



CATHOLIC CHRONICLE.

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TERMS:—\$2 per annum in advance.

AGENTS.

Mr. E. Pollan is our authorized agent for Huntingdon and surrounding district, and as such entitled to receive subscriptions.

Mr. Alexander McDonald, Teacher, is our duly authorized Agent for Alexandria and vicinity.

Mr. John Gough is our Traveling Agent, and is fully authorized to receive monies and grant receipts as such.

Mr. Patrick J. Shea, is our agent for St. Thomas and the district surrounding, to whom subscriptions may be paid.

IRISH PAINTING IN ROME.

A correspondent of the Dublin Freeman says:—

There is at present on view in Cammucc Palace Rome, a magnificent painting by the well-known artist, Luigi Ricci, representing St. Patrick preaching Christianity to the pagan Irish.

THE INDIAN FAMINE.

A Madras correspondent reviewing the actual effects in that presidency of the famine says the registered deaths of the present year to the end of June were three hundred and seventy thousand souls above the average.

AMERICAN EGGS IN ENGLAND.

The trade in eggs between America and this country is rapidly growing. Two hundred and eighty barrels of eggs arrived at Liverpool from the Dominion in one steamer alone a few days ago, and from all accounts I imagine there is a great probability of a regular supply arriving week by week.

THE INDIANS IMPARTIALLY CONSIDERED.

The following extract is from the letter of a Catholic priest, treating of the present Indian troubles:—

Let these poor Indians be left quiet, and I am sure they will be friendly, at least they will not be hostile. This is exactly the reason, why I contend that if there has been—or if there will be—a war, it is the whites arrayed against the Indians and not the latter against the former.

GERMANY.

According to statements received from time to time Germany has not benefited by the enormous indemnity extorted from France. It is singular but it is true that since France has parted with the thousand million dollars, and Germany received that sum, one has become prosperous and the other poor.

TURKISH PLUCK.

The Daily News correspondent writes of one of the fresh contests around Plevna:—

The attacking brigade now divided into two bodies, which flanked the village on either side, but there seemed to be no resistance. It was high time for the three-gun battery to be off, as the Turks were making straight for it, and before long, ere the first of the skirmishers had reached the outskirts of Haidarkeul, we saw the gunners limber up and go off at a gallop.

THE MARRIAGE OF KING ALPHONSO.

The London Tablet says:— "Letters from La Granja to the French papers state that the Princess of Asturias informed the Infanta Dona Mercedes, the third daughter of the Duke and Duchess de Montpensier, that Queen Isabel, who is at the Escorial, had given her consent to the proposal of marriage between her and the King, and that the next day, the Duke and Duchess of Montpensier, accompanied by Dona Mercedes, paid a formal visit to the Queen-Mother.

THE POPE'S HEALTH.

We clip the following from an exchange:— "In spite of the statements which are constantly appearing in the English and Italian papers, we have satisfactory ground for affirming that the health of the Pope is quite as good as it could possibly be expected to be at his years. And we notice that the Daily Telegraph publishes a confirmation of this information in the shape of an extract from the letter of a correspondent of high position, who writes, 'The Holy Father is looking as well and is as good spirits as when I left Rome in July.

IRELAND AND CANADA.

The London Tablet of the 22nd September writing on education says:—

But we need not travel to the Colonies for glaring contrasts such as that between Canada and Ireland in the matter of educational treatment. The English Educational Act of 1870 as amended, is mainly a denominational, though theoretically a secular measure, so that the tone and spirit of the schools follow the direction of the religious management, irrespective of creed, Catholic, Anglican or Dissent.

HUNGARY AND THE WAR.

In the Hungarian Diet to-day Prime Minister Tisza, replying to an interpellation by several influential Deputies on the Eastern question, said that now no danger whatever threatened the interest of the monarchy. He denied that the Government had exercised neutrality in a way unduly favorable to Russia, or that the policy pursued by the Hungarian Government was contrary to the opinion of the Hungarian people.

THE APOSTOLIC DELEGATE.

The Miner reproduces from the ordinary Roman correspondence of the Monde, a leading French Catholic journal, the following:—

"Letters from Canada recently received at Rome bring excellent news of the success of the mission which the Holy See confided to Menseigneur Conroy. In the ecclesiastical Province of Quebec, which Mgr. has visited with the title of Delegate Apostolic, there were to be deplored among the faithful, dissensions all the more annoying because they lacked foundation. They had for origin or for pretext the name of 'Liberal,' which many Canadians, otherwise good Catholics, take or allow to be given them in purely political questions.

MORMON RECRUITS.

We are somewhat surprised to find that Mormonism has received an impetus through the demise of Brigham Young. Our opinion—which we shared with most of the world—was that the system flourished in later years only because of the administrative vigor and ability of its chief. Apparently the assumption was unwarranted, for a Liverpool steamer sailed a few days ago, carrying 200 recruits for Salt Lake City, and the accompanying "elders" volunteered the statement that proselytes are coming in very rapidly since the "apostle" shuffled off the mortal coil.

