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LETTER FROM HIS LORDSHIP BISHOP WALSH.
 London, Ont., May 23, 1879.
 DEAR MR. COFFEY,—As you have become proprietor and publisher of the CATHOLIC RECORD, I deem it my duty to announce to its subscribers and patrons that the change of proprietorship will work no change in its character or principles; that it will remain, what it has been, thoroughly Catholic, entirely independent of political parties, and exclusively devoted to the cause of the Church and the promotion of Catholic interests. I am confident that under your experienced management the RECORD will improve in usefulness and efficiency; and I therefore earnestly commend it to the patronage and encouragement of the clergy and laity of the diocese.
 Believe me,
 Yours very sincerely,
 JOHN WALSH,
 Bishop of London.

MR. THOMAS COFFEY,
 Office of the "Catholic Record."

Catholic Record.
 LONDON, FRIDAY, MAR. 10, 1882.

THE WAR CLOUD.

The Pan-Slavist feeling, which of late years has been growing in strength and activity, is now receiving an attention which its far reaching influence and probable results most assuredly deserve. The Slav population is the most numerous and powerful in Europe. Its domain may be said to extend from the Adriatic to the White Sea, and from the Caspian to the Baltic. It is predominant in Russia, Poland, and many provinces of Austria. The so-called Latin races, the French, Italians and Spaniards, have no active principles of cohesion, and are swayed by interests and feelings so antagonistic to each other, that their union is not only improbable, but to a certain extent impossible. The Teutonic nations are the Scandinavian states of Northern Europe, the German empire, besides Austria and Great Britain, partially as to race, but wholly as to policy and tradition. Between the Slav and Teutonic elements there is not now and has not been for years any sincere friendliness. The Austrian and Prussian governments assisted Russia in the partition of Poland, and for fully a century connived at its interference in Turkish affairs, and assisted till recently, as far as diplomacy was concerned, in the aggrandizement of Russia at the expense of the Ottoman empire. The treaty of Berlin, which ceded the sovereignty of Bosnia; Montenegro and Herzegovina to Austria, introduced an element of discord between the German and Russian peoples. The Bornians, Montenegrins and Herzegovinians are of Slav origin and deeply imbued with the Pan-Slavist feeling. Their frequent revolts against Turkish rule were organized to bring them under the sovereignty of Russia. When, however, British and German influence at the Berlin congress secured their cession to Austria, Pan-Slavist agitators at once went to work to incite them to hostility against their new, as they had often before against their old rulers. The present insurrection in these provinces demonstrates the success of the appeals of these agents to the prejudices of their populations. The present insurrection will, we feel assured, be put down with a firm hand by the Austrian government, but it will leave behind it traces that cannot be obliterated; it will set up a wall of separation between rulers and ruled, that the best of governments could not remove. As to good government, it is quite certain that under Austrian rule these people are better off than are any portion of the Czar's subjects. But the feelings of ethical and historical prejudice that have taken root in the minds of the Slav populations against German rule, are so deep-seated and so likely to be affected by the relations of the great powers to each other, that it is almost certain that so long as Bosnia, Herzegovina and Montenegro remain under Austrian sovereignty, they will have neither content nor tranquility. The Latin races, which so long enjoyed paramount influence in Europe, no longer guide the destinies of nations, France being absorbed in a trial of radical republicanism, Spain in adopting herself to constitutional government, and Italy in striving to assimilate and consolidate the discordant elements of her fragmentary kingdom. The struggle, therefore, for the future mastery of Europe

will be between the Slav and Teutonic races, both possessing elements of power and vitality. The German and Austrian empires will likely be left alone to do the battle on behalf of Teutonic supremacy, Russia to assert Slavonic predominance. Neither Britain nor Scandinavian States would interfere in the struggle unless their own immediate and individual interests are called into play. The Russian government, wishing to divert the mind of its people from the Nihilist agitation, may now possibly be found encouraging, and stimulate their growing feeling for a complete unification of the Slav states under one government. But the overthrow of the Czarism itself could not prevent the growth and development of this feeling, which in our estimation will yet result in one of the most gigantic struggles the world has ever witnessed, a struggle which, whatever its immediate consequences, will give a new turn to European history, and bring perhaps into prominence states that have disappeared or sunk into insignificance. Every development of the Pan-Slavist agitation will bring us nearer that struggle, which may not be far off, and which will be watched with interest on this continent, for in its issue our future will, no doubt, be largely concerned.

A QUESTION OF THE FUTURE.

