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LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION. UNIVERSITY OF OTTAWA,

Ottawa, Canada. March 7th. 1900. litor of THE CATHOLIC RECORD. te the Editor of London, Ont:
London, Ont:
Dear Sir: For some time past I have read
pour estimable paper, The Catholic Record,
pour estimable paper, on upon the manner in pear Sir: roughly pears, The Catholic Baner in a restimable paper, The Catholic Baner in the his published. Its matter and form are both good: and a ally Catholic spirit pervades the whole. Therefore, with pleasure, I can recommend to the faithful.

Blessing you, and wishing you success.

Believe me, to remain,
Yours faithfully in Jesus Christ,
† D. Falconio, Arch. of Larissa,
Abost. Deleg.

LONDON, SATURDAY, SEPT. 27, 1902.

MGR. DIOMEDE FALCONIO, THE APOSTOLIC DELEGATE.

A despatch from Rome dated Sept. 15th states that the Holy Father has definitely decided to send the Most Rev. Diomede Falconio, the Apostolic Delegate for the Dominion of Canada, to Washington, as Apostolic Delegate for the United States.

Though the business of the office of the delegation at Ottawa was done quietly and excited but little outside comment, many important matters came before it for adjudication, and in each case Mgr. Falconio showed himself equal to every emergency, discharging the duties of his high office with the German or an Austrian Princess. skill of a practiced canonist, and at the same time with a suavity of manner which endeared him to all who had intercourse with him.

Assuming that the cablegram is correet, which informs us that Mgr. Falconio is to leave Canada, we must say that his departure will be regretted by all, but especially by the Archbishops, Bishops and priests who have transacted business with him.

The only thing that moderates our regret at the delegate's departure is the fact that he will have a wider sphere in the United States in which to put into action his extensive knowledge of all things pertaining to Theology and Canon law, and will in his new position be able to render still greater services to religion than could be done in the this Dominion.

We hope that Mgr. Falconio will have a successor who will be as efficient by Rationalism to destroy all belief in as himself in fulfilling the important the supernatural, all human beings duties of Apostolic Delegate.

"THE END JUSTIFYING THE MEANS.'

Catholic practices and teachings which have been reviled by sectaries the last three and a half centuries as superstitions or idolatrous are being constantly vindicated by being adopted quietly, and sometimes even ostentatiously, by the very sects which have most vehemently misrepresented them when Catholics practiced them.

Within the last two or three years Dr. Parker of London Temple announ publicly his conviction that his saintly departed wife prayed for him constantly, and that he would ask her prayers, and neither the Presbyterian Church to which the doctor still nominally belongs, nor the Baptist Church for which he is actually officiating in the late Mr. Spurgeon's Temple, has repudiated or condemned the doctor's doctrine or practice implying that the saints pray for us and that it is a lawful and pious practice to invoke them or to ask their intercession.

Pictures of the supposed saints, Charles and John Wesley, have before now been set up for reverence in the principal Methodist church of Toronto; and now the announcement is made that the General Methodist Conference of Canada in session at Winnipeg on the 18th inst. adopted "unanimappropriate celebration of John find out from our own consciousness Wesley's two hundredth birthday which | what those relations are. is soon to occur. It is, of course, because John Wesley is regarded as saints is justifiable and laudable.

In view of the fact that the Conference has made a special movement Presbyterianism, we may well wonder

expressly condemns the practice as a breach of the first commandment, and therefore an act of idolatary. Will it be overlooked when the act of union shall be accomplished?

It is to be remarked, however, that the immediate purpose of the celebration is announced to be "to raise at least a quarter of a million dollars." Perhaps the expected gain is regarded as sufficient to cover the iniquity of the

MORGANATIC MARRIAGES GERMANY.

