

The Catholic Record.

"Christianus mihi nomen est Catholicus vero Cognomen."—(Christian is my Name, but Catholic my Surname)—St. Pacien, 4th Century

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THE OLD YEAR AND THE NEW

As we write, the last hours of 1919 are slipping away as the sands run out of the hour-glass. It will be long ere the memory of these last months fades into oblivion, for tremendous issues affecting mankind at large have been decided while its weeks and days were slowly passing. A new Charter is being framed by common consent, and now Freedom marches on to a shining goal, unshadowed by the old fear that jealous gods will make strife among toiling peoples for mischievous ends. Yet even such thrilling events as these which have transformed us into a fighting race, luring us from peaceful industry and turning us into a country in arms, leave our essential qualities and interests unimpaired—rather, may we not say, enhanced in worth by the deepened sense of personality that has been evoked amid the tragic happenings of the War.

Four and a half years of anxiety and loss, straining our powers of action and endurance almost to breaking-point, have left us acutely sensitive to influences that seldom visited the overbusy crowd in years gone by. As though only thinkers and poets, men and women gifted with fine feeling and imaginative power could be expected to live in the unseen as well as the seen! All the while Nature herself has been pointing to deep truths that emerge from the heart of things, and Science has been pouring forth disclosures respecting laws and forces which clearly witness to a power behind phenomena that is ever working towards a predestined end. Why should thoughts of such moment be confined to sensational occurrences or hinge upon festivals and fasts decreed by the calendar?

Our formal division of time into years is not reflected in the outer world. Bells may ring, convivial gatherings be held, worshipful observances mark the transition; but no record appears on the face of the celestial dial which shines above our revolving earth. New Year's Eve in no way differs from every other night. There is no pause in the eternal march. If we for a brief hour or two are mindful of Time's rapid flight, is it not a note of wisdom breaking in upon our ordinary heedlessness? Sooner or later each of us will reach the end of this worldly pilgrimage. We should cherish the simple thought, making it a familiar condition of our activity. The worth of hours and the opportunities they bring with them will then appear. We shall gain in method and force of character by the heightened consciousness this sensibility to real value induces.

The close of a year so fraught with high tension and nervous apprehension, even though no actual warfare has shaken life to its centre, has suggested queries that call loudly for answers. The old Egyptians used to put a skeleton in view of the guests on festival occasions; no such artificial memento mori has been needed during these last sad years of slaughter and desolation. Few of us have been exempt from haunting spectres—gloomy visions of vacant places and ruined prospects. The Eastern notion that the world is but a larger caravanserai, some arriving and others departing, has been realised in a startling manner. The moral outcome of this awful trial is dubious. Clearly, some have developed latent fortitude and insight. Many have just discovered their weakness and unpreparedness when brought face to face with life's great mystery.

It has been so easy to most of us to fall in with accepted standards of conduct, so natural to fight shy of eccentricity in morals, that anything like enthusiasm has been sedulously avoided. In this hour of awakening we come up against the reasonable reminder that we are mortal, that life is waning while we revolve in a vicious circle. The mere repetition of mechanical habits involves no progress, and to think about it is simply to feel that life is becoming futile, with barren years in prospect.

Surely no being capable of better things should acquiesce in such an unprofitable outlook!

We should be sorry to linger on this sombre fact of a too common experience. We cannot derive strength for fresh effort from a remorseful sense of past failure. It is good to look away from our meagre store of encouraging memories, to recall instances of happy recovery from hopelessness. How many of the world's great helpers and inspirers have broken away from entangling conditions, winning self-mastery in the fires of penitential resolve! We must not give way to the weak indulgence of self-pity; rather should we reach out for the reinforcements which lie close to us in our daily round and common task. The poet does well to remind us that, though we cannot kindle the soul's flame when we choose, "Tasks in hours of insight willed, Can be through hours of gloom fulfilled."

