of citizens, but who, under martial law, are being spied upon and gaoled and deported without trial to satisfy the prejudices of Irish landlords such as Landsdowne, and Orange fanatics, such as Carson, we will heap coals of fire on the heads of these junkers by making even greater efforts than in the past for the Empire. Thus, the duty we owe to Ireland coincides with the duty we owe to Canada.

For as Canadians we have known nothing of the anti-national type of Imperialism, which Norman kings introduced into Ireland, and has there become a perennial policy. British Imperialism towards Canada has been of the nation-destroying type. The interests of Canada, as a nation, as an autonomous part of the British Empire, and as a member of the world's family of nations, demanded that we should enter this War against the Turco-Teutons, and that having entered it, we should prosecute it, till we finished it or it finishes us. The few voices that are raised here and there, asking that we should halt till Ireland gets Home Rule, have rightly been regarded by the vast majority of Irish-Canadians. We do not intend to do wrong that good may come. We were second to none in 1914, and 1915 and 1916, in the sincerity of our loyalty, and the greatness of our sacrifices, and we will be second to none in 1917. In this very city, the McGee's and the O'Donohue's and the O'Connor's and the Young's and the Huggins's and the Brankins's and a whole litany of those of Irish name have done and are doing their share. Nor have the O'Connell's done too badly, as there are eleven of us from the Ottawa Valley on active service. No matter how unjust be the policy of England towards Ireland, we shall not change. For our patriotism is the result, not of the changing conduct of individuals or of institutions, but of principles as unchanging as our Catholic faith.

However the same patriotism which compels us to fight for the Empire, urges us to voice aloud our indignation at Ireland's treatment. We expect that Canada's representative at the Imperial Conference will voice that indignation in no uncertain tone. It matters little that Bonar Law, some time ago, arrogantly refused that Home Rule should be discussed by the dominion premiers. Does he imagine that Canada has sent Sir Robert Borden to London merely to learn a lesson in European geography? Canada's premier is there to discuss Imperial and war matters with Britain's premier, and there can be no discussion except between equals. Some Englishmen have yet to learn that Imperialism means that Canada and Australia are the equals of England and Scotland, and that when Canada and Australia demand Home Rule for Ireland, England and Scotland cannot well refuse. Hence the policy adopted by Irish-Canadians to fight Germans on the field of battle and British junkers in the council chamber of the Empire, is one which fulfills our duties as the sons of Irishmen and the sons of Canada.

Lowliness is the base of every virtue.

CANADIAN SOLDIERS

We are in receipt of the following resolution drawn up at a meeting of Chaplains held at Shorncliffe, England, on the 23rd ult. Copies of this with covering letter were sent to Headquarters, Canadians, London, to the Home Secretary, and to the Divisional Commander. It is sufficient evidence of the conditions that exist and of the efforts being put forth by the Chaplains to stamp them out:

MEETING OF CHAPLAINS, SHORNCLIFFE, FEB. 23, '17

That this meeting views with intense grief and profound alarm the prevalence amongst troops of immorality, a vice which is entirely opposed to the Christian spirit, which strikes at the very foundation of national stability and military efficiency, and which brings upon the individual and the home the most terrible afflictions.

That this meeting ascribes the deplorable prevalence of immorality—after the strength of human passion—to the following causes: Immoral publications, illustrations, and theatrical productions; the facility with which lewd women are permitted to throw temptation in the way of soldiers; the consumption to excess of intoxicating liquors; the extremely common use of immoral language among all ranks in the Army, and the levity with which immoral conduct is ordinarily regarded by them.

That this meeting declares, in its opinion, the urgent need of the following measures: Drastic legislation by the British Government to suppress indecent publications, illustrations and theatrical productions, and to prevent solicitation by lewd women. Action by the Military Authorities on the lines of the resolution passed by the Chaplains of the Shorncliffe District at their meeting of January 23rd, viz., "1. That all public Bars within five miles of Camp areas be placed 'out of bounds' to all Canadian troops; 2. That all regimental Canteens be conducted exclusively by the Regimental Authorities." Inculcation by the Military Authorities upon all ranks of the Christian principle that immorality is a grave violation of God's Commandments, and not simply something which may bring upon those guilty of it some of the most dreadful diseases; insistence on purity of language among all ranks; and on officers and non-commissioned officers setting the example; and the infliction of severe penalties for the use of language that is obscene.—Canadian Churchman, (Toronto).

