## The Catholic Record

Price of Subscription—\$1.50 per annum United States & Europe—\$2.00 Meitors Rev. James T. Foley, B. A. Thomas Coffey, LL. D.

Associate Editors { Rev. F. J. O'Sullivan H. F. Mackintosh. Advertisements for teachers, situations wanted to cents each insertion. Remittance to company the order. Approved and recommended by Archbishops siconio and Sharetti, late Apostolic Delegates to

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Serchased from J. Dwyer and The O'Neill Co.
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LONDON, SATURDAY, JULY 21, 1917

THE CRUCIFIX AND OTHER AIDS TO DEVOTION

Protestant Canadian Army Chaplain is reported to have said that the first thing he would do on his return to Winnipeg would be to put a cross over his Presbyterian church. Whether or not this is true it is in keeping with a thousand other such testimonies.

But there is an ingrained Protestant prejudice against the cross, the crucifix, statues and the like which is difficult for the Catholic to understand. The act of vandalism, referred to last week, where a wayside Calvary, erected in memory of a loved one fallen on the battlefield, was ruthlessly defaced, strikes one as exceptionally barbaric. But is it anything more than the outward expression of that ingrained Protestant prejudice which is rooted in the very inception of the religious revolt of the sixteenth century?

Dr. Gairdner is the greatest authority on that turbulent period of English history and a few (extracts will serve to account for the unreasoning prejudice and the occasional violent expression given to it.

In the reign of Edward VI. an Act of Parliament forbade all Catholic books of devotion :

"Be it therefore enacted (etc.) that all books called antiphoners, missals, scrayles, processionals, manuals, legends, pyes, portuyses, primers in Latin or English, cowchers, journals, or other books or writings whatsoever, heretofore used for the service of the Church, written or printed in the English or Latin tongue, other than such as are or shall be set forth by the King's Majesty, shall be, by authority of this present Act, clearly and utterly abolished, extinguished and forbidden for ever to be used or kept in this realm or elsewhere within any the King's dominions."

What a catalogue of prohibited service books! The English Reformation under Warwick, remarks Dr. Gairdner, was almost in advance of Rome in publishing an Index Expurgatorius.

But this Act of Edward VI. had to and we must quote again :

"And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid that if any person or persons, of what estate, degree, or condition soever he, she or they be, body politic or corporate, that now have or hereafter shall have in his. her, or their custody any of the books place in history. It is true that this spiritual exercises which were enor writings of the sorts aforesaid, may be a too sweeping conclusion to joined upon novices; of the forms and do not, before the last day of June next ensuing, deface and destroy or cause to be defaced and destroyed the same images and every be delivered, all and every the same books, to the mayor, bayliff, conbe openly burnt, or otherwise defaced herself remained in the Anglican fessional experience.

offence shall suffer imprisonment at the King's will."

We subjoin the non-Catholic author's own comments:

the meaning of the Act is clear. Mayors and bishops neglecting to rics, and a little work (good men of the utility, the efficacy and the taken for a saint." The entire ab- work to do for her, nor education for dent. entire reasonableness of the Catholic sence of saintliness in a deceased it." practice of appealing through the person might be pleaded as a reason unviolated.

> lords besides, protested against an them. They were books to the unthey were destroyed long ago is quite only theology or tea mongers." and by the wayside, reminding every | be works, not doctrines." one of the patient suffering which was idolatry. Sermons were more and man. edifying than contemplation, even by such aids, of the great act of human Redemption. And heartless statesmanship found its policy in supporting the cause of a no less heartless fanaticism, which clung to the letter of the command: "Thou shalt not

make thee any graven image." With the very restricted view of the utility and influence of images of the distinguished author few will agree. "They were books to the unlearned" it is true: true, also, that 'now everyone knows how to read." But the logical conclusion of such a view would be that in this age of at expression of a crude and nonlogical conclusion what was but the "savage fanaticism" which he expressly condemns.

