

Another Letter from Dr. Howard.

To the Editor of the True Witness and Post: Sir—I would not wish to cross theological swords with you, correspondent "G," for many reasons...

In his letter he has stated that his remarks were intended more for others than for me. I am glad of it...

Whether true or false, the most successful cry that ever has been raised against the Catholic Church has been that she opposed free discussion...

I would respectfully suggest to "G" that calling hard names and making assertions is no argument; it will not do to say that this thing is heresy...

In contradistinction to my premises that body and mind is one, and from which premises logically follow all my deductions, "G" takes the premises that intellect and mind is soul...

We will see what the logical consequence must be of "G's" premises the moment a man becomes a maniac it is his intellect that is affected...

But "G's" premises, that soul is intellect, will logically carry him much further. There is no doubt that there are very many of what we call the lower animals which have intellect...

I don't believe, Mr. Editor, that "G" ever once thought of the consequence of his assertion; indeed I feel sure he never did.

You, Mr. Editor, and your readers, must see that the only question now between your correspondent "G" and myself is the simple question of our premises...

Some of my friends have given me credit for my powers of reconciling opposites, or rather what appeared to be opposites, but I confess I don't see how these two opposites can ever be made to agree.

"G" may be sure I have taken no offence for I know none was meant and I am sure he will give me credit for anything but meaning to offend.

H. HOWARD.

February 3, 1879.

Interesting Letter From Buckingham-Phosphate Mining Accidents.

To the Editor of the True Witness and Post: Sir—A few particulars about the above named village of lumbering fame in the past, and mining fame of the present, may, perhaps, interest the readers of your widely circulated and, in this district, highly popular, journal...

others on a smaller scale. The last-named firm hold mining limits of several hundred acres and are now asking for tenders for carrying about 700 tons of phosphate to the nearest shipping point...

It is, as most people are aware, a green-looking species of quartz or rock, yielding several mineral commodities, the refuse being considered superior to guano for utilizing purposes. Phosphates abound in the Laurentian range of hills or mountains, as they are sometimes called, which can be traced westward to the Rocky Mountains...

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CONTROVERSY. Virginia Clergymen Publish Sharp Cards Declaring their Position.

The comments made by Rev. Dr. Witherspoon, of the Presbyterian Church, on the recent lecture of Bishop Keane, Catholic Bishop of the diocese of Richmond, have induced Bishop Keane to address a letter to the public disclaiming the responsibility for the invitations extended to the Protestant clergymen to sit on the rostrum during his address...

GEN. GRANT DEFENDED.

It is difficult to imagine how the idea originated that General Grant failed to do justice to the Irish, either as officers, soldiers or citizens. There are instances where he stood firmly in favor of Catholic officers held against anti-Catholic influences brought to bear against them...

A PAPAL WARNING.

Encyclical of Pope XIII. Denouncing Socialism—Fruits of Unrighteousness—No security for the Venerable Majesty of Kings and Emperors—Are Princes to blame?—Plea for Law, Order and Superior Authority.

To Our Venerable Brethren, Patriarchs, Primate, Archbishops and Bishops of the Whole Catholic World, in Grace and in Communion with the Apostolic See. Leo XIII, Pope.

In obedience to the duty imposed by our apostolic office, we have not failed, from the beginning of our Pontificate, in the encyclical letters which we have addressed to you, venerable brethren, to point out the deadly poison which is creeping to the inmost members of human society, and places it in extreme danger...

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BREATHLESS RESULTS OF FALSE DOCTRINE.

Now, this audacity of perfidious men, which threatens civil society with more and more imminent ruin and strikes all minds with anxiety and fright, derives its origin and its cause from those poisonous doctrines which, diffused in former times like germs of corruption in the midst of peoples, have borne in their season such deleterious fruits...

ONLY THE CHURCH CAN STIFLE SOCIALISM.

Meanwhile, the supreme pastor of the Church upon whom rests the responsibility of preserving the Lord's flock from the snares of the enemy, have undertaken to avert the danger and to provide for the safety of the faith. In fact, from the time when the secret societies began to be formed, in the bosoms of which were already being incubated the germs of the errors which we have pointed out...

Pius VII. and Leo XII. condemned and anathematized secret societies, and anew warned the public of the peril by which it was threatened.

Lastly, all are aware with what weighty words and with what firmness of spirit our glorious predecessor, Pius IX., of blessed memory, combated both in his allocutions and his encyclical letters which he addressed to the bishops of the whole world, the iniquitous efforts of the sects, and especially the scourge of socialism which had already burst forth from their bosom.

But it is a deplorable fact that those who are charged to watch over the public welfare, being deceived by the wiles of the impious and frightened by their threats, have always given proofs of suspicion and even of injustice as regards the Church, not understanding that all the efforts of the sects would be powerless if the doctrines of the Catholic Church and the authority of the Roman Pontiffs had been always duly respected both by princes and by peoples...

