

tions, although, as a matter of course, they are ready to give consideration to any proposition from the Government, and to accept it or reject it strictly on its merits.

The tactless speech of Lloyd George has produced a reaction of feeling in favor of Ireland, and this feeling is accentuated, and even facilitated, by every one of his utterances, in public and in private as well, since his speech. It is certain that now all political parties, outside of the Orange extremists, are heartily in favor of reaching a solution of the Irish problem before the peace conference shall take place.

President Wilson's recent speech before the United States Senate is widely quoted as a justification for this demand. It is whispered that Lloyd George has been so impressed by the movement to this end that his nimble mind is already seeking out some way by which it may be accomplished. Whatever decision he has arrived at, if he has arrived at any, he has kept it a secret so far, with the result that all parties are publicly further assuaged on the Irish question than ever, though they are being drawn nearer together by irresistible pressure from the outside for a settlement.

But on the other hand, the speech made by Lloyd George in defense of the scheme fathered by himself of providing for the men who have so gallantly defended the nation in their great fight against the common enemy, Germany, can elicit only the highest of praise.

Forgotten were the arts of the orator—only was there apparent the man who thinks only of the suffering of women and children—the dependents upon the soldiers—those clerks, draymen and artificers of other days—who have shouldered their rifles and so gallantly faced the foe on the battle-riven plains of the Marne and those dreary blood-stained swamps over which our gallant troops are steadily forcing back the enemy.

With the perfect simplicity of language and lucidity of ideas that mark the introduction of any great national movement, Lloyd George pleaded for pensions—for the pitifully small recompenses that will partially assist those maimed and injured heroes who have borne the flag of Britain to higher glories than ever before recorded on the banners of the nation, to care for their loved ones after peace has once more come to Great Britain.

That the establishment of the pension system means many sacrifices upon the part of the nation, all will admit, but really, as the Premier put it, any nation which is not willing to make these sacrifices should not enter in this great War for the liberty of all nations.

When I think of what our Allies have had to suffer, butcheries, the devastation of large tracts of territory—the wholesale deaths by privation of countless women and children—the deportations, the insults, the outrages: when I think of these things, I cannot regard with any sympathy the people of our own country—if there be any such—who regard it as a serious sacrifice that they should earn less money, eat less meat or drink less beer, in order that the helpless ones of those who have stood as a living wall between their country and all of the awful depredations which would have been inflicted upon them had our islands been invaded by a conquering foe.

Now at last we realize that it is necessary to provide for these helpless ones—these women, mothers and wives, and their little ones—of the "boys in the trenches," and to care for these boys themselves when we come to the time when we welcome them back—some with but one leg or arm, others sightless or worse—those hundreds who are and who will be, incapable of returning to their desk or bench through physical incapacity.

Over two years ago the man who is now Prime Minister of the United Kingdom told me "if we would win, we must tighten our belts." We are called upon to tighten them now, by the same man who whispered those words in my ears when the War was in its infancy.

From that hour Lloyd George had never changed his views. No matter what other quarrels we have had, no matter how dark the situation in which the Irish National party finds itself involved, the man who has had the courage to stand firm, without ostentation or rhetorical speechifying, for the cause of the widows and wives and children of the English, Irish, Welsh, Canadian and other Colonial men who have shouldered the brunt of the efforts to keep the ravening foe from our very doors, that man has my highest respect.

He it was who first realized the need of the nation to stand ready for sacrifice at the very start and he it is who has had the courage to wage the battle against the more selfish motives of a nation, who through this bitter War may, please God, become a nation united in very fact.

A LUTHERAN'S TRIBUTE

"The pyramid of crutches, in (St. Anne de Beaupre) the church's entrance is verily an object of wonderment. The heart fills with awe and the eye with tears as one stands and looks upon them and reads their silent story. I wonder not that persons are sceptical when they hear only the story of these pyramids, but one's scepticism is soon dispelled as he examines crutch after crutch and sees the marks of pain and sorrow they bear."—Rev. John H. Heindel, (Lutheran), Jersey City, N. Y.