INFLUENCES IN FORMATION OF A GREAT CHARACTER A reader points out that the exdo with other things besides books, tract from Lacordaire found copied hardly bears out the statement made influences had a great deal to do

the question that has been raised. stable, or churchwardens of the town Dean) once asked her (Miss Nightin- some ways and in some cases she where such books then shall be, to gale) to use her influence in pre- came to be disillusioned about nursbe by them delivered over openly venting a friend of his and of hers ing sisterhoods, did she ever cease within three months next following from taking the step, supposed to be to speak with admiration of what she incipient revolt the course of affairs after the said delivery, to the Arch- imminent, of joining the Roman had seen and learnt in some of them. bishop, Bishop, Chancellor or Com- Communion. In a long reply which She thought more often, and with missary of the same diocese, to the Miss Nightingale wrote with great more affectionate remembrance, intent the said Archbishop, Bishop, care (Nov. 26, 1852) she promised to about the spirit of the best Catholic Chancellor or Commissary and every do what she could, but explained sisterhoods than of Kaiserswerth, or of them, cause them immediately to that this might not be much. She indeed of anything else in her pro-

and destroyed, shall, for every such | Communion " because she was born book or books willingly retained in there," and because the Roman his, her or their hands, or custody, Church offered some things which within this realm or elsewhere she personally did not want. She within any the King's dominions, and feared their friend might consider not delivered, as is aforesaid, after the that such arguments as she could said last day of June, and be thereof urge against the Roman Church lawfully convict, forfeit and lose to applied equally against the Anglican. the King our Sovereign Lord, for the And on the other hand, she had first offence twenty shillings, and never concealed her opinion that the for the second offence shall forfeit Roman Communion offered advantand lose, being thereof lawfully con- ages to women which the Church of vict, four pounds, and for the third | England (at that time) did not. "The Catholic orders," she wrote, offered me work, training for that work, sympathy and help in it, such as I had in vain sought in the Church The grammar limps wofully, but of England. The Church of England has for men bishoprics, archbishopdestroy such books were to incur a make a great deal for themselves). penalty of £40. But there were two For women she has-what? I had important exceptions in the scope of no taste for theological discoveries. this Act. First, any primers of I would have given her my head, my Henry VIII. might still be used if heart, my hand. She would not have only the sentences of invocation or them. She did not know what to do prayer to saints were blotted out or with them. She told me to go back erased. Second, the Act was not to and do crochet in my mother's drawapply to "any image or picture set or ing-room; or, if I were tired of that, graven upon any tomb in any church, to marry and look well at the head

The latter part of the second letter the rivalry of churches was concerned sentences: Was it wonderful that six bishops it was by works that she tried them, ease," she wrote in one of her noteout images now; we do not want deserve the name of pastors are the Roman Catholic. The rest-of all learned, and now every one knows denominations-Church of England, how to read. But the spirit in which | Church of Scotland, Dissenters-are another matter. Even now in Roman will never do," she once said to a

With such convictions it is not at the One sinless Man endured for the all surprising that Miss Nightingale the very best I ever heard." love of man. It is rude art very fre- should be strongly attracted by quently; but it touches the heart the fact that the Catholic Church On the eve of the Reformation a afforded woman manifold opportunisavage fanaticism cried out that it ties for the highest service of God

Her biographer, speaking of her winter in Rome, says:

"She was profoundly impressed

by the practical beneficence of Roman sisterhoods. An example of such beneficence she found in the school and orphanage of the Dames du Sacré Coeur. She had picked up a poor girl called Felicetta Sensi, and procured her admission as a free boarder, paying for her care and education for many years. She formed a warm attachment to the Lady Superior, the Madre Sta. Colomba. She studied the organization, rules, and methods of the large school, and for books and reading the masterpieces ten days she went into Retreat in of sculpture, painting and architect- the Convent. Her intercourse with ure which have had religion for their the Madre Sta. Colomba, of whose inspiration are but the crude efforts talk and spiritual experiences she made full and detailed notes, made reading age. It is, perhaps, hardly very deep impression on her mindfair to Dr. Gairdner to carry to its She studied rules and organization, but, as in all her studies, she was seekunconscious expression of that per- ing a motive as well as, and indeed vasive Protestant prejudice which we more than, a method. Many years are tracing to its source in the later, a friend wrote to her: "It among nurses is devotion. I use the word in a very wide sense, meaning that state of mind in which the current of desire is flowing towards one high end. This does not presuppose knowledge, but it very soon attains it." This was a profound conviction out in Florence Nightingale's notes of her own, often expressed, as we shall hear, in her Addresses and in last week's article that Catholic Letters of Exhortation in later years. What she set herself to study at the with the formation of that character | Trinità de' Monte was the secret of which enabled her to accomplish a devotion. She made notes of the work that gives her an assured Lady Superior's exhortations; of the or any images of stone, timber, ala- draw from the quoted extract as a and discipline of self-examination. baster or earth, graven, carved or premise. But there are many other She sought to extract the secret, and painted, which heretofore have been and even better grounds for the to apply it to the inculcation of the taken out of any church or chapel or statement. Interesting as the point highest kind of service to man as yet stand in any church or chapel, is in itself there are many other the service of God. For many years obvious matters both of interest and the thought in her mind was to be instruction which the Catholic reader the foundation of some distinctive T. Cook's Life of Florence Nightin- the end she came to be glad that she of them, and deliver or cause to gale which we subjoin in answer to had not done this she never abandoned the high ideal which was be Arthur Stanley (afterwards the hind her thought. Nor, though in

