

The Catholic Record

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TO CORRESPONDENTS. All matter intended for publication must have the name of the writer attached, and must reach the office not later than Tuesday noon of each week.

LETTER FROM HIS LORDSHIP BISHOP WALSH. London, Ont., May 23, 1878.

DEAR MR. COPPEY. As you have become proprietor and publisher of the CATHOLIC RECORD, I deem it my duty to announce to its subscribers and patrons that the change of proprietorship will work no change in its one and principle; that it will remain, what it has been, thoroughly Catholic, entirely independent of political parties, and exclusively devoted to the cause of the Church and to the promotion of Catholic interests.

Catholic Record.

LONDON, FRIDAY, JULY 1, 1881.

Diocesan Contributions Towards the New Cathedral.

The Rev. Father Tiernan, Chancellor of the Diocese, thankfully acknowledges the following contributions from the Diocese, towards the erection of the new Cathedral:

- April 21, St. Anne's, Rev. P. Andreux, Pastor... \$115 00 May 17, Mainstone, Rev. F. J. Onellette, Pastor... 250 00 " 21, Windsor, Rev. P. Dean Wagner, Pastor 500 00

Don't forget the orphans' picnic on Friday. Mount Hope offers greater attraction to the pleasure seeker, on that day than any other place that we know of.

DIOCESE OF HAMILTON.

We direct the special attention of our readers to the Pastoral of Right Rev. Dr. Crimmon, Bishop of Hamilton which appears on the first page of this issue. We feel sure all our subscribers, as well as those of the diocese over which this distinguished prelate has spiritual charge, will peruse the document with interest and profit.

THE LAND BILL.

The judicious advice of Dr. Croke to the Irish Parliamentary party, to seek the amendment and not the rejection of the Land Bill, is already bearing fruit. The Bill is not, as we have frequently pointed out, anything like a full acknowledgment of the just claims of the Irish tenantry, and, as a remedial measure, is, in our judgment, provided with legal machinery entirely too cumbersome and complicated. Still, with certain emendations and additions, the Bill could be made of immense value to the Irish people. The Irish party, therefore, do well to follow the sound advice of the great Hierarch, who, by the force of his eloquence, the moderation of his views, the strength and justice of his position on this vital question, has won the admiration of the fair-minded, and silenced the clamor of the unreasonable and terrified the heartlessness of the prejudiced. If the Bill pass, and with a solid Irish support it must pass, the power of landlordism will have received the rudest shock it has yet experienced. We have always maintained that landlordism, as it at present exists, is doomed to an early and unhonored death. The passing of the Land Bill may be considered the first step towards its extinction, not in Ireland alone, but in England and Scotland. In these countries, as well as in Ireland, the tenant is to a large extent looked upon as the property of the landlord. The system of land tenure prevailing in the three kingdoms is in fact an outrage on humanity. No one connected with the guidance of the Land League has ever, to our knowledge, advocated the destruction of the rights of property. Upon the security of these rights depends the happiness of both tenant and landlord. But the possession of these rights do not entitle any man to plunder and oppress. The majority of Irish landlords are men of views so narrow, and prejudices so deeply seated, that to them the tenants are enemies to be plundered for a time, and when plunder is no longer available, to be crushed out. No one acquainted with the

history of the Irish land trouble can deny the truth of this statement. The census returns for the year 1881, showing a marked decrease in Irish population during the decade, offer the most irrefragable testimony to the cruelty and rapacity of Irish landlordism. But, say some of the landlords, "Ireland is overpopulated." We deny this statement with as much emphasis as its fallacy demands. Ireland, under good government, is capable of sustaining a population more than double its present number of inhabitants. It is to-day, in proportion to area and resources, the most thinly peopled portion of the United Kingdom. The Irish are a people so firmly attached to home and country, that nothing but the direst misery could drive them from their native land. Wherever they go—he it to the United States of America, to Canada, or to Australia,—their intelligence, activity and energy soon place them at least on a par with the other races with which they have in these new countries to contend in the peaceful rivalry of civilizing progress. The Gladstone government well knows that the land system obtaining in Ireland is alone the cause of its decreasing population, and, therefore, an effective barrier to peace and progress in that unfortunate country. The Land Bill now before Parliament is, we feel assured, but the precursor of other more radical measures for the complete obliteration of this iniquitous system. Till a peasant proprietary be established in Ireland the land agitation cannot cease. Dr. Croke sees in the Land Bill a partial concession to the views of the Irish leaders on this subject, and consequently advises its acceptance. The acceptance of so much will not bind the people or their trusted leaders to silence. On the contrary, the achievement of success, in a measure however restricted, should serve as an incentive to increased effort and unflinching energy.

