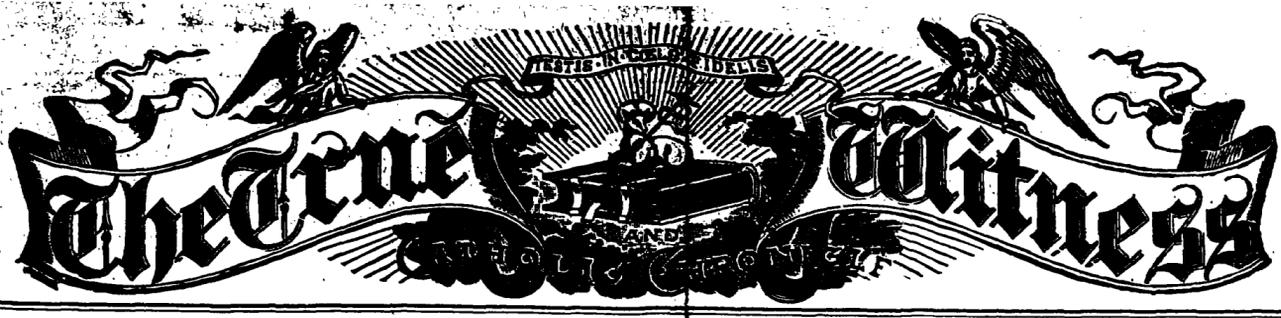


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GREEKS STILL AGGRESSIVE.

The Programme of the New Premier.

The War to be Carried on With Renewed Vigor.

The Present Attitude of the Concert of Nations.

The London correspondent of the New York Sun says: Official Europe now has a fresh grievance against Greece.

Greece has done nothing of the kind, and the powers, especially Lord Salisbury, are disappointed and disgusted with a nation which doesn't know when it is beaten.

It is persistently reported that England, France, and Italy are unwilling to wait longer for the voluntary submission of Greece, and urge that the concert should interfere unasked.

The new League of the three Emperors, it is announced, refuses to intervene at the present moment, or until the powers are requested by Greece to act.

The matter has gone still further, if the reports current in diplomatic circles are correct.

INSTEAD OF GREECE HUMBLED HERSELF before her European mentors Great Britain finds her interests so threatened that she is striving secretly to induce the Greek authorities to apply for aid.

It is probably impossible for the Greeks to continue incorrigible much longer, but those who condemn the servile attitude of the British Government in eastern affairs in the past two years will be glad to see that the present embarrassment of Lord Salisbury is augmented.

The rapid change in the general European situation in the past week is of greater importance than the war developments. It is no longer doubted that a league of the three Emperors is fully established.

The neutrality of the Balkans now seems fully assured, and this practically destroys all doubt of the issue of the struggle between Turkey and Greece.

The question which chiefly agitates diplomatic circles is no longer war, but whether Russia will be able to bind to herself France and Italy in addition to the two central powers.

There is still strong confidence in London that Lord Salisbury will be able to win France away from the Czar, while the friendship or alliance of Rome it is believed, may be had for the asking.

The manner in which England is pushing her policy of provocation against the Boers, which clearly has war for its object, suggests that the Government must have some assurance that she will not encounter the united opposition of Europe in the shameful programme.

On the other hand, it is repeatedly asserted that there is discussion in Lord Salisbury's Cabinet, and that Mr. Chamberlain is determined to pursue a policy of conquest in South Africa in spite of consequences elsewhere.

Notwithstanding these irreconcilable features of the situation.

PUBLIC OPINION IN EUROPE is decidedly more hopeful than when war was declared a fortnight ago.

have been fighting desperately for two weeks, and the danger of a general war, which was used by the English Government to suppress even expressions of sympathy with the Armenians and Cretans, is less, apparently, than before a gun was fired.

Private advices from Constantinople say that immense misery and loss have been caused by the war to the Greeks resident in Turkey, hundreds of whom are prosperous merchant traders and shopkeepers.

