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THURSDAY, AUGUST 17, 1899.

17—Octave of St. Laurence.
18—S. Hyseinth.
19—B. Urban.
29—Solomity of the Assumption of
21—S. Jane Frances de Chautsi.
24—Octave of the Assumption
25—S. Philip Bearing.

An Absurd Story.

Some of our Toronto daily paper have been publishing cabled reports of a sensational plan said to have been formulated bythe Osservatore Romano. organ of the Vatioan, for the political capture of England for the Church espure of England for the Ousten. We believe an article printed conspi-anously by the Osservatore Romano has intrished the basis of these re ports. The only reasonable conclusion. ports. The only reasonable concusions, however, that can be drawn from this fact is that the best of editors are apt, during the "dog-days," to surprise the sluggish attention of their readers with startling items. In India where the appetite of the European for food auch affected by the climate is so muon anseted by the climate, the appreciation of ourry has passed into a proverb. The consequent ruin of stomachs is said to be truly deplor-able; and this should warn editors not to put too much curry, [or "hot stuff" as it is called in newspaper parlance]
in the mid-summer bill-of-fare.
The Osservatore Romano is, of

no the mid-summer bill-01-lare.

The Osservatore Romano is, of course, above the suspicion of practising such arts; but if it were to publish many than once in a decade so sensational a story as a London corres ondent last month supplied to it, poudent lact month supplies so so, serious injury might accrue to its constitution. This remarkable article makes a flourish of trumpets over a control party" in English polities. The following statement will show the degree of positiveness with which the

degree of positiveness with which the writer undertakes to speak:

"This [Oatholic political organiss, tion] will estatially take place sooner or later, and then the influence which the Roman Church exercises over every class of the English people, will be seen, whereas the Established Church the local till of plants over the Church has lost all influence over the

Observed has lost all influence over the governing and political classes."
Where is there any sign of such an organisation? True, the Catholic cause in England is surely advancing and the Catholic body is experiencing many conditions and influences helpful many conditions and influences helpful to growth. But the gain has nothing whatever to do with politics. Catholic representation in the House of Commons, as far as England is concerned, is not at all in a satisfactory state. There is one Catholic on the Liberal ride of the House. Not is there need side of the House. Nor is there need to look for a different condition of to look for a different condition of things in the Conservative party. The Weekly Register declares indeed that there were more Cathollos sitting for English constituencies in parliament forty or fifty years ago than there are now. The bulk of the Irish representation is Oatholic without a doubt; but that party is a national force and has never made religion a test of membership. The Catholic peersof England and Ireland are among the most uncompromising opponents of the Home Rule party. Again, who has ever Heard of an Irish Nationalist, of a British Liberal, Tory or "Union-ist" seeking the suffrage of his con-stituents as a "Catholic candidate"? It

stituents as a "Catholic candidate"? It has never been done nor proposed.

Where then is the organization to take root? It is among the English Catholic peers? If so we doubt that it would prove a brilliars success. The English Catholic peers, with all their aberling worth as individual Catholice, are so wrapped up in the traditions of Toryisma that the organizations of A.sew political force in the country is pachape the last thing they would undertake or desire. There is

act the slightest room for imagining that a Catholic party would have the sympathy of the hierarchy, because in English bishop would go further with political counsel than to encourage Catholics to take as active and intelligent a nat a good citizen. intelligent a part as good citizens should in the public life of the country. The Catholic people of England thom selves know that there is not room in solves know that there is not room in English politics for a Catholic party. The correspondent of the Osservatore Romano notwithstanding overything complacently assures the Catholic world that the new party will very soon obtain a dominant position in English politics equal to the German Centre Party. This is mid-summer lunnay.

lunacy.

Whatever injustice we may charge against the English method of treating Iroland and her Catholic people, we have no hesitation in saying that the character of English politics does not justify the calling of a religious party into existence. Indeed both party into existence. Indeed both political parties seem to discourage more and more the introduction of religious cries of any kind. We mean as far as England is concerned. The Orange vote in Iroland is a sectarian vote and nothing else; but many evils are encouraged in Ireland which are prudently put down in England.

Is It a Holy War?

