

The Catholic Register

"True to Catholic; proclaim it ever, and God will effect the rest."—BALMEZ.

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PRICE FIVE CENTS.

Current Topics.

The Boer War.

The British advance has continued with unabated success all along the line. There may yet be battles to be fought, but the general opinion is that the end of war is in sight. The third temporary capital of the Orange Free State has been taken, and Mr. Steyn has fled to Pretoria. General Buller is fast clearing the north-eastern section of the Free State, while the burghers are surrendering to him in large numbers, recognizing the hopelessness of continuing the struggle further. General Buller, in his advance through Natal, has driven the Boers back to their own territory, which is now, in its turn, threatened with immediate invasion. On the west, Gen. Hunter and Lord Methuen are steadily moving, while in the centre, Lord Roberts, with the main army, is advancing on the historic Vaal River. The line of advance extends over 250 or 300 miles of territory, and is making a clean sweep in its progress. Against these superior British forces, it seems hopeless for the Boers to protract the war, which can only have one end. Whether the latter will abandon the struggle, or in the face of grim fate, prosecute it to the bitter end, the next few weeks will show.

The Relief of seven months against Mafeking.

After a gallant defence superior forces Mafeking has been relieved. At the very commencement of the war the little garrison town away up in the north was surrounded and an active and unremitting siege maintained. As a military exploit it will be placed in history among the brightest pages and will rank with such feats as the defence of Lucknow, Delhi, Khartoum etc. The colonial force which Colonel Baden-Powell, the hero of Mafeking, had at his command was not over 1000 strong, and he had to hold his own against such Boer Generals as Cronje and Snyman. The town was open and not adapted for a scientific defence, so that the Commander had to rely upon his own resources, constant vigilance, untiring endurance and all those qualities of a soldier called upon at a moment's notice to face and surmount innumerable difficulties and an ever-watchful and determined foe. He was supported by a small but brilliant group of British officers, among whom were Lord Edward Cecil, Lord Salisbury's son and half a dozen well known figures in London society. It is needless to say that the success of the defence moved the British public as no other incident of the war has done. From a patriotic standpoint as well as a redemption of the prestige of the British soldier and general, which in the early stages of the war suffered considerably, the relief of Mafeking has come as a peculiarly gratifying episode to the feelings of the nation. Upon the approach of the relieving force from the south, the Boers, probably fearing to be in their turn cut off and captured, abandoned the siege, but not before making one last supreme effort to capture the place, which resulted in the most serious loss they have sustained during the siege. London went mad with jubilation, and the excitement exceeded that over the relief of Ladysmith. Similar accounts of rejoicings over the event are reported from all parts of the British Empire.

Col. Baden-Powell.

Of course, the hero of the hour, is Col. Baden-Powell. For well, the heroic defender of Mafeking, whom friend and foe alike acknowledge to be a genius in the art of defensive warfare. Much is being said, and more will be known about him, both as a man and as a British officer, when the story of the exploits which has made him famous has been written in detail. His motives, the practical value of which he has had ample opportunity of testing, are said to be: "Don't hurry; patience gains the day," and "a stick and a smile will carry you through any difficulty." According to Reuters' correspondent, this distinguished British officer seems to have lived up to his own ideals in dealing with the knotty problems of military life, for he wrote of the defender of Mafeking as follows: "To see B.-P., as he is affectionately termed, go whistling down the street at Mafeking, deep in thought, pleasing of countenance, bright and confident, is cheering and heartening. Had any man in whom the town placed less confidence been in command, disaster might have befallen Mafeking, and if we are able to pick up the name of Mafeking on the roll of British outposts, which have light for the honor and glory of Britain, it will be chiefly because Baden-Powell has commanded it." This is the fourth campaign in which Col. Baden-Powell has been engaged; he has been mentioned in despatches three times, and has, in every emergency, shown that cheerful acceptance of the inevitable, unflinching resource and abundant self-reliance which has come to be popularly associated with his name.