THE NEW YORK MUDDLE.

The State legislature has not yet chosen Senators to succeed Messrs. Conkling and Platt. It is now altogether likely that the struggle will be prolonged till from their exhaustion an adjournment will be consented to with the view of giving the legislature to be elected next November the selection of the two Senators. Mr. Conkling will thus have an opportunity of making an appeal directly to the people. The majority of his party in the present legislature is decidedly averse to his reelection, and is likewise opposed to an adjournment. No one knows, however, but that the next legislature may be largely Democratic—and thus secure the election of two members of that party to fill the vacant seats. With the republicans divided nothing but the most reckless mismanagement can prevent Democratic success in the State election next fall. Mismanagement is, however, no stranger to Democratic campaigns and may again this year bight the success of the party, which certainly enjoys, under nominal circumstances, the support of a majority of the people of the Commonwealth. But the republicans cannot reckon with safety on any such contingency. The Democrats may write on a good candidate for the State governorship—a man whose prestige may secure for them a large majority in the State legislature. An eventuality such as this would prove fatal to the republican cause in New York, and seriously diminish republican strength at Washington. If the supporters of the administration succeed in detaching from his standard any large number of the supporters of the ex-Senators, they may succeed in sending before an adjournment becomes a necessity two administration men to Washington. It is, however, almost certain that the Conkling following will remain unbroken. In that case good judgment on the part of the Democratic leaders will go far to ensure victory for their party.

COMMENCEMENTS.

We regret not being able to find space this week for all the commencement exercises of our various Catholic educational institutions, but will endeavor to publish them in our next issue.

DECEIVING STATEMENTS.

England is perhaps the greatest, the wealthiest, the most enlightened, and the most religious country in the world. These assertions are dinned into our ears day after day, and week after week, and they come solely from Englishmen. On all occasions, both in the press and in the pulpits of the sects, this encouraging and pleasurable condition of affairs is placed before us. It is most gratifying and consoling to those grateful souls, who are in the habit of shutting their eyes in obedience to the commands of religious bigotry, and a shallow and nonsensical bursting forth of the old-time national glorification. She has immense wealth. This cannot be questioned. She is a powerful nation, and would offer a stubborn and perhaps successful resistance to any country in the world which would undertake to invade her borders. But this is as far as plain facts will admit an honest man to go. Happy the nation is not. The majority of the wealthy and titled folk may be happy if we admit that happiness consists in a lazy mode of spending one's life, without any other object in view, save the squandering of a fortune in fast living. The bulk of the people are neither happy nor contented. They are over-taxed and over-worked, and their labor fails to bring them the wherewithal to make both ends meet. In the matter of religion she has unquestionably sent to foreign nations millions of tons of scriptures, and will doubtless continue exporting the latest revised edition dressed up to suit a changing and changeable form of religious belief. But while she has done this for the heathen in far off climes a vast multitude of her own people are living in a manner that would bring a blush of shame to the cheeks of those of Exeter Hall seen to have such a peculiar affection. In all those countries which acknowledge the spiritual authority of the Pope, woman has been raised to her proper sphere in life—the companion and helpmate of man. The Catholic Church is now and ever has been her best and warmest friend. She has pronounced her condemnation of the Divorce Court, the fruitful source of immorality and the cause of the debasement of woman. She has thrown the mantle of her protection about the newly-made bride and proclaims her a wife until death sunders the holy bond solemnly contracted before the altar of God. The Divorce Court, it appears, after all, is not the only method adopted in England of degrading women. We find that wife-selling is still considered quite a legitimate business among many of the lower classes. This is a new branch of industry to which the authorities might, perhaps, direct their attention. It is certainly not an edifying condition of affairs, and creates a great deal of gossip among the people of other nations whose good opinion is worth having. There are countries other than Ireland where Coercion Acts might be put in force, and where more really beneficial results would follow.

DISAPPOINTING.

The Pope has not yet issued the expected pronouncement against the Irish Land League. This must be very annoying to the landlords, and very awkward indeed to the cable man. His veracity—if he ever laid claim to the possession of such a quality—will assuredly be now more than ever placed in doubt. The class who are looking for this document may console themselves with the reflection that the Pope's intentions were good, at all events. Doubtless he has a sincere regard for all men—even Irish landlords—but we may rest assured that his love for his faithful Irish children is particularly warm and sincere, and all the power of intrigue which the English Government knows so well how to bring into its service, will be of no avail in shaking the confidence and love which the Head of Christendom entertains for the children of St. Patrick, who have suffered, and who continue to suffer for the divine, faith guarded with such scrupulous care by the present illustrious successor of St. Peter.