IN FREE POLAND

The Literary Digest

Lurid tales of what is happening in Poland are appearing in the press of the Allied countries, where it is alleged that the plight of Poland is worse even than Belgium's. While such stories must be received with considerable reserve, yet there is something significant in the persistence with which they appear, and it tends to show that conditions in Poland and Belgium have much in common. From a neutral country we take this account of the state of Poland as told by a Polish gentleman from Warsaw to the Amsterdam Telegraaf. He says:

"The Germans have installed themselves in the great Polish city as if they were at home. For some time past there has been a resumption of business in the city, especially in certain parts of the Jewish quarters, notably Nalevki, Gesi, and Bielanska streets. All industry in the country is dead. The factories are closed, and the machinery of the greater part of them has been taken down and sent to Germany.

The German authorities have removed the bells from the Orthodox churches, and also from certain Roman Catholic churches.

"Attempts have been made to seduce us by fallacious promises to enrol in the German armies and factories. Very few have been taken in by these efforts, and those who accepted the German offers have only regretted it. The Germans are employing propagandist agents for the Polish Legion. They are Poles from Posen with a strong German agent. The population laughs in their faces."

Deportations to Germany to fill the depleted ranks of labor seem to have taken place in Poland as well as Belgium.

"The suspicion of the Labor party is justified by the mass deportations of workers from Poland, hundreds of thousands of whom are condemned to hard labor without trial. At Praga, the largest suburb of Warsaw, the Polish laborers have refused to work for the German military authorities and have been punished severely."

"All the material for industry—the copper, the factory machinery, the dynamo, the motor parts, the cotton, and the wool—has been confiscated by the invader. In a certain number of large factories and warehouses only the four walls remain. The Kommandantur requisitions everything, even to clothing and the shop-carpets. Provisions are becoming constantly scarcer, and the poorest part of the population at Vola has begun to kill dogs for food."

"More crushing and agonizing than this increasing famine, however, is the moral oppression, the menace of which is over the country. The Courts of Blood perform their work without cessation. Firing parties are always at work. In the neighborhood of Pila innocent people have been shot."

"Before my departure I saw with my own eyes how the Germans proceeded in the sweeping away of men. At night cordons of troops surrounded a working class quarter at Warsaw not far from the Nadwislanska Station with loaded rifles, 'Alles Heu!' ('All out') ordered a sergeant. Then occurred a tragic scene. The soldiers chose here and there those men and women whom they thought suitable, separated brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and compelled those whom they declared good for slavery to leave immediately. Thus more than 100,000 men and women were removed from the part of the country under the Government of Warsaw."

If the above is a reliable account of current events it is not surprising that the Poles have not hailed their new found freedom with any great enthusiasm, as it is evident from the Berlin papers that "all is not going well with the new Polish kingdom." Die Post puts it. In describing the meeting of the first Polish State Council recently held in Warsaw, Die Post notes the lack of political cordiality between Germans and Poles, and proceeds:

"Despite the utmost efforts on the part of the German authorities, the principal political groups of 'Congress Poland' will not cooperate effectively. The State Council was to meet before Christmas; but negotiations dragged on. . . . Also the number of volunteers for the Army is negligible. Both the National Democrats and the Realists have demanded the postponement of the Army question until the Polish State has been definitely formed. If such views persist or gather strength, there will be no doubt that the Provisional State Council will be a mere rump. . . . These experiences lead us to feel that, as the outcome of all our exertions on behalf of Poland, Poland refuses to be Germany's friend."

The Petrograd Kurjer Polski, one of the organs of the "Realists," who demand the inclusion of Galicia and Posen in any new Kingdom of Poland, is inclined to think that Austria is inclined to cede Galicia to any really stable Polish State, but that German Poland will never be released by Prussia. These views receive some confirmation from the comments on President Wilson's reference to Poland in his recent peace-note. For example, the Kolnische Volkszeitung remarks:

"And there is a further point in President Wilson's peace program which we must reject as entirely outside discussion, and even an intolerable suggestion—namely, his demand for a united, independent Poland."

