

The Catholic Register.

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

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Register of the Week.

Last week added another to the already long list of disasters on land, lake and sea afforded by railways and steamers. This time it was Canada's turn. A small paddle wheel steam tug, *John Fraser*, had been used on Lake Nipissing for general passenger purposes; she was then sold and afterwards employed to deliver supplies to the lumber shanties and bring back rafts of logs to the mills at Cache Bay. On Tuesday, the 7th instant, when on her way from Callendar, towing a scow filled with supplies, fire broke out in the engine room. The alarm was at once given, and efforts made to quench the flames, but in vain. One of the boats was thereupon lowered and sixteen or eighteen men got into her, when she drifted into the paddle wheel and was capsized. Of the men who were thrown into the water by this accident only one was saved. Some were struck by the paddle wheel and stunned, some were hampered by their clothes in their efforts to swim, and sank to rise no more. A man named John Adams alone reached the scow, upon which four direct from the steamer had found a refuge, and these were subsequently joined by two more, making a total of seven saved out of twenty who were on board.

By a collision between the Western Transit Company's steamer *Albany* and the Anchor Line steamer *Philadelphia* on the 7th instant 24 lives were lost and both vessels sunk in 200 feet of water off Point aux Barques in Lake Huron.

One must go abroad for news, and nothing could be fresher than Dr. Douglas' views upon any question in which Catholic interests are concerned. In an interview the other night the Dr. expressed his belief that "the time would come when Catholics, emancipating themselves from the influence of the clergy, would abandon sectarianism in educational affairs. The tendencies of the times were all in that direction. This was proved by the liberal attitude of Cardinal Gibbons and Archbishop Ireland, and their liberal action was generously met by the Protestants of the United States." The generosity this time consists in recognizing the rights of Catholic teachers when properly qualified. Heroic generosity, forsooth! For which our co-religionists across the line ought to be forever grateful, that legally qualified teachers are allowed to hold their position. Yet not always, as witness Detroit, which would not have a Catholic in its schools. "Equal Rights" in Canada, and A.P.A. in the United States have great ideas of fair play and generosity.

The millennium of Catholic emancipation to which the Dr. looks forward with prophetic eye is so far

distant that it is hardly worth while speculating about it. Any one may read of that time if he takes up the Book and recalls the Master's words. "When the Son of Man cometh, think you He will find faith upon the earth?"

A speech by the Italian Premier, Signor Giolitti, is alluded to by the European press as the "swan's song." However sincere his promise to restore financial equilibrium may have been a year ago, it was self-condemned by the announcement of a considerable increase in the already crushing burthens. The Triple Alliance will soon turn out like the great Triumvirate. Caesar will alone rule and Caesar is Germany. Insisting that the Italian loan be made at Berlin and interfering in the domestic policy of Italy while Italian silver drifts to France, show that the Emperor is making a cat-paw of the country. The Premier announces fresh demands upon the pocket; succession duties are to be increased; progressive income tax is to be introduced; and lastly, customs are to be collected in gold. This last is equivalent to an increase of twelve or thirteen per cent.

The bank scandals formed an important paragraph in the speech, which did not touch upon the revelations made lately by the incriminated director, Signor Tanlongo. A more serious subject was the condition of Sicily, which is in a state of anarchy. Socialists, brigands, laborers have all united in a general conspiracy against society to the number of a quarter of a million of men. Even the military forces sent there are powerless to preserve peace. They came to put down brigandage, but are employed by the landed aristocracy against the half-starved peasants. The picture drawn of the miners is especially sad: men, women and children starving all day in the fetid atmosphere of sulphur mines, and returning home in the evening physically worn out and faint from hunger only to find nothing to eat. This is the condition in which fertile Sicily, after one generation of Italian rule, has been reduced.

The nearing prospect of Italy being involved in war raises a question to which no Catholic can be indifferent: How will it fare with the Supreme Pontiff in such an event? According to Freemason journals in Italy the Pope's leaving Rome does not depend upon his wishes, but upon the Italian Government who would not permit it under any consideration. What fate is likely to overtake him who sits on Peter's throne, and what will happen to the great treasures of Christianity, may be judged by the following extract: "In the event of Italy going to war and meeting with a reverse, of

the Vatican there would not be left a stone upon a stone, nor would any official force avail to guarantee the lives of its inmates." Who will say, after such prophecy, that Freemasonry is not Judaic and anti Christian?