We have received from Rev. Chas. C. Starbuck, of Andover, Mass., a second ommunication in regard to morganatic marriages in Germany. He assures us that these marriages have ceased to be regarded in that country as dissoluble, whatever they have been in the past, alone they could hope for success. and that they are now held to be of full force as valid and binding marriages. what they have been, merely a means the royal families who may contract

In the particular instance which in the first place gave occasion to our remarks on these marriages, namely, in regard to the proposed morganatic marriage of the Crown Prince of Germany to an American lady, and which was indignantly refused by the lady, it is now stated that, owing to the opposition of the Emperer William, no such marriage will take place. It is asserted, however, that the Crown Prince will at an early date marry a

DUPES OF SUPERSTITION.

We have read so often statements by Protestant polemical writers to the effect that Catholic countries are sunken in superstition, which is the result of their religion, whereas Protestant countries are bright with the light emanating from a knowledge of truth and an open Bible, that it may seem rash for us to assert that superstition finds its home chiefly in countries which are most strongly Protestant, yet we doubt not that this is the case, and many circumstances which come to light from time to time confirm this view.

The reason for this is not to be sought far away. Faith in the Unseen more limited field of action afforded by is natural to man, and notwithstanding the efforts made by Protestantism to overthrow authority in religion, and are impelled by a natural instinct as well as by solid reasoning to believe that there is an unseen world which is the dwelling place of spirits, beginning with God and including countless hosts of created spirits who have likewise some control over the things of earth, though we cannot explain how this occurs.

The words of the prophet David are not void of meaning which tells us that

"The heavens show forth the glory of God, and the firmament declareth the work of His hands. Day to day utter-eth speech, and night to night sheweth There are no speeches nor languages where their voices are no heard. Their sound hath gone forth into all the earth, and their words unto

The meaning of this is clearly that was given out. creation itself, the sky with the atmosphere and the stars which bespangle them declare that there is a God Who on the part of many Americans. created all.

The succession of day and night is of

ously with applause" a recommend- to teach us in what relations we stand

It is easy to understand that the workings of the human intellect with all the chief saint of Methodism that his its vagaries will conjure up absurd imbirthday is to be observed. Thus it aginings; whereas if we had an authoris admitted that the Catholic practice | ized representative of God we should | Rollerism, Christian Scientism or Eddy-

senseless notions. This is precisely what occurs. The throughout the United States, which Catholic Church, established and taught they could not obtain elsewhere, and looking toward effecting a union with by Christ, has handed down His teach- that the leaders of these delusions have ings to the present day, and condemns how this keeping of saints' festival as forbidden by the first commandment In the States hundreds of Palmists. days will be regarded by the latter of the decalogue all false teachings and Clairvoyants, Astrologists and like im-

lowing enumerated in the catechism in non use among Catholics:

"All incantations, charms and spells, also idle observations of omens and accidents, and all such nonsensical remarks: all dealings and communications the devil, and inquiring after things lost, hidden or to come, by improper

Catholics thus warned do not join the modern diabolical sects such as Spiritists. Theosophists, etc., and it is notorious fact that the hundreds of Mormon missionaries who spread themselves over Europe as a pestilence seeking for proselytes to join them in their Amer- war upon the schools taught by nuns ican sink of iniquity, soon learned to throughout the country. By this cow avoid the Catholic parts of Europe as a ardly proceeding M. Combes and his barren soil for their work, and confined colleagues have excited the ire even of their efforts to England, certain parts the most ultra Republicans, whose of Germany, Norway, Sweden and other daughters have been educated in acadthoroughly Protestant countries, where emies taught by the religious orders;

assured that such scandals as have one Rev. John H. Smith Pigott creased to that extent. Yet we cannot | followers, who are styled the Agapemon | put an end to such an arbitrary measure. ing for life, morgantic marriages, if ment was made in the presence of three if not sooner; and indeed it may com contracted, will still continue to be hundred of his own followers and much sooner than is expected, for even being unable to enter.

> cated classes who are the victims of the French people. this delusion, but those who are in good circumstances, and who have had patriotism enough even among the opportunities for a fair education.

