

King Edward's Visit To the Pope.

Despatches published in the daily press refer in glowing terms to the visit of King Edward VII. to His Holiness the Pope on Wednesday last.

Wearing the uniform of a field marshal, King Edward VII. paid his much-talked-of visit to the Vatican. To keep within the strict lines of etiquette and give offence to neither Italy or the Church, the British Sovereign did not lunch at the Embassy, but instead partook of refreshments at the Quirinal, then briefly stopped at the Embassy, afterwards driving to the Vatican. He did not use a carriage belonging to the King of Italy.

King Edward's carriage was a closed one, and Col. Lamb, the British military attaché, rode with him. His Majesty's suite rode behind in another carriage. The only escort was a few policemen in plain clothes. The Vatican is perhaps the most ceremonious court of Europe. It is undoubtedly one of the most picturesque, and all costumes worn there are of medieval times.

As King Edward's carriage, at twenty minutes past four, entered the court of San Damasco, surrounded by the well known loggia of Raphael, and which has been trodden by the feet of every Sovereign who visited Rome, with the exception of the present Shah of Persia. His Majesty was saluted by a battalion of the Palatine Guards, in full uniform. Tattoo was given on the drumheads, there was no music as there are no papal bands. It is declared that since the grotesque rendering of the German royal anthem, by bugles, on the occasion of the visit of the Emperor of Germany, the experiment of having music has not been repeated.

When the royal party reached the grand staircase leading to the papal apartment, King Edward was greeted by the Marquis Sacchetti, who acted for Prince Ruspoli, the introducer of sovereigns, who is ill; Monsignor Merry Del Val, and Prince Antici Mattel. At the upper landing there were grouped in imposing array a number of other ecclesiastics, who formed a characteristic and magnificent assembly. Among them were Mgr. De Azevedo, the papal major-domo; Mgr. Piffiri, the papal sacristan; Mgr. Constantini, the great almoner; Mgr. Grabinski, secretary of the Congregation of Ceremonial; Prince Rospigliosi, commander of the noble guards; Count General Pecci, nephew of the Pope, commandant of the Palatine Guards; Marquis Serlupi, master of the Horse, and Major Tugliaferrri, commandant of gendarmes. Behind this group, attired in brilliant uniforms, were the Knights of the Cape, and Chamberlains in black velvet breeches, blouses with stiff white ruffs, and gorgeously jewelled chains about their necks, giving a touch of brilliant color to the scene.

King Edward addressed a few words of kindly thanks in return for the hearty greetings offered him. The royal party then proceeded between ranks of the Swiss Guards, whose halberds gleamed in the sunlight that streamed through the wide windows. The hum of the busy city alone broke the deep silence that reigned within the Vatican. At the Clementine Hall the party was met by the Papal Master of Chamber, Mgr. Bisset, who was attended by personages of the Secret Ante-Chamber.

Upon arriving before the private apartment of the Pope, the Noble Guard rendered military honors to the British sovereign.

At the conclusion of this ceremony the door of the Pope's apartment was immediately opened and the aged Pontiff was revealed standing at the threshold. His hand was extended, awaiting his guest. His Holiness was dressed in robes of white and also wore a red velvet cape bordered with ermine.

Even King Edward paused a moment when seeing the Pontiff in his white garments. The Pope's face was the color of ivory, but he moved without assistance, and with no apparent difficulty. From his entire person there seemed to emanate sentiments of benevolence and spirituality. The King and the head of the Church clasped hands, and exchanged a few words in French. King Edward passed within the papal apartment, the door was closed, and the Pope and the King were left alone.

King Edward remained with the Pontiff for twenty minutes. A bell was then rung, and King Edward's suite was admitted and presented to the Pope. This little ceremony seemed to please the Pontiff immensely. At its conclusion, King Edward took his leave, the Pope crossing the room at his side, and saying his last words at the door.

Co-Operation in Catholic Ranks

Sometime in mid-April Dr. Thomas Dwight, of Harvard University, delivered a most instructive address, on "Catholic Unions," before the Catholic Union of Portland, Maine. The lecture was given in the parlors of the episcopal residence, and Bishop O'Connell introduced the learned gentleman. The Doctor spoke principally from experience of the past, and told, in his introduction of the origin of Catholic unions in general. This he traced to the period when the temporal power in Rome was lost, and Catholics landed together in Italy, and all over Europe to secure again for the Holy Father his rightful patrimony. If this great result was not obtained, at least considerable good was done in uniting the lay forces of the Church and in imparting an impetus to the spirit of co-operation with the clergy in the defence of Catholic interests. The most important and practical part of the lecture is that in which Dr. Dwight dwelt upon the present day needs of Catholic unions. We will take a synopsis of this section of his lecture, as it has been reported, and give it for the benefit of our readers.

"Speaking in detail of the work of local unions, the Doctor strongly advised the formation of certain permanent committees whose members were to be chosen carefully; on libraries, the press and institutions. He enunciated the first and most necessary quality of these committees as energy and tact, energy that nothing detrimental to Catholic interests be allowed to go without action or protest, and tact, that unessential and accidental things be allowed to pass. It is useless to attempt to keep out of the libraries all books not of Catholic spirit, but it should be seen to that the Catholic side of questions is thoroughly represented and that scurrilous books defaming any religion are excluded; it is useless to notice every squib which may in some manner touch the Church or to protest against mere witticisms, for the protest will only result in continuing the difficulty, that no falsehood be allowed to go but it is the bounden duty of the union through its committee to see uncontradicted and that the truth be told. It is unwise and useless to antagonize and criticize every action of those in charge of institutions if their every action be not in accord with Catholic spirit, but to discern good work wherever it exists, to strive by Christian spirit to remedy defects and see to it that Catholic children be permitted to practise their religion, to concede wherever principle was not involved and the great interests of the faith and souls. The Doctor declared that he had arrived at these conclusions not by reading books, but by the recognition of his own mistakes; it had ever been his instinct to resent everything not Catholic and all that seemed to him wrong and unfair, but experience had taught him that it is better to let many things pass by.

