

pastor as a spiritual judge was bound to give judgments on men and things which could only be varied in the higher courts of the Kirk. In other words, Presbyterianism gave to the parish minister an uncontrolled power of excommunication such as the Canon Law had never permitted to the parish priest in pre-Reformation days. So much as to the "relief from serfdom," which Dr. Taylor epitomizes as one of the paramount achievements of John Knox and the Scottish Reformation.

HERE is another picture of the "liberty" of the time. In the "Memoirs of Lochiel" we read: "Every parish had a tyrant, who made the greatest lord in the district stoop to his authority. The Kirk was the place where he kept his court; the pulpit his throne or tribunal from whence he issued out his terrible decrees; and twelve or fourteen sour, ignorant enthusiasts, under the title of elders, composed his council. If any, of what quality soever, had the assurance to disobey his orders, the dreadful sentence of excommunication was immediately thundered out against him, his goods and chattels confiscated and seized, and he himself being looked upon as actually in the possession of the devil and irretrievably doomed to eternal perdition."

OR THIS: Lord Cockburn, in his Life of Jeffrey, tells us that so late as the year 1794 "there was then in Scotland no popular representation, no emancipated burghs, no effective rival of the Established Church, no independent press, no free public meetings, and no better trial by jury, even in political cases (except high treason), than what was consistent with the circumstances; that the jurors were not sent into court under any impartial rule, and that when in court those who were to try the case were named by the presiding judge." In view of which and of the all pervading tyranny of the Kirk, Buckle, the historian of Civilization in England, remarks of the ruling powers of the said Kirk in the eighteenth century that they "displayed a littleness of mind, an illiberality of sentiment, a heat of temper, and a love of persecuting others, which shows that the Protestantism of which they boasted had done them no good, and that it had been unable to free them from the prejudices which made them the laughing-stock of Europe, and which had turned the very name of the Scotch Kirk into a byword and reproach among educated men." Is this the "democracy" which Dr. Taylor claims to have reigned supreme in Scotland for three hundred years?

WITNESSES of this kind might be multiplied interminably, but we set out only with the object of showing that the customary Presbyterian St. Andrew's Day oration is but a tissue of the veriest fables, and have no desire to go beyond what the occasion in hand calls for. With one more witness, therefore, we have done. James McLaren Cobban, who has written an interesting romance illustrative of the time of the Covenanters, entitled "The Angel of the Covenant," puts into the mouth of his heroine this association: "I dare aver that of all the tyrannies I have ever read or heard of or seen, whether civil or ecclesiastical, the tyranny of the Reformed Kirk of Scotland has been from the beginning, and is up till now, the most constant, grinding and intolerable." And this to candid students of the history of the last three hundred years will be found to be a true as well as a moderately drawn picture.

IRISH SOLDIERS AMONGST THE "BRITISH BORN"

The Editor, CATHOLIC RECORD:—The following figures may be of some interest to your readers. They are compiled from the Nominal Rolls of Over-Sea Battalions, which are issued with Military Orders. I have not the figures for the First Division, but we are probably justified in drawing the same conclusion as regards them, viz., that close to 5% of the Canadian Over-Sea Forces are of Irish birth. This would mean that about 18,000 of Irish birth have enlisted in Canada up to date.

The rolls of 37 infantry battalions, beginning with the 18th, were examined. There were 6 more than 2,000 Irishmen enrolled in these. Allowing for certain reinforcing drafts, these 37 battalions comprise some forty odd thousand. Two thousand and six form nearly 5%.

The proportion is about the same in the artillery and cavalry. Eight brigades of artillery, numbering nearly as many thousands, had 844

Irishmen. Out of some 2,000 Mounted Rifles (1st, 3rd, 9th) there were 92 whose birthplace was Ireland. Finally in the 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th University Companies, acting as reinforcements for the Princess Patricia's L.I., there were 50 from the Green Isle.

