

HIS EXCELLENCY, THE PAPAL DELEGATE, AND THE MANITOBA CATHOLICS.

Every few years a wave of bigotry sweeps over portions of this country, and to outsiders it might seem that the Province of Ontario especially is a pool of ignorance and prejudice, but in reality the storm centre is in the city of Toronto.

It is a blessing the great daily newspapers of that city have scarcely any influence in the country, otherwise there would be frequently a religious war and neighbors would be carrying shot-guns to murder one another.

We have recently had two elections, and, wonderful to relate, the demon of strife and bigotry did not appear, and sensible people were congratulating themselves that we were likely to enjoy a long term of peace and good will.

But lo! the Prime Minister of Canada introduced a bill in Parliament creating two new provinces and guaranteeing the continuation of Separate schools therein, and immediately the Toronto Globe and Mail and World unite to denounce the measure and to arouse the meanest kind of bigotry against everything Catholic.

However the people of Ontario have become accustomed to the hysterical literary gymnastics of these papers, especially on the question of Separate schools and the ordinary common-sense citizens refused to respond to the bitter and fanatical appeals.

But something must be done! A bright and brilliant idea is hit upon. If Protestants will not rise in their might over Separate schools, a stronger dose must be produced. His Excellency the Apostolic Delegate must be held up to the public as a danger to the Canadian Constitution.

We are seriously told that he must be brought before the bar of the House of Parliament in Ottawa; that he must be driven out of the country, and be an object of scorn and ridicule for interfering in the government of Canada.

And what is the awful crime deserving this terrible punishment? What law of God or man or country has His Excellency broken.

The Papal Delegate held a private interview with the Attorney General of Manitoba and suggested it would be a good thing for all concerned if the Manitoba Government restored to the Catholics at least a small portion of the educational rights of which they had been robbed by the civil authorities of that Province.

Surely, the request was a very fair and moderate one! But we are informed His Excellency should not have hinted anything about boundaries. He could not do otherwise; since Manitoba wanted to secure a portion of territory where Separate schools already existed it was necessary to protest against the Catholics losing that right by joining Manitoba.

And here is the whole case about which the big fuss is made! Could anything be more ridiculous and malicious?

Where was all this wrath and hatred of Rome when the late Sir John A. Macdonald asked Archbishop Tache to leave Rome and to return to Canada to help to put down the Riel rebellion in 1870? There was then no cry of Papal aggression and interference with Canadian affairs. On the contrary the members of the Government of that day were very glad to secure the influence of the great Missionary-Bishop in the crisis that faced them.

The honorable predecessors of the Hon. Attorney General of to-day showed their gratitude by breaking the most solemn pledges given by the Imperial and Dominion Governments in favor of minorities. And yet we are told that the Catholics should be thankful and satisfied and delighted, and should ask no guarantee of their present rights from the Federal Government!

All this bluster and insult to Catholics and to the Papal Delegate will have no effect in Canada where the guilty parties are known, but such things do much harm outside the Dominion. Strangers reading those Toronto papers might conclude

that Toronto is the whole Province of Ontario; that Canada is a second Russia, and that a religious war is about to take place from the Atlantic to the Pacific; whereas the truth is neighbors are living in peace, there is prosperity in the land, and there is no other country in the world where people of all classes enjoy more freedom and protection than in this broad Dominion in which we live.

His Excellency the Apostolic Delegate is a man of culture, of prudence and of vast experience, and therefore will easily understand that the generous and fair-minded citizens of Canada must not be judged by the ravings and ignorance and bigotry of a few newspapers in the city of Toronto. —Catholic Record.

SPANISH ENVOY OF IRISH ANCESTRY.

King Alfonso selected St. Patrick's Day for appointing as his new envoy to the United States a diplomat of Irish descent, bearing an Irish name, and chief of a family which is so proud of its Irish origin that it celebrates St. Patrick's day each year in the chapel bearing its name that forms part of the ancient parish church of Ortova.

The envoy's name is Don Bernardo de Cologan, Marquis de la Candia, and he is descended from the Irish family of McColgans, of County Meath. After the battle of the Boyne the McColgans, in common with many of the old Catholic families of Ireland who had remained faithful to the Stuart dynasty, were exiled. Known as the "Wild Geese," they migrated to Spain, some of them settling at Teneriffe. Baron Humboldt, the famous scientist, spent a considerable time under the McColgan roof at Teneriffe, and in recognition of the hospitality which he received there gave the name of Cologania to a new genus of plant which he had discovered.

Subsequently, by intermarriage with the Spanish family of Faraqui, the land on which stood one of the most famous trees in the world—namely, the Dragon Tree of Ortova—passed into the possession of the McColgans, who by this time had transformed their name into De Cologan.

The new envoy is a very tall, handsome and accomplished man, married, with a family of children, and was dean of the diplomatic corps at Peking at the time of the siege of the legations, where he greatly distinguished himself, not only by his bravery and resourcefulness, but also by the unflinching good humor which went far to keep up the spirits of those associated with him in the defence of the legations. Since his departure from Peking he has been Minister of Tangier, which, from a Spanish point of view, is a most important post.

CATHOLICS EXHORTED TO REMAIN FIRM

Bishop Dentenwill of British Columbia Delivers the Message sent by the Holy Father

Vancouver, B.C., April 18—(Special)—Bishop Dentenwill, Roman Catholic Bishop of British Columbia, said to his congregation on returning from Rome, Sunday, in effect: "The Holy Father sends you his blessing. He is greater than any king for holding sway over men's souls. The Holy Father also sent a special blessing to those who stood firmly for separate schools, and for those who supported Roman Catholic schools where there was no government aid. In these the children were educated as Christians, and by no other education could they be expected to be developed into good Roman Catholics."