The Boer Envoys.

The position of President McKinley is an enviable one, and the course of events has compelled him into a groove very much at variance with popular American ideals. Hitherto it has been the proud boast of the American people that they were free and ready to support republican government as against monarchism. McKinley is bound hand and foot, by fetters forged by his own policy with regard to Cuba and the Philippines. The Peace Delegation from South Africa is to be received at Washington courteously, but only as private citizens and not in any diplomatic capacity. The majority of the American people sympathize with the Boers. It is natural for them to do so; but their government, whilst waging an unjust and tyrannical war against a brave people, cannot consistently condemn England for entering into a conflict with the Dutch Republics. The great American Republic, and the greatest constitutional monarchy the world has ever seen, are in the same mind to bond other and weaker nations to their own will.

Be a Good Citizen.

No man can serve two masters who are directly opposed in principle. If he is true to the one, he must be false to the other; if he obeys the commands of one, he must disregard those of the other. He cannot be neutral and say that he will take neither side. In this world no man can be a non-combatant; if he is not a combatant for the right he is a combatant for the wrong. He cannot say "I will serve none. I will be my own master and follow my own inclinations and desires." As soon as he does this he will enter at once into the service of Satan. Some men are god or principle men, and some are not.

How much difference between Christ's method of establishing his kingdom and that of the temporal rulers of the earth! Jesus broadened his domains by words of hope and charity and love; Alexander, by the deaths of his fellow men, by the clash of steel and the shedding of blood. Christ burned no cities, slaughtered no people and took no prisoners captive. He conquered not by force, but by persuasion. His sovereignty was established not by the shedding of his people's blood, but by the shedding of his own.

The rise of Christianity meant the rise of the reign of love. It was founded in peace and spread without the aid of the sword. It is the faith of peace and good will; it is the true and ever-lasting faith; the faith in the living God. For the kingdom of Christ will last forever. Earthly kings rise and flourish and fall, Christ's will go ever up and onward. Where are the empires of old? Where is the kingdom of Assyria, of Abyssinia, of Babylon? Lost among the shades of forgotten times; remembered only by old legends and crumbling monuments. Where is their might, their wealth, their power, their dominion? Gone, like all things earthly. Where is the might that in Rome was the right? Where is the kingdom of Carthage and Greece? Fallen and forgotten, never to rise again. The kingdom of Christ has arisen from the ashes and will live until all is at an end and it is to last forever.

Like the kingdom of the past, the kings have come into the world, played their parts, slain their thousands, slaughtered their captives, burned conquered states, died and been forgotten. Of what avail to-day is the power of Cyrus, of Alexander and of Caesar? Nothing remains but the shadow of their mighty names. None bow before them or serve them or acknowledge their sovereignty or uphold their kingdoms. "None are so poor to do them reverence." But Christ lives to-day as he lived in Galilee, the King of our hearts and of heaven.

Christ our king is a jealous king. He must reign supreme in our hearts. His empire must be absolute. He has said: "Who loveth father or mother more than me, he is not worthy of me. He that loveth sister or brother more than me he is not worthy of me. He that will not take up his cross and follow me he is not worthy of me." "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul." Recently I read in an English paper an article by an Anglican divine who said "I am first of all a British subject, after that a churchman." Surely this is a poor expression for a Christian. It is as if you should say, "I place America first, the church second." I would not give much for the religion of any man who would renounce his Christianity to

the background. He should be a good Christian. By serving his country he serves his God. I can see nothing in the constitution of the United States which is antagonistic to Christianity and nothing in Christianity which is antagonistic to the constitution. I am a Christian by the grace of God, and I am an American by the grace of God. Loyalty to one's country does not make impossible loyalty to one's church. Give unto God that which is God's, but also give unto Caesar that which is Caesar's.

There are few rewards for those who serve earthly kings. In South Africa they are not to be had. Loyalty to his unholy grave without a requiem. There is no chronicler to record his deeds. But he who serves Christ is sure of his reward. His good deeds are remembered in heaven, and nothing can erase the record.—Cardinal Gibbons.