ROME, May 1.—M. Ralli, the new Greek Prime Minister, in an interview to-day with an Italian correspondent, declared that during the present crisis in the affairs of Greece he would forget all political questions.

"My programme," he added, "is to respect the institutions of the country and to save the monarchy. I hope to succeed, though we have been little liked by the court."

ATHENS, May 1.—M. Ralli made a statement to-day in which he says: "Our duty is to reconstitute the army. The morale of Gen. Smolenski's corps is unimpaired, but the Minister of the Interior and the Minister of War are going to Pharsala to encourage the others."

"We shall organize several thousand reservists and volunteers to-day, and reinforcements will be pushed forward as rapidly as possible. We shall continue the struggle if necessary, or at least act so that we shall not find ourselves in an inferior position to that of the enemy if the diplomats should effect a solution of the situation."

"I have entire confidence in the ability of the Greek army in Thessaly to continue the struggle successfully. What has failed in the present war is the fact that we have been working upon a fixed plan."

M. Ralli added that he was unable to say whether the powers would intervene or not.

OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL.

The Feast Celebrated at St. Mary's Church.

Rev. Father Heffernan Delivered a Series of Eloquent Sermons—An Interesting Outline of the Origin of the Devotion.

WRITTEN FOR THE "TRUE WITNESS," BY A MEMBER OF OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL ACADEMY.

Never before in the history of St. Mary's parish was the feast of Our Lady of Good Counsel solemnized with greater pomp than it was this year. The feast itself fell upon the 27th of April, but was celebrated on Sunday, the 2nd of May.

Through the zealous endeavors of our truly devoted Pastor, Rev. Father O'Donnell, a well-attended Triduum was preached by Rev. Father Heffernan, of St. Gabriel's, who, in his eloquent discourses, vividly pictured the holy virtues characteristic of the life of Our Blessed Mother.

On Sunday, solemn High Mass was sung by Rev. Father Condon, of St. Lawrence College, assisted by Rev. Fathers Shea and Kelly, as deacon and sub-deacon. After Gospel all were delighted to see Rev. Father Heffernan, who had spoken so beautifully to them during the week, ascend the pulpit to address them once more.

In saying that his effort was a masterly one, is but voicing the sentiments of the large congregation that had the pleasure of hearing him. Summing up the thoughts suggested the previous evenings, he exhorted them as parishioners of Good Counsel to honor their Blessed Mother every day of their lives, to imitate her virtues as far as possible and to make her revered by all to whom they might have an opportunity of proclaiming her power, her greatness, her favor with God and her tenderness towards sinners.

The musical portion of the Mass was grandly executed by the choir under the direction of Mr. J. B. Paquet. A full orchestra conducted by Prof. Sullivan was in attendance; Prof. Wilson performed at the organ. In the evening Vespers and Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament took place; there was also a procession of the different societies of the Blessed Virgin around the church, thus ending the happy day, and proving to our holy Mother that, under the title of Good Counsel, the parishioners of St. Mary's are proud to honor her.

It may not be out of place for me to sum up here, in a few words the origin of the devotion to Our Mother of Good Counsel. In the fifteenth century there lived in Genazzano an old lady, the wish of whose heart was to erect a church dedicated to the Mother of God. The walls of the new church were beginning to rise when her funds became exhausted and the good work had to be stopped;

