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HAPPENINGS IN IRELAND.

Protestant Intolerance in Hospital Administration.

The Catholic University Question Attracting Widespread Attention--The Appeal of the United Irishmen's Centenary Association--A Monster Meeting at Westport--Full Text of Resolutions Adopted.

DUBLIN, January 29.—An instance of intolerance is put before the citizens over the signature of Mr. Thomas A. Kelly, one of the late governors of the Royal Hospital for Incurables, which illustrates the narrow-minded bigotry which characterizes the government of so many of our public institutions. At a recent meeting of the governors of the institution referred to, seven members of the managing committee retired by rotation, all of whom offered for re-election. Three of these were Catholics and all were dropped—being replaced by Protestant gentlemen. The whole managing committee consists of 49 members, nine of whom were Catholics and 40 Protestants. The Catholic representation is thus reduced to 6 in 49, or, say, less than one-eighth of the whole. The manifest unfairness of this will be more fully appreciated when it is known that the overwhelming majority of the patients in the wards are Catholics, who are thus left to the tender mercies of a unsympathetic Board of Governors who carry the spirit they evinced in the matter of electing their committee into all the details of the hospital management. Their course on this occasion was clearly the result of settled predetermined action, and is one of the most glaring instances of bitter intolerance on record even in a country where intolerance with one section of its people is the rule rather than the exception.

The University Question.

The country is thoroughly aroused to the importance of the University question, and the voices of its best and ablest men are heard from every platform in the land claiming educational privileges for its Catholic youth as high and as full as those granted to the privileged minority of other denominations. And there is a widespread determination to force the hand of the Government in the matter. Parliament is about to meet, and the Government will find itself comforted with this long-neglected demand in a shape they cannot ignore.

The '98 Centenary.

"The United Irishmen's Centennial Association" is thoroughly alive to the responsibility that rests upon it and to the fact that it is the observed of all Irishmen and friends of Irishmen at home and abroad. The members are working with a will, and are working well. At a recent meeting they issued an address which is an urgent and patriotic appeal to the Nationalists of Ireland for united action in endeavoring to secure a thoroughly national and universal celebration. The address opens thus:—

"The Centenary of 1798 is with us. Its occurrence has stirred the whole Irish race; and in every land where the children of Gael have found a home, there has spontaneously arisen a call to celebrate the memory of those brave Irishmen who, a hundred years ago, saved our name and country from the disgrace of tame submission to the most odious tyranny that one civilized nation ever attempted to impose upon another."

It then proceeds to express its belief that the world wide feeling to do honor to the memories and pledge faith in the principles of Tone and Emmet should find worthy expression, and that the cooperation of any man or men who revered the martyrs of '98 should be cheerfully accepted. It refers to the undesirable results that have followed the action of certain existing organizations and says they threaten disaster to the national character of the celebration, which it is their aim to avert. In conclusion it says:—

"The first principle of this Association is the eligibility of every Irishman who honours the men of '98 to a share in its control. Its object is to secure a National and universal celebration of the great Centennial. We call upon all Irishmen who hold with this principle and wish to see this object achieved, to lend us their assistance and to take steps to found branches of our organization, or to affiliate existing organizations with the Central Executive, which will be immediately elected."

A Monster Gathering.

One of the most remarkable demonstrations held in this country, where demonstrations are so many and generally of such momentous proportions, was held recently in Westport. "Not Mayo alone" turned out; but "monster" representations from all neighboring centres seemed to join, and nothing was more gratifying to the feelings of all truly patriotic men than the "good humour" of the good

order, and the unanimity, which prevailed. Priests and people were one, all sections of Nationalists were merged, and, in a word, this colossal gathering was one harmonious whole. While Dillon, O'Brien, Harrington and other great lights of Parliament and the country were eloquent and earnest, the burthen of the day fell upon Canon Grealy, who, in a powerful speech, proposed the following resolutions, which embody at once the object and the spirit of the meeting:—

The Very Rev. Canon Grealy, who was greeted with loud and prolonged cheers, said he had great pleasure in proposing the following resolutions:—

1. That we, the Nationalists of West Mayo, in monster meeting assembled, celebrate with reverence and pride the memories of Ireland's glorious struggle for liberty in 1798, and we trust that in the centennial year our countrymen will do honor to the memory of the United Irishmen by sinking all personal and sectional differences and uniting in one solid mass to organize a series of demonstrations worthy of the immortal principles of the United Irishmen, and of our exile and kindred who are coming across to join in the celebrations (cheers), and we hereby pledge ourselves to take immediate action for the formation of United Irish clubs as a basis that will secure the fullest representation of every section of Irish Nationalists and of their elected representatives, party and race. (Cheers.)