Lord Salisbury and Home Rule for Ireland.

The British Premier's remarkable speech before the Primrose League in London on Wednesday of last week seems to have created almost as much surprise in this country as in England. The paragraph that caused the most astonishment was this one: "Apart from the fact of the fate of former struggles, I am still assured that there is no hope of the predominant partner ever consenting to give Ireland practical independence. We have learned something from the South African war—how a loyal government in spite of warnings can accumulate armaments against a most powerful combatant, and thus secure a terrible advantage. We now know better than we did ten years ago what a risk it would be if we gave a disloyal government in Ireland the power of accumulating forces against this country."

Such references to Ireland after the Queen's recent visit, and at the very time when Irish generals and Irish troops are doing so much for England in South Africa, the London Chronicle (so the Catholic Chronicle thinks particularly) is both foolish and tactless. The London Daily Mail declares that Lord Salisbury does not voice English sentiment in this matter, for from John O'Grada's 'Land and the British are one' in their declaration of their own claims to the channel and the London Daily Express observes that Lord Salisbury is guilty of one of those indelicacies that may be apologized for, but can never be explained.

The 'New York Sun' remarks that "Lord Salisbury seems to have struck the idea of imperial federation a blow between the eyes," and the Philadelphia Ledger calls the speech "triflingly ill-timed." The Philadelphia Times says: "Whichever way it is looked at, the stupidity of this associating the Irish and the Boers is past comprehension. It is a reassertion of the old hostility in the most truculent and offensive way and can have no influence but to chill the good feeling which has lately been revived in the hearts of the British and the Irish. It is not strange that the London papers have taken Lord Salisbury sharply to task. The freshest American official scarcely would be guilty of a blunder so indefensible."

The 'New York World' finds in the speech a point against British imperialism: "The Boers have taught England, according to Salisbury, that all the way round the world, from Ireland to the Transvaal, freedom is folly and force the only wisdom. 'Gladstone in an evil moment' thought that the empire could be based on the consent of conciliated peoples. Salisbury has discovered that his foundations must be laid by conquering armies and cemented with the blood of slaughtered patriots."

"He does not seem to see that the abandonment of the Gladstone ideas—peace and justice abroad, justice and progress at home—has an antagonism of force with the very definition of imperialism toward his country."—Literary Digest.

Federation of Catholic Societies.

The following timely article from the Catholic Columbia is quite as applicable to Canada as it seems to be to the United States: "The purpose of the proposed Federation of Catholic societies is not, to break up our present organizations in order to combine them into one new association. No. It is, while leaving them all just as they are, to let them send delegates to a common council, the objects of which would be to promote brotherhood and to defend Catholic rights. At present too many of our societies are formed on lines that separate them from other Catholics so that conversation for the most part is antagonistic, while the few who should have union and harmony. Such lines should be obliterated, at least in church associations, so that there should be no test for admission to them except practical Catholicity. One clergyman who is a citizen are constantly ignored and frequently denied membership. It is against us organized opposition, and it often prevails because it means no general and persistent resistance from us. We should get together, and when necessary, act together and vote together as citizens are.

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fond of party, on one side, and too much afraid of politics, on the other side, we were 'in politics,' on the other side. Well, colonial leadership is not necessary in matters affecting our civil rights and we will not be 'in politics' unless we are compelled in self-defence to work together to resist a course which is justly our enemy. Our enemies do not fear to be in politics to injure us, and we should not shrink from being 'in politics' simply to defend ourselves.

Now we do not even know one another. Now one of us may be out on a complete tour of the Catholic societies in this city, not to speak of all the State. If we want to communicate with one another, to take counsel to spread information, to urge concerted action, we can't do it—we have no union, no league, no intelligence, no directory of Catholic organizations. The Federation would remedy this. It would bring us together, it would enable us to make our influence opportunistically for the common good. Let us get together!

