## The Catholic Record

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THE BULWARK OF SOCIETY The hight who lives in the dark ness of prejudice can see no good in the Church: the Protestants who live in the light of facts are not unwilling to praise her services to humanity. Commenting on the statement that the Church stands like a stone wall against Anarchy and Socialism and Divorce, The Outlook says : "But America to-day stands in peculiar need of that contribution which the Roman Catholic Church is peculiarly fitted to furnish. For the chief peril to America is from disorganizing forces and a lawless spirit. One of the chief lessons Americans need to learn is reverence for constituted authority and willing obedience to law. This lesson the Roman Catholic Church is peculiarly fitted to teach. That Church is a vast spiritual police force, a protection of society from the mob : whereever it goes it teaches submission to control, and this is the first step toward that habit of self control in the individual which is an indispensable condition for self-government in the community." But the Outlook does not point out the cause of these evils which threaten society. And the main cause is the absence of Faith, which is the consequence of rebellion against legitimate authority. There are thousands in every great city who are swayed by fads and impulses and kept in order by the fear of the 'powers that be." Without fear of God or His chastisements and played

upon by social and religious fire-

brands they regard authority as

something to be spurned when they

can do it in safety, and exhortations

to righteousness as mere drivel to

shield the powerful and rich. Some

divines have done their share in con-

tributing to unrest. When they

were not reviling us they were dis-

orediting the Bible. Just to make a

Sunday holiday they, with the aid

of critical analysis made in Germany,

showed the weak points of the

Bible, dissected it and cast it muti-

lated at the feet of an undiscrimina-

ting congregation. No wonder they

complain about empty pews, and that

many whose fathers subscribed to

some kind of creed are now in the

desert of infidelity into which they

have been cast by the notoriety-seek-

ing preacher.

# MATTER FOR PROTESTS

Now that women are protesting against abuses, and in some instances effectively, they should call the atattention of the directors of some publications to the that fact they are lesrefer to the use of half-clothed figures in newspapers and magazines. This may appeal to the prurient and morbid minded, but they are an insult to those who know that any thing that tends to cheapen womanhood is a deadly menace to society. The nation that regards purity as one of its best assets is strong, and, however poor in material resources, on s high plane of civilization.

THE DOWNWARD TREND Some time ago a prelate declared that the freedom in dress indulged in by the young women of our day exseeds all measures. Many no longer know the meaning of respectability in dress. They are concerned only about the fashion. When, therefore, we seek to instill the ideal of modesty into youth we mean that it should apply likewise to dress. The Catholic woman who so attires herself as to provoke ribald comment is parting with her ideals. She knows better, but to be in the fashion she joins the regiment of the scantilyclothed and causes a secular daily to write " that never were the times so inclined to sensuality and never did women offer so little resistance to it as at present." No argument ought to be required to convince women who have a sense of their dignity or a notion of morality that the present day fashions are not only ludicrous and disgraceful but also directly immoral. And the person who wears a dress that can give occasion of sin to a thousand eyes should remember that the commandment forbidding that scandal be given makes no exception of the women of this century.

NOT SO POPULAR

Not so many moons ago lecturers of

certain type were wont to say sundry things about the ignorance of priest-ridden Catholics. They also waxed eloquent on the Reformation as the messenger of knowledge and inspirer of literature. But this theme is not so much in honor nowadays either because people are weary of it or have grasped a few facts which are a deterrent to garrulity in this matter. The fact is that the Church is a spiritual organization founded to guide souls to heaven. Her business is with religion pure and simple. She can exist without literature. But all that is best in literature owes its existence to the Church. Even in the writings of those who yield her no allegiance there are oftimes traces of her praises of the unclean writers can influence. Another fact is that the most striking fact of the Reformation was that it appealed to the ignorant. It blighted intellectual progress wherever it made its way. For two are to be found in households hundred years after Luther Germany had no literature. Historians like Froude and Green speak of the affection of the Reformers for literature as manifested by their plundering and destroying of libraries and of classical learning. But this is an old story, and has been retold lately in such a cogent manner that many of the Reformation myths have been consigned to the domains of romance,