THE DISTRESS.

"2. That the population of large districts of the Westport Union are already reduced to the direst condition of destitution and starvation, and have absolutely no means of their own of averting a widespread famine for the next three months. That we condemn in the strongest terms the tardy and cruelly inadequate relief proposals made by the Government, which proposals throw all the responsibility and a great part of the pecuniary burthen of relief upon the unfortunate ratepayers, the majority of whom are themselves almost crushed with merciless, rackless debts and rates, and we appeal to the public opinion of the world and of our exiled countrymen against this barbarous neglect of the Government to afford adequate relief out of the millions unjustly wrung by England annually out of this impoverished country." (Cheers.)

THE REMEDY.

3. That the most effective means of preventing the frequent cries of distress and famine in this so-called congested district would be the breaking up of the large grazing ranches with which the district is cursed, and the partition of them amongst the small landholders, who were driven into the bogs and mountains to make room for the sheep and bullocks of English and Scotch adventurers and Irish grabbers. (Cheers.)

RENT EXACTION.

4. That in this time of great distress, owing to the almost total failure of the potato crop, we denounce as legalized robbery the exactions of full rents by landlords, and we denounce as cruel the evictions of widows and orphans for the nonpayment of impossible rents. (Cheers.)

LAND GRABBING.

5. That in union with our fellow-countrymen throughout the length and breadth of Ireland we denounce the nefarious system of land grabbing, the most effective prop of evicting landlordism, and we hereby solemnly pledge ourselves to use every legitimate means to crush out the detestable practice and to bring the grabber to a full sense of his misdeeds. (Cheers.)

THE UNITED IRISH LEAGUE.

6. That for the purpose of carrying out the resolutions of this meeting an organization be hereby established, to be called the West Mayo United Irish League, open to all sections of Irish Nationalists and consisting of parish branches to be governed by a central committee meeting from time to time in Westport, and composed of the clergy of all the parishes of West Mayo, all Nationalist town commissioners and poor law guardians and six representatives of each parish to be elected by the parish branches.

AN AWFUL ACCIDENT.

Over One Hundred People Killed by the Collapse of a Gallery.

WARSAW, February 10.—During a funeral service in the Synagogue at Idzienoiol, in Grodno, yesterday, the women's gallery collapsed. In the panic that ensued 100 women, five men and three children were crushed to death, and many others were seriously wounded.

It is said that on the 17th of December last Leo XIII. signed a decree whereby Mother Mary of St. Euphrasia, the first superior general of the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd, is declared venerable and entitled to all the honors which that rank merits. The Order, which has thus been honored in its first superior, is one of the best known of our female Catholic congregations.

BRANCH TWENTY-SIX

Holds Another Successful Monthly Social.

Mr. Frank J. Curran, B. C. L., Delivers an Interesting Address on the Aims and Objects of the C.M.B.A. The Character of the Organization and Its Influences.

If all the branches of the C.M.B.A. of Canada were as active and energetic as No. 26, the organization would soon be the most powerful in the Dominion. The members of this branch realize that variety is the spice of life and that the monotony of regular proceedings has to be relieved by entertaining exercises if interest is to be infused into the workings of the Association. On Monday night a social gathering and monthly entertainment was held in their hall on Alexander street; President Egan occupied the chair. A large number of ladies graced the proceedings by their



MR. FRANK J. CURRAN, B.C.L., ADVOCATE.

presence, and in all not less than four hundred of the friends of Branch 26 were present. The programme consisted of vocal and instrumental music, recitations, and an address on the aims and objects of the C.M.B.A. by Frank J. Curran, B.C.L., Advocate, one of the most active members of the Association. The musical selections, under the direction of Prof. J. S. Shea, were all that could be desired; an improvement could be made in the choice of the comic songs, but the recitation of two of Doctor Drummond's pieces, in the French Canadian dialect, by Mr. McCarry, took the audience by storm. Miss Nellie McAn drew, Miss M. O'Byrne, organist of St. Gabriel's church; Messrs J. I. McCaffery, J. McCullough, Geo. Holland, J. S. Hanley and Masier J. Shea, in their different vocal and instrumental solos, were warmly applauded, and each in turn responded to a well deserved encore.