but this simple heart did not despair, she felt confident that Mary would send her the necessary means. It was customary on the feast of St. Mark to hold a fair in the town of Genazzano, and on one of the pleasant evenings of the festive time a thin cloud was seen floating in the direction of Petruccia's unfinished building. Nearer and nearer it came, till it seemed to hover over and then to descend on one of the walls, then to disappear. The people rushed in this direction and were amazed to find a thin fresco of the Blessed Virgin, with her Divine Child clasped in her arms, resting upon one of the walls. At the same time, as if to proclaim their joy at this exhibition of God's favor and power, the bells of the different churches, untouched by mortal hands, broke out into a joyous peal of music. The people fell upon their knees before the picture, pouring out their thanks to God for so great a manifestation of his favour towards them. This picture soon became the great devotion of Genazzano and received the name of "Madonna del Paradiso." Shortly after, there arrived two strangers from the Eastern coast of the Adriatic Sea. They had been greatly in dread of an invasion from the Turks and were accustomed to repair to a church to pray for the assistance of God in their combat against the infidels. In this church there was a picture of the Blessed Virgin and Holy Child painted on the wall and for this picture the two men had always cherished a great devotion. At length they resolved to leave their native city, but before departing they paid a visit to their beloved Madonna. Kneeling before the picture they implored the Mother of God, that as she had been forced to go into the land of Egypt with her Divine Child, so she would deign to accompany them in their flight. While they were thus praying the picture disappeared, and in a thick cloud seemed to detach itself from the wall and pass out of the church. The men felt compelled to follow it, and they did so, walking over the sea until they came to Rome. Having heard that an unknown picture of the Madonna had been thus miraculously brought to Genazzano, they had journeyed hither and in the strange picture they recognized Our Mother of Good Counsel. It is hardly necessary to add that after this miraculous sign from Heaven contributions poured in and the church was soon completed.

Such was the origin of that sweet devotion to Mary under the soul-inspiring title of Mother of Good Counsel. Many miracles have been performed through her intercession at this particular shrine, as thousands of devout pilgrims kneel upon the altar steps paying their homage to Heaven's Queen and seeking from her maternal heart counsel in all their fears and doubts. And throughout the world at all times how often does not the Christian exile find life dark and dreary; how often are not their souls perplexed, and why? Because they forget that in our Mother of Good Counsel they have a sincere and faithful adviser, a friend the dearest and kindest, and they do not abandon themselves to her gentle guidance as the weak and timid child to the best of earthly mothers. But if they would only with child-like simplicity confide in her loving care, ask her confidently what they should do to truly work out their eternal salvation, they would have the courage to meet the pains, sorrows and trials of this earthly pilgrimage anew, and cheerfully persevere in imitation of her virtues, with the assurance that one day they would be crowned by her Divine Son in Heaven.

THE COST OF MONARCHY.

One of the points made by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, in presenting the budget statement in the House of Commons on Thursday last, was that the monarchy costs less now than in 1837.

In that year the civil list voted out of the taxpayers' money was £285,000 (\$1,925,000) a year, in return for which Parliament took the Crown estates, then producing an income of £203,000 (\$1,015,000).

To-day the same estates produce £412,000 (2,660,000) a year, and the result is the Queen now pays the nation £27,000 (\$185,000). If the cost of the rest of the royal family is included it will be found that in 1836 a further sum of £352,000 (\$1,760,000) a year was paid by the taxpayers, while in 1897 the corresponding vote is £212,000 (\$1,060,000) or a gain to the taxpayers of £140,000 (\$700,000). The total cost of the Queen and the royal family to the nation is £185,000 (\$925,000) a year.

Six Redemptorist priests, including the provincial of the Baltimore province of the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer, celebrated in unison, on Wednesday April 21st, the twenty-fifth anniversary, or silver jubilee, of their ordination to the priesthood at St. Alphonsus' church, Baltimore. The occasion was marked by a great gathering of priests of the order, and when the church services had been concluded, a banquet was served in the assembly hall of the priests' house adjoining the church. The six Redemptorists who celebrated their jubilees were the Rev. Ferdinand A. Litz, provincial of the Baltimore province, and his five classmates, the Rev. George J. Dusold, secretary to the Rev. Fr. Litz; the Rev. Andrew Wynn, rector of St. Patrick's Church, Toronto, Can.; the Rev. J. Rein, of St. Peter's Church, St. John, N. B.; the Rev. J. E. Schagenan, of the Holy Redeemer Church, Detroit; and the Rev. Charles Kern, of St. Alphonsus' Church, New Orleans, La. The Rev. Fr. Litz was the celebrant of the Mass.

TERRIBLE CATASTROPHE.

Burning of the Building of a Fancy Fair in Paris

One Hundred Persons Perish in the Flames.

