

benighted land in North America," we hold up our hands in despair and are constrained to reflect upon the beauties of consistency, the theme of satirists from time immemorial. Comment of any other sort would be superfluous.

ABOVE ALL the animosities and heart-burnings incident upon the Irish Question, rises the clear note of praise and admiration for the character and life-work of John Redmond. Meanwhile if men will but pause to reflect that the note of real discordance in regard to the prosecution of the War comes not from the ranks of those whom he represented, but from the stronghold of the most inveterate reaction in the person of Lord Lansdowne, the final settlement of the Irish question will not be long deferred.

WHILE THE Holy See is being criticized and abused for its efforts to promote a just and lasting peace among the nations, one sectarian paper avers that "the influence of the Church in promoting peace and good-will has been almost negligible"—meaning thereby not the world-wide and venerable institution which acknowledges the Pope as its earthly Head, but that indefinable abstraction under the name of which Protestants are fond of including their multifarious divisions. Why should the Pope be pilloried for the doing of the very thing which they reproach themselves for their inability to do?

THE FOLLOWING was the tribute of a Major-General in the French Army to the first Americans to fall upon the battlefield in Northern France:

"Men: These graves, the first to be dug in our soil of France at but a short distance from the enemy, are as a mark of the mighty hand of our Allies, firmly clinging to the common task, confirming the will of the people and the army of the United States to fight with us to a finish, ready to sacrifice so long as it will be necessary, until final victory, for the noblest of causes—that of the liberty of nations, of the weak as well as the mighty. Therefore the death of this humble corporal and these two private soldiers appears to us in extraordinary grandeur."

CONTINUING, he said:

"We ask, therefore, that the mortal remains of these young men be left here, be left forever to France. We will, in the fulness of peace, inscribe indelibly upon their tombs: 'Here lie the first soldiers of the Republic of the United States to fall upon the soil of France in the cause of justice and liberty.' And the passerby will stop and uncover his head. Travellers through France and from France, from every Allied nation, from the United States, those who, in reverence and heart, will come to visit these battlefields of France, will deliberately go out of their way to visit these graves, and bring to them tribute of respect and gratitude."

"Corporal Gresham, Private Enright, Private Hay, in the name of France I thank you. God receive your souls. Adieu."

THAT LOVE of country is inseparable from devotion to religion, and that Italy is no exception to this rule, is made manifest by a recent pastoral of Cardinal Ferrari, Archbishop of Milan. He said:

"Love of country is one of the most sacred duties imposed on us by the Author of nature. When, then, there is question of duty, of duty as beautiful as our Italy is, I would say love of fatherland should be particularly strong, embellished as she is with a great and singular glory, the daughter of Religion, of Science, of Art. Italy, according to the will of God, has the centre of that glorious, indomitable kingdom which Jesus Christ came to found on earth so that it might be a kingdom for all nations and all peoples."

ON THE BATTLE LINE

In Palestine the renewed British advance towards Damascus proceeds. It has continued almost without interruption since Monday, and on Thursday alone reached depths of three miles on a front of eighteen astride the Jerusalem Nablus road. Delayed reports of Mr. Bonar Law's address in the British Commons on Thursday show that in reference to the Palestine and Mesopotamian campaigns he expressed doubt as to whether decisive operations could be conducted by means of troops transferred by sea. When Britain had sufficient tonnage to move them she had not the trained men, and now that she has the men the tonnage situation makes it impossible to carry very large forces by sea to such far away points. As to the Salonika operations, Mr. Law said it would not be difficult to justify them. Mr. Law said they had at least saved Greece from being overrun by the Germans, who would thus have controlled the Balkans from all sides, and have obtained splendid harbors for their submarines.

Roumania's humiliation is complete. The terms imposed by the peace treaty include concessions in wheat, petroleum and salt, the control of the railways by the Teutons for fifteen years; possession of the four principle passes into Austria-Hungary, and admission of all German goods (Austrians also?) free, while most Roumanian exports to Germany will come under the old tariff.