One Mr. Prince was the founder of this of civil war! strange sect which has a large number he said in a parody on St. John's gospel:

" For the second coming there was a man sent from God whose name was Brother Prince. Those who received his message were very few. The Churches rejected him as a blasphemer and a wicked man, but his wis dom is justified again; for those who receive him now."

The strangers in and outside the Church acted throughout the proceedings in an unruly manner; a great din was kept up during the whole service, and the women raged against the Agapemonites on account of the blasphemies of their leader, and their acceptance of his preposterous claims to be the Son of God.

Only a country overrun with the Babel of Sectarianism which renders religion a farce could furnish so many credulous dupes to give their adhesion to a blasphemer of Pigott's pretences. It is stated that Pigott's former life was dissipated, which makes it the more remarkable that his followers should accept him as the sinless Saviour of mankind.

It has be authorities of London have asked the defence are necessary for the complete Agapemonites to leave the city in order that there may be no further danger of trouble arising out of their services, and it was stated that the pseudo-Messiah had complied and left for Taunton where the founder of the sect had built an elegant Church and a commodious residence for its leader, but it has subsequently appeared that the report was premature as the services have the ends of the world." (Ps. xviii. 1-4.) been still going on since that report

From Paris, there are also despatches which show a strange superstition also

Mr. Gowdy, the United States consul in that city, recently informed a itself our instructor, teaching us that an newspaper correspondent that the conall-wise and all-powerful Creator is the sulate has been inundated with letters cause of this phenomenon, and to all and verbal inquiries from Americans nations the facts convey the knowledge regarding the name of the vessel which that such a Being exists Who is the has been selected to bring to America cause of all things. These facts speak | the bodies of Mr. and Mrs. Charles L. a language which all can understand. Fair, the millionaire Americans who Protestantism and Rationalism have were killed in an automobile accident. destroyed in mankind, as far as they The purpose of these enquirers is to could, all believe in any authorized avoid returning home on the same vessel, messenger from the Almighty who comes as it is their conviction that to do so would ensure bad luck to themselves. Italy." ation of one of its Committees for the toward our Creator, and we are led to Strict secrecy is maintained in regard to the matter, and no information of the kind asked is given, as the only result would be to give annoyance to the steamship company.

In addition to these instances of superstition, it is well known that Flying of observing the festivals of God's be put upon our guard against these ism, Dowieism and numerous like follies have all secured large followings grown rich at the expense of their dupes.

the credulity of the people of enlightened America. Schlater also, who called himself "the Divine Healer," became wealthy through the followers he easily found in the United States after being obliged to leave Mexico because dupes enough could not be got in that Catholic country to support him in his imposture.

BOMBASTES FURIOSO.

The French Government's prospect ive troubles are not limited to the situation it has made for itself by making and even in this cases the wives of Recent despatches from London, these ardent Republicans, who have England, lead us to this train of themselves been trained in the same We should be glad to know that such is thought. We are informed through institutions, regarded the closing of really the case, as we should then be these sources of information that two thousand five hundred schools at one blow as a personal insult to themarisen in the past from this cause will on Sunday the I4th inst., at "the selves which they will resent as soon as not be repeated. Thus the sum of abode of Love," by which name they have the opportunity to throw morality in the world would be in- the Church is called in which his their whole influence into the scale to but entertain the fear that, until all ists, assemble, announced publicly that This opportunity will present itself at ton's bombast to the French nation in parties going to be married in some one marriages are held to be legally bind- he is "the Messiah." This announce- least when the next election will come, several hundred outsiders who were the present Chamber of Deputies did of gratifying the sinful passions of the able to gain an entrance, while about not give so large a majority in favor of nobles, and especially of members of five thousand people remained outside, M. Combe's revolutionary step as to make it sure that it will not change its The church or chapel is a building vote as soon as the Deputies are conbeautifully decorated inside with alle- vinced that the Government is comgorical bas-reliefs on the walls, pews posed of a set of incapables who have of carved oak and much carving in not wit enough to perceive when they marble and Algerian onyx, which proves are running counter to the deep-rooted that they are not the poor and unedu- religious sentiment of the majority of