Here we renounce the moralist's function and turn to the singers, whose noble calling it is to make musical appeal to those deeper intuitions which ally us with the super-sensual realm of order and beauty. The poet, with his quicker pulse and more profound sensibility, responds to spiritual influences that are unfelt by the self-absorbed multitude. To his inward eye life unrolls in its essential completeness; in his ears the murmur of past ages re-echoes with insistent power. His thought has a wider scope than time and change can compass. In his Orphic runs the universal laws find utterance. Is not the poet's corner the kernel of the thinker's library? When logic fails and dogmatic speculation falls on the wearied intellect the rhythmic chant of the bard bears messages of health and healing to the secret place in which the soul abides. Truly the greater lights that burn in the poetic sky rule from age to age; some are of the day and others of the night. Homer still leads the immortal choir, and Virgil follows in his train. Dante voices the medieval spirit and life. Shakespeare, Milton, Wordsworth, march in front of the human advance, a noble band following in their track. Who can estimate rightly the service to mankind rendered by these interpreters of the soul's career and destiny? These mighty intellects are immortally present and active in human thought and activity and illustrate in no small way the Almighty Power behind them. To cherish their high counsels as more precious than gold or gem is the mark of refined taste and, as a rule, of developing character. "Look into thine own heart and write," says one of our most popular poets. Truly these are the true workers of magical effects; in their crystal glass we catch reflections of neglected truth. If ever we see ourselves as we are, it is when one of these seers depicts the past in fadeless colors and projects a vision of the future in which we play our part for weal or woe. They are the real kings, for "they outlive temporal changes. The lyrical power that breathes through Plato's Ion, Shakespeare's Tempest, Beethoven's Fifth Symphony exalts the mind and heart as no lower appeal can do.

Would that we could all enter and learn to be at home in such elevated prospects! Then would the New Year bring us an enlarged mental life, a richer experience of joy and sorrow, a full sympathy for our less-favoured brothers, and an imaginative outlook that would transform dull tasks and lighten gloomy days. So Milton, old and blind, had glorious dreams in his narrow Cripplegate home. So Camoens, poor and outwardly wretched in his lodging at Lisbon, lived spiritually in his Lusitad, the epic of which his countrymen will never cease to be proud. All are ours, and they are ready to minister to our sad or happy moods. In youth they will nerve us to bold enterprises; in age they can soothe our pangs of flesh and spirit. Before their bright visions life's meaning and end become luminous. Buds of promise open out and hearten the soul with odour of fresh hopes, gustings of wide power, though leaving much to be garnered elsewhere, since the full-blown flower and fruit of earthly travail exists only in the

eternal forethought—the shoresless sea into which our brief span of mortality at length falls and disappears.

Listen to the counsellors who can see the evils that oppress men and yet face the moral problem without betraying ignoble fear. Awe and reverence become us all as we stand on the threshold of a New Year that calls for sure and steady followers. The Past hands on its solemn charge; the Future appeals for true workers and inspired builders who prize truth and right above length of days.

WEEKLY IRISH REVIEW

IRELAND SEEN THROUGH IRISH EYES

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EUROPEAN SYMPATHY

Ireland is cheered by a stream of reports from the Continent, indicating a remarkable wave of feeling for her which seems to be sweeping the countries affecting, in the first place the intellectual people of those countries, and in the second place, and to a less extent, the discreet politician. It is reported that D'Annunzio said a great deal more, and spoke far more strongly, about Ireland, than the cables told. For the sensitivity of England's feelings it was judicious to clip some of what he said, and water down the rest.

The Charivari of Paris, which has an immense circulation, and which is of first standing among the weekly French journals, is, every week, largely featuring the Irish struggle for freedom—and is being enthusiastically supported in this, by the sympathies of the best French artists and literary men. Its latest remarkable contribution to the Irish English Question is a front page three column cartoon, drawn by France's most eminent cartoonist, Jean Jacques Rousseau, showing a four-year old Irish child criminal, carrying an Irish Republican flag, and caught red-handed in the act of being dragged to jail by a burly English policeman. It is entitled "A Redoubtable Criminal." The article accompanying the cartoon deals with the horrors of the treatment of Irish prisoners in English jails, and twits President Wilson for forgetting there was such a place as Ireland when he struggled so strenuously for the liberty of Czechoslovakia and other dreamlands.

