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LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION.

Citars OF RECOMMENDATION. UNIVERSITY OF OTTAWA. Ottaws, Canada. March 7th. 1960. We the Editor of The Catholic Record, London, Ont: Dear dir: For some time pass I have read our edinable paper, The Catholic Record, and congratulate you upon the manner in which is published. Its matter and form are both good : and a tray Catholic spirit pervades the whole. Therefore, with pleasure, I can recommend Elecaling you, and wishing you

aithful. ng you, and wishing you success. Sileve me, to remain. Yours faithfully in Jesus Christ, t D. FALCONIO, Arch. of Larissa Apost. Deleg.

LONDON, SATURDAY, JULY 23, 1904.

CHURCH UNITY.

In 1896 Leo XIII. told the world that no small share of his thoughts were Sevoted to the endeavor of bringing wack to the fold the sheep that have strayed. Bent upon this he thought it most conducive to outline the model and as it were the lineaments of the Church. Amongst those the most worthy of our considerations is Unity which the Divine Author impressed on it as a lasting sign of truth and unconquerable strength. The various sects in Canada are doing some vigorous talk about reupion. So far nothing definite has been affected. They all agreed, however, that discord and dissension are alien to the spirit of religion. But just how all this he to be done away with is not so clear from the articles that have come under our notice. Unbelief, according to aProtestant clerical testimony, has become the rational resource of millions who argue that if truth exists they have meither the time nor the faculties to discover it among so many discordant wounds. To obviate the possibility of such accusations our separated brethren propose the building of a platform on which the sects may stand somfortably. The thoughtful, however, wasset be convinced that it rests on a solid basis. It would not do to point to the Bible, which has been tried with the results that are known. Divines may serve as props to the platform, but such supports may give away at any moment. It ought to strike our brethren that to give allegiance to a platform constructed by fallible men, and cleasing with the great truths of religion, Es to act in an unreasonable manner. It is no satisfactory basis whereon to rest

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cal speech in that city. He was cona steel cage on Ellis Island The Very Rev. gentleman welcomes until March 4, and the United States this agitation for unity as a step to-Circuit Court ordered that he should wards " a better balancing of religious be sent out of the country. forces in connection with Protestant

A FRANK CONFESSION.

that voice is not in existence to-day.

There is a strong Roman voice -one

voice-and I have always regarded it

as a great loss to the whole country

that it should possess a monopoly of solo-

singing. Protestantism as it stands is

a weak chorus constantly out of tune

A frank confession indeed ! Some

people may advert to the impropriety

and irrelevancy of the argument.

Others may strive to discover these

occasions which demand a strong non-

the means to make unity possible?

The sects on their own admission do

not possess it. They may effect a sem-

blance of unity, but unity fashioned by

human influences is not that for which

Christ prayed. And He also told us :

"Other foundation no man can lay but

IDOLATRY AND SUPERSTITION.

Further-and we quote a Protestant

"The Bible is not the principle o

Christianity, nor yet the rock on which

the Church is built. It never claims

this character, and it can be no bette

THE MARRIAGE OF DIVORCEES

Notwithstanding the stalwart stand

taken by the ministers of many Protest-

ant churches who assembled in New

York recently to consider the most

efficacious means to be taken to put an

end to the evil of divorce, it has now

become pretty clear that no uniform

course will be followed in regard to

The question was put to the Protest-

ant clergy of Chicago a few days ago,

whether they would marry divorcees,

165 replied, of whom 38 returned a

positive negative, 80 said they would

refuse marriage to any divorced per-

sons applying, except in cases of Scrip-

tural grounds for the divorce. We

have shown more than once that the

supposition that scripture permits ab-

solute divorce in the case of infidelity

to the marriage contract is an error.

nevertheless it is easily understood that

these derive their interpretation of the

passage from the Westminster Confes-

would marry them in such cases.

their mode of dealing with the evil.

heologian, Rev. Dr. Nevin-

that which is laid."

and time."

He was the first man arrested under public opinion on the governments of the new law, and when his deportation Canada. . . I am not," he says, "by was ordered, he appealed to the any means an advocate for a political Supreme Court which has upheld the Church, but there are occasions when a decision of the Circuit Court. strong non-Roman voice is needed, and

It was contended on Turner's behalf that the law was not intended to prevent free speech, and does not apply to the expression of theoretical opinions but the Chief Justice declares that a foreigner has no right to claim the Liberal-all call each other brother, right of free speech against a law which has been duly enacted by Congress. what ever rights an American citizen might claim ; and as it was proved that Turner, who is an Englishman, had maintained the right of murder, the Chief Justice declared that he was properly sent back to the country from Roman voice. But the question is : If which he came. the Lord prayed for unity where are

The Washington Star says :

" The country wants no Turners, b cause from them spring the forces that make for danger. The law defines certain classes as beyond the pale of the Re-public's hospitality, and the Supreme Court has wisely laid down the broad simple doctrino that when a man avows himself in terms as belonging to one of those classes, he has read himself out of the list of the permissible emigrants or visitors. The process of exclusion for the public security is simplified by this distinct declaration of the meaning of the statutes.