was taken, as she said in a note of Spring to the presence of Canadian that fostered her 'vanity;' it was that generated in the trenches by most entire and unbroken freedom fighting side by side. It then profrom dreaming I ever had,' she wrote | ceeded gravely to remind Sir Edward was!' And so again, looking back with them to make or mar the cause never enjoyed any time in my life so three kingdoms. much as my time at Rome.'

It will be seen from the foregoing that Miss Nightingale was not only the case profoundly impressed but deeply influenced by Catholic Sisterhoods. There she found and applied herself diligently to learn the secret of devotion. Not in that sense of the word which is almost synonymous with piety; but that deep, abiding, purposeful, singleminded and persevering devotion to the attainment of an object worthy of the consecration of a life's best efforts. This is the one outstanding quality of Miss Nightingale's character that above all others made for the success of her life-work. How much she owed to chapel or churchyard, only for a of my husband's table. You may go her friends in the Sacred Heart and monument of any king, prince, noble- to the Sunday school, if you like it, Trinità de' Monte convents her bio-Nothing has been more remarkable man or other dead person which hath she said. But she gave me no train- grapher, scant as his sympathy is on than the recognition during the War not been commonly reputed and ingeven forthat. She gave me neither the matter, makes abundantly evi-

To one of the points raised by the correspondent, who was the occasion sense of sight to faith and religious for his image being preserved in to Miss Clarke shows Miss Nightin. of these articles, the quotation which feeling. There is a legion of wit- church! So ancestral tombs of gale's interest in speculations about follows is so apposite that it covers nesses to this fact. A prominent ancient barons and gentry remained the basis of moral law; but so far as the ground completely in a few

"She (Miss Nightingale) objected of the old school, and five temporal "In all the dens of disgrace and dis. strongly in later years to current upon larger Imperial hopes for the statements that her own training Act like this? We can worship with. books (1849), "the only clergy who was confined to Kaiserswerth. 'The nursing there, she wrote, was nil. The hygiene was horrible. The hospital was certainly the worst part of Kaiserswerth. I took all the training that was to be had-there Liberal Star. "Will he show the was none to be had in England, but Catholic countries the crucifix speaks friend, "unless we have a Church of Kaiserswerth was far from having to the eye on pulpits, in roodlofts which the terms of membership shall trained me.' On the other hand 'the tone was excellent, admirable, And Pastor Fleidner's addresses were

NOTES AND COMMENTS

Dark as the situation may be in Ireland there are still gleams of hope on the horizon. One of these gleams is the changed attitude of the Irish race. The change is not in the accustomed through several generations to look to it for light and guidance. Shall the new elements which in the past few weeks have cut across the Nationalist Movement again change the course of the great London journal and antagonize its following anew to the great cause. That is the problem which may well cause anxiety and concern to every friend of Ireland.

