

# The Catholic Register.

"Truth is Catholic; proclaim it ever, and God will effect the rest."—BALMEZ.

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## Current Topics.

**President Kruger**  
The Boer executive offices in a railway car, which is shunted on a switch at Machodors station where a Daily Express Correspondent was granted an interview.

"Yes," said President Kruger, "It is quite true that the British have occupied Tretoria. This, however, does not end the war. The burghers are fully determined to fight to the last. They will never surrender so long as one armed man remain in the country. I feel deeply encouraged by the fine work Steyn and DeWet are doing in the Free State." The correspondent suggested that the war was over, inasmuch as the capital had been taken. "The capital," exclaimed Mr. Kruger, with energy, "what is a capital? It does not consist of any particular collection of bricks and mortar. The capital of the Republic, the seat of Government, is here in this car. There is no magic about any special site. Our country is invaded, it is true, but it is not conquered. The Government is still effective."

Secretary Reitz, was also present at the interview and remarked that the war was not yet over. Guerrilla warfare is to be continued over an enormous area, and both Mr. Kruger and his chief claimed that the real struggle had only begun. They expressed regret that their still would be much bloodshed but of course blamed the British authorities for it.

From Lord Roberts' last much news has been received. He no doubt is resting a good portion of his army after the heavy work they had previously to entering Pretoria.

The Boers have destroyed twenty-one miles of railway between America Siding and Rodeval, and it is feared Gen. Roberts on account of his rapid movements has not supplies enough with him if communication and transportation should be interrupted for any length of time. Another battalion, the Derbyshire, has been entirely lost, between 600 and 700 men all but six have been either killed, wounded or made prisoners.

Gen. Buller is still in the vicinity of, Laing's Nek, and in last despatch he tells of an encounter with about 8000 Boers by which he had six killed and about seven wounded.

Another despatch from Gen. Forester-Walker says Gen. Methuen was fighting within 10 miles of Hellbroon on June 8. It follows:

"Cape Town, June 10 Sunday.—Kenny reports from Bloemfontein this morning that Methuen, with greater part of his division, was fighting early in the morning of June 8, 10 miles south of Hellbroon, where Colville is reported to be with the Highland Brigade. Methuen left Lindley June 6 with ample supplies for himself and Colville, leaving Paget to hold Lindley with a sufficient force and supplies.

"Kolly Kenny has ordered Knox to press in the enemy's outposts, believing the enemy's strength to be exaggerated. "All is quiet and there is no anxiety as regards the district to the south. Communications north of Kroonstad have been cut since June 6.

The Militia Department at Ottawa has recently moved another batch of letters which contain high praise for the work done by Canadians in South Africa. The Red Cross work by the Canadians received particular mention by Lord Roberts and Gen. Methuen. Lord Roberts says that had it not been for the exertions of the Mayor of Kimberley in providing accommodation, the kindness of the sisters at the Nazareth Home and the Roman Catholic community, and the energy and zeal of Lieut. Col. Byrson, M.D., and the Canadian Red Cross Society, the condition of the sick and wounded would have been different from what I found it on my visit there last month.

The total death roll received up to date is: First Contingent—Died from disease, 20; killed, 29; died from wounds, 11. C.M.R.—Died from disease, 6; Canadian Artillery, died 4; Strathcona Horse, died, 2; Canadian killed in Imperial Service, 6. Total 77.

A man can enjoy no better gift than the love of a good woman.

It seems a pity that the bridegroom is never the best man at his own wedding.

According to the latest discovery of science you should never kiss a man on the top of his head; it will make him bald.

## Some Recent Conversions to Catholicism in Quebec.

At this present time it would seem that the coming of spiritual unrest pervades the whole world lying outside the sacred enclosure of the Catholic faith. To the sincere reflective seeker after truth this seems natural, logical and reasonable for it is within the true yearnings, and the deep-rooted desires of the human heart can be fully satisfied.

This is the testimony of thousands who have sought within the Church's infallible pale the eternal truths which alone can set at rest the misgivings, conflicting thoughts, and spiritual tortures which harassed them in the error of denunciations. It is a fact confirmed by the experience of mankind that the human mind instinctively yearns for the truth, and how much the reasoning faculties may be belittled or weakened by the influence of erroneous teachings and the propagation of false doctrines. People of even the weakest intelligence have a glimmering idea that it must inevitably be so in all things.