"The times are perilous," writes the *Philadelphia Standard*, "but we have no fear of the final issue. History over repeats itself. What has been will be. God is all powerful; His arm has not been shortened, nor will He ever fail to preserve, protect, and defend His Church. If the Catholic peoples of the world fail, for the sake of the true religion, to intervene, God will raise up deliverers among other peoples, and in the interests of humanity and civilization non Catholic nations will rush to the rescue."

A very eminent English Jesuit, Father John Morris, was called suddenly to his reward on the morning of the 22nd ult. He had been staying at Wimbledon quietly preparing matter for the life of Cardinal Wiseman, upon which he was engaged. The day was Sunday and Father Morris was to preach. He had nearly finished his sermon when he was seen to gasp for breath. Some gentlemen rushed forward just in time to catch him, and carried him into the sacristy where there was only time to administer conditional Extreme Unction, so sudden was the end.

Father Morris was born in 1826 near Goa, and was the son of a gentleman in the East India Service. At an early age he was brought to England where he was educated, at Harrow first and then at Cambridge, where he had for tutor F. A. Paley, who afterwards also became a Catholic. At the end of his first year's undergraduate ship Mr. Morris was received into the Church. His conversion formed the subject of a debate in Parliament. After studying at Rome he was ordained and assumed duty in the diocese of Northampton. He subsequently became private secretary to Cardinal Wiseman, with whom he remained until the death of his Eminence. In 1867 he entered the Jesuit novitiate. His great learning, especially in Canon Law, made him a man much sought after both by Bishops and lawyers. For some years he was at the Jesuit house on Farm street, London. He had a very easy gift of language; and besides several books which he wrote, he was a well known contributor to *The Month*, the *Dublin Review* and *The Tablet*. *Requiescat in pace.*

The verdict of the State elections last week was decidedly anti-Democrat, much more so than would have been expected, for the party suffered disaster throughout all the North and

West. New York gave a majority of 75,000 against Maynard as Judge in the Court of Appeal, and 20,000 for a general Republican ticket. Later despatches announce that the Senate of the Empire State will stand, Republicans, 19; Democrats, 18; and that the Assembly will consist of 74 Republicans and 54 Democrats. McKinley carried Ohio with a majority of 80,000. Massachusetts and New Jersey have voiced the same opinion, and in Chicago and Brooklyn the Republican gains have been as clearly pronounced. Iowa has also returned to the Republican ranks.

That the hard times has something to do with the change, it may be; that the A. P. A. counts for something is not to be overlooked; but to explain the complete revolution of party vote is to introduce factors of a purely local and arbitrary character. The Republicans are the monied men—they hold the springs of manufacturers, and kept them from moving at a time when business difficulty was sure to involve the party in power. They took a much better stand on the question of the silver repeal clause than their opponents; for while the Democrats were divided, the Republicans showed a solid for what was—so far as popular will went—a foregone conclusion.

His Grace the Archbishop of Dublin has forwarded a subscription of £50 to the Evicted Tenants' Fund with a letter saying: "Now, indeed, more perhaps than ever before, it is something of a relief to be able to turn towards any point of common ground on which all Irish Nationalists may be able to unite for an object of national interest, no matter upon which side they may happen to stand of those lines and cross lines of division that now split up the forces of Ireland into sections, in whose conflicts the energies of the nation are being frittered away."

Archbishop Croke of Cashel has sent £25 to the same fund in answer to the appeal of the Chairman of the Irish Party. His Grace writes: "But now that the field is, as far as I can judge, still practically vacant, I feel called upon to do one man's duty in the matter without delay, and pray you, accordingly, to take charge of the enclosed cheque for £25—my subscription to the contemplated fund."

That staunch defender of Catholicity, the *Moniteur de Rome*, after twelve years spent in a glorious fight for the Vicar of Christ, has been done to the death by the free (?) Government of Italy. Not satisfied with suppressing two of its leading articles lately, in which it criticised ably the disastrous state of the country, its adversaries have cried out for its complete abolition. They have succeeded—and the *Moniteur*, as such, is no more. In its last number it declared that it would appear soon in a new form.