Several of the foremost French journals and periodicals are swaying public opinion in France for Ireland; but The Charivari takes the lead in the persistency and the ability with which, week after week, it is showing up the treatment of the struggling country by John Bull, the friend of the weak and the champion of liberty—within the limits of other people's dominions. In Spain and in Italy, as well as France, the Irish Cause is holding much attention, and month by month, drawing larger and more loudly expressed sympathy. And in Holland and the Scandinavian countries the journalistic talk has become very outspoken regarding the brutal treatment of Ireland by the same England, which, for years past, never tired of reflecting upon them for their refusal to join her in what she termed the wiping out forever of militarism and brutality!

AND THE THUNDERER ALSO

And Northcliffe's London Times, alarmed at the way that the world is being arrayed against England, because of her brutal treatment of Ireland, plainly intimates that there is being pursued a deliberate and well thought out policy of driving an unarmed Ireland into a futile rebellion which the politicians think, will provide both an explanation and a justification for the oppressions they are practising—and will, at the same time afford them a splendid opportunity of going to the rescue of militarism in crushing the Irish spirit. The Times says that French and the rest of the Irish Executive are being used "whether with the connivance of members of the Cabinet, or not in order to arouse in Ireland a state of feeling, if not a state of rebellion, in which settlement may become impossible." It says that those who are advising the Irish Executive in the hazardous path they are pursuing in Ireland, are persons who will not shrink the use of aeroplanes, bombs and machine guns, so that Ireland may be taught a lesson, and reconciled to Union with England. "There is strong prima facie evidence," says the Times, "of the existence of a powerful conspiracy, to frustrate the prospect of an Irish peace." A strong article on the subject in The Nineteenth Century frankly admits that in the eyes of thinkers both on the Continent of Europe and throughout the United States the idea is getting fixed that England's lofty pretensions, so loudly and repeatedly proclaimed, during the great World War, were those of a hypocrite. And it confesses that the repressive Government being practised upon the Irish people is proving as futile as was the tyranny of the Russian Czars.

IRISH INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION

A Commission of Inquiry into Ireland's Resources and Industries was recently formed in Dublin, by representatives of various political ways of thought,—people who, though differing upon the matter of Ireland's political freedom, are practical men who believe, anyhow, that she should work out her own commercial freedom. The Commission has earned the hostility of the British Government which is using all of its powers in Ireland to squelch it. Irish trade must be kept in English hands. The Commission comprising the most practical and efficient men who could be got to devote their time to the work has been for a couple of months daily in session accumulating information and data. No reports published by the Commission have been allowed to see the light and active interference has been rendered by the Military. The County Council at Monaghan, anxious for the working of some valuable mineral deposits in the County, invited a deputation from the Commission to be present at a specially convened meeting of the County Council, the purpose of the meeting was to take place was occupied in advance by armed soldiers and police, and the County Council was prevented from meeting, and taking advice from the Dublin delegates. Such action as this shows the world, better than volumes on the subject could show it, the shameless rapacity of England in her determination to keep forever her stranglehold on Irish trade or else stifle all development if she can not reap the benefit.

Having concluded its private sessions the Commission began on 3rd Dec. to sit in public and a notable and remarkable scene took place. The Gallery was well filled with spectators conspicuous amongst whom was the head of the detective department, ready to report in the slightest symptoms of suspicion. The subject under discussion was the milk supply and a member of Sir Horace Plunkett's organization occupied much of the time giving evidence as to the ability of goats to cottagers. Next came the case of the Arran Islands giving information on the subject of the fisheries there and of the efforts to buy the islanders into the more prompt touch with the markets. As the Castle Sleuth sidled from the hall, a humorous youth in his rear might have been heard lifting a stave of the land league ballad of "The Peeler and the Goat."

DIRECT TRADE WITH AMERICA

The direct Dublin New York trade has, in the very short time since its establishment, developed so rapidly that the small steamship with which it started, are now being withdrawn, and a fleet of four steamships of five thousand tons each is being put on the route by the controlling Company, Moore and MacCormack. By this line Dublin merchants find themselves not only at the advantage of being in direct touch with American manufacturers and supply houses,—but also find that direct shipping to the port of Dublin is saving the freight charges such a material saving has rapidly stimulated support for the project, amongst all classes of merchants—and it has, furthermore, begotten in them the desire to back other direct lines of trade between Dublin and Continental countries. The edge of the wedge is now finally inserted. And the wall of brass, which England, through centuries, built up around commercial Ireland, may, before long, show a very useful gap broken through it.