If over-learned individual justly denounce the false hold exhibited by a person who, while speaking of an enemy would hold the very opposite, for the same good reason every one who decries that indifference to which affirms that one religion is the same, or as good, as another, which is tantamount to saying that although contradictory doctrines are taught the faith is one and the same, and that God, who is Truth itself, affirms, and denies, that He teaches truth and falsehood. The acceptance of such a belief would be monstrous and absurd. Hence every sane creature who is endowed with right reasoning powers must be misled by the fact that all religions are good, the inevitable logic of faith and reason clinched by Divine revelation makes it certain beyond dispute that there is but one true and saving Church, that she is one, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic, and that her teaching reaches to the furthest limits of the world, that she is the selfsame that has existed since the time of the Apostles, by whom she has been transmitted in unbroken line to us through the sacred records of Peter, and that she goes on teaching, generating, directing, uplifting and saving all who adhere to her sacred doctrines and faithfully obey her laws and commands. This is her divine mission, and her sphere of operation extends to all lands and creatures.

The promise of the Apostles who still lives in his legitimate successors, received his credentials and executive authority from the hands of the Redeemer Himself, hence the validity of the one true Church's claim when she reserves to herself the right and authority to gather into her saving fold all truly baptized Christians and all peoples and nations who sincerely seek for salvation.

But, to return to our opening text, we are happy to be able to assert that many conversions have been received this present year into the Holy Mother Church by the zealous Redemptorist Fathers at St. Patrick's Que. We single out one exemplary convert in the person of Mrs. Jas. D. Hester, who was induced by conscientious reasoning to embrace the religion of his forefathers and to ask for admittance into the Catholic Church, into whose fold he was received on the 24th of May just passed.

The new convert, the husband of Mrs. Desjardins, who recently belonged to St. Joseph's parish, Montreal. The union, despite difference in religious views, was a happy one, but whether or not, Mr. Hester was favorably impressed with his wife's devotedness to religious duties as a practical Catholic, there came a serious change over him in regard to his views of religion in general, and of the special claims of the Catholic Church in particular. The deep conviction fastened upon his mind that there is but one true Church, and that the vital problem must be worked out in this life, time being given to us for that end alone. He had evidently received new light, it is not an inspiration on the all-important subject and he regards the question of saving merits of the different roads in the field, all pretend to be same guides in leading along the spiritual road that leads from time to eternity.

He studied the matter in all its bearings, and the deeper he pondered the clearer he saw the spiritual helplessness of the heretical creeds that have not the Apostolic stamp upon them, and with this right conviction in his mind he did not hesitate to request admittance to the Catholic fold. He was at once placed under the care of Rev. Father Bonia, C.S.S.R. a fervent and zealous priest of St. Patrick's staff, who fully instructed him in the Catholic doctrine, and was formally received into the church on the date above given Mr. Hester, who fully installed felt that inexpressible feeling of spiritual sweetness which he had never tasted before, and which cannot be experienced outside the Church. The great saving church has been divinely instituted, and constituted to direct man's steps aright on the way to heaven.

Since the work of conversion is the fruit of the Holy Ghost, the faithful should have a plain understanding of their obligations in the matter, and the great care they may take in the conversion of infidels and heretics, who are well-meaning and upright but who are wrestling with the uncertainties of

false worship and doubtful doctrines. It is clearly to warn a wayfarer of a precipice that stands in his path, the woeless atmosphere. The faithful ally can aid the church in her silent work of evangelization in many ways; they can at least supplicate and pray the Father of light to dispel the darkness of error from the minds of those who have not the good fortune to be in the sunshine of divine light and truth; they can practice the virtue of sympathetic charity in their intercourse with those of their fellow citizens who may have need of friendly help in their spiritual journey; they can, in case of occasion or misfortune, and, above all, they can hold out the beacon light of good example and upright conduct to wanderers, who may be in good faith, but yet need practical assistance to come back to the fold.

The privileged year of Jubilee is one of glad, some rejoicings to the church, from the venerable Pontiff down to the very humblest member of the universal fold there is rejoicing that Catholicity is being steadily made in Catholic populations, and the beneficent sway of the Catholic Church government is being more freely recognized by the civil governments of the world. In the United States of America, and throughout the continent, especially in the upper ranks, are yearly being added to the true faith. In the dense populations, where the spirit of intelligence has not penetrated, the gains to the church are less favorable. In such places, prejudice and bigotry will in due course of time vanish before the enlightenment of Christian truth and the church will get back her own.

