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LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION.

The Europe Str. For some time past I have read more stimule paper, The Catholic Recent.

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Its matter about mare both good; and a crily Catholic sprit pervades the whole.

Therefore the published.

Blessing you and wishing you success, Believe me to remain.

Yours faithfully in Jesus Christ.

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Believe me to remain.
Yours faithfully in Jeaus Christ.
O FALCONIO Arch, of Larissa,
Apost. Deleg.

YONDON, SATURDAY, DEC. 31, 1904.

THE ST. CATHARINE'S PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD.

A recent issue of the St. Catharine's Star approves strongly of a resolution of the Library Board of that city to the effect that the denominational magasines be added to the list of publications to be taken by the board for the edification and instruction of the people. It says: "the spirit of libagality displayed by the members of the Board on that occasion meets, not only with commendation at the hands of the clergy, but also with the hearty approval of every right-thinking citimen of St. Catharines."

The Catholic citizens of St. Catharines certainly cannot unreservedly approve of such action, unless perfect dairness be shown in the selection of magazines to be placed on the library table. The Catholics, we presume, are fairly well represented on the library board of the city. The Separate School Board has authority to appoint two representatives on the Board, and besides the Catholics have a voice in the selection of the City Council, which appoints the Board, and have shus an indirect voice in the selection of members of the Library Board. It is not always the case that this indirect voice is of much weight in the selection of members of committees or of a Libwary Board, and we cannot say what may be the religious complexion of the Library Board of St. Catharines, but we can say that the Catholics of the wity should be duly represented on the committee which selects the magazines which are to be placed on the table for the edification of the citizens. There is great danger that the choice may fall upon violent anti-Catholic, and even anti-Christian literature. Against the selection of such literature we pro test in the name of the Catholic popu lation of the city, and at the same time, we desire to call attention to the fact that there are numerous Catholic amagazines which ought to be included in the selection, if denominational magmelnes are to be taken into the library at all. There are the Dublin Magazine of Dublin, the Catholic World of New York, the Ecclesiastical Review, Irish and American; Donahoe's Magazine of Boston and others which should and be overlooked when the Library Board is making its selection.

In the same issue of the Evening Star in which the matter is mentioned, there is a letter from the Rev. Dean Ker of St. Catharines in which he approves of the principle of admitting denominational magazines, while he protests against the introduction of godless magazines, which, under the disguise of being Christian, are really in-Adel, and attack the foundations of Mey. Dean that literature of this class should be excluded.

Canada is a Christian country still, motwithstanding the inroads upon Christianity which have unfortunately been made under cover of the denominpatients and the denominationalism of the neighboring republic, and we hope that these inroads will not be permitted by the foundations of Christianity.

seen some comments of our own on this article. Rev. Mr. Ker seems to agree with us in the opinion that the terrible state of affairs revealed by Mr. McClure is due chiefly to the cause to which we have attributed it, though he does not positively say so, namely, the godless system of education prevailing in the United States. We hope that this godless education will not be propagated in Canada, and that the library boards of our towns and cities will not aid in encouraging it by the introduction of godless literature on their tables and shelves.

AN AMERICAN TRIUMPH FOR IRRELIGION.

strange despatch is published from Chicago in the papers of the United States in regard to the action of the University of Chicago. It is stated that the faculty and students have agreed that the Doxology shall not be recited or sung any more in that institution, but that the college song "Alma Mater" shall be substituted therefor.

The reason given for this is as surprising as the fact itself. It has been solemnly decided by the authorities and students together that college songs do more to foster a truly religious and college spirit than the chanting of the tenets of Christian belief; and, stranger still, it is in the religious services in the chapel that this substitution is to be made. The change has already taken place, and from December 6th, the date of the despatch, the college song " Alma Mater " has actually been sung instead of the Doxology.