Mr. Curran's Address

was excellent. In the course of his remarks he said that the aims and objects of the Catholic Mutual Benefit Association constituted a theme upon which Branch 26 had the privilege last spring of listening to one of the cleverest and most pleasing speakers in the Dominion, who had spoken for an hour and more, holding his audience by his rhetoric and his arguments, and when he had concluded his subject was by no means exhausted. Besides occupying an enviable position among the insurance and benevolent institutions of our country it is the proud boast of the C.M.B.A. to have as the occupant of the Grand President's chair that able statesman and eloquent orator, the Hon. Michael F. Hackett.

The C.M.B.A. was organized in July, 1876, and consequently is nearly twenty-two years old. The C.M.B.A. of Canada received their charter of incorporation from the Dominion Government in March, 1893; the Association is sanctioned and blessed by His Holiness Pope Leo XIII. and approved by His Eminence Cardinal Taschereau, and its membership roll is now adorned by the names of two archbishops and five bishops in Canada alone.

QUALIFICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP.

The first qualification for admission is that a man be a practical Catholic. The C.M.B.A. is not an organization of men banded together for the purposes of aggression, of trampling upon the rights of others and receiving more than their due, but while recognizing liberty of conscience, bowing loyally to the established form of government, they believe that union is strength, and they unite to study their own rights and interests and to protect and defend them when the occasion so demands.

The C.M.B.A. knows no caste, no social nor class distinctions. When a member enters its portals, his identity being established by members of the Association, his application being endorsed by the Board of Trustees and his character tested by a secret ballot, he pays the same dues and assessments, enjoys the same privileges, reaps the same benefits as his fellow-members and has the same right of one day occupying the highest position of honor and trust in the gift of the Association.

Besides the strong and admirable representation of church dignitaries there are in the membership of the C.M.B.A. men who have held, and who are hold-

ing, high offices in the Dominion and Provincial Governments, leading lawyers, doctors, musicians, mechanics and tradesmen in every sphere, association with whom is enough in itself to accomplish one of the chief objects of their charter, to improve the social, moral and intellectual condition of its members.

THE INSURANCE FEATURES.

As an insurance association the C.M.B.A. is undoubtedly the cheapest and safest in existence. In the year 1897 there were fifteen regular and three special assessments. This for a young man from 18 to 25 years of age means an expenditure of eighteen dollars in assessments, which, together with three dollars for expenses, means the sum of twenty-one dollars per annum for a policy of \$2,000. Let any young man inquire what it will cost him in an insurance company for a policy even of \$1,000, and he will find that the C.M.B.A. nearly cuts the expenses in two.

The members of the C.M.B.A. believe that it is their duty to provide for their children and those relatives who are depending on them when Providence shall have called them to their last resting place. It is the aim of the C.M.B.A. to make their homes happier and their heartbeats brighter, and just as they believe that it is a holy and whole some thought to pray for the dead, so they feel that if they wish their people to think of them when they are gone, so must they think of their people when they are here. And when they have been consigned to the grave their children will come and plant there flowers of gratitude, knowing with what love and respect their memory is cherished in their innocent hearts.

As a plea for the organization, setting forth its aims and objects, we have seldom heard anything better, and it merited the warm words of praise spoken by Rev. Father Quinlivan, who proposed a vote of thanks. It is gratifying to find some of our young men of talent and training devoting their abilities to the best interests of our people. Many who could do a great deal in that direction keep away from our religious, patriotic and benevolent organizations. For the Irish Catholic element to hold its own in this mixed community our young men must bestir themselves and show their devotion to the good cause.

ECHOES FROM THE ETERNAL CITY.

ROME, January 22.—The lambs whose wool is to be used in the preparation of pallia having been duly blessed in the extra-mural basilica, were presented to the Pope on Friday, by Monsignor Stonor Archbishop of Trebizond, and Monsignor Valeri, Canons of the Lateran Archbasilica and Camerlengo of the chapter for the year. During the celebrations in the extra-mural basilica of St. Agnes these little lambs reposed in open baskets, beautifully decorated with ribbons and choice flowers, and were presented in this same way to the Holy Father. It is a traditional custom, and having its origin in the fulfilment of a canon, on annual payment due from the chapter of St. Agnes to the chapter of the Papal cathedral. When the Pope receives them from the Deputies of the Lateran chapters he sends them to the Dean of the Rota, who, in turn, hands them over to the nuns of the Benedictine Community of St. Cecilia, who take from their fleeces such quantity of wool as may be required for pallia.

A case of mistaken identity occurred for which a sergeant of the Italian army got into serious trouble. Prince Massimo was driving to the Pope's reception of the Roman nobility on Monday, the sentry on guard at the principal entrance at the Castel Sant'Angelo presented arms. Prince Massimo is Master of the Posts at the Vatican and has a strikingly effective livery of green and gold. The sergeant, mistaking this for the livery of an army general, gave the order to "present arms," for which he paid the penalty of arrest.