This may be regarded as the sentiment generally entertained by the press, and we have no doubt it is in accord with that of the public generalthan idolatry and superstition to wor-ship it with any such view." ly.

THE BAPTISTS AND CHURCH UNION.

On the question of the present general movement toward the union of several Protestant Churches the Baptists of Canada have taken a very decisive negative stand. While Presbyterians, Methodists and Congregationalists have certainly made during the last few months, a considerable advance toward organic union the Baptists Conventions which have been held have with one voice declared that any movement on their part toward union would be a dereliction of duty since it would imply that they are ready to give up truths which have been revealed by God, for the sake of patching up an apparent unity which does not exist, as the other denominations named teach doctrines and favor practices which are totally irreconcilable with what the Baptists hold to be the unmistakable teachings of Christ and which constitute the foundation on it is to this case the 80 refer. Most of which the Baptist Church rests, and has always rested, from the beginning of its sion of Faith. Forty-seven declare existence.

They maintain rightly that Christ that there are certain other cases of came upon earth to save mankind, that which Scripture does not speak, where-He atoned for our sins, that He enjoined in justice and charity entitle divorced upon us faith in His teachings, and persons to marry again, and that they bedience to His precepts, and established a Church to make known to man

From all this diversity it may be see what confusion has been created by the what these teachings and precepts are, so that the Church has no authority to admission of private judgment as the change them or barter them away. It supreme interpreter of the text would, therefore, destroy the purpose of Scripture. When Christ laid down for which our Redeemer came on earth the law of marriage, "What God hath to set aside any of these teachings joined together let no man put asunder," are we to believe that every man and precepts. The Baptists, therefore, declare that they cannot conscientiously and woman is entitled to interpret that give up their distinctive doctrines of

by the crowd of delogates and other auditors. The Rev. S. S. Marquis opened the meeting by an address of walcome on behalf of all the churches of the city, and in the beginning of his address made the statement that the assemblage would be filled with admiration at the natural beauties of Detroit, but " the most wonderful thing they would discover would be the Christian unity existing between the various creeds. The Jew and the Gentile, the Method

ist and the Unitarian, the Presbyterian and the Universalist, Orthodox and and work shoulder to shoulder for the one cause." We must say that this was a most re markable statement, and it is all the

more remarkable that it was received with applause and enthusiasm, and without a word of protest by that representative assemblage of Baptists, clerical and lay.

Are we to infer, then, that the Baptist Church recognizes Jews and Gentiles to be Christians equally with themselves ? If so, why did Christ establish a Christian Church at all-a Church to which, according to the Evangelist St. Luke, were added daily such as were to be saved ?

We do not suppose that by Gentiles the speaker understood Pagans, which would have been the case if these words had been spoken before the conversion of Gentile nations to Christ. We may suppose that he meant that Jews and Christians are united in Christian unity, and work shoulder to shoulder in one cause. But such a statement if true, makes the establishment of a Church of Christ unnecessary. Christ's mission on earth would not be needed, and the whole plan of redemption would be a myth.

Unitarians and Universalists are included by the Rev. Mr. Marquis in his plan. These two sects are practically identical, and both deny Christ's divinity, and the doctrine of everlasting punishment. These fundamental doctrines being eliminated from the Christian creed, and the Scriptures also being regarded as a werely human work, as these sects believe them to be, | tation for universal suffrage. we shall have nothing left but a mere Deism without Christ or anything supernatural in religion. Hitherto Protestants generally have not regarded such sects as Christians at all, but now all dogma is openly cast aside, and Universalists and Unitarians, Jews and Gentiles are embraced in the wide extended arms of Christian fraternity !

We have often said that Protestant ism is drifting rapidly toward the abyss of unbelief. Who can assert now that this is not the case, when only a few of the small sects adhere to any distinctive Christian doctrine.

It will be noticed that Rev. Mr. Marquis omits all mention of Catholics as sharers in his Christian brotherhood. Was this omission designed ? Probably it was, and it is better so with so motley a multitude. Catholics would be out of place among them,

A POPULAR GOVERNMENT.