Catholics are beginning to find themselves the objects of keen sympa-thy, springing from Mr. Chamberlain's declaration of their political estracism in the Transvaal. The London (Onin the Transvasi. The London (On-sario) Advertiser puts at this way: "The Transvasi Boers refuse to allow a Roman Oatholie to coency any public office or to eit in Parlisment. This is emugh to condemn the little Dutch enough to condemn the little Dutch oligarchy in the eyes of Protestants and Oatholes alike." Very true! Protestants, particularly in Ontario, are notorious for the promptitude with which they condemn governments that act ungenerously towards Oatho-less. Speaking however with a pro-found sense of gratitude for this en-thusiastic and determined protection of Oatholic rights in all other Protestof Catholic rights in all other Protest of Oatholio rights in all other Protest-ant countries than the Boer republic, we still cannot see why British suprem-acy should emother republicanism in Africa. Why should the two things be confused at all? The Catholio notion of justice is not that one wrong notion of justice is not that one wrong should be wiped out by the infliction of another. In other words England should not steal the Transwal from the Boers because the Boers had not been doing right by Catholics seeking fortune in the mines. Our contemporary The Antigonish Casket takes this view also, and in the same paragraph in which it grows at Kruger's "antiquated bigotry," it declares "there is an adage which prescribes justice to even a worse and willer potentiate than Com Paul."

A Platform Yenture.

The "ex-priser" lecturing business has always been low enough; but of late years it has suck quite beenath the contempt of self-respecting Protectants. Rev. Hugh Price Hughes, editor of The Methodist Times, would, however, appear to have determined to do zomething for it, while any shadow of a possibility of lifting it upto a paying basis remained. Mr. Hughes' ideas from the showman's point of a paying basis remained. Mr. Hughes' ideas from the showman's point of view were not at all contemptible. Instead of an individual "s-priest," Instead of an individual "ex-priset," he would have three or four. It is a well-known feet that the mor' popular lecturers and other platform artists never go on tour without some assisting talent to give variety to the entertainment. Mr. Hughes after a tour of discovery in France succeeded to all appearances in getting a company together. The first entertainment was given by the troops in St. James' Hall, London. We take the report of it not from any Casholic paper, but from Figs. Starrday Reviews of July 29th, which gives no little praise to the ability of one of the Frenchmen. This is what The Review ags:

Frenchmen. This is what The Review says:

"We notice with real regret that the ex Roman Catholic priests, who have recently abandoned the communion of the French Church, are being 'exploited' by Mr. Hugh Price. I' upbes in the interest of English sectarianism. Mr. Hughes himself communion or the Frence to Ruglish being 'exploited' by Mr. Hugh Price I'r gines in the interest of English sectarianism. Mr. Hughes himself loomed large in the heated atmospher's of St. James' Hall. He was conductor, interpreter, commentator; he filled the chair, and led the chair.

The role of the re passed the bag. The role of the re negadous always difficult. Nonescarlly nis motives are suspected and his atterances perverted. The Stoic ma-xim, 'Nature owns no man who is not a martyr,' has in their case a direct and rigid application. It is difficult to imagine a more unfortunate debut to imagine a more uniordinate capaci-for the Reformers of France than that arranged for these French codesiastics by their new friends. The Abbe Bourier has clearly proved himself an apt pupil. Nothing could be more suitable than the 'thoughts' which, suitable than the 'thoughts' which, with Mr. Hughes' assistance, he communicated to the assembled Method iste. Here is the first: 'England and France had one great enemy-ofericalism in France and Ritualism in England.' Ofearly the neophytes are already 'perfect'.' are already ' perfect '.

The second secon

The Review is a little bard on Mr. The fevice is a little hard on Mr. Hughes. It gives the impression that there was rather too much Hughes from beginning to end of the perform-ance. Although aptitude is freely conceded also to Abbe Bourier, it is obvious that the newspaper critic has no faith in Mr. Hughes' enterprise. The "ex pricat" business cannot be made to pay even on the company

The Drayfus Case.

Maitre Labori, senior counsel for Dreyfus in the re-trial at Reones, France was on Monday morning last shot in the back as he was walking to the court-room. The theory of the crime generally prevailing is that the s of Dreyfus adouted this met enemies of Dreyfus adopted this method of handicapping him in his fight for justice. On Monday General Mercier was to have been cross-examined by Maitre Labori, and it is supposed the shooting of the lawyor recommended itself as a method of letting the officer off lightly. This may be so or not. It is, at least, highly improbable. Until the criminal has been apprehended and tried no one can say whether the crime was perpetrated by a responsible agent of perpetrated by a responsible agent of the organized exemies of Dreyfus or whether it was the work of a crank.

The trial is meanwhile unfolding The trial is meanwhile unfolding a terrible lesson for the whole world. Militarism in France has unquestionably become cankered by the common disease of mankind in this spergreed of gold. And a Freendman is not fonder of gold than any other national denomination of human being.