His Grace Monsignor Stonor, Archbishop of Trebizond, presided at the annual meeting of The Catholic Truth Society on Wednesday, the 19th; a large number were present including Monsignor Merry del Val. The Committee for 1897 was re-elected for 1898, and the report for the past year was read and adopted.

The health of His Holiness continues satisfactory and he attends to his daily routine of work and receives distinguished persons in audience with regularity and shows no signs of fatigue when the hour of retirement comes.

Serious bread riots have taken place at Anconia, Sinagaglia and Macerata and the people have broken into and have burned the bakeries in all these towns. The labor class of Milan have made a demand on the municipality for a reduction in the price of bread, and the bakers of Florence have threatened to strike on account of the high prices ruling for flour.

The rumor that a Papal Embassy is to be established in London is news to the people of Rome. It says much for the

enterprise of journalism in South Wales where the report comes. In so far as is known in Rome no such proposal has been made, and there never was less necessity for any official establishment of this kind from the fact that the relations of the Holy See with the British Government were never, happily, more friendly than they now are.

It is said the Sultan has availed himself of the Kaiser's presence in Jerusalem, to offer him the ground which tradition claims as the site of the building in which the Last Supper was held—and it is understood that the Emperor will transfer it to the German Catholic Missionaries.

The Pope has shown his interest in the Confraternity of Our Lady of Compassion for the conversion of Great Britain by asking to have his name inscribed as a member on the list of the Archconfraternity of St. Salpice, Paris.

The Pope has already outlived 121 Cardinals during his reign, says the Gerarchia Cattolica. During the Pontificate of His Holiness Leo XIII. no less than 121 Cardinals have died; of these four were created by Gregory XVI. (Cardinals Schwarzenberg, Carafa, Asquini, and Amat), 53 being created by Pope Pius IX. and 64 by the present reigning Pontiff. At the present moment the Sacred College is composed of 59 Cardinals, of whom five—Cardinals Oreglia, Parocchi, Ledochowski, di Canssa, and Mertol—were created by Pius IX., the remaining 54 having all been created by Leo XIII. At the present time there are nine hats vacant, as I have already told you; and in conclusion I may add that in the Pontificate of His Holiness Leo XIII. 117 Cardinals have been created, and 121, as above, have died.

It is a mistake to treat as an official or officially inspired utterance the article which recently appeared in the Civitta Cattolica advocating a Republic as the only means of safeguarding Italy from moral and financial bankruptcy. This journal, though an eminently Catholic authority, is not the official organ of the Vatican, and cannot claim to represent his views on the political conditions of the day.

Cavaliere Pacelli, an ex Pontifical customs officer is one of the most splendid examples of living centenarians, and now resides in Rome. He was born at Viterbo on the 24th of January, 1798. He is very well, eats with appetite, smokes his cigar, and generally goes three times a week to enjoy a chat at the old Caffee della Pace, where as a youth he used to go eighty years ago. Cavaliere Pacelli has an excellent memory, and well remembers the events which took place during the stormy period of the Pontificate of Pius VII. In appearance the old man resembles Leo XIII., who knows him personally, takes great interest in him, and never fails to inquire after him when he sees his son, the journalist, Commendatore Pacelli, who is himself a grandfather.

The Consistory Hall on Monday, the 13th inst. was the scene of a notable and splendid gathering, when four hundred representatives of the Roman patriariate and nobility were received in audience by His Holiness, who accepted their homage as an assurance of the indissoluble alliance of the Papacy with the city, which bears the character of a Holy Place. His Holiness related the idea that this fidelity was injurious to the country at large, and declared that Italy could never find her salvation so long as she submitted to the influence of the sectaries. The Pope concluded his address by exhorting his audience to good works and the practice of virtue, which, he said, were the best guarantees of salvation in these troublous times. His Holiness is in excellent health.

ADVISORY COUNCIL, C.M.B.A.

