

Non-Catholic Ministers And Public Recognition Of a Catholic Bishop.

Below we reproduce a letter addressed to the Mayor of Buffalo, N. Y., by the Very Rev. M. P. Connelly, administrator of that diocese. It is well worthy of a careful study.

To His Honor Erastus C. Knight, Mayor of the City of Buffalo: Honorable and Dear Sir,—Absence from the city during the last few days has prevented me from addressing you sooner in regard to a protest of some Protestant ministers of this city, said to have been filed with you and also published in the city press relative to the recent resolutions passed by the Board of Aldermen of the city of Buffalo—that the City Hall be illuminated on the evening of the arrival of the Right Reverend Bishop Colton.

It is a question, Your Honor, whether a reply should be made on my part to this ministerial protest. So small a number of the so-called Christian ministers, I am sure, voice the sentiments of a very insignificant portion of Buffalo's broad and liberal-minded citizens. But I make reply, that I may, through you, ask our honorable Board of Aldermen to rescind any action they may have taken in regard to the coming reception to be given Bishop Colton on his first entry into this city.

While appreciating the good will and the evident courtesy of the action of our city fathers in this matter, and even more than I can now express to them in words, still I must say that the thought occurred to me at the same time they were passing that kindly and well-meant resolution that they were somewhat ahead of their time and had somewhat counted without their host.

The sequel to it all proves that I was right in my forethought. The age of universal good-fellowship and the dawn of Christian charity have not yet reached us. There still are some narrow-minded people living in our midst, yet wedded to the traditions and practices of the sixteenth century, although, of course, this is the twentieth.

But, withal, we must not let that break up our religious equilibrium. Nor should we take matters of this kind in a too serious vein; rather must we keep cool in these midsummer days, nor lie awake at night fretting and stewing about the Pope of Rome. If he does come over to pay us a visit in the "land of the free and the home of the brave"—which, at best, is not very probable, we need not dread any dire results from his visit. He will not break up the Republic; he will not steal away our liberties; he is not a man of that kind, nor will he, even if he does come over, "impose heavy pecuniary burdens" upon us, as one of the reverend Protestant gentlemen so graphically describes it.

Mr. Mayor, the entire press of the world concedes to-day that our Holy Father, Pope Pius X., is a universally beloved and good man.

Who, then, will have the courage to say that he would begin his career in the Papacy by coming over here and stealing away the birthrights of American freemen?

Joking aside, Mr. Mayor, I wish to say to you in this letter, as they have addressed their protest to you, that this matter of illuminating the City Hall never was requested from the Board of Aldermen by me or any person representing officially ecclesiastical authority. It came in all its beauty and good spirit from the aldermen themselves uninfluenced, either from within or without, or from any quarter whatsoever.

In the same good spirit of appreciation I now hereby decline, with many thanks, this tender of the Common Council of Buffalo to illuminate the City Hall in honor of the arrival of Buffalo's new Bishop.

I do this for the sake of peace and good will amongst all mankind. I do not think, however, that very much strife would be stirred up even if I should accept their kind offer; still, the very thought of seeing the City Hall illuminated at night for the special delectation of the new Catholic Bishop might, indeed, seriously

disturb the delicate consciences of these very scrupulous and gnawing ministers—and hence, in the language of our great captain of the Union armies at the close of the Civil War—"Let us have peace," and peace it is.

Mr. Mayor, there is one sentence of the protest of these ministers to which you must give your most earnest attention. You are a good man yourself at figures, and you can easily pass judgment on its truthfulness. Here it is in all its fullness—"verbatim et punctatim." We believe the great mass of our people of every religious and political hue are not in sympathy with the action of our civil representatives, and in protesting against the use of our public buildings, we believe we represent this vast majority of our people."

In the absence of anything in the way of more reliable statistics, we can at least use the record of the attendance of our children in the public and parochial schools of the city as a fair basis of calculation. These statistics will show to the unbiased mind that more than one half of the city's population is Catholic even basing the present population at 400,000. Now, if one-half of our population belongs to the Catholic Church—and there is no doubt on that point whatever—it is surely safe to say that a very large majority of the remaining half of the city's population of our non-Catholic fellow-citizens has naught to say of the Catholic Church but what is good and praiseworthy, that they have no ill-feeling toward nor any of the old-time traditional bigotry against Catholics in any manner whatsoever. This is especially true of our great commercial bodies and corporations and of business men in general who give employment to such large numbers of Catholic employees. They admire and appreciate the Church's great organization, her great moral uplifting of the masses; her defense of the marriage tie; her respect for law and authority in the social world; her unceasing and constant struggle against socialism, which to-day is taking such hold on the minds of those men who are, unfortunately, bereft of any Christian training and who have no religious foundation in their moral make-up on which to rest their belief or fight a foe, so insidious and destructive as socialism is and at this date is only beginning to be; her effectual and constant and ever vigilant opposition to the dread evils of anarchy; her efforts to inculcate principles of morality and religious doctrines in the hearts of the rising generation of American youth. These and many other such sacrifices of a similar nature have brought it home in the clearest terms to the minds of all thoughtful men that the days of opposition to the Catholic Church must soon pass away. All these bring the Church into closer and more friendly touch with the hearts of our non-Catholic fellow-citizens, so much so that bigotry and jealousy of the Church's progress for the betterment of mankind is fast passing away.

