

## MGR. SATOLLI'S DECREE.

The Inside Facts Concerning It—How The Whole Affair Originated.

This following is a synopsis of the Satolli-Watterson liquor trade situation as supplied by a reliable correspondent at Columbus, Ohio, whose leanings, if anything, are rather inclined towards the view taken by the hierarchy:

A week before Thanksgiving day last a number of one of the Columbus societies, belonging to the Knights of St. John Union, told the bishop that the military branch of the division, to which the informant belonged, had during the preceding year given three entertainments, of them under the assumed name of the Evening Star Club, at which beer was sold and other things done contrary to the statutes of this diocese and the provincial council of Cincinnati and the third plenary council of Baltimore, and that this same branch intended to give, under the disguise of a prize drill, a similar entertainment the night before Thanksgiving day, with beer-selling, beer-drinking, and promiscuous dancing.

The bishop immediately went to the hall where the society was then holding a preparatory meeting, and told the members what he had heard, all of which they acknowledged to be true. After reproving them for their persistent violations of the laws binding them in these matters, he received a promise from them not to hold their Thanksgiving entertainment in the intended manner, but within a couple of days thereafter two delegations from this committee came to him, and, as about \$800 expenses had been incurred in preparing for the entertainment, they solemnly proposed to him to allow them to hold their prize drill, which would occupy about fifteen minutes, and then turn over the affair to others, who would conduct it according to the pre-arranged programme, the society itself to be the beneficiary of the proceeds. He expressed his astonishment at this proposition coming from men who called themselves Catholic knights, and told them he could not connive at such "heating of the devil around a stump."

They had walked into the difficulty with their eyes open and they should walk out of it as honorable men and dutiful Catholics. As they were working-men, the bishop offered to contribute generously to their expenses if they would do right. They, however, held the entertainment as they had originally arranged, and many of the members of the general division and of other societies assisted at it. The bishop, hearing of it a few days afterward, sent word that he would no longer recognize them as a Catholic organization.

In December an election was held for president of the general division and also for captain of the military branch. Saloon-keepers, regardless of the bishop's well-known wishes, were chosen for both of these offices. Thereupon he informed the officers of the division that if they should install the newly-elected president he would deprive the whole division of its rank and privileges as a Catholic society, as he had already done in the case of the military branch, and that they must either respect his injunctions or appeal to higher authority, and if the decision went against him he would set them an example of ecclesiastical obedience. They repeated this decision to their secretary, who thereupon resolved to consult the supreme president of their union, whose residence is in Cleveland.

The supreme president, as far as the bishop knows, was not apprised of the facts and circumstances of the case, nor did he ask the bishop for information, but gave the secretary some good advice,

telling them that it was not polite to get into a contest with episcopal authority, and counseling the newly-elected president to resign and thus save a disagreeable complication.

All this, however, the bishop knew and informed by the secretary of its intention to appeal. He heard a vague rumor that such was his purpose, and during a visit to Mr. Satolli on other business in the beginning of February he asked if such an appeal had been received. It had, however, not yet been made. The bishop then related to the delegate what has been stated above, together with several other things concerning this and similar cases, and waited yet another month.

Some years ago, wishing to promote the honor and usefulness of societies in his diocese, he decided not to approve of new societies or new branches of old societies, save on condition that manufacturers and vendors of intoxicating liquors should not be admitted to membership.

Later on he resolved to make general what, up to this time, had only applied to new organizations, and in the beginning of March he issued his now famous pastoral letter of total abstinence and Catholic societies in relation to the manufacturers and vendors of intoxicants.

The very day, however, on which it was published, but before it was actually delivered to the apostolic delegate, and its correspondence with the apostolic president of the union to which it belonged. In his answer the bishop related what he had done and his reasons therefor, both with regard to that society and others under his jurisdiction, quoting the statutes and decrees of the synod of Columbus, and of the fourth provincial council of Cincinnati, and the first plenary council of Baltimore, bearing on the subject of the sale, and giving a history of the saloon business as it commonly is carried on in this country, and showing that for its despicable character the liquor men have only themselves to blame.

The apostolic delegate, in his letter of March 15th, sustained the bishop's action in regard to the appealing society. He told them that "the bishop had at heart the good of society and of religion itself, and that only by a complete obedience to the bishop's order in the election of officers and the manner of holding feasts or entertainments would the society deserve the name of Catholics."