foundation of the Union ist party in Great Britain at the very height of the Home Rule movement. and when by the conversion of Gladthe day of Ireland's emancipation had already dawned, the then editor seems to me that the greatest want of the Times, Mr. John Walter, was as much responsible as any man. It was he who brought to that journal the bitter and implacable spirit which | mobilize here amongst us a little reached its climax in the "Parnell" ism and Crime" campaign. The unmasking of that foul conspiracy against a nation's honor and against human liberty itself, marked the end, for that generation at least, of coercion as the instrument of government in Ireland. The inherent antipathy of Torvism to Irish national aspirations became crystallized, how ever, in the Unionist party, which down to the present time has con tinued to block the wheels of legislation and to postpone if it cannot defeat the realization of Ireland's

> In THIS light the birth of a new spirit in the Times is truly noteworthy. This spirit found expression 'Ulster's Opportunity," which may be said to have marked the beginning of a Unionist revolt against the extremists in that portion of the Kingdom. Whether subsequent events will have proved to have stayed that in the next few weeks will show. Meanwhile, the article itself retains its significance. Whilst asserting that Unionist Ulster had never barred the door to an all-round settlement of the question of local

"In such studies upon the Trinità attributed the improved condition of omnipotent ways and His contempt and Ireland though not mentioned, de' Monte in the winter of 1847-48 she the political atmosphere in the for the petty movements of men. self examination, out of all interests statesmen in England following upon her 'happiest New Year.' 'The Nationalist and Unionist soldiers at a later time. 'Oh, how happy I | Carson and his friends that it rested after twenty years she wrote: 'I of peace and amity as between the

THIS IS the Times' statement of

"In that atmosphere, as it seems to as, the men of Ulster may fairly be asked to take stock of their new position of security, to consider what concessions it enables them to make and to admit the case for discussing them. It is an immense opportunity for courageous statesmanship on their part.

And this appeal it backs up with a affect our relations with the United shovelled daily into the war. Have States.

THE SAME thought finds expression in a leading article in the Observer, another influential exponent of Unionism, which bluntly says that "it is up to Ulster now." "Will North-East Ulster continue so to strain its technical rights, so to insist upon a political boycott of the rest of Ireland no less than upon formal exclusion for itself, as to keep a veto War and after the War?

The answer must shortly be 'Yes' or 'No.' " Taken in conjunction with to Sir Edward Carson is plain. "He can save the situation." declares the courage of a great statesman and barren wilderness of everlasting negation?" The records of the past do not, unhappily, point to that consummation, and more recent events have increased the complication. Yet still the star of Irish nationhood burns brightly on the darkened hori-

THE INHERENT missionary spirit in Ireland is voiced strongly and clearly Feinism not being a solely Irish London Times, in more than one in a May letter of the Bishop of product. crisis of the past the implacable Killaloe to the clergy and people of enemy to every aspiration of the his diocese. Reminding them that the collection for the Irish Mission editorial spirit of the Times alone, in China was to be taken up in all side of the Atlantic have yet realized but in a very large constituency the churches of the diocese on a what a tremendous success General stated Sunday, the Bishop wrote:

sleep, the Spirit of God has passed over Ireland in an extraordinary manner. We awoke one morning to find at our door the strangest sight imaginable, a band of young Irish had, begging for assistance. And for be allowed to go and preach the manner of man he was. Gospel to the heathen millions of faroff China.

strange

sacrifice which must animate those and inflexible nature. I who embark upon such an enterprise words of Bishop Fogarty:

God rules the heart of man and finds His willing soldiers where He listeth. The young priests whom His mysterious grace has now mustered to His hazardous standard were amongst the grandest Ireland had, They are young, mere boys in years, compared with us. They are gifted; they have prospects before them at home according to our human ways. Some of them, like Dr. Blowick, who held a Chair of Theology in Maynooth will find in the extracts from Sir E. order or sisterhood: and though in some weeks ago in a very significant College, occupied the most coveted leading article under the title prizes in Irish ecclesiastical life. They have affections, they have they love. friends, and a country But all these things they have put off, like a loose garment, when called by Christ to follow His standard in a land far away.

"But most extraordinary of all! They will require a sum little short That ideal may be summarized as an of £100,000 to organize this Irish Mission in China and to provide for a stream of Irish priests and Sisters to it in the years to come. What the community that made up the reason for thinking that the Convention is more likely to adopt the Empire; of their nationality, of latter solution than the former. will say, especially at a time like the present. We should rather exclaim what divine audacity have we here, government in Ireland, the Times and how characteristic of God's based everywhere on Home Rule; extent, considerably improved.