IRISH COAL

In order to find whether Ireland could not supply herself with coal instead of importing, as she does, four and one-half million tons per year, there was formed an Irish Industrial Coal Commission, some time ago. Their chief engineer, Mr. E. St. John Leyburne, after a long and careful survey of the Irish coalfields—those that have been more or less worked—reports that the bed at Ballycastle, County Antrim, contains 13,700,000 tons of coal, the Tyrone coal bed 97,110,000 tons, and the Leinster anthracite bed 152,000,000 tons. For so far no figures have been forthcoming regarding the very extensive Arigna (County Leitrim) deposits, lignite or wood coal. Enterprises are now trying to effect a development of these rich coalfields. The most forward efforts are in Leinster where up-to-date plants are being imported for the working of the fields—lines of railways are being extended to them, and houses being built for the accommodation of miners and their families. The reports indicate that the Irish coalfield can not, in wealth, remotely compare with the English coalfields, yet they are rich enough to be of material aid in Ireland's industrial advancement for some generations to come.

SEUMAS MACMANUS
Of Donegal.

The mouth is the business-office of the soul and the tongue is the agent of the heart.

Never lose sight of the frailty of human nature, and you will never be overbearing in your dealings with others.

THE POPE'S CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

NO PEACE WITHOUT ORDER—NO ORDER WITHOUT THE DOMINION OF GOD

Associated Press Despatch
Rome, Dec. 25.—All of the Cardinals present in Rome, the Patriarchs, Archbishops and Ecclesiastical Lay Courts gathered at the Vatican yesterday to present their Christmas greetings to Pope Benedict. Cardinal Vanutelli, Dean of the Sacred College, who headed the visitors, delivered a short address, voicing the sentiments of his colleagues and himself. The Pope replied, returning the greetings and recalling the urgent necessity for aiding the poor children of war victims.

"The necessity for faith," said the Pope, "is demonstrated by the inactivity of the efforts of those who vainly try to give mankind peace and welfare, forgetting or ignoring God. Peace cannot be obtained by the individual and by mankind if there is not order in both. There is no order without an acknowledgment of the dominion of God over His creatures."

LOVE OF NEIGHBOR ESSENTIAL

"Order also requires a mastery of spirit over matter and a practical, sincere love of man for his neighbor. At present there cannot be true peace, because order has been subverted by individualism and by mankind. The moral miseries due to the war are being exploited by those who watch every opportunity to affect moral order."

"Today the spirit of independence has invaded all minds and leads them to rebellion. Today there is no shame in seeking amusements amidst the griefs and sorrows of others, and there is no limit to the dissipation of wealth and the drying up of the sources thereof. All this shows that modern society has attempted to set itself above God, passing from liberty to tolerance, from tolerance to division, from division to conflict, and to ostracism of God."

"Therefore, forgetfulness of the supernatural and the triumph of the natural have led individuals to egotism, and society to revolution and anarchy."

PEACE WILL TRIUMPH

Continuing, the Pope said that he did not despair, as all these evils could be obviated by faith, through which order would be re-established and peace would triumph. He urged upon the faithful "prayer and obedience to human and divine laws, not to ostracize God in public documents, in the schools, in law courts or public assemblies, as God is Lord not only of individuals, but also of nations."

"A lasting true peace must be based on just alliances among the peoples, while vanquished nations must be condemned to suffer equitable penalties, but not destruction," he said.

TO "EVANGELIZE" CUBA BY LEGISLATION

PURITANICAL INTERMEDDLERS HAVE A "DUTY TO INTERVENE"

From N. Y. Times News Column

The Rev. Dr. Guy S. Inman yesterday appealed to the Interchurch World Movement to enlist church organizations in a campaign to prevent those who want to drink and gamble finding a southern way out.

"A definite attempt is being made to make Cuba, particularly Havana, the Monte Carlo of the western world," he said. "The winter season in Cuba generally is gay, but this year efforts will be made to add new 'attractions.' Horse racing and other forms of gambling, and worse, will go to full blast."

"As Christians we cannot get away from our duty to intervene. Home mission boards of the churches of the United States must act at once to set up an evangelical center in Havana to combat the evil. The better element of the island recognizes the dangers of the winter season as planned, and English-speaking residents are ready to contribute \$100,000 to start a counter movement."

