

Catholic Record.

LONDON, FRIDAY, DEC. 24, 1880.

CHRISTMAS.

This issue of the *Record* will reach most of our readers on Christmas Eve. The festival of Christmas is now so universally observed, bringing with it to all so much of genuine love for God and man that it may be justly considered an annual renewal of the covenant of mercy established by the mystery of the redemption. The utter abandonment of man excluded from the regenerating influences of Divine Bounty, was, at the coming of Christ, truly appalling. The world had then, we learn from the best historical sources, reached a state of moral corruption and degradation without parallel, without limit, without extinction. There was no infamy that did not find toleration, approbation and encouragement amongst men. Wealth acquired by years of toil or by ancestral privilege—glory won by great and varied civil talents, or by the just renown of gigantic military achievements, tarnished heedlessly in the procuring of pleasures of the baser kind. Statues and temples and majestic statues were raised in honor of deified vice. Even the splendid civilization of the Greeks and Romans was tainted by the foulest corruption. The influence of the merely civic virtues in promoting national advancement, domestic unity, and individual happiness was found, after long trial, to be utterly wanting. There was neither honor nor domestic peace in the world. Mankind, drooping and withering through the taint of the universal moral disorder, had, but for the coming of the Redeemer, speedily lapsed into hopeless barbarism. But God's mercy, being above all his works, relieved, through the coming of His Divine Son, the whole human race from the bondage of sin and death. Christ came to the world to redeem and rejoice in it. We know how from the cry at Bethlehem to the cross on Calvary, this mission of Infinite Love was accomplished. It is around the crib in the obscure hamlet wherein Christ deigned, amid privation and poverty, to enter the world, that the thoughts and hopes of men gather at this holy season. The pre-occupations of life, the vicissitudes and trials through which we all have to pass every year of our lives here below, keep us too frequently away from the reflections which spring as if through some perennial source—from contemplation, however brief, of the mystery which the church now invites us to commemorate. But though prevented, as many at other seasons are from such contemplation, all at this time seem intent on forgetting the troubles of every day strife and activity for better thoughts, and a hearty moment of thanksgiving to a God of infinite mercy, whose wisdom reacheth from end to end mightily and ordereth all things sweetly. To all at this season we extend our most cordial greetings. But to our readers and friends we especially wish a very merry Christmas. We trust that for all of them it may be a season of genuine happiness and religious rejoicing, for this spent, this brighter time will be a prelude of happier and happier days, and its annual recurrence ever looked to with hopefulness and fervid Catholic expectation.

MIXED MARRIAGES.

We beg to call the attention of our readers to two important articles on the question of mixed marriages, to be found on our first page. The one is from the pen of a distinguished professor of moral theology in the College of Maynooth, who, in an article in the *Irish Ecclesiastical Record*, lays down the conditions on which alone mixed marriages are tolerated in the Catholic Church. The other is from the Rt. Rev. Bishop Watterson, of Columbus, Ohio, who gives the reasons from a Catholic standpoint against the repeating of marriage ceremonies before a Protestant Minister after the marriage between a Catholic and a Protestant had been, on the usual conditions, and with the requisite dispensation, contracted before a Catholic priest.

Both articles are worthy of the most serious attention of our readers.

AMERICAN SYMPATHY WITH IRELAND.

Last winter the American House of Representatives did itself honor by the respect it showed Mr. C. S. Parnell, the Irish leader. The House in giving its hall to that distinguished representative of the Irish people, to set forth to one of the most intelligent and distinguished assemblies ever gathered together to hear a public man, the grievances of Ireland, expressed its own sympathy and the sympathy of the American people with the cause of suffering Ireland. The honor then done to Mr. Parnell gave courage and hope to a famine-stricken people. From the very inception of the land agitation, the great heart of America has felt for Ireland. From America have come the most earnest protests against the present Irish land system. Americans the inequities of that system have been exposed to the world's denunciation. With a free soil and a noble-hearted agricultural population of its own, America fully realizes the degradation into which centuries of persecution, spoliation and famine have plunged Ireland.

The present session of Congress has already witnessed on the part of the representatives of the American people, a generous declaration of sympathy with Ireland. On Monday, Dec. 13th, in the House of Representatives, the following resolution, moved by Mr. W. H. Calkins of Indiana, received unanimous approval: "Resolved, that the sympathy of this House is hereby extended to the unhappy laboring class of Ireland in its effort to effect a reform in the present oppressive tenant system prevailing in that country." The terms of this resolution, so clear, so concise and so emphatic, will be received in Ireland with unqualified satisfaction. It will indeed be a matter of sincere congratulation to the mass of the Irish people to know that one of the most important representative bodies in the world has placed solemnly on record its approval of their cause and its condemnation of the land system under which Ireland now suffers.