The Queen's Departure.

The following article from the Weekly Nation forms an instructive contrast with the recent bitter and un-called-for utterances of Lord Salisbury before the Primrose League:

On 20th ult. ended, as happily and pleasantly as it began, the latest visit of Queen Victoria to this country. We only echo the feeling which will, we believe be entertained by our people of all creeds and classes when we press the hope that the aged lady who has left our shores may have a more fitted much in excess of strength by her brief sojourn in Ireland. It is, no doubt, regrettable that our Royal visitor was unable to make any lengthened progress through the provinces. Had this been feasible, we have no doubt her Majesty would have been received as she was in Dublin, and with that chivalrous regard for her age and sex and rank, the denial of which would have been inconsistent with the most ancient and creditable of the traditions and customs of our race. Apply to the hospitable and generous spirit of the welcome afforded to the Queen by our citizens undoubtedly was, it is impossible for even the most casual observer to argue that she who cases any abandonment of the principles which she has always maintained. With much wisdom, Lord Cadogan announced, in his preliminary intimation of the Queen's intention to visit the Kingdom, that her coming would be accompanied with questions and considerations of an ordinary political nature. The course of events since has amply justified and corroborated the statement voluntarily made by our general manager and fellow citizens by the residence of her Majesty in Ireland which has trenchant on the susceptibility of Nationalists or involved demand upon them for the suppression of the political principles they have always held. The good sense and wisdom of Lord Cadogan's first intimation has been manifested throughout the entire period of the Queen's stay, and to this fact is mainly ascribable the happy nature of the circumstances which prevailed.

It is to be hoped that our shores, either on this side of the channel or the other, to impart to the events connected with it a colouring which they will not bear. Ten thousand Royal tours, instead of a discontent with which Irishmen view the system of Government which maintains a constantly tottering existence on the ruins of the right Parliamentary Constitution of the Kingdom. The existing disabilities of Catholics of Ireland are not rendered the more easy or sweet to bear by knowledge of the fact that the Queen has dwelt amongst us for a brief space. The cruel financial extortion to which Ireland has been subjected during long periods of years has not limited to any Royal mandate, nor can Royal smiles or courtesies, however gracious, win back to our shores the millions of our race whom exile has banished. We readily admit that on her leaving the Queen has distributed largesse freely, while her bounty of the same kind will be forthcoming. While we think it will be generally agreed that the titles conferred on the Lord Mayor of Dublin, Belfast, and Cork and the Mayor of the respective recipients, we feel sure that not one amongst the civic functionaries thus honoured would advance the theory that any radical change has been effected in the material or political condition of Ireland by the addition which has been made to their personal dignities. Our own Lord Mayor for instance, has quite recently reiterated his admission to Nationalist principles in the civic relations of the Queen. He has not withdrawn from the political attitude he has consistently and honourably maintained.

If facts such as these are recognized and their meaning correctly appreciated in England, there will be little fear that any false or injurious notions will be generated by the events of the last few weeks. It may even be that so far from this being the case, many errors of judgment regarding this country and its people which have long been cherished by those who are in political action towards Ireland will disappear, and that the best may be laid for the erection of

better and happier relations between the two Kingdoms. If amongst English statesmen any real desire prevails to assist in securing such results as this, they will find Irishmen anxious and willing to co-operate with them. It is well known that no mistake should be allowed to exist relative to the man and central point of the situation. If England wishes to secure the amity and alliance of Ireland she must be prepared to make those acts of reparation and of restitution without which it would be absurd to expect that our people could place any reliance on professions of English good-will. When first the announcement was made of the Queen's intention to come amongst us, we pointed out that it would be the most useful to suppose that any Royal progress through our streets would produce any real alteration in the political circumstances of this Kingdom. The Queen's visit is now over, and at its close, as at its opening, we are compelled to renew our warnings to the British people, lest, misled by egotism, they might misinterpret the righteous courtesy shown the Queen as indicating submission to a system of rule which Ireland abhors and rejects. We will willingly recognize that the Queen's visit affords her Ministers an almost unparalleled opportunity for adopting a wise and beneficent policy towards this kingdom. Irishmen have long since given proof that they have no desire to see strife and ill-will perpetuated between their country and England. They are not less than justly proud of their political and national—Ireland should not be, and never will be, content. With England rests the obligation and the power to perpetuate the memory of the Queen's visit to our shores by the creation of a lasting union between the two Kingdoms. Such a treaty would be a worthy monument of a great reign, a pledge of England's security, and a guarantee of Ireland's freedom and prosperity. Have English statesmen the will or courage to make such a pact?

