



CATHOLIC CHRONICLE.

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FETE DIEU—TO-MORROW.

To-morrow will be duly observed in all the Catholic Churches in Montreal as the Fete Dieu. The Minerer says that:—

"At St. Joseph's Church, Richmond street, a grand service will be held, and the clergy and congregation will march in procession around the church. During the service a collection will be taken up on behalf of the widows and children of firemen killed at the St. Urbain street fire on the 29th ult. At Caughnawaga the annual pilgrimage will be made by the Indians and the faithful through the village. On Sunday the grand procession of the year will take place through the streets of this city, and other cities and towns of the Province, with more than ordinary rejoicing, that day being as, previously stated, the 50th anniversary of the consecration of the Pope. Streets will be illuminated in the evening."

THE FETE DIEU—ORDER OF PROCESSION.

The societies taking part in the procession of Sunday next will march from the Parish Church of Notre Dame to St. Patrick's, by way of St. James Victoria Square, Radeconde and Logachetiers streets; from St. Patrick's the procession will pass through Alexander, Dorchester and Bleury streets to St. Catherine, along St. Catherine to St. Urbain, by which street the procession will march to Notre Dame street. The procession will set out at half-past eight. All the parishes will assist in the following order:—Sacred Heart, St. Bridget's, St. Vincent de Paul, St. Joseph, St. James and Notre Dame. Following will come the Grand Seminary, Dean and Chapter of the Cathedral, and the Canopy under which Mgr. Conroy will bear the Holy Sacrament. In rear of the Host will come the Churchwardens and Gentlemen of the Bar, &c., &c., followed by the parishioners of St. Patrick's and St. Anne's. Rev. Mr. Giband, Directeur de la Congregation des Hommes de St. Sulpice, will act as Master of Ceremonies, and has given orders that none of the bands present are to play in the Church.

THE DELEGATE APOSTOLIC.—EPISCOPAL CIRCULAR.

The following circular letter from the Roman Catholic Bishop of Montreal has been communicated to the press:

SIR,—Have the kindness to insert the following in your journal:

His Excellency Monsignor Conroy, Bishop of Ardash, Delegate Apostolic, will arrive in Montreal at 7 a.m. on Saturday, June 2nd at the wharf of the Montreal and Quebec Steamboat. From there he will proceed to the Parish Church of Notre Dame, where he will sing mass. The morrow he will preside at the solemn procession of the very holy sacrament, and at 7 o'clock in the evening he will sing the Benediction and Te Deum at the Cathedral. On Monday evening, June 4, there will be, from 8 to 10, a reception in the salon of the Episcopal Palace. Gentlemen alone will be admitted.

On Tuesday evening there will be, at the Jesuit's College, an academical soiree. At this assembly an address will be presented to His Excellency in the name of all the Catholic population in the diocese of Montreal.

His Grace the Bishop of Montreal hopes that the Catholics of his cathedral town will make it a duty to illuminate their dwelling on the night of Sunday, 3rd inst.

I have the honor to be, &c., P. LEBLANC, Canon, Pro-Secretary.

MR. GLADSTONE ON THE RUSSIANS.

The well known saying of Prince Albert that "Ireland was no more deserving of our sympathy than Poland" will not be soon forgotten by our people. At that time there was little sympathy in England for the gallant Poles, and Mr. Gladstone admitted as much recently in the House of Commons. He said: "We are told that Russia has been guilty of the greatest cruelties in Poland. [Cheers.] I hear honorable members opposite cheering that statement, but no cheers came from that quarter of the House when at the time those cruelties were being committed in Poland remonstrances against those cruelties were moved from this side of the House. [Cheers.] Upon two occasions the conduct of Russia has been denounced in this House."

SWITZERLAND AND THE HOLY FATHER.