We have no means of ascertaining how many Canadian-born Irish descent are among the Over-Sea Forces. But certainly 10% should not be an extravagant estimate. A similar examination of the rolls of 5 infantry battalions, from British Columbia, Manitoba, Ontario, Quebec (not a French-Canadian Battalion) and New Brunswick, comprising with reinforcements some 6,000 men, shows 2,515 to be of Canadian birth. Four brigades of artillery have 1,494 Canadian-born, 3,492 enrolled. Hence native-born Canadians are probably about 40% of our forces. Certainly the native-born of Irish blood are one fourth of these.

Both Irish-Canadians and Irish-born Canadians are doing their duty. JOHN R. O'GORMAN, P.P. Cobalt, Dec. 14, 1916.

ON THE BATTLE LINE

VERDUN
The French have won a great victory on the Verdun front. Nivelle, who made his reputation in the defence of Verdun and in the recapture of the northern forts—Douaumont and Vaux—signaled his accession to the chief command by launching an attack upon the German lines north of Douaumont. The assault was made on a front of almost six miles, and the enemy's positions were captured to a depth of over three thousand yards. Already, according to the French official reports, 7,500 prisoners have been taken, with a number of heavy guns. When the ground won is cleared up much war material will undoubtedly be recovered, for in this region the Germans concentrated great quantities of munitions during the period when they still believed there was a possibility of capturing Verdun. The splendid victory puts the enemy on the east bank of the Meuse back almost to where he was when the first great attack on the city was launched on Feb. 22. First and last Verdun has been the grave of only one of the sons of the Crown Prince and von Falkenhayn, but of Germany's hopes of forcing France to accept a humiliating peace.

ABSOLUTE
A cheering bit of news comes from Mesopotamia. The British army under General Maude—the Major Maude of Rideau Hall in other and happier days—looked the offensive on Wednesday and Thursday along the Hai River, and points forward to the capture of Kut. While the Turkish positions about Samarra, on the north side of Tigris, were subjected to an effective bombardment, British forces operating on the south side of the Tigris moved west to the Hai River, which joins the parent stream at Kut, crossed the Hai, and secured positions on the west bank.

THE GRECIAN MUDDLE

The Government of Greece has yielded to the demand of the Allies that the Greek troops in Thessaly be withdrawn and demobilized, and that in Southern Greece only a relatively small number of troops shall be kept under arms. This demand, presented in the form of an ultimatum requiring that the removal of troops and war material from Thessaly should begin within twenty-four hours, was based on recent events at Athens, which in the opinion of the Allies proved that neither King Constantine nor the Greek Government had sufficient authority over the Greek army to prevent it from becoming a menace to the peace and security of the Allied armies in Macedonia.

The menace has been removed for the moment, but the Allies know that Constantine yields only because the Germans in Macedonia are not yet prepared to operate in co-operation with the Greek Royalist forces. The Allies will continue their blockade of the ports of Greece until adequate guarantees for the future are given. It is difficult to see how any guarantees of an adequate nature can be given which will leave at the disposal of King Constantine a well-equipped army amply supported with artillery and war munitions. The demobilization and disarming of the greater part of the Greek army is the only adequate solution of General Saclé's problem. The dethronement of King Constantine would be another good precautionary measure, but he seems to have friends in both London and Petrograd who have been able to save him from that penalty for his treachery.

IN ROMANIA

The situation in Roumania remains gloomy for the Russo-Romanian armies. In the face of the persistent advance of the Teutons, continued under most unfavorable weather conditions, the Roumanians have evacuated Buzau and are falling back toward the Moldavian frontier. Berlin states that 4,000 prisoners were captured on Thursday. In the Dobruja also the Russians and Roumanians are retreating. The Teutons are now somewhat less than fifty miles from the Roumanian Danubian ports of Braila and Galatz. It is doubtful if their drive can be checked before these cities, with their vast stores of grain, are reached and occupied. The effect of the

capture of Braila and Galatz would be most serious. Germany needs cereals more than anything else, and she would either secure a great haul in the Danubian ports or force the Roumanians to destroy the bulk of the crop harvested two months ago. —Globe, Dec. 16.