They were not satisfied, however, and hearing that the delegate was to visit the Josephinum in Columbus in the latter part of June, they held meetings on the 7th and 14th June, and finally drew up a second appeal which, a few days before the arrival of the apostolic delegate, they asked the bishop to sign, that it might thus go to the delegate. The appeal was presented to the delegate a day or so after his arrival in Columbus together with a copy of the bishop's pastoral letter, which, however, he had already seen.

While this was taking place in Columbus, the national convention of Knights of St. John was going on in Buffalo. A large number of Columbus attended fee delegates from Columbus attended a banquet before a convention of laymen. The purpose was doubtless to get the convention to disapprove of his enactments, in order to influence the apostolic delegate in the appeal, which they knew would soon be pending.

The good sense of the officers and a majority of the delegates prevented this folly.

The delegate, who was informed of this, seems to refer to it when he says in his decision that "the decree of the bishop is not subject to the judgment of any private individual or assemblage of Catholic laymen or citizens."

The second decision of the delegate is dated July 3rd, and addressed to the delegates of the protesting societies. The bishop gave a translation of it to the Associated Press more than two weeks ago on his return from the Catholic summit school at Plattsburg. In the interval, at the request of the apostolic delegate, he read the document to the Ohio Total Abstinence convention at Fremont on the 10th of July, but it was not given to the press until July 21st, nor was the bishop interviewed on the subject by any one.

Meanwhile, some enterprising reporter, hearing that a decision had been rendered, surmised what it might be, but what it actually was not, and had his surmise telegraphed over the country, to the confusions of the questions at issue.

As the letter, through some mishap over which the bishop had no control, was not generally published by the press of the country, especially in the east, he takes this occasion to proclaim the substance of it, and in his own name and that of all who are interested in the common good to justify what he holds to be his momentous decision.

Mr. Satolli first lays down the general principle that, as it belongs to the office of a bishop to find out in his own diocese what is hurtful or helpful to the spiritual good of the faithful, as it belongs to his power to command or forbid, counsel or permit to be done, or whatever he deems best, the letter or decree concerning Catholic societies and the abstinence he observed from intoxicating liquors ought, by no means, be subjected to the judgment of every private individual or of every assemblage of simple Catholics or citizens; but every Catholic of good conscience may and should be certain that the bishop has commanded those things which seemed for the greater good of the faithful and the honor of every Catholic society.

## A NEW FORM OF LOTTERY.

The newest we have heard of in a public house is this: Two or three hundred small keys, all to outward appearance alike, were placed in a box. Among them was one, and only one, capable of opening a small casket in which was locked a \$5 note. Every customer who inquired, and paid for, a certain quantity of beer or spirits was entitled to a key. When they had all been thus presented, a day was set apart for the opening, and the customer who had the right key unlocked the box and took the money. This form of lottery was becoming quite popular, but all the publicans who adopted it have now got notice that if they persist in this, their franchise licenses will be opposed at the next sessions. — *Licensed Victuallers' Gazette.*

## THE WORLD'S BIGGEST BREWERIES.

Is Dublin, where, at St. James's Gate, the biggest brewery in the world is carried on by Messrs. Arthur Guinness, Son & Co., their last report shows that in 1893 this single firm paid excise duty to the amount of £344,709, which was £2,400 more than they paid in 1892. The area of the brewery, which in 1860 only covered four acres, now covers between forty and fifty acres. The huge vats, in long avenues, number 150, ranging in holding capacity from 200 to 1,750 tons. The production at the present time is between one and a half and two million barrels. The firm have 150 of the best Irish and Clydesdale horses, and employ 1,600 men. Messrs. Haas, Rathle, and Gretton's brewery at Burton-

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on Trent occupies 150 acres, and to go over the grounds a railway is provided, with a length of sixteen miles. The storehouse in connection with the brewery for storing hops and ale is the largest storehouse in the world. It is three stories high; each floor covers 250 acres. The firm uses for bottles over 150,000 labels each year, and spends over \$200 in show cards. The sum of \$4,080,000 is invested in this gigantic business. In 1889 it paid £331,950 in duty to the Government. Its profits are about a million barrels a year, each holding thirty-six gallons; employs about 2,600 people, and pays in wages £3,000 every week. Messrs. Samuel Allopp & Son, Limited, brewers, erected in 1860 cover fifty acres. Messrs. Worthing & Co.'s establishment, started in 1850 occupies an area of about thirty acres. Messrs. Barclay, Perkins, & Co., Scotch work. The brewery stands upon twelve acres of land, a portion of which occupies the spot where the old Globe Theatre once stood. Over 700 people are employed there.

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