THE DYNAMITES.

A cablegram informs us that "O'Reilly, Catholic Bishop of Liverpool; Illsley, Coadjutor Bishop of Birmingham; and Bishop Vaughan, of Salford, warned their flocks against skirmishing, and pointed out that all plots to blow up public buildings and crimes akin to murder, ought to be execrated by every man calling himself a Catholic. It is reported that Cardinal Manning will make the same deliverance on the subject on Sunday." This course of the Bishops is eminently proper. We are of opinion, however, that there has been too great a desire in government quarters to identify Catholic Irishmen with this nefarious business. There may be a few mad-heads who imagine that Ireland can be served by blowing up public buildings, and committing various other criminal acts which are utterly without justification. Catholics they cannot be, and they are sorry specimens of Irishmen. The present peaceful but vigorous agitation is what is best suited to the circumstances of the time, and will be productive of most good. Those who overstep this are enemies who should be shunned and scorned by all right-thinking men. While some few of these acts may be laid at the doors of Irishmen, or Irish-Americans, we have no hesitation in saying that the majority are committed by English Trades Unionists, who take this method of avenging wrongs committed by employers of labor in the great manufacturing centres. We shall be sorry to see an Irish name mixed up in any way with such doings. It is what the most bitter enemies of Ireland would fondly wish, and we trust they will be disappointed, and that all classes of our countrymen will take heed to the advice tendered by the distinguished prelates above alluded to.

TOO SOLICITOUS.

We are furnished with information from Europe to the effect that a prelate starts from Rome next week on a confidential mission from the Pope to Ireland, to report the true state of affairs. Now, this is a positively humiliating announcement for the English press to make. Can it be possible that the condition of things in Ireland, as represented by these papers, was discredited in the Eternal City, and that the Pope, annoyed by the base fabrications flaunted before the world from day to day with the view of injuring the good name of Irishmen, has taken this method of becoming advised of the real condition of affairs. Like many other reports coming over the cable, there may not, after all, be any truth in this one, but if it be true, certainly it is that the results will give small comfort to the English cabinet and still less to the landlords of Ireland. Rome is slow to move—she bides her time, and never pronounces judgments or tenders advice which are dictated by the haste of momentary passion. We are loth to believe that the Pope has decided to act in this manner. He may, of course, have grave reasons for so doing—and if he has, no one will question his right to send a delegate. But it must be borne in mind that he already has many delegates in Ireland—the Irish Archbishops and Bishops—in every one of whom we imagine he has unlimited confidence. Were he anxious to be made acquainted with the exact state of feeling in the country, we doubt not he would seek his information from them—unless, indeed, he may have suspicions that Her Majesty's mail bags are opened oftener than there is any necessity for. If his delegate does come to Ireland, from whom will he seek information as to the conduct of his spiritual charge in that country? Will he ride up to Dublin Castle, dine with the Lord Lieutenant, and then return to His Holiness with the story of Ireland from a Castle standpoint? We most certainly feel assured he would do nothing of the sort. He would derive his information from the faithful priesthood of Ireland, and bare statements from this quarter would have more weight in Rome than the assertions of those who appear friendly to the Pope and Catholicity only when they want to make fools of both.

ANOTHER SCANDAL.

Here is an opportunity for some of the perambulating "lecturers," a really delectable tit-bit for anniversary meetings, and such like entertainments gotten up for the purpose of spreading the "newly-revised" and abusing the Pope and "Romanists" generally. Doubtless thousands will have placed before them the bare statement of fact at the beginning of this extract, without being made acquainted with the subsequent explanation given by the Philadelphia Standard:— "A paragraph styled 'A remarkable Confession,' is running the rounds of the secular press, about 'internal revenue' stamps taken by some boys, pupils of Catholic schools, from beer barrels; and to the effect that the Christian Brothers, teachers of those boys, had encouraged them to do this. "Now, had the originator of the report or those who have republished it, taken the trouble to make proper inquiries, they would have learned that the Christian Brothers encourage their pupils and others to bring them cancelled stamps—post-office and revenue. These are sent to France, and from there to countries in Africa and Asia, where they are valued as curiosities by the heathen and are used by Catholic missionaries in the purchase of little children from inhuman parents about either to destroy their children or sell them into slavery. The stamps these pupils took from beer barrels, the pupils probably considered were mutilated in the process of removal. At all events, there is not the slightest evidence that the children intended any wrong; and it is very certain that the Brothers did not. A simple word of explanation by the papers which have published the account would set the whole matter right. Will they make the correction?"

