

# The Catholic Register.

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

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## Current Topics.

### The Chinese War.

The came uncertainty exists as to the safety of the legations. Wholly contradictory reports keep coming in; some saying that all are safe, others that all are murdered. Time alone will tell which is the true version of the matter. The most important news of the week is contained in an omitted part of an Imperial decree addressed to Li Hung Chang, and dated July 21, which stated that the Chinese Government was supplying the foreigners with food and protecting them. The decree admits that it would be leaderly able to kill the Ministers, and much wiser to keep the survivors in Peking as hostages. A further decree instructs the Viceroy and Governors to inform the powers that the ministers are safe, and will be held as hostages pending the result of overtures for the abandonment of hostile operations against China. The Viceroy and Governors are also commanded to prevent by all means the advance of the foreign troops, and not to allow a single foreigner to escape from the interior, where quite two thousand connected with the mission work are isolated.

### PRISONERS MURDERED.

Sheng has informed the Consuls that telegrams in his possession since July 10 states that every foreigner in Peking has been murdered, including forty British, French and American missionaries, also two French Jesuits and one thousand converts on the borders of Shanxi and Chihli provinces. Inflammatory placards posted at Canton announce that tens of thousands of native converts have been killed in the north, the soldiers of all the countries of the world having failed to protect them. All the barbarian troops, it says, have been slaughtered like chickens and dogs. A Chinese interpreter and writer at the British Legation, who escaped from Peking to Nanchang, declares that when he left the majority of the people in the Legation were dead, and the condition of the living was hopeless. He states that Sir Robert Hart died on July 2.

### ON JULY 4.

The Foreign Office received a despatch from the British Consul at Tientsin, dated Saturday, July 24, stating that he had just received a letter from Sir Claude Macdonald, the British Minister at Peking, dated July 4, appealing for relief. There were enough provisions at the Legation to last a fortnight, the letter said, but the garrison was unequal to the task of holding out against a determined attack for many days. There had been forty-four deaths, and about double that number wounded. The Foreign Office thinks the despatch does not affect the main question of the reported massacre of members of the Legations at Peking.

### CONGRUOUS MESSAGE.

A discussion of the authenticity of the despatch from Minister Conger, cabled from Peking on the 18th inst., (declaring the Legations to be safe, developed the fact that several years ago a copy of the State Department cipher code disappeared. These code books were recovered and recopied for use in the hands of those who were the Veterans in the Chinese service, without hope that any might be recovered alive in Peking, and that they were captured by the credulity of American soldiers.

### SIR CLAUDE MACDONALD.

A letter just received from Sir Claude Macdonald, dated July 24, contains the following: "We are receiving assistance from the authorities. The Legations are still standing and the British. We are still in part of the city walls. The Chinese are shooting at some of the city with a three inch gun and some smaller ones, and are emptying. We may be annihilated any day. Our ammunition and food are short. We would be perished by this time only the Chinese are onwards and have no organized plan of attack. If we are not pressed we may hold out a fortnight longer; otherwise four days at the most. I anticipate only slight resistance to the relief force."

### A RUSSIAN BATTERY.

A despatch which has been received from St. Petersburg from the General Staff, Kharkovsk, dated July 24, reports that the steamer Orskoy was left at Charbin July 16, bound for the coast. The Russians that left Charbin by sea route to Charbin. It is reported that 800 men started, with a battery of Chinese Christians.

and children. After constant fighting, which was often at close quarters with the bayonet, they were again attacked on July 12. The Russians lost heavily, and ran short of ammunition. At last accounts they were threatened by 15,000 Boers.

### ADVANCE TO PERIN.

The Associated Press relates that the foreign Governments intend to disregard Li Hung Chang's recommendations, which, they believe, are made in bad faith, not to march on Peking. On the contrary, the international expedition will start about the middle of next week, following as closely as possible the railroad. "The first important blow in the advance upon Peking has been struck, and the Chinese are routed. Fifteen thousand Japanese troops landed at Shantaiwan on July 22, and were resisted by the Chinese. The Japanese fought gallantly and won a great victory. The Chinese were put to flight.

There is also lamentable evidence that the concert of the powers is out of tune, and that a common motive for action has not been found. Troops are going out from Germany and other countries, but Russia and Japan are the only powers which are prepared to send strong contingents, and they cannot agree upon a commander-in-chief or upon a plan of campaign, and neither will be ready to evacuate Peking if a column once marches into the street of Legations.