Surely there is, or there ought to be, Republican majority of members of the The Church is also called by the Chamber to call upon the Government Agapemonites "the Ark of the Coven- to halt when they behold them driving the nation unnecessarily to the verge

But there is now new trouble facing of followers at Clapton, all of whom the Government, arising out of the fact and Pellatin. place implicit confidence in Pigott as that it is made up of a set of incomthe Messiah. Addressing his followers petents who have not the good sense to measure what strain the religious feelings of the French people will bear, and who are so crazed with fanaticism and Chauvinism that they lose all the dignity of their position when brought face to face with troublesome conditions.

The ridiculous falsehood uttered by M. Combes, that the opposition to the closing of the religious schools originated in a royalist plot to overthrow the Republic, is an evidence of this.

General Andre, Minister of War, also ecently made himself ridiculous by telling the French soldiers that in a conflict between Religion and the Government they should remember that the State or the Government must be obeyed. This is certainly reversing the principle laid down by the Apostles of Christ, that God is to be obeyed rather than men, even when those men are clothed with civil authority.

But the blunders of the Governmen of Incompetents do not end here. M. Pelletan, the Minister of Marine, has been visiting the French colonies on the Mediterranean Sea for the purpose protection of French interests there.

At Ajaccio in Corsica, without any provocation, he most unnecessarily threw out defiance against Italy, which has of late years shown much more disposition to be friendly to France than at any period since the triple alliance has existed. There was no need of gratuitously irritating Italy, but this M. Pelletan has succeeded in doing by his brutality and vanity.

At Bizerta, Tunis, this pugnacious Minister of Marine took occasion to extend his offence of irritating his neighbors by uttering insulting language and threats against Great Britain and Ger-

He laid it down as a first principle that it is not the wish of his Government to make of the Mediterranean a French lake. He continued: "We have been cured of dreams by that great man who wished us to dominate the world. But part of the Mediterranean is French, and will remain French." Then he declared that "he does not desire any conflict of peoples against England any more than against

Considering that there are several other countries besides France which have precious interests on the Meditterranean, it is very considerate of M. French Lake; yet if he had rested content with making this bombastic statement he would certainly not have been body. The Westminster Confession superstitious practices, such as the following out of body.

ing that "in spite of Malta and Gibraltar, an open door can be held be- with which it was rejected. We imtween the two halves of the Meditterranean by the fortresses of Bizerta, are not altogether so enamored of the Toulon and Corsica.

M. Pelletan might have thought all this without giving offence; but it is ferred to would wish. not always discreet for statesmen to speak out in public what is passing Wilson of Chatham, seconded by Mr. through their minds, and when they do J. A. Worrell of Toronto, which was so the whole world is watching for an also in favor of a middle course, met indication of their intentions and plans | with the same fate. By this proposal, in regard to other nations. It is not the clergyman to whom a divorced wonderful, therefore, that the inter- party presents himself for marriage, pretation placed on his speech is that unless it be the case that the two the speaker is full of hatred against parties had been divorced from each England and Italy; and as he added: "At the end of the nineteenth century, after the defeat of France by the barbarism of Old Germany, we saw an offensive return of the law of brute force.

nearly all Europe. Surely France had of the matter had been acceded to, we her hands full enough in the war of should undoubtedly have been face to 1870 with one adversary, to make her face with the strange situation that Minister of Marine cautious now not each diocese would have a different to bid defiance. There was no need of mode of procedure. As the Bishops. gratuitously irritating Italy, but this equally with the clergy and laity, are M. Pelletan has succeeded in doing by known to entertain the most opposite his brutality and vanity.

general, but the nation is to some extent responsible so long as it retains him and men of his stamp in the highest position of authority.