The recent Belgian elections were ess favorable to the Catholic Conservative party, which holds the reins of Government, than the previous elections, six seats having been lost to the Jovernment.

twenty-five years of age who has a diploma of superior education, or who fills or has filled a public office. While it is a fair matter for debate

whether this is or is not the best form under which universal suffrage can be conceded to the people of any country, it is certainly not a tyrannical mode of conferring the franchise, and it gives due weight to manhood, while setting a certain barrier against corruption, by recognizing that those who have a property stake in the country are entitled to have a larger voice in its government than those who have no such stake ; and it seems to us a happy thought to recognize to some extent also the greater value which ought to be given to the opinions of those who are well educated above those who are totally illiterate. At all events, there provisions seem to give good satisfaction to the Belgian people, otherwise the Government which has made these

laws would not be so popular as the recent elections have shown the present Government of Belgium to be. How different is this state of affairs

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from that which exists in France, where under the phantasm of a Republic, thousands of good citizens have been cruelly driven from their homes because they have acted upon their conscientious convictions concerning what is most conducive toward the welfare of their country.

The loss of seven seats by the Catholic Conservative party in the House of Representatives seems, indeed, at first sight, to be a considerable blow to the governing party, but when the circumstances are understood as we have explained them above, its significance will not be so great. In addition to what we have already said on the subject. it is to be noted that there was no falling off in the Catholic vote, as that vote was more than 6,000 greater than at the elections of 1900, but the majortwo days after their defeat in the ities were differently distributed through the constituencies, and were meeting in the Public Hall of the on the average considerably larger than before, so that it may still be said that accept for the present the verdict of the Government stands upon a solid foundation.

THE ORANGE CELEBRATIONS.

The Orange anniversary celebration of the Battle of the Boyne took place the lodges taking part, but on the whole we remark that the general tenor of the speeches with which the participants were regaled was not so aggressive and hostile to Catholics as in former years, or if they were so, the aggressiveness has not been fully reported by the newspapers.

In Woodbridge, York Co., there was a large gathering, and there the County Master of North York displayed in his speech the intolerance of the olden time. He warned his hearers to preserve the principles of Orangeism which had been so dearly purchased, and which were at all times being conspired against. Orangemen should be always on guard lest there might come per mile in third class, and two cents a time when the question would have to be decided as to who would be masters riages. The State also assists working of this country, the English-speaking people or the French Papists. We are them money for this purpose at 21 per not the foreigners in this country as cent. interest to be repaid on very Premier Laurier would like his French

TULY

of Queen Vie his unexpects is still fresh ers how Oran centres throu sult King E he was Princ ing Canada sentative of a few of the H. Taylor w est ideals in and we migh they will su Ascendancy order to brin once more, arouse disser

speaking pe

The Free

Papists."

Province o record as far back a of Canada thirteen B clared the Britain, and laid the f Dominion 1812, the sealed with the throne ing invasio Since then times prov when Fren side with (and were Victoria f French-Ca thick of th on the cele and aided i On these and Liente ant Leduc. their brav shipful Bre ing to crea be far awa sions. The refe Laurier is just. Si he should foreigner, Dundonald tongue for able to th

sulting, a pected to with Cana wrid Laur and foreig word etra able, and should be placing su as the Wo But it i mat this (wrotest e lor's vapo son, a b that Ora grandest existence of the his as well than to : son was by remin for some a man is right to

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years, and it has been found to work well, giving general satisfaction, so that there is no likelihood of its being repealed for a long time to come, even

though it may be modified from time to The present state of affairs is not leasing to the Anarchical-Socialistic party, and so recently as in 1902 Socialistic members of the Chamber of Representatives were so bold as openly to threaten revolution unless the Chamber should vote for a revision of the Constitution which should concede universal suffrage, whereby they had some hope to gain control of the Government. The Chamber, however, by a vote of

S4 to 64 rejected this proposition, notwithstanding [that several socialistic members declared that its rejection would be the signal for a revolution. M. Troclot, one of the Socialists, cried out: " You want to see blood flow tomorrow." Before this vote was taken, an at-

tempt was made to terrorize the Chamber into adopting the Socialistic programme, and rioting was started in Brussels, and a plot was stated to have been made to assassinate the king. The vigilance and firmness of the Government were, however, sufficient to put down these attempts at disorder, and by a free vote the socialistic plans were defeated, not, however, until after several of the rioters were killed, the police defending themselves resolutely against rioters who used butchers' knives, and threw balls of sulphuric acid upon the soldiers and

gensdarmes. At Louvain and Bruges there were similar riots, which were not quite so serious, and which were readily suppressed without the sacrifice of any lives.