Mr. Leopold Delz, Cuban Consul-General, denied that the island was becoming a Monte Carlo. He said no plans were on foot to legalize roulette or other games that feature the Monaco resort.

"Racing is attracting many Americans to Havana this season as usual," he said. "There is betting on the horses, as there is in New York, with the difference that in Cuba the Government protects the bettors, while in New York the man who wins has no redress if the persons with whom he wagers falls to pay. It is legal in Cuba to buy a cocktail. In New York, according to the papers, you sometimes can buy a drink, but it is not legal."

"I have never heard of English-speaking residents of Cuba objecting to racing and cocktails. If they should raise a fund in this connection, it would probably be for more of the same."

THE CRUSADE AGAINST CUBA

N. Y. Times Editorial

Twenty-odd years ago a great many Americans went to Cuba to fight for liberty against European tyranny. It would be a strange reversal if next year should see European volunteers setting sail for Cuba to fight, whether by machine guns or by argument and propaganda, against American tyranny. Yet it may be.

And if it is, credit will be due to the Rev. Dr. Samuel Guy Inman, whose ingenious faith in the purity of all who agree with him, and pious certainty of the corruption of those who hold other views, were lately made clear by his testimony before a Senate committee on conditions in Mexico. Dr. Inman is sure that intervention in Mexico would be a crime, but intervention in Cuba is a different matter.

"A definite attempt is being made," he tells us, "to make Havana the Monte Carlo of the Western world. As Christians we cannot get away from our duty to intervene." To be sure, his intervention would apparently take the form of "setting up an evangelical center in Havana to combat this evil," but if Cuba and its visitors were deaf to argument from the evangelical center, would our moral forces accept their defeat?

Americans who have their own ideas about pleasure have been driven to amuse themselves in Havana, outside of American jurisdiction. The American reformers who drove them out, however, do not regard their duty as discharged; they are responsible for the souls of all Americans, even in foreign parts, and it is their duty to follow them up and make sure that they cannot amuse themselves anywhere on earth. To foreigners this notion is doubtless too laughable to be regarded seriously; but Americans who know the strength of puritanism in this country will not be so irreverent. Hard days seem to be ahead for Cuba.

FATUOUS AND FUTILE

MR. ASQUITH ON "COERCION UNVEILED AND UNASHAMED" IN IRELAND

Mr. Asquith showed a fearless quality at Birmingham National Liberal Federation meeting. There were matters (he said) most vital, because fundamental Liberal principles were at stake. First, the case of Ireland. Nothing could be more fatuous and futile than the way in which the Coalition had dealt with Ireland in the last two years. While extending liberty to other European nationalities, we had sustained the unexampled humiliation of witnessing—at our own doors our fellow subjects in Ireland made the victims of a tragedy—of a crude and clumsily administered system of military law. When Liberals were officially informed that a Government committee with a strong infusion of Ulster Covenanters was hammering out a still undisclosed scheme, their almost exhausted faculty of astonishment and humiliation received another shock in the announcement made of the proclamation of Sinn Fein.

In a word, we were back to the worst days of coercion unveiled and unashamed: what a letter of introduction to the new Home Rule Bill! By whom was this done? It was done by a Liberal Prime Minister, by a Liberal Chief Secretary, by a Liberal Home Secretary, in a Cabinet of three out of five of which were so-called Liberals, and one who was born to wheel the perambulator of this new bantling was a Liberal also. "I speak strongly upon this matter," Mr. Asquith continued. "If the Liberal Party is going to condone this betrayal of their best traditions, they will deserve the disaster which will certainly be their doom."—Glasgow Observer.

TRIBUTE TO IRISH CATHOLIC GOODWILL

Replying to a resolution welcoming him to the Diocese, Dr. Plunket, Protestant Bishop of Meath, addressing the Diocesan Synod, said he had found it very hard to leave the Diocese of Tuam and the kindly people of the West. Never would he forget the kindness and devotion of the clergy of Tuam, nor the many tokens of goodwill shown towards him by his Catholic fellow-countrymen in Connaught.