The situation is somewhat redeemed by the fact that already several of the leading journals of Paris have apologized to Italy for the insult offered her. Notably the Journal des Debats of Paris | been granted by the State, there would has done so in scathing language, denouncing !" these random utterances in which allusion is made to everything without rhyme or reason, these cockand-bull stories mingled with boasting, this general rakishness of manner." M. Pellatin calls upon his country

en "to devote all their efforts to keeping intact that focus of justice and light-French genius." We fear that focus will not shine very brightly so long as the Government is not composed of better material than Messrs. Combes The English press generally regards

M. Pellatin's utterances with cemtempt rather than anger; but the press of Berlin is outspoken in its indignation.

THE DIVORCE QUESTION IN THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND.

The question which was most thoroughly discussed at the recent General Synod of the Church of England in Canada was that of the remarriage of divorced persons.

The Rev. Dr. Davidson of Montreal moved the regular orthodox motion which, if passed, would have absolute'y prohibited any recognition of the valid ity or lawfulness of divorce, and any re-marriage of divorced persons by clergymen of the Church. The motion

"No clergyman within the jurisdiction of the Church of England in Canada | person during the lifetime of the other shall solemnize a marriage between persons, either of whom shall have been ivorced from one who is still living at the time of such solemnization.

We have often heard quoted as if it were a self-evident, or at least a revealed truth, that "In medio stat virtus," which may be translated, "Halfway measures are always right." This appears to have been the opinion of Judge Savary of Annapolis, who moved but the cases were excepted in his moprevious impediment. 2. When the When it is proposed merely to satisfy the requirements of the civil law in a case wherein the parties have been Provincial Synod. divorced from each other, and desire to be reunited.

even Evangelicalism, so-called, we ecclesiastical legislation. might have expected that the Judge's The Rev. Mr. Kittson, of Ottawa, reproposition would have met with almost | marked at the General Synod meeting unanimous support. This was not the that "the Roman Catholic and Anglicase, however, the Judge's resolution can Churches are the two great bulhaving been voted down by 53 to 8 Pelletan not to wish to make it a votes in the Synod, which is composed the restraints placed by the Church of in part of clerical and in part of lay delegates. There are several widely divergent beliefs among the members very warmly thanked; but he would at of the Synod in regard to the sanctity least have made no new enemies. As of marriage. Some believe that a the case stands, he made an egregious valid marriage should not be dissolved blunder by telling his audience that it except by death, while others wish to is "part of their duty to prepare for a leave it entirely to the State or parliaholy war of the French fatherland ment to pronounce the dissolution of against its enemies whoever they may marriages. Judge Savary's motion in England, Scotland, Australia and be." He then gives it to be under- was not acceptable to the advocates America, and even in the different

accounts for the remarkable unanimity agine that the members of the Synod principle of taking always the "middle course" as the polemists we have re-

Another proposition by Mr. Matthew other, and wish to be re-married, must refuse to marry them until he has submitted the case to the Bishop, the inference being that with the approval of the Bishop the second marriage may Thus M. Pellatan runs amuck of be proceeded with. If this disposition views in regard to the right of divorce, We do not wish to attribute M. Pella- we should have the spectacle of many Anglican diocese who would not be allowed to marry elsewhere on the plea that such a marriage is against the law of God.

If this proposition had been carried we have no doubt that to the dioceses in which there are Bishops who are in favor of accepting divorces which have be an influx of parties who have been so divorced, desiring to be married again bringing a golden harvest of fees to the rectors of these dioceses, at the expense of those who have charge of parishes in less accomodating localities. The proposal was lost on a vote of 47 to 15. The golden harvest will not be reaped. as middle courses appear not to be looked upon with favor by the General Syncd,

We may here remark that last year at the meeting of the Provincial Synod, which comprises Ontario and Quebec within its jurisdiction, the Synod was just saved from putting the Church of these two provinces on this very footing which the General Synod has rejected by so decisive a vote. A resolution substantially identical with that of Mr. Wilson mentioned above was proposed by the Rev. Dr. Davidson and passed by 73 clerical and 24 lay votes, as against 16 clerical and 17 lay votes. The House of Bishops accepted the resolution after cancelling the clause which gave to the Bishop the right of approving such marriages. Dr. Davidson, while moving the resolution, then showed that he disliked the modifying clause, for he remarked, "he would be prepared to strike out the last five ords and let the synod lay it down absolutely that, so far as the opinion of that Church was concerned, the law of God should be intact, and no divorced should be married." Nevertheless he consented to the introduction of the clause with this protest, the clerical and lay majorities of the synod being apparently alike of the opinion that God's law needed some amendment; or perhaps being doubtful regarding the existence of any divine law on the point.