Finally, the Socialists, having made the discovery that they could not browbeat the Government, on April 20th Chamber of Representatives, held a People, at which it was agreed to the Chamber, and to abandon the agi-

The Socialistic agitation was not by any means a movement of the people, but only of an unruly and unreasonable faction who wished to overthrow the this year on July 12 in many places of Monarchy and establish a Republic by Ontario, and were generally successful violent means. The rioters kept up in regard to the number of members of the cry of " Long live the Republic throughout their disturbances.

Many American papers have represented the Catholic Government of Belgium as a corrupt tyranny oppressive to the people in general, but this is not the case. The government is actually in advance of all the Governments of Europe and America in its legislative enactments in favor of the working classes.

It exempts workingmen's homes from Il taxation. This provision extends to 52 per cent. of the Belgium homes, and workingmen going to or from their work are carried on the railways for one fifth of a cent per mile, while all other citizens must pay one cent and three quarters in first class carmen to secure homesteads by lending

religious belief. It has no elements permanency, and we are certain that it would not last a decade. Our friends twit as betimes on being "priest-riddea," but no Catholic would dream of staking his salvation on the word of man. A well arranged platform may gain the loyalty of the lips but not of the heart. To speak the same things, to hold the Sorts of sound words ; to keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace - all this is beyond the human power.

A RIDDLE PAST SOLVING.

Writing in the Queen's Quarterly for Unly the Very Rev. James Carmichael of Montreal says : Nothing could over, I think, persuade me that when our Mord prayed that we might be all one, that He meant that kind of oneness may be found in such a state of dis usation as the whole Christian Church, or the Protestant portion of it, presents to the heathen onlooker to-day. If there is worth in unitysuch worth as led the Lord to pray for its manifestation - the present state of Christendom must be regarded by one living outside of it as a riddle past solving.

Yes, and to one living inside it. It is centainly a riddle past solving how men wan hold irreconcilable opinions and got be Anglicans in good standing. Ban as Ruskin observed :

The English liturgy was evidently rawn up with the amiable intention of drawn up making religion as pleasant as possible to a people desirous of saving their souls with no great degree of personal * pconvenience

Macaulay's assertion that the Episcopal Church was not, and never had, whity finds ample vindication in the strange City of Confusion inhabited by Anglicans to-day.

law as he or she thinks proper ? Is it not more reasonable to believe the question of Baptism, for the sake of that Christ had a definite meaning when stating the law, and that His Church, "the pillar and ground of truth" which

mankind all things which He had commanded, is entitled to teach us just to make their united Church more inflawhat He meant when He laid down the law? If this be not the case, the present confusion in the practice of these Protestant ministers must be attributed to the indefiniteness of His teaching, which it would be absurd to believe. The only possible interpreter who can have this authority is the Catholic Church which has continuously taught the indissolubility of the marriage tie.

ANARCHIST TURNER.

He authorized and commanded to teach

The exclusion of Anarchist Turner from the United States under the recently enacted law against anarchists has caused a good deal of discussion in the American papers in regard to the expediency of such a law, but a great This mode of Church government is re. majority of the papers uphold the law as a wise one, and express satisfaction at its enforcement.

Turner is what may be called a theoretical or philosophical anarchist, as distinct from a practical one. That is to say, he maintains the correctness of anarchical doctrines, though he has had nothing to do with any of those anarchists who have actually committed or attempted to commit murders in

furtherance of anarchical designs. But the law of 1903, which was enacted on account of the assassination of President McKinley, makes no distinction between theoretical and practical anarchists ; and it authorizes the exclusion of foreigners who publicly advocate

anarchy or murder.

Four years ago the Government had effecting a Church union. They point a majority of twenty-six seats, but the

out that Methodists, Presbyterians, elections of this year have reduced the and Congregationalists are ready to majority to twenty. This dimunition ignore their differences of faith for the of strength does not, however, arise from any real weakening of Catholic sake of union, the motives being mainly sentiment in the kingdom, but from the accidental circumstance that a considential, and to economize money and erable number of disappointed officeenergy. They believe that the purpose seekers threw their influence against of Christ's mission on earth was to save the Government. This occurred, in mankind through the truth, and that fact, in strong Catholic centres exthis purpose must be accomplished by clusively, namely, such Catholic strongputting the truth as revealed before all