It is well known in the city as a leading Irish Nationalist. He was also one of the A.O.H. since its inception in Toronto. The news of his death will be learned by all his friends with sincere sorrow. He was a warm friend, and endeared himself to his fellow-countrymen and fellow citizens by his genial manner and kindly disposition. Generous to a fault, he gave freely to every object of a Catholic and national character.

Obituary.

We deeply regret the death of Mr. M. J. Ryan, who died suddenly at 574 Yonge street on Sunday evening.

He had been ailing some weeks with heart trouble, but there was no serious apprehension before the sad event occurred. Mr. Ryan was a native of the County Wexford, Ireland, came to this country, and has resided in Toronto for the last 35 or 40 years. He was well known in the city as a leading Irish Nationalist. He was also one of the A.O.H. since its inception in Toronto. The news of his death will be learned by all his friends with sincere sorrow. He was a warm friend, and endeared himself to his fellow-countrymen and fellow citizens by his genial manner and kindly disposition. Generous to a fault, he gave freely to every object of a Catholic and national character.

He will be missed in Hibernian circles of Toronto, in which he did much to infuse his own ardent spirit into the cause in faith and fatherland.

The funeral took place on Wednesday morning, to St. Basil's Church—the Requiem Mass being said by Rev. Father Brennan. There was a large attendance of the most ardent members of the A.O.H., six of whom were pallbearers, Messrs. A. T. Hannon, P. W. Falvey, N. J. Lonihan, T. Elyand, James Sherridan and Patrick Boyle.

After the solemn services in the church the body was taken to St. Michael's Cemetery, where it was interred. We tender our earnest sympathy to the family of the deceased, as well as to his venerated father, brothers and sisters. They, as well as the community, have lost in Mr. Ryan a warm friend, a devoted helper and a worthy citizen. May his soul rest in peace!

Resolution of Condolence.

At the regular semi-monthly meeting of Div. No. 5, A.O.H., Toronto, held on Sunday last, 20th inst., the following resolution was unanimously passed: "Resolved, that the members of Almighty God afflict our esteemed brother, T. J. Mahoney, of 525 Front street east, by the accidental death of one of his children; be it resolved, that this Division extend to our said brother and his devoted wife its sincere condolences in their sad bereavement and that they in their sorrow and resignation may receive consolation and resignation from the Throne of Heavenly Grace.

And be it further resolved, that a copy of this resolution be sent to Brother and Mrs. Mahoney, and for publication in The Catholic Register, Toronto.

HUGH KELLY, JOHN P. HALLIVY, Pres. Secy.

Toronto, 22nd May, 1900.

St. Clement's Bicycle Club.

The election of officers for the above club held last week resulted as follows: President Mr. W. J. Burns; secretary-treasurer Mr. Chas. V. Shea; captain, Mr. J. A. McNamara. The club held their first run of the season on Sunday May 21, from 10 to 12 miles. There were about 85 members present. Captain J. A. McNamara promises a very successful season for this club, and the turnout on Sunday was beyond the expectation of even the knowing ones. Their next run will be on Sunday May 24, from the club room 184 William street 5.30, a.m. to Hoak's at Dixie, and all prospective members are invited to communicate with the secretary, Mr. Charles V. Shea, at the club rooms.

Fact or Fancy.

