

THE EVILS OF MODERN COMMERCIALISM.

The Lord Mayor of London has been recently running the gauntlet of criticism on account of certain suspicious cast upon him from a commercial point of view.

After having ridiculed the Falm prediction, he says that there will be more immediate dangers, coming from ourselves, than many arising from astronomical complications.

This somewhat cutting remark might serve as a text for an essay on the characters of the class that constitutes itself the critic of Lord Russell.

"Like Caesar's wife, the Lord Mayor of London ought to be above suspicion. That Alderman Newton is not like Caesar's wife, and is not above suspicion, we have the Lord Chief Justice as an authority.

Commenting upon this same matter the "New Era" gives its readers the following:

"The Lord Chief Justice has the courage of his convictions. Probably, no Lord Mayor has been the recipient of such very plain speaking as Mr. Newton heard from Lord Russell at the Law Courts last week.

RIGHTS OF THE LAITY.

The "New Era" has a department called "The Rostrum," to which all contributions are invited.

"There is nothing in the priestly function that gives a man any direct and sacramental right over temporal things. There is, of course, a sphere or zone of interests common to both priests and people; and this we may call ecclesiastical temporalities; that is to say objects in which both the laity and the clergy have mutual and equal interests.

legations that have been made and to defend his reputation before the established tribunals. We hope and believe that Mr. Newton will be able to show that the allegations against him are unfounded.

Continuing the same organ says: "Quite apart from this personal question, the Lord Chief Justice is doing a great public service by his outspoken protest against the dishonesty that is too often connected with company-promoting, and by his efforts to promote legislation to prevent such dishonesty as far as possible.

How exact all this reasoning is? Before even we heard of the case that has given rise to so much comment, we had mapped out editorially upon this very subject.

RIGHTS OF THE LAITY.

of the Church, and is offered to the priests as official representatives. This latter offering is not left entirely to the priests; the people do not give up all their rights over this kind of property.

In the next issue of the same paper we find a reply to "A Priest," from the pen of Rev. E. Carroll, of St. Mary's Cray.

I welcome their consideration if I fail to see its practicability.

"However, that may be, it is not a question for the priests at all, but for the Bishops. The priests have not framed the existing system, nor is it in their power to cast it into the smelting pot and produce something in consonance with the spirit of the age and after the pattern set by God's enemy in the world.

Apart from the question directly

THE TRANSVAAL WAR.

THE SITUATION.—The London correspondent of the New York Sun writes:

It will not be exaggerating to say that it is the confident public belief that the tide has now turned in South Africa, that Gen. Methuen will march almost unopposed to Kimberley, that Gen. Gatacre will soon drive the Orange Free States across the Orange River towards Bloemfontein, and that Gen. Buller will start within a few days with an invincible force to the speedy relief of Estcourt and Ladysmith.

No account is made in this general survey of the problem of troops, complications threatened by a force rising and the urgent necessity for the relief of Col. Baden-Powell's little force at Mafeking.

A SECOND BATCH.—In the light of all these hard facts it is generally admitted by all whose opinion is valuable that Great Britain must prepare herself for some trying and sad sacrifices before the final triumph of her arms.

A GERMAN OFFICER'S VIEW.—A prominent German general and staff officer, in friendly criticism, has been telling the British authorities in the Times how grave is the necessity for sending large reinforcements to South Africa.

PRICES OF FOOD.—A despatch from Mafeking, dated November 17, says: "Reinforcements are desirable. Extortionate prices are being demanded for all food stuffs. Potatoes, which before the siege sold for 12 to 20 shillings, are now quoted at 40 shillings per barrel."

MILLIONS FOR THE WOUNDED.—According to a "World's" London despatch the Red Cross Society has received gifts for sick and wounded soldiers by the thousand, and weighing more than two hundred tons.

at issue between these two writers, and upon which no practical and reflecting Catholic can have any doubts—there is suggested the very important matter of "lay indifference." Without desiring to see the layman making himself officious and seeking to intrude upon the clerical domain, we cannot but notice how very backward mostly all of the lay element are in regard to matters of Church interest.

THE TRANSVAAL WAR.

know every yard of the country and its capacities for traps for the bravest European troops? They shoot admirably and they are manoeuvred with an astonishing strategical ability. They have already revealed in trifling operations that they can ignore the questions of food and equipment to a degree out of the question with the British troops and they are contending for their rotten diggerly with the courage of despair, which has been heightened by success of a certain nature up to the present.

ANOTHER OPINION.—An experienced and correspondent in the South African war, writing in the "World's" London despatch, has written that by the beginning of December 10,000 British troops will have joined the invading force. He adds that every Boer commando has his own British soldier, and that the Boers are increasing as they move.

AN ARMISTICE HINTED.—The "Sun" correspondent says: "It is said that the Cabinet at a recent meeting considered the intimation, made presumably by the American Consul at Pretoria for Cape Town to propose an armistice preliminary to negotiations for peace."

TO EXCHANGE PRISONERS.—A cable from the New York "World" says that the British Government under the pressure of the Transvaal State Secretary, had, in the interest of the British prisoners of war at Pretoria, consented to remove the embargo on the importation of food-stuffs imposed at Delagoa Bay since the outbreak of hostilities.

TO EXCHANGE PRISONERS.—A cable from the New York "World" says that the British Government could not define for them where the altar rails began and where they ended.

The British have less than 600 Boers as prisoners, while the Boers hold 1,600 British.

WORLDLINESS RAMPANT.

Last Sunday at High Mass in St. Anthony's Church, Rev. Father Kavanagh, S.J., of St. Mary's College, gave a short sermon on "Judgment."

Our faith has to stand many and severe tests and strains and among the most severe, is the position of the world and the things that are of God, hold in this world which He created and governs for his own honor and glory.

Christians and its ill-requited love is explained in that other coming of our Lord which in the Gospel of this last Sunday after Pentecost, Jesus Himself sets before our eyes. We have to learn that even though this world pass away, the end is not yet; we are hidden not to see the limits for the justification of God's Providence over the world, but to lift our eyes and extend their range beyond the world's existence and we shall see God's Providence vindicated.

CIVIC DISABILITIES.

At the inaugural meeting of the Solicitors' Apprentices' Debating Society, in Dublin, the subject of the address was, "Some of the disabilities under representative government."

"He would content himself for the present with alluding merely to the part of the address in reference to the deprivation of civic rights, inflicted by the law on the clergy of all denominations in the country. Equity demanded that the clergyman of all churches should be recognized as citizens, and should be received into civil society with the rights and privileges of citizens.

Another wealthy young lady, of Baltimore, has followed the example of Miss Drexel, of Philadelphia, and leaving the world and all its allurements behind her, has given up her young life to God by joining the Sisters of Charity.

sanctified, meets with honor and the poor man with disdain, till this disdain has begotten bitterness in the hearts of the poor so that new evils have sprung up and wax strong and more threatening as error has broadened its ways and men have drifted further from God's laws.

It is due to God's justice that all wrongs should be rectified before all men—as rightly they shall be on the day of judgment. When also before the world will successful hypocrisy be unmasked. When the whitened sepulchre shall be torn open, and pour out before all eyes its rottenness and dead man's bones.

in connection with this subject the "London Universe" reports a curious case, strongly illustrative of the extent to which the liberty of Catholics is restricted, even in Ireland. It is a Dublin case, and is thus told:

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