



CATHOLIC CHRONICLE.

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ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"J. M."—Writes to urge us to agitate for a Catholic daily paper. The letter is a long and an able one, but we fear the time is not opportune for such an undertaking.

"The Mission at St. Ann's.—Crushed out up to the present, and now too late.

"B. F."—We do not know the gentleman to whom you write.

"J. J."—We fear your suggestion would have no chance of being taken up by the Government.

"John I. F. M. L."—Too late, otherwise we would have published the most of it.

"Hereafter."—Too long.

"Spectator," did not send his name and address. The coin enclosed in the letter, has been returned to the address given.

F. N. L., Kirkfield.—Many thanks for your good wishes. We would gladly insert your letter, but you will understand why we hesitate.

JUST PUBLISHED.

Capt. Kirwan's lecture (in pamphlet form) in reply to Rev. Mr. Bray, on the "Romish" Church, for sale by Messrs. D. & J. Sadtler & Co., 275 Notre Dame street, and Messrs. Battle Bros. & Sheil, 21 Bleury street, Montreal. Price 5 cents.

MISSION AT PRESCOTT, ONT.

Last month the Roman Catholic inhabitants of Prescott and vicinity were edited by the first mission ever given in this section. The mission, which was conducted by the Rev. Father Glackmeyer, S. J., commenced on Sunday, the 4th ult., and was prosecuted with the utmost diligence and zeal until the following Sunday. Father Glackmeyer was assisted in the pious work by our beloved pastor, Father O'Donnell, the Very Rev. Father Walsh, Administrator of the Diocese of Ogdensburg, in the absence of Bishop Wadhams, the Rev. Fathers Jeannotte, Lerose, Killehen, McCarthy and Fournier, of Ogdensburg, and Rev. Fathers Chisholm, E. H. Murray, and Kelly of this Diocese. Every day from early morning until late at night the Rev. gentlemen were engaged in hearing confession, and a truly gratifying result of their labors is found in the fact that over 1450 communicants received the Blessed Sacrament during the week. Every morning after Mass, and every evening before Benediction, Father Glackmeyer delivered instructions, pregnant with wholesome advice to his hearers, and sermons upon the Sacraments and Doctrines of the Church which, replete with logic and adorned with every quality of the highest eloquence, carried conviction to the minds of his listeners and enlightened them to the Divine beauty and saving precepts of the Catholic Church. Morning and evening the Church was crowded to excess, and many Protestants availed themselves of the opportunity afforded of hearing the preaching of one of that celebrated Order of the Church which has done so much throughout the whole world towards enlightening the mental darkness of man. Some, no doubt, attended with the expectation of hearing a great deal of what has been called "Jesuitical intolerance," but they were disappointed, for not one word of uncharitable language issued from Father Glackmeyer's lips, but everything he said was consistent with his sacred mission as an exponent of God's word, and in keeping with the universal and immutable practice of the Catholic Church—that of peace and charity towards all mankind.

During the mission a number of our separated brethren derived from Father Glackmeyer's preaching a realization of their errors, and immediately placed themselves under instruction with a view of becoming converts. Six were baptized before Father Glackmeyer's departure, and several others will be, in a short time, received into the Church.

On Saturday, the 11th ult., Father Glackmeyer preached the last sermon of the mission, after which he alluded in feeling terms to the good work which had been performed during the week, and earnestly thanked the Rev. gentlemen who had so kindly rendered him assistance. At the conclusion of the services Father O'Donnell advanced to the railing of the sanctuary, and on behalf of the Catholics of Prescott, presented Father Glackmeyer with a purse of \$275 which he urged him to accept as the inadequate offering of a grateful people to whom he had endeavored himself during his brief sojourn in Prescott by his kindly and affable manner and by the sincere desire he had displayed to lead them into the way of a better life. Father Glackmeyer was visibly affected at the unexpected gift and replied that he would ever retain a joyful recollection of his first visit to Prescott, not because of their liberal donation, which, of course, would be handed over to his superior, but because he had observed in them so much good will towards himself and further on account of the kindness, and hospitality he had received from their pastor and themselves.

