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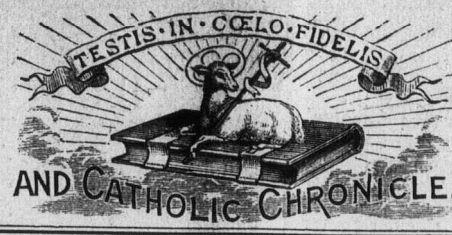
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# The True



# Witness

Senate Reading Room

## Church of England's Approaching Crisis.

The following interesting article on the report of the recent Commission on Anglican Disorders appears in the Examiner, from the pen of Father Benson, son of the late Archbishop of Canterbury:

"It seems as if the Church of England were really approaching that crisis, among its series of crises, which all those who are really acquainted with the prayer book and articles have long foreseen. According to the most modern historians, these formularies were drawn up with the deliberate intention of including as many shades of belief as possible, with the certain exception of 'Popery' upon the one hand and the uncertain exceptions of Lutheranism and Calvinism upon the other. (I say 'uncertain' because the late Archbishop Temple asserted that consubstantiation might be taught, while transubstantiation might not.) The result of the policy of Crammer and the Elizabethans was, as was natural, that practically every kind of professing Christian has been found in the communion of the Church of England—except Catholics; and that every school of thought has claimed, and truly, that its tenets can be discovered in the formularies in question. By the logic of circumstances, however, public opinion has been forced to recognize that these schools of thought are mutually exclusive. It cannot, for example, be the teaching of the Church of England at one and the same time that our Lord is really present in the sacrament and that He is really absent; that a child is regenerated in baptism and that he is not. Canon Liddon, the famous preacher made this observation some years ago. It is pleasant, no doubt, to exclaim at the splendid comprehensiveness of a Church that includes teachers of these contradictory doctrines, but the price of this comprehensiveness is that a Church which possesses it forfeits ipso facto all right of presenting herself as a divine or even, indeed, a human teacher of her children.

"Now, public opinion does not object to this comprehensiveness at all, but what, above all things, it does object to is anything that tends to narrow it. Public opinion, holding that a national Church should be truly national, resents any attempt to make it otherwise; and it is for this reason that, firstly, the education bill has been introduced, and, secondly, the commissioners have issued their report on 'Disorders in the Church.' England does not, I believe, really hate the Catholic Church; in fact, she respects her. It is true that she hates certain elements in Catholic teaching, but they are exactly those elements which appear to militate against her own ambitions. She hates, therefore, Catholicism properly so-called. She does not at all agree with St. Paul that in Christ there must be neither Jew nor Greek, Barbarian nor Scythian, bond or free. On the contrary, she thinks that there must be always English and French, European and Asiatic, white and black; and that English European and white are, respectively, always under all circumstances and on all considerations, superior to French, Asiatic and colored.

### HATES RITUALISTS.

"But far more she hates ritualists, and for this reason: that she sees in them an attempt to introduce a kind of Catholicism by means of her own possession—the National Church. The ritualist, she thinks, is aiming at exactly the wrong kind of exclusiveness and inclusiveness; he desires to exclude Nonconformists and include French, Asiatic and black Catholics in the Kingdom of God, and he is using schools and churches, which she holds to be her own, in the propagation of his idea. So far as she takes an interest in the National Church at all, she identifies herself with the Moderate party—the party that is always allying itself more or less with those who have repudiated the established form of religion, and dissociating itself from

her whom the Established Church has repudiated, and whose buildings and revenues she retains—namely, the Catholic Church.