The manner in which the respective rights and interests of capital and labor have been of late years discussed, and the frequency of the occasions in which these two important constituents of society have been brought into antagonism, make it evident that one of the great, if not the very greatest and most vital questions of the future will be, the just and proper position of labor in regard of capital. These two elements of social progress and vitality have certain rights in respect of each other, which are frequently misunderstood, and more frequently misinterpreted. Capitalists, as a class—we deal not here with exceptions—are men who have honestly acquired wealth by industry, by commercial ingenuity, or by inheritance. They are few in number, but exercise vast influence in society, by means of the employment they make of their wealth. That wealth is most frequently employed in utilizing and rewarding labor for its assistance in enabling and causing it to preserve and increase itself. The capitalist has just right to the possession of his wealth, he has a right to divert it to whatsoever legitimate purpose he may think fit. No man can justly wrest it from him on the plea that he has too much of earthly treasure, and others too little. No man can justly claim it, or any portion of it, on the ground that he might make better use of it than its actual possessor. In a word, the capitalist in a well ordered society should be protected in the possession and enjoyment of his means against rapacity or disturbance of this just and inalienable right. The class who represent labor are much more numerous than those who represent capital, and have certain rights which must be duly respected, or the social pact fall to pieces. They have a right to life, to freedom, to happiness and to every essential attribute of these blessings. In every well-regulated state they are also entitled to civic equality with capitalists, because in every such state the position of the citizen in regard of capital and labor does not affect his standing and right in the social compact upon which that state is based. As capital requires the aid of labor not only to increase but to preserve itself, there must then be, or there ought to be, in every well regulated community, a very clear understanding of the rights of each. As capital has naturally the best means at hand to protect and enforce its rights, or what it claims as its rights, it is not so much our purpose to deal with its rights and immunities as with those of labor. There is, it cannot be denied, even amongst persons usually well informed, much confusion of ideas on the subject of the rights of labor. This confusion we must attribute to the long prevalence of the feudal system in the old world, under which the social

relations were quite different from those now obtaining, and to the protracted existence of servitude in the new world. Labor in its present acceptance is quite different from vassalage and from servitude. The vassal rendered homage and service to his lord out of obedience and gratitude, the slave was forced to labor for his master without remuneration because he was owned as a chattel. The laborer when he devotes his time and energy to serve a capitalist does so under an expressed or well understood covenant, that secures him a just remuneration for his service. If the covenant provide anything else, if it take advantage of the weakness or poverty of the laborer and guarantee him less than a just compensation, it reduces him to practical servitude. The laborer has a right to life, but life he cannot enjoy if in exchange for his labor he does not receive compensation adequate to his sustenance and preservation. He has a right to freedom, but freedom is not his if he be forced to accept for his labor a compensation which is of itself unjust, and which nothing but the exigencies of his position would permit him to accept. He has a right to happiness, but happiness he cannot attain when by his labor he becomes not the possessor of adequate means to procure for himself the circumstances and surroundings essential to social happiness. We have also stated that in a well-regulated society the laborer is entitled to civic equality with the capitalist. This civic equality he cannot aspire to if capital so hampers labor as to make it subservient to its own best interests and interests in the public life of the state. Now experience shows that in respect of life, liberty, happiness and civic equality, the rights of labor are neither as well defined nor as well protected as they should. The laborer is often made, in order to satisfy the greed of a rapacious employer, accept wages unequal to his just wants, and is thus, with his family, kept in a position wherein life is to him and them frequently a burden instead of a blessing. As to freedom, it must be admitted that with many employers of labor, the latter enjoys not that freedom distinguishing it from servitude. It is often bound and handicapped by the strength and influence of capital to such an extent, that even the lot of the slave were preferable to that of the nominally free laborer. In such cases, the laborer cannot enjoy or even devote himself to the pursuit of happiness, to which every man is entitled. In all such cases, too, civic equality is out of the question. The question that at once arises is, how are these anomalies and injustices to be removed. We answer that it is by labor asserting its rights. This assertion of rights may, and indeed, must, from the nature of circumstances, entail many and great individual hardships and sacrifices, but it is the only means whereby justice can be attained. The laborer in every free country is a citizen whose suffrage is equal in value to that of the capitalist. A combination of laborers in the interest of right should, by unitedly adhering to one purpose, and following good guidance, succeed in attaining its object. Capital itself should, by a judicious pursuit on the part of labor of its undoubted rights, be forced in a contest between the two elements to capitulate for self-preservation, if nothing else. A certain class of men, not true friends of the laborer, sometimes urge the latter to unjust means to protect his rights against capitalist inroads. Recourse to such means could have but one effect, to drag down the social fabric and defeat the very object the laborer had in view. Persistence on the part of despotic capitalists in their unjust repression of labor may, on the other hand, evoke from the latter a protestation that will shake the very foundation of society to their base. A struggle proceeding from capitalist repression or aggression could have but one result, that of fixing and defining clearly and forever the rights of labor and giving it that dignity which, as the most essential element of social vitality and security, it justly claims.

The great trouble with the people of the world is that there are too many teachers and few that are willing to learn.