Clearly, he has in mind the separation of the regions formerly belonging to the Kingdom of Poland, now belonging to the German Empire. In this matter we can only say, 'Hands off!' If President Wilson values our friendship, then he should never mention this question again."

ACQUITTED OF LIBEL

EVIDENCE ADDUCED PLACES "BISHOP" PAUL OUTSIDE THE PALE OF A DECENT COMMUNITY

A suit for criminal libel of more than ordinary interest was heard last week in this city. The principals figuring in the case were John S. Pizdor, editor of Gazeta Katolicka, a Polish Catholic newspaper, and one "Bishop" Paul Markiewicz, who has been operating on Burrows Avenue for the past six years.

On Sept. 20th last the article complained of appeared in Gazeta Katolicka. At that time it was announced that Archbishop Germanus of the Orthodox Church was coming from the United States to consecrate Rev. Markiewicz. Editor Pizdor made note of this fact and stressed the point that the consecrating Bishop was of the Orthodox belief. He said: "The Independent Congregation on Burrows Avenue, which supplies proof of some people's foolishness, will be the scene of a new comedy next Sunday. Alphonse Markiewicz, the former lay brother at the Piarist Monastery (in Austria) and until recently 'Bishop,' who after years of rascality in the old country and the United States, came to Winnipeg and made himself a 'Bishop,' will be solemnly 'consecrated.' This comedy will be carried out by a Bishop who is in the jurisdiction of the Orthodox patriarch in New York. Do these our countrymen, who are fortunately few in number and who are so mercilessly sacrificed by this scoundrel Alphonse Markiewicz still think that they are Catholics and that they profess the same holy faith for which our forefathers died the death of martyrs?"

A warning was then given to the Polish people to hesitate before it was too late and examine the claims of the alleged "Bishop."

ACTION FOR CRIMINAL LIBEL

"Bishop" Paul at once took action for criminal libel against the editor of the paper, Mr. John S. Pizdor, and the preliminary hearing took place before Sir Hugh John Macdonald in the police court. No defense was put in and the case went over to the assizes.

Last week the merits of the case were presented to the jury. Markiewicz related the story of his life and during his evidence attacked viciously the Catholic Church, especially the Jesuits and Piarists, and said that upon his arrival in New York he called upon Archbishop Farley, who wished to ordain him, but who laid down one condition which Paul could not agree to. The condition was that he should cease to be a Poleander. Here Judge Macdonald asked why the Archbishop insisted upon such a condition since the Polish people as a rule are Catholics and that he professed the same holy faith for which our forefathers died the death of martyrs? Paul could not invent a reason on the spur of the moment and the case went on.

He told the jury that he went then to Scranton, Pa., and met Bishop Hodur (self-appointed) of the Polish National Church, who ordained him as a priest and sent him to Wilkes-Barre, whence he went at Plymouth, coming from there to Winnipeg to take charge of Hodur's church on Burrows Avenue. Here he acted as parish priest and administrator for "Bishop" Hodur from Feb. 2nd, 1911, to Jan. 22nd, 1913. On that day he broke off relations with the National Church and had himself elected "Bishop" of the Catholic Apostolic Church of Canada. Bishop Hodur at this time announced in his official organ, Straz, that he had excommunicated Markiewicz from the Polish National Church.

THE DEFENCE

The defence put three witnesses on the stand. The first was a daughter of the man with whom Markiewicz boarded when he first came to Winnipeg. The second witness was his housekeeper, and the third a sister in a religious community established by himself.

We have too much consideration for the readers of the Review to recite the evidence adduced at this trial. Suffice to say that each of the witnesses for the defence gave such testimony as would drive Markiewicz from the companionship of decent citizens. The stories recited by some of them were almost incredible of belief but the sincerity of those on the stand could not be doubted by anyone present in the court room. The facts were of a most damaging character and when the fate of the accused editor was placed in the hands of the jury there was not the slightest doubt as to what the verdict would be. Upon the reappearance of the jurymen "Bishop" Paul was evidently perturbed by he could read in their faces the decision which should cut short his career in these parts. The unanimous verdict was "not guilty," a verdict which was concurred in by everyone present.