T. P. O'CONNOR'S LETTER

LLOYD GEORGE HAS ENTIRE CONFIDENCE OF COUNTRY

THE NEW PRIME MINISTER AND THE OLD
Special Cable to the CATHOLIC RECORD (Copyright 1916, Central News)

London, Dec. 16th.—Von Bethmann-Hollweg, the German Chancellor has unconsciously given Lloyd George the best possible introduction to the British public. In nearly every newspaper there appears an implied prayer of gratitude to Heaven that the Chancellor's attempt to make an inconclusive, and therefore a triumphant peace, is confronted by a Cabinet so small, united, and a Premier so vigorous and uncompromising as Lloyd George.

Not one British newspaper, even of the most ardent, liberal peace-loving character, has a single word to say in favor of Germany's peace proposals. The whole thing is regarded as a clever dodge to try and put England in a wrong light before the neutral nations and encourage the German populace. I think, therefore, the proposals will lead to nothing.

The first meeting of the House of Commons after the creation of the new Ministry, was not altogether pleasant. Very strong and bitter personal feelings still prevail among Sir Herbert Asquith's friends over the method in which his retirement was brought about. The straight Radicals also remain in an unforgiving mood toward Lloyd George because of his support of conscription. The temper of these different sections is somewhat ill conditioned. Reginald McKenna, acting leader instead of former Premier Asquith, used words which partially revealed his attitude as an out and out friend of Asquith. Nevertheless, it is quite evident that Lloyd George commands a large majority in the House of Commons. It is also known that if opposition to him develops in the House of Commons to any extent he will immediately appeal to the country.

The general impression at the first meeting was that a general election was inevitable but probably when the House settles down and Lloyd George has the same overwhelming support as he undoubtedly has in the country this unwelcome break in the conduct of the war will be avoided. In the meantime the depression caused by the defeat of Roumania is passing and the dominant mood today, if not exactly one of optimism, is one of determination to wage the war to the bitter end.

In reviewing the record and achievements of David Lloyd George, the present Premier, and Henry Herbert Asquith, ex-Prime Minister, I do not remember ever to have heard Mr. Asquith make a personal attack in all his long career in the House of Commons. Mr. Lloyd George, of course, has said his vehement and sometimes his fierce things both on the platform and in the House. He has even been regarded as a hard fighter, willing to give and ready to receive blows. And yet even when the storms have been raging most about his head, and when it was supposed—from the public press, that there was not a Tory in the House of Commons who was even on speaking terms with him, his room was nearly always crowded with Tory members, and they would be found quite as friendly to him as he to them. I remember once in the very agony of the Free Trade struggle finding Colonel Lockwood—a typical country squire—seated in Mr. Lloyd George's room taking tea with him, both eating with apparent gusto a piece of German black bread. The inner meaning of this was that the wretched bread of the German working man had been one of Mr. Lloyd George's stock arguments in favor of the Free Trade system of England as against the Protectionist system of Germany.

Yet it cannot be denied that Mr. Lloyd George has a great power of making enemies, even against his will. It is generally, of course, because of his astounding rise from a youth of poverty and obscurity to a soul-rending position. Whatever happens, he is nearly always in the limelight. He himself protests that he has no love of the limelight in itself, though he is quite ready to go into it if necessary for any particular object he wants to carry out. But he is in it all the same. Men of more stolid temper who pit their more solid qualities, as they think, against the brilliancy of Mr. Lloyd George resent this prominence. In addition of course, Mr. Lloyd George whenever he has had a great purpose has been ruthless in seeing that it is carried out, and great public purposes often tread on the corns of great private interests. It should further be said that he has often rudely irritated by small attacks, but generally it is by small attacks from his own friends. I have heard that on the day when he was appointed to the dazzling position of Chancellor of the Exchequer, he fretted all the day because one single obscure little Welsh paper said something unkind. It is known also how bitterly he has

now and then resented even a mild attack in a Liberal organ, such as that which Mr. Gardiner wrote some months ago in the Daily News. Yet there is no man who allows these things to influence him less. His Celtic nature is not naturally impetuous, but he does his best to make it impersonal. "Personal feeling," I heard him say once, "is a very distracting and bad element in a public man's judgment. Whenever," he said, quite warmly, immediately afterwards, "I find any such feeling arising in my mind, I stamp it out with an iron heel."