Where, then, will this vast majority spoken of in the above-quoted sentence from our ministers come from? Perhaps, Mr. Mayor, this may be clear to these protesting ministers, but it is not so to me. However, we can leave the whole matter to the judgment of an enlightened and unprejudiced public opinion. Of its decision we have not the slightest fear.

One good thing will come out of all this discussion. It will clear this controversial atmosphere of misrepresentation and prejudice for a long time to come. The protest of these ministers will set an example to Catholics to be more pronounced and emphatic in demanding for the future their constitutional rights and liberties.

In our public schools, including both normal and high schools, Catholics will hereafter demand that teachers will cease to teach sectarian doctrines, either by word of implication, such as Bible reading, prayer making, hymn singing or chapel exercises of any kind. Catholics must see to it that our respective superintendents of schools be petitioned to drive out from our public schools and all other educational institutions all proselytizing and sectarian influences. Not only that, but in future should any corner-stone of a public building be laid in this community, the ceremony must not be performed by the representatives of any secret society or sect. Municipal or government public officials are the proper persons to discharge those duties. That it has not been done in the past has been owing simply to the indulgence and toleration and sheer neglect on the part of Catholics themselves. These ministers, in this their great protest, really have done more good for the Catholic side of the question than they had thought of doing when they started out. They have reminded Catholics to bestir themselves and to demand their rights, and especially in those

things in which they have been truly negligent in the past.

In the meantime, let me say in conclusion, that the Catholics of these United States and of the city of Buffalo, in particular, truly, love the liberties of this our glorious republic equally as much as these protesting ministers.

That Catholics are prepared now, as they always have been prepared in the past, both to do and die in defense of this grand nation, needs no demonstration here.

Let us hope that if the day ever comes that our country may need the aid and assistance of her sons in her defense, that these ministers and those in whose behalf they assume to speak, will be as equally prepared and as truly patriotic in giving their lives and shedding their blood for their country's cause as their fellow-Catholics will be. Then, may our beloved country well feel certain that her liberties and the perpetuity of her free institutions will rest on solid and enduring foundations.

If there is any other thought in this connection to which I would desire to give expression it would be this, that, if on the night of the public procession in honor of Bishop Colton's entry into this city, whatever tenebrosity may seem to be occasioned by the non-illumination of the City Hall will be amply made up by the good citizens of our city generally, who live along the line over which the processionists are to pass. I remain, honorable and dear sir,

Very respectfully yours,

MICHAEL P. CONNELLY,

Administrator of the diocese of Buffalo.

St. Columba's Church, Aug. 15.

IN MEMORIAM.

LEO XIII.

Where'er the light that radiates from Peter's throne
With flaming spear transfixes truth in souls,
There men to-day bowed down with grief, weep and bemoan;
And every beating heart a Requiem tolls!
King! Pontiff! Father most beloved! His cherished name,
Like Sacred Christ upon our lips, is sweet
And sanctifying! Oh thrice blessed his holy fame,
His works, his words, his wondrous life complete!

Dead! Nay,—not dead! Such men as Leo do not die!
Rather sepulchred in this life, he dwelt
Within that pale and fragile form we knew him by,
Whence flashed the fires that far and near were felt.

High on the mountain peaks, alone, he walked severe
In God's White Presence, with song-sandal'd feet;
Yet knew he every tortuous path down valley green,
Where human eyes looked up, the sun to greet!

And there he loved to linger, bending low to take
The laborer's hand, he bade oppression cease;
While from the Church's height, with clarion voice he spake:
And far-off echoes thrilled the Christ-word: "Peace!"

With seal of Love's self abnegation on his brow,
And sign of Jesus' Cross upon his breast,
The sage's clear, cold words through tender lips did flow,
Strength, wealth and power were good,—but love was best!

Through gloom and glare of a long life's protracted days,
With seraph heart and proud archangel might,
His Whiteness loomed before the universal gaze—
With wings up-lifted to the Infinite!