RECOGNITION OF LAW AND AUTHORITY NECESSARY.

In fact, although the socialists abuse the Gospel itself in order the more easily to deceive unsuspecting souls, and although they habitually torture its words to interpret them in their own sense, the discrepancy between their depraved doctrines and the pure doctrine of Jesus Christ could not be greater...

Thus the Church inculcates constantly upon her subjects the precept of the apostle, "For there is no power but of God, the powers that be are ordained of God. Whosoever therefore resisteth the ordinance of God, and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation."

A WORD TO PRINCES.

But in order that the rulers of nations may wield the power which is given them to edify and not to destroy, the church of Christ warns them that the point that the severity of the Supreme Judge menaces also princes, and borrowing the words of Divine wisdom, she cries to all, in the name of God—"Lend ear, ye who govern the multitudes and ye who take pleasure in numerous nations, for power has been given you by the Lord and strength by the very Highest, who will question you as to your deeds and will search your thoughts."

That saving virtue of the Church which contributes to the perfect organization and the conservation of civil society, of domestic society, which is the active principle of each city, of each State, confirms this and proves it necessary. You know, in truth, venerable brethren, that the true constitution of this society is based, according to the demands of natural law, first of all on the indissoluble union of man and of woman and that it is made perfect by the mutual duties between parents and children and between masters and servants...

and with the most chaste affection, so must wives be subject unto their husbands, who should in return love them with a faithful and constant love. The Church tempers also the power of parents and of masters in such a manner that it can control children and servants within the limits of their duties, while on the other hand it does not exceed its own. For according to the Catholic teachings the authority of parents and masters is derived from the celestial Father and Master. Consequently it derives from it not only its origin and its force, but necessarily borrows of it its essence and character...

THIEVES, ADULTERERS AND IDOLATERS EXCLUDED FROM HEAVEN.

Catholic wisdom, relying upon the precepts of natural and divine laws, has taken ample precaution to watch over public and domestic tranquillity, not only by its doctrines but by its instruction as to the rights of property and the proper division of those goods which are possessed for the necessities and usefulness of life. While the socialists present the right of property as a human invention, which is repugnant to the natural idea of man's equality, and while aspiring to the common possession of property, they think they need not patiently tolerate a society that they may violate the possessions and the right of the rich; the Church, on the contrary, far more wisely and usefully, recognizes that men naturally differ as to their physical and spiritual strength, an inequality as to the possession of property, and prescribes that the right of property and domain, which is derived from nature itself, be kept intact and inviolate. The Church knows, in fact, that theft and rapine are forbidden by God, the author and avenger of every right, in such a manner that it is not permitted even to covet other people's property, and that thieves and ravishers are, like adulterers and idolaters, excluded from the kingdom of heaven...

INSTRUCTION TO PRELATES.

This being so, venerable brethren, we on whom rests at present the government of the entire Church, after having shown since the commencement of our Pontificate to the people and the princes, now tossed by the violence of the tempest, the harbor where they can find a safe refuge, moved as we are by the extreme peril which menaces society, we are in duty bound to proclaim again and again to all the Apostolic word. For their own good and the welfare of our common cause we pray them, we beseech them, to accept with docility the magistracy of the Church, which has deserved so well of the various States in point of public prosperity, and fully to understand that the interests of the State and religion are so interwoven that whatever be taken from the latter diminishes in an equal degree the submission of subjects and the majesty of power. And since they know that in order to avert this pest of socialism the Church of Christ possesses a force which neither human laws nor magistracy measures nor the arms of soldiers have ever had, they should render to the Church opportunity and the necessary freedom, so that she may exercise her salutary force for the welfare of all human society...

This very day, when we are celebrating the nativity of our Lord, inspires us to hope for immediate and tangible help. In fact this new salvation which the new-born Christ brings to the world, already growing old and falling into utter misery, commands us to hope ever, for the peace which He has proclaimed to the world through his angels He has also promised to give us. "The hand of the Lord has not been shortened so that He cannot save us, nor has his ear become heavy so that He cannot hear us."

And in order that we may enter more quickly and fully upon the enjoyment of these wishes, join your fervent praises to ours, venerated brethren, and invoke also the patronage of the blessed Virgin Mary, conceived without sin, and of Joseph her spouse, and of the blessed Apostles Peter and Paul, in whose support we have such full confidence. In the meantime, as a token of divine gifts, we give you, with all our heart, in the name of the Lord, the apostolic benediction for yourselves, venerable brethren, for your clergy, and for all the faithful people.

Given at Rome, at St. Peter's, December 28 1878, the first year of our Pontificate. LEO XIII., Pope.

DESPATCHES.