Mr. Asquith's personal popularity is much less deflected by these elements of war against Mr. Lloyd George. He has ceased to excite envy, as is nearly always the case with those who have got to the top; and for the other reason that his intellectual domination is so complete and so easy that nobody feels the least inclination to contest it. Mr. Balfour, Mr. Bonar Law, Mr. Chamberlain, all the other strong Tory leaders who served under him as Premier and who formerly detested him, are his friends. In the House of Commons he has no real enemies. It is known that another reason of his personal popularity is that everybody regards him as a thoroughly good fellow; straight, sincere, warm-hearted, with not a particle of self-conceit.

Both Mr. Lloyd George and Mr. Asquith are great men. The one is the cold, broad, clear, imperturbable judgment; the other is the flaming fire of resolution, promptitude and tenacity.

We are now passing through a time of stress. The future may show even greater difficulties, but every man, woman and child in the Empire, looks forward to the future with complete confidence. There is no doubt of our ability to win the war if we only put ourselves unreservedly to the task. The whole Empire is fully prepared to make any further sacrifices that may, in the opinion of the new government, be necessary to achieve ultimate victory. We are engaged in the greatest war ever known and fighting virtually with our backs to the wall for our very existence and for the cause of humanity and civilization. We are at last awake after two years and a half of failure to recognize the issue at stake and it is with the utmost confidence that I reiterate what I have previously said that we will go on until the last man and the last resource are exhausted.

In keeping with this resolve, the new cabinet headed by Lloyd George, will have the unanimous support of every class.

LETTER FROM ENGLAND

RECORD readers will remember Mr. Hammond and the story of his conversion three years ago. Ed. C. R.

Dear Sir—Thank you so much for your communication of Oct. 25th. Instead of subscribing another year for your valuable paper, I think it would be best for me to give the £1 to the Rev. Fr. Fraser's Mission in China, as it is seldom I receive the CATHOLIC RECORD now, and I am expecting to go over to France shortly where I may not receive it at all.

It is about two months since we landed here, and the first camp we went to was at Milford in Surrey. Here was a Catholic chaplain, and we had a small hut which was soon turned into a chapel, in which we had some splendid services during the week. You will possibly be surprised to hear that Mass was said on Sunday mornings in the Y. M. C. A., as our own chapel was too small, but I believe soon a large hut will be erected here we shall be independent. While at Witley Camp as it was called, there was a mission held at Grayshott Camp about eight miles away. His Lordship the Bishop of Portsmouth closed the mission with Confirmation, a procession and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament in the Convent grounds. This was the first opportunity I have had of being confirmed. About fifty of us went with the chaplain and arrived just as the Bishop had finished the confirmation service. However, I was hastened forward and confirmed. There was, I should imagine, not less than five hundred soldiers besides some wounded soldiers and civilians. It was very impressive, and it seemed appropriate to me that the land of my birth should have some part in my religious life.

We have made a good beginning towards having a Catholic library. Having been in the newspaper and book business myself, and being a lover of books, I can certainly testify to the influence which books whether good or bad, have over a person. As the old adage says, "A man is known by the company he keeps" so is a person known by the books he reads.

We were just nicely settled down when we got orders to go to Seaford, near the well known seaside resort of Brighton in Sussex and here we are. We have one military chaplain, and there is a priest who looks after the spiritual needs of the soldiers in the north camp. There is a fine Catholic hut in North Camp, further he said that North Camp where we are there is none, but we have started to raise the necessary funds. Mass is said at present in the Y. M. C. A. but The reason, I imagine, why we are allowed to use the Y. M. C. A. is because this society is here controlled almost entirely by the Anglican Church. Such a thing is unheard of I believe in

Canada, as the Y. M. C. A. is under the control of other denominations. Here in camp almost all the most important denominations have their huts and places of worship. In a strangely appropriate appeal for funds our chaplain said that in this world Jesus, the Son of God, the Saviour of the world had not a place to lay His head; when He was born there was no room for Him in the inn at Bethlehem; were we going to close our doors to Him? The collection insures us soon a place of our own to worship in.