Our readers are of course aware that by the Doxology is meant the verse which begins "Glory be to the Father, etc." It is sung in praise of the adorable Trinity, whereas the Alma Mater is a praise of the College itself, which is thus to be elevated to the dignity of a goddess by being lauded even beyond all reason in the religious services of the institution.

This action of the Chicago University reminds us of the conduct of the French revolutionists at the close of the eighteenth century who abolished altar of the Church of Notre Dame, the Cathedral of Paris, a woman of evil repute, to be adored under the name of the goddess of Reason, instead of the true God.

France has not to this day recovered from the effects of the evil doings of that date, which is known in history as the reign of Terror, when Terror was

To the evil teachings of that day are to be attributed the latent and open enmity of so many Frenchmen to religion and to God Himself. It is owing to the teachings of those days that the war now being waged by Premier Combes against religion has proved somewhat successful. But the days of the reign of Terror were shortened then, and we have no doubt that in the present crisis there will also come a day when the persecution of the Catholic Church in France will cease. and that the Church will emerge triumphant from amid the persecutions to which she is being subjected.

We are sorry to notice this temporary triumph of irreligion in Chicago, and we can do no more than express our hope that it may be shortlived

THE INCREASE OF LAWLESSNESS IN AMERICA.

Mr. S. S. McClure, the editor and proprietor of McClure's Magazine. that periodical the increase in lawlessess in the United States; and certainly, from the figures given, that increase is most alarming.

The particular crime which has been taken as a test is murder or homicide, The year 1903 does not show a very great increase over 1902 in the number of crimes of this nature, but even here figures given. But the population in these years, when there was no census taken, is necessarily hypothetical, being based upon an estimate derived from the figures of years when there was an actual census. We will, in the remarks we have to make on this subject, confine ourselves chiefly to the years when a census was taken, except-Christianity. We fully agree with the ting, however, those cases where the figures are undoubtedly authentic from being ascertained from sources inde-

pendently of the census. In 1881 the number of murders and nomicides in the republic was 1,266, one for each 40,534 people.

showing; but year after year they munity. the denominations or sects in Canada, grew larger till in 1891 the murders even under the guise of a false higher and homicides reached 5,906, and in offices with the aid and endorsement of eriticism, the purpose of which is to sap 1901 the alarming number was 7,852, the other classes named already. while in 1903 it reached 8,976. In He says these classes combine to The Rev. Mr. Ker, in his letter, reserved years during this period the nominate and elect men who will agree is no help, as the laws stand. Mrs. Sere to the article in the current number | number was still greater, reaching 9,800 | not to enforce the laws against those of McChre's Magazine in which so in 1894; 9,520 in 1897; 10,200 in 1895, who assist in degrading the community. terrible a picture is drawn of the im- and the enormous number 10.652 in The evil combination includes governors associality which has been increasing 1896. These last two numbers show of states, legislators, mayors, munici-

of population. In 1901 there were 100.9 to the million, and in 1903 the estimated number to each million was

The numbers executed for these crimes fell very far short of the actual murderers. Thus in 1881, for 1,266 murders, only 90 were executed; in 1891 for 5,906 murders, 123 were executed; in 1903, for 8,976 murders there were 124 executed, and during the whole period of twenty-three years, for 129,464 murders, the number of executions was 2,611. The surprising fact is thus seen to be that while in 1881 there was one execution for 14 murders, in 1903 there was only one execution for 72 murders and homicides.

There is much less crime in European cities than in those of America, and it is not the foreigners who commit these crimes; for it is noted that in some States where the American blood is purest crimes of violence are most predominant. Kentucky is an example of this; and there is no country in Europe which had so high a rate of crime as the United States, except Russia.

London has a population of 6,500,000, yet it had only 24 murders last year, and what is most remarkable as a contrast to the United States is the fact that in every instance the culprit was taken by the police. Nine were sentenced to be hanged, four committed suicide, and the others were sent to prison. The Chicago News stated recently that Chicago, with one fifth of the population of London, had 128 murders during the same time. Eighteen of the murderers were killed while committing their crimes. Four were shot by the police while endeavoring to arrest them, leaving 106 cases to be dealt with by the law. Out of these cases there were only thirty-four convictions. In thirty-three instances there were no arrests at all.