For this mission and the many and inestimable benefits which will undoubtedly flow from it the Catholics of Prescott, have reason to feel deeply grateful to their zealous and painstaking priest, Father O'Donnell, to whose vigilant care for their spiritual interests they are indebted for Father Glackmeyer's visit. However, if possessing the love and entire confidence of his parishioners be any return for his fatherly care and attention, Father O'Donnell is certainly, in some measure, repaid, for we venture to say, that in no parish in this or any other country does a Priest enjoy greater popularity among his people.—Con.

THE CANADIAN PILGRIMAGE TO ROME.

This Pilgrimage to Rome, for the celebration of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Episcopate of Our Holy Father Pope Pius IX., is definitely arranged to start from New York on Saturday the 21st of April—three weeks from now, by the good Inman Steamer, the City of Brussels. The entire plan and management of this Pilgrimage has rested with the Committee in Canada. The Committee formed in New York is no part of the management. It is formed, out of Catholic charity, to see that a Band of Catholic Pilgrims, going to Rome, through New York, shall not pass through it, as if it were altogether a Pagan city. This Committee is composed of the Rev. Father O'Farrell, of St. Peter's Church, Eugene Kelly, James Lynch, President of the Irish Emigrant Society, and of St. Vincent de Paul's Society, John D. Keiley, Jr., Knight Commander of the Order of St. Gregory the Great, Patrick Farrelly, and Wm. J. Hughes.

Numerous applications have been made to members of the New York Committee, by persons wishing to join this Pilgrimage. Chevalier Keiley, the Chairman of the New York Committee, is very willing to give us any information in his possession, but states that the New York Committee has nothing to do in the management of Canadian Pilgrimage, except, courteously, in Catholic charity, to further its welfare.

As a large shipper of Cotton and Tobacco to foreign parts, Chevalier Keiley's relations with the Transatlantic Steamship lines have enabled him to be of much service to the Pilgrimage from Canada. Exceedingly favorable arrangements have been made, both as to rate and to time, for the ocean passage, going and returning. The estimate made, as to the cost from New York to Rome, by way of Lourdes, is three hundred dollars in gold, which includes ocean transit, going and coming, and good for a year, and the transit across Europe, by Lourdes, to Rome, including ordinary hotel accommodations, and railroad ticket, without hotel expenses, for return from Rome to Liverpool. English-speaking Americans desiring to make part of this Pilgrimage, have still an opportunity.—N. Y. Freeman's Journal.

ARCHBISHOP HANNAN.

In noticing the appointment of Dr. Hannan to the Archbishopric of Halifax, the Recorder of that city says:—

"From the moment of the late Archbishop's death every one looked upon Dr. Hannan as the person best qualified to succeed Dr. Connolly, and for several months past it has been well-known in Catholic circles that he had been elected for the position by the Bishops of the Ecclesiastical Province, whose important duty it was to choose a chief pastor for the metropolitan city of Halifax. The Holy See has confirmed their Lordships' nomination, and the Catholics of Nova Scotia and of the Lower Provinces are to be congratulated in having as Archbishop one so eminently qualified to rule over them as Dr. Hannan and one who is the unanimous choice of prelates, priests, and people. During the Vatican Council in 1870, Dr. Hannan was appointed to the Episcopal See of St. John's, Newfoundland, made vacant by the death of Bishop Mullock; but he declined the honor, preferring to remain with the people of Nova Scotia and of Halifax amongst whom he has labored as priest for upward of thirty years. With the priests of his diocese he is universally popular, many of whom have been trained under his care, and all of whom have had constant recourse to him as Vicar General, for advice any direction in the exercises of their ministerial duties. With his own people he is held in the highest respect and esteem, and in many ways he is endeared to them for the warm interest he has ever taken in their spiritual and temporal welfare. But to the poor man in an especial manner has he always been a kind benefactor and a tender father. The Society of St. Vincent de Paul, which he established in this city some twenty-five years ago, and which he has so successfully directed ever since, is proof of his labors in behalf of the needy and the destitute. He was a member of the Board of School Commissioners for the city of Halifax for more than a quarter of a century. During all that period the many gentlemen, both Protestant and Catholic, who sat with him at the Board will say that there never was a more efficient nor a more painstaking Commissioner than Dr. Hannan. On his retirement, a few years ago, he was presented with a highly complimentary address by the teachers of all denominations, bearing testimony to the kindly interest he had taken in themselves and their work and expressing their sincere regret at his withdrawal from the School Board. With all classes in the community Dr. Hannan is universally popular, and the general feeling in the city since the announcement of his elevation to the Episcopate has been made public, is that he is a worthy successor of Dr. Connolly, and that he will rule the Archdiocese of Halifax wisely and well."