British aviators on the west front, with the assistance of the anti-aircraft gunners, had a great day on Thursday. They destroyed many foe airplanes, and also drove down twenty of them at least. Raising is energetically maintained everywhere. A German raid on a front of some width in the Belgium sector resulted in the capture of a few Belgian soldiers. The Belgians succeeded in beating back the raiders, and then, under the protection of an intense barrage, carried out a counter-attack, in which they took eighty-four prisoners, eight machine guns and a quantity of rifles and bombs. A repetition from Rome, via Washington, of report that an offensive is pending on the Italian front says that it will be entrusted almost entirely to the Austrians, and that simultaneously the Germans will conduct a big offensive in the West.

From and about Russia contradictory despatches continue to be received. In spite of the signing of the peace terms and the expressions of opinion and approval from a number of organized bodies, a number of reports say that fighting continues, with varying fortunes. A rumor that the Japanese have already landed troops in Siberia is accredited to the picking up of a message by wireless from Honolulu, but lacks any confirmation. Finland is reported to have asked the Kaiser to appoint Prince Oscar, his fifth son, as their King. This story is published in a Stockholm paper. It is possible that German propagandists have sent out the story as a feeler.

Eleven people were killed and forty-six wounded when airplanes raided London on Thursday night, two of a group of seven aircraft managing to reach the Metropolis and drop bombs here. The raid was a surprise, as there was no moon and there was a strong wind, strong enough it was thought to prevent a raid.—Globe, March 9.

VATICAN DISTURBED

Washington, D. C., March 8.—Vatican circles are aroused over the article in the Brest-Litovsk peace treaty which implies the return to Turkey of Armenian territory held by Russia, according to an official dispatch from Rome to-day, and the Papal Secretary of State is reported to have directed the apostolic delegate at Constantinople to take steps to obtain formal assurances regarding the fate of the Christian population.

The Vienna Fremdenblatt says the Ukrainian Government is endeavoring to deliver to the central powers by the middle of March 30,000 carloads of grain, 1,200 carloads of sugar, 2,000 carloads of frozen meat and 1,000 carloads of dried fruit.

THE FUTURE OF ENGLAND

CARDINAL BOURNE'S LENTEN PASTORAL

LENGTHY SUMMARIES OF WHICH WERE CABLED

The Lenten Pastoral of Cardinal Bourne is a public document of high importance alike to the nation and to its Catholic citizens. It gives voice to the Catholic view—as expressed in many utterances during the last year of bishops, priests and laity alike—of the problem that faces Britain in the immediate future; it defines the principles of thought and of action we should follow, and it calls us instantly to do our part.

"The times through which we are passing," says His Eminence, "are fraught with anxiety of every kind. In our own midst there are signs of trouble and disturbance, only very partially revealed in the public press, but well known to those in authority, which portend the possibility of grave social upheaval in the future."

"It is admitted on all hands that a new order of things, new social conditions, new relations between the different sections into which society is divided, will arise as a consequence of the destruction of the formerly existing situation. In this transformation, which will be for better or worse, the Catholic Church has her own special duty to perform, and her own part to play. What is that part to be in our own nation, and in the Empire?"

"Before we answer this momentous question it is important that we should understand how the present conflict has arisen, and endeavor to trace its causes, summarily at least, far beyond the events of the summer of 1914."

"We may in this summary consider first the principles which in the main governed the various classes of this nation, and of other Christian nations, in their dealings with one another, prior to the religious disruption of the sixteenth century. Men then, as now, desired to make their way in life: they entered into competition with one another; they were prone, then as now, to yield to temptation, to over-reach or to deal unfairly with their fellows. But the good and well-disposed had a guide, the self-

seeking found a check, in the accepted principles that environed them. Competition in trade or industry, perfectly legitimate in itself, had yet so to be co-ordinated that the right of the individual worker to a true human existence should not be made dependent upon the unrestricted gain of him for whom he toiled, nor the interests of the community sacrificed to the aggrandisement of the successful individual. And before the minds of all—peasant, labourer, manual worker, tradesman, landowner, professional man, titled peer of the realm, and Sovereign of the Kingdom—there was ever present the certainty of a complete account to be one day rendered to a Just Judge, the Maker of rich and poor alike."