They will get it, or rather God 'who doth the ravens feed ' will bring it to them.

THE SIGNIFICANCE of this new venture in Ireland and its far-reaching consequences for the furtherance of God's Kingdom on earth is theme rather for the imagination than the pen. Centuries ago the foreign missionary spirit gave into Ireland's hands the Christianization of a large part of Europe. Her sons responded to the call and responded successfully. Now, after long centuries of cruel oppression, sons of St. Patrick Empire of the Orient whence many of their brothers and sisters shall follow them as the years roll on. 'He has but a sick and dving faith.' concludes the Bishop, "who looks warning that the failure to reach a askance at a supernatural mission settlement in the coming convention of this kind, and thinks he satisfies which Ulster's obstinacy may affect, his part by giving a half-crown or will react on British interests from five shillings to it out of abounding Australia to Quebec and gravely wealth. Millions of gold are being we nothing for Christ ?"

> T. P. O'CONNOR'S LETTER

MR. H. E. DUKE AS CHAIRMAN OF THE IRISH CONVENTION

GENERAL SMUTZ AN OUTSTANDING FIGURE

Special to the CATHOLIC RECORD (Copyright 1917, Central News)

Washington, July 14th. - The the Times article the warning herein | taken temporarily by Mr. H. E. Duke, Ireland, lead the men of Ulster out of the From all the information I have to tunes of the Convention will thus be largely in his hands.

It is the end of a long question.

immense prestige would undoubtedly

have made the success of the Convention almost certain. But General Botha has his own difficulties; Sinn Then attention was concentrated on the next greatest and most outstanding figure in the Empire now, namely, General Smutz. do not think that people on this Smutz has been in London. There are many people who now hold that "While we lay as it were buried in in genius, in temperament, in all the qualities that make a natural born leader of men. General Smutz can stand favorable comparison with any man in the British Empire either at home or abroad. He has attained priests, the finest and most gifted we this position by no surrender of his own principles. I remember the what an enterprise? That they might first time I realised myself the It was at a ff China.

Borden, in the House of Commons.

"The Holy Ghost has rekindled in Everybody knows what a polished ker Sir Robert Border is: and of ancient Ireland unexpectedly, and on this occasion he made a speech at an hour which only the Omnipo-tent God Himself could venture to the great occasion. I watched Genapparition | eral Smutz as he was waiting for his stone it seemed for the moment that appears on the scene when the earth turn to speak; I always pity a man is trembling beneath the shock and in that position, knowing the agonhorror of universal war. The very ies of nervousness and uncertainty time when the proud wealth of the through which even the most pracworld is being blown to pieces by tised speaker has to pass when he war's destructive engines is the has an address to make in unfamiliar moment that Christ has chosen to surroundings and on momentous occasions. The thin, alert body, the army, swordless and penniless, for light air, the light blue eyes, the His own high Empire of heavenly rather delicate features, might sug gest the lawyer rather than the dauntless and skilful soldier, if you did not study those strange eyes of THE AIM of foreign missions and his and behold in their icy depths the spirit of consecration and self- all the grim resolution of a daring thought that such a man would find it difficult—especially speaking a language has seldom been more tersely or which was not his mother tonguefelicitously expressed than in these to approach the polished rhetoric of the trained and cultured speaker he was to follow: but my apprehensions were without foundation. The speech, cold, simple, unadorned, was that of a great master of the best of all style either in speech or in writing; the style of pellucid simplicity. Before he had been speaking for more than a few minutes he had a thorough grip of his audience; you could see that by the sepulchral silence in which they listened : always a sign of profound emotion in a British audience. The speech was utterly unlike what was expected. It was nothing more nor less than a plea for the principles for which he and his countrymen had fought in the great war of the Dutch Republics against the British Empire. This was followed by a description of his ideal of the future of the British Empire.

insistence on the full recognition of

and otherwise, of every member of

was a plea for a British Empire

was of course, included, and meant to be included.

