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THURSDAY, AUGUST 17, 1899.

- Aug 17—Octavo of St. Laurence. 16—N. W. York. 19—B. V. M. 20—Solemnity of the Assumption of B. V. M. 21—S. Jane Frances de Chantal. 22—Octavo of the Assumption. 23—S. Philip Bourcier.

An Absurd Story.

Some of our Toronto daily papers have been publishing cabled reports of a sensational plan said to have been formulated by the Observatore Romano, organ of the Vatican, for the political capture of England for the Church.

The Observatore Romano is, of course, above the suspicion of practicing such arts; but if it were to publish more than once in a decade so sensational a story as a London correspondent last month supplied to it, serious injury might accrue to its constituency.

Where is there any sign of such an organization? True, the Catholic cause in England is surely advancing and the Catholic body is experiencing many conditions and influences helpful to growth.

Where then is the organization to take root? It is among the English Catholics, or is it among the English Catholics?

the slightest room for imagining that a Catholic party would have the sympathy of the hierarchy, because no English bishop would go further with political counsel than to encourage Catholics to take as active and intelligent a part as good citizens should in the public life of the country.

Whatever injustice we may charge against the English method of treating Ireland 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.

Is It a Holy War?

Catholics are beginning to find themselves the objects of keen sympathy, springing from Mr. Chamberlain's declaration of their political ostracism in the Transvaal.

A Platform Venture.

The "ex-priest" burling business has always been low enough; but of late years it has sunk quite beneath the contempt of self-respecting Protestants.

"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 Hughes in the interest of English socialism.

passed the bag. The role of the renegade is always difficult. Necessarily his motives are suspected and his utterances perverted.

The Review is a little hard on Mr. Hughes. It gives the impression that there was rather too much Hughes from beginning to end of the performance.

The Dreyfus Case.

Maitre Labori, senior counsel for Dreyfus in the re-trial at Rennes, France was on Monday morning last shot in the back as he was walking to the court-room.

Treason in the Senate.

On Monday, 7th an urgent 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 Transvaal difficulty.

It must be considered a regrettable incident that the proposed public bonfire of a large extra distribution of free lore could not pass without evil.

Senate and confided to be expected to set the world ablaze.

Senator Ferguson will now hide his diminished head. Even if the Sage had not quoted Mr. Chamberlain at all, he was unassailably entrenched behind Sir Ellis Ashmole Bartlett.

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.

Sir Mackenzie Bowell saved this painful incident from resulting fatally to the credit of the Dominion and the prestige of the Sage of Bothwell.

Apostolic Delegation in Ireland.

The Rome correspondent of The Tablet was no doubt well informed when he communicated the following information to his paper.

That Laurier-American War Cloud.

The Chicago Citizen is open to the suspicion of indulgence in sarcasm with regard to the Laurier invitation to the corner-stone laying in the Windy City.

a rather pretty social application also in these concluding words. "Sir Wilfrid's first thought was wise—let him stay at home. Eventually 600,000 American soldiers may leave their cards with him in Ottawa."

War is No. in Sight.

Those who heretofore have not 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 recall from Cape Town.

Hon. Edward Blake's Letter.

A New York newspaper correspondent in a hot particularly friendly reference to Irish matters during the session of the Imperial Parliament just closed, concedes the faithful and effective work performed by Mr. Dillon, Mr. Blake and Mr. Davitt from beginning to end.

New Phase of the Anglican Struggle.

The Montreal Star favors us with the complete text of the decision rendered by the archbishops of Canterbury and York touching the use of incense and lighted candles and the holding of religious processions in the English Established Church.

The Melbourne Advocate, discussing the forces that are winning the cause of Federation, it points out that in the Federal ranks there are two antagonistic motives, which work singly in some cases, jointly in others.

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

"Events," Ottawa, says: "Canada, Imperial Canada, is determined to have a say in matters affecting the Empire. Accordingly the Commons deemed it their duty to pass a strong resolution of sympathy with the Uitlanders of the Transvaal."

There is a pretty general feeling among Catholic writers of all grades that their work is neither appreciated by readers who have the faith nor tolerated by those who have not.

The "ritcherlicious 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 letter from S. H. Blake, of Toronto, published by himself, violently attacking the ceremonial followed at the recent dedication of the new Anglican church of St. Anne in the Fields there, at the Rev. the Lord Bishop of Ottawa, Right Rev. Dr. Charles Hamilton, presided in the absence of the Bishop of Quebec, now in England.

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Some excellent persons in the city of New York have been burning Mr. William Waldorf Astor in effigy because he thought well to change his citizenship from American to British.