This forecast may seem to some thinkers to be no auguring, as history teaches that prejudice and bigotry die hard, but on the other hand we know the trials the true faith has encountered and the victories it has won, in the past nineteen hundred years, and with these facts in mind we are willing to hope for great things for the church in the coming generations. At any rate we can foresee that however fierce the conflicts, storms, battles or whatever impediments stand in the way of religion progress the greater will be the triumph. The annual deliverance uttered by the head of such a great Banking concern as the one under consideration, is looked forward to and read with deep interest by the active business men of the world, and is regarded as an accurate financial barometer.

## The Bank of Montreal.

The general manager of the Bank of Montreal in his address at the annual meeting of the shareholders, a report of which will be found on another page sounding a note of warning. "For the coming year," he says, "there are some indications of a recession. Stocks in the merchants' hands are too large, and in some districts collections are disappointing." This is a matter well worthy the attention of merchants, while it is the only note of doubt in the report of the meeting.

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The Hon. G. A. Drummond, the vice-president, in his address gives a clear practical summary of the present conditions in the Dominion, and well chosen words he announced that the outlook of the prosperity "so well evidenced" in all parts of Canada.

Since 1884 the banks rest or reserve of \$8,000,000 (as against a capital of \$12,000,000) had stood unchanged, and while providing for the above indications, it was decided at the meeting to add one million dollars to the rest, accumulated profits providing for the foregoing and still carrying a handsome amount to the profit and loss account. The report of the shareholders and to the public in general as an interesting review of the business outlook of the Dominion and that of the greatest financial institution on the American continent.

## The Dominion Bank.

We published last week the report of the 29th annual meeting of the stock holders of this bank and the following though in type, was inadvertently caused to stand aside.

"It is stated that this was but the report of the 20th annual meeting of the stock holders of the Dominion Bank. The report is remarkable for its concise brevity and is literally mutum in parvo. Very feeling allusions were made to the late manager, and that of Mr. E. Leadley a director. Mr. T. G. Brough who for 25 years has been in the service of the bank is Mr. Gamble's successor, and Mr. T. Eaton succeeds Mr. Leadley. We regret having to notice the absence of the venerable President Hon. Sir James Smith, owing to failing health. The Vice President, Mr. E. B. Osler, M.P., presided and spoke very hopefully of the future prospects of this very popular institution fully displaying its capabilities with increased capital and its extended sphere of usefulness.

The financial statement is exceptionally good, the reserve fund being increased from \$1,450,000 to \$1,500,000.

The coming man is usually the one who holds your promissory note. The reproaches of a true friend are always just and not too frequent.

## Bigotry Small Call for Charity.

Despite their intolerant spirit and hostile utterances, Catholics should exercise large charity toward those who are a part of the household of the faith. We ought in fancy to put ourselves in their place and realize the anti-Catholic environment in which the vast majority of them have indeed, no small stock of patience to listen with equanimity to the outrageous slanders which such people believe and propagate, but when we stop to consider that from infancy to age they have been fed upon this religious poison of falsehood, we should view their speeches rather in pity than in anger and content ourselves, both by the example of our lives and the exposition of Catholic doctrine, in trying to remove the scales from their eyes.

As a general thing, men and women are largely creatures of their surroundings and when we remember the hostile influences which have early and continually poisoned the minds of our non-Catholic fellow-citizens against the Church, her priesthood and her faithful laity, we are not darker and their prejudices deeper than they are. In the nursery, in the school-room, in the sermons they hear, in the lectures they listen to, in the books, pamphlets and newspapers they read, in the conversations they cultivate in the social life in which they live, move and have their being, those anti-Catholic influences are at work; and the deluded victims of such misrepresentation, the while had never had an opportunity to be enlightened of the Church and her veritable teachings.

The Catholic Church which non-Catholics have been taught to hold in abhorrence is a myth—has no existence and never had. They have been taught to regard her as the source and centre of every abomination; the foe of all progress and culture, who reigns on a throne of darkness, who reduces her subjects to shackled slaves, crushes every noble aspiration and who grows drunk upon the blood of the wise. Such is the monstrous guise in which the Church has been pictured to the non-Catholic imagination. Is it any wonder that she should be so generally regarded as the cause of every evil, and should be regarded with suspicion; that her religious orders, of either sex, should be maligned and their highest motives questioned; and that the manifold services which the Church, through her institutions, has rendered to humanity and society should be minimized and denied?