ENGLAND'S INSTINCTIVE CHRISTIANITY

"These principles of Christianity have remained deeply imbedded in the mind and heart of the English people. They have influenced for long space, and still influence to some extent, instinctively rather than consciously, the legislation of this country. But with the gradual disappearance of the authority which alone could enforce and give sanction to them, those who still follow these principles very often do not know why they do so, neither can they give an answer should their validity be challenged."

"Thus gradually and almost imperceptibly a new relation of society came into being; and men and women, of high aim and of avowedly Christian belief, came to be dominated by ideas which had no ground in, or dependence upon, any Christian principle. Those who have studied the matter in detail have told us at length of the terrible conditions existing in this country less than a hundred years ago, in which conditions all thought of the rights of each individual soul or of the community as a whole was obliterated, and men felt no qualms about the practical enslavement and degrading impoverishment of multitudes in order that a few might possess and command the resources of almost unrestricted wealth. Desire of gain at all cost, without reference to the consequences therefrom, became a ruling principle. The true end and purpose of existence were forgotten; the right of the individual received little thought; the interests of the community were sacrificed to the exaggerated well-being of the few. Wealth and material prosperity to be obtained by those who were able to attain them were a sufficient object for this life. In too many cases any higher aim was deliberately excluded or regarded as so problematical as to be undeserving of serious thought. An enormous development of trade took place. On the surface there was prosperity which seemed to admit of no limit or setback, and our teachers of even only forty years ago told us complacently that the economic system and development of England were of a very perfect kind, and worthy of imitation by less enlightened and less progressive nations."

A LESSON FROM THE ENEMY

"Other nations had been learning the lesson—notably the confederation of nations which is now our chief enemy. With the thoroughness of purpose and scientific determination that characterize her, Germany has sought a world-wide predominance by setting boldly and consistently before herself those materialistic aims which for too long deluded and misled our English people. She desires 'her place in the sun'; and, as might be only too often right in the industrial struggles within the limits of our own people, so, imbued with the same principles, happily to an increasing extent now discarded among us, she claims that might is right in the world domination for which she is now struggling to her doom."

"Happily, do we say, are those false principles being discarded among us; for, were it not so the future of our people would be as overcast as is the future which the economic lusts of our enemies are bringing rapidly upon them."

"The last thirty years have shown a surprising return to saner doctrines and sounder principles in the teachings of our economists, and in the practice of our people, a return all the more astonishing because it has been instinctive rather than logical, and has little definite relation to religious teaching. God has watched over us in this respect, in spite of all our national sins and shortcomings, as He has so often done in the history of the past. Youthful ardor, self-sacrifice in face of common danger, recognition of the rights of all who do their part in the nation's struggles, no less than the compelling necessity of the moment, have led the peoples of the Empire to an abandonment of materialistic aims and to a giving up of desires based purely on the present life, which would have seemed incredible not so many years ago."

AFTER THE WAR—WHAT?

"But in every mind the cry is insistent. 'The War will one day end. What then? What is the future of our country to be? Are all our sacrifices to go for nothing? Is our world to be a truer, a better, a happier, place than it was before?' We proclaim loudly that we are now fighting not so much against the German people as against the principles which have impelled them to wage an unjustifiable war. We have to be on our guard lest those same principles, the desire of power and gain

at the cost of the moral law, should reassert their sway in our own national and social life. Such desire once led us into practices at which the conscience of the nation now revolts. That reawakened conscience has been strengthened by the dread happenings of this War; and to some extent—though, alas! not wholly—these evil principles have been exercised."

"In making these comments on the order of things which too long prevailed in England, it is in no way necessary, nor would it be right, to impose conscious injustice to those who upheld and perpetuated the wrongs that all now regretfully recognize. Just as there must be countless numbers in Germany to-day who would condemn with the same execration as we do the crimes of which their rulers are guilty, could they only gaze upon them from the same point of view from which we contemplate them, so, when a false social and political economy still held unstrained sway in England, many God-fearing and honourable men were the unwitting accomplices of a system which had blinded and mastered them."

"It is not, then, in any spirit of censure, either of master or servant, or of capitalist or workmen, of employer or trades unionist—not with any desire to blame either the past or the present—but solely to prepare for and safeguard the future, that we venture to approach the problem that we are placing before you to-day."