"Lumen in Coelo!" Star too dazzling fair to shine
On earth! He has been drawn to spheres up higher;
Among the myst'ries of God's heaven divine
His sun will glow eternal, lit by Love's fire!

Miss Bellelle Guerin, in "The Canadian Messenger of the Sacred Heart."

Catholic Happenings In Scotland.

(From Late Exchanges.)

LECTURES IN OPEN AIR.

—Once more Father Matthew Power, S.J., is back in Edinburgh, and once more has his eloquent voice been heard in the Lothian road, in continuation of the above addresses which the reverend gentleman inaugurated himself several weeks ago with so much success in the Scottish capital. During Father Power's recent illness, and when after his recovery he had to go to England on important missionary work, the addresses were given with great ability, judgment, and tact by Father Eiddowson, S.J. Last Sunday night Father Power resumed the work, recognizing with gratitude the valuable services of his confrere, and delivered to a vast concourse of in-

rooms by moveable partitions. The ground floor yields comfortable accommodation for 350 children, and the upper flat for a like number when turned into classrooms. The rev. manager is Father Patterson, late of St. Anthony's, Gavan.

LAITY AND THEIR PASTOR.

—The Catholics of Clydebank are organizing a grand testimonial for their zealous pastor, Father Montgomery, who has done so much for Catholicity and temperance in the district for the last decade and a half of years. Men of every class and creed along the banks of the Clyde are at one with their Catholic comrades in acknowledging Father Montgomery's worth to the Clydebank community.

Subscribe to the "True Witness."

terested and eager listeners a magnificent lecture on "God the Creator."

PAPAL CORONATION SERVICE.

—The Jesuit Fathers of Lauriston on the Sunday of the coronation of the Holy Father, held in the Church of the Sacred Heart, Edinburgh, a grand Papal Coronation service. Probably in no church in Great Britain, has a grandeur of service been held before in honor of a new Pope. Its predominant note was one of exultant joy and exuberant thanksgiving. The choir was augmented by thirty-six professional ladies and gentlemen belonging to the D'Oyly Carte Company, at present in Edinburgh, besides twenty-five trained instrumentalists from the Royal Lyceum. The music rendered was "The Mass of St. Winefride," specially composed by the eminent conductor of the company, Mr. Hall-ton, besides several other very fine pieces appropriate to the occasion. The preacher for the occasion was the Rev. Father Quick, S. J. The church was crowded by a large and fashionable congregation. At the evening service the "Te Deum" was chanted, and a sermon given by the Rev. Father Seither, S. J.

NEW SCHOOLS.—Cleveland's new Catholic schools which represent a substantial pile of buildings situated in a prominent part of the district, have just been completed. The architecture is modernized classic. There are two floors, the ground level being devoted entirely to classrooms, the upper, a fine hall, being given over for the present for drill and recreation, though it can at any time be converted into additional class-

Notes And Gleanings.

GOOD MEN WANTED.—On a recent occasion the Holy Name Society of Brooklyn and other parts in that vicinity held a demonstration at Oyster Bay, L.I., President Roosevelt delivered an address on "American Manhood." We take the following extract from it:—

"I desire to see in this country, said he, the decent men strong and the strong men decent; and until we get that combination in pretty good shape we are not going to be by any means as successful as we should be. There is always a tendency among very young men, and among boys who are not quite young men as yet, to think that to be wicked is rather smart; it shows that they are men. Oh, how often you see some young fellow who boasts that he is going to see life, meaning by that that he is going to see that part of life which is a thousand fold better if it remains unseen! I ask that every man here constitute himself his brother's keeper by setting an example to that younger brother which will prevent him from getting such a false estimate of life as that.

"Example is the most potent of all things. If any one of you in the presence of younger boys, and especially the younger people of your own family, misbehaves yourself, if you say coarse and blasphemous language before them, you can be sure that these younger people will follow your example and not your precept."

MIXED MARRIAGES.—There must be something seriously wrong in the mental equipment of a Catholic man or woman who will enter into marriage bonds with a non-Catholic. The "Agustianian," a Catholic journal of Alamazoo, Michigan, touching upon the subject:

"Another sad instance of the result of a mixed marriage was the death of a Catholic near Vicksburg the other day. Although having received the last Sacraments he was buried in unconsecrated ground and a minister officiated at the services. The several instances of this kind during the past year ought to be a warning to all Catholics."

A FRAUDULENT "BLESSING."

