

The Catholic Register

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THURSDAY, OCT. 23, 1902

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE AND THE PRESS.

In these days of newspaper compromise with all manner of influences that help circulation or advertising, it is refreshing to find an occasional journal that applies common sense boldness with theological learning to the discussion of such a subject as so-called "Christian Science."

We repeat the assertion that so-called "Christian Science" is neither Christian, nor Science. It is not Christian for it has not the characteristics of Christianity.

Let the Bible alone. Why must the Bible be made responsible for every rascal who chooses to attribute to its sacred pages?

It is a sad commentary on our boasted civilization and education, that frauds like Mrs. Eddy get so many followers. Under the pretence of being guided by Christianity and Science, she has obtained many active agents to sell her commentaries on the Bible.

Our anxious Christian Scientist correspondent says: "We do believe, however, that a conscientious study of the Bible and the Christian Science Text Books, will aid in the healing work, and have found by actual experience that it does so."

Text Books "The Bible is a great book, but the Christian Science Text Book is the Book by which its real meaning is to be known."

Be cautious, friends of the Christian Science Association. We have borne patiently as long as we could, and we have written contrary to the advice of our medical and spiritual advisers.

You say you charge but a reasonable amount for the time and services of the operator of the Christian Scientist? But you do that in the name of Christianity and Science.

Let the Bible alone. Why must the Bible be made responsible for every rascal who chooses to attribute to its sacred pages?

IRISH REPRESENTATION FLOUTED BY PREMIER BALFOUR

No sane man who knows, or has any practical experience, of the working of representative institutions can stifle the conviction of complete government failure conveyed in the reply of Premier Balfour to the Irish Party in the British House of Commons last week.

Any Government that would deny the discussion of such a state of affairs could hardly be suspected of wisdom. But Mr. Balfour deliberately chose to place his government in the most contemptuous possible attitude towards Ireland.

Let us take in the significance of this unparalleled piece of effrontery. The claim of the Irish people all along has been that the sending of their representatives to Westminster is futile for any other purpose than that of insistence upon Home Rule.

The Catholic world has watched for a long while the increasing indifference of the masses of France to the living interests of religion. But who would have thought five years ago that Catholic France would have tolerated the events of the past six months?

The masses of the people, however, are apathetic because they do not feel the touch of this ardent faith and intellectual identity. France is a nation of schools, so that the masses are not behind in education.

Let us now turn our eyes to the United States. There the state has absolutely nothing to do with the church, more than to allow her the same measure of religious freedom extended to other denominations.

TWO REPUBLICS

A lesson may possibly be learned by Catholics in Canada and other countries from a comparison of religious conditions in the republics of France and the United States.

The cablegrams from Paris during the past few days tell a story of unmistakable import. Despite the excitement and agitation arising from the eviction of the nuns from their convents, the Combes' Government stands perfectly unembarrassed in the Chamber of Deputies.

There are 37 millions of professing Catholics in France. The policy of M. Combes is admitted by his own friends and supporters to represent the influence of not more than half a million anti-Catholics, including Protestants with Socialists.

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POLITICAL STORM SIGNALS

Sir Wilfrid Laurier has returned to Canada, crowned with the laurels of the most distinguished mission ever performed by a Canadian statesman in the old world.

This is a subject which we are having brought to our attention from many quarters of the Dominion. It is now forcing itself upon the attention of not a few of our people and before long, we hope, will elicit upon greater numbers who may make it available to worthy deeds in the civic as well as the religious sense.

TWO LETTERS OF CARDINAL NEWMAN

The following two letters from Cardinal Newman have been entrusted to us, says The London Tablet, for publication by a lady who was received by him into the Catholic Church in 1872.

In Sir Wilfrid's absence one of his conferees had a revelation. No one was as much as thinking of the tariff when Mr. Tarte declared that it did not afford protection enough.

The shadow of a great peril has been lifted from the land by the settlement of the Pennsylvania coal strike. It was a peril that never again should be permitted to threaten the people.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Hon. Edward Blake addressed the United Irish League Convention in Boston on Tuesday. The address will appear in another issue of The Register.

Premier Barton, of Australia, has had the unpleasant experience of being hooted in the capital of the Commonwealth on account of the vexatious operation of the Federal tariff.

Very general regret is felt for the early death of Mr. Lionel Johnson, distinguished as a poet, who, born an Englishman and a Protestant, became in sympathy more Irish than the Irish themselves.

Other instances of the good fruit borne of the union of intellectual activity with earnest faith in the United States might readily be cited. But enough has been said by way of challenge to the Catholics on this side of the line.

AN "APOLOGIA" IN BRIEF

The Oratory, July 3, 1871. My Dear Mrs. II.—As to your question, suggested by your friends, it is not at all the case that I left the Anglican Church from despair.

would have been written except for this shock. Thus you see my condemnation of the Anglican Church arose not out of despair, but when everything was hopeful.

As to your further question, whether, if I had stayed in the Anglican Church till now, I should have joined the Catholic Church at all, at any time now or hereafter, I think that most probably I should not.

My Dear Mrs. II.—I sincerely rejoice and thank God that you are so far advanced by His mercy as to be convinced that the Church in communion with Rome is that which Christ set up in the beginning as the Oracle of Truth.

Your shrinking back is very natural and does but show that you realize what you are doing. I felt it most painfully myself when I was approaching the Church.

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thought, feeling, impulse, tendency of my mind and been so all along. To entertain such an idea, as it would be contrary to my nature to think of cutting my throat, or cheating a friend, I simply can't admit the idea into my mind.

A Most Historic Event in Canadian Music THE GREAT ITALIAN COMPOSER MASCAGNI

will conduct his own operas with immense orchestra, chorus, scenery and costumes. MARY HALL, THURS. OCT. 30. Afternoon, 7:30, Evening, 8:15. PRICES \$2, \$3, \$4. Admission \$1.00, \$1.

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