"What is that future to be—how is the social and political order to be reconstructed among us?"

"There are some, a small minority as yet, but with increasing influence, who are proclaiming a policy of despair. They have looked, they will tell us, in various directions for a solution of the problem in vain. Those who in this country are the official representatives of religious teaching have failed—so these despairing voices assure us—to give any coherent answer to their questions. Thus they are compelled—again it is their voice that speaks—to the unwelcome conclusion that the existing relations of society are incapable of being remedied, and that things cannot be worse than they are at the present time. Let them, they proclaim, the existing order be overthrown and destroyed in the hope of a new, or well-founded, that out of the chaos and destruction some better arrangement of men's lives may grow up. It is the policy of which we see the realization and the first fruits at the present time in Russia."

"The vast majority of our people are held back, if not by religious motives, at least by their common practical sense, from suicidal projects of this kind. In this turmoil of uncertainty, in this longing for teaching and guidance, what is the place of those to whom God has given, and who have accepted, the fulness of the Divine Revelation under the authority of the Church of Jesus Christ?"

"Will their voice be heard if, amid the clamour, it be upraised?"

THE BETTER WAY

"There can, we think, be no doubt at all as to the readiness of our countrymen to listen to the teachings of the Catholic Church if an opportunity can be given to them of knowing what the teaching is. Their attitude towards the Church is rapidly ceasing to be one of indifference. Widespread interest is shown in our doctrines and practices, especially in all that we may say about the grave dangers that now threaten the world. The very circumstances, too, of the War have brought hundreds of thousands of Englishmen into new and closer contact with the Catholic Church. British soldiers in Belgium and France have been profoundly affected by all that they have seen."

"They are impressed with a new sense of the reality of religion. They observe its effectiveness in the face of danger and death; its power to heal, tranquillize and uplift; the definiteness and uniformity of Catholic teaching. In England, too, many have adopted Catholic principles, beliefs, and practices which before the War would probably have repelled them. The message of war shrines, crucifixes, and rosaries finds an echo in the heart of the people, a stirring, it may be, of the old Catholic tradition, never wholly obliterated."

Again, social reformers of every school are turning more and more to Catholic tradition for their inspiration; and even in the aspirations and demands of extremists we may often discern that belief in the value of human personality, that insistence upon human rights, that sense of human brotherhood, and that enthusiasm for liberty which are marked features of Catholic social doctrine."

"Another cause has been at work to remove the prejudices of former days. During the War, Catholics, many of them suffering hitherto from a certain shyness and isolation, have been brought into intimate contact with the rest of the nation. The shouldering of common burdens, daily association with others, in the manifold works of relief and organization, comradeship in the army, and cordial co-operation at home, have conducted to mutual respect and dissipated the old atmosphere of suspicion."

RELUCTANT EVIDENCE

"It was, perhaps, inevitable that this growing sympathy with Catholic ideals should have irritated that small but noisy section of fanatics who are always ready to play upon the fears of the credulous or to re-echo those 'no Popery' cries which, in common with all men of right feeling, would very readily

forget. At a moment when national unity is of vital importance, these people are seeking to stir up popular resentment against a loyal section of the population, regardless not only of justice and charity, but of the effect which such bigotry cannot fail to have upon the Catholics of other nations whose good-will we desire to retain."

"With such calumniators as these, appeals to reason and justice appear to be unavailing. But they and the press which represent them are, we think, discredited by the bulk of the nation, to whose sense of fair play we confidently appeal. And indeed we only refer here to the anti-Catholic agitation because it is an indirect evidence of that growing popular sympathy with Catholic ideals which has, by re-action, stirred it to life."

[The latter part of Cardinal Bourne's Pastoral dealing with the causes of the present social dislocation, its symptoms today, the remedies Catholicism has to offer, and the practical duty of Catholics in this regard, will appear in our next issue.]

How often is life almost crushed out of some poor heart already weighed to earth with, it may be, secret sorrow, by a cold, sarcastic word or look? How often does a disparaging remark, a prediction of failure, quench hope and courage in the breast of some one who is struggling to succeed?