RUSSIAN LOSSES.

The London Tablet has the following:— "Blow after blow has been falling on the Russians in Bulgaria. Before Plevna they have lost, with the exception of the Graviza redoubt, all that they had gained. While the centre of the Russian army assisted by the Roumanians from the right, who fought well, had captured the large redoubt which it has been agreed to call by the name of the village above mentioned, though it is only one of several in its neighbourhood, troops from the left under General Skobelev, who distinguished himself in Khokand and at the recent battle of Loftcha, had succeeded after a severe struggle in establishing itself in three redoubts to the south and south-west of Plevna, and between Loftcha and Sofia roads.

RUSSIA'S POLICY.

The following extracts from the "Table Talk of Napoleon the First" are extremely interesting at the present moment:—

"One day," Napoleon said, "I could have shared the Turkish Empire with Russia; we have discussed the question more than once. Constantine always saved it. This capital was the great embarrassment, the true stumbling block. Russia wanted it, and I could not grant it. It is too precious a key; it alone is worth an empire; whoever possesses it can govern the whole world."

HOME RULE IN THE NORTH.

The following is a copy of the Ulster proclamation:—

TO THE PEOPLE OF ULSTER.

FELLOW-COUNTRYMEN—The ages witness to us that the English Government and Parliament are incapable and unwilling to govern this country in the interests of its people, and since we are neither permitted to meet in an Irish Parliament or hold an Irish convention, let us meet in conference to fix on our future line of action, and to aid in securing the blessings of Home Rule.

By rejecting every measure which the inhabitants of this country consider essential to their welfare, the London Parliament has exhibited a fixed determination to retard our progress—and not long since we were insultingly told in the House of Commons that Irishmen are not entitled to the same privileges which Englishmen and Scotchmen enjoy.

We expect the assistance of several members of Parliament, and the attendance of representatives from the British Home Rule Confederation. Resolutions will be introduced dealing with the present political situation in and out of Parliament, and the social condition of the people.

Time and place will be announced, and cards of admission will be sent to all who signify a desire to attend.

- Derry, 12th September, 1877. JOSEPH R. McCLOSKEY, M.D., Derry. CHARLES M. DONOHUE, Derry. THOMAS O'HANLON, T.C., Derry. WILLIAM MCGONAGHAN, Derry. JOHN M'LAGHLEN, Derry. JAMES DUNNAN, Derry. JOSEPH G. BIGGAR, M.P. Belfast. REV. M. H. CASHILL, Belfast. JAMES O'KANE, Belfast. TERENCE O'BRIEN, Belfast. JOHN DEDDY, Belfast. REV. J. NALSON, Belfast.—Ulster Examiner.

RITUALISM IN ENGLAND.

There was a scandalous scene in a Ritualistic church in Hampshire, Eng., a fortnight ago. A gentleman going into the church about ten minutes before the service began, was astonished to see on the altar two wax candles, in jewelled candlesticks, a large gilt crucifix and two jars of flowers. Acting on the impulse of the moment, he went into the chancel and seizing the candlesticks and the crucifix, carried them to a pew mid way down the aisle. In a few minutes the curate came out out of the vestry, and looking aghast at the transformation scene on the altar, faced the congregation; but no one spoke. Eventually the sacrilegious offender was pointed out to him. The curate marched down the aisle and the debate opened. Q.—"What have you done with the candlesticks you have taken from the altar?" A.—"There they are." Q.—"Then give them up, sir." A.—"I shan't." The curate—"I will have you removed." A.—"Do so." As the curate passed the altar he bowed and went forward to the vestry, but the choir refused to assist him. Then he returned to the altar steps, and falling down on his knees, he prostrated himself before the empty table, crossed himself more than once, and manoeuvred in some odd way with his hands and arms. The gentleman in the pew then hissed him. The curate rose, and again bowing to the altar, went down the aisle, and the debate was resumed. Q.—"Will you leave the church?" A.—"No, I shan't." Q.—"You won't? then I will send for a policeman." A.—"Do so; the sooner you do it the better." When the policeman entered the church the discussion was reopened. The Curate,—"You are breaking the law?" A.—"And what are you doing, sir? You are both breaking the law and your oath." The Curate,—"I represent the Vicar, and I give you in charge." A.—"You represent the Pope. That's whom you represent." The policeman stepped forward, but a shrill voice from the doorway cried out:—"Don't you touch him!" The Curate drew back, and asked the intruder if he intended to interrupt the service. "Certainly not; if you keep within bounds" was the response. So the Curate abandoned the contest, and in a few minutes were heard the words, "The Lords is in this Holy Temple."—Contemporary Review.

THE WAR.

