

The Catholic Register.

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Calendar for the Week: Jan. 9 - Of the Octave; 10 - Of the Octave; 11 - Of the Octave; 12 - Of the Octave; 13 - Of the Octave; 14 - St. Hilary, Bp., C and D; 15 - St. Paul the Hermit.

The Armenian now know definitely that they are abandoned to their fate.

Irishmen all the world over will not be without sympathy for the mother country in the loss she has sustained by the death of our Christmas Day, of William J. Fitzpatrick, of Dublin.

The three new Senators are men of the most worthy character. Mr. O'Brien and Mr. Villeneuve are prominent figures in the commerce of Montreal, and their selection is a matter for general satisfaction.

The new Protestantism—the creed of the New Woman, the dogma of the Woman's Bible—is breaking new ground in Boston. There it has put new light into the soul of the minister's wife.

In the wise economy of nature it is sometimes astonishing to observe the precision with which equilibrium is maintained in all things. For example, to the tribe of Lecky nature has assigned one historian of somewhat extraordinary fertility, energy and breadth of mind.

The Sabbath was made for man. The Hamilton Lord's Day Alliance entertaining a preference for the Sabbath made by men of their own peculiar way of thinking, asked the courts for an injunction to stop the necessary running of street cars on Sunday in the metropolis by the Municipality.

We regret extremely the disposition that has been shown in some newspapers to question the decision of the Governor General in the Shortis case. From first to last there has been too much feeling displayed in this matter, even while the trial was going on.

Does the church hire a minister's wife and pay her a salary? When a bargain is made with a minister are the services of his wife included? Can such a bargain be made in this lay of freedom?

If the strikers were all to adopt this lead they would bankrupt the churches in a month. The theatre would have such a storm of popularity that the churches could not stand the competi-

tion any length of time. The minister's wives have the hop of the ball, and if they do not bleed the wardens and trustees they do not deserve to be in the army of New Woman.

When he has made up his mind he will probably tell the reporter more. But the question arises, does this good natured old gentleman understand the transaction in its purely commercial aspect? We think not.

The Passing of the Cabal.

What hope now remains of a settlement of the Manitoba School question? Seven ministers have attempted to kill the remedial policy and the Premier at one fell blow. For such a parallel is to be found. What is to be the outcome of it? To imagine that any dependence can be put upon a possible Government in which the deserters would be the dominant influence is absurd.

The New Laureate.

Some weeks ago, when the cable despatches to the newspapers first intimated the probability of Alfred Austin's appointment to the Laureateship, the Register welcomed the poet, and said he was more deserving of the laurel than Mr. Swinburne or any other claimant.

esteem Alfred Austin the first poet of England to-day. His fare may not be as faultless as that of the Alfred who preceded him, but then all poets are not Tennysons, that possibly might become monotonous. It cannot be from any shortcoming in the volume of his poetry that objection is taken to Alfred Austin's right.

When the meads grew saffron, the lark then white, And the lark bore his music out of sight. And the swallow outraced the racing wave Up from the lonely outcast grave.

We are not, however, to suppose that Alfred Austin has ever attempted to usurp the part of an authorized exponent of Catholicism. He has never pretended to be anything else than a literary man, and, unlike Dr. St. George Mirart, we have never found him preaching a new Catholicism.

Some of Alfred Austin's poems flow as musically as a meadow brook. All readers of the poem "Benedicite" will, we think, grant its sweetness. Brother Benedict rose and left his cell With the last slow swing of the evening bell.

Alfred Austin has always been a friend of Ireland. He has written in her praise, and he has published many words in defence of her Catholic educational rights.

And tried to rob me of my very creed And when I said them less, no where I lay, And get them to my side, all they would not get.

England speaks. We own our fault the great, so we owe For blame of that wrong would make amends. But the low wimple from your clouded brow, Let your eyes and say that we are friends.

We admire Alfred Austin also for his courage. When his countrymen were making an exhibition of themselves, slobbering adulation upon the czar, the indignation he poured out upon them may be recalled, especially at the present time when their attitude towards the Russian Emperor is very much different.

Why War is Probable. An explosion in South Africa was not unexpected; and the inevitable has only happened. Paul Kruger's Government set upon the safety valve of popular discontent to the last, and Emperor William apparently intends to sustain it though the boiler may burst a dozen times.

God neither progresses nor changes, dear, as I once heard you rashly say: Man's schools and philosophies come and go, but His Word doth not pass away. We worship Him where we did of old, with simple and reverent rite.

The Boers have now taken the steps of many Englishmen who accompanied Dr. Jameson and it is impossible to conceive that this blood shed, although the lawlessness of Dr. Jameson may be immediately responsible for it, can end the original problem.

Stories of Father James Healy. While the citizens of Dublin are preparing to erect a monument to the memory of the late Father James Healy, of Little Bray, whose fame as the greatest Irish wit of his day is known throughout the world, a gifted biographer, Mr. Fitzpatrick, has published the memoirs of the brilliant and beloved priest.

Mr. James L. Hughes, Orange-Grand Master of West Ontario, had himself open to one species of attack when he published last week his manifesto on the brethron on the Manitoba School question.

Remember that the demagogue cry, "Hands off Manitoba!" or "Let Manitoba manage her own affairs!" "The people of Manitoba understand their own business," would be just as logical and as constitutional if applied to Quebec as to Manitoba. If the Legislature of Quebec should pass a law taking away any of the educational rights of the Protestant minority, it would Orangemen receive the cry, "Hands off Quebec!"

week that England is prepared to fight Germany, and all Europe if necessary, to establish that proposition. As a matter of fact Germany has no more right under international law to interfere between England and the Boers than President Cleveland had to interfere between England and the Venezuela. His doing so discloses a face of startling significance, that the Powers of Europe have united to resist the acquisition by Great Britain of any additional territory in Africa. There is no doubting England's willingness to fight in such a cause and as the situation must be viewed at present the chances are all for war.

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