At a full meeting of this Council, which is composed of three delegates from each of the city Branches C.M.B.A., Quebec Grand Council, Dr. Ricard, of Branch 3, presiding, after reception of credentials from the delegates, a great deal of interesting and important business was transacted, closing with the annual Election of Officers, as follows:—

President, Bro. Thomas Mace, Branch 10; 1st Vice-President, Bro. J. Fred Peit, Branch 3; 2nd Vice-President, Bro. J. Gallery, Branch 2; Secretary, Bro. F. C. Lawlor, Branch 1; Treasurer, Bro. John Lappin, Branch 1; Marshal, Bro. J. B. O'Hara, Branch 9; Guard, Bro. P. Murne, Branch 10. President Bro. Ricard then appointed the Auditing Committee: Bros. G. Curran, Branch 4; James Melver, Branch 10; Supreme Dep. P. Flannery, Branch 9. Seven Branches were fully represented at this meeting which gives great hope of active work for the coming year. Dr. Ricard, before retiring from office, thanked the Council in a neat little speech, for the great good will and courtesy shown at all times to the French Canadian members by their English speaking brothers, and expressed his pleasure at seeing such harmony existing and such bright hopes for the future. He then called upon the President elect, Bro. T. Mace, to take the chair and close the happy meeting. On taking his seat a unanimous vote of thanks was passed to the retiring officers. Grand Deputy Bro. James Meek was also present as usual.

F. C. LAWLOR,
Secy. Adv. Coun.

OUR LONDON LETTER

Rumors of the Indisposition of Lord Russel.

The French Chamber and the Dreyfus Matter—Lord Wolseley Makes a Remark—The Chinese Puzzle—Interesting Notes on Catholic News.

LONDON, Jan. 29.—For the last few weeks there have been intermittent rumors of Lord Chief Justice Russell's health. From the fact that he was temporarily indisposed a few weeks since, it must be admitted that they were not without some color of truth, but there seems no reason for reviving them now, as from all accounts his Lordship never appeared to be in better form than when presiding at the annual dinner of the Hastings and St. Leonard's Law Students' Society, on Friday, the 21st January. From a desire to encourage young men entering the profession of which he is the honored head, his Lordship accepted the presidency of this Society, and from its inception has made it an object of especial favor.

The French Chamber has snatched the record for pandemonium honors from the Austrian Reichsrath, as no more disgraceful scene ever took place in a deliberative assembly than that which the Deputies engaged on the 25th of January. It was of course all about Dreyfus and the honor of the Generals of France—a discomfiting report from one Deputy to the remarks of another was the signal for one of the most indescribable scenes the French Chamber ever saw, and it has seen many. Ink pots took the place of hot shot, and if they didn't kill, they left their mark. The "gentlemanly ushers" were powerless to restore order—a free hand to hand fight took place on the floor of the Chamber. The President cleared out of the room and the Deputies adjourned to the lobby "to have it out," and the fight only finished when it had fought itself out. Dreyfus has a large body of sympathizers in London and the proceedings in Paris are watched with great interest.

Lord Wolseley, speaking on the state of the army recently, made some reassuring statements. He quoted the saying of a brother officer that "they were trying to fill a quart pot out of a pint." Though the quotation is not a particularly refined one for the commander-in-chief of the army to use, there may be more truth than poetry in it. He then stated, pledging his honor to the truth of the assertion, that "if the Government decided to go to war and send an army abroad, they would be ready to embark two army corps complete to the last stores required long before the navy could have the necessary ships to carry them."

The election of Father Brown to the London School Board gave great satisfaction to the Catholics of the South-west Division of the Metropolitan, and to mark their sense of the fact the Catholics of South London tendered the reverend gentleman a complimentary banquet, which came off on the 17th of January. In response to the toast of his health, Father Brown said when he went to the School Board he thought there was there the pick of the intelligence and the best educational experts that London could produce. He was sorry to say that a closer acquaintance with it led him to believe that there was not such an extraordinary conglomeration of genius there as he imagined. In fact, in the words of a former member, there were in the School Board members who knew as much about education as a cow did of a musket.

The building committee of the Catholic Cathedral at Westminster have received an anonymous donation of £1,000 through the Very Rev. Canon Pyke. It is now confidently anticipated that if the subscriptions come in with sufficient rapidity to enable the present rate of progress to be maintained, the edifice will be ready for consecration and opening by September 29th, 1900, which will be the golden jubilee of the restoration of the Catholic Hierarchy in England. The occasion is expected to be celebrated by a grand Te Deum beneath the dome of the new cathedral.

The Anglicans feel very sore over Mr. Wynn's Life of Cardinal Wiseman, and vent their feelings in many spiteful ways against Catholics generally and English Catholics in particular. To what extent they go may be judged by their statement that Newman is uncritical, unhistorical and even ungrammatical and insincere. One such proof of the lengths to which bigotry will carry even the intelligent Englishman is sufficient.

The Chinese puzzle still defies solution, though diplomatic Europe is trying hard to work it, but there is every confidence in London that wise counsels will prevail all around and that the present disturbed state of things in the "Land of Tea" will prove another "lampset" or "over a teapot."