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LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION.

Apostolic Delegation.

Ottawa, June 18th, 1905.

Mr. Thomas Coffey:

My Dear Sir,—Since coming to Canada I have

been a reader of your paper. I have noted

with satisfaction that it is directed with intelli-

gence and ability, and, above all, that it is im-

bued with a strong Catholic spirit. It is

strengthened by the teachings and author-

ity of the Church, at the same time promoting

the best interests of the country. Following

these lines it has done a great deal of good for

the welfare of religion and the faithful.

I therefore, earnestly recommend it to Catho-

lic families. With my kindest wishes for your

work, I am, Sir, very sincerely, your obedient

servant.

Yours faithfully in Jesus Christ,

D. FALCONIO, Arch. of Larissa.

Apostolic Delegate.

UNIVERSITY OF OTTAWA.

Ottawa, Canada, March 7th, 1906.

Mr. Thomas Coffey:

Dear Sir:—For some time past I have read

your estimable paper, THE CATHOLIC RECORD,

and congratulate you upon the manner in

which it is published. Its matter and form

are both good, and I truly Catholic spirit

pervades the whole. Therefore, with pleas-

ure, I can recommend it to the faithful.

Blessing you and wishing you success believe

me to remain,

Yours faithfully in Jesus Christ,

D. FALCONIO, Arch. of Larissa.

Apostolic Delegate.

LONDON, SATURDAY, JULY 6, 1907.

A QUESTIONABLE RUMOR.

The Globe of the 25th inst. contained

a dispatch stating that a joint open

letter had been written by four or five

priests to the Holy Father. It was a

harsh criticism of the Sovereign Pon-

tiff's policy, an appeal to him to start

over again, and stand more closely by

the purpose he had at his accession

marked out for himself in governing the

Church: To restore all things in Christ.

The hopes which the motto gave as well

as the beginning of Pius X's reign

have been, according to these priests,

crushed. The stand which the Holy

Father takes in regard to the criticism

which is pursued in academical halls

upon the most sacred subjects is not

pleasing to them. They wish to ride

the winged steed to the very sun itself.

We cannot vouch for the truth or false-

hood of the rumor. Among so many

men really learned and strong-willed as

the Catholic priesthood numbers, five

men could be found not agreeing with

Papal policy and bold enough to con-

stitute themselves advisers to the Pope.

There is a great deal of human nature

in the world. It is still within the

soul upon which is impressed the priest-

ly character at ordination. Study and

learning aggravate its selfish vanity.

Age and experience make it more asser-

tive and insistent, for fear that its

prerogatives may be ignored or its

rights disputed. Who these new self-

constituted advisers are the report did

not say. We dare say they are men of

erudite scholarship. They, like most

intellectual people, have implicit faith

in their own ideas. The human mind

presents to-day the ill-promising pic-

ture of the blind leading the blind.

Criticism has taken the place of candid

investigation. Learning has laid aside

the robe of religion, dropped from its

hand the torch of faith, and stalks forth

into the darkness to analyze the past

tions which this school of critics wish

to have thrown open to every theor-

ist in the civilized world. One

of the most protracted and severest

contests centred about the Old and

the New Testament. Now the

Holy Father could not look quietly

on whilst not only the schools were

disputing amongst themselves, but

when they were disseminating their

views amongst all reading classes likely

to disturb the faith of countless thou-

sands. Truth has no such champion as

the Vicar of Christ. His guid-

ance, his position, his light and

his authority fit him best to be

truth's strongest support and guar-

dian. There are many interesting

questions still unsolved, whose discus-

sion may be of advantage to spiritual

and scholarly people. There are others

insoluble by pure reason. Criticism is

not fond of handling these. When,

therefore, the Holy Father calls a halt,

he is most assuredly doing more to re-

store all things to Christ than if he let

the disputes go on amongst scholars

who are imbued with too much dil-

letantism and have not the prudence to

confine their arguments to their

own halls. Belief is mightier than

reasoning, as the rock is safer than shif-

ting sand, and the supernatural more

convincing and clearer than the

natural. Modern thought is in a state

of unrest, thanks to Protestantism

and philosophical scepticism. Our Sov-

ereign Pontiff is striving to bring it

back to more simple faith. Thus does

he restore the human intelligence to

Christ—the Way, Truth and the Life.

INSULTING INSPECTION.

The other day a motion was adopted

in the British House of Commons which

is insulting to Catholics as it is un-

English in spirit. A bill was intro-

duced appointing a commission to in-

quire into the need of inspection of

monastic and conventual institutions.

We are glad to see that the Irish Par-

liamentary Party protested earnestly

against the motion, the carrying of

which, Mr. Redmond assured the

House, put an end to their Liberal

alliance. It was surely a favorable

opportunity. Their withdrawal is a

message of sympathy and unity to the

Catholics of England, Ireland and

Scotland. And the protest ought to

come not merely from the Catholic

members of the House of Commons. It

ought to be sent from every hamlet and

from every colony belonging to the

British Empire. The unlimited con-

fines of a nation priding itself on liberty

ought to ring with indignation at the

proposed invasion upon the sacred

rights of home and private property.

