

# The Catholic Register.

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

VOL. II.—No. 9.

TORONTO, THURSDAY, MARCH 1, 1894.

PRICE 5 CENTS.

## Register of the Week.

In the Local Legislature members have settled down to work, and the notice paper is rapidly filling up. Amongst them appears one proposing to tax Church property.

What principle guides legislators in a Christian country to suggest the taxation of Churches is beyond THE REGISTER'S comprehension. Pagans always treated their deities with more respect. Is the Lord of the temple to pay tax to the creature who prays in the temple?

It is reported that the Holy Father has completed an Encyclical Letter which is shortly to be published, and is intended to be the closing act of his jubilee year. The Encyclical treats of purely religious matters, and is an expression of the Sovereign Pontiff's gratitude to the Catholic world for the loyalty and affection everywhere manifested in his regard.

One can hardly help smiling at the prompt way in which the Lords changed their front towards the Parish Councils' Bill. Always a stupid body, they are still more stupid when led by a narrow-minded Tory like Lord Salisbury. But they are not too stupid to understand its own interests. They saw clearly that though it might shelve Home Rule it could not trifle with the wishes of the English people. It therefore reconsidered the Bill and sent it back to the Commons very much in the shape in which they had received it.

Although this action of the Upper House will greatly modify the agitation, still it will not prevent it. In fact the agitation will acquire more force, because it will be more moderate. A plan is already suggested for the reconstituting the relations between the House of Lords and the Commons. Finality of measures is to be more and more in the hands of the Lower House; the power to veto bills passed by the Commons to be taken from the Lords. It is also proposed that if the House of Lords initiate a bill, when that bill once amended shall be returned by them to the Commons the decision of the Lower House shall be final. If the Peers absolutely reject a bill the Commons may reaffirm it by resolution and thereby override the rejection of the Upper Chamber.

The bitter feeling which has long existed between France and Italy seems likely to break down. One reason which is bringing this about is the fact that the French markets have been closed to Italian agricultural and industrial products. Many Italians therefore wish a return of amicable relations. A propaganda of reconciliation is set on foot; but Franco

steadily refuses to see any sincerity in the intentions of the peace-makers. A French Deputy of the Lower Alps has written a strong letter stating that Signor Crispi in 1890, then President of the Ministry, but on the eve of his overthrow, had planned an Italian occupation of Tripoli in order to divert public attention. In this movement Crispi counted upon the support of England which, it was understood, had been pledged. Lord Salisbury however refused to give any definite answer and asserted that he had commissioned no one to promise such a thing.

The most disgraceful University scene of many years occurred at Cornell in New York State on the night of Feb. 20th. Had it begun and ended in the fight which the sophomores brought on by trying to prevent the freshmen holding their banquet nothing much could be said. People have got accustomed to that kind of scholarly ruffianism. It was a case of poisoning. In a room under the kitchen of the hall where the students of the first year were dining some one had bored two holes in the ceiling, through which tubes were passed. On a table stood a large jug, corked; but in the cork were rubber tubes connecting with the glass tubes which passed through the ceiling and the floor of the kitchen above. All this contrivance was for the purpose of generating chlorine, as the jug was found to contain salt and sulphuric acid. It succeeded only too well. A cook who was in the kitchen died that night from its effects. Several students were carried out to neighboring druggists, and were revived sufficiently to be sent home.

Chicago has been undergoing a fearful scourge of that dreary disease small-pox. The Little Handmaids of Jesus Christ, who are in charge of the smallpox hospital, have been doing great work in nursing the poor victims of this fearful plague. "Twelve Sisters are now stationed at the hospital," says the *New World*, "and besides nursing the 130 patients they do all the cooking, washing and cleaning, with the assistance of two men, one to help in the wards and one to attend to the stores. A visitor to the hospital would be impressed at once by the generosity of the county, and the interest taken by the city in providing the necessary accommodations and conveniences for those caring for the sick. No gas, nearly a hundred kerosene lamps to attend to; no steam, twenty-five stoves to care for; no windowguards—patients constantly endangering their lives, while in delirium, by their attempts to jump from the windows; no way of conveying food upstairs—Sisters obliged to carry the food from the kitchen three

