

TESTIS IN CÆLO FIDELIS

The True Witness

AND

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EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE HOLY LAND is certain to remain a shrine for pilgrims from all quarters of the earth as long as time shall last. Its places, rendered sacred by the holiest memories that earth has known, will ever be associated with the wonderful events that preceded and accompanied the Redemption of man. But decidedly our modern progress, which has been on the westward march for centuries, and which seems now to have encircled the globe and to be approaching the east, will destroy much of the romance that the mind connects with the scenes pictured by pens of prophets, apostles and historians. A railway from Jaffa to Jerusalem, another from Mount Carmel, by way of Galilee, to Damascus, will render travel in Palestine more pleasant, but far less interesting and inspiring. It appears, however, that owing to the forthcoming Eucharistic Congress at Jerusalem, the Holy Father desires to see the construction of these railways an accomplished fact.

THE TORONTO WORLD informed the Star that Edward Fairar informed it that Goldwin Smith informed somebody or other that he (the Professor) will start an annexation paper in April with a capital of \$200,000. There is nothing impossible or even improbable in all this information. That Goldwin Smith, a loyal and devoted British subject, an ex-professor of Oxford, a master of the English language, an anti-Home Ruler, a Papist-hating pamphleteer, and a Canadian immigrant of the nondescript class, that such a man should take the management, or editorship, or whatever it may be, of an annexationist paper. This over-rated literary egotist is simply becoming a by-word at Oxford, an object of detestation in Great Britain, a traitor in Canada, a humbug at Washington, a persecuting tyrant in Ireland, and a nimpotent, yet vindictive, enemy of all the Catholic world.

ADRIANNO LEMMI, the head of the Italian Freemasons, has been delivering some more of his extraordinary addresses. If ever the words of a Pontiff were justified certainly the warnings of Leo XIII., about the dangers of Freemasonry have been proved timely by Lemmi's address in Naples. He stated that the object of Freemasonry is "to laicise the State not only in the school but in the family and all forms of public life." At the grand banquet given, in Rome, on the 17th January, by the members of that society, they announced their determination of combatting the Pope's letter and influence among the people of Italy. This is in no way surprising, since it is merely a continuation of a struggle that has been carried on for fully a century between the Papacy and the societies. But it is well to have them announce openly their intentions and acknowledge their aims.

WHAT HAS HAPPENED to the Chicago New World? Some time ago the world

of Catholic journalism was all agog over the announcement that a grand Catholic paper was to be started in Chicago. Its promoters intended to have its birth simultaneous with the World's Fair and Columbian celebration. Its mission was to be the defence of Catholic principles and the assertion of Catholic rights. It came forth—baptized the New World—and was ushered into the arena with a great flourish of trumpets. Judge Hyde, of Detroit, was chosen as editor-in-chief, and we expected that, at last, the Catholic journal of America was about to give us and other smaller lights the benefit of its erudition and sterling Catholic spirit. Taking all these facts into consideration, we are at a loss to understand the severe comments of the contemporaneous Catholic American press. Here are a few examples that have somewhat surprised us. One paper, last week, says:

"The Chicago Herald says that *Roma locuta est* through Archbishop Satolli and from his decision there is no appeal. This great non-Catholic daily seems to have better comprehension of the respect due to the Papal Alegate than its Catholic contemporary, the New World, published in the same city."

Another tells us that:

"The New World was not as clean as desirable in its last issue. The nude in letters is worthy of a good lashing. We hope a new light may soon dawn on the New World."

Again a third thus speaks:

"That pesky little cuss, the New World, of Chicago, at whose christening four Bishops presided, before opening its villainous little eyes to its fourth moon, opened its confounded little mouth and began to prattle curses against the Vicar General of Christ and the man he had sent."

And so the story runs, in different keys in different organs, but all connected with the one gamut of disapproval of the New World. There must be some fire where there is so much smoke.

ON JANUARY 17th ex-President Rutherford B. Hayes died at his residence in Fremont, Ohio. He was the nineteenth President of the United States. He was born in Delaware, Ohio, Oct. 4, 1822, and was a graduate from Kenyon College. He became a lawyer. He was major-general of volunteers during the war, and was four times wounded. He was elected Governor of Ohio in 1867, 1869 and 1875. In 1876 he became Republican candidate for the Presidency. The election was close; there were 13 disputed votes between him and Mr. Tilden. By a majority of one the thirteen went to Hayes, and he became master at the White House. From the Presidential Chair he retired to Fremont, and there gradually sunk into oblivion. His public career ended the day he left the White House, and very probably the great majority of America's sixty-five millions would not have been able to say what became of their nineteenth President had his death not been announced. *Sic transit gloria mundi.*

The news of the Papal legation having been established in America has created a great satisfaction in all Catholic cir-

cles. Cardinal Gibbons is over-joyed that such a mark of favor should come from the Pope to the American branch of the Catholic Church. Speaking on the subject Bishop Keane, at Washington said:

"Mgr. Satolli is the first delegate of the Papal legation. That there is a legation here, and that Mgr. Satolli is the Papal representative, are two incontrovertible facts. This, as everybody knows, is a legation appointed for the purpose of determining only ecclesiastical matters. Mgr. Satolli has no connection with the United States Government, nor will he ever have any dealings, with the Government. Had the object of the Pontiff been to send an ambassador to the White House, the prelate detailed for that purpose would have been entitled Papal Nuncio. There is no reason for the appointment of a Papal Nuncio to this country."