Whence arises the great failure of justice in America, in the later years? Is it because the police are less vigilant than they used to be, or that the police force is now inadequate to fulfil its onerous duties? Or is it that the criminals are more cunning than the Churches, and who placed on the they were formerly, and manage to cover their footsteps better? It may be that each of these reasons applies to the case, and we suspect that this is the true state of the case.

To understand the whole matter it is necessary to keep in view the extent of the growth of population. We should, therefore, here note that in 1881 the population of the United States was 51,316,000; in 1891 it was 63,947,000, and in 1901 it was 77,754,000. In 1903 it was estimated at 80,143,000.

The suicides are not reckoned in the above figures; but they also increased very greatly in number, in fact, even to a greater degree in proportion to the population than the murders and homicides. The total number of suicides for the twenty-three years was 82,555, beginning with 605 in 1881, and becoming more numerous year by year, till in the three years of the period they reached respectively the very large numbers of 7,845; 8,132; 8,597-

The facts of the case as here preknown in a general way, but have not, arly as has been done by Mr. McClure, and they have been widely commented on by many prominent papers; but none have questioned their accuracy, the purpose of the comments being not self-glorification, but an earnest desire to trace the causes and points out in the December number of find the remedy for such a deplorable

state of affairs. Mr. McClure attributes the condition of affairs chiefly to the fact that to a very great extent the government of the country is in the hands of a corrupt oligarchy who are selected and elected to office for reasons other than special fitness for their tasks, and frequently for the definite purpose of robbing the there is an increase according to the people who elect them. He asks: "Can a body of policemen engaged in blackmail, persecution, and in shielding law-breakers make a community lawabiding? Can a board of aldermen who for private gain combine to loot a city, govern a city well ?"

But he regards others as well as elected and appointed officials as responsible for the eyil. He divides the "corrupt oligarchy" into three classes thus :

1. Saloon keepers, gamblers, and others who engage in businesses that degrade.

2. Contractors, capitalists, bankers being 24.7 for each million of people, or and others who get franchises and the property of the community more cheaply These figures are of themselves a sad by bribery than by paying the com-

3. Politicians who seek and accept

rob their own neighbors, to bribe lawmakers, and also jurymen who refuse to render just verdicts.

Mr. McClure's remedy for all this is that a new righteousness which shall become a new passion among the people should be developed, namely, the love of country.

Among the journals which have discussed Mr. McClure's article there is great diversity of opinion as regards the true causes of the evil and its remedy. All admit that the causes he assigns are responsible to a great extent, and express the hope that a remedy may be found. The general opinion seems to be that the remedy proposed will have some weight, but its efficacy by itself to check the evil is evidently doubted by them for the nost part.

The Brooklyn Eagle says on the sub-

"There is no way under heaven, in a democracy by which you can get an officialdom which is above the moral standards of the people from whom it is chosen. Our judges, especially of the higher courts, have long represented our aspiration after an ideal and un spotted administration of law; but the grade will fall just so s as the aspiration grows faint. surely thing will not stop until the honest majority become something more than ssively honest, until such men are willing to devote the time and money needed to capture and control th chinery for righteonsness. That would mean a loss of income to hundreds of thousands of Americans who now have their noses so deeply buried in their own affairs that the cannot even see public questions above the rim of their own troughs. That is why the situation is so difficult and so dangerous."