VERSAILLES, January 30.—The following is Marshal MacMahon's letter of resignation:—At the opening of this session of the Chambers the Ministry presented to you a programme which, while affording satisfaction to public opinion, appeared to the Cabinet such as might be voted without danger to the security or good administration of the country. Putting aside all personal views, I had given the programme my approval, for it was sacrificing no principle to which conscience commanded me to remain faithful. To-day the Ministry, thinking to respond to the opinion of the majority in the Chambers, proposes to me, in regard to the high military commands, some general measures which I consider contrary to the interests of the army, and consequently to those of the country. I cannot subscribe to them. Any other Ministry taken from the majority would impose on me the same conditions. I consider myself, therefore, bound to shorten the duration of mandate which the National Assembly confided to me and I therefore, tender my resignation. In quitting power, I have the consolation of thinking that during the 33 years I devoted to the service of my country, either as a soldier or citizen, I have never been guided by sentiments other than honor and duty, and absolute devotion to my country. I request you to communicate my decision to the Chambers. (Signed.) MACMAHON.

Duke of Magenta.

LYONS, January 31.—The whole tenor of public and private advices to-day from Paris are favorable to the change in the Executive. It is regarded with very mild regret, even by the most intimate friends and adherents of Marshal MacMahon, and the Republicans are convinced that they have made the best possible choice of his successor. There has been much speculation respecting the apparently unaccountable conduct of the Imperialists in declining to make any opposition to M. Grevy, or even to seek to induce Marshal MacMahon to withdraw his resignation, but it is said that the Imperialists have been disappointed in the developments of the character of the Prince Imperial since his coming of age. He is said to have displayed qualities, not only the reverse of those promised by his earlier years, but such as would render him thoroughly unsafe at the head of the party. The relations between the Prince and the leaders of the Imperialist party have become more and more strained, until there is now an almost entire rupture. M. Douhaire has long since ceased to keep up the usual Imperialist propaganda, and Marshal MacMahon is understood to have become convinced that he would be doing France an ill turn by aiding in a line of policy that had for its purpose the installation of Prince Louis Napoleon on the throne of his father. This explanation accounts for the fact that though the Bonapartists made some show of exultation over the troubles of Wednesday, they voted for M. Grevy, and now profess themselves satisfied with the prospect of seven more years of Republicanism. The conduct of M. Gambetta is very generally praised in accepting the Speakership of the Chamber of Deputies. It is believed he will favor some modifications in the constitution tending to confer greater power upon the executive.

BROOKLYN, February 3.—A quintette of influential and wealthy gentlemen have arranged preliminaries for an international pedestrian tournament, to open on March 3rd, and continue day and night for sixty days. They have leased the Skating Rink. The prizes, including purses, badges, and special prizes, will amount to about \$50,000. There will be \$6,000 for the lady walking 4,000 quarter miles in 4,000 consecutive quarter hours; \$3,000 for 3,000 quarter hours; \$1,500 to the lady or gentleman walking 1,000 miles in 500 hours—mile at beginning of each half hour; also, six days' walk for gentlemen, same for ladies; twenty-four hours' walk for gentleman and ladies; longest distance, without leaving track, ladies or gentlemen; one hour, ladies or gentleman; \$200 for lady or gentleman walking fifty miles in eight hours and twelve minutes; \$300 for three amateur ladies walking the longest distance in five hours; \$200 for three amateur gentlemen walking the longest distance in six hours; \$150 for girls under eighteen, greatest distance in two hours; \$250 for policeman walking the longest distance in four hours; \$150 for member of the press walking the greatest distance in three hours; \$200 for letter-carrier walking the greatest distance in four hours; several prizes every Saturday for children; \$2,000 for international billiard contests.

NEW YORK, February 3.—At Hudson, the father of Ida Farrow, a charming girl of 19, found a package of improper letters in her drawer from Rev. Robert Terry, Rector of Christ church, a married man. The rector has resigned. He used to secrete the letters to Miss Farrow under the cushion of her pew.

NEW YORK, February 3.—Ex-Head Centre Stephens intends to start soon on a tour of the citizens to examine the conditions and sentiments of their Fenian clubs and organize for unity of action. He claims only one Irish Republican "brotherhood" of importance in Ireland, and that he is its sole representative in this country.

NEW YORK, February 3.—Sullivan, a man with a wooden leg, challenges any man in the United States with an artificial leg to walk twenty-four or forty-eight hours.

PARIS, February 3.—The Bishop of Grenoble denies that the Pope condemned the miracle of La Salette as an imposture; on the contrary, he authorized the crowning of the Virgin's statue there, as approved by the Congregation of Rites.

CHRYSTIE'S COMMAND. May He to whom we are responsible for the principles that guide our deeds and the results of our labor favor our and your enterprises.