—We would warn our readers against a Papal blessing that is advertised for sale by a Boston firm. This "blessing" is described as a "Vatican document of rare interest and value." It contains a portrait of the late Pope and a Latin inscription. The thing is no Papal blessing at all. It is simply a copy of the document that is filled out in Rome for the person who obtains a special blessing from the Pope. The "blessing" advertised for sale is no more a blessing than is the blank form supplied to clergymen a genuine marriage certificate. As the advertisers ask, "Do you want the Papal blessing?" and word their announcements in such a way that many Catholics might be taken in, we have thought it well to print these words of warning. No Catholic paper would publish such an advertisement as is issued by the firm that sells these blessings.—Catholic News.

NEW YORK CITY CATHOLICS.

—A writer in the New York "Sun" figures out the denominational percentage of the population of New York city as follows:—

	Per Cent.
Catholic	40
Protestant	33
Jewish	12
Total	85
No religious connection	15
Total	100

He concludes that of the present population of New York, which is 3,700,000, there are 1,480,000 Catholics; 1,221,000 Protestants, 440,000 Jews, and there are 555,000 inhabitants without individual or family religious connection.

CATHOLIC BEQUESTS.

—The charitable bequests of the will of the late Mrs. Ellen Coleman filed recently in the Probate Court, New Haven, Conn., are as follows: To St. Francis' Orphan Asylum, New Haven, \$1,000; to the Home for the Aged at West Hartford, \$1,000; to

Bishop Tierney of the diocese of Hartford, \$1,000, for the support of aged and indigent priests; to the Mission for Homeless Children at Westchester, N.Y., \$1,000; to Rev. Thomas Shanley of Westport, to Rev. D. J. O'Connor of Noroton, and to Rev. C. E. McGowan of Colchester, \$100 each for Masses for the repose of the testator's soul; to the Mother Superior of the Convent of Our Lady of Mercy on Ferry street, \$500.

SCOTLAND'S CROPS. — Mayor White, of Woodstock, has arrived home from England. He says there is a loss of \$5,000,000 to the grain crops of Scotland on account of unfavorable weather.

CIVIC ENTERPRISE. — Whitby, Ont., last week, decided to have a municipal electric light and water plant and carried a by-law for that purpose. They will spend \$65,000.

NORTH POLE.—During the 19th century 200 ships, numberless lives and over \$30,000,000 were lost in futile efforts to reach the north pole.

TWO LESSONS.—Foreign countries are buying \$5,500,000 worth of American cash registers and \$3,500,000 worth of their typewriters a year.

AN AMERICAN non-Catholic journal says:—

The number of theological students in Germany has diminished gradually from 2,267 in 1830 to 2,149, or less than doubled since 1830. The insufficiency in the number of candidates for the ministry is discussed as a matter of exceeding gravity by German theologians. Our contemporary does not state whether the statistics include Catholics. It may be taken for granted if there was any diminution of the number of Catholic students, the fact would be plainly stated.

A FARMER'S SAD DEATH.

—Moses Walls, a well known farmer of Cherry Tree township, Titusville, Pa., was killed last week while driving a yoke of oxen attached to a reaper. Walls had stepped in front of the reaper to hook up the chain fastened to the yoke when the oxen started to run, throwing him to the ground and under the large wheel of the machine. He died in about two hours. A wife and nine children survive.

AWFUL WASTE.—There is enormous waste of food in the great cattle and sheep rearing countries, especially in New Zealand, Australia, Argentina, Colombia and Venezuela. Hundreds of thousands of sheep and cattle are slain merely for their hides, horns and hoofs, the exportation of the meat being unprofitable. A man who had worked on a sheep-run in New South Wales declared that he once saw the carcasses of over 6,000 sheep on one farm. They had been slain for their wool alone, and none of their meat was used.—Utica Globe.

Patent Report.

Below will be found a list of patents recently granted to foreigners by the Canadian Government through the agency of Messrs. Marion & Marion, patent attorneys, Montreal, Canada, and Washington, D.C.

Any information relating to the patents cited will be supplied free of charge by applying to the above-named firm.

- | Nos. | |
|--------|--|
| 81,438 | —Wm. Y. Hunter, Middleburg, Transvaal. Construction of tents and their valise accessories. |
| 81,574 | —John Thompson, London, Eng. Hermetically sealing of bottles, jars, or other vessels. |
| 81,817 | —Samuel J. Osmond, Laura, South Australia, Australia. Machine for washing clothing, etc. |
| 81,976 | —Wm. G. Stevenson, Prospect, South Australia, Australia. Anti-rattling device for doors and windows. |
| 82,099 | —John Thomas, Middlesox, Eng. Automatic couplings and buffers. |
| 82,251 | —Ferdinand Fritz, London, Eng. Treatment of peat. |
| 82,353 | —A. E. Watson, Kyneton Victoria, Australia. Scraper for wheels of agricultural implements. |