#### DEATHLESS BELGIUM

Cardinal Mercier's description of his ravaged and blood drenched Belgium is heartrending. He knows whereof he speaks. He saw the way of the enemy strewn with the dead, wet with the tears of widows and orphans and illumined with the light of burning villages and cities. He beheld the mailed fist of the War-Lord beating a happy and prosperous little country into desolation and ruin, because it would not bend the knee to him and be dishonored forever. But this brave Prince of Holy Church can be proud that his country's name is immortal. It has preached a magnificent sermon on anselfishness. It is an apostle of indomitable fidelity to duty. We are its debtors more than we can say because it has taught us that there are men on earth who are ready to surrender home, affection and life rather than have their hearts seared by dishonor. And when the waves of militarism have spent themselves the world should remember the mighty achievements of this David among the nations.

# MOVING PICTURES

According to a financier 6,500,000 people see the moving picture shows daily. It is clear, he says, the great He points out the danger of the influence of over-exciting, unreal, sentimental and suggestive pictures on the imaginations of millions of children. Continue to crowd into dimly lighted halls where debauchery comes to take advantage of curious and unsuspecting innocence and tell me what will be the morality of the Christian land? In Canada we have censors of these shows. But Catholics should not trust too implicitly on the taste of these gentlemen. They can eliminate what is offensive, and raise the tone of these perform. ances. In England and in the United States Catholics, realizing that the picture show is here to stay. are putting on the market films of educational value. They are dissociating it from everything pernicious and making it a factor in the teaching of religion and portrayal of subjects that must have an enduring effect upon the susceptible minds of children.

# THE BOOK-MAKER

Every Catholic can make a con tribution that is worth while to liter ature. He can make a book that will be read by many. Day by day he can by charity, clean living, honesty and truth write for all to see proofs of the faith first delivered to the saints. Non-Catholics will read such a book and perchance be guided by it to the haven of truth. When, however, they see Catholics defiling the page of life with unsightly characters, with ignominy and sin, they are apt to conclude that our professions are hollow and insincere.

AN OLD LESSON

They who ignore the laws of life find out that the wages of sin is death. In the beginning the disregard of the things that make for true happiness is a comedy, but as time goes on the buffoon gives way to the tragedian and the curtain drops to the accompaniment of mourning over wasted years, and of memories that flay the soul.

ON GUARD Everyone reads nowadays and some of us to the extinction of the power to think. Dabbling with magazines and fiction means atrophy of the soul. And this is one reason why some books that minister to the unclean are allowed to go unrebuked. The critics who sing the see for a few dollars beauty and moral lessons in novels that would bring the blush of shame to a selfrespecting pagan. And some of these whose guardians, so far as their duties and responsibilities are concerned, are dead and buried. These parents are very careful as to the bodily attire of their children, but as for their souls they can be decked in anything woven in the loom of impurity by men and women who write solely for money. Is it because the world sees the body and not the soul? Strange, indeed, to care so much for the body and to allow the soul to be moulded by influences that entail mental and spiritual degradation. And terrible the awakening of such parents.

## AN AMUSING INCIDENT

In nearly every condition of life no matter how serious, there is likely to crop out an amusing incident to relieve the tension under which the performers labor. It is not likely that the serious business of war has much about it to amuse the participants, but even here the amusing incident crops out. According to the story, an American in Germany at the outbreak of hostilities received a telegram from a friend in Italy, also an American, requesting him to send funds. Having a desire to con-ceal his needs from the inquisitive eyes of telegraph operators and others who might happen to see the telegram, the writer, a college professor, by the way, couched his message in good American slang. He wrote:
"Kale all gone; wire thirty beans

This perfectly innocent message might have been sent in a great many ways that would have been equally intelligible to any American citizen. For instance he might have said Busted; come across with thirty bones," or "Flat broke; send thirty dobies." Goodness only knows what mysterious meaning might have been thirty American daddy dollars if the innocent writer of the message had chosen either of these latter means the German censor attached a meaning of vast import to the message and threw the recipient into jail where he underwent a rigid examin ation at the hands of the military authorities. The difficulties he ha in convincing the German authorities of the innocence of the message may well be imagined when it is known that the censor got the ider into his head that "kale" had some "Kehl," and by some mysterious process of reasoning "beans" and "bombs" had something in common.