"OLD CATHOLICS" RETURNING TO THE FAITH.

A source likely to be well informed says that, besides Father Schœpf, of Salsdorf, Baden, three other Jansenist priests have brought consolation to our Holy Mother the Church by their conversion, which is believed to be sincere. The "Old" Priest of Effenhofen, in the Grand Duchy of Baden the priest Kuffiski, formerly vicar at Gratz, in Posnani, and Father Alphonsus, Conventual, of Oggersheim, have returned to the fold of their Mother, the latter after holding a Jansenist appointment for two years in Switzerland. He has even applied for re-admission into the Order he was so unfortunate as to leave. It may also be of interest to mention among the Protestants who have embraced Catholicity the two Barons von Schierstaedt, one of whom was formerly a Lieutenant of Lancers at Potsdam, and who made his abjuration some three months ago; and the other, Hermann, is from Dahlm, near Gozrke; district of Magdeburg, in Paderborn. Baron von der Borch has recently become a Catholic at Munster, and the Chief Councillor of the Regency, Franz, has followed the example of his family and made his abjuration at Liegnitz, in Silesia.

"NO NO, PIO NONO."

The notorious punster from whose lips "No no, Pio Nono" fell, must be somewhat chagrined to discover that his betters do not share his irreverent jest, upon the great old man in Rome. Protestant Princes, Dukes, and Earls, Lords and Commons, all agree in respect for Pius the IX. Aye even her Majesty the Queen, entertains a profound respect for the Pontiff, and we learn from a contemporary that:—

"Queen Victoria intends to have a magnificent tableau painted representing the Pope and all his Cardinals. It is her admiration for Pius IX. which prompts her to this. Several artists have been appointed to visit the Cardinals and ask permission to take their portraits, as photographs are deemed unsatisfactory. The portraits of several of the Cardinals have already been taken in Rome."

THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY.

The happy moment decreed from all eternity for the reconciliation of lost man with his offended Creator being come, the angel Gabriel was sent to announce the joyful tidings to a Virgin, whose name was Mary, of the house and family of David, and to declare to her that she was selected to bring forth a child, who should deliver his people from their sins, and who should reign in the house of David, his father, for ever. This glorious event had been foretold by the prophet Daniel four hundred years before, and six months previous to this an embassy from heaven had announced to Zachary that Elizabeth, his wife should bring forth a son, who should go before the face of their great Deliverer, and prepare his ways. The angel Gabriel entered into the house where Mary was alone, and saluted her with these words: Hail full of grace, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou amongst women. The holy virgin, alarmed at the appearance of the angel in her private apartment, for he bore the resemblance of a young man, and still more troubled at the import of his words, thought within herself what manner of salutation this could be. And the Angel said to her Fear not Mary, for thou hast found grace with God. Behold thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and shalt bring forth a son: and thou shalt call his name Jesus. He shall be great, and shall be called the son of the Most High, and the Lord shall give unto him the throne of David his father: and he shall reign in the house of Jacob for ever, and of his kingdom there shall be no end. These great and glorious promises did not remove the difficulty which weighed most on the mind of Mary. She had hitherto preserved her virginity unspotted, and rather than lose her virginity which she supposed must be the case, she had rather forego the high dignities and honours to which she was to be raised. And Mary said to the angel: How shall this be done, because I know not man? And the angel answering, said to her: The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Most High shall overshadow thee, and therefore the Holy that shall be born of thee shall be called the son of God. Mary on hearing this consoling declaration, immediately gave her assent, saying: Behold the hand-maid of the Lord, be it done unto me, according to thy word. And the angel instantly departed. That moment the mystery of love and goodness, promised to the world 4000 years before, was wrought on earth. That moment the word of God was for ever united to our humanity. That moment God began to have an adorer, who is infinite, and the world a mediator, who is omnipotent. But what tongue can express the inward feelings and affections which then filled the glowing heart of the most pure mother of God? What light shone in her understanding to penetrate the mysteries and the excess of the unfathomable goodness of God! But let men, who have been redeemed, exult and praise, returning to God their best homage of adoration, thanksgiving and love. For the performance of this duty it is that the church has appointed this present festival. It was the hope and comfort of all the ancient saints, and the great object of all their earnest prayers, tears, and sighs.