"Now, the Moderate party is making a very firm and skilful attack from two quarters. First, in the education bill it is seeking to reduce the national Christianity to what is called fundamental religion—by which is meant briefly an appearance of piety, but denying the power thereof; and, secondly, in the ritual commission it is preparing an assault on those remnants of Catholicism that still linger in the National Church. If there is one thing that the ritualist holds firmly, it is that Jesus Christ meant His Church to be one. Catholics, while disagreeing with his methods of bringing this about—for, after all, they hold that our Lord Himself already brought it about—yet sympathize profoundly with his desire to see all who love God united in the visible fold. In the pursuance of his desires the ritualist is rapidly introducing again into his worship many of those devotional practices and doctrines that his spiritual ancestors rejected in the sixteenth century. He observes Corpus Christi; he teaches the doctrine of the Sacrifice of the Mass; he celebrates communion without communicants; he observes a form of 'benefiction.' More than this, he claims that since the Church of England is, in his opinion, a portion of the Catholic Church, she has neither the power nor the intention to teach a religion other than the Catholic, and therefore he explains his prayer books and articles in the Catholic sense. Two things only he excepts, namely, the prerogative of Peter and the right of his own communion to legislate in disciplinary matters to a certain extent. For this reason he is content to use English instead of Latin; to permit the clergy to be married men, and other secondary matters of this kind; for these two things are, after all, necessary to the sanctification of his own religious position.

"The ritual report, therefore, published a few weeks ago, strikes smartly at the ritualist in a number of ways. First it points out that a number of ritualistic practices and doctrines were designedly abandoned by the Church of England in the sixteenth century, adding, with scarcely any attempt to disguise the significance of the remark, that the objection to these practices lies not so much in the things themselves as in their tendency to assimilate the National Church to the Church of Peter. Those things such as Tenebrae, public prayers for the dead, holy water, celebrations of the communion without communicants it desires the Bishops to deal with immediately.

"Again, while the commissioners confess that the Church of England suffers from a lack of elasticity, and suggests that steps should be taken to remedy this, they do not give any hint that these ancient Catholic practices should be restored. Elasticity is rather to include new and modern devotions, that signify no more than the mirror of the shifting opinions of her members. "For this Catholics may be thankful yet they cannot help sympathizing with the sorrow of those who thought that sand was rock and that figs could grow on thistles. "Finally, there is no doubt that the next few years will see a great influx of disappointed ritualists into the one divine city of peace."

## Mr. Timothy, M. P. for North Louth.

Speaks hopefully of Home Rule for Ireland.

Mr. Timothy Healy, member for North Louth in the Imperial Parliament, is making a short stay in the city, and in the course of a discussion on Irish affairs he very emphatically said: "Although Home Rule for Ireland will certainly not be granted during the life of the present British Parliament, good progress may be made towards that end." He further remarked that he was rather disheartened to read that Mr. T. P. O'Connor, M.P., had expressed the belief that Home Rule would only be granted a quarter of a century hence. He hardly hoped, if such would be the case, to live to see the realization of his and his kinsmen's dreams. But he was sanguine that a better day was nearer at hand than was generally expected. The English people were better disposed to learn about their Irish neighbors, and when once they thoroughly understood them, the question of justice is easily solved. Though Home Rule might not be obtained during the present parliament, he felt sure that progress would be made. What was obtained from the present Government could have, he believed, been obtained from the Tories, but the wildcats of the Nationalist party had prevented any rapprochement between Mr. Redmond and the English Tories. Speaking of the present Commons, Mr. Healy said that the House is a good deal in advance of the Cabinet as a whole and that this would apply to Irish as well as other matters. Mr. Healy has a high opinion of Mr. John Redmond, who possesses moderate views and statesmanlike qualities. Yet, he added, there are men to-day in the Nationalist party who, while pretending to give their leader a cordial support, would be very sorry to see him score a victory for Ireland. These men, he stated, appear to be the land masters, and Mr. Redmond is thus prevented in a great many ways from scoring for Ireland.

### SOMETHING WILL HAPPEN.

"It remains to be seen what will happen, for that something will happen is certain. The Archbishop of Canterbury in a strong open letter has declared his intention of taking action, and it is probable that during the autumn the first process will begin of asserting once more as clearly as possible that the National Church is free and independent of all Catholic tradition and authority regarded as compulsory. Probably the best chance for the ritualists is to declare for disestablishment in the hopes that when once the establishment is reduced to the position of an independent sect their own influence, which is growing every year, owing to the disinterested sincerity and devotion, may prevail over the Moderate policy, and that they may be able to continue their work of approximating the Anglican communion towards the lines of the Holy See.