The Swiss Catholics have not been behind their co-religionists in expressing attachment to the Holy Father. We learn that the

"Catholic Cantons of Switzerland are making preparations to celebrate the Holy Father's Episcopal Jubilee in a worthy manner. The Swiss Pilgrims who will join the International Pilgrimage were expected to reach Rome about the Feast of Pentecost. Two or three Bishops will accompany them.

"At the Vatican, the Swiss Catholics will exhibit among other presents a frame, on the velvet background of which there is a cross composed of gold and silver watches from the celebrated house of Pattock of Geneva, the founder of which has become as celebrated for his talents as for his sound Catholic principles. Upon every watch there is engraved the arms of the Holy Father, and the picture bears the following inscription:

'Apres les vicissitudes du combat La croix appert le triomphe.'

"On the 3d of June a display of fire works will illuminate the mountains of ancient Helvetia, testifying to the sympathy and veneration of the faithful Swiss for the Holy Father, and from all the churches prayers will ascend to heaven for the preservation and deliverance of the august prisoner of the Vatican."

NEW ENGLAND FREE LOVERS.

Some more of the "right of private judgment" people have been making themselves heard in the States. Really there will be an end to Protestantism unless men are allowed the "right" of interpreting the bible as they please:—

"The New England free lovers have been indulging in another of their disgraceful gatherings in Boston this week. They commenced their Convention Sunday afternoon, and, after holding half a dozen sessions, wound up with a spirited row at an early hour this morning. In defining the purposes of the singular tribe of men and women who participate in these frequent meetings in Boston it is only necessary to say that they openly encourage and defend licentiousness in almost every conceivable form, and the utterances of both sexes at the several sessions on this occasion were worthy only of the most depraved of the human kind. None of the speakers endeavored to define their sentiments in chaste language, but, on the contrary, were disgustingly obscene, the women speakers generally excelling in this respect. One of the latter, in particular, seemed to speak for the education and delight of that portion of the audience given to debauchery, and her remarks appeared to find a hearty response in the minds of many women who listened to her. The Rev. Mr. Hull was more than usually eloquent and enthusiastic in his advocacy of his peculiar views, and the resolutions which were offered by Mr. Heywood surpassed in indecency anything ever before submitted to a public meeting."

MR. GLADSTONE AND THE CLERICAL ABUSES BILL.

A few days ago a rumour went through the press that Mr. Gladstone had written a letter in favour of the Clerical Abuses Bill. This caused some excitement in Ireland and we learn from the London correspondent of the Freeman the following explanation:—

"I am now in a position to state fully and on the highest authority the facts with regard to the alleged declaration made by Mr. Gladstone as to the Italian Clerical Abuses Bill. It appears Mr. Gladstone received from Signor Mancini a copy of his speech on the bill, and in thanking him for it Mr. Gladstone wrote a short letter. Mr. Gladstone kept no copy of the letter; but he states that it was to the following effect:—That he thought the immunity attached to the Pope could not be claimed by the clergy generally; that a clergyman in England counselling a violation of the law or breach of the peace was liable to prosecution, and that he believed the English law would be good for Italy; that he considered the clause making it penal to disturb the peace of families was objectionable; and that the statement that he had expressed 'that the Italian laws were not sufficiently severe,' was entirely without foundation. Mr. McCarthy Downing and Chevalier O'Clery met Mr. Gladstone by appointment and the above is the result of the interview."

GERMANY AND FRANCE.

Germany cannot keep her eyes from off the regenerated form of France. She looks with suspicion upon all her gallant neighbour does. She thinks that France is as subtle as herself, and Germany illustrates the old proverb—suspicion haunts the guilty mind. The Post says:—