Is the motion intended to win increased

favor with the persecuting Government

of France? Does the Liberal Govern-

ment of England hope thereby to

throw a sop to non-Conformist bigotry?

Or is the motion a revenge for the op-

position the Catholics of England have

shown to the education measures?

Whatever may be the purpose of the

Government the measure itself is a

discredit to what. It infringes wan-

tonly upon what English love of free-

dom and fair play has always respected

with manliness and guarded with

patriotism—the sacredness of home.

A man's house is his castle, and is as

free from inspection as his conscience.

By what reasoning are convents and

monasteries treated differently? Are

the homes of ladies who live quietly

together devoting their lives to reli-

gion, prayer or works of mercy, to be

singled out as needing the busybody

interference of public commissions?

Are the few monasteries throughout the

kingdom a menace to their neighbors

that their libraries and cloisters and

cells must be the object of governmental

inspection. England does not act so

tyrannically with the Brahmins of India.

Bigotry dies hard. We doubt if it dies

at all. We did think, and with reason

ment which proposes the measure

will have everything to fear. The

motion will meet the condemnation not

only of all Catholics but of fair-minded

Protestants as well. It is some time

since Sir Campbell Bannerman and

his party have shown their narrowness

and weakness. This last is the worst

and meanest of all.

THE GOSPEL OF ST. JOHN.

From Rome we learn that the Bib-

lical Commission has given a decision

which furnishes a safe guidance for

Catholic students of Holy Scripture.

For some years the school of Lolas

has been proclaiming, in harmony with

German nationalists, that the Fourth

Gospel was not written by St. John,

that the Christ of this Gospel is not

the real Christ of history. These are

some of the destructive teachings of

this school of which the five priests

elsewhere referred to may be graduates.

In substance the Commission decides:

(1) It is historically established that

the Apostle St. John wrote the Fourth

Gospel; (2) that this truth is confirmed

by the internal evidence of the text;

and (3) the facts narrated in it are

historically true, and the discourses

ascribed in it to our Lord were really

uttered by Him.

SCHOOLS OF TORONTO.

We are not surprised to see that the

manners of the Toronto children are

exciting very severe, though just

condemnation. A letter written by Henry

O'Brien Esq., one of the most prom-

inent lawyers in Toronto, characterizes

the children as probably the worst on

the continent. The fault, this gentle

man considers, is due to both parents

and schools. Nor can any one dispute

the charge. Parents are too busy

earning money for their children, and

schools are too closely employed in

teaching facts to have children brought

up with respect and consideration for

others. Mr. O'Brien gives the case

from which he draws his conclusion.

A boy, the son of a well-known and

highly respected citizen, was guilty

of stealing flowers and destroying

plants. When property is left with-

out a closed fence in order that the

public may share in the taste which

the culture of flowers ought to foster,

it is too bad that owners are exposed

to the vandalism of young people.

When the attention of another child's

mother was brought to her boy's con-

duct, she did not see what the fuss

was about: the flowers were God's

flowers and the child had a right to

them. There is the poison. Schools

may not teach good manners or high

morals; but they do not as yet teach

socialism. What can be expected of a

mother—a respectable woman—holding

such false theory, and sympathizing

with her child instead of reproving

him. Stealing flowers is bad enough,

but blasphemy is far worse. Toronto

again is the scene. Last winter Mr.

Wanless wrote to the News complain-

ing of the reckless profanity which was

so common. "Worse still," he writes,

"school boys are following the ex-

ample of their seniors to such an ex-

tent that in some of the public schools

the language at times is simply shock-

ing." If these gentlemen will watch

attentively they will find another virtue,

modesty and purity, boldly defied and

set at naught by our public system of

education. When men recognize so

grave a state of affairs as that re-

ferred to, how is it they do not

pursue the subject by demanding a

change? There can be no doubt that

modern non-sectarian education is the

worst enemy the State can have. It

leaves the valleys unfilled and the

crooked ways untouched.

AN OUTRAGE.

The daily papers contain an adver-

tisement of a certain patent medicine

which states that many miracles have

been reported from St. Anne de

Beaupre and other shrines, but that

DR. SPROULE AND THE MON-

TREAL GAZETTE.

Every country has its "undesir-

ables." The president of the United

States recently referred to the "un-

desirables" in Idaho. We have "un-

desirables" in Canada, but notably in

Ontario. The men who would endeavor

to promote acrimonious feelings be-

tween people of different races and

creeds deserve even a harsher name

than "undesirables." On the ruins of

peace and good will they attempt to

build for themselves positions of prom-

inence. Such has been the history of

nearly all of the "Grand Sovereigns"

of the Orange order, from the time

when Ogle R. Gowan introduced the

hateful and hated faction into Can-

ada. The cold and narrow-minded Dr.

Sproule is a worthy successor of that

"undesirable" Irish refugee from just-

ice. It were difficult to know by

what process of reasoning some Orange-

men arrive at the conclusion that the

authorities of the Catholic Church

have any, even the most remote, de-