Judge Macdonald, who presided, characterized the case as "one of the most scandalous affairs ever dragged into the courts of justice." He said: "The evidence shows this man is a fraud. It is a scandalous outrage that he should be allowed to parade around in the garb of a servant of God. In finding the defendant not guilty and upholding his plea of justification, the jury has practically

found this so-called bishop guilty of being a party to the commission of a most serious crime." Mr. Justice Macdonald strongly urged upon Mr. Treeman, counsel for the defendant, the desirability of placing all the facts before the Attorney-General's department so that action might be taken to rid the community of this pious impostor and criminal.

GREAT MASS MEETING

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

to give Home Rule to South Africa, against the very classes to whom he has weakly surrendered in the matter of Home Rule for Ireland. And had the fighting Boers not been given the right of freedom, there would be no loyal colony following the lead of Botha, Smuts and the others, in upholding the honor of Great Britain. There would have been a rebellion more bitter and more disastrous than the last. The sacred cause of justice to Ireland must no longer be allowed to be made the plaything of unscrupulous party politicians. The conscience of the world, the honor and good name of Britain demand that higher and worthier considerations prevail.

"How can Britain consistently claim to fight for the freedom of small nations when the same principle is denied a small nation within the Empire?" asked Dr. P. J. Muga, on reading and moving the resolution.

Rev. Father O'Connor protested that it is not just that Irishmen should shed their blood with other Britishers, while Irishmen at home are denied that for which they are fighting and dying abroad.

"Tell Lloyd George to take his heel off Ireland," Mr. Frank Forde declared in an indignant paraphrase of the Premier's word to John Dillon.

It is often asserted, said Father Foley, Editor of THE CATHOLIC RECORD, by Englishmen that many sports have contributed largely to the development of the finest qualities of the English character. And the English have admirable qualities and characteristics.

Incorporated into the language are terms whose significance is first learned on the playing field, terms which expressed the most inviolable principles of their codes of honor and of ethics. "Play the game," "play fair," "foul play," are some of these. And the highest virtue, national or individual, the proudest boast of all Englishmen, gentle or simple, is expressed in that world-famous term—"British fair-play."

There is another term, as yet perhaps in the domain of slang, but deserving of promotion to the rank of other ethical sporting terms; it is "welcher." Welcher is a term of opprobrium and contempt, it deserves to be known because it is the very antithesis of British fair-play. It is applied to the contemptible cheat, who bets, loses, and then tries to evade payment. The welcher is an outcast, beneath contempt.

"The Resolution before us states that Irish freedom has been 'won fairly, honestly and decisively.' Yes by all the rules of the game, with the world in the grand stand, Home Rule was won. And this resolution says to the English lovers of fair play, to the Englishmen, to the English gentlemen who control the British Government: Pay your bet—Don't welch!"

"Lloyd George is a tyrant, and Sir Edward Carson the evil genius of the British Government," said J. F. Faulds who declared himself a convert to Home Rule. When I say Lloyd George is a tyrant I do not mean to be offensive, but to state the fact that he takes the stand that is the very essence of tyranny—minority rule.

"Many a man has been executed for doing much less than Carson has done."

He is a lawyer, he knows the status of treason. Any law student, with the assistance of a common constable, could produce the evidence to convict him of treason."

A decline in Ireland's population in a few decades from 8,000,000 to 4,000,000 is an awful indictment of misrule in Ireland, declared Mr. Ed. J. Carty, of the Free Press. Emigration of those who have despaired of self-government has left the country peopled with old men and women, as compared with England, Scotland or Canada. Consequently Ireland's record of recruitment is the more praiseworthy and notable. "I make no apology and no explanation for Ireland's part in the War. Ireland, depopulated Ireland has done her share for the War and would be eager to do more than her share if given her freedom."

It is no disloyalty to seek to settle the Irish question, but a step in the best interests of the British Empire, asserted Father McKeon.

As a Canadian, not wholly of Irish blood, Mr. M. P. McDonagh supported the resolution, while Mr. Wm. McPhillips voiced a sentiment that seemed general when he said that though he had been a warm admirer of Lloyd George he had completely lost confidence in him.

