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## EVENTS OF THE WEEK.

It is reported the German Government is trying to influence the Vatican to became reconciled with Italy without territorial accession.

The annual meeting of the Catholic Archbishops and Bishops was held at Maynooth College on the 23rd, Archbishop Walsh presiding. A resolution was passed again denouncing the Crimes bill now before Parliament.

The *Italie*, of Rome, states that the Pope has asked Mgr. Rapolla to prepare a circular instructing Nuncios abroad concerning his attitude on the conciliation question. In it he will declare that he will not renounce his right to temporal power in Rome.

Mr. Justin McCarthy writes that there is not the slightest truth in any report about Mr. Parnell retiring from political life. The Nationalists have never talked or even thought of electing another leader, and all hope soon to see Mr. Parnell restored to perfect health.

In connection with the late Jubilee many English peers and Catholics of lesser rank refused to be present at the desecration of Westminster Abbey by Protestant services. They assisted at the Catholic ceremonial in the pro-Cathedral, where Cardinal Manning and the Pope's envoy had the places of honour.

Mgr. Rotelli, presenting his credentials to President Grevy as Papal Nuncio, referred to the Pope's affection for France as the eldest daughter of the Church and as a noble and generous nation, and said that the Pope desired that a perfect understanding be maintained, which would form a safeguard to their common interests. The President

thanked the Nuncio for the friendly sentiment he had expressed, and said that the Vatican could rely upon the cordial co-operation of the French Government in consolidating the present good relations between them.

Sir George Trevelyan publishes a letter in controversion of the statements recently made by Mr. Joseph Chamberlain and other Liberal Unionists, that the only obstacle to a reunion in the Liberal ranks was the refusal of the Gladstonians to make any concessions in their Irish programme. The Gladstonians have, says Sir George, made concessions in all disputed points, and therefore interpose no obstacle to the reunion of the party. "The Liberal Unionists," he concludes, " will be unable to destroy the Liberals, but a union of the Liberal party would serve to moderate its policy."

Mgrs. Persico and Guildi are announced to have left Rome for Ireland, on Tuesday, with instructions to make personal observation of and prepare a report on the political and social condition of the Irish people. It is stated that the Pope was induced to send a Papal mission to Ireland by the insistance on the part of certain English bishops, clergymen, and laymen, that the reports of the Irish bishops on the condition of Ireland were exaggerated, and that wishing to get at the exact truth, the Pope decided to send unbiassed agents of his own to make an investigation. A number of improbable stories have been set afoot respecting the mission. One that the Pope had postponed the mission because of the representations made by Cardinal Manning and Archbishop Walsh, has been promptly contradicted by the latter prelate. He has offered no opposition to the proposal. A cablegram from the Rev. Francis Steffens in Rome to an American Catholic paper states that the mission has no political significance and that the two prelates will confer with the Irish bishops on purely ecclesiastical affairs only.

Cardinal Manning has written to *The Times* protesting against the circulation of the statement from Rome that the Irish mission of Mgr. Persico and Mgr. Gualdi had been revoked at the instance of Cardinal Manning and Archbishop Walsh of Dublin, and branding the latter two as the active promoters of Separatists' intrigues. The Cardinal says: "I gladly unite myself with Archbishop Walsh. He is but slightly known in England, except in the descriptions of those who are faining the flames of animosity between England and Ireland. I am known in England both to Ministers of the Crown and to the leaders of the Opposition, and I leave it to them, who well know my mind, to answer for me, and I, who know the mind of Archbishop Walsh, will answer for him. We are neither intriguers nor Separatists." In conclusion the Cardinal says:—"I hold that resentment is sometimes a duty, and this is such a time when your words touch out highest responsibility and inflame more and more the heated condition between two people whom justice and truth would still bind in peace and unity. I ask you, sır, as an act of justice to give this as prominent a place in *The Times* as you have g ven to the unhappy imputations."