TRICKS THAT ARE VAIN.

A telegram from England furnishes us the news that Davitt will probably be released from prison at the close of the coming session. The reason given is that the Land League agitation is dead, and that his efforts to revive it would be of no avail. For a genuine "Heathen Chinee" method of overcoming difficulties, commend us to the British Cabinet, and the accomplished "unreliability" at the aristocratic end of the Atlantic cable. Well this is really news to us here in America. The Land League, then, is going to pieces! We incline to the belief that in this case the wish is father to the thought. This noble organization was never as vigorous as at the present writing—never so full of promise in the accomplishment of permanent good for the people of Ireland. If Mr. Davitt be really set at liberty, the reason for this course will be found in the fact that Mr. Davitt in prison has proved a more powerful antagonist than Mr. Davitt at liberty. This will in time be found the case also as regards Father Sheehy and Mr. Dillon. Nothing under the sun can conquer the Land League but simple justice to Irishmen. When this is accorded, there will be nothing left for the League to accomplish.

THE AMERICAN INDIANS.

Articles of incorporation in the name of "The Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions," were on June 20th, filed in the Recorder's Office, Washington. The object of the Society is to educate the Indians living within the boundaries of the United States, in the doctrines and moral laws of the Catholic Church, to instruct them in the branches of a common English education, and to teach them the simple pursuits and trades of civilized life, also, to devise ways and means for the prosecution of a general education, and to receive and to administer all trusts, of whatever nature, as may be conferred upon the society for the education of the Indians. The existence of the organization is fixed at twenty years. If the Catholic Church were allowed to deal with the Indians there would be no Indian question—there would be no wholesale massacres of United States troops at one time, and no retaliation in the slaughter of the tribes at another. Meddling missionaries belonging to the sects, and smart Yankee speculators have been the cause of most of the troubles between the white and red men. We hope the Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions will be allowed to pursue its noble work without interruption from the classes just alluded to. We may then look for some solid advancement in the way of civilizing and Christianizing these unfortunate people.

CRAMMING OF THE CHILDREN AT SCHOOL.

There is much force in the subjoined article from the Freeman's Journal of New York. The charges made therein are very applicable to the public schools of Canada as well as to those of the United States. There is in our public schools altogether, too much attention paid to the ornamental, at the expense of the really useful, or, in other words, the children are required to waste their energies, and lose valuable time in the pursuit of knowledge which will be little if any use to them in after life. A plain English education, which is really all the average boy requires as an outfit when he leaves the school room to enter upon the duties of citizenship, is in many cases sacrificed to a deplorable extent in order that he may have a smattering of dead languages and many other such branches. These studies are very necessary for those who contemplate entering into the professions, but for boys and girls who are to be apprenticed to the different trades, we would suggest a thorough course in reading, writing, spelling, and arithmetic. We have seen boys who could talk a good deal about Greek roots, mathematics, and astronomy, but whose spelling and reading reflected but slight credit on the public schools which they attended.