"The visit of the German Minister of War to Alsace-Lorraine is now avowed to be for the purpose of planning new concentrations of German troops in immediate proximity to French territory. The old excuse is given, of course, that this is meant as a piece of purely defensive policy, but we fear that it is only too acceptable of less assuring explanations. It is very true that a considerable portion of the French army is so disposed as to be capable of rapid concentration against any enemy advancing on the capital from the new frontier of the German Empire. It cannot be forgotten, however, that France is absolutely destitute of fortresses on her eastern borders since the seizure of Strasburg and Metz by Germany, and it is an obvious and natural measure of precaution that a considerable portion of the army should be so disposed as to make up for the deficiencies of fortified defences. Germany, on the other hand, is in possession of the most tremendous chain of fortresses in Europe between France and Berlin, and long before a French army of invasion had passed Metz the entire forces of the German Empire would have been mobilised and concentrated. At the same time the North German Gazette announced in favourable terms the arrival of Signor Croce at Berlin for the purpose of pressing on the Imperial Government the propriety of aiding a restoration of Nice and Savoy to Italy."

RUSSIAN SOCIALISM.

There can be no doubt but that there is much discontent in Russia. The educated classes are not satisfied with the absorption of the Tsar, and the Socialists are at work among their poorer fellow countrymen. We learn that:—

"Their main doctrine was nihilism as it is called—that is, a belief that all laws, human and divine, are oppressions; that political and social distinctions are evil absurdities, and that the work of destruction should go on till nothing is left but the land equally divided among the common people. It is fully expressed by Tourgueneff, in a speech put into the mouth of a conspirator:—'All, all is as it was wont to be. Only in one thing we have surpassed Europe, Asia, the whole world. Never before have my compatriots been lapped in so

terrible a slumber. All around me sleep—everywhere, in towns, in villages, in carts and sledges, by day or by night, standing or sitting. The merchant sleeps, sleeps the official. The sentry sleeps on his watch, beneath the burning of the sunbeams or in the snowy cold. Slumbers the prisoner in the dock; dozes the judge on the bench. A death-like slumber holds the peasantry. Ploughing and reaping they sleep; sleeping they thresh the corn. Sleeps the father, the mother, the whole household. All slumber! The beater and the beaten both slumber alike. Only the dram-shop slumbers not, never closes its eyes. And grasping a spirit-bottle in its right hand, its brow incumbent at the North Pole, and its feet on the Caucasus, sleeps, with a sleep that knows no waking, our motherland, Holy Russia."

KRUPP'S GUNS.

Herr Krupp exhibited a huge gun at the Philadelphia Exhibition last year. It appears now that this gun has been purchased by the Russian Government. We learn that:—

"It fires a charged steel shell of 1,122 pounds, with an initial velocity of 1,590 feet a second. The Sultan has ordered a companion piece for the defence of Constantinople. When this gun was exhibited in Philadelphia it was the largest breech-loader in the world; but Herr Krupp anxious to prove that cast-steel guns can be manufactured on a scale to vie with the heaviest wrought-iron ordnance, is now finishing at Essen an 80-ton gun. This is about the weight of the great Fraser gun with which the British engineers have been for several months experimenting at Woolwich and Shoeburyness. It falls short of the 100-ton Armstrong guns which are being manufactured for the Italian navy. The Prussian gun-maker is not to be outdone; he is willing to make a 124-ton breech-loader if some nation will give him a chance. According to the London Times, the projectile which such a gun would discharge would weigh about a ton; the charge of powder would be about 500 lbs, and the weight of the gun would be 62 tons. These big guns are enormously expensive. The 80-ton breech-loader costs \$100,000; the 124-ton gun cannot be made for less than \$167,500. Herr Krupp is supplying the Russian Government with a number of 11-inch steel breech-loaders, weighing 27½ tons each."

RUSSIAN AGENTS IN INDIA.