### THE GERMAN EMPEROR.

Emperor William, in addressing the German forces on their setting out for China, said:—"So I send you out. May you all prove your German efficiency, devotion and bravery, bear joyfully all discomfort and uphold the honor and glory of our arms. You must set an example of discipline, self domination and self-control. If you close with the enemy remember this: Spare nobody. Make no prisoners. Use your weapons so that for a thousand years hence no Chinaman will dare look askance at any German. Open the way for civilization once for all."

### The Boer War.

The following official despatch has been received from Lord Roberts: "Pretoria, July 19.

—On July 26 Macdonald fought a rearguard action with the enemy from early morning until dark, nine miles outside of Naanpoort, in the Bethlehem Hills, resulting in his effectually blocking Naanpoort Nek to the Boer waggon.

"Hunter reports that the enemy twice checked his advance by holding strong positions on two necks, one of which was taken before dark by the Scots, the Royal Irish, the Wiltshire and the Leinster regiments. Our casualties were only five or six. The second neck was taken during the night by the Scots Guards without opposition, the enemy retiring closely to Naanpoort.

"Prisoners taken stated that twelve hundred burghers would surrender if guaranteed that they would be treated as prisoners of war and not as rebels. To this I had assented. As a result of these operations, Prinsloo, commanding the Boers, asked under a flag of truce this morning a four days' armistice for peace negotiations.

"Hunter replied the only terms he could accept were unconditional surrender, and until these were complied with hostilities could not cease. I expressed my approval and told Hunter on no account to enter into negotiations.

"As I am writing a telegram has come from Hunter, saying that Prinsloo had written a second letter expressing willingness to hand over himself, with his men, rifles, ammunition and other arms upon condition that the horses, saddles, bridles and other possessions of the burghers be guaranteed them and they be free to return to their homes.

"I have replied that the surrender must be absolutely unconditional, that all rifles, ammunition, horses and other possessions must be given up, and that the burghers will be considered prisoners of war. I added that Prinsloo's overtures will not be allowed in any way to interfere with Hunter's operations, which must be continued until the enemy is defeated or has surrendered."

A later despatch from Gen. Roberts, dated July 29, confirms the surrender of Prinsloo with 5,000 Boers.

### King Humbert of Italy.

King Humbert was shot at Monza, near Milan, Italy, on Sunday evening by a man named Angelo Bressi, of Prato, and died in a few minutes.

The King had been attending a distribution of prizes in connection with a musical competition. He had just

entered his carriage with his aide-de-camp, amid the cheers of the crowd, when he was struck by three revolver shots fired in quick succession. One pierced the heart of His Majesty, who fell back and expired in a few moments. The assassin was immediately arrested and was with some difficulty saved from the fury of the populace. He gave his name as Angelo Bressi, describing himself as of Prato, in Tuscany.

### Humbert I, King of Italy.

Humbert I, King of Italy, was born in 1841, and succeeded his father, Victor Emmanuel I, in 1878. While Crown Prince he distinguished himself by his active part he took in the promotion of Italian Unity. He shared with Garibaldi the triumph of the reorganization of the kingdom of the two Sicilies. Prince Humbert served with distinction in the war of 1869, and displayed much personal bravery in the moment of disaster at the battle of Custoza, in which the Italians were defeated. He married in 1868 his cousin, Princess Marguerite, daughter of the late Duke of Genoa. Their son, the Crown Prince Victor Emmanuel, Prince of Naples, was born Nov. 11, 1869, and the Prince's marriage to Princess Helen of Montenegro took place in October, 1896. During the visit of King Humbert to Naples, Nov. 17, 1898, a would-be assassin, named Giovanni Rissantini, made an attempt upon his life with a poignard, and another attempt in 1897 also happily failed. His Majesty was very popular among his subjects. The now bereaved Queen is well known as an accomplished artist. The royal silver wedding was celebrated at Rome with splendid pomp in April, 1893.

### Passengers by the Cottage City from Alaska.

Report that the steamer Florence S was lost in Lake Lo Bargo, and that forty of one hundred and fifty of those aboard were drowned. News of the calamity was received at Juneau just before the Cottage City sailed. The Florence S left Dawson for White Horse on July 10, and besides passengers had probably one hundred thousand dollars in gold. A few days after she had left Dawson the Humboldt sailed, and she it was that brought the news to White Horse. Details of the terrible disaster were not available when the Cottage City left.