CATHOLIC VS. PROTESTANT MISSIONS.

A Protestant Minister of England, Rev. Josiah Cox, lately drew a contrast between Protestant and Catholic labors among the heathens, not at all flattering to the former. He knew of what he spoke by personal knowledge. While Protestant missionary societies spent yearly millions of dollars to Christianize the heathen, conversions were rare and doubtful. The apostles of Protestantism were so luxurious, that the immense fund given for their support fed only one hundred and thirty-two missionaries. On the other hand, the poverty of Catholics supported five hundred and ten Bishops and Priests, because they practised the poverty and self-denial of the Gospel. Their converts in Japan, China, Tibet and Tonquin, according to the same Protestant testimony, ran up into the millions, and the number is miraculously growing from day to day. With the fearless courage of martyrs these bearers of the Cross penetrated into lands where the face of a Protestant missionary was never seen. Praise from such a source is praise indeed.

LAST ALLOUCTION.

The allocution delivered last week by his Holiness the Pope has found an echo in every country in Europe, and not a few Protestant journals have pronounced that Pius the Ninth's indictment of the Italian government is well sustained by the evidence. Stung to action, probably, by this circumstance, the Italian Minister of Grace and Justice has issued a circular to the procurators-general, asserting that the allocution "replics with ingratitude to the freedom granted to the Church in Italy, the like of which exists in no other country." Such brazen lying will hardly deceive anyone, and it scarcely needed the reiteration by the Pope, on Tuesday, of his principal charges against his local adversaries to reveal the real nature of the conflict in which that band of footpads and tyrants are now engaged.—Nation.

VILLA MARIA.

The following letter from a friend, who visited Villa Maria Easter Sunday last, will be read we are sure with interest by the many friends of that noble institution:—

April 2nd, 1877. Mr. Editor,—We had heard already a great deal concerning the development given to musical talent under the tuition of the ladies of Villa Maria, but yesterday it was our good fortune to be able to appreciate it ourselves, having accompanied a friend, who wished to assist at the Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament in the above mentioned institution. I must say, we were perfectly charmed with both music and singing. The selections were in the best taste and expressive of that joy and triumph which Easter alone can inspire. The Solos were executed in a manner worthy of our best artists. The ensemble, with accompaniment of organ, piano, harp, and guitars was truly grand; the whole reflecting the highest credit on the ladies charged with the musical department. If we add to this, the beauty of the Chapel, containing nearly two hundred pupils, wearing white flowing veils, and wrapped in deep devotion, the effect was calculated to raise our hearts to that grand Easter in Heaven. One of the Ladies graciously invited us to visit the Establishment, but our time being limited, we were obliged to decline, promising to avail ourselves of the privilege during the Summer months, when this abode of Religion, Science and Art must indeed be an earthly Paradise.

THE POPE'S JUBILEE.