That Russia is determined to move with steady stride towards India no one will for an instant deny. All her policy points in that direction. Captain Banbury in his Ride to Khiva says that the Russian troops in Asia are eager for such an enterprise, and we may be sure that there are Russian agents in India to facilitate the way. A Correspondent writes as follows:—

"We are on the eve of great events. The truth is, war correspondents have been so anxious to send telegrams home that they have drawn upon rumors for facts, and fed the excited British public with the result. The Russians are also pushing forward their outposts with silent but sure persistence. During the week the India House has received a statement from Gen. Lumsden, of the Bengal Army, showing that the Philo-Russian speeches of the Liberal Opposition are having a bad effect upon the native army. A great majority of the troops in the Bengal army are Moslems, and the British Government having encouraged a free native press, the Moslems, both civil and military, can read for themselves translations of the speeches of Mr Gladstone and the men below the gangway. Should the present war grow and extend as it promises to do, the influence of the Moslems of India may be far greater than it is now. Russia is striving to establish the war as a religious crusade against 'the heathen Turk.' Has Russia counted the millions of Mohammedan disciples? It may be said that native Indian troops are no good against European soldiers. But the Moslem fighting men of India, led by English officers, and doing battle in view of an immediate transfer to paradise as the reward of death in the cause of the Prophet, would represent an awful power should a general European war ever force Great Britain to use it."

THE FLAG OF THE PROPHET.

The "Flag of the Prophet" is likely to play an important part in the present war. We learn that the flag is a dark green, about two yards long and one and a half wide. It is said that the flag was originally a curtain in the bedchamber of Aischa, the favourite wife of Mohammed. A correspondent says that when:—

"Mohammed was on his deathbed and about to take leave of his Generals, who were about to enter upon a new campaign against the heathen, the dying prophet gave them the curtain that overhung his bed as a battle flag, so that the faithful should forever remember that they were doing battle for God and His prophet. In 1673 the same flag waved from the walls of Vienna, and again whenever the cause of Islam had to be defended it was unfurled to rally the faithful and encourage them to deeds of heroism. What, however, is the most important feature of this flag is the belief that any Mussulman who fights and falls under its shadows dies as a martyr, for whom the portals of heaven are opened at once. The unfolding of this time-honored banner took place, with great pomp and ceremony by the Sultan, Abdul Hamid, in person, who handed it to the Scheik-el-Islam in solemn trust. The latter was mounted on a horse literally covered with gold, and, while holding the sacred banner in his hand, he was accompanied by the Sultan, himself also on horseback, with sword in hand, through the principles

streets of Constantinople. Heralds and couriers preceded the two high dignitaries of State, and, pointing to the unfurled banner, loudly proclaiming to the people that the war for the faith had commenced. The same relic—which the Turks regard with the same holy awe as the Israelites of old did the Ark of the Law—was sent under heavy escort to the Danube, there to lead the Turkish hosts to battle for Allah and his prophet."

ANCIENT ATHLETICISM.

Professor Mahaffy has given an interesting review, in Macmillan's Magazine, of Ancient Athleticism. It is interesting just now, because of the O'Leary and Weston performance:—

"The quantity eaten' says Professor Mahaffy 'by athletes, is universally spoken of as far exceeding the quantity eaten by ordinary men, not considering its heavier quality.' It follows, of course, that Greek athletes did not perform very wonderful feats, as feats are considered in modern times. It is probable that their running was very bad, for they made the course only 125 yards long, and were accustomed to cover that distance with their arms going like the sails of a windmill, and shouting as they ran—two actions which a modern trainer would pronounce fatal to speed. Their wrestling was rather fighting, for it was allowable in the wrestler to break his opponent's fingers, and one man made a practice of it: while their jumping was most probably 'standing jumping,' and they carried dumb-bells in their hands. The boxing was really fighting with knuckle-dusters, or with weights carried in the hand and it seems certain that the blows were given downwards or round from the shoulder, as little boys give them, for 'a boxer was not known as a man with his nose broken, but as a man with his ears crushed.' The violent probability is that Tom Sayers would have thrashed any Greek boxer in five minutes, that Captain Webb would have drowned in an hour or two, and that O'Leary would have beaten him in any walk or run, though the speciality of the Greek runners was endurance. The human frame has not degenerated, but improved; and scientific medicine has taught us how to train, though it has not yet taught us all the secrets of endurance known to the lower races. A Turkish hamal lifts weights that would kill an English porter, and a Peruvian would, we imagine, without training, but with coca, outwalk Weston or O'Leary."