John Longhlin, whose father many times served the empire in the army, and whose grandfather had a proud record of twenty-one years in the imperial forces, evoked universal assenting applause when he said that in all history no man had in twenty-four hours so chilled the hearts of millions of admirers, turning confidence and hope into suspicion and mistrust. Lloyd George has betrayed not Ireland but England.

E. V. Houston, at the age of twenty-one a member of the first Canadian

contingent in the Boer War and entitled to wear the Queen's Medal with three clasps, said he was pure Irish for four generations. "Talking of loyalty, he said amid cheers 'I have been asking myself if Irishmen are going to be allowed to be loyal. Mention has been made of the half-million fighting Irish in the field, and that others would be there if Irishmen were given decent treatment. That is true. I am one of them. I fought through one war and would have been at the front in this had I been permitted. I want that to go on record.'"

Discussion from the audience was contributed to by Capt. Manley and by Mr. George T. Brown.

"The former paid a tribute to the courage of Bishop Fallon in calling such a meeting. He condemned Sir Edward Carson for training his followers for rebellion against the King and for arming his volunteers with rifles imported from Germany."

Mr. George T. Brown said that like his father he believes in justice for Ireland, though there is not a drop of Irish blood in him; he made open profession of his faith for he felt that otherwise he would be untrue to his manhood and principles. He had accepted the Bishop's invitation to all lovers of fair play, truth and justice to attend and speak. "It is only right, honorable, just, decent and fair that Ireland should be granted the right of self government."

The resolution was put and passed without a dissenting voice. Bishop Fallon expressed his pleasure, and declared that the resolution would be cabled at once to England.

"I think we have done a good thing for Ireland, a good thing for ourselves, and a good thing for the Empire," he said. "I hope that our motives will not be misunderstood or misinterpreted."

"Will you permit your motives to be questioned?" he asked, and a thunderous "No!" was the answer.

"Will you allow your loyalty to be discussed?" he asked, and again "No!" reverberated from every part of the hall.

"We expect that Great Britain will keep her word to Ireland."

The gathering broke up with cheers for the King and the singing of the National Anthem.

TWO WEIGHTS AND TWO MEASURES

UNION OR DISSENSION

A small number of United States senators balk the will and desire of the great majority of the people of the republic and the Allied press flames out in anger and scorn while the American press accuses these representatives of treachery, and worse. At almost the same time the premier of Britain arises in the House of Commons and declares that the will of the majority of the people of Ireland cannot rule, that self-government cannot be granted that country as a whole, and that the minority shall not be "coerced." It is a puzzling situation which forcibly recalls the great legislative struggle of the Southern states of the American union for the preservation or maintenance of the individual state rights. The great actors in this drama were Clay, Webster and Calhoun. The latter's speech on the California Compromise of 1850 may be taken as illustrative of the position assumed by the states as opposed to federal authority. As a result of protective tariffs and internal improvements at the public expense the north had outgrown the south, and as the stronger section, it was oppressing the southern people and interfering with their domestic affairs. The various ties which bound the sections together, Calhoun asserted in his great plea, were beginning to snap and this was the literal truth as regards spiritual, social and political bonds. There was a widely diffused belief that the south could not remain in the union with honor. The union, Calhoun asserted, was unquestionably in danger, and it could only be preserved by restoring thorough constitutional equilibrium between the two sections. The south must be given equal rights in the territories, runaway-slaves must be returned, and the north must cease interfering in the domestic affairs of the south. Webster's speech a few days later also favored compromise and he denounced the abolitionist societies of the north, which he held responsible for much of the ill feeling and distrust of the south. Webster understood the constitution of the republic better than any other man of his time, probably better than anyone since that time. His attitude greatly angered the north, but it was sincere, as was Calhoun's.