times a day, on trays, to the patients." This is rather a disgrace to the city of Chicago, with its wealth and culture, and "its much vaunted charity." Of course the disease is of such a nature that the fashionable world could not be expected to visit its hospital; only self-sacrificing women like these good Sisters are able to do this disagreeable work. The condition of this Pest House was most disgraceful when it was taken in charge by the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ after the epidemic of 1881, to quote again from the *New World*. "Prior to that time it was in the hands of seculars. Old army blankets that were reeking with filth were hung from the windows to exclude the daylight; the floors, the beds, the patients, were filthy." Things were in this bad condition until 1881, when Sister Bonaventura, one of the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ, was stricken with the disease. She was taken to the hospital accompanied by another Sister, who was to nurse her. After her recovery she and her nurse remained to assist in nursing the other patients. It was suggested that the Sisters would take charge and the old attendants be dismissed; this was done, and after the Sisters had taken possession, the death rate decreased rapidly.

Sister Mary Alvina, the first victim amongst the Poor Handmaids of Jesus, since they took charge of the Pest House in Chicago, died on February 11th, after five days of intense suffering with black small-pox. The remains were placed in a zinc-lined casket and sealed tightly immediately after death. Rev. Father Holdman read the burial service, and the Sisters chanted the *De Profundis*. The convalescents thronged the corridors and stairways, many wept silently for their departed nurse, Sister Alvina was only twenty-six years of age, and had been nursing the small-pox patients three months. May she rest in peace!

We are pleased to see that Senator Howlan has been appointed Lieutenant-Governor of Prince Edward Island. Mr. Howlan is a native of Waterford, Ireland. He emigrated with his parents to Prince Edward Island in 1839, being only four years of age. He was educated at the Central Academy there. Among the numerous positions of trust held by Mr. Howlan were Vice-Consul for Norway, Sweden and Denmark; Vice-President of the Dominion Board of Trade, and a Governor of Prince of Wales College. He was a delegate to Washington on trade matters in 1869, and he, with Messrs. Pope and Haviland, went to Ottawa in May, 1873, to settle terms of union with Canada, which were adopted by both Houses of Legislature. He was made a member of the Senate on Prince Edward Island

entering the Dominion, Oct. 18th, 1873; he resigned in 1880, but was re-appointed in 1881. In 1891 he again resigned to become a candidate for one of the constituencies of Prince Edward Island at the general elections for the House of Commons; but being defeated he was again re-appointed to the Senate in March, 1891.

The London correspondent of the *New York Times*, cables the following bad news about T. P. O'Connor's paper: "Many friends will be sorry to hear that T. P. O'Connor's new venture, the half-penny *Evening Sun*, has not been a success. I understand that the whole staff is under notice that publication will cease in March. Unhappily, the impression prevails that most or all of his own money which he took out of the *Star*, has been sunk in the venture."

Father Kolasinski, the pastor of the Polish church, Detroit, and who had serious trouble with his Bishop, has been pardoned and re-instated in charge of his flock. Some zealous persons have taken scandal, and have made remarks to the effect, that his punishment was too light. The *Ave Maria* thus speaks of the circumstance: "Those who have presumed to sit in judgment upon him and his ecclesiastical superiors do not consider this reparation adequate! they would have Father Kolasinski go into retirement for an indefinite period, and do penance as they say worth the doing. We would remark that the affairs of Detroit are supposed to be in the hands of Bishop Foley, and that the regulation of the Polish congregation and the direction of its repentant pastor may safely be entrusted to him. He may have laid down conditions of pardon which he does not feel obliged to explain to the public, and that pastor Kolasinski is not disposed to proclaim."

A despatch from Bay City, Mich., to the *Chicago Herald* says the A.P.A. movement which was very strong a year ago is literally dead no interest being taken in the affairs of the Association whatever. It was killed because its members were deluded into thinking the order was to protect the public schools, when in reality it was only a tool to be used by the Republican politicians in times of election.

Rt. Rev. Michael Tierney, D.D., was consecrated Bishop of Hartford, Conn., on February 22d. There were about 4,000 persons present in St. Joseph's Cathedral to witness the ceremony. Archbishop Williams of Boston was the consecrator, assisted by Bishop Beaven of Springfield, and Bishop Harkins, of Providence.

Rumours are again rife of the resignation of Mr. Gladstone. We hesitate to believe them until there is positive proof.