THE BLACK SEA.

The Black Sea is not likely to witness any Naval engagements of note during the war. The country along the coast is thus described in the Cornhill Magazine:

On the Black Sea coast the winters are mild; snow falls, perhaps, but hardly lies; all sorts of southern plants thrive in the open air, and the rainfall is so abundant that vegetation is everywhere, even up in the mountains, marvellously profuse. At Poti, the seaport just the month of the Bion which every traveller has for his sins to pass through, the most fever-smitten den in all Asia, one feels in a perpetual vapor bath, and soon becomes too enervated to take the most obvious precautions against the prevailing malarial. Higher up, in the deep valleys of the Ingur and Kodor, rivers which descend from the great chain, the forests are positively tropical in the splendor of their trees and the rank luxuriance of the underwood. If there were a few roads and any enterprise this country might drive a magnificent trade in wood and all sorts of natural productions. This is the general character of the Black Sea coast. But when you cross the watershed at Suram, and enter the basin of the Kur, drawing towards the Caspian, everything changes. The streams are few; the grass is withered on the hillsides; by degrees even the beech woods begin to disappear; and as one gets further and further to the east beyond Tiflis, there is in autumn hardly a trace of vegetation either on plain or hills, except along the courses of the shrunken rivers. In these regions the winter is very severe and the summer heats tremendous. At Alexanderopol, for instance, the great Russian fortress over against Kara, where a large part of her army is always stationed, snow lies till the middle of April, spring lasts only about a fortnight, and during summer the country is parched like any desert."

IRONCLADS AND TORPEDOES.

The war will for the first time develop the duel between the ironclads and the torpedoes. Both are not much more than experiments, and the world will be curious to see which will prove the most disastrous engine of destruction. The Times says:—

"Every one interested in torpedoes is in expectation. Now is the hour of trial for this latest instrument of naval warfare, if it can be so called when it threatens to abolish naval warfare altogether. The shallows of the Black Sea bristle with torpedoes. There are torpedoes at the mouth of every harbour, in the bed of every estuary, at every point of the coast where an ironclad of the enemy might be tempted to approach. The first Russians who came to the Danube brought their torpedoes with them, and by this time the Danube ought to be sown with them. We have yet to learn the effect of this new arm. As yet nothing has been blown up, and some people begin to express themselves incredulous as to the efficiency of the machine. It is also said that the Turks have found a way to make the torpedoes harmless. At the suggestion of Admiral Hobart, divers from Lazistan, the district which supplies a large part of the boatmen of Constantinople, have been employed, to remove some of them. We give this story with all reserve; but whether the Lazis fish up the torpedoes or not we may suspect that these contrivances will often

be found a weak protection against a bold enemy. The other day one was exploded at Odessa in presence of the Emperor. A barge was the intended victim, and was to be shattered into a thousand pieces. We may be sure the experiment was made with every preparation for success; but when the report was heard a column of water arose amid the exclamations of the multitude, while the barge remained precisely as it was before. However, we shall be better informed on the subject. Monitors on one side, siege guns and torpedoes on the other; such are the first experiments of the new war."

BRITISH WAR PREPARATIONS.