But within a dozen years of this period we find the states at war. The civil struggle was a war of secession. The south refused to be bound by the interpretation of the federal constitution accepted and maintained by the northern states. With the details of the long and bloody conflict that followed we need not deal. But eventually the union was saved, as Lincoln prayed and hoped. What if the south had won? Would the United States to-day be the great nation it is, or would it be greater? No one can answer that question, but we do know that despite the memories that must ever cling about the lost cause, the union has grown powerful beyond expectation.

Is not the same moral applicable to Ireland, to large degree? It is true that the Irish majority have never had a chance to rule over the minority, so that even the American

analogy is not applicable. What right has the British government to assume that the minority would not be treated justly by the majority? None whatever. The whole proposal of the government to allow each part of one of the three kingdoms to govern itself as it sees fit, regardless of the others would seem to make for disunion and dissension, jealousy and distrust.—Citizen Editorial.

IT PAYS TO FIGHT?

Editor Citizen:—Does it pay to fight England? Carson and Redmond surely think so? The Sinn Feiners may or may not agree with them? What do you think about it?

As I understand the Irish situation it is as follows: three provinces, Leinster, Munster and Connaught are practically unanimously clamoring for Home Rule, almost as we have it in Canada, but the other province, Ulster, is divided on the question. In Ulster, although many don't know it, there are 18 members of parliament FOR Home Rule and 17 against? Is this correct? If it is correct, then seven-eighths of the country wants Home Rule and one-eighth is opposed to it.

Lloyd George is reported by cable today as follows: " . . . it is considered (by the British government) impossible to impose by force on any section of Ireland a form of government which has not their consent." Can you tell me when the "CONSENT" of seven-eighths of Ireland was obtained for the imposition of the form of government which has been in vogue there for many generations?

Redmond, representing the great bulk of Ireland, has, with constitutional means sought Home Rule but yesterday—almost heart broken, towards the close of an honored career—he left the House of Commons as a protest against further palavering, because, as he said, "you have fooled me before!" What a pitiable spectacle for a nation and its government—fighting, with the assistance of every right-thinking human being, for the rights of small nations and the adherence to the terms of treaties which should not be regarded as mere "scrap of paper"—what a pitiable spectacle Redmond makes of them?

The Carsonites, armed with German accoutrement, and bolstered up with the traitorous promises of immunity from soldiers of the King "holds up" the government of Great Britain! There are too many Carsonites to shoot, hang, imprison or transport! Therefore, THEY are respected.

The Sinn Feiners, armed like the Carsonites, but without the prestige of numbers or influence, get, what many believe, their deserts!

Redmond, after a life of broad-minded obedience and respect for civil laws and toleration of the religious beliefs of others gets treatment which must show him, unless he is made of heavenly materials, that his methods do not achieve results! What do you think about it?—CANUCK, March 8th.

VICTIMS OF IRISH RISING

IRISH NATIONAL ASSOCIATION SENDS MONEY FOR DEPENDENTS

Canadian Press Despatch

Montreal, March 12.—A draft for £300 has been sent by the Montreal branch of the Irish National Association to headquarters in Dublin to assist those dependent upon the men who were imprisoned as a result of the recent uprising in Ireland. The contribution is made, though the wisdom of the "rash undertaking" is questioned and the results deplored. Sir Charles Fitzpatrick, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Canada, in a letter enclosing a subscription to the fund "to aid the women and children who are suffering by reason of the confinement of their husbands and fathers in English prisons," in conclusion says: "One may be prepared to serve the empire well and faithfully and at the same time honestly sympathize with the victims of the recent unfortunate uprising in Ireland, as I certainly do."

CATHOLIC ADMIRAL DEAD

A gallant Catholic and an Irish sailor was laid to rest in London this week, when solemn Requiem Mass was celebrated for Admiral Sir Henry Kane in Westminster Cathedral, in the presence of a large gathering of naval men. After the absolution the funeral cortege, accompanied by an escort of bluejackets, wended its way to the little Catholic Church of St. Thomas, Fulham, which is surrounded by its own cemetery, where the Kanes have a family grave. This church and its "God-acre" are unique for Catholic London, and date from the days when the suburb of Fulham was out in the fields surrounding London. Admiral Kane came of an Irish family whose seat is at Glandree, County Clare. He was the hero of the Calliope episode, when he kept his ship aloft during a terrific hurricane off Samsen, in which all the shipping in the harbor of Apia was destroyed, including four men-of-war. He managed to get out of the harbor, and rode the storm all day, with full steam, making only one knot, but saving his ship. When he returned to the harbor after the tempest there was not a ship of any kind afloat. He also saw service in Egypt and received the Khedivial medal for Tel-Kebir and the Khedivial star. Another Requiem Mass was that for the late king and crown prince of Portugal, which took