For our part, we cannot believe that

any merely human motive will avail in

stopping this evil, which belongs so clearly to the sphere of morals. Love country, from a merely natural notive, may, indeed, have some effect upon human actions, but to become a power it should be founded upon the ove of God, and there can be no love of God without a full recognition of God's existence, His care of the world, and especially of man, and of what He has done for mankind, with regard specially to our Redemption. All this can be done only through the teaching of the Christian religion, and that teaching must be based apon religious dogma. Truth compels us to say that in our belief much of the crime of the pres sent day is due to the absence of religious teaching to the youth of the country. We fear also that the evil has gone so far that there is very slight hope of bettering the state of affairs till there came a reaction toward the Catholic faith. which it will take a long time to bring about. In fact Protestantism of every shade, except a well defined section or the Episcopal Church, is tending more and more every day toward unbelief in the dogmas of Christianity, and with the country practically verging toward heathenism, we cannot expect anything else than that its morals should degenerate in the same direction.

What else can account for the single fact that while the population in creased 56 per cent. the number of sented in a brief form have long been suicides increased to the astounding perhaps, been put forth in detail so evidently a falling off in the fear of

THE DIVORCE LAWS. A Mrs. Grace Spell Layman of Chicago recently obtained a fifth Some of these divorces were obtained upon but slight grounds, and the fact of Mrs. Layman's numerous divorces gave great umbrage to the judges, who, though accustomed to administer the lax divorce laws of the State of Illinois, could not suppress their indignation at the utter want of appreciation of the sacredness of marriage shown by Mrs. Layman in seeking divorce so frequently. Judge Brentano declared that there ought to be a general law for the United States under which the sacredness of the marriage tie should be properly regarded. In reference to Mrs. Layman,

quick marriages and divorces, she has shown her utter inability to appreciate

ther last name is at present, has turned marrled life into opera bouffe. It is all wrong, absurd, ontrageous. But there is no help, as the laws stand. Mrs. Layman can marry again, as soon as she can find any man who wishes to make her his wite."

their rulers."

The term, "Head of the Western Branch," as applied by Mr. Washington to the Pope, would seem to imply that the writer is in sympathy with the writer is in sympathy with men tike Arthur Lloyd in Japan, Spencer Jones in England, and our editorial contemporaries of The Lame in You

who is to undergo the ordeal; though indeed, he who goes into such a union with his eyes open, and with knowledge of the antecedents of his intended bride, is scarcely deserving of pity.

It is much to be regretted that there is so little regard for the marriage bond throughout the United States, but it is not so much the persons who take advantage of the law who are to be blamed, as the whole people of the State who have approved of the making of such laws.

It is to some extent an encourage ment to hope that these laws permitting the dissolution of marriage on slight pretences are denounced even by the Judges to whose hands their administration is committed, but we fear the hope of their repeal is a slender one, as the opinions of a few judges, even strongly expressed, are not likely to turn the current of popular opinion which has approved the passage of such legislation.

PAN ISLAMISM.

The fear has been many times expressed lest there might grow up among the Moslem peoples of Europe, Asia and Africa, a union for aggressive action against Christianity, somewhat similar to that which threatened Europe in past days, as when Charles Martel defeated the Saracen invasion near Tours in 732, and when Abdallah, the last of the Moorish Kings, was finally subdued by King Ferdinand the Christian in 1492.

From the eleventh to the seventeenth century many efforts were also made by the Turks to extend their dominion over Europe, but the crowning defeat they endured was that inflicted by John Sobieski at Vienna in 1683, since which time only desultory efforts were made to extend Turkish rule in Europe and during the nineteenth century we have seen that rule constantly declin-

There is now in Egypt a so-called Pan-Islam Association which is said to comprise four million associates, the object of whom is to propagate Moslemism, but it does not appear that it will be able to do more than protect

the Moslem religion against aggression. The Sultan of Turkey is nominally the head of all Islamite nations, but that headship is only imaginary so far as political authority is concerned outside of his own dominions, and even within his own territory it is disputed in Macedonia and Armenia. It is difficult to say what may be done within a few years in these provinces towards freeing these wretchedly governed territories from the Turkish yoke, but there is little if any danger that the Tarkish dominion will be extended in any quarter, and still less that all Moslem countries will unite under the Sultan for aggressive purposes against Christendom. Those who are best informed on this point assert that there is no expectation that any such aggressive movement is at all likely to be undertaken.

