

The Catholic Register.

"Truth is Catholic; proclaim it ever, and God will effect the rest."—BALMEZ.

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Register of the Week.

The cable reports inform us that war has actually broken out between China and Japan, though, as we might expect of these strange countries, no declaration of war had been made, even after the fighting had begun. The Japanese, who had already been entrenched in Seoul, made the Korean King a prisoner, just as Cortez did in Mexico 300 years ago. Two or three petty naval engagements have been fought, with the success altogether in favor of Japan.

It is generally conceded that Japan has acted throughout the difficulty in strict accordance with the treaty made between the two countries in 1876. The Japanese were quite justified in throwing troops into the Hermit Kingdom for the protection of their citizens against the rebels. Russia is suspected of influencing the Chinese to advance troops into the country, as any disturbance of affairs in the East must be for the benefit of Russian interests. The King of Corea, who was prime mover in the assassination of Kim ok-Kim, naturally favors the Chinese, who aided his plans. The Japanese get credit for not undertaking the war as a war of conquest, but simply to preserve Corea as a buffer state against the advance of Russia and China.

How the war will end is of course a matter of doubt. The Chinese have the advantage of overwhelming numbers, but their troops are poorly drilled and equipped, while the intelligent Japs have a fine modern navy, and an army of 100,000 men properly equipped and possessing the bravery and *esprit de corps* so necessary for military success. The sympathy of America naturally turns toward the Japanese as against the despised Chinese, but the Island Kingdom will have much difficulty in holding her own on land against the innumerable hordes which China can sacrifice for the attainment of victory.

The labor war of the Western States has lost its fearful interest in the musty terms of the law courts. President Debs and other officers of the A. R. U. are on trial for disobeying the injunction of the courts against carrying on the strike. The issue of the case is of great interest to all labor men in the United States, and the various organizations are supplying funds to test the legality of the injunction, if necessary, in the highest courts of the country. Mr. Debs has been promised a nomination for Congress, the labor man being evidently determined to bring the case to the court of last resort—the ballot-box.

The deadlock on the tariff bill in the U. S. Congress has developed new

and striking points of interest. Senator Gorman, of Maryland, who had managed the Wilson Bill in the Senate, took umbrage at the letter of the President to Mr. Wilson, and in a very dramatic manner called on senator after senator to state that Mr. Cleveland and Secretary Carlisle had given their consent to the duties imposed on iron and coal. He defended the duty on coal, asserting that the provisions of the original bill on this point would throw the full control of the coal trade in now England into the hands of the Canadian Pacific Railway, which he stigmatized as a foreign monopoly.

Then was seen the strange spectacle of Senator Hill, Mr. Cleveland's bitterest political opponent, rising in the Senate and defending, in a brilliant speech, the action and motives of the President. His peroration was a fine piece of satire.

"The Senator from Maryland has sought to term me the Iago of the Senate," said he. "I might respond with drafts upon Shakespearean characters. In that case I would term the senator from Maryland as the Casius of the Senate. (Great laughter.) We all recall Casius—the lean and hungry Casius."

Mr. Hill leaned over and addressed himself almost directly to Mr. Gorman. "And the senator from Arkansas I would call Marcus Brutus. It is the senator from Arkansas who has labored so earnestly for this bill. He is the honest Brutus of the Senate—(long laughter)—and Casca is the name of the senator who struck the first blow on Friday last (Mr. Vest); Trebonius, the senator from Indiana; and Metellus Cimber is the senator from Tennessee (Mr. Harris)."

Having thus characterized the senators amid great laughter, Mr. Hill added: "We all remember the cabal which struck down Caesar, and when on yesterday those senators sought to strike down our President they made the mistake that had been made before. Not that they loved Caesar less, but that they loved Rome more; not that they loved the President less, but that they loved the Senate compromise more." Then pausing for a moment, Mr. Hill closed with sarcastic deliberation: "But I can say with Antony, 'they are all honorable men.'"

The Anarchist Bill has passed the French Chamber by a vote of 258 to 163, and the Senate gave a much larger majority. The opposition given to it was rather by speeches than ballots, as the Socialists could get few of the members opposed to it. The new law is most thorough in dealing with the anarchists. A private letter, a word of advice urging the destruction of law, life or property is to be stringently punished. Anarchists are to be denied right of trial by jury, and are instead to be brought before the Correctional Tribunal for secret trial. The press is especially gagged. It is forbidden to print anarchist speeches and sayings, and reports of the trial of these men are to be confined to the indictment and sentence.

It was found necessary to take these trials from the hands of juries on account of the fear of anarchist outrage which would influence jurymen, as in the trial of Ravachol. As for

secretory of trial, it is said that the defence which Vaillant made for his not having done more to propagate anarchy than a hundred speeches could do. Mounier, who was recently sentenced to imprisonment for life for throwing a bomb in the Cafe Very, shouted "Vive l'Anarchie" when sentence was pronounced. The trial of Santo Caserio, the murderer of Carnot, will not be made public. This is a wise provision, though some newspapers make wild attacks on it as restricting the "liberty of the press."