A PUBLIC-SCHOOL teacher in New York City writes a letter to the press, in which he corroborates the charges which Catholics have all along made against the public-school system—charges which are easily proven, and which show that the admirers of our present absurd system are simply blinded by educational "spread-eagleism." It is a huge machine, run by men who, when not stupid and ignorant, are, as a rule, designing and interested. Let any Catholic who pretends to weigh the educational question in the light of pure reason—of sitting in judgment on the Church's dictum about Catholic education—examine the other side from a "reasonable" point of view. Let him take a list of the men who direct the public schools in his district, and ask himself whether any man on that list is so far beyond reproach, so wise, so good, so experienced, that he can unhesitatingly commit his child to the care of this man. And, if by chance he should find such a man, let him consider whether the influence of this rare guardian of public-school education can counter-balance the influence of the other men on the board. The lists of studies are arranged, classes graded, and all the scholastic details planned by men whose education and ability are the slightest. Teachers and pupils are ruined mentally and physically by the irrevocable public-school code of education. Last week an unfortunate boy died in New York from the effects of this cramming system. His parents were amazed when he died, though they had not been blind to the desperate attempts he made to follow a useless course of studies prescribed by a "board." Another unfortunate child—a girl named Lizzie Maguire, whose parents, if her name be an index of their religion, are doubtly and horribly wretched—attempted to commit suicide because she could not reach in her studies the average proposed by the intelligent board! The school-teacher who writes to the Times says:— "Let any one visit a family, however, in which there is a daughter of a son preparing for seeking admission to either of the colleges, and he will agree that some change in the system is desirable. Children who have spent a day in mental labor which taxes to the utmost the physical powers of their adult teachers are required to spend one, two, three, yes, sometimes four, hours at home in preparing lessons for the next day's recitations. Hardly is the sigh of relief breathed at the termination of one day's toil before the shadow of the next day's labor falls across the child's path. There is no rest with duty unperformed. I propose to make an effort to remove that shadow from the lives of the children of this city. It is time that something be done. The present system cultivates memory at the expense of all the other faculties. Our children become, through the discipline they are subjected to in the public schools, good (??), obedient clerks, trustworthy (??) subordinates, but that is all. They are all alike—originality is suppressed—'By their fruits shall ye know them.' Where are the poets, the painters, the sculptors, the literary geniuses, the statesmen, the inventors, the great men and women, among the thousands who have graduated from our city schools? If they exist, their modesty must equal their merit, for no man knows them."

Let the Catholic—and there are many Catholics of this kind—who holds that all opposition to the public-school system is "extreme," "reactionary," and "bigoted," consider the mild testimony of this teacher, Mr. Edward Boyer, who believes in a public-school system, but not in the present public-school system. It may help to convince Cath-

lies that the average public school is not superior to the average public school, poor as it may be. The public-school system has the effect of a narcotic on the brightest mind. And the mass of testimony accumulating against it ought to convince Catholics that, even in a worst point of view, it offers no advantage to a child. Catholics who talk the efficiency of the public school when they are admonished in relation to their duty as educators, have knowledge of what they talk about no appreciation of their actual responsibilities as parents.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

It is now claimed that the 19th July is the day on which the world is to come to an end. We would suggest the advisability of all who are rears for the RECORD sending in subscriptions next week or the following. New subscribers come in as usual, and we will continue to receive their subscriptions in advance.

BOB, INGERSOLL, in a late view on his visit to New Mexico says of the natives: "The Padres are all Catholics, and have turned over, by the Interior Department, to the Presbyterianism, seems to me almost cruel to take advantage of a poor Indian in this way. It is bad enough to savage; but to be a savage Presbyterian is too much. Pueblos are now a good sort but after the Presbyterians had them in charge for a few years they had better be watched."

"WHAT curious relics of the we can find in our University says an English Catholic writer, which is but the modern presentative of the cassock, the cher doing duty for the bare skull-cap. Then, too, at our Doctors of Divinity wear cloth copes when in full dress. Ash-Wednesday the litany is Latin, whilst once a year the solemn commemoration of the first benefactors is Seber, King of Saxons, who died in 692. Another relic is that on Sundays, days and eves, the students who are members of the University wear surplices."

THE Rev. Jesse F. Shafer, byterian minister, publishes Newburg Journal a description of the country around Honedale which he says:—"Though miscellaneous population, it police force, and needs no quiet and orderly always. The several agencies that benevolent peace is the beneficence of good Catholic Father, who is better than peers and magistrates among many people." We might this is the case in many of the country's authority and influence of are acknowledged. Don't Doherty finds the m auxiliaries in his good v spread of temperance and jing matter.

On Sunday the foundation of a new convent for the Dominicans of Drogheda was a religious ceremony, conducted in accordance with the canons. After the first of Very Rev. T. N. Burke, O. S. A. read the altar and preached a sermon, which brought the minds of his hearers to the Dominican order to Ireland the faith of Christ serve loyal devotion to it in periods of deadly persecution. The fidelity of the people to faith and courage, and the allusion was made to the establishment of the new convent latest evidence of their devotion in the cause of religion.

THE Catholic schools of fast driving the secular to the wall, and senators wits' end to devise means their own against the in a conference recently held the Prefect of Rome after of Public Instruction remarked that it seemed to him to face the swelling tide of competition Catholic institutions, situated that the public at prefer to select and from establishments where it recognized to be of a sound and a higher tone; and the Vatican is using all the power to attract and retain it is necessary that the schools should strive to clerical schools by a perfect of their own. Senators who were loud denunciation of the Ca-