holds as Hasselt, St. Nicholas, etc. considerations of mere economy. There were also local issues which The Methodists are Arminians and maintainers of Free Will, whereas Pres- brought about this result, and the byterians and Congregationalists hold questions in which there was a religious the doctrine of Calvin whereby Free issue, being now regarded as perman-

ently settled, local issues came more Will of man is destroyed. The Congregationalists, as their name is intended strongly to the front. It was in June, 1884, that the Catholic to denote, maintain that each congrega. Conservative adminstration came into tion is authorized to hold its own docoffice defeating the Liberals by a subtrines and select its own pastors who stantial majority, which they have kept will teach what the congregation desires. ever since. The Liberals while in power jected by Methodists and Presbyterians had rendered themselves obnoxious as subversive of the most important to the Catholics, owing to an educateachings of religion. The Baptists of tional act passed in 1879, whereby the

teaching of religion was forbidden in Canada cannot consent to a union in which matters of such importance are the State schools, on account of which, within six months, four thousand Cathignored, and whereby the united Church olic schools were opened, and a politicoshall acknowledge that it has no settled religious contest began doctrine on points which affect human threatened a revolution in the kingdom. salvation so vitally.

The School question was, indeed, the But it appears that the Baptists of the United States have not the same chief issue; And when the new Govern objection as their Canadian brethren to ment came into power, a new School fraternize with sects which teach all law called the Jacobs law was passed, sorts of fanciful doctrines, if we are to and religious teaching was reintrojudge from pronouncements of leading duced into the schools.

clergymen who were present at the The Liberals thus finding their plan Baptist Young People's Convention to secularize education defeated, felt held last week at Detroit. Over three themselves obliged to submit to the thousand delegates were present at this verdict of the people, and the new School

meeting which was held in the huge law has been in operation ever since, New York after delivering an anarchi- armory, which was filled to overflowing that is to say, for a period of twenty

easy terms. Of these provisions so compatriots to believe we are, but which is a very large sum for so small a country. And further : while the with their sons. Government thus lends money to work-3 per cent for what money they deposit in the postal savings' banks.

In regard to the killing of the Socialistic rioters above referred to, we must tives on April 22nd, 1902, declared by a military and the police acted purely in self-defence. They protected law and

order, against an unruly, murderous mob, which premeditated murder, as is evident from the Socialistic predictions in the Chambers that blood would flow.

In regard to the question of universal suffrage, it is not to be assumed as a certain fact that this is absolutely the proper remedy against the oppression or the poor. It is well known that an approach to it has often led to bribery and corruption of the most barefaced character ; and it is very difficult to say exactly how far the franchise should be extended to produce the best results. The Belgian Government has indeed granted universal suffrage in a modified form. In 1894 the suffrage was made universal, plural, and obligatory.

which

By plural it is here meant that beside the vote given to the individual, there is a second vote conferred on every male citizen of thirty-five years of age who pays a government tax of at least five francs. A vote is also conferred for his education, on every citizen of

many workingmen have taken advan- Orangemen representing the highest tage that in fifteen years 30,000 work- | ideals in the life of the nation. That ingmen have become the proprietors of slip of the Premier's showed the true their homes, and at the present principles of the man who is guiding moment the Government has over \$10- the destinies of this country at the 000,000 outstanding on these homes, present time. In conclusion he advised parents to fill the ranks of the militia

Orangeism was at one time dominant ing men at 21 per cent, it pays them in Ontario, but the time is past. Such speeches as this of Mr. Taylor, the County Master of North York, show us that the same spirit of Ascendancy which formerly characterized the Order aid that the Chamber of Representa- is still found in it, and the fact that his sentiment was loudly applauded showed vote of seventy-five to thirty that the that it is largely entertained; but the country, and even our province will not restore the days when an Orange mob could with impunity shoot down independent electors in the streets of Toronto, as was done during the police magistracy of Mr. Gurnet, whom many of our readers remember. About this same period, an Orange procession fired shots at the residence of an aged and brave colonel of the British army who resided at Malton, and it was frequently the case that armed companies of Orangemen paraded the streets of Toronto, terrorizing the peaceful citi-

zens and breaking the windows of Catholic orphanages or other institutions which had no garrison for defence but a number of helpless children and infirm people, and the charitable ladies

who had charge of these institutions. A little later, during the Orange struggle to retain its ascendancy, the Parliament buildings at Montreal were burned by an Orange mob, and the Orange Grand Master of the day led another mob, floating to the breeze the pirates' flag, to the Brockville docks, to insult Lord Elgin, the representative

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