The result of the desperate attack upon Plevna has surprised the world. It was a futile week's work, for the Russians, though they fought with almost superhuman courage, achieved practically nothing of any importance, except the possession of the Gavizta redoubt. Day after day the faithful soldiers of the Czar faced the cannon's mouth, and meekly, bravely, magnificently, they went to the shambles. The fruit of the attack is the most appalling the eye could behold—20,000 dead bodies choking the ditches, filling the redoubts, crumpling the covered ways, piled upon the slopes, and lying in promiscuous heaps among the waves of golden grain. The spectacle which the Czar had to witness was a sea of blood in a field of slaughter. Death has had gorgeous victory, but not yet in the grave, for the bodies lie unburied as they fell, in their ghastly mutilation. Skobelev is the hero of Plevna, though he is on the losing side. Day and night for a whole week he remained alive in the midst of death. No bullet touched the hair of his head. Deprived with smut and powder smoke, his sword broken, his uniform in rags, his face unrecognisable, his figure a wreck of hard work and sleepless nights, he reeled and tottered away from the taken redoubt when the last hope was gone. "It is the will of God," he said, and said no more.

PRIESTS AND POLITICS.

The Bishop of Montpellier does not think that the clergy exceed their functions when they interpose in elections. Indeed he holds that as part of the body social, it is their duty to take a keen interest in politics. Nothing affecting the welfare of the people, inferiorly or exteriorly, in the political sense, can possibly be a matter of indifference to the pastors, and the entire history of France is an evidence of the beneficial influence which the clergy have wielded whenever circumstances gave them the power of wielding any at all. As a matter of principle, and on general grounds, the bishop holds that his proposition is beyond controversy; and no impartial man can come to any other conclusion. But there is a special reason why, at this juncture, clerical activity should be undoubted, and we will allow his lordship to submit this reason in his own words:—"A vast system has been organised, not in one country alone but in all the universe, to disunite the mystic body of Christ, in order to favour the scheme of proverting the masses, and to disfigure, ridicule, and calumniate our mysteries, our beliefs, and our moral principles. The newspapers, the novels, the dramas, the collections of poetry, the paintings, the sculpture, the engravings, the vulgar images, the instruction in schools for rich and poor, and even the public fets—all are employed to implant in the people either anger or contempt towards the Catholic Church. Evidently there is a class of men—and active men—who would drive us even beyond paganism, since they hate and revile God Himself. This organisation, formerly secret and prudently cloaked under the name of philosophy, now displays itself impudently with an assurance equal to its ambition. It no longer governs in the shade, and through intermediaries, but directly and openly. If it scorns affairs, it dreams of mounting on thrones. Can it be supposed, in such an emergency, that we ought to remain quiescent? Why, the bare suggestion would be an outrage. Our duty, on the contrary, is to affirm our convictions, and to preach loudly and explicitly the rights and the mission of the Church."—Liverpool Catholic Times.

THE "STANDARD" ON THE WAR.

The Standard, in the course of an editorial on the war, says:—

Let the country reflect for a moment when it is told that England ought to go to war with Russia, upon all that is involved in the advice. The war party is a noisy and excited one, though we are convinced that it is without any real hold upon the convictions of the country. When Englishmen feel strongly they are always willing to subscribe liberally; and the paltry list of half-crowns and odd sixpences that filter into the so-called Turkish Compassionate Fund is excellent evidence that the immense majority of the nation have kept their heads in spite of the strongly seasoned mock-heretic appeals to their sensibilities with which they have been daily drenched during the last few months. Let us report that, instead of a quiet conference at Salzburg, at which had we been so inclined, England would have been a welcome guest, we should now be forced, had we plunged into the conflict opened by the Russian declaration of war, to make exertions similar in kind to those which we made in the winter of 1854-55. We should have to undertake all that a winter campaign in the valley of the Danube involves, and it would involve, from the point of view of cost merely, far more for us than for the semi-civilized nations which are now straggling one another between the Vid and the Danube. We should, if we had engaged in the war, either allies of Turkey or of Russia, be driven to spend vast sums of money and thousands of priceless lives in holding positions throughout the winter which might or might not be indispensable for a renewal of the attack or the defence in spring. We have heard of the frightful slaughter to which the troops of the Czar and the Sultan have been alike exposed at the Shipka Pass and at Plevna. Do we always remember that if the Ministry had not adhered carefully to its policy of neutrality we should have assuredly had to bear our part in that fatal ordeal? This is, indeed, one of the services which are easily forgotten. But for the strong and cool conduct of our diplomacy, for which we have to thank partly Lord Derby, but chiefly the steady temper and sound sense of the people themselves, it is our soldiers who would have been dying in heaps upon the heights of Fort St. Nicholas and of the Gavizta Redoubt. We should have seen them struck down by epidemic diseases in a tainted atmosphere, or starving in an exhausted country, unprovided with railways, where supplies from the sea would have much difficulty in reaching them. The scenes of horror which are now presented to us on both sides in Bulgaria would have been brought home to us, whereas now, at least, we are spared the misery of reflecting that the winter is fighting against English troops on the dreary plains of the Iambou valley or among the passes of the Balkans.