I had no answer to make to those words of Thine to me, "Awake, thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ will enlighten thee." I, who was convinced of the truth, had nothing whatever to answer. These, everywhere showing Thyself to speak true things, except slow words and sleepy words. "Anon, anon." "Presently." Leave me alone for a little while." But presently, presently, had no present, and my little while went on for a long while.—St. Augustine.

CATHOLIC NOTES

The Mercy Hospital, conducted at Pittsburgh by the Sisters of Mercy, will receive \$5,000,000 from the estate of the late Henry Clay Frick, according to the terms of the will made public last week.

When first discovered by Father Marquette, the Mississippi River was named "The River of our Good Mother," the Blessed Virgin. The Hudson River was first named "Rio San Antonio," in honor of St. Anthony.

For the first time in history Mass was celebrated in historic Faneuil Hall, Boston, when Rev. J. W. Cullane, of the Holy Cross Cathedral, conducted services for the Catholic members of the state guard policing Boston.

On the western shore of Lake Victoria, in Stanley's darkest Africa, is now a church in which, on every Sunday, are said three Masses attended by about 850 men and 900 women, and coming from distances of from 3 to 20 miles.

Western Colorado Catholics and Protestants are organizing to bring a great national Catholic pilgrimage to the Mount of the Holy Cross—on which the Holy Cross is marked by nature. The Mount of the Holy Cross is 14,176 feet above sea level, in the midst of the most picturesque section of Colorado.

Things are advancing quickly for the Catholics of Switzerland. After thirty-three years of persecution, Catholics now enjoy all their rights. Indeed, a Catholic is a member of the Council of State; a Catholic is vice president of the National Council; a Catholic has for some time exercised functions analogous to that of mayor, at Geneva.

The Holy Father has founded a college with the object of providing the Coptic Church with properly trained ecclesiastics. The new institute will be installed in a building at the back of the Vatican Basilica, near the Church of St. Stephen of the Moors or Abyssinians. The students will be mostly Abyssinians from the Italian Red Sea colonies, and will be under the care of the Capuchin Fathers, whose great predecessor, Cardinal Massani, has been rightly called "The Apostle of Abyssinia."

The first Secretary of the Japanese Embassy, M. Shinosh, was recently received into the Catholic Church by Father Tacchi-Venturi, S. J. Mgr. Ceretti, Archbishop of Corinth, administered the Sacrament of Confirmation. Among those present was Captain Yamamoto, well known in Catholic circles in London, when he was Naval Attaché at the Japanese Embassy, at present in Rome on special mission regarding the Catholic Church in the islands recently come under Japanese control.

That the State has duties to us as well as we to the State is being recognized by at least one department in England. In the debate on the consolidated funds bill in the house the other day, the Minister for Education, Mr. Fisher, announced that, as there were thousands of Catholic children receiving a good education in Catholic schools throughout the country, he had come to the conclusion that Catholic elementary schools should have a grant and should receive the same assistance as other schools.

London, November 21.—On Friday last the four famous bronze horses of the Duomo of Venice, San Marco, which were removed during the War to a place of safety, were restored to their original position over the great entrance to the Cathedral. The work was accomplished with the aid of the electric hoisting apparatus from the arsenal. The actual placing of the horses in position occupied twenty minutes, and their reappearance was acclaimed by an immense crowd, which filled the Piazza and overflowed into boats on the Grand Canal alongside.

Dom Leonard Sargent, a former Protestant Episcopal clergyman, but since his conversion to Catholicism several years ago a Benedictine monk attached to Downside Abbey, Somerset, England, has returned to the United States to establish a Benedictine priory. Dom Sargent spent several years at Westminster, Md., as a member of the Protestant Episcopal Order of the Holy Cross, and later became master of novices of this order. He was received into the Catholic Church in New York, and after his reception began his studies for the Catholic priesthood.

One of the high chiefs of Kivon, in the African Congo, has decided to become a Catholic. He is the Sultan Nya-Gesi. About forty years old, intelligent and energetic, he has for a long time been observing the work of the missionaries. That he appreciated their talents he early showed by entrusting to the priests the education of his eldest son and successor. When one of his smaller children fell sick, he sent for a Father and had the little one baptized before death. This good disposition doubtless resulted in his own salvation. He finally overcame the obstacles that had prevented him from taking the decisive step. He must, however, submit to a four-year's trial before he can receive baptism.