Treason in the Senate.

On Monday, 7th an urgent motion wa On Monday, 7th an urgest motion was brought before the Senate to empower the Queen's printer to print fifty extra copies for each senator of the Hon. David Mills' speech on the Transvasi difficulty. This remarkable effort of the Sage of Bothwell contained, it was said, the concentrated extract of the said, the concentrated extract of the said, the concentrated extract of the most elaborate possible research into the history and institutions of the Boers. And, as they were found to be a bad lot, the ignorant public could not too soon be convinced how righly these misoreants deserved removal from

these miscreants deserved removal from the face of the earth.

It must be considered a regrettable incident that the proposed public boon of a large extra distribution of free lore could not pass without cavil. Senator Ferguson had the impertin-ence of rising to a point of order. Before resuming his seat he had mul-tiplied the point by four, and shown himself an evil-disposed person who would stand in the way of the educa-tion of the people. To come down to details, he asserted, with the meet unwould stand in the way of the causa-tion of the people. To come down to details, he asserted, with the meet un-blushing effrontery, that the Sage's extract of wisdom was an adulterated article and not worth the price of the paper that would be required to print the Managardian to Mr. Ferrupaper that would be required to print
it. Indeed socording to Mr. Ferguson's analysis the speech was bad in
its history, statistics, form, and spirit.
It is simply amazing to read that these
sweeping criticisms were based on the
most filmsy foundation. Senator
Ferguson was unable to produce any
hatter articles in in success of his inbetter authority in support of his in-solement and defematory harangue than The Statesman's Year Book and the The Statesman's Year Book and the Official Census Returns of the Transval. Needless to say when the Sage rose in his seat his indignation was overwhelming. With withering contempt he informed the trembling High. lander that Mr. Chambarlain and Sir Ashmond Bartlett were the highest liv

senate and could leusly expected to set the world ableze.

Senator Forguson will now hide his dinginished head. Even if the Sage had not quoted Mr. Chamberlain at all, not quoted are. Commonstain he are he was unassatiably entronohed behind Sir Ellis Ashmoad Bartlett. Sir Ellis enjoys the distinction of being known the British House of Commons where he represents the parliamentary division of Ecclosell in the Tory inter-Ports." He exceed this title by provi ing, by a process of reasoning entirely his own, at the time, a few years ago. when the Turks were removing their pestilent Armenian subjects, that "Abdul the Damned" had been much "Adul the Dambed had deed most madigued and unwarrantably interfered with by Gladatone and the English Liberals in the undisputed right of a monarch to check the increase of an inpopular class of subjects. The amplies which Sir Ellis produced in pamphlet which Sir Ellis produced in vindication of the rights of the Sub-lime Porte is indeed a famous paper that will hand the glory of its author down to posterity. Nor is it at all difficult to see Sir Ellis' and Hon. dutions to see Sir Finis and 1011.
David Mills' point of view that by the same royal right of Abdul the Damned to regulate the Armonian population. England is righteously entitled to remove these wretched Boers who menace her supremacy in South Africa The Sago's speech taking it all in all

The Sago's speech taking it all in all was worthy of a Canadian Liberal or an English jingo. No wonder there is a demand on the part of Canadian Liberals to abolish the Senate, when such speeches as that of Senator Ferguson can be delivered there with impunity. "It was a speech," said Mr. Mills, "purposely offensive to myself." Malignity thy name is indeed Ferguson! But we grieve to add that Senator Landry (who we believe is not a whit better than the Highlander, as neither can have a drop of Anglo-

as neither can have a drop of Anglo-Saxon blood in his veine) deliberately Saxon blood in his veine) deliberately prolonged the disgraceful spectacle, so offensive to the Sage of Bothwell. Mr. Landry actually was unable-to conceal his feeling that the Boers ought to be given more time to find a peaceful solution of the difficulty. He quoted The Contemporary Review against Mr. Mills (the idea!); and argued that the Canadian public might be saved the infliction of the Sage's incubrations. "There is semething wrong in the whole speech," said the Senator, "and it should not be print ed." These bold words, we are led to believe, temporarily deprived the

ed." These bold words, we are led to believe, temporarily deprived the Bage of the power of speech, because we cannot discover in Hansard that he made any reply to them.

Sir Mackenzie Bowell saved this painful incident from resulting fatally to the credit of the Dominion and the prestige of the Bage of Bothwell. He proved his Anglo-Baxon blood and his imperialistic pride by espoasing the cause of his political opponents for the sacred principle of the vastness of the empire.