Anybody who tries to explain american slang has a big job on hi hands for it can't be explained : it explains itself—but not to a Germa war censor, whose duty it is to see that nothing suspicious "gets by." -Intermountain Catholic.

# WE NEED SOMETHING MORE

The sincere Anglican, believing in the Real Presence and in the divine institution of the Sacrament of Penance, deserves the sympathy and the prayers of all Catholics. In his imitation of Catholic doctrine and especially of Catholic sevices, he may at times be grotesque and uninten-tionally profane. But it should in charity be remembered that he is a dweller in a land which more than three centuries of Protestantism have left parched and arid. "Every French and Belgian priest," writes a corres-pondent in the Guardian, "will as this moment be at his post ready to hear the confessions of those gallant men going forth to offer their lives for their country and to give them the Bread of Life. Many of our own clergy are now away on their holi-Surely it behooves them, as faithful priests, to return to their posts. Will not the Church of England rise to her responsibility and show herself a spiritual mother?"
Yet what could those Anglican clergymen, who believe neither in the Real

Presence nor in sacramental Confessien, do in these circumstances be-yond what might be enjoined by the Congregation of Free Churches or United Synagogues?" "We need something more," writes the Guard-ian correspondent, "than an almost inaudible appeal to pray for peace, or a stiff Collect inserted in one of the ordinary services. We need, above all things, the Holy Eucharist." May the prayers of Catholics ascend as incense to the throne of God, that these Catholic minded members of the Anglican Church may soon partake with them of the Eucharistic Banquet daily spread for all in God's own Church.—America.

## FANATICISM

ATTACKED BY SCOTCH PRESBY.

The Cheyenne Daily Leader, one of Wyoming's largest papers, recently contained an excellent editorial attacking anti Catholic bigotry. The editor of the paper is Alex. Hastie, a Scotchman and a staunch Presby-

terian. He said:
"Some time ago the Leader took occasion to condemn the seditious utterances of a paper called the Menace. It is a sensational anti-Catholic publication bearing the red flag of religious fanaticism. It seeks to set neighbor against neighbor, brother against brother, and citizen against citizen by fabricated revelations of treatonable designs of Cath olicism. We use the word fabricated deliberately because nine tenths of sensational suspicions and charges it publishes against the Catholics are absolute falsehoods

without even foundation in fact. The editor of the Leader is not a Catholic, but he has associated with Catholics nearly all his life, and some of the truest friends he ever ad were Catholics and members of the order of Knights of Columbus.

deed in the noblest sense of that word. These men have told the writer on their honor as friends that these charges and pretended revelations are absolutely false, and the writer believes their statements as against the frenzied fabrications of this well named Menace end other anti Catholic agitators.

There are nearly 100 000,000 people in this country, of whom less than 20,000 000 can be classed as Catholic. Yet we are asked to believe that the comparative handful of people are conspiring to overthrow this great government and to butcher all who refuse to believe as they do.

Catholics in this country have publican tickets, just like other sects. Catholics have fought, bled and died for Old Glory in the war of the re-bellion, in the Spanish - American war and Catholics were marshaled in the United States army at the gates of Old Mexico, ready to die in defense of this government at the command of our Presbyterian Presi-

"The Leader appeals to all levelheaded, sensible citizens not to allow themselves to be carried away by this foolish and wicked anti-Cath olic propaganda."-Church Progress