Many of the Victims Leaders in the Social World—Story of a Survivor.

PARIS, May 4.—Fire broke out at 4 p.m. in a crowded charitable bazaar on the Rue Jean Coqun, at which the Duchesse D'Uzes and other well known patronesses were present. Many people were burned to death, and there was a terrible panic, during which a large number of persons were injured. Thirty bodies have been recovered.

The managers of the Bazaar had arranged the stalls so as to represent a street of old Paris, and it was opened yesterday, an event which was greatly looked forward to in society. The proceeds of each stall were devoted to a charitable cause. The stalls were presided over by Mme. Fevrier, the wife of General Fevrier; the Marquise de L'Aigle, Mme. Jacobs, the Baronne de La Douette, the Marquise de St. Michel, the Duchesse D'Uzes, Mme. Mignotte, the Baronne de St. Ideare, the Comtesse Dzalyska, the Marquise le Couestier, the Marquise D'Argence, the Marquise de Ritti, the Duchesse D'Alencor, a member of the Orleans family; Mme. D'Arin, Mme. Bissau, the Baronne F. de Schickler, Mme. Moreau; the Marquise Costa de Beauregard, Her Royal Highness the Duchess de Vendome, the Marquise de Maison and the Comtesse de Crefful, nee La Rochefoucauld; Mlle. de Florez presided over the refreshment stand. These ladies were assisted by many equally well-known society ladies. As a somewhat remarkable coincidence, the stall presided over by the Duchesse D'Uzes was No. 13. It is impossible as yet to identify the victims. At 6:30 p.m., when these details are telegraphed, the bazaar is almost an obliterated heap of charred wood. Ambulances are conveying the recovered bodies to the Palais de l'Industrie.

MANY INJURED. The number of injured, however is much greater than at first estimated. One hundred and fifty injured persons have been conveyed to the Hotel du Palais, in the Cour de la Reine; but many of the critical cases have been transported to the Hospital Beaujon. A policeman who was on duty at the doors of the bazaar says that from 1,500 to 1,800 people were in the building when the fire broke out.

The bazaar was 100 yards long by 60 yards wide and constructed almost entirely of wood. Enormous crowds of people gathered around the scene of the fire. Among them were a large number of liveried servants enquiring for their mistresses, and the indications are that among the dead are numbers of the French aristocracy, although it is hoped the missing ones may be found among the many injured persons who are being cared for at the hotels, hospitals and other places.

Twenty corpses and a number of the most seriously injured are now laid out in the right wing of the Palais de l'Industrie. Admiral Benard, the minister of marine, arrived upon the scene shortly after 7 o'clock. Further details just obtained show that before the firemen had time to arrive the roof of the bazaar crashed in, burying numbers of those who had been unable to escape from the building.

STORY OF A SURVIVOR. One of the survivors tells the correspondent of the Associated Press his experience as follows:—"The place was crammed full of people, and the heat was stifling. Being very uncomfortable, my friends and I determined to leave, but somehow we could not make much headway through the throng to the door. I lagged a little behind, when suddenly the shout of fire was raised. Instantly all was commotion. We tried to keep cool, but the rush from behind forced us forward and we were separated. Then I tried to work my way back, but I was carried off my feet and carried backwards and forward in the awaying crowd. All this happened in a few seconds. Immediately the full extent of the calamity dawned upon us all. The flames spread with startling rapidity through the whole building, which rumbled like a living furnace, but the uproar of the conflagration could not drown the groans and cries of the agonized crowd. Gradually I found myself pushed back against the wall of the building and finally succeeded in scrambling through an opening made by some of those who were near me. Two seconds later I would have been a victim, for hardly had I struggled through the hole before

I heard a dreadful crash as the blazing roof fell in. The whole thing was over in 12 minutes and nothing remained but the charred and blackened ruins of the bazaar."

AN AMERICAN LADY'S STORY.