## ARCHBISHOP KEANE APPOINTED.

A special cable to the Baltimore Sun from Rome says that the Pope has confirmed the appointment of Archbishop Keane as Archbishop of Dubuque, to succeed the late Archbishop Heenan. Cardinal Gibbons was shown the cable. He had not heard of Archbishop Keane's appointment, but seemed delighted over it. "This is good news indeed," he said.

The appointment of Archbishop Keane to the important and arduous office of Dubuque has been anticipated. When the archbishop resigned as rector of the Catholic University he went to Rome and spent some time in preaching at various churches, and in 1899 he returned to the United States to raise money for the University, the desire of his trustees being to get additional endowments aggregating \$1,000,000. Since then he has been travelling over the country preaching and working in the interest of the University. When Archbishop Keane resigned from the University he was a bishop. While in Rome he was made an archbishop.

Archbishop Keane was born at Bally-Gannon, County Donegal, Ireland, Sept. 12, 1839, and came to this country with his family at the age of seven. He was educated in Baltimore, graduated from St. Charles College, and prepared for the priesthood at St. Mary's Seminary. He was ordained in 1860 and appointed assistant pastor of St. Patrick's church, Washington. On Aug. 25, 1878, he was consecrated Bishop of Richmond, Va. In 1888 he resigned this charge to become the first rector of the Catholic University at Washington. He had almost entire charge of selecting the faculty of the University. He remained at his head until 1897, when he resigned and went to Rome.

## LOST OPPORTUNITIES.

A lesson we all need to learn is to grasp opportunities the instant they appear. A person was walking along a beach, gathering the treasures which were left on the sands. He was searching in a dreamy way, listlessly looking here and there. Suddenly the waves left at his feet a shell more beautiful than any he had found. "I can pick it up as my leisure," he said; "I can wait, a higher wave swept along the beach, recaptured the shell, and bore it back to the bosom of the ocean. Is not that like many of our opportunities? Seemingly they are providentially cast at our feet. The chance to do good seems so wholly within our reach that we think it safe to attend to other matters first. We delay for a moment, and when we turn again the opportunity is gone.—Canadian Churchman.

## The "Rambler" at Midland.

### He Attends a Picnic—His Views on Other Matters.

Leaving the charming town of Orillia by route lay north, due by west, to use the personality of the sailor, I pass on the way the embryonic city of Toronto origin named that I succumbed during a dark and rainy night on a level plain of the Township of North Orlia. That it is a strongly marked Dutch town, with strongly marked Dutch peculiarities of fact and fancy, is demonstrated. The whole soulful and patriotic postmaster, Mr. James Lyons, left his Dutch home on the banks of the Leo, in the County of Cook, nearly half a century ago. Brothers of his, as well as other Dutchmen numerous to mention, from the Emerald Isle are scattered through here, and hence we do not marvel at Dutch customs, Dutch traditions, and Dutch leger becoming incorporated with daily routine in this section of Her Majesty's Dominion.

Leaving Uthoff behind, and passing Coldwater on the way, a view is soon obtained of the Georgian Bay. Whether one of the Bays of that magnificent stretch of water, the bosom of which is dotted with picturesque islands, presenting a view, a vista almost as sensational as that unfolded by the Thousand Islands of the St. Lawrence.

Passing along the water's edge, almost westward, evidences are abundant that the echoes of the woodman's axe have been heard here, and that the Canadian forest has furnished a golden harvest to the lumberman. The mills of Victoria Harbour and Wabushagan, can scarcely be surpassed by anything of a similar character in the Dominion, if we except Ottawa alone. Much of the forest in these regions of the Dominion yielded to the well directed efforts of the enterprising firm of Cook Bros., at the head of which stood the massive figure of Harmon Henry Cook, a man who faced oak trees in the jungle with as much courage as that with which he bearded Parliamentary aspirants on the platform. Mr. Cook fought many a political battle in the East Riding of Simcoe. Before him as his antagonist stood almost invariably the Ajaia of the north, the late Mr. Dalton McCarthy. In the course of these fights Cook fell, and so did McCarthy fall, and it is more than probable that the fight and the fall would have continued on had not a lamentable accident brought the battle to an abrupt close. Just as the great work of inducing children of a weak minority in Manitoba to acquire education, by methods inconsistent with the religious convictions of their parents, was accomplished by legislation enactment.