WE ARE NOW at a pretty exciting period in the history of Montreal. The atmosphere is filled with the words election, vote, boodle, alderman, mayor, 1st March, general election, and thousands of others of less importance. This is that particular season of the year when aldermen are "the nicest fellows in the world." In fact, about this period you discover that your civic representative knows who you are, and knows all about your family and your requirements. It is also a period that finds each one gay, glad and suspicious. If one alderman sees you crossing the street to speak to his opponent, the conclusion is that you went over to get some boodle. In the midst of all the bows, smiles and salutes from aspirants to civic honors, it is well to remember that, in a somewhat sudden manner, these same aldermanic gentlemen accidentally forgot your name, your claims, your very existence, the moment that the last vote was polled at the last election. Outside of all other important considerations, it would be no harm if the electors would just keep the foregoing in view. Just ask the one who comes for re-election, how he succeeded in reviving his memory so nicely to suit the date of an election, and if he is liable to lose it again, after the present contest.

WE FIND the following the report of the business meeting of the Catholic School Board, on last Friday week:

"Night Schools were discussed by the Catholic School Commissioners yesterday. The Government refused to increase the allowance for St. Ann's school, wherefore no provision could be made for night classes there. The attendance at this school last year averaged 48 per night."

Evidently, as far as this year is concerned, there is no hope of that important section of the city having a share in the benefits of free education. But time will be taken by the "forelock" next season, and if night-schools are granted St. Ann's will have one. We make no threat, but we mean more than we say. This reign of "combines" is out of date. Changes will have to be made if we are to keep abreast of the times. The time is coming, it is within view, when some kind of fair play, of honest treatment, must be meted out to the Irish Catholic

ratepayers of this city. If they have not sufficient interest in the matter to unite and act, if their representatives in Council and Legislature cannot or will not do anything for them, with regard to the education question; then, for the sake of their children, for the good of the rising generation we will again have to knock at the doors of the Legislature, and knock until they open. We repeat—what we have said two dozen times—we want an Irish Catholic priest and an Irish Catholic laymen upon the School Board; or, else, give us a separate Board. The Irish Catholics of Montreal can support their own schools and run their own affairs, if they were only allowed a chance. They pay thousands of dollars into the school funds and yet they have not a voice in the administration of their own affairs. This is really an unheard of imposition. We defy you to find its parallel in any other country, or in any other section of this country. Go where you will, and in matters of this kind every element—national or otherwise—that pays in to the fund, has a representative upon the Administrative Board. However, "little said, soon mended," we will say no more this week. If it were not that "comparisons are odious," we could make a few that would humiliate people who carry their heads very high to-day.

WE LEARN with pleasure that Mr. Michael Davitt has consented to stand as candidate for North-east Cork. It would have been an eternal disgrace to our people were Davitt driven from public life and out of the ranks of that Home Rule party which owes so much to his devotedness, energy, ability and sterling patriotism. Even as it is we consider that all who have helped in unseating Mr. Davitt, before the Courts, should simply be ashamed of themselves. They decidedly have not the Irish cause in their hearts, or they would not sacrifice such a strong bulwark, at the shrine of any petty spite, before the idol of any momentary individual triumph. If the Home Rule cause does not succeed, if, by any sad dispensation, it should be doomed to failure, the whole and entire blame must rest upon the shoulders of such characters as the petitioners against Michael Davitt's election.

The Catholic Times of New York publishes a Cable despatch from Rome, dated January 13, and by which we learn that the attention of the Congregation of Rites will be called to the subject of sacred music. The following is the message.

"One of the subjects which has for many years been thoughtfully considered by clergymen and laymen will soon command the attention of a body whose deliberations will be watched with interest by Catholics throughout the world. The subject is that of sacred music, and it will receive the earnest, careful attention of the Congregation of Rites, about to hold a general assembly for that special purpose. There have been in the past so many diverse and contending views expressed that before a settlement is reached there will be much trouble. Circulars asking for opinions have been sent to many quarters, and the replies are so much at variance that the difficulty of a settlement increases with the number of them. Many are in favor of the greatest latitude, citing the increased attendance at church where extraordinary musical features are announced as proof of the necessity of extraneous attractions, while many are earnestly in favor of the most simple and ancient forms."