The Catholic members of the British House of Commons, who, we need not say, are all representatives of Irish constituencies, took action the other day in the matter of the approaching jubilee of the Holy Father. They resolved to present his Holiness with a suitable address, and appointed Lord Robert Montagu, The O'Connor Don, Mr. A. M. Sullivan, Major O'Reilly, Mr. O'Shaughnessy, and Chevalier O'Leary to prepare the draft. It is not unlikely that they will also resolve to send a deputation to Rome on the 3rd June. Such a course of proceeding will command the hearty approval of the Catholic people of Ireland; and we are sure that no tribute will be laid at the feet of Pius IX. which will be hailed with greater satisfaction than that of the elected representatives of a nation so famed for its devotion to the Church.

THE LAND DEBATE.

The discussion on Mr. Butt's Land Bill is over for the Session, and the result is not remarkably full of promise. Eighty-four members voted for the second reading, and three hundred and twenty-three against it—in other words, nearly three-fourths of the members present were its enemies. The utmost that can be said in regard to its prospects is said when we mention that last year only fifty-six voted for it. The number of its friends is consequently increased by one-half, small as the number is. This increase comes, of course, out of the mass of British members. Ireland, which sends over a hundred members over to London, cannot rely on one-half of that number, even in a case of this kind. Only forty-six Irish members voted for the Bill!

The debate was opened by Mr. Butt, who, although unwell and quite hoarse, would not forego the right of watching over the fortunes of his offspring. The objection was first and most emphatically raised by O'Connor Don—yet the removal of the clause did not conciliate the Member for Roscommon, who made an attack upon the Bill, during the debate. Mr. Herbert, from Kerry, jumped up immediately to denounce it. "Fixity of tenure" shocked him. What was that? A bestowal on tenants of what belonged to the landlords! Since when did it belong to them? We ask in our turn—only since landlords decreed in a Parliament of landlords that landlords should have fixity of tenure, and tenants should be naked at their mercy.

Mr. Blennerhassett replied in an elaborate speech, and Mr. King-Harman supported the Bill, in his first speech—an honest oration, made more impressive by his narration of certain facts touching oppression by middlemen.

It seems to be resolved by the British Parliament and Government that the land struggle and land warfare shall not yet be allowed to give way to peace.

THE FRENCH ARMY.

The re-organization of the French Army is still of France the chief business. The improvement of the army in discipline, drill and equipments is so marked as to arrest the attention of those who know what armies ought to be, and what the French Army was under the reign of Napoleon III. M. Thiers has been making interminable speeches on the army in his committee. The subject before the committee is the proposition made by M. Laisant that enforced service in the army should be reduced to three years. M. Thiers never gave a willing consent to the reduction during his Presidency of the Republic from the seven years' service of the old law of 1832. It is no secret that he would have preferred a limited conscription, or at least a general conscription, with the power of purchasing exemption, to the universal service, passed despite his wishes and he is entirely opposed to the limited period of one year, under the standards accorded to pass a certain examination. He has been making interminable speeches on the subject during the past few days, and there is no doubt he has the Marshal and Minister of War on his side, as well as a bare majority of his committee, in his recommendation of the rejection of the Laisant proposition. M. Thiers' great argument is that in three years it is impossible to make good sub-officers, or what we call non-commissioned officers, and he truthfully declares that France is likely to have crowds of men in uniform, not soldiers under arms in a few years. He believes that a couple of hundred thousand of well-trained men to be better than a million of the others. But he forgets that France has to do with the trained millions of Germany.—Catholic Telegraph.

AN INFERNAL MACHINE.

On St. Patrick's Day, a procession of home-loving Irishmen was expected to pass along the Wall of Derry. Their principle is simple and clear; they claim equality for all Irishmen, and freedom for their native land.

There are, however, in that city some Unionists—of the old, vulgar and ferocious type which made the name of "Yoman" infamous. Certain of these, writhing like venomous snakes at the prospect of a peaceful procession of Ireland-loving people, devised a diabolical plot. They got powder, scraps of iron, a vessel and a fuse; they arranged these with fiendish hate, and carried their infernal machine to the Wall, placing it near where the procession should pass. The fuse being lighted would burn for a given time, and then—it was expected—there would be a horrible explosion, and the limbs of men, women and children would be rent from their mangled bodies, and a torrent of Christian blood splashed over the hideous scene.