Passing along side the smooth waters of the Bay we soon drop into Midland, the great industrial centre of North Simcoe. A little over thirty years ago, I first formed acquaintance with Midland which was then a dreary and inhospitable looking swamp, with the advantage of being protected on the south, east and west by a lofty chain of hills. There was a saw-mill, a number of lumber piles, and lumber shanties, besides a tavern and a few stores, one of which was kept by Mr. Courtmanche, who still lives and thrives, and appears in every respect to have grown as fast as the place itself. Besides meeting with Mr. Courtmanche on that occasion, I also had the pleasure of making the acquaintance of Mr. Richard Murphy, an extensive landowner, and one of the pioneers of settlement on the shores of the Georgian Bay, as well as that of Mr. Samuel Frazer, another of those worthy heralds of civilization. It would be impossible to touch on either the early history of Midland or of its subsequent growth and development without special reference to the man whose name I have just mentioned. Mr. Samuel Frazer is one of a number of brothers, all very young men when settling here about the year 1839. They were natives of Dublin, and were subsequently joined in Canada by an uncle, Mr. Frederick Frazer, who held an important position under the government and when superannated followed his young kinsmen across the Atlantic. The Frazer boys, seven in number, soon inherited large tracts of land, much of which was bequeathed to them by an uncle on the maternal side, Mr. Michael McDonald, a native of Killala, in the County of Mayo, the theatre of the celebrated "Castles Races" of 1798. Mr. McDonald was a prominent officer in the service of the Hudson's Bay Co., and

spread, and here three tables are under the superintendence of Miss Annie O'Shea, her assistants being Miss F. M. McDonald, Miss Laura Lavigne, Miss Maud Henderson, Miss Lizzie McDonald, Miss Florence Johnson, Miss Nellie O'Hare, Miss Mary Lavigne, Miss Sarah O'Hare, Miss Maud O'Hare, Miss Jennie Sweet, Miss Emma Allard, Miss Freda O'Donoghue, Mr. Alexander McDonnell and Mr. Napoleon Lavigne. The next three tables which appear in view are under the charge of Miss L. O'Connor, who was assisted by Miss Rooney, Miss Brindley, Miss Nora O'Connor, Miss Bisson and Mrs. Archibald McDonnell and Annastacia O'Donoghue. Passing along the next set of tables which reveal themselves to view are presided over by Mrs. Sheehan and she is assisted by Miss Maggie Sheehan, Miss Pratt, Miss Mary Sheehan, Miss Ethel O'Dea, Miss Ida O'Dea, Miss Eliza O'Connor, with Messrs William and Tuffield Sweet. The whole event must be gratifying to the heart of the good priest of Midland whether judged from the numbers who attended or the receipts financially, and much of the success is due to the following gentlemen who attended to gates and to the ladies who pressed the sale of tickets: Messrs. Edward Devine, D. Grist, L. Courtmanche, Michael O'Hare, John Barry. Amongst the ladies who rendered great service the following may be mentioned—Miss Courtmanche, Mrs. Nottingham, Mrs. Pointin, Mrs. Kolman, Mrs. Barry, Mrs. Bisson, Mrs. Moise Courtmanche, Mrs. Ladocour, and last but not least of all, my old friend Mrs. Michael O'Hare, the wife of the worthy and successful woolen manufacturer of Midland.

Although the Frazer brothers kneed at different altars, yet, it may be truly said that amongst them a concord of irrational sentiment is hallowed. In slightly different forms their applications ascend before the throne of mercy, but in one form their love for the land of their birth goes out continuously. It is no exaggeration to say that Old Ireland has produced no more faithful sons than the Frazer's of Midland, but their religious code of the Catholic or Protestant stripe. Mr. Samuel Frazer has been most generous to the Catholic Church and congregation of Midland, of which, by the edifying life he leads, he is a most valuable member. I cannot enumerate his many acts for the glory of God and of humanity, but the Journal of Heaven will keep a full and accurate record. Mr. Samuel Frazer has passed, by some years, the span of life allotted by the Psalmist to man, but in days gone by he was a power in the public life of Simcoe County, and was heard with pleasure from many a platform. He is one of the oldest magistrates in that section, and of him it has been widely and truly said, that his sentences on the bench were founded on sound judgment, ripened experience, and a conscientious desire to do justice.

