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BLAKE AT MANCHESTER

He Reviews Several Features of the Position of Ireland. His Opinion of the Situation in Regard to the Prospects of Unity.

Hon. Edward Blake, in speaking before the annual convention of the National League of Great Britain, held at Manchester on July 5th, delivered an address which those who heard it state that it was a most forcible and thorough utterance on the Irish question.

to justice and to wisdom and to policy, and grant there what has been proved to be so beneficial in other parts?" Dwelling on the question of unity of the party, Mr. Blake maintained that there had never been an hour in which the gravest crisis which the party had been confronted with in the past five years could not have been settled by concordant action on the part of every Irish representative if there had been such a disposition to differ.

Let session you had the relief of agricultural distress act, and agricultural distress was assumed to be limited to England, and the agricultural distress in this United Kingdom was adjusted for England alone, but this session you find the Government obliged to acknowledge that they are bound to administer relief to that greater and more acute agricultural distress which exists in that other part of the United Kingdom, Ireland, and we are promised at a future date that relief.

He said that the situation was such that unity of action might be expected any day, and his concluding words completely enthused the large convention.

Referring to the Jubilee demonstration Mr. Blake said: "We are face to face with the great demonstration of the year, and I do think that reasonable practical men, who look at that great and imposing demonstration, might draw lessons from it which would enlighten their minds upon the Irish question.

MEETING PREJUDICES. Catholics in their intercourse with non-Catholics are perpetually meeting with prejudices, unintentional calumnies and un-Catholic sentiments. These anti-Catholic ideas are in many, if not most instances, expressed with no desire to offend or to aggravate. They are uttered in the quiet assurance of commonly accepted opinions.

Cardinal's Noble Task. Here, assuredly, is a noble task, and I own that I am proud and happy to undertake it. For what could be more agreeable to my feelings than the occasion so favorably presented to me at the end of my days to employ all the strength that is still left me in promoting the glory of our Saviour, all the more, too, in these last days of a departing century? And what a century has been this of ours in which proud men, relying on a science unworthy of the name and displaying an activity which might be called feverish, have carried their audacious temerity to the extent of calling in question the origin of Christianity, or even presenting as a fiction, as a lying legend, faith in the Divine person of the Saviour!

answer or objection; to be as ready to repel all imputations upon our Faith as we would be to sustain our character or our honor.

No Catholic, for instance, should permit the epithet 'Romish' to be used within his hearing without protest; if he does there is an element of cowardice somewhere. No Catholic should suffer a doctrine or practice of the Church to be misrepresented in his presence without instant correction.

On course in meeting anti-Catholic and Catholic expressions we must exhibit tact and not temper; though even a testy retort is better than cowardly silence. We must not lack self-confidence, for usually the humblest Catholic knows more about the teachings of the Catholic Church than does the most learned Protestant.

THE GLOSE OF THE CENTURY.

Catholics to Consecrate the Great Event of the Dawn of a New Century.

Cardinal Jacobini's Letter Regarding the Special Religious Ceremonies.

The Roman correspondent of the New York Freeman's Journal has cabled the following letter from Cardinal Jacobini, proposing a plan to all Roman Catholic Bishops throughout the world for extraordinary religious services in commemoration of the close of the nineteenth and the opening of the twentieth century.

Most Illustrious and Most Reverend Sir—You have doubtless become aware of the project advanced by a number of men of great piety to get the faithful throughout the universe at the close of the present century to affirm in a solemn manifestation by a series of religious exercises their love and gratitude to the All-Powerful Redeemer of the human race.

The design of these men in this initiative was to respond to the desire of our Holy Father Pope Leo XIII., who wished to consecrate this epoch of transition from one century to another by an extraordinary invocation of the Divine assistance of Jesus Christ, as a happy presage of peace and concord.

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ACTS OF PIETY AND REPARATION. Uniting, therefore, as closely as possible, under one head the efforts of all, by striking acts of piety and reparation, by the publication of desirable works, by the great voice of the best daily papers, and, finally, by public demonstrations of affection for the Roman Pontiff, we shall easily succeed in celebrating these grand solemnities in the joy of our hearts, and in an imposing concert, as it were, of the voices of all

nations. In this way we shall clearly show forth our close alliance of will, the wonderful unity of the Church, and the perfect union of the faithful with its head. Moreover, the triumph of the Cross, the only source of salvation being thus verified throughout the universe, human society will escape unharmed from the perils of imminent ruin, and will happily enter upon a path of peace and prosperity at the beginning of the next century.

I entertain the happy expectation that your Lordship, as well as all other Bishops, will consent to give your powerful support to myself and the committee established at Rome, and, above all, that you will devote your best efforts to the creation of a National committee for the same object.

NOVENA TO ST. ANNE

At New York, Under the Direction of Rev. Fathers Fallon and Constantinian of Ottawa College.

The Ceremonies and Movements of the Faithful Described by a Secular Journal.

The New York Sun gives the following account of the Novena held last week in the French Church of St. Jean Baptiste, by the Rev. Fathers Fallon and Constantinian of the Ottawa College:

At the solemn Mass yesterday (Sunday) morning Father Constantinian preached, and at the benediction of Blessed Sacrament in the evening Father Fallon was the preacher. There are five Masses daily during the novena, and a benediction every evening, with a sermon. The congregation at the 10 o'clock Mass yesterday morning filled the church to overflowing. It was as large at night, and the nuns in charge of the relic were busy selling the blessed oil and the little objects connected with the veneration of the relic.

The services are not the most interesting feature of the novena to the stranger. The visits of those who have come to the shrine to seek deliverance from illness or to beg for some blessing are the most characteristic sights of the ceremony.