## AN ATTITUDE AND A FACT

There are in the number of our

American citizens many whose atti-

tude towards religion may be summed up somewhat as follows : ligious teaching is good; and all ways of serving the Divine Majesty, pleasing to God. Out of these vari ous ways each is free to choose the way that suits him best." This class of men are not altogether irreligious; they admit God's right to be worshiped, and if somewhat inclined to be lax in the practice of their own chosen form of worship, are at least tolerant of others. They are ready to admit that Christianity has many attractive features, but at the same time they concede that over other types of mind the mystic ascetism of Buddhism might exercise a more potent charm. If the members of their families choose to take up with a passing religious fad such as Christian Science, they see no harm in their doing so. It pleases them, their doing so. It pleases them, they say, and does them good; let them follow their bent. let them follow their bent. They profess to have a broad view of religion, intolerance to their minds is synonymous with narrowness. In fact, their only objection to the active practice of re-ligious belief lies in this, that it seems to lead to bigotry and fanaticism. As a logical consequence of such ideas, they abstain from giving their children any religious instruction, preferring to leave them free to choose for themselves when they shall have grown old enough to know their own minds. Should the boy finally elect to join no sect what ever, but to live according to the dictates of his own unaided reason, the father has no serious objection to make; most men of his acquaint-ance are doing the same; but as for the girl, he would prefer that she be given something of a religious bias, though its particular character matters but little, for the reason that irreligious women are not exactly in

As a contrast and a rebuke to this attitude of mind there exists a fact, uninfluenced by them. We know a a fact that might well be called the compelling fact of Christianity. For nineteen hundred years, more or less, it has been claimed that God has revealed a religion, which in the divine economy was to supplant all previous religions and to be henceforth the only religion in which God wished to be served. This claim is a fact, it has been made continuously for many centuries in almost every portion of the globe, and is put forward to day by hundreds of millions of people of every race and condition. Men who differ in everything else unite in saying that God has revealed such a religion. and that in it exclusively does He take pleasure, It simply cannot be denied that such a claim is made. A very large portion of the inhabitants of the world are advancing it to day, and the same has been done for centuries. It is confidently and persistently stated by untold multi-tudes of serious minded persons that the freedom which is still acted on by the class of people whose attitude was outlined at the beginning of this paper, has been permanently abolished and that in its place has been substi tuted an obligation binding on ever human creature. This, they assert moreover, has been done by the clear, direct, an undubitable intervention and command of God. What is more, these same millions of people are ready to lay down their lives rather than give up their belief, a thing that has been repeatedly done in the

past. The fact challenges investiga-tion. Honest seekers after the truth are bound to look into the grounds on which such a claim is made Evidently it has foundation. No one will deny that only those religious teachers are true teachers, and to be followed, who teach what God requires; and one is not free to serve God as he individually pleases, but only as God commands. It is an unonly as God commands. doubted fact that the claim is made that God has so signified His pleasure Despite this, the attitude of mind

to which we take exception is by no means uncommon, and is making alarming inroads on every class of society. Men are ceasing to be in-terested in God. There was a time when our@fellow-citizens were so in-terested that they fought all who did not think as themselves, but it is a far cry to that distant day. Nowa-days they simply do not care. But we Catholics do care. We have a vision that they have not, we posses a heritage that we must not lose. Our neighbors once had it, too, but it has slipped out of their hands; we must hold it tight, lest it slip out of ours.-J. Harding Fisher, S. J., in

# KIPLING AND IRELAND

America.

In the light of the response to John Redmond's spiritual appeal to the Irish Nationalists to enlist and fight or the Empire, this reference to the Nationalists from a speech by Rudyard Kipling on May 16 seems like an echo from the remote past :

"To do them justice, they have never faltered in their passionate and persistent hatred of England. and persistent hatred of England. They have preached it and practiced it by every means in their power. They have prayed for the success of Engenemies with men and arms; they have jeered at England's defeats; they have befouled the honor of England's army, and they have mocked England's dead."

And now in thousands on the fields of France these men for whom Kipling had no word of kindliness are dying for the Empire—for British freedom—side by side with the men of England and Scotland and Ulster. Some day Kipling may put into verse in his earlier and nobler manner an apology to the Irish people. — The

# BLIND AND UNAWARE OF IT

The Watchman Examiner, (Baptist) does not agree with the Rev. Dr. Gladden as to the "Ant Papal Panic." Our Baptist contemporary says: "It is our privilege to glance through nearly one hundred Protestant papers a week, and in editorials and contributed articles we find little-evidence of that spirit which Dr. Gladden declares to be so widespread." "No so blind as those who will not see."

The article from which we quote the foregoing disavowal of anti-Catholic bigotry is itself running over with it. For example, it bristles with such statements as these: "If a crisis were to arise, Roman Catnolics would prove that their first allegiance is to the Pope rather than to our Govern umny that strikes at the foundation of all good understanding between Catholics and Protestants.