In rectifying those false ideas every well-instructed Catholic—man, woman and child—can help, and it is the duty of the intelligent Catholic domestic may be especially effective. Many an important conversion can be traced to her edifying life and the satisfying answers she gave to her enquiring employers. In this mission, Catholicism through its institutions, plays a conspicuous part; and herein appears the necessity of supporting our Catholic Truth Publication Societies because of their pertinence to the wants of the especially the non-Catholic.

Through the mission kindly Light of Illuminatio many a wanderer's path and the grace of the Holy Ghost change many a persecuting Saul into the ardent Paul. Many of the most remarkable converts in this and other lands have been the result of the work of the Society, which is often a mark of intense earnestness. But when the scales fall from their eyes and they perceive the beauty and glory of the Church, their souls are able to bring all men to the knowledge and possession of the same saving faith, and blessings they themselves enjoy.—Union and Times.

## Sordid Commercialism and the War.

The Rev. Lord William Cecil, Rector of Hatfield, son of Lord Salisbury, does not seem to be quite satisfied at some of the incidents of sordid commercialism in connection with the South African war as altogether Christian. Preaching in the Chapel of Gray's Inn on Sunday May 20th, before the Australian delegates, he expressed the opinion that prevalent throughout the country was dangerous. "The outbreak was evil," he said, "in so far as it was the same spirit which animated the Roman crowd which sat round the Colosseum while the gladiators pursued each other." Unfortunately, however, this war has been largely undertaken in the interests of goldseekers. The reverend gentleman, however, cannot disguise from himself the fundamental fact in the situation: "Sordid commercialism," he declared, "is not only contaminating the Empire, but the whole of Western civilization." That is to say, Lord Salisbury's son holds that this war is simply and solely the result of this "sordid commercialism."

And he actually says so in the presence of the Australian delegates. What an unchristian child.—Freeman's Journal.

## Third Promise of Our Lord to Blessed Margaret Mary.

I will comfort them in all their afflictions." Affliction or sorrow in some of its guises is the ordinary portion of all men. It is the salt which colours all the events of life and could we view things rightly) gives them the necessary qualities to prove nourishing to our souls.

Suffering is one of the consequences of sin, and affects all men—those who lead a life of faith as well as those who pass a merely natural existence—but how different are the effects on these two classes. Disappointed hopes, temporal losses and sufferings are ever secretly gnawing at the heart-strings of him who tries to silence in business, pleasure or the vain pursuit of knowledge the thought of death and moral responsibility. To the man of faith, affliction is a special mark of God's love, for "whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth." By suffering, the individual is forced to turn earnestly affectionately toward his Father, who through the merits of his blood and moral responsibility. To the man of faith, affliction is a special mark of God's love, for "whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth." By suffering, the individual is forced to turn earnestly affectionately toward his Father, who through the merits of his blood and moral responsibility.

There is one source exempt from our merciful Father's proportion of sorrows to our strength, never giving to anyone a burden too great to bear. It is true that in the moment of suffering one usually finds his Divine Father accompanied by the peculiar circumstances which render it all so can endure, but when the sharpness of the pain has passed away it is realized that it would have been much harder to bear had even one condition been slightly altered.

## Signs of the Cross.

The various forms of the cross in early and medieval times were very numerous. Justin Martyr says: "The sign of the cross is impressed upon the whole of nature. . . . It forms part of man himself when he raises his hands in prayer.

It may be interesting to notice the occurrence of the symbol of Christian faith among the prehistoric remains of the Western Hemisphere, says a writer in the Saturday Review.

On the island of Cuzco, in the Caribbees, a large cross attracted the attention of early navigators and explorers. Among the massive ruins of Yucatan its occurrence is noted at many places. The temple of the Cross, at Palmyra, offers a remarkable illustration. This tablet of the cross which adorned the sanctuary was a beautiful work of art. Part of it is now in the National Museum, Washington. At Opan a statue in the shape of a cup has been discovered at a crucifix cross, and still another in Paraguay.