It will, of course, be alleged by the enemies of Ireland on both sides of the Atlantic that the resolution was proposed as an electioneering scheme. Mr. Calkins, its mover, is a member of the republican party. He represents a district with a comparatively small Irish vote, the vast majority of which was cast against him at the last election. The election is now past, and neither Mr. Calkins or any other member of the House could be in the least influenced in proposing or assenting to a resolution of this kind by any such unworthy motive. The resolution is the outcome of the unanimous feeling and opinion of the House on the Irish question. It may indeed be said that the passage of the resolution can effect no useful purpose, that, in fact, it is a matter of no real concern to the American people what system of land tenure prevails in Ireland. Both of these propositions we emphatically deny. The expression of opinion of so eminent a body on any subject touching the good government of a nation, is always valuable and leads to good results. As a matter of fact, the House of Representatives of the United States, sitting in Washington, is better acquainted with the wants of Ireland than the Imperial Parliament of Britain sitting in London. To five sixths of the latter body Ireland is as absolutely unknown as Zululand and Cochinchina. To these legislators the Irish are aliens and enemies to be kept in subjection by fire and sword. When they fail, as they have, especially of late, failed in their duty to Ireland, the declaration of the House at Washington will carry significance with it everywhere and add to the universal condemnation of British rule in Ireland. The American people are deeply concerned in the Irish question. Its solution on a basis satisfactory to the people is a matter of vital importance to a nation containing fourteen millions of men of Irish blood—a nation interested and concerned in the progress of freedom everywhere. The unanimous concurrence of the House in Mr. Calkins' resolution reflects credit on the dignity and wisdom of Congress, and entitles that body to the lasting gratitude of the Irish race at home and abroad.

THE OUTLOOK IN IRELAND.

Ireland, at the close of one year and about to enter on another, presents to day an extraordinary spectacle. There are two governments ruling the country—one, the representative of British Imperialism, sits enthroned in Dublin Castle—the other, the product of national feeling, thoroughly aroused, firmly established in the rooms of the Land League. Of the two the latter is by far the more powerful. The Castle government has soldiers, police and munitions of war at its command. Yet it is comparatively powerless. The Land League government has neither soldiers, police nor arms to execute its decrees. Yet these decrees are carried out with the most scrupulous regard. Whence this extraordinary position? Our readers can find no difficulty in replying. The government of the Land League is sustained and upheld by the people. The other is the representative of foreign rule and national impoverishment. The people of Ireland are determined to live on the soil they cultivate. They have resolved to remove an incubus of tyranny which has long brooded over their unhappy country in the shape of landlord oppression. With this determination, this resolution ever in view, they sustain their chosen popular leaders, who are today more powerful than the government itself. We hope that the same happy unanimity will prevail among the people for all time to come. With unity and determination they can attain the good purposes they have in view. The League has risen Ireland from despondency and gloom into hopefulness and steadiest confidence. Its influence will grow day by day till the soil of Ireland is made the property of the people who sow the seed of its harvest, but garner them not in. The year 1881 will not, we feel assured, close without some important change in the Irish land system—a forerunner of other and broader changes.

THE EASTERN QUESTION AGAIN.

The eastern question has taken quite a new phase. The Porte has ceded the island of Crete to Germany, so that the German government will have ground for direct intervention in all questions affecting the solution of difficulties in the Turkish dominions. So long as Turkish rule in Europe is maintained there will of a certainty be trouble of more or less magnitude, demanding the good offices in peace or war of the great European powers. What direct concern Germany can have in the solution of any such difficulties, we are at a loss to understand. But of late years Germany has undertaken to drag all Europe into its own way of thinking and acting in many matters of international import. Russia, Great Britain and Austria have each certain vital interests, or are understood to have such interests at stake in the East, but Germany has now stepped in and will, if we can form any judgment of her future course by her past mode of action in matters of European concern, make her intervention felt. Jealousy of Russia and Britain may be the motive for this latest freak of diplomacy. But there may be some more powerful motive at work. The German chancellor may be eager for the extinction of Austria and the foundation of a mighty Germanic empire stretching from the Baltic to the Bosphorus. He must, at all events, soon show his hand. The position of Greece in regard to the Berlin treaty demands the immediate consideration of the powers. By the terms of that treaty Greece was awarded certain territory it has not yet received, and which the Turkish government refuses to make over. Of itself, Greece is certainly unable to insist on the cession of this territory. The Turkish army would, in a few weeks, if allowed free scope to operate on Greek soil, reduce the little kingdom once more to the rank of an Ottoman dependency. But this can never be permitted. Europe will protect the autonomy of Greece. Will the powers, however, secure her the quiet possession of the territory awarded by the treaty of Berlin? This latter eventuality we are greatly disposed to doubt. Greece has just now no claim on any one of the powers to justify its active interven-