It would appear that the law as passed a resolution which went part of the way by the Provincial Synod now prevails toward, the principle contended for by in the Ontario and Quebec provinces. Dr. Davidson. The Judge moved in But the motion of Dr. Davidson to make effect that clergymen should be pro- this law uniform throughout the Dominhibited from marrying couples when ion has not carried, as the General one of the parties is a divorced person, Synod did not approve of it. This motion as given toward the beginning tion: 1. When the divorce was de- of the present article was approved by clared to have arisen from a case where | the clergy by a vote of 31 to 7, but was the marriage had been null through a disapproved by 15 to 7 laymen. As it would need the assent of both orders to party already referred to as divorced is become the law of the Church, it was the "innocent party" in a divorce declared lost, and now the various granted for the cause of adultery. 3. practices of the separate dioceses will rule, instead of the divine law, as Dr. Davidson explained it before last year's

It would please us greatly to see the Church of England fall into line with In view of the frequently repeated the Catholic Church in maintaining the boast which prominent clergymen of inviolability of the marriage bond, and the Church of England delight in the law of God; but we do not expect making, that the Church holds essenti- this to take place while an element ally the middle place in her teaching, which is disposed to give to the civil between the opposite extremes of power the right to put asunder what Catholicity and Latitudinarianism, or God has joined together controls

warks against divorce, and in his view England against this evil should not be removed.'

The position of the Catholic Church on this question is definite and well understood; but we fail to see how the bulwark character is maintained by the Church of England and its sister Churches of the United States, etc. which have different laws on the subject

VERY KIND W We feel very much o O'Brien of Kalamazoo, the following flattering CATHOLIC RECORD, which the last number of the

SEPTEMBER 27.

paper, the Augustinian Ata gathering of p ing statement was made inent clergyman and c ich is very much to t Coffey. 'Of all the Catho Iget, and I think I recei neighbors, I find that RECORD of London, On editorials are alway selections are unequale I prefer it to any States. This conver intended for public gladly offer it as who has sacrifice cause of Catholic journ often that an editor of has that much said of h competent judges, ar any source of comfo hed editor we ar the tribute. We bel SUPERSTITIOU

We have on several out to our readers th tain unauthorized p from time to time am people, to which ec tached which savor of Recently one of t dressd to St. Joseph circulated, to which attached that it show

five times and dis

persons, after which by the possessor, and ever favor is asked o surely obtained. No such condition authorized by the Ca we desire to warn the use of the pray any other prayers t

mises are attached. There are many by the Church addr God, the Blessed and other saints v efficacy, and as t proper authority to those which are thu Church will be high obtaining of graces they are addressed to the saints to asl and these may be m fidence, but those of prayer which ar iously circulated of

are calculated rat good by exciting fa We do not now p prayer to which we not wish to have pagation, but our to recognize it fro the extraordinary it, and to be on th act of superstition by the first comma

JOAN A distinguished Rome-one thorou affairs at the Va author of a book Before the Sacr Rites"-writes province that th

iota of truth published so ext despatches, that Joan of Arc is All the petitions were solved, b introduced. The difficulties to be comes to the performed thro But as the matt cause is in a fair

We may, ther saint to interc whose proudest known as "the Church." A correspon

tional light on yet canonized: "It has been n at Rome, and be According to th ated first-clas wrought throu

canonization. 1 seemed to ente sion of the her process of car the Church's eration. What of life in a her ation of two w where no poss the immediate of God's omnir under conside virtues and th not the least d

> Perfection united to Go St. Liguori.