"It will be extremely interesting to watch the drama as it proceeds and it is already engrossing the student of history to see how the foundations of the Church of England, laid down three hundred years ago by the Tudors, and gradually silted over by the High Church revivals in Caroline and Victorian days, are reappearing once more upon the surface, as the foundations of ancient buildings force their lines in a hot summer through the superincumbent soil. In spite of the eager and gallant attempts of the ritualistic theologians to assert her unity with Christendom, the instinct of public opinion is as positive as ever that she is no more than a department of the State, that she is ruled by the monarch instead of by Christ in His vicar; that her practices and even her creeds are at the mercy of the laity in the last resort, and that instead of being the organ of an authoritative revelation she is no more than the mirror of the shifting opinions of her members.

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### A VERY SIGNIFICANT MORAL.

"Now, all this has one clear moral, and it is a very significant one. While the High Church party has for years been insisting that the National Church is a branch of the Catholic Church, and as such has no power or intention of legislating against universal doctrine or practice, public opinion, as represented

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### Abbey's Effervescent Salt

### Some People's Lives

are ruled and ruined by their livers. The least indiscretion in diet causes a vigorous protest of their liver.

ABBEY'S EFFERVESCENT SALT takes care of the good liver's liver. For sale by all Druggist 25c. and 60c. a bottle.

### LADIES' CATHOLIC BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION

On August 22, a branch of the important organization known in the United States as the Ladies' Catholic Benevolent Association was formed in St. Patrick's parish, a full account of which we take from the association's official organ, "The Fraternal Leader":

The third quarter of the current year opened most auspiciously and with full promise that impetus and action will continue throughout the months.

The numbers reported assigned in the late Supreme Council statement are fast bringing in material results, and the few outstanding members preceding one thousand will, it is thought, fall in regular line in a short time. Old branches, too, are lengthening their lists, the new extension apparently carrying energy along with it. In fact the conditions in general are gratifying to the management and certainly encouraging to the members.

The institutions lately reported tell of desirable acquisitions and the advocacy of clergymen whose sanction of itself adds strength to the association.

Perhaps no branch of late years instituted makes more significant the influence and advancement of the association than does No. 1024, instituted August 22nd by the Supreme President, assisted by associate officers of the Supreme Council.

This branch, the first to be entered from the province of Quebec, is connected with the Church of St. Patrick at Montreal, and under the immediate supervision of Rev. Martin Callaghan, who was most gracious to the supreme officers and upon learning authentically of the formation, manner of procedure and success of the association gave his unqualified sanction to the formation of a branch in St. Patrick's.

Organization was at once begun, and in a few days all matters were adjusted and in readiness for institution. The attendance of the Supreme Recorder and the Supreme Examiner, as a matter of fact, rendered immediate examination and official reports feasible, while the performance of ceremonies by the Supreme President and the presence of so many Supreme officers were a distinction rare though quite in keeping with the uniting of the Canadian province once more into the fraternal cause with which the L.C.B.A. is eminently identified.

The final ceremonies took place under happiest conditions. Aside from Supreme officers of the association there were present Mr. J. Nehin, formerly of Buffalo, and prominently identified with fraternal interest and Mr. Warren, a representative fraternalist of Montreal.

The large charter list, all of whom are beneficiary members, is a fine tribute to the Supreme Council and forms a very substantial nucleus for future growth.

The Supreme President gave all the needed instructions and welcomed the new branch into the field in all cordiality after which the Supreme officers occupied the chairs and a meeting was conducted as a practical object lesson for the lately initiated.

Election of officers resulted in the choice of the following staff, all of whom are manifestly women of ability who will find little difficulty in the transaction of business and the discharge of assumed obligations:

Past Pres.—Mrs. Mary Wynne.  
President.—Mrs. Mary Warren.  
1st Vice-Pres.—Mrs. Mary Duffy.  
2nd Vice-Pres.—Mrs. Mary Riddle.  
Recorder.—Miss Maud J. Nehin.  
Asst. Recorder.—Miss Lillian O'Brien-Belser.  
Fin. Sec.—Miss Isabelle Wynne.