Apostolic Delegation in Ireland

The Rome correspondent of The Tablet was no doubt well informed when he communicated the following information to his paper: "I hear that the project of creating a permanent Apostolic Delegation in Iráland, which was mooted some years ago, is being considered in Rome. In the event of a decision in the affirmative being arrived at it is not unlikely that the Delegation will be created until the period of the National Synod, which I announced some weeks ago." nnounced some weeks ago

That Laurier-American War

The Chicago Citizen is open to the suspicion of indulgence in sarceam with regard to the Laurier invitation with regard to the Laurer invitation to the cornerstone laying in the Windy City. Sir Willrid, however, cannot complain if he should receive text repartes from the westerners. If he told Mr. Fitspatrick that he had

The second second second

a rather pretty social application also in these concluding words . "Sir Wilrid's firet thought was wise -let him etay at home. Eventua American soldiers may Eventually 500,000 leave then cards with Lim in Ottawa.

War is No. in Sight.

Those who heretofore have no treated seriously the bullying attitude of Mr. Chamberlain towards the Boers received a shock on Monday, when the news appeared of Sir William Butler's rocall from Cape Town. Sir William as a soldier is guilty in Mr. Chamberlain's civilian eyes of a grave offence. He has can didly advised the British Governmen not to treat with ostentatious disdain the Dutch settlers of South Africa. He has counselled deliberation and fairness in the Transvaal negotiations. This, coming from an Irishman, has been regarded by Mr. Chamberlain as little short of treason. For years he has not even protended to conceal his personal hostility to the Irish general. And now, at his behest, an experienced and brave man has been recalled. This is the most ominous sign of war, tashly undertaken, which has come the Dutch settlers of South Africa rashly undertaken, which has com from the Cape since the commence-ment of this Transvaal business. Its effect upon the English public remains

Hon, Edward Blake's Letter.

A New York newspaper correspon-dent in a not particularly friendly reference to Irish matters during the session of the Imperial Parliament just closed, concedes the faithful and closed, concedes the faithful and effective work performed by Mr. Dillon, Mr. Blake and Mr. Davitt Dillon, Mr. Blake and Mr. Davitt from beginning to end. In this connection our readers will peruse with warm sympathy the letter which we publish in our current issue, written by Mr. Blake on the eve of his departure for Car da. It is a letter full of interest, candid in its expression of core ty all dismissions. full of interest, candid in its expres-sion of regret and disappointment for the delay which the cause of unity bas encountered, but strong in declaring confidence in the determination of the people to obliterate factionist activity in the approaching elections Mr. Blake's past services are eloquentity acknowledged by The Freeman's Journal; and his own letter tells how completely his faith in the Irish cause and its ultimate success fills him. Coming from a statesman who speaks so seldom and with so much deliberation, we must regard as important in the highest sense Mr. Blake's reference to the possibilities of the next few months' events. The United League is the accepted channel through which real union by the popular verdict must

New Phase of the Anglisan Struggle.

The Montreal Star favors us with the complete text of the decision rendthe complete text of the declaion rend-ered by the archbishope of Canterbury and York touching the use of incesses and lighted candles and the holding of religious processions in the English Established Church. The decision is worded most carefully so as to avoid offending the Ritualists to whom it is adverse. It concludes with omening the littualists to whom it is adverse. It concludes with an appeal to the clergy to submit to episcopal authority. But in point of fact the decision is a mere document. Inquiry into the state of feeling among the clergy establishes the fact that a very small percentage of the Ritualists small percentage of the Ritualists have any intention of obeying the ruling of the Archbishops. The in qurry has been made by the Ritualist party and is therefore in its nature a challenge in the nature. party and is therefore in its nature a challenge to the episcopal authority. The result, promptly made public, simply converts the challenge into open defiance. The decision of the Archbishop in this view of the situation is but the prelude to the real fight which the Ritualists intend to enter upon. Their doctrine is that all who are not with them are against them, and they will oversite for not who are not with them are against the told Mr. Fitspatrick that he had misgivings on the score of his safety from insult in Chicago—and the Fremier has not dealed 'saying so—any Chicagoan is fully entitled to reply in kind. The Citisen puts it this way:

"If Laurier should come here, he might not be insulted—it is not the American habit to insult strangers—but his reception, after his bellicose utterance, could hardly be expected to be very cordial. Bir Willrid may imagine we follow the Canadian plan in reseiving obnoxious strangers, but we don't."