The question has been asked whether the cross has been found among the works of the Mound Builders. I mention the discovery of a crucifix in a western mound, in a creek county, West Virginia, an earthen mound was disturbed some years ago, and among its contents was a crucifix—the cross of iron greatly oxidized; the figure of bright metal, supposed to be Corinthian gold, dimensions of the cross, by it have departed greatly from the usual course of a young man serving his wild course. Even as a student at Dublin University, where he obtained his degree by special favor, his life does not appear to have been above reproach, though there is nothing to show that he was vicious, or even that he had any quarrel with his mother in Leicester-shire. While there he beguiled the time by making love to a neighbor's daughter. There was, perhaps, no great harm done in this instance as he was a young man, but when he went to London he married an innkeeper at Loughborough, and became Mrs. Perkins of the "George."

It was in 1895 when 28 years of age that Swift fell in love with a Miss Jane Waring, the sister of a college companion, who is said to have had a long career in the destination of logical studies and open contempt for constituted authority. This affair lasted over four years, during which period he managed to attach another string to his bow in the person of Esther Johnson, to Stella. Swift was wont to pride himself on his coldness of temperament, but a passionate letter which he wrote to Miss Waring under the fanciful name of Varina, shows that all at least had the power to stir him out of his affected security. In this letter, wonderful to relate—the proposed marriage as "a just and honorable action, which would furnish health to her and unspeakable happiness to both." From which one would infer that Swift was married. The lady, however, showed no immediate disposition to accept the proposal, and though the affair lingered on, Swift consoled himself with the smiles of Stella. In 1700 Miss Waring complained of his increasing coldness and probably had some serious attention to another woman. In reply he wrote her an insulting letter so couched as to put an end to all correspondence between them—which it did.

"Do off with the old love, before you are on with the new" is a Swift had been so deeply attached to Stella, before he gave the quietus to Varina's laggard aspirations and in the former, though loth to acknowledge it he had met his fate. Judging from the anonymous description of her, Stella must have been quite a divinity, and probably the

## Fact or Fancy.

Men and Women.

No. 22.

Love is an inexhaustible subject. It has occupied the mind and heart of man from the creation. Volume no doubt were wasted on the subject before the art of writing, narrowly so called, was known. It may be presumed with a tolerable degree of certainty that love led to and evoked the art of writing, for old when the world was young. We can readily imagine the prehistoric swain making his first advance to his mistress by signs or characters writ of tree or sand which he in turn would interpret and answer, character by character, for we may be sure that copyist is ever willing to screen itself behind the bushes—and bushes—of maiden bashfulness. But since the art of writing and later the art of printing was known love was a prime subject with the poet, romancer, the philosopher and theologian. In consequence we have libraries filled with books devoted to this subject and yet there remains, apparently, as much or more to be written.

There is one source exempt from our merciful Father's proportion of sorrows to our strength, never giving to anyone a burden too great to bear. It is true that in the moment of suffering one usually finds his Divine Father accompanied by the peculiar circumstances which render it all so can endure, but when the sharpness of the pain has passed away it is realized that it would have been much harder to bear had even one condition been slightly altered.

In considering Dean Swift as a lover he must be classed as an idealist of the most extravagant type. As a lover his biography observes, he was "a good man, a simple and desirous to make a mode of happiness for himself different from the general course of things and order of providence, and he carried this singularity into his love affairs most unfortunately." What is a lover? It is easier to be perfect or to be a great man than to be a lover. It is difficult, except on the assumption that his insanity first declared itself in his relations with them, to account for his strange treatment of two worthy women, won by his marks, and who gave prizes in an attachment for his person, which nothing but their melancholy deaths could terminate. It has become the fashion to call a certain inexplicable relationship that prevails temporarily between members of the opposite sexes a Platonic attachment, or possibly a Platonic friendship, or possibly a Platonic marriage upon an unwise philosophy than a just recognition of nature's laws. Swift's attitude to Stella comes nearest to the nature of a Platonic attachment, but it is not a secret marriage with his victim, hardly acknowledged that the philosophy was all on his side, the love on the side of Stella. But it were wiser to begin at the beginning rather than moralize on the pitiable end of the Dean's love troubles.

Stella was the only woman whom the intellectual, but very respectable, old maid felt warmly towards more than one woman, and indeed, seems not to have departed greatly from the usual course of a young man serving his wild course. Even as a student at Dublin University, where he obtained his degree by special favor, his life does not appear to have been above reproach, though there is nothing to show that he was vicious, or even that he had any quarrel with his mother in Leicester-shire. While there he beguiled the time by making love to a neighbor's daughter. There was, perhaps, no great harm done in this instance as he was a young man, but when he went to London he married an innkeeper at Loughborough, and became Mrs. Perkins of the "George."

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