place on Thursday in the little Catholic church at Richmond and was attended by the Queen-Mother Amelia of Portugal, King Manuel and his wife, Queen Augusta. Queen Amelia and her son are indefatigable in their work for the wounded.—New World.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY

Another anniversary in honor of Ireland's patron saint finds the Emerald Isle under the shadow of a deep despair. The impasse—as Mr. Asquith recently observed in the House of Commons—places an onerous burden upon the Empire which it is the duty of the statesmen to endeavor to remove. Six years ago it was recognized in Unionist circles in England that closer union of the Empire was impossible so long as Ireland blocked the way. In the famous letters of "Pacifius" to The London Times it was contended that the failure to settle the Irish question was "an obstacle to a better understanding between Britain and the United States or the Dominions." The necessity for a better understanding and closer relations between these countries is more imperative now than that the Empire is at war. . . .

To create an atmosphere of reconciliation in Ireland, to approach the solution of the Irish problem with a sincere desire to maintain the highest traditions of British statescraft, the attitude of mind of responsible Ministers must be attuned to the fundamental principles of good government that have yielded such abundant fruit in Canada, South Africa, and other nations of the Empire. Throughout the Empire to-day the thoughts of the Irish people will turn to the cradle of their race. This will be a disappointing anniversary for millions who, year after year, have looked forward with intense yearning to the coming of a St. Patrick's Day when they might celebrate the passing of Castle rule and see the dawn of national unity breaking on the holy hills of Ireland.—The Globe, March 17th.

A MASS AT ST. JOSEPH'S ALTAR

With awe he sees the twin lights made,
The missal placed, the priest drawn nigh,
He, who had long, long lain at rest
When came Christ's hour to bleed
And die.

But ah, he feels alone, aloof:
He never saw the Cross and nails,
Or knew his little, loving Son
Beneath the Eucharistic veils.

The first words staid unto his ear,
And they are murmured, soft and low,
And David's son hears David's song
He knew and loved long years ago.

A moment more, and Mary's name
Within his heart makes music sweet;
And John—he knew him as a child
Who played with Jesus at His feet.

The "Gloria," and once again
'Tis Bethlehem on Christmas night,
And eager shepherds whispering
Their wondrous tale of angels bright.

The "Sanctus" said in trembling voice,
And Joseph lists with bated breath;
He hears on earth the song of Home,
A Home more dear than Nazareth.

And soon his little, helpless Babe
Is cradled at his very feet;
Ah, earth and heaven seem but one!
He softly weeps; his tears are sweet.

—BY FLORENCE GILMORE

Sorrow's best antidote is occupation.—Young.

FATHER FRASER'S CHINESE MISSION

Taichowfu, China, Nov. 26, 1916

Dear Readers of CATHOLIC RECORD:
That your charity towards my mission is approved by the highest ecclesiastical authorities of Canada let me quote from a letter from His Excellency, The Most Rev. Peregrine F. Stagni, O. S. M., D. D., Apostolic Delegate, Ottawa. "I have been watching with much interest the contributions to the Fund opened on behalf of your missions by the CATHOLIC RECORD. The success has been very gratifying and shows the deep interest which our Catholic people take in the work of the missionary in foreign lands. . . . I bless you most cordially and all your labors, as a pledge my earnest wishes for your greatest success in all your undertakings." I entreat you to continue the support of my struggling mission, assuring you a remembrance in my prayers and Masses.

Yours faithfully in Jesus and Mary,
J. M. FRASER.

Previously acknowledged.	\$9,800 45
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Subscriber, Sydney.	1 00
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