### Treasurer—Mrs. Anastasia O'Donnell.

Marshal—Miss Kate Clancy.  
Guard—Mrs. Anna McLaughlin.  
Trustees—Mrs. Mary Brooks, Miss Kate Smith, Mrs. Sarah Warren, Mrs. Mary Wynne, Mrs. Bridget McCauley.

Rev. Father Callaghan has graciously assumed the spiritual direction and added his name to the fast lengthening line of spiritual advisers.

If your children moan and are restless during sleep, coupled, when awake, with a loss of appetite, pale countenance, picking of the nose, etc., you may depend upon it that the primary cause of the trouble is worms. Mother Graves' Worm Exterminator effectually removes these pests, at once relieving the little sufferers.

### St. Michael's Parish.

The celebration of the patronal feast of St. Michael took place on last Sunday, and by far eclipsed any former event. The festivities were considerably enhanced by the presence of the veterans, accompanied by their renowned band, in full military uniform. Before High Mass, at which Rev. Father Poladeau was celebrant, assisted by Rev. Father Polan and Singleton, as deacon and sub-deacon respectively, four beautiful banners were blessed by the Rev. J. P. Kiernan, the same being gifts of special friends of the parish and devoted to St. Michael in a particular manner.

After the Gospel the Rev. Pastor, on entering the pulpit, welcomed his visitors most cordially, complimenting them on being the followers of St. Michael, whose prerogatives were courage, perseverance and loyalty. As St. Michael, champion officer in heaven, had espoused God's cause, led his faithful followers to victory, and was for ever confirmed in glory, so, also, they, retired officers, had headed their battalions on the field of battle, led them on in triumph, and now proudly and honorably bore their epaulettes as the reward of their fidelity.

The sermon of the occasion was preached by Rev. Luke Callaghan, D.D., of St. Patrick's. As was expected, this proved to be in every respect appropriate and practical. St. Michael was grounded in humility, and thus prepared to give unto his God the first place in all things, exclaiming in all the fulness of his strength and gratitude: "Who is like unto God?" What abundant food for thought in those few, simple words when pondered over by the devout Christian soul! Pride is, and has always been, the avowed enemy of the Church, and State. The heresiarchs and traitors of history have all begun their fall in pride and completed it in lust; so we, if we would one day share the glory of St. Michael, in God's Kingdom, should walk through life in the shadow of the standard of humility. There shall we be sheltered from the heat of passion and helped to sow in our hearts, in happiness and contentment, the seeds of every Christian virtue.

In the evening Vespers and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament were held. The choir on this occasion certainly won new laurels for the spirit that prevails amongst them; and evinced most strikingly by the pains which were certainly necessary for the preparation of their splendid repertoire and the mastery way in which it was rendered.

President Suspenders. Style, comfort, service. 50c everywhere.

### UNITED IRISH LEAGUE.

#### Annual Convention of American Body Opened in Philadelphia.

Philadelphia, Oct. 2.—The annual convention of the United Irish League of America was opened here to-day with 700 delegates in attendance. Many prominent representatives of Ireland are attending the convention, among them being T. P. O'Connor, member for the Scotland Division of Liverpool, and Hon. Edward Blake, member for Longford.

After Mayor Weaver had welcomed the delegates to Philadelphia, this cablegram from John Redmond was read: "Deeply regret prevented by critical political situation from attending convention. Rely upon continued support of Irish-America for united, independent, pledge-bound party, and for policy approved by five-sixths of Irish people. Ireland was never more united, determined and hopeful."

To-day's business sessions were devoted to the reading of reports. During the afternoon session, the annual report of Secretary John O'Callaghan of Boston, was read. He stated that English eyes were on the delegates because it was realized that the work of the convention would have effect on public opinion. The money sent to Ireland had been doing tremendous good.