Men and Women.
No. 20.

There is a fine balance observed in the following sentence written of Pope by Johnson: "The weakness of his body continued through life; but the mildness of his mind perhaps ended with his childhood."

The admirer of Pope such as Dr. Croly, feign to see nothing in it but the hard-won acknowledgment of genius, and certainly the old Doctor was not too partial to the subject of his best biography. But we must all admit that Johnson was anxious of Pope's fame and good fortune, he must have put a rigid and galling penance upon himself to maintain the standard of fair criticism observable in his life of this poet. It would scarcely, however, be deemed hypocritical to say that Pope was all mind, when we consider the artificial care and resort to preserve the frail encasement of as bright a spirit as ever inhabited mortal frame. It was probably on this account that so little thought was given to his childhood education. He seems to have broken out of himself and learned to write by the laborious method of imitating printed books. As he was sent from home at the age of eight and placed under a tutor, it is difficult to see the force of Johnson's remark: "Being not sent early to school, he was taught to read by an aunt; and when he was seven or eight years old became a lover of books." Probably by school, Johnson meant a public school, to which he was, however, sent a little later. But for any good derived from attending school, Pope would still have been Pope, had he never entered a schoolroom, a sanctuary for which he had very little reverence. At the age of twelve he left school and gave himself up to private study and self-education, a process which seems to have worked admirably in the case of a genius and poet but which would be ruinous to a lad of only average ability.

If it be true that "a poet is born, not made," Pope was a poet for he was so "baptized in amniotic fluid," as he used to make verses. "In the style of fiction," says Johnson, it might have been said of him, as of Pindar, that when he lay in his cradle, "the bees swarmed about his mouth." But to this natural endowment he added the most perfect reason that has appeared in the realization of his own ideal as expressed in his lines: "True ease in writing comes from art, not chance.

As those more assiduous who have learned to dance. The sound must seem an echo to the sense." From the age of twelve to sixteen he was engaged in the task of forming style. "He tried in a prose," as he used to make verses. "In the style of fiction," says Johnson, it might have been said of him, as of Pindar, that when he lay in his cradle, "the bees swarmed about his mouth." But to this natural endowment he added the most perfect reason that has appeared in the realization of his own ideal as expressed in his lines: "True ease in writing comes from art, not chance.

Pope's famous line: "The proper study of mankind is man," is an index of his literary character; but he who sets his self outside criticism the weaknesses and short-comings of his fellow-men and to hold them up to ridicule cannot reasonably expect to have an easy time of it. There are always fools and clever scoundrels who will assume that the plaster is meant for them. In this case the plaster was intended, and so it came to pass that his "Essay on Criticism" enraged one Dennis, who conceived himself to be attacked, without any manner of provocation on his side, and attacked in his person, instead of his writings; by one who was wholly a stranger to him, at a time when all the world knew he was persecuted by fortune. Dennis hit back and covered his opponent with abuse and scurrility which we are told wounded Pope in his most vulnerable spot, namely his personal appearance. Never was the truth of the adage of "living in glass-houses" more signally vindicated.

"I remember," says Dennis, "the little young gentleman whom Mr. Walsh used to take into his company as a double foil to his person and capacity. Inquire between Sunninghill and Oakingham, for a young, short, round gentleman, the very bow of the God of love, and tell me whether he is a proper subject to make personal reflections? He may exalt the ancients, but has reason to thank the gods that he was born a modern; for had he been born of Grecian parents and his father consequently had by law had the absolute disposal of his life, he would not be longer than that of one of his poems, the life of half a day. Let the person of a gentleman of his parts be never so contemptible his inward man is ten times more ridiculous; it being impossible that his outward form should be that of an over-right monkey, should differ so much from human shape as his unthinking immortal part does from human understanding." And thus the abusive scurrility of a venomous pen has become literary history through the grace of Dennis' own attack. "The times of the subject of his attack—a notable instance of lasting fame or infamy dragged into lasting notoriety."

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