This is very hard hitting; and the "faithful in the Established Church is strength to Established Church is strength the Established Church is strength to Established Church is

even nearer to its doom than any past stage of this struggle could have

indicated.

"Events," Ottawa, says: "Canada, Importal Canada, is determined to have a say in matters affecting the Empire. Accordingly the Commons deconed it their duty to pass a strong resolution of sympathy with the Ullianders of the Tranavaal.

Kruger and the Boers generally dony that the Queen's moreality dony that the Queen's moreality over the Tranavaal any longer exists. They aver that it is and has been practically dead, and has been revived to suit the occasion. If the British government is allowed to step in and dictate to the Beer generament, where does the independence of the Tranavaal come in? If the Uitlanders are to be admitted to full rights of citizenship, acoing that they entrument the Boers so admitted to full rights of citizonship, asseing that they outnumber the Boors so greatly, what is to provent the former from ultimately turning over the country, for which they have fought and hold, to Great Britain? It is all very well to talk of humanity and civilization it was with those name cries that the United States wrestled Cubs from weak Spain, and it is with these cries that the United States is torturing the life out of the unwilling Filipines."

There is a pretty general feeling among Catholic writers of all grades There is a pretty general feeling among Catholic writers of all grades that their work is nouther appreciated by readers who have the faith nor telerated by those who have that he in writerated by those who have the faith nor telerated by those who have that An instance of the Berliu correspondent of The New Era. He tells us that Herr Ola Hansson, the well-known Swedish author, and his wife Laura Marhelm, who were converted to Catholicism about a year age, are at present residing at Muulch, and sad to say are in very reduced diremmentances owing to the fact that after their conversion many of the German publishers and Press editors revoked their contracts and refused their interesting and popular contributions which, their contracts and refused their interest-ing and popular contributions which, previous to that event they had been only too eager to procure. Ols Hansson is a clever novelist and essaysis, and his wife has written a great deal on the "feminist" question. She is the au-thoross of the well known work "The Woman's Book."

thoross of the well known work "The Woman's Book."

The "ritcherlistic row" would at last seem to have broken out in Canada. A press despatch from Quebec on Friday last reported that the "summer residents of Murray Bay have been thrown into a state of great excitement by a lotter from S. H. Blake, cf Toronto published by himself, violently attacking the corcumonial followed at the recomb dedication of the new Anglesa church of St. Aune in the Fields there, at which the Lord Bishop of Ottawa, Right Rev. Dr. Charles Hamilton, presided in the absence of the Bishop of Quebec, now in England. Mr. Blake refers to "they Bishop dressed up in the gewgaw adorgments of the Church of Rome; with mitre and all sorts of millinery hisherto, unknown to our Reformed Church." Mr. Blake is a warm supporter of the union chapel at Murra, Bay, used jointly; by the Presbyterians and some of the Church of England residents of absence of the adherents of the Church of Signal and Signal of the Church of the Church of Signal who, therefore, creeked the Anglican church with the approval of the Frigh-Augustian.

Anglican church with the approval of the Bishop of the diocese."

The Melbourne Advocate, the paper of the Irish Australians, disquesses, the forces that are winning the cause of, Federation. It points out that, in the Kederal ranks there are two actualing it motives, which work singly in some vicases, jointly in others. "Imperialism cocunts for something and, though num cornel for something and, though num cornel weak, could not have been dispensed with without failure. The heavy minority in New South Wales is proof of that. Australian patriotism is a still more powerful factor on the Federal side and, without any deduction, may be credited with victory. The Imperial idea exercised its influence in a few of the daily organs of public opinion, and in their weekly numbers, but the force of the victory must be credited. Federated they brought to bear on the question, was purely Australian, and to that force a tho victory must be credited. Federated attention has been won for Australia by Australians. For their country, and for its purpose they will direct it in opposition to any attempt that may be made to make it subserve other ends in I which they are not immediately country.

Some excitable persons in the city of New York have been burning Mr. William Walderf Astor in effigy because he thought well to change his citizenship from American to British. The Maw, York mob, taking the advice of the poet, would mark Mr. Astor as a wretch who never saluted America as his cwn, his native land. It is not likely, however, that the popular indignation of his repudiated follow-citizens will trouble the millionaire very much. What he most fondly desires to salute is a title; and as these things can be had in the open market in England Mr. Astor's naturalization as a British' subject is a mere incident. Mr. Astor's particular landy in titles is "Lord Astor of Cleve-