A GROSS ABUSE.

The unfortunate and deplorable accident whereby Mr. Hayes, a respected young gentleman of Montreal, some days ago lost his life, brings once more into notice the danger and criminality of permitting the general carrying of deadly weapons in this country. Respectable and orderly citizens do not make a practice of carrying these weapons, even when sometimes prudence would suggest another course. Why then should the most lawless and disreputable class of men be permitted to carry with them day and night the instruments of murder and death. The ruffianly plug-ugly who takes his position at the street corner to insult inoffensive women, is nearly always armed to the teeth, and ever ready to call his shooting iron into requisition when interfered with in his cowardly lawlessness. The well-attired gambler, the insinuating "master," and the night prowling debauchee are also all well provided with murderous arms to his slaughter respectability, innocence and helplessness, whenever they stand in their way. Cannot anything be done to minimize if not eradicate this evil? We have, we believe, on our statute books a law prohibiting the carrying of such weapons, but it is certainly not enforced. If its provisions be not sufficiently stringent, then let it be amended, and as amended rigidly enforced. Our various bodies of police are well acquainted with the people most likely to violate the law in this respect; they moreover know the rendezvous of this class, and could, if armed with the necessary legal powers, exercise a surveillance over them that would prevent many unfortunate accidents such as that which a few days ago deprived a promising citizen of life. Law-abiding citizens have a right to protection against violence. They have themselves in their own hands the means to procure this protection. They have but to request of their representatives in Parliament to vest in their civic authorities powers extensive enough to deal effectually with the indiscriminate carrying of fire-arms, and their request must meet with ready acquiescence.

THE INDIANS OF THE NORTH WEST.

Information recently received from the North West indicates that trouble with the Indians in various places there is to be feared. The red men, there is no doubt, view with alarm and jealousy the rapid influx of white settlers into a country of which they were for so long a time in almost sole possession. The government of Canada has, since the acquisition of the North West, employed every means to preserve peace with the aboriginal tribes, and for this purpose has contracted treaty obligations which impose grave financial burdens on the Dominion. The Canadian people, however, do not wish their government to deal with the redmen in a niggardly or grasping spirit, much less to provoke them to hostilities. But both government and people of Canada are fully resolved that, justice having been done the Indians, they will not be permitted with impunity to impede by violence or outrage the progress of settlement. Canadians have lawfully acquired the North West Territories; they are prepared to make every legitimate sacrifice to promote the welfare of the aborigines and lead them to the acceptance of the blessings of civilization—but cannot condone deeds of brutality on their part. There is, however, one thing that must be attended to by the government as settlement progresses, and that is the infliction of injustice upon the Indians by rapacious and conscienceless white men. The older provinces has quite a large quota of this class of gentry which will, we feel assured, in due time have full representation in the North West, where a wider scope will be offered for its growth and extension of operations. In the neighboring republic serious injury has been inflicted upon the border settlers and upon the Indians by hostilities provoked through the injustice of men of this type. It has been found difficult to deal with

them there, and it will be found difficult here—but the interests of justice demand that such men be ferreted out and punished severely. A few examples made of such unprincipled characters would have the double effect of deterring others from doing likewise and reassuring the Indians of the fairness, firmness and liberality of the government of Canada. The rapid construction of the Pacific Railway will soon enable the Dominion government to maintain steady communication with the North West and take such prompt measures for the relief of the white settlers and the protection of the Indians as the interests of justice, order and national progress may require. We sincerely hope that the fears of trouble now entertained, may not be realized to any alarming extent.

OLD CATHOLICISM.

The re-establishment of friendly relations between Germany and the Vatican has given a death blow to old Catholicism. This unfortunate movement was never characterized by any very decided success in the limited sphere it took for action. Outside of a few college towns in Germany and free-thinking centres in Switzerland it never had a following, and even in the particular places wherein it did manifest itself to any appreciable extent, gathered not into its ranks either learning, eloquence, piety or skillful leadership. Not one man of continental note, if we except Dollinger—and his influence in its behalf has been more negative than positive in character—has ever taken any direct part in the furtherance of its interests. Its bedraggled purple has had to be conferred on men such as Reinkens and Herzog, who wield no authority and command no respect. The inferior clergy of this woe-begone "church" are almost all men of tainted moral character. Having abandoned clerical celibacy they found no difficulty in accepting ministerial positions under a sect that had rejected that (for them) rather disagreeable point of discipline, and repudiated papal infallibility. Such men could have little or no influence over the masses of the people—and the fact is that they never reached the great heart of Catholic Germany, which has always remained sound. Their main strength lay with the restless, and disappointed, the faithless and prayerless ever to be found in more or less force in every town of book-learning-fame. But even in those places they never succeeded in winning the true element of respectability or acquiring the support of any men of solid and commanding intellectual power. Weak in numbers and despicable in character, this wretched heresy is fast hurrying itself to a tomb of dishonor. Many who at first, through misrepresentation, joined its ranks, have fallen away to re-enter the true fold. In Wiesbaden, the capital of Nassau, there were seven years ago, of Old Catholics four hundred and fifty householders whose families numbered two thousand members. There are now there but eighty Old Catholic householders, or about four hundred persons in all, belonging to this schismatical body. There is every reason to believe that the ratio of decrease has been elsewhere fully as large. At this rate there will soon be nothing left of the heretical system upon which emasculated Anglicanism and puny American Episcopalianism wasted so much cheap and vulgar sympathy.