THE SIMPLICITY AND DIRECT-NESS OF POPE PIUS X.

The foreign correspondent of the Prosuicides increased to the astounding extent of 1321 per cent? There is evidently a falling off in the fear of God, the punisher of sin, superadded to any other causes which might be assigned.

The foreign correspondent of the Protestant Episcopal Living Church, who testant Episcopal Living Church, who these can do its share of vilification of the Catholic system, when necessary, without calling in the aid of Burts or Brents, even though these be accomplished experts in the profitable art of besmirching those whom it is designed (as in the case of the Filipinos) to oppress and rob.—Philadelphia Catholic Standard and Times. Sovereign Pontiff in face of the anger of the French Government.

Following on the strained relations of the Vatican and the French Government, this act of tardy obedience has divorce, being the petitioner in the raised a storm of angry expression in all government organs. The sayings are not worth quoting. But the fact of the matter is worth a hundred letters of justification or expostulation on the part of Rome to the President of the Council; and will be a source of untold satisfaction to all the faithful sons of the Church of France."

Mr. Washington continues: "The

Pope just completed, it will be remembered, his first year of office. Naturally this has been the occasion of hundreds of congratulatory letters from Italy, Spain, Austria, and especially, France. Each diocese seems to have vied with the other in expressions of stout soldier of the Church.

"Whatever may be the verdict of the future on the action and attitude of shown her utter inability to appreciate the sanctity of the marriage life. This dragging of the sacred things of life while guarding the interests of his decessors had been called upon to take. While guarding the interests of his charge against inroads upon his permissional rights (as they might be a lower level how such a highly sampled to the control of the cont their rulers."

York State, in regarding the Pope as

see clearer yet! The Pope is not "Head of the Western Branch" but of the Catholic Church.—Sacred Heart

WHY THIS MALICE ?

There is nothing in any phase of life

so striking as the difference between missionary methods in the Catholic Church and the sectarian institutions which strive to imitate her. While the Catholic missionary is a true priest in his charity to all mankind, and appeals to the sentiment of love, the average non-Catholic one seems to have no idea of any gospel but that of hate. The vocabulary is exhausted in the quest for epithets to pour out on the venerable mother of civilization; the things that are held holiest by Catholic worshipers subjected to such indignities as the old Roman populace used to subject their dead tyrants' images to as they dragged them through the streets. One of the foulest of these foul birds of billingsgate is the divine (!) who was lately made a Methodist Bishop, Dr. Burt. More than once it was our unpleasant to call attention to the sayings duty and doings of this bargee in his att to scuperize the poor population of Italy he has set up his so-called mis sions. His aspersions are not confined to the clergy; the women of Rome and Italy he makes it a practice to defam in a manner the reverse of that taught in the Gospel as the proper way even with sinners. One would imagine, from the outpourings of this emissary that in Catholic countries feminine virtue had no place in any class of society. Recently he addressed a meeting in Des Moines, Iowa. and surpassed himself in veno came to speak of Rome, the city which he defles with his insidious souperism: "Converted Hindoos, who had wit-

aessed the sacrifices in the Ganges and the various other diabolical practices of the Brahmans and Buddhists, have never witnessed in their own country such inhuman practices as they saw in "Christian" Rome. Romanism in Rome stifles intellectual and econprogress. It destroys individual conscience and personal responsibility. It makes salvation to depend on kissing the bones of the saints and going upstairs on your knees. If you don't care to go on your own knees, hire some one else to kneel and the result will be the same. Rome is the centre of an eccle iastical hierarchy, of all reactionary intrigues. The peace of the world being disturbed by secret plots in the

Methodists are not alone in this hocking indifference to decency. nore dignified plane of action, ometimes found to be partial to the style of Scarron also. Bishop Brent, who is one of the participants on Convention and is going to make the Filipinos good Episcopalians or good source of revenue to himself, some time ago gave a foretaste of what he was going to tell the convention, in a age very timely recalled in our vigilant contemporary, the Providence

"They (the Filipinos) are so credulous that they will kiss the hand of a tinsel decked seemp, who, having smeared himself with shoe dressing, announces himself as the Black Christ. They will drink the foul bubblings of escaping sewage, because some one has started

the report that it is a miraculous well."