tion on her behalf. Germany and Austria are not interested in the aggrandizement of a kingdom looked upon as an instrument of Russia. Russia of itself cannot enforce the cession of the disputed territory, and it is hardly possible that Great Britain will strain a nerve to see the territory of the Greek King enlarged. The matter will be settled not with any view to the real interests of either Turkey or Greece, but in the interest of some one or more of the great powers. The settlement will at best be only temporary. When the day for a lasting solution of the Eastern question arrives, it will be found that the acquisition of Crete by Germany will have added another element to the tremendous conflict

TROUBLE IN THE CAMP.

The French Radicals are not blessed with domestic tranquility. The whole family of French Republicans is a very motley one indeed, but the radical wing is the most interesting of all. There are in that one branch of the Republican family men of every shade and color in politics. These men do not agree in anything but that it is essential to each of them to be himself a leader. The consequence is that the rival claims of candidates for distinction in the radical camp are the source of much trouble and discontent. No sooner has one chief been set up than others whose claims were passed over raise a clamor for his decapitation. The spirit of revolutionary change, so deeply imbrued in the minds of most members of the party, prompts them to remove leaders for very small cause. During the past few years the numbers of ministers who have ruled the destinies of France is something astonishing. Rochefort and Gambetta are now at variance. Rochefort's journal uses the most violent denunciation in regard to the "great tribune," much to the discomfiture of the latter. The extreme left support Rochefort's view, and as the extreme left always succeeds in works of demolition, we may expect before long to hear of Gambetta's fall from popularity.

THE CHURCH IN GERMANY.

Here Winthorst lately called the attention of the government to the grievances of the Catholics of Germany. The minister of worship stated in reply that the government regretted the present position of affairs, but as their ecclesiastical bill of last session had been rejected, they could not take the initiative in bringing about a reconciliation. A more humiliating confession a minister never yet made. He admits the existence of a grievance, and the desirability of its removal, but protests that the executive cannot open negotiations with the view to attain such an end. He adds that the government will administer with mildness the present laws. We are then to understand that the government has no intention of enforcing these laws. Nothing but a vigorous administration of such a system could secure for it anything of success. If that it is not to be enforced, why not abolish it? The Minister knows well that the persecution set on foot in 1871 has proved a signal failure, and is preparing himself for an easy "let down" by a mild administration of existing laws.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The *Catholic World* for January has reached us. The contents, as usual, are of a varied character and will be found interesting and instructive in the highest degree.

"It must not be forgotten, however, that the advocates of Ireland's rights have to be very lively and energetic in their demand if they expect to succeed. As Justin McCarthy says in his history, real grievances rarely attract the practical attention of the British Parliament until after they have come to boiling point, and blown the lid off. The crimes of a few Irishmen form no excuse for unjust legislation on the part of Parliament."—*Advertiser*.

Our contemporary has herein stated the case in the fairest manner possible. The lid is now being blown off, and we hope soon to see such laws enacted as will give Irishmen at home no cause for agitation.

The Grand Orange Lodge people of Ireland are making strenuous efforts to draw public attention to-

wards them. They have now taken steps to meet by signals at any time during the day or night, for the purpose of protecting themselves. Then we are told that a subscription is being started for defensive purposes, and a circular has been issued giving them information as to the use of arms. Now, who in the world ever dreamt of touching or interfering with these men? In the first place, they are so few that the people of Ireland give themselves no concern about them. The agitation is for the benefit of Catholic and Protestant alike, and the Orangemen are free to partake of his share of the good results anticipated as well as the rest. We cannot for the life of us see what the Grand Lodge is aiming at. How can the present movement be injurious to them from a religious point of view? If the members of the Grand Lodge are interested at all in religious matters, what have they to fear from the Protestant gentlemen who are the very leaders of the Land League. We do not know a set of men in existence more deserving contempt than the Irish Orangemen. They live in Ireland, but yet they are not Irishmen in any of their aspirations. Catholics and Protestants alike look upon them with disdain. They are the creatures of designing knaves, who work on their inborn bigotry and lead them thereby into the most preposterous and humiliating attitudes. They fondle the government, and the government outlaws them and snubs them when they have performed the dirty work set apart for them. The Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland should hide itself.