The correspondent of the Associated Press has had an interview with Mrs. Elsie Bushbeck, of Philadelphia, who, with the Misses Hawthorn and Drenner, was one of the few who escaped, although not unscathed. Mrs. Bushbeck said: "I was a saleswoman at Booth No. 15 close to the place where the fire originated. In my booth four nuns presided. In the booth were also three blind girls working, one reading a blind alphabet, the other writing and the third making brushes. I started to look around the bazaar and, happening to turn round, I saw and caught my friend's attention in a flicker in the corner of the wall about fifteen yards away. Hardly had I done so, when a gentleman behind me cried: 'Fire! ladies, hasten out,' and pushed me toward the door rather, but, fortunately for me, roughly."

"As this was my second experience under such circumstances, I advised my two friends to raise their skirts to the front so they would not stumble over them. We were then just stepping on the first of three steps leading out of the building. Turning my head to look back I saw the whole place in flames. At my left I caught a glimpse of an old lady emerging from an adjacent door and saw her stumble on her skirts. The next instant quite twenty persons piled on top of her. I crossed the street and turned round to face the fire, but already the heat was so intense that it scorched me, and I was obliged to raise my hands to protect my face. When the roof fell in with a terrible crash certainly not more than five minutes had elapsed from the first alarm. Such was the intensity of the heat that I saw a fireman's jacket badly singed. Out of the pile of persons who fell near the door none was saved. All were buried in a moment. Of the nuns at my booth two were saved and one blind girl. The burned visitors were the most part ladies most gorgeously dressed."

The Duchess d'Alencor, sister of the Austrian Empress, is among the injured. In the streets adjacent to the bazaar were long lines of sumptuous equipages. The most of those returned empty; their owners were dead. The others were seen moving off with occupants injured in head or limb, and in many cases with faces streaming with blood.

The search in the debris will continue all night. It appears that the illuminating apparatus of the cinematograph exploded and set fire to the Turkish curtains and hangings. In a few moments the flames spread along the whole left of the bazaar. The public threw themselves instinctively to the right side of the building, which backed on a high wall of an adjoining edifice.

The bazaar altogether had eight doors, three in front and one on the left side. In the rear were four, like French windows, which were specially reserved for the employes. The crowd near the main entrance was able to escape, but those at the other end, not knowing of the doors reserved for the employes, found themselves hemmed in as in a cul-de-sac.

As the fire spread the pressure on the right side, where there were no exits, kept steadily increasing. Here a number of the victims were crushed to death. Happily the wall of the Hotel de Palais, against which the bazaar backed, furnished a barred window. The servants hurriedly broke the bars and were able to rescue a large number.

In the Avenue Montaigne, the Place Alma and the Rue Francoir, adjacent streets, there was a veritable light of maddened people, mostly women without skirts, petticoats or hats, their feet naked and their clothing either burned off or torn off. Every available factor was taken by assault.

IDENTIFYING THE DEAD. Words would fail to describe the horror of the scene at the Palace de l'Industrie, where the bodies are exposed on the side next to the avenue Baudin in a portion of the building now in the course of demolition. Here, in a large room, rudely covered with rough planks, and on sheets hastily spread over planks, the bodies as they arrive from the ambulances are being placed in three long rows. A large force of officials is regulating the admission of friends at the entrance, which is besieged by crowds shouting and fighting. Only small groups are admitted at a time, and the visitors are supplied with candles to assist them in the lugubrious search. It is a strange scene, as they go prying about amid human debris and turning over shapeless and unrecognizable masses of flesh. Six bodies have been recognized with certainty. They are the bodies of Mademoiselle Henrietta Viscontess Marie Bonneval, Sister Guinoux, the superior of the Sisters of the Convent of St. Vincent de Paul at Reims, Mlle. De Grancy and the Comtesse St. Perier. Other bodies supposed to be recognized are those of the Baroness St. Didier, Mme. Laurent Caselin and Mlle. Chevigny. All the theatres in Paris are closed to-night.

Sportsman (to Snobson, who hasn't brought down a single bird all day): "Do you know Lord Peckham?" Snobson: "Oh, dear, yes. I've often shot at his house." Sportsman: "Ever hit it?"—Punch.

FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY

Of the Death of O'Connell.

To be Commemorated in Genoa Some Features of the Career of the Liberator Recalled.

The fiftieth anniversary of the death of O'Connell is at hand. He died on May 15, 1847, at Genoa, en route for Rome, on his way to visit the new Pontiff, Pope Pius IX.

The touching and memorable journey and death are clear in the minds of Irishmen, says the Dublin Freeman's Journal. They constitute one of the saddest episodes in our national history. The great statesman, orator and patriot, overburdened by years, but still more oppressed by the discriminations and disasters that paralyzed his power for good, had no hope left in his last journey but to prostrate himself before his death at the feet of the Supreme Head of the Church, of which he was always the most obedient child and the most devoted champion. We know how even the greatest Irishman of his age died in Genoa, far from the country he so loved and served, and from the centre of the church to which his pilgrimage was directed. In his will he testified how dear at the last moment were his country and his creed. His body he bequeathed to Ireland, his heart to Rome. That bequest was faithfully executed.

THE HEART OF THE IRISH LIBERATOR is enshrined in silver in the church of the Irish College in Rome. In that Irish College, preparations are in progress for the fitting commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of his death. The great colony of Irishmen—lay and clerical—resident in Rome will participate in the commemoration, and no ceremonial will be omitted that can add dignity and solemnity to the occasion. It is believed that this commemoration will go far to rival the impressive grandeur of the scene, still freshly remembered in Rome, when the obsequies of the great Catholic Irishman were celebrated in the Eternal City. On that occasion the funeral panegyric was preached by the great pulpit orator, Father Ventura, and in Notre Dame, in Paris, where much of O'Connell's early life was spent, by the not less famous and not less eloquent preacher, Father Lacordaire. On the forthcoming occasion in Rome the O'Connell eulogium will be delivered by a member of the Irish hierarchy, whose lofty eloquence will do no discredit even to those glorious traditions.

In Genoa, where O'Connell died, active preparations are on foot to make the celebration worthy of the man. The Pope has given his most cordial benediction, and expressed his hope and belief that in Ireland the celebration would be not less appreciative and impressive. Of the complete fulfillment of that aspiration of His Holiness no doubt is admissible.

In St. Patrick's Cathedral, Armagh, arrangements are being made for the fitting commemoration of O'Connell's death. In this regard we feel assured that the praise-worthy lead given by St. Patrick's Cathedral will be zealously followed through the length and breadth of Ireland.

Never in the very hey-day of his genius and his authority, when he reigned

over the hearts of Irishmen, were the powers, the patriotism and the services of O'Connell more fully appreciated than at the present hour. He was the Irishman who led the nation out of bondage. He opened to Irishmen the arena where in they might contend for freedom. It was no fault of his, but of his adverse fate, that the work of absolute freedom was not accomplished. The mist of prejudice and passion which half concealed or distorted the figure and features of his genius have rolled away. Ireland sees him to-day as he was—how great, how strong, how true—what words can say? His memory has conquered calumny. Like all Irish patriots down to our own time, he was reviled in the grossest terms from the platforms and in the press of England. The name of the "Irish big beggarman" was one of the mildest insults to which he was subjected. To-day, when he is just fifty years dead, they can find no words too strong to convey their praise of his moderation, statesmanship and patriotism. In Ireland we feel assured that the feeling of gratitude and admiration will overflow in every heart on the fiftieth commemoration of the calamity of O'Connell's death. In the memory of the scenes in which the last days of his political life were passed, there is a lesson and a warning that must come home to the heart of every Irishman who loves his country and is willing, like O'Connell, to struggle and suffer for her sake.

In August next the workmen of France will make a pilgrimage to Rome to visit the Holy Father. Leo XIII. has expressed his gratification with this devout intention of the French artisans, and has promised to say a special Mass for them in St. Peter's when they arrive in Rome. This pilgrimage will henceforth be made annually as a tribute of devotion and respect to the Holy See.