FACTORY LABOR.

The report of the Commission appointed some months ago by the Dominion government to enquire into the working and condition of the mills and factories of Canada, invites serious consideration. The commissioners visited 465 factories and mills and found the number of hands therein employed to be 53,561, thus classified:

Children under 10	104	Males	26,308	Females	12,735
Children between 10 and 14	1,263	Adults	26,308		12,735
Married	324				
			27,665		13,951

Unclassified 1,885.
 A single glance at this classification shows at once the necessity for

immediate legislative action on the subject of factory labor. The employment of children under ten years in any mill or factory should be strictly prohibited and the working hours of those between ten and fourteen fixed at eight by stringent enactment. The commissioners found that children of both sexes were even at this tender age required to work eleven hours, and often encouraged to work for fourteen and fifteen, and that youthful labor of this class was in a rapidly increasing demand. Against this cruel and inhuman practice, detrimental to the physical and mental wealth of a large body of the youth of the Dominion, there should certainly be some legal provisions. Capital assuredly has its rights, which we are disposed to fully respect, but it is unjust and unwise as well as heartless to permit the employment of children of tender years frequently on wretchedly inadequate pay on conditions so deleterious as those set forth in the report of the commission. Another class of labor which should be, if not absolutely prohibited, at least effectually discouraged, is that of young married women. Their employment in factories, on grounds of humanity needless to be specified, is highly objectionable. We are happy to notice by the report that the number so employed is not large, and hope, small as it is, it may steadily decrease. On the subject of fire escape the commissioners state:

"The means of escape in case of fire are inadequate. In most of the mills and factories there is but one staircase, and in the event of a fire taking place in the vicinity of this stair, the only means of exit would be jumping from the window. To add to the danger incurred, in many cases the doors of the factory, which invariably open inward, are locked. The main doors should certainly be made to open outward, as the law on this matter, with reference to public buildings, applies with equal force to mills and factories. We have heard objections to the erecting of iron ladders and stairways on the outside of the buildings, on the ground that it might facilitate burglaries, thus placing human life in danger rather than run the risk of a robbery being committed, and this objection was made, too, in a city where but a short time before one man was killed and two others injured for life by having to jump from the upper flat of a three-story building which was on fire. The objection is easily overcome by making the last ten feet of the stair or ladder adjustable. Many of our factories are fairly supplied with appliances for extinguishing fire in its incipient stages, by means of pails, hose, self-acting sprinklers, and patent extinguishers, but it must be admitted that there is wide room for improvement on this important matter."

Referring to the all-important subject of ventilation the commissioners report declares:

"There is very little attention paid to the question of ventilation, and as a consequence, no provision whatever is made other than the doors and windows; the latter of course being always closed in cold weather. While this question, of such vital importance to humanity, is being treated with indifference by the authorities of churches, halls, and our public schools, it certainly cannot be a matter for surprise that the manufacturers don't take the least of equally responsible parties on this question, or that they should be forced to an expenditure which the State under similar circumstances does not provide for its subjects."

Any legislation on the subject of factory labor should deal effectively with these two important matters so closely connected with the saving and prolonging of human life.

The commissioners, we are happy to notice, bear testimony to the unexceptionable moral character of the operatives in many of the largest mills and factories in the Dominion. There are, however, manufacturing establishments where grave disorders affecting the morality of the operatives prevail. The disorders are in a large measure attributable to careless and inefficient management. Provisions of a stringent character for the protection of the morals of the operatives should be introduced into any measure dealing with this very important subject. Parliament should deal with the recommendations and suggestions of the commission in a broad and liberal spirit for the protection of the just rights of labor and in the interests of society.

Sister Mary Elizabeth Lange, the first member and the superior of the Oblate Sisters of Providence, a society of colored Sisters, died recently in her convent-home at Baltimore. She was about ninety-five years of age, and was born in slavery, in Santiago de Cuba, whence she escaped with her mother to Charleston, S. C. Subsequently she came to Norfolk, and then to Baltimore, in which latter city she took the religious vows with four companions, about half a century ago. The aged religious carries with her the grateful prayers of numbers of orphans and unfortunates to whom she was a mother and a friend.