HAMILTON LETTER.

ECCLIESIASTICAL.—CHRISTMAS DAY.—SCHOOL ELECTIONS.—THE LIBRARY.—CHRISTMAS TREE.—NIGHT SCHOOLS.—PERSONAL.—COMPULSORY EDUCATION.—LOCAL AFFAIRS.—MISCELLANEOUS.

His Lordship Bishop Crinion accompanied by his secretary, Rev. Father Craven, spent last Sunday in Brantford. Rev. G. Brohan has been removed to Dismantling (Midland).

The Scholastic of this vicinity are flourishing. Dundas takes the lead with a membership of 100; St. Mary's parish has nearly the same, and St. Patrick's about 60.

The Altar Societies of Hamilton are doing good. They claim to have 800 members in St. Mary's parish and within the few months of the society's existence, they have renovated and decorated the altars of the Blessed Virgin and St. Joseph in a most artistic manner. The society in St. Patrick's, though less strong in numbers, having about 450 members, has done by far the greater amount of work, and can point with pride to their beautiful altar, elegant windows and other good results of their labors. These societies are capable of doing a great deal of good and should be well supported. The fee, ten cents per month, is but very slight in comparison with the great spiritual advantages to be derived from their membership.

On Friday next, the Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord, commonly known as Christmas day, first mass will be celebrated in the cathedral at 6 o'clock in the morning, followed by other masses continuously until 9, when the usual masses for the children will be celebrated. Grand High Mass will be at 10.30, at which His Lordship will give the Papal Benediction, to which a plenary indulgence is attached for all who comply with the usual conditions. Vespers and Benediction at 7.30 p.m. On the same day the first Mass in St. Patrick's will be at 6.30 a.m., others in succession until 8 o'clock. The High Mass will be celebrated at the same hour as on Sunday, viz., 10.30 o'clock. Vespers and Benediction in the evening. The usual Christmas offerings will be received at the doors of the churches at all the masses.

SCHOOL ELECTIONS. On Wednesday the 23rd Dec., the annual meeting of ratepayers for the election of trustees for the Separate School Board, will be held in the following places and under the following Returning Officers:

Ward.	Place.	Ret. Off.
No. 1—St. Patrick School.	John Brick.	
" 2—Rob Roy Hotel.	John Byrne.	
" 3—Cor. Bond and Caroline.	P. Butler.	
" 4—St. Charles School.	Thos. Walsh.	
" 5—St. Mary's Model School.	E. Burdette.	
" 6—St. Lawrence School.	H. A. Auld.	
" 7—Cor. W. Avenue & Cannon M. Murphy.	CHAS. LAVIN.	Secretary.

LOCAL AFFAIRS. A third candidate for the Mayor's chair is in the field, in the person of Alderman Joseph Kent. The chagrin of defeat will therefore be somewhat mitigated on the 4th of January, by each of the two defeated candidates having a companion in misfortune with whom to sympathize.

At a recent meeting, the Board of Works decided to lay over the question of heating the city by steam until after the elections. This may ease the minds of the members of the Board for the time being, but it does not seem very pleasant to the representatives of the rival companies.

The new Cotton Mills is expected to begin work here soon. It is to have a two-hundred horse-power engine, 200 looms, and be capable of employing 250 hands. The enforcement of the Compulsory Education Law is not likely to meet with much favor in this city. According to the *Times* about one hundred boys have been discharged from local establishments as being within the limits of the age at which the law says they should be at school. Not a little hardship will be caused by this, as there are many cases in which the earnings of these boys, though small, were component part in the support of the families to which they belonged. Education is a grand thing, but bread and butter comes first.

A new bank, to be known as the City and County Bank, is in course of establishment. Charter applied for. Ice cutting on Burlington Bay has al-

Christmas Eve.

Soundly he sleeps, my little king,
By the side of my bed in his snug white
cot!
Angel who watched him keep thy wing
From touching his forehead, wake him
not!

Softly I move about the room,
Doing the work that my soul delights,
Decking this feathery fir-tree's gloom
With flowers and toys and waken lights.

See this sheep with a gilded nose,
Jack in his box that opens and shuts,
The doll that I dressed in soldier's e-clothes,
See my oranges, apples, and nuts!

What is there else? There's a pretty boy,
I think it will teach him to love his God
And what is hidden in yonder nook?
Oh! that is a little birchen-rod!

I have covered the bed with ribbons gay
To make it look like a pretty toy,
But, when it is needed, first I'll pray,
And then it shall heat my baby boy.