Bishop Brent does not read the American papers of late, we may presume, else he would be aware of the fact that a white woman and a white man have many thousands—nay millions of white followers who believe these im-postors when they each pretend to be emething hardly less than Christ. either Bishop Burt or Bishop Brent was to attempt a mission [among the followers of John Alexander Dowle or Mrs. Eddy, he would speedily find that his services were not desired. Standard and Times.

" SPIRIT FRUIT " SOCIALISM.

Chicago has long been known as a fertile field for ' religious" and irreligious extravagances of every descrip tion. Religious impostors seem to drift there naturally to seek new converts to their absurd doctrines. Generally they are not disappointed. Dowieites, Sun Worshippers, New Thoughtists of every school find there followers of their peculiar tenets, and this not among the more ignorant class by any means. The craze for something new neans. The craze for supposedly seems to have affected the supposedly educated class somewhat as it affe the Athenians in the days of Paul.

The latest "cult" to attract attention in that city is the "Spirit Fruit ciety, founded by one Jacob Beilhart. loyalty and affection for the simple but His doctrine combines the most radical socialism with a system, or, rather chaos, of free love that would shock garded. In reference to Mrs. Layman, the petitioner in the present case, he said:

"This woman's career has been a rank travesty on marriage and the sacredness of its obligations. By five anick marriages and divorces, she has a capital marriages and divorces, she has been a capital marriage and the western Branch. He succeeded to a troubled cure. In a short love, it will belong to the society, and and the western Branch. He succeeded to a troubled cure. In a short love, it will belong to the society, and and his much marriage to be common property, according to this latest "prophet." "If a child is born," he says, "to any woman who subscribes to the doctrine of universal love, it will belong to the society, and and the sacredness of its obligations. By five capital marriage and the sacredness of its obligations. By five capital marriage and the sacredness of its obligations. By five capital marriage and the sacredness of its obligations. By five capital marriage and the sacredness of its obligations. By five capital marriage and the sacredness of its obligations. By five capital marriage and the sacredness of its obligations. By five capital marriage and the work of the week the sacredness of its obligations. By five capital marriage and the sacredness of its obligations. By five capital marriage and the sacredness of its obligations. By five capital marriage and the sacredness of its obligations. By five capital marriage and the sacredness of its obligations. By five capital marriage and the sacredness of its obligations. By five capital marriage and the sacredness of its obligations. By five capital marriage and the sacredness of its obligations. By five capital marriage and the sacredness of its obligations. By five capital marriage and the sacredness of its obligations. By fiv gear he has had to take more definite steps than very many of his predecessors had been called upon to take.

Note: The a short of the lower and the family are to be obtained and parental affection is to the short of the lower many placed on the short of t be done away with, and men placed on iveliest indignation in right-minded nen."

Judge Mack, who was also on the cench, continued:

"Mrs. Snell, or Layman, or whatever the real state and sympathy of great states, as those and straightforward attitude towards at the rulers."

Charge against inroads upon his perquisitorial rights (as they might be termed), he has yet won the respect and sympathy of great states, as those of England and Germany, by courteous and straightforward attitude towards their rulers."

Charge against inroads upon his perquisitorial rights (as they might be termed), he has yet won the respect and sympathy of great states, as those of England and Germany, by courteous and straightforward attitude towards their rulers." ing doctrines.
There is scarcely any teaching too

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