Yesterday morning a woman entered the church after the mass was over, and limped slowly up the aisle to one of the front pews before St. Anne's altar. Then she knelt for a while and prayed. For a quarter of an hour she remained kneeling in the pew, and then, rising with difficulty, she walked up to the shrine. Wiping the glass with the handkerchief, she leaned forward and kissed the spot where the relic lay.

On the steps in front of St. Anne's altar are two ordinary brown leather note-books. In these are written the special prayers and requests of persons who appeal to the saint during her novena. Some of these requests cover an entire page of the book, while others are not more than a line.

Rev. Father J. Quinlivan, P. P. of St. Patrick's Church, who is now visiting his relatives and friends at St. Cloud, Minn., is expected home on Sunday next.

lameness was not richly dressed. She was highly typical of New York with the inevitable shirt waist and a little black hat. She was not in the least, to judge from her appearance, the sort of a woman who would have gone to pray at a relic for relief from an illness.

Another woman, much better dressed, remained for an hour after the Mass, kneeling in her row in front of the relic. Finally she walked up to the changed kios of the shrine, and stepped over to the altar of St. Anne. In front of this stands a candelabra holding nearly a hundred candles. Of these not more than a dozen were lighted.

These are characteristic incidents that are repeated every few minutes during the day while the relic is exposed. There is always a group in the little room at the entrance of the church in which tinners are ready to give advice to all who come around to beg for the intercession of St. Anne.

ST. MARY'S COLLEGE.

Following is the teaching staff of St. Mary's College, on Henry street, for the ensuing year: Rector, Rev. Father Turgeon, S. J.; minister, Rev. Father Cadot, S. J.; prefect, Father B. H. LeMay, S. J.; prefect of studies, Father French, S. J.; professors of philosophy, Father Carey, S. J. (second year), Father Cause, S. J.; professor of physics, Father Fox, S. J.; professor of chemistry, Father Lamy, S. J.; professor of rhetoric, (French section) Father LeMay, S. J.; (English section) Father Cox, S. J.; professor of bell's letters, Father Caron, S. J.; professors of versification, (French section) Father T. H. Hulton, S. J. (English section) Father McDonnell, S. J.; professors of method, Father Charbon, S. J.; Father Dunne, S. J.; professor of syntax, Father Fond, S. J.; professor of Latin elements, Father LeMay and LeBel, S. J.; prefects attached to the college for general work, Fathers Adam, L. Ham, Boisvert, Arcand, D. Sautel and Bourgeois, S. J.

TAKES IT LITERALLY.

A horrible example of the possibilities of private interpretation of the Bible comes to us from O'Neill, Neb.

The Rev. Ruben Beckim, the pastor of a negro church near that town, is urging his hearers to put out one of their eyes, and in order to emphasize his teaching he has put out one of his own eyes. He declares that the Lord approves of one-eyed men in Matthew vi., 22, 23, in which it is stated that "if thine eye be single, then shall thy whole body be filled with light."

THE MORTALITY STATISTICS.

There was a slight increase in the mortality returns for the past week, the total interments numbering 142-124 in the Catholic 17 in the Protestant cemeteries, and one in the Jewish burial ground. Despite the apparently large figures the health of the city is most satisfactory for the season of the year.

A peculiar story comes from Kansas City about a girl, who, while combing her hair with a celluloid comb, set both on fire by the friction, thus almost losing her tresses. Celluloid is no doubt a very valuable article of commerce; nevertheless, like a good many other things of modern manufacture, it has its weak points.

ARCHBISHOP-ELECT MGR. BRUCESI.

Arrangements For the Imprsg Ceremony of Consecration.

Fixed to Take Place on Sunday Next, at St. James' Cathedral.

Preparations are almost complete for the grand ceremonial in the Cathedral of St. James the Greater on Sunday next which will mark the induction and consecration of Archbishop-elect Bruchesi of the Archbishopric of Montreal and the highest prelate of the most important See on the whole continent of America.

The ceremonial commences at nine o'clock and the doors of the church will be open to all comers. The seats already rented will of course be reserved for the owners, but all other seats, that is to say, all pews marked to rent can be taken possession of by the people who arrive first.

Monsieur Begon, Administrator of the Archbishopric of Quebec, has been named Bishop Coadjutor, assisted by Archbishop Duhamel of Ottawa and Archbishop Lingvill of St. Roch. Bishop Emond, of Val-d'Or, will preach the consecration sermon. The mass will be celebrated by the Bishop Coadjutor at the grand altar, and at the same time the Archbishop-elect will say mass at the smaller altar of the Blessed Virgin.

On the conclusion of the Mass, Archbishop Bruchesi will go through the church bestowing his first episcopal blessing on the congregation, and on his return to the high altar he will present his thanks and felicitations to the Bishop Coadjutor, singing three times, each time in a higher key, "Ad Multos Annos"—that is, "may your years be many." This concludes the ceremony of consecration.

Archbishop Bruchesi went into retreat at the Grand Seminary last Sunday and will continue in retreat until next Sunday morning. He has only left the Grand Seminary once this week and that was on Monday last, when he went to give the last rites of the church to Canon Leblanc of the Palace, who is lying seriously ill in the Hospital of the Grey Nuns on Guy street. His Grace will not receive the Pallium until the month of December. The reason of this is that the general rule of the Church ordains that the honor will not be bestowed except at a general consistory of the Sacred College, and there will be none held until the month mentioned. Meanwhile a special dispensation has been received from Rome, giving the new prelate the full powers of an Archbishop just as if the Pallium had already been bestowed.

Since 1892 the British mint has coined 37,000,000 gold coins, sovereigns and half-sovereigns. The average loss in wear of the gold coins returned as being light weight was 5,238 pence for the sovereigns and 2,377 pence for the half-sovereigns, £1,288,188 worth of silver coin was minted in the year ending June 30, 1897.