CHURCH OF ALL CREEDS

CATHOLIC, PROTESTANT AND JEWISH CLERGY TAKE PART IN DEDICATION

Camp Upton, L. I., Feb. 25.—Two Catholic priests, three Protestant clergymen, a rabbi and a layman conducted the services which were held late yesterday in connection with the presentation to the cantonment of the new interdenominational church which will be called "Church Headquarters." It is said to be the only cantonment edifice of its kind in the country.

Brig. Gen. Johnson, the division commander, in an address declared that the various chaplains, religious workers and organizations, such as the Y. M. C. A., Knights of Columbus and Jewish Board for Welfare Work, had helped greatly in establishing the high moral character of his men.

"Of the 45,000 men that have passed through this cantonment since it was established, but fifty-three have been tried by general court martial, and only ten of these were guilty of criminal offenses," said Gen. Johnson. When 22,000 men go to the city on leave and practically every one returns to camp on time, it reflects the influence of these bodies on the high moral spirit of the division.

"There are forty creeds at Camp Upton. At first you may have held aloof from the Protestant, the Catholic, the Jew, the Confucian or the

Mohammedan here, but you have learned they are men like yourselves. You will be shoulder to shoulder with your comrades in Europe some day."—N. Y. Evening World.

MAJOR MADDEN WOUNDED

Major, the Rev. Ambrose Madden, O. M. I., M. C., C. E. F., has been wounded, though not seriously, according to a cable received March 10th by His Lordship Bishop Fallon. In an article published in the CATHOLIC RECORD February 23rd amongst the tributes having been paid to Father Madden was that of an officer whom the Padre brought in from No Man's Land: "The bravest man in France." Another officer said: "He knew every shell hole in our area. He won his Military Cross a year and a half ago, but he has deserved it anew a dozen times since."

FATHER FRASER'S CHINESE MISSION

Previously acknowledged, \$12,517 28
F. B. M., Sydney Mines..... 1 00
Jas. E. Murphy, Cape
Traverse..... 3 00
Thos. Connolly, Cedarville
H. Keating, Channel, Nfld.
Mrs. Andrew Mooney,
Little Harbor..... 1 50
Subscriber, Brooklyn..... 5 00
Subscriber, Black River
Bridge..... 2 00
A Friend, Glenneville..... 2 50
S. F. M., Halifax..... 1 00
"For a son in France"..... 5 00
Subscriber, Dashwood..... 2 00
Minnow..... 2 00
Mrs. F. McEvoy, Dalhousie 2 00

It is sorry reflection for any of us that we have given pain to a fellow-creature, made the burden of life heavier, driven the sword of sorrow still deeper into the poor heart already sorely wounded. If we cannot wipe away the tears of sorrow at least we can act so that we may never cause them to flow.

The Capital Life Assurance Company of Canada

HAS FOUND 1917 TO BE A YEAR OF

SPLENDID PROGRESS

As shown by the Report for 1917, from which the following is taken:

	1917	1916	% Increase
Net Ledger Assets at 31st Dec.	\$371,096.85	\$309,337.97	20%
Income During Year	145,281.55	111,270.53	30½
Policies Issued	1,204,470.00	810,596.00	48½
Insurance in Force	3,864,893.00	3,049,000.00	26¾
Policy Reserves	250,700.00	179,998.00	39

"CANADIAN INSURANCE," ON JANUARY 23, 1918, IN GIVING A SUMMARY OF INSURANCE WRITTEN IN CANADA, SAYS:

"The very best result reported in 1917 in conservation of business to date seems to be that of the Mutual Life of Canada, which reports an increase in its business in force of over 60 per cent. of the new business."

"Probably the most remarkable result, however, is that of *The Capital Life*, whose similar figure is nearly 69 per cent. It is extraordinary, because the Company is young, and youth and exceptional prudence and conservation are not usually allied in new Insurance companies any more than in humanity."

A Copy of the Annual Report for 1917 will be mailed on request.

Particulars of our Policies cheerfully given to anyone desiring Insurance.

Head Office, Ottawa, Canada

M. J. O'BRIEN,
PRESIDENT.

A. E. CORRIGAN,
MANAGING DIRECTOR.