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When subscribers change their residence it is important that the old as well as the new address be sent us.

London, Saturday, July 8, 1899

AN APOSTOLIC DELEGATE.

The Roman correspondent of the New York Freeman's Journal, writing under date of June 14, states that the appointment of a permanent Apostolic Delegation to Canada has been decided upon.

THE CHURCH IN CHINA.

A decree has been recently issued by the Emperor of China in regard to the status of the Catholic Church in that empire. The Catholic Church is to be recognized in future as a national religion, and the Catholic Bishops will rank on an equality with viceroys and governors, and priests will have the rank of mandarins.

A VICTORY FOR THE RELIGIOUS.

The Grand-Duchy of Baden has just been the scene of a Parliamentary contest in which the exclusion of religious orders from the Grand-Duchy was the question at issue. The matter was brought before the Legislative Chamber by the Catholic party, who pointed out the injustice of the existing law by which certain religious orders are excluded from the Grand-Duchy, and demanded that the law should be repealed.

THE DEPLORABLE STATE OF ANGLICANISM.

According to the Rev. Frederic G. Lee, a prominent Anglican clergyman of London, Eng., at the present time not more than one fifth of the children born within the Established Church are presented for Baptism. This condition of affairs undoubtedly arises from the internal dissensions which have arisen to so great a height during the past year between the Evangelicals and the Ritualists.

THE MCGIFFERT CASE.

The Presbyterian General Assembly of the United States has again had before it the celebrated McGiffert heresy case, which it has shelved by referring his explanatory letter on his book "The Christian Church in the Apostolic Age" to a committee without having it read in the Assembly. The book in question maintains that there are errors in the original New Testament as it came from the pens of the writers, and therefore by implication denies the truth and inspiration of Holy Scripture.

LOYALTY AND THE CORONATION OATH.

We have received from a respected correspondent, writing over the signature "A Jacobite," a letter stating that the resolutions passed by a number of Catholic associations in Canada, and especially by branches of the C. M. B. A., in regard to the shameful Coronation Oath, which, under the present laws, the British Sovereign is obliged to take, touch upon dangerous ground, as they unconsciously attack the statute of 1701, which is known as the "Act of Settlement" the purpose of which was, according to our correspondent, to exclude from the throne "all the descendants of Charles I."

THE END OF ANOTHER HERESY TRIAL.

The Southern Baptists have been recently much agitated over a peculiar "heresy case," which has just been unexpectedly settled in a manner which has not given complete satisfaction to either of the parties engaged in the controversy.

CREMATION.

Much surprise has been manifested from time to time on account of the prohibition issued by Pope Leo XIII. in 1886 against the practice of cremation. The advocates of this method of disposing of the dead represent that it is the most effectual means of making away with the mortal remains of humanity, and of preventing contagion from spreading from the bodies when the diseases which have caused death have been infectious.

CREMATION.

It becomes a suitable object of prohibitory legislation by the Church; and such good reasons really exist. It has been the custom of Christians from the earliest ages to dispose of the dead by burial, and this was one distinction between them and the Pagan Romans in the early centuries of the Christian era.

CREMATION.

In fact in modern times cremation was made by certain sectaries a symbol of want of faith in the resurrection of the body, and it has been actually adopted by the European Freemasons in this sense and with this purpose in view. They have used it as a protest against that article of the Apostles' Creed which says: "I believe in the resurrection of the body."

CREMATION.

Of course cremation is not an obstacle to the resurrection of the body, as it is a matter in the hands of the Omnipotent God to gather together the particles of the body which have been separated from each other and dispersed over great distances. There is no difficulty for Omnipotence to effect this, yet on account of the opposition in the symbolism of the two modes of burial, the Holy Father deemed it advisable strictly to prohibit that mode which was made by its chief promoters the symbol of the doctrine of the annihilation of soul and body, which is a detestable heresy, subversive of Christian faith.

CREMATION.

There are some other reasons for this prohibition. The grace conferring sacraments are applied to the body of the Christian during life, especially the sacrament of the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ, which nourishes the body while it sanctifies the soul. Hence the Holy Scripture calls the body of the Christian "the temple of the Holy Ghost." It is for this reason also that the Church encourages respect for relics of the saints, because, as the Catechism says, "their bodies have been temples of the Holy Ghost."

CREMATION.

Where cremation has become a regular practice in some cities of the continent, bodies of the dead are thrown roughly, sometimes in great heaps, into furnaces and are thus consumed. In Vienna they are sent by pneumatic tubes to the furnaces five or six miles distant from the central part of the city, as if they were mail matter, and in every case they are consumed without the prayers for the dead being recited over them, or any other religious ceremony performed.

QUESTION BOX.

"J. B., of Oromocto, N. B., enquires where and how the profession of engineering may be learned. To learn the practical work of locomotive or steamboat engineering, we believe the best place would be a machine shop where steam engines are constructed. The profession of a civil engineer requires a more extensive knowledge of mathematics and may be learned at Laval or McGill University, at Quebec and Montreal, respectively, or at the University of New Brunswick of Fredericton. There is a chair of Civil

CREMATION.

Engineering at these institutions. The next query of our correspondent is as follows: "Is there such a science as astrology, and can professors tell one's future?" To this we reply that astrology is by no means a science, but a mere fraud. The knowledge of the heavenly bodies is a science which was originally called astrology, but is now known as astronomy.

CREMATION.

Comment on this is scarcely necessary; nevertheless, it may be well for us to point out that there is, according to our Lord's words, "joy in heaven over one sinner that doth penance." And further, St. John, in the Apocalyptic vision, "heard, as it were, the voice of many multitudes in heaven saying: 'Alleluia, salvation, and glory, and power is to our God . . . Alleluia, for the Lord our God, the Omnipotent hath reigned.'"

CREMATION.

It appears evident that the Presbyterian Church service is not fashioned on what is revealed to us concerning the worship offered by the Saints in heaven.

CREMATION.

DEATH OF MR. W. P. KILLACEY. The members of the C. M. B. A. through out the Dominion will learn with the utmost regret that one of its most prominent members, Mr. W. P. Killacey, Grand Organizer, died suddenly, of apoplexy, at Windsor, Ontario, on the evening of Friday, June 30.

CREMATION.

There has been during the last few years considerable agitation among Presbyterians to reintroduce the celebration of at least the two great Christian festivals of Christmas and Easter. The conviction has forced itself home upon the minds of many Presbyterians that it is one of the causes of the repulsiveness and consequent decay of the Calvinistic creed, that it makes no appeal to the heart of mankind, and the advocates of these festivals hope that their readdition will lead to the checking of the growing antipathy to Presbyterianism which has recently forced itself on the members of that sect.

CREMATION.

Behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy that shall be to all people. For this day is born to you a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord, in the city of David. . . . Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men of good will.

CREMATION.

Modern Presbyterians have opened their eyes to this incongruity, and many of them are urging strongly that there should be some concession made to the natural yearnings of humanity, some expression given to sympathy with the sufferings of our divine Redeemer on the anniversary days when all Christianity calls these sufferings to mind, and some manifestations of joy in the celebration of the triumph and victory of our Lord over sin and death and the powers of darkness. To this end and for other reasons there is an agitation going on even for the total repudiation of the Westminster Confession, and the

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