Catholics declare that the above statement, in the meaning that the Watchman Examiner gives it, is a lie. And no matter how unctuous our double-barreled contemporary may be in avowing friendship to Cath olics personally, this infernal false-hood yawns like a chasm between itself and all Catholics.

But we should not be too much disturbed by such statements. They are not so mischievous as we think.

goodly number of Baptists who have not yet turned over their thinking to Watchman Examiner."-Sacred Heart Review.

## CATHOLIC SOLDIERS AT THE FRONT

(By "M. C. L."), Grasgow Observer

Notes and anecdotes relative to the war continue to reach me, many of them of poignant interest to Catholics. Here is one told by the mem ber of a religious community in Ire land. A party of soldiers was marching to a station, when one of them saw a priest on the opposite side of the street, and rushed across, telling his Reverence that this was the first op-portunity he had had of getting to confession before his regiment departed for the front, and as it might be the last, he begged to be "heard" on the spot. And in the broad light of day, in a public thoroughfare, the young man in khaki knelt down and made his confession as simply and humbly as a child. The act was as heroic as facing the guns of the enemy, and a lesson to such as are in bonds to human respect. A few other soldiers followed this glorious on the incident seems to me to be ye become as like children, ye can these men had fulfilled the precept. The poor fellows are like children," padre declared: "theirs is the simple, earnest, trustful faith.

believe what our Lord said just be-cause Hesaidit. Itisthefaith of Peter: 'Thou hast the words of eternal life.'
The poor boys! They come to us for crucifixes and medals, and they tell us that there may be only a bit of to be good for the rest of it. That is why they are so eager to receive Holy Communion." Six hundred strapping warriors knelt at devotions Boys," said their chaplain, "Heaven has not bestowed on me a 'singing voice', so I want you to start a hymr yourselves. Sing the one you like best." And they sang, the big, bronzed fellows, the child's hymn: 'Look Down, O Mother Mary!"

An Irish regiment? That goes without saying of course. A non Catholic soldier went into a reposi tory, and asked for "one of those bead necklaces." What he wanted was a osary, and he explained that his Catholic comrades each had one, and it seemed to make them happy. In addition to the rosary, a medal of the on him: and the repository-keeper felt that the rest could be left to Our

# PEACE WITH HONOR

Amid the crash and tumult of an awe-inspiring war the world pauses to wish God speed to the Irish people on the triumph of their long fight for national autonomy. The King has signed the Home Rule Bill, and it now takes its place on the statute Ireland. It is not the triumph of a party but of a nation. It is more it is a victory for principles which both sides in Ireland profess to hold ciples into effect there can be little doubt in the minds of those have followed Ireland's struggles for national rights. At no stage of thi century old agitation have Irish Nationalists slammed the door against conciliation. In the Parlia ment on College Green there will be an honored place for the Ulster of the Pale, whose tenacious scruples will vanish before the Gaelic shouts of "Caed mille failthe!" In every corner of the world Irish hearts be warmed by the glad news that Ireland is about to enter into the fullness of national life. The feelings of the Irish leader in

the hour of victory can best be imagined. He has brought his country through the wilderness into the prom ised land. It is peace with honor Full justice will one day be done to the part played by Mr. John Redmon His difficulties at times seemed insuperable. Throughout he never faltered in the great ideal which he had set before him, the reconciliation of the British and Irish democ racies. He came into the leadership at a time when Ireland was weak and dispirited after the failure of Glad stone's bills. He upheld the national cause when British statesmen agreed in regarding it as a dead issue. By his wonderful sagacity, tact, and gifts of leadership he won to his side the British masses, and by making common cause with them forged weapons that have hewn a broader path for the democracies of both countries. In this hour of victory Irishmen

will remember with gratitude the Irish leader and his colleagues who have borne the burden and heat of the day. And Irish thoughts will also go out to the men who in past generationr - northern Protestants and southern Catholics—died that Irish nationality might one day live.
The memory of their deeds will remain green in the hearts of their countrymen.—The Toronto Globe.