The plot was laid with terrific care, but, through the Providence of Heaven, it failed. The Wall is an exposed place, and the infernal machine was discovered before the fearful catastrophe could take place.

Now, we demand—and it is little to demand—that nothing shall be allowed to stifle or stay inquiry into this horrible crime until the criminals shall have been brought to justice. And we also demand that the Government shall show its detestation of so hideous an offence by offering a large reward for the detection and punishment of the criminals.

It is the urgent duty of the Home Rule members to see that those who walk in procession in Ireland, on a National Festival, shall not run the risk of being mutilated and murdered, merely because they love their native land.

ABSENCE OF CRIME IN IRELAND.

The assizes are now nearly over, and the tale to be told of the state of crime throughout the country is one that will give the highest satisfaction to all but the advocates of coercion. Take, for instance, the province of Connaught, as referred to in the charge of the Chief Justice to the grand jury of Galway county the other day. "The cases to go before you," said he to the members of that body, "are few in number, of a trifling and unimportant character, and not calling for any observation from me. I have read the county inspector's report, and it shows the county to be in a peaceful and quiet state, and comparatively free from crime. I am happy to say that throughout the whole circuit the same exceedingly satisfactory state of things prevailed." Nevertheless, the law which prevails throughout the whole circuit actually assumes the reverse of this state of thing.

THE PANIC AT ST. XAVIER'S, N.Y.

At the inquest on the bodies of the women killed during the panic at St. Francis Xavier's Church, New York, Mr. Adams, Superintendent of Buildings, deposed:

"The Church of St. Francis Xavier was examined by our department two years ago and a report was made to me; the stairs are winding; it is an open question as to the safest plan—platform or winding stair: the winding stairs are considered safest; I considered the stairs safe when I made the examination; I have examined the doors which lead from the body of the church and those which lead from the gallery and corridor; I do not think the science of architecture can construct a building which would be safe in case of a panic; the passage-way unless some of the people fall, and then a wider passage-way would not prevent it. My assistant has made an examination of the church since the accident, and has not suggested any improvement. I think a hand-rail is good on a long, straight staircase, but do not consider it good or necessary in a spiral or winding stairs, as the curve acts as a brake. I consider it worse in a case of a panic on a staircase to hold the people back, and I think that the human voice is a far more powerful check in a panic than force."

FREE LIBRARY.

They are to have a free library in Dublin. In accordance with the advertisement issued a couple of weeks since by the Corporation, a meeting of burgesses was held in the Mansion House on Monday, under the presidency of the Lord Mayor, to consider whether the provisions of the public Act of 1855 should be put in force, and after a somewhat lengthened discussion, the question was decided in the affirmative by an all but unanimous vote. Amongst the supporters of the proposal were the Recorder and Alderman M'Swaine, the Rev. Mr. Pendergast, O.P., and the Dean of the Chapel Royal, the High Sheriff of the city and Mr. Dwyer Gray—whose introductory speech, by the way, removed some at least, of the objections which had arisen in the minds of the public to the proposed institution. The next step must be taken by the Corporation.

GOLDWIN SMITH ON ANNEXATION.

Mr. Goldwin Smith's article on the political destiny of Canada covers thirty pages of the Fortnightly Review for April. It is devoted to proving the desirability of union with the United States. He says that the Canadian nationality is a lost cause, and that ultimate union with the States is morally certain. Canadian patriotism must provide a real union, not mere annexation, but an equal and honorable alliance, like that of Scotland with England. This change involves no other in the relations between Canada and England. The economical advantages to Canada of such a continental union would be immense. It would be no menace to England, but the reverse, and would introduce into the United States councils questions of a diplomatic character, with an element favorable to England, which influence would be of the greatest value. There is but a faint chance of building up Canada as a rival of the United States, while in the case of war with England the greatest danger would be removed, and Canada would gain both wealth and strength.—Globe's Cablegram.