As an instance of the curious mental condition of many worthy non-Catholic people who are most energetic in philanthropic enterprise, he told a story of a certain non-Catholic lady who was a member of a committee with him many years ago, and whose self-sacrifice, energy and devotion ranked with that of a Sister of Charity; early and late she worked for the corporal welfare of the children in various institutions, but there was one idea firmly imbedded in her mind, that non-sectarian meant Protestant and that Catholics had no infirmity.

"There are many such people who are energetic workers in behalf of institutions, honestly opposed to everything Catholic, but withal noble and self-sacrificing souls, and in working with them, we must recognize their limitations, and employ our energy in brushing away prejudice wherever it is possible, stating the truth without heat and advancing Catholic interests with wisdom and good-humored tolerance of the infirmities of other people.

"The Doctor concluded his address by narrating the wonderful work of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul established by Frederic Ozanam and a few young friends. He referred to the world wide growth of this society, and the incalculable benefit it had been to the Church and to the poor. He placed its example before the members of the Catholic Union for a model and an inspiration."

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The Attitude of A Coal King.

Of all the samples of audacity, disregard for the interests of others, and defiance of public opinion and public suffering, it seems to us that the statement of George F. Baer, head of the Anthracite Coal Trust, and President of the Reading Company, as well as of a score of other companies, is the most astounding. In giving his evidence before the Interstate Commerce Commission, he launched defiance at the members thereof and at the Sherman Anti-Trust Law.

Amongst other statements and remarks made by President Baer, we may cite the following:—"I have seen enough of doubtful administration, and if we are sinners against any law that you or your friends can enforce, go into the proper forum and try your hand. We will be there."

"I am getting tired of some of your friends assuming a virtue superior to the rest of us and trying to make out that the business men of the country are a gang of conspirators."

A report of the evidence says, by way of comment:—"He came out openly in defence of the methods which have given the Coal Trust absolute control of the traffic in the anthracite fields of Pennsylvania; confessed that he had prevented the building of an independent railroad into the coal regions because he did not wish his own business impaired by competition, and challenged his prosecutors to find a law which could dislodge him and his allied companies from the position they have taken."

"With a smile of satisfaction, he told the details of the Trust's plan to thwart the scheme to build an independent railroad, declared unhesitatingly that he was opposed to competition in transportation and would use his best efforts to prevent it, and, to the astonishment of even his own counsel, said with a shake of his head and a glance at the Commissioners that if a new company should build merely a siding into a colliery which he now taps he would buy the colliery if necessary to prevent the aggression upon his own business."

"That is business, he declared. Those who build more railroads than the traffic can support—and just now, he averred, there are more railroads than traffic—are dreamers and idealists, and he, he asserted, is a business man."

In support of this criticism we may quote the following words of President Baer:—"I was willing to advise the purchase of these collieries because I found they were worth the money and because I was anxious—I do not deny it—to get Simpson & Watkins united up with us with their coal interests and not be Ishmaelites in the field."

Q. You knew that a railroad was incorporated. A. Oh, that is all right. That is one stake in a game that is easily played in this country.

Q. When did it first occur to you to buy up the stock of the Temple Iron Company? A. When I wanted to use the charter for the purpose of holding the stock of the collieries that Simpson & Watkins sold us.

Q. The more thoroughly you dominate the anthracite situation the more money you make. A. Naturally. The more things you can sell the greater profit I suppose you make. Is not that simple and axiomatic?

B. And the more coal supply you control the easier it is for you to control the price at which coal shall be transported and the price for which it shall be marketed? A. Do not those things follow naturally?

There is one thing, at least, in favor of the President—it is his frankness. He may be heartless, money-grabbing, and thirst for the power that dollars give. He is not alone in the world of his own principle and his own spirit; but he is an exception, in as much as there is no mask over his face. We have seen others in our time who would ride rough-shod over the bodies of the people if their course was to lead to the accumulation of millions. But they would smile a sickly smile, and tell the suffering victim of their good intentions and sorrow for their misfortune, but that they are entirely incapable of doing otherwise than crush him a little more.

What happy consciences these men must have! What sweet slumbers! What a glorious prospect in the great hereafter! What stores of fuel they lay up by way of treasures!

Quebec Legislature Closes Session

(Continued from Page Seven)

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SNOWSTORMS IN ENGLAND.

Snow storms prevailed in England and in France on April 17. The weather was the coldest experienced in twenty years.

CHURCH ROBBERIES.

Jewels valued at \$10,000 were last week stolen from a painting of the Blessed Virgin over the high altar of the Cathedral of Vienna, Austria.

Walter C. Kennedy, Dentist, 383 Dorchester Street, Corner Mansfield.

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ST. AGATHE and Intermediate Stations.
9.00 a.m. Week days, commencing Mondays May 4th, returning, leave St. Agathe at 4.15 p.m., arriving Montreal 7.05 p.m. (This train runs to and from Labelle on Thursdays).
PLANTAGENET and Intermediate Stations (from Windsor Street).
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