Numerous election protests are being filed in Ontario against candidates elected at the last election. It was thought that on account of some irregularity in election returns the Conservative candidate would be unseated in West Algoma. Mr. Connes says that he will not run again to beat a man on a technicality, which is a feeling that does him honor. Kingston Reformers claim to have discovered that a ballot was cast for Mr. Smythe by a youth under the required age. If this can be proven, Mr. Harty's election will be almost certain. The Province can ill afford to lose the services of Mr. Harty in the Legislature, and the result of the coming protest will be awaited with anxiety.

The Catholic Summer School at Plattsburg is maintaining its high standard of last year. During the past week the principal lecturers were: Rev. P. A. Halpin, S.J., on "Ethical Systems;" Rev. Father Elliot, C.S.P., on "American Institutions;" Rev. Father MacMillan, C.S.P., on "Champlain Explorers;" Rev. J. L. O'Neill, O.P., on "Catholic Literature in Catholic Homes;" Mr. W. C. Robinson, of Yale University, on "Origin and Development of Law," and our countryman, Mr. J. K. Foran, LL.D., on "Early Schools in Canada." Father Halpin's course of five lectures on Philosophy were delivered in his usual brilliant and convincing style, and they created such an impression that Bishop Watterson has requested him to deliver them again at the close of the session for the benefit of late-comers. Dr. Foran gave a very scholarly review of the famous educators of early Canada, and held up, in his own person as well as in his utterances, the literary reputation of our country.

Without any blare of trumpets or noise of controversy two distinguished sons of the Anglican Church were received into the true faith by Archbishop Fabre in Montreal on July 23d. The gentlemen are Rev. Mr. Alexander, lately Episcopal Dean of Fredericton, and Professor Stockley, of the New Brunswick University. They came to Montreal to be instructed in the Catholic faith by Father Jones, S.J. At

their reception into the Church Mr. John Meagher stood sponsor for the ex-dean, and Rev. Canon Bruchesi for Prof. Stockley. No publicity was given to the ceremony, for it was the wish of the converts, as it is the spirit of the Church, that such an event should be a religious function and not a public spectacle. The happy converts assure their friends that they have found new light and perfect peace. May the grace of God induce others to follow this example, that they may also live in this light and peace.

The "Loyal Protestant Women of Canada" are enjoying a perfectly lovely time. Their councils are marked by that spirit of love and unity which has ever characterized the course of Protestantism. The first intimation of trouble is a letter to the press stating that Mrs. Margaret L. Shepherd, the zealous foundress of the League, had been suspended by Mrs. Youmans. Thereupon Mrs. Baskerville, of London, wrote a letter asserting that Mrs. Shepherd was still in authority, and her loyal sheep pasture on the official fields. The chaste Margaret now thinks it is due to her spotless fame to write a letter deploring the fact that Mrs. Youmans had forgotten "the solemnity of her obligation," and announcing her own determination to maintain the principles of the League, "even though we may become unpopular." This is, of course, the worst fate that could befall the "gentle Margaret."

That the Shepherd still retains the power of fleecing the sheep is evident from an interesting little story told in the columns of the *Toronto Star*:

Up in Elmvale there is a gentleman by the name of Gadd who has literary tastes and P.P.A. tendencies, and the *Chronicle* which he runs, has recently developed into a P.P.A. organ or something akin thereto.

Some months ago, when Mrs. Shepherd was up in that district delivering a series of anti-Catholic lectures, she was shown about by the gallant Mr. Gadd, and during one of these pleasant little outings the ex-nun remarked to Mr. Gadd that she could use \$200 very conveniently.

Mr. Gadd immediately went down into cash box and produced the necessary, and only upon much persuasion consented to take a note as security.

Mrs. Shepherd intimated to the gentleman that she had formed so strong a liking for him that she would like to put him in the way of making money.

She told him of the paper she ran, and said it was worth fully \$2,000 above all incumbrances, but she would give it up for \$700.

Again Mr. Gadd responded, this time with \$300 cash and \$400 in notes.

The notes were soon converted into cash. The paper was taken over by Mr. Gadd, who quickly grew tired of his bargain, for bills began to come in like the torrents of a swollen river.

He called Mrs. Shepherd's attention to this and she agreed to relieve him of the white elephant. Mr. Gadd is of course out his \$700.

And so he was relieved and the paper lasted two weeks more, and now the pieces that knew it do not any longer know it, and Mrs. Shepherd is up in the vicinity of Bracebridge enlightening tourists.

The Governor at Warsaw has forbidden the usual pilgrimage to Czestochau on account of the prevalence of cholera.