When I have it sewed by and by—
And all the place a tidy and nice,
Side by side, my baby and I,
We'll sleep and we'll dream of Paradise!

But I don't miss Ede, not in the least,
For if we were back in it, baby dear,
We mightn't see the Christmas tree,
Jesus and Mary might not be there!

—CATHOLIC PROGRESS.

ready commenced. It has an average
thick ness of nine inches, and is of fair
quality.

Among the various candidates for the
office of Alderman is M. H. Bastien, who
in answer to an influentially signed
petition, has consented to stand for Ward
No. 5. Mr. Bastien is one of the oldest
and most respected of our citizens, and if
elected will undoubtedly prove himself
a faithful servant of the people.

The markets during the past few weeks
have been very large, that on Saturday
last being unusually so. Prices generally
were reasonable, but the price of wood
in order to be congenial with coal is still
rather high. The roads in this locality are
in very good condition.

SCHOOL MATTERS.

The Night Schools under the patronage
of the St. Vincent de Paul Society are
still in active progress. The attendance is
not so large as it should be, but on the
whole the undertaking is otherwise a suc-
cessful one. Besides an efficient staff of
lay teachers, a number of the reverend
clergy take a constant and active interest
in the instruction of the pupils. If we
add to this the fact that the class-rooms
are larger, well-warmed and lighted, that
the tuition is free of charge and that books
are supplied gratis, if necessary, it will be
seen that the opportunities afforded by
these institutions for the obtaining of a
useful education are unrivalled. Young
men and boys who value their future
prospects would do well to avail them-
selves of these facilities. The night school
in charge of the Sisters of St. Joseph is
eminently successful.

The City (Separate) Schools closed on
Wednesday, the 23rd inst., for Christmas
vacation. The separate examinations
will not be held until the end of
January, which makes a more even divi-
sion of the school year than if held before
Christmas.

PERSONAL.

Mr. G. S. Gherard, for three years as-
sistant master of the R. C. Model School of
this city, discontinued his duties in that
institution with the close of the present
term. During the period of his connec-
tion with the Separate Schools of Hamil-
ton, Mr. Gherard has proved himself a
thoroughly competent teacher, and a
young man of exemplary conduct. His
many good qualities have won for him a
host of warm friends whose best wishes
accompany him in whatever field of labor
he may hereafter choose.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Christmas Tree Bazaar begins on
Monday evening, the 27th inst., in the
Larkin Hall, John street, and will continue
during the week. The ladies anticipate a
great success, and it is hoped that their
prospects for so good an object as the
benefit of the House of Providence, will
be fully realized.

And now philanthropists are consider-
ing the question of putting spittoons in
the churches. For a long time they have
witnessed with pain the agonized efforts of
the "boys" to unburden themselves of the
superfluous disposition of the spitting
tobacco. The juice can't be swallowed, as
it tends to destroy digestion; it can't be
retained, as it would interfere with articu-
lation in praying; so as a last resort it is
deposited on the floor, for the delectation
of persons with refined tastes. Spittoons
at regular intervals would solve the diffi-
culty nicely.

His Lordship has very generously given
the Father Mathew Society control of the
library, to hold the same during the
period of the Society's existence. It is the
second library in this city, in quantity, and
the first in quality. It is composed of
the libraries formerly the property of the
St. Vincent de Paul Society and of the
Catholic Literary Association, either of
which was a considerable library in itself.
It is intended to still further improve its
condition at an early date, and for that
purpose the library will be closed from
Wednesday, the 22nd, until the
Monday after New Year's Day, in
order to give the committee an opportu-
nity of making the desired improvements.
In the meantime, all persons having books
obtained at any time from this library, are
respectfully requested to return them im-
mediately.

CIVIL SERVICE REGULATIONS.

(To the Editor of the Catholic Record.)

SIR—The issue of 10th December of
your interesting Record contains the fol-
lowing under the heading of Editorial
Notes:

"It is said that the Quebec government
has posted regulations for the observance
of its clerks which are considered restric-
tions on their personal liberty. They are
prohibited from entering whiskey or beer
shops. Staying away from these places
will not likely cause them any very
serious loss, either morally or physically."

Allow me to say that the objection to
the new rules, as far as I have been able
to ascertain, is to the slur, so to say, which
they cast on the deserving, rather than
to their intended effect. If there be any
employees whose general conduct deserves
such restrictions let the government have
"the courage of their convictions" and
decapitate such! but let them not brand
all because there may happen to be a few
scabby sheep. Your obedient servant,
Quebec, 14th December, 1880.