In conclusion Bishop Dentenwill said: "The Holy Father said we must work for the Roman Catholic schools. You have heard what is going on in your country just now, and you see the greater necessity for you, truly beloved people, to stand up for the moral right you have in teaching your children or having your children taught and brought up in the Roman Catholic faith."

THE CRITIC

He watches, with a haughty air, The priest ascend the pulpit stair, And notes his eyes, his brow, his hair And every other feature. He looks the poor priest through and through, Then settles calmly in his pew, Where he may hear as well as view The effort of the preacher.

With cold and calculating eyes, The while the humble preacher tries To show what joy eternal lies Beyond Life's fitful fetter, The critic sits and watches him, Dissects his style, declares it prim, And wonders why he doesn't trim His simple phrases better.

The sermon done, with scornful frown This censor of the verb and noun Has set the poor old preacher down A sorry sort of teacher. No message in a single word Of all this sermon he has heard Has touched his soul. He just preferred To criticize the preacher. T. A. Daly. —Catholic Standard & Times.

REAL IDOLATRY

Catholic Standard & Times

The worship of Venus is now being carried on in New York, along with the worship of Bacchus. A statue of the impure goddess, said to have been made by Praxiteles, has been set up in the Art Museum and thousands of persons, male and female, go to feast their eyes upon its beauties. The pedestal is every day covered by wreaths and bouquets of flowers. What could pagan idolatry do more but make vows to be wicked, before the shrine of the wicked beauty? The New York worshippers do not need to make any vows, probably, on such a matter: it requires no effort of the will to supplement the inclinations of the appetites. Probably some of these votaries of Aphrodite look upon Catholics, as they are taught by some anti-Catholic prints to regard them, as "idolaters." The "Independent" recently gave front and rear views of the wicked beauty, without any apology for the absence of drapery. This is one of the moral instructors which denounce the Filipino Catholics for paying honors to the statue of the Blessed Virgin.

WHAT A HEBREW SAGE SAYS

Augusta, Ga., April 11, 1905.

Recently a Russian Jew, who has been a resident of this country for some years had a rather frank conversation with me. He is about 50 years of age, very intelligent, well educated and disposed to be equitable and conservative. He is strictly orthodox in his religion and has apparently no avarice, commercialism or undue love of money. He substantially said:

"When General Cronje was here he told me that in his opinion, the Almighty had made use of England to punish the Boers for their wickedness. The Almighty is using the Pagan Japanese to punish and humble the iniquity of Christian Russia." I asked him how the wickedness of England and the United States were to be punished. He replied: "That will come in time." Queried as to his own people, the Jews, who, according to Rabbi Hirsch are, in the large majority given over to the lusts of the world, he candidly said: "My own people are in a deplorable condition. They are largely gravitating to rationalism and mere worldliness, forsaking the high ideals of Israel; but the saving of the nation is Zionism." "But," I said, "their Zion is not the Holy Land but New York; they are making a new Jerusalem of our American Babylon. They are not seeking the old ideals in the East, but the fleshpots of the West." He said: "This is true; but the tide will turn eventually toward Zion, toward the Orient and the ancient rites." So, he dreams dreams, from all appearances, averse to receiving open-eyed the prophecies of the Old Testament as fulfilled in the New and in course of ultimate fulfilment. —James R. Randall in Catholic Columbian.

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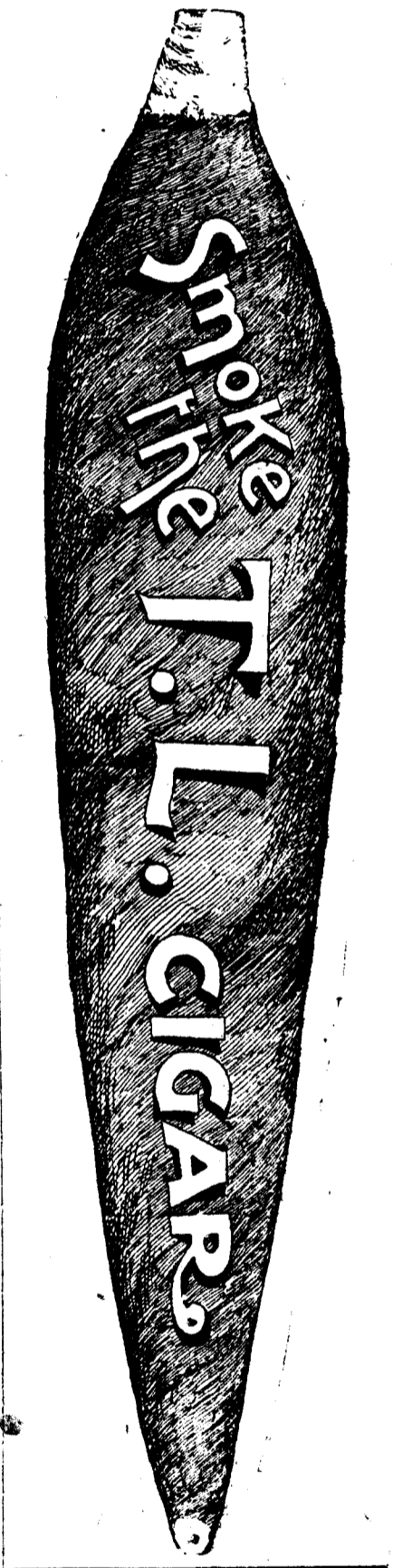
APRIL
As it is in other Countries not here
By William Watson
April! April!
Laugh thy girlish laughter;
Then the moment after
Weep thy girlish tears!
April that mine ears
Like lover greetest.
If I tell thee sweetest,
All my hopes and fears,
April April,
Laugh thy golden laughter,
But the moment after,
Weep thy golden tears!

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