#### CATHOLIC NOTES

The church of Santa Prudentiana (titular church of Cardinal Bourne of Westminster, England) is the most ancient church in Rome and the world. This church is by pious tradition supposed to have been the Cathedral of St. Peter the Apostle.

Marquette Medical College, Milwaukee, Wis., was voted \$12,000 toward its endowment fund by the Catholic Knights of Wisconsin at the annual convention held in Green Bay, Wis., lately. Each of the 12,000 members will be assessed 25 cents annually for

four years. Seventy thousand dollars will be spent on restoring and renovating the Church of the Poor Clares at Viterbo, Italy. This church contains the sacred body of St. Rose of Viterbo who died in 1252. Her body is still

flexible and uncorrupt.

In the current issue of l'Illustration there is a beautiful picture of Franciscan nuns of the Chatelets, near S. Brieux, at work in the barvest field in their white robes and wide flowing veils. They are cutting wheat, and stooking it in place of the young peasants who are fighting for their country.

Paris, Sept. 18. - The name of Mother Adrienne, head of the Dames du Sacre Coeur, who formerly was Adrienne Bubet, appears in a long list of names of those killed on the battlefield. She was struck by a bullet from a German machine as she was raising the head of a wounded soldier.

After an exile of more than a century the Friars Minor, the eldest of the children of the Franciscan family have returned to Padua, which St. Anthony, the Wonder Worker, made famous. They are occupying again the old convent and church of St. The great basilica and tomb of St. Anthony continues as heretofore in the charge of the Friars Minor Conventuals, black Franciscans, as they are commonly called from the color of their habit.

The beautiful little chapel of the Sacred Heart built on St. Joseph's Island by Mme. Rosa d'Erina the distinguished Irish singer was dedicated on Sunday, Sept. 27th by His Lordship Bishop Scollard, Bishop of Sault Ste. Marie. Mme. Rosa d'Erina conceived the idea of building the chapel in reparation to the Sacred Heart for the scandals caused on the island by Villate who resided there for four

A New Testament printed in Lyons France, in the year 1540 in sheep-skin binding is in the possession of Father Mela of St. Mary's church, in Sacramento, Cala. This book was given to Father Mela by a priest to whom the Testament had been given after having been passed down the long line of years, always in the possession of a priest. The Testa-ment is believed to be one of a very few of the edition in existence and is valued highly.

When called as a witness in an election contest in Hanover town-ship, near Wilkesbarre, Pa., Michael O'Horo refused to give his testimony in English and insisted that he be allowed to talk in Gaelic. Examiner, Thomas D. Shea and Attorneys Sheri-dan and McAniff admitted they could not understand the language of their forefathers, and the old man refused land's enemies in every quarter of the world; they have assisted those of Irish statesmen to put these print was necessary to delay the hearing until an interpreter was found.

" At the head of Belgium's roll of fame," writes an American corres-pondent, "should be carved the names of these heroic men in long black gowns and shovel hats who face death unarmed and unafraid. I have seen them burying the dead, shriving the dying, bandaging the wounded, helping the helpless, writ-ing letters for the illiterate, comforting the bereaved and homeless cheering the troops into action. I raise my hat to them in respect and admiration. They are showing them-selves real soldiers of the Lord."

The Comte de Mun has sent to the Echo de Paris an extract from a letter describing an incident which took place on the Assumption in a frontier village near the scene of the recent fighting: "To day our chaplain came and said Mass at seven o'clock in the open air in the principal street of the village. The whole brigade of infantry and 10th Hussars were present, and at the end of Mass the chaplain said to the officers and soldiers: 'Every day you run great risks and you all ought to be ready to appear at any hour before God. It is impossible to hear your confessions ; therefore say along with me and from your hearts an act of contrition, and I will give absolution to all those who make the sign of the cross.'

Mgr. Monnier, Titular Bishop of Lidda, now living in retirement in France, is the oldest bishop in the world, in point of age, having seen no less than ninety five years. The oldest in point of service is Mgr. Laspro, Archbishop of Salerno, who was consecrated as far back as 1860 and is still in active service at the age of eighty seven. In the English speak-ing world the oldest bishop still in active service is Cardinal Gibbons Archbishop of Baltimore, who was consecrated in 1868 and is now eighty