And now for the picnic, in aid of the Catholic Church, which was held on the shore of that charming sheet of water, "McDonald's Lake," and on grounds generously donated by Mr. Samuel Frazer. It would be impossible to imagine a pleasanter gathering or a pleasanter day than that "Dominion Day," 2nd of July, 1900. This gathering was large, being tolerably well made up of outsiders, many of whom came a long distance. A very pleasant feature of the proceedings was furnished by the fact that almost every religious denomination was well represented. Nothing surprises a person more than the ease and facility with which money is pulled out of people's pockets at Catholic Church picnics. I have had some experience of financial explorations in my day, and although wielding a voluble tongue, and tolerably good-looking, I confess that disastrous failure was my lot in several instances. Whenever the tongue failed to reach a dishonest man's pocket, I invariably invoked the aid of an old companion—a blackthorn stick—which quickly reached his heart through his head, and plainly convinced him that he must pay the last farthing. Well, the young ladies who took so deep an interest in the proceedings of this day, were not obliged to resort to extraordinary methods inasmuch as neither smooth tongue nor weighty blackdog could compare to the bewitching smiles which were always available, and no miser, no matter how obdurate or inexorable the heart, could withstand feminine blandishments, as I saw them displayed on this memorable occasion. No wonder indeed that smoking caps and sashes, cushions and clouds, pipes, purses, pictures and pinafiores, went readily than if placed under the auctioneer's hammer.

Dinner is announced. What shall I say of this glorious chapter of the day's history? How shall I describe those twelve long tables as they were set on level ground beneath a glorious arch of ambrageous foliage? This was the state of affairs as, in response to a pressing invitation, I sat at the table presided over by Mrs. Sheehan. "Mutton, beef, ham, chicken, turkey, goose," said one of the lady waiters to me. She paused for a reply, but as the length and momentous importance of the question knocked me out of wind and paralyzed me so that I dropped the fork out of my hand, and in a moment of mental abstraction stuffed the knife into my pocket, I was unable to do so at the moment. She received the order, however, and right well was it executed.

Three of the tables just alluded to were under the charge of Mrs. B. Devine, her assistants being Miss Grier, Miss Poitvin, Miss O'Reilly, Miss Allard, Miss Ledce, Miss Mackinsey, Mr. Charles Johnson, Mr. Peter Joyce, Mr. Herman Murphy and Mr. Angus McDonald. Turning aside I encounter the next

### CHURCH PROPERTY IN CUBA.

General Wood has issued a decree appointing a commission on the Church Property Question, composed of Senors Diverge, Lamsay and Lironote, Supreme Court Justices, to investigate the rights of the Church in property now held by the State and claimed by the Bishop of Havana. The Commission is authorized to summon witnesses; to hear evidence, to order the production of public and private documents, and to compel the Registrars to produce the records. The Commission will report in detail the points governing each piece of property in question, and will recommend an equitable settlement.

## THE FAITH IN NORWAY.

Norway, where not so long since every Catholic priest found was condemned to death, and Catholic laymen were deprived of their possessions and exiled, now show a brilliant example of tolerance not only to Protestants, but to the so-called Catholic nations. Monsignor Fallize, Vicar-Apostolic of the country, tells that not only are the Catholic schools there absolutely free, but that where they exist, Catholics are exempt from the public school tax. Upon the recommendation of Monsignor Fallize, the laws relating to cremation were recently modified by the Legislature, which actually allowed articles that had passed the House to remove Catholic objections. The Protestant Press thanked Monsignor Fallize for his interference in a delicate question affecting liberty of conscience.

## UNIVERSITY ENDOWED.

The Catholic University authorities at Washington have been notified that one of the largest benevolent unions in the United States, the Knights of Columbus, expect to endow a chair at the institution next October. It will be known as the "Chair of American History," and will represent an endowment of \$50,000. In view of the action taken by the German societies several years ago, after Mgr. Schroeder's removal from the university, against founding a chair of any description in its halls, this movement made by the Knights of Columbus is very gratifying to the authorities. It is stated that the university's prospectus never looked brighter than at present. Over \$200,000 in bequests and benefactions have been placed in its treasury recently, and after the final settlement of several estates among them that of the late Archbishop of Dubuque, about as much more will revert to the institution. This endowment of the Knights of Columbus will be the third made by American Catholics to the university, as the Ancient Order of Hibernians and the Total Abstinence Union of the United States already have founded \$50,000 chairs each.

Sir Herbert Kitchener was born at Gushington Villa, County Kerry, Ireland, on June 15, 1850. His father, Colonel Henry Kitchener, was tenant of the late Pierce Mahony.

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