LAETARE MEDALIST

NOTRE DAME BESTOWS HONOR
ON CATHOLIC SEAMAN

The Laetare Medal for 1917 will be conferred upon Admiral Wm. Shepherd Benson, ranking Admiral in the United States Navy, who is a Fourth Degree Knight of Columbus and a convert to the Catholic faith.

Admiral Benson, who is Chief of Naval Operations, is a native of Georgia, where he was born in 1855. For two years before entering the Naval Academy, he lived in the country, where he had no opportunity to attend school, and although this was a handicap, he made the Entrance examination. It is a well-known fact that he had no influential friends to boost him, and his present high position is the result of no spectacular performance, but came from hard work and a fixed habit of making good in every position assigned to him, and saying nothing about it. A brother officer and shipmate said of him:

"Whatever ship he served was sure to be a happy and efficient ship. Not, however, until he took command of the superdreadnought Utah did he find his real element, where the force of his personality could make itself felt. It was there that he initiated and created the Utah spirit, famous throughout the battle fleet and now famous throughout the navy, because he brought the Utah spirit to the Navy Department with him. Before he had been here long people began to find out that the Utah spirit was the Benson spirit, best exemplified in the ancient phrase, 'Mine the labor, thine the praise.'"

"Those who know him best are well aware that over and beyond all is a profound and consistent piety which shows itself, not in words, but in his acts and character, so that, with his great responsibilities and his far-reaching military authority, the one idea that shines out above everything else is his never-ending charity and devotion to duty."

His first important command was the "Utah," where, without making any show, he inspired men and officers to give their best to the service. Next, he was selected for the administrative office of commandant of the navy yard at Philadelphia. There he continued the same old method—just kept on planning and

working until things went right, and that was what he was doing when called to make good in the Benson way in his biggest job—in fact, one of the greatest military undertakings in times of peace, the organization of the office of naval operations, the first approach to military management of the military affairs of the navy.

It was in the spring of 1915 that Congress enacted that there should be a Chief of Naval Operations, who should be charged with the operation of the fleet, and the preparation of plans for its use in war. Admiral Benson's work in the organization of the office was so successful, and had so fully demonstrated the need of the office, that Congress in 1916 enacted that the Chief of Operations should have authority to issue orders within his jurisdiction in the name of the secretary; that the Chief, while holding that office, should have the rank of Admiral, and, to insure permanency, that not less than 15 officers should be assigned to duty under him.

One of Admiral Benson's recent duties has been to tell the House Naval Committee what the navy needs most, and it is said that its action was largely based on the recommendations of the Chief of Naval Operations, that unassuming officer whom the United States Navy says will "make good," for he still keeps up that "Utah spirit."

The Laetare Medal is annually presented to an American lay Catholic distinguished in literature, science, art, commerce, philanthropy, sociology or some other field of beneficent activity. Admiral Benson comes under the last generalization. His work, as chief director of naval operations, is one most beneficial to the country. If war develops in the near future, he will be the country's foremost figure.

The Laetare Medal is the highest honor Notre Dame can bestow upon a man. It is conferred upon some leading Catholic every Laetare Sunday as the emblem of that world-old fact that the Catholic Church recognizes no peerage save the aristocracy of merit. The custom was first inaugurated at Notre Dame in 1883 and the long roster of Laetare Medalists is perhaps the best list of representative American Catholics that can be found anywhere. The idea of the Laetare Medal was inspired by a similar practice which has existed in Europe since the thirteenth century. This is the Pope's custom of giving a gold rose to some eminent European Catholic whose services are deemed worthy of recognition, on the Mid-Sunday of Lent. To receive the Laetare Medal has long been considered one of the highest honors that can come to an American Catholic.—Chicago News World.

FATHER FRASER'S CHINESE
MISSION

Taichowfu, China, Nov. 26, 1916

Dear Readers of CATHOLIC RECORD:

That your charity towards my mission is approved by the highest ecclesiastical authorities of Canada let me quote from a letter from His Excellency, The Most Rev. Peregrine F. Stagni, O. S. M., D. D., Apostolic Delegate, Ottawa: "I have been watching with much interest the contributions to the Fund opened on behalf of your missions by the CATHOLIC RECORD. The success has been very gratifying and shows the deep interest which our Catholic people take in the work of the missionary in foreign lands."

I bless you most cordially and all your labors, as a pledge my earnest wishes for your greatest success in all your undertakings. I entreat you to continue the support of my struggling mission, assuring you a remembrance in my prayers and Masses.

Yours faithfully in Jesus and Mary,
J. M. FRASER

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