But all this was done with such sweet reasonableness of language. with a soft and almost cooing voice, with an apparent innocence and simplicity as though the orator were not touching some of the most fiercely contested issues of political life but merely making a scientific demonstration in a chemist's laboratory, that simple minded reactionar es took it all in like mother's milk There was an even more remarkable eech at perhaps the most remark able gathering held in the Houses of Parliament. It was in what is called the Waterloo Gallery of the House of Lords—a vast, beautiful chamber in which there are two great picput on their father's mantle and set forth as trail-blazers in the great and Wellington after the battle of the other the death Nelson at the battle of Trafalgar The company contained everybody of importance in British life, includ ing a big number of the Peers ; there again Smutz spoke out his gospel of Home Rule, of democratic institu tions, of a free Empire; and again the gnarled reactionaries swallowed it all down as if it were not the lava of revolutionary doctrine but the mother's milk of old Conservatism.

Such a man would have been ideal for the chairmanship of the Convention, but he had too many demands in the politics of his own country, "God's own country," he called it to me once; and in short, in spite of immense pressure on him, he de-clined. So did the Speaker of the House of Commons, Mr. James W. Lowther. Mr. Lowther would have been acceptable to nearly everybody even Irish Nationalists—though they of course, could not be expected to welcome an Englishman to preside over an Irish Convention -Mr. Lowther as so honorable, tactful, judicial and broadminded a man, that they would have accepted him. But, again, Mr. Lowther as Speaker announcement that the chairman- of the House of Commons, had too ship of the Irish Convention is to be much to do. Thus, finally, the choice came to Mr. Duke ; and again though he is an Englishman, the apparently does not mean that he is, Irish Nationalists regard him as a to be the permanent chairman of the body. The Convention has still the presiding officer. Let me give a else. sketch of the man and of his career

I first met Mr. Duke in the Press hand it is not likely however that Gallery of the House of Commons. any change will be made: and we when we were both Parliamentary may take it for granted that the for- reporters; his father was a bank official, and in order to pay the large expenses necessary to become a barrister, Duke, like Sir Charles The first desire of everybody was that Russell, the great Irish advocate the Convention should have as its Sir Edward Clarke, the great Tory President General Botha, whose lawyer, had to start in journalism not only a barrister but one in a large practice. When the War began he was making a gigantic income something like \$100,000 a year characteristic of the man that he take up war work for his country I believe that his loss of income dur ing the War, because he insisted on devoting himself to the War, must have reached a quarter of a million

When the Rebellion in Dublin drove Augustine Birrell out of the Secretaryship, the Ministry were in a great difficulty in finding a successor; they finally fixed on Mr. Duke. It was at first sight rather a strange appointment, for Mr. had been a member all bis life of the Conservative party and an opponent of Home Rule. But it was well known that the War had produced in lunch given to him and to Sir Robert his mind that transformation of opinion which has made an England of entirely new political ideals and groupings from any England tha over existed before. As a matter of fact, Mr. Duke to-day is convinced that in the interests of his own coun try, it is essential that Ireland should have self government. In addition, I believe he does not favour very much that scheme of partition to which so many of the Orangemen still obstin ately cling. Of course as chairman Mr. Duke will be prevented from taking up judicial position; but I rather think he will use what influ ence he can wield—and he can wield much-to get the two parties together to induce them to regard their cour try as one indivisible; common to affections and to the loyalty of both : and, by suggesting a conces may bring them to an agreement. regard his appointment then as very favorable sign; and as increasing the chance of agreement between the contending parties.

Mr. Duke is a typical English bar rister in appearance. He is clean shaven; serious in expression, almost solemn; be has handsome reg ular features; works fourteen sixteen hours a day though he is well over sixty years of age; is, in short one of those conscientious, hard working Englishmen, who when they take up a job, forget everything but the job; their pecuniary, their sonal interest; and go on till they drop if needs be as the British Tommy goes on till he is killed in the trenches. I repeat what I have already written : that though I will not pledge myself to an optimistic view of the Convention, though I feel confident that if it leave the question of partition open instead of closed, it will be a failure; on the other hand, if it put aside forever that sinister attempt to mutilate historic Ireland, it will the differences and variations, racial The appointment of Mr. Duke as appears to me a good president, reason for thinking that the Conventheir language, of all their special latter solution than the former characteristics; in other words, it and that, therefore, the chances of the success of the Convention are to that