The hum of preparation goes on steadily in England. War material is being collected, and all the indications of preparation are furnished by the activity of the authorities. The Correspondent of New York Times in London says:—

"Whether England contemplates the possibility of being dragged into the war at an early date or not, there are all kinds of indications that the authorities are preparing for an emergency. Recruiting is not pressed anywhere, but is going on vigorously. The enlistments in the by-streets near Westminster have been nearly as numerous lately as they were at an early period of the Crimean war. Last week there was a medical inspection of some leading regiments with a view to foreign service, and the report is quite satisfactory. At the Tower thousands of muskets are lying ready packed and waiting shipment. Woolwich Arsenal is as busy as 'double time' can make it. There have been some field operations at Chatham. A sham fight took place in the outlying districts of the garrison, with a view of exercising the troops at the work of attacking and defending fortified positions. Every modern appliance in assault and defence was brought into play. The Queen has reviewed the forces stationed at Aldershot. Eleven thousand troops paraded. There are about 15,000 of all ranks now in camp. The spectators at the review were started by a singular manoeuvre towards the close of the march past. Her Majesty had been prepared for it. Some of the English cavalry regiments have lately been instructed in the art of capturing an enemy's ammunition wagon by flinging lessons over the horses heads and galloping off with them under fire. The wagons of an imaginary foe were captured in dashing style by a lasso party. The coup was made with artistic effect. Some extraordinary practice with torpedoes has been registered at Shoeburyness, and the steamers of several of the Liverpool companies have been measured with a view to calculating their capacity for carrying stores or troops. During the Crimean war the Atlantic steamers rendered a valuable service in that way."

THE COSSACK OF THE DON.

We take the following account from a war correspondent who came across the Cossacks at Galatz.

"Friend Cossack is a little chap; about five feet five, even on his high heels, but at once sturdy and wiry. His weather-beaten face is shrewd, knowing, and merry. His eyes are small, but keen; his mouth large, and between it and his pig nose—rather redder than the rest of his face—is a tuft or wisp of straw-coloured moustache. His long, thick, straight hair matches his moustache in colour, and is cut sheer round by the nape of his neck. He wears a round oilskin peakless shako with aknowing cock to the right to maintain which angle there is a strap. Below the neck the Cossack is all boots and great-coat exteriorly. The great-coat, which is of thick grey blanketing, comes down below his knees; his boots come up to them. He is more armed than any man of his inches in Europe, is our little Cossack friend, and could afford to lose a weapon or two and yet be an averagely dangerous customer. Weapon number one is the long black flagless lance, with its venomous head that seems itching to make daylight through somebody. He carries a carbine slung in an oilcloth cover on his back, the stock downwards. In his belt is a long and well-made revolver in a leather case, and from the belt hangs a curved sword with no guard over its hilt. Through the chinks in his great coat are visible glimpses of a sheepskin undercoat with the hair worn inside (today at noon the thermometer was over 70 in the sun). His whip completes his personal appointments; he wears no spurs. He rides cocked up on a high saddle, with a leathern band strapped over it, a wiry little rat of a pony, with no middle-piece to speak of, with an ewe neck and a gaunt, projecting head, with ragged flanks, loose hocks, limp fetlocks, shilly feet, and a general aspect of knackerism. But the screw is of indomitable gameness and toughness—lives where most other horses would starve—is fresh when most other horses are knocked up—and is fit to carry it rider across Europe as Cossack ponies have done before to-day. The Cossackian Cossacks differ in some respects from the Don Cossacks. They ride larger ponies, they wear bushes of Astrachan fur with a scarlet bushy bag, and their great-coat is black, having their bosom slashed with a receptable for cartridges, while they carry their carbine in a cover of Astrachan fur."

RUSSIA'S INTENTIONS.

The Herald's St. Petersburg correspondent as the result of an interview with a prominent Russian diplomat, gives a statement of Russia's intentions in the event of gaining decisive victories; Russia would insist on the independence of Bulgaria, Herzegovina, Roumania, Servia, and Bosnia; and would probably require Turkey to surrender part of her fleet and, above all, the consummation of a treaty placing Constantinople under joint control of all foreign powers, and governed by a body composed of different nationalities. The correspondent was led to believe Russia's war on Turkey was for the two-fold object of gaining the right of way to China, and by operations in freeing the Pan-Slavic States to make Constantinople a free cosmopolitan port.