There is a beautiful chapel here, the oratory of St. Francis de Sales, which is open to us and where I spend almost every evening to say my evening prayers and devotions. I have read quite a bit in the RECORD of the congregational singing in our churches, and certainly it is wonderful and beautiful to hear, and to see the great interest taken in the responses, prayers and praises to our Blessed Lord and our dear Mother, Mary. At first I thought it would disturb one's meditations, especially during Mass, but I find it has just the opposite effect. I have not seen any religious animosity or bigotry over here, I believe a whole lot of it has died, and the followers of Jesus are comparatively few. The teacher of the Protestant class I attended before coming out here, asked me if I had changed at all, but I answered with a smile, "No." We had quite an interesting conversation. While England is pouring out her life blood upon the battlefields of France, so the Catholic Church in England spares no sacrifice to keep her children from Canada from growing careless and indifferent regarding their faith. There does not seem to be any great efforts put forward by Protestants to lure Catholics away from the faith, the greatest danger comes from the allurements of the world and the flesh.

Having spoken of spiritual things I will now turn to the material. Something that impressed me very much was to see so few men, and to see how the women of England are doing their bit, replacing the men plunging, some in military newspapers, some driving bread-carts and doing all kinds of manual labor. It is wonderful, too, to see how bravely the women bear up under the burdens that weigh down their hearts. As we came through from Liverpool to Milford, a few dressed in black, cheered us the best they could, others, one could see were unable to speak, and one could see the tears in their eyes; many a time a lump rose in my throat, and I felt glad and proud that I had seen these colors and came over to do my bit.

To those who are ready and willing to give their lives in the service of God, king and country, the spirit here is most encouraging.

One of my chief diversions is to visit the old English parish churches around the country, and as I look at the beautiful stained glass windows, the beautiful altars, my thoughts turn towards the time when England was Catholic. One looks in vain for the little red lamp, the Sacred Host, the Blessed Sacrament, and then one realizes "that the glory of the Lord" has departed from them and one prays that to England may be speedily be restored her lost heritage of Faith. I also visited Westminster Cathedral; here and there one could catch glimpses of what the cathedral will be like when completed; but here again the War intervened, as Italians who were brought over to do the mosaic work, and the beautiful decorating, have returned to fight for their country, and all work is practically at a standstill.

God bless you in your labours, and pray for us, that the will of God may be done by each one of His children over here, and that Canadians, in particular the Catholic Canadians, may edify the people of England by being good soldiers of Christ as well as brave and loyal soldiers of the King.

Yours sincerely in Christ,
829249 PTE. GEO. B. HAMMOND,
A Co., 144th Batt. C. E. F.,
Army Post, London, Eng.

TEN NEW CARDINALS NAMED

CARDINALS NOW NUMBER SIXTY-EIGHT

Rome, Dec. 4.—For the first time since the war, Pope Benedict on Monday held a secret consistory without a German or Austrian cardinal being present. Cardinal Fruehwirth, apostolic delegate at Munich, who received the red hat in a public consistory on Thursday, could not participate in the one on Monday.

Pope Benedict appeared stronger and more energetic than ever as he delivered in Latin his allocution, in which special emphasis was laid upon the passages concerning the war, and the bombardment of undefended towns. Afterwards he created ten new cardinals, all of them belonging to entente allied countries.

About thirty members of the sacred college gathered around the Pontiff, all of them belonging to nations of the entente allies. The most prominent of them were Cardinals Amette, Archbishop of Paris, Cardinal Bourne, Archbishop of Westminster, and Cardinal Gasquet.

Pope Benedict also confirmed the following appointments previously made by him. The Right Rev. George Mundelein, as Archbishop of Chicago; Right Rev. Ferdinand Brossart, Bishop of Covington; Right Rev. Denis J. Dougherty, Bishop of Buffalo; Right Rev. John Lawler, Bishop of Lead,

S. D.; Right Rev. Jeremiah J. Hart, Bishop of Omaha; Right Rev. Philip R. McDevitt, Bishop of Harrisburg; and Right Rev. Patrick Ryan, Bishop of Pembroke, Ont.

Bishop Maurin of Grenoble will become Archbishop of Lyons and Bishop Dubois of Bourges becomes Archbishop of Rouen. Two more cardinals are to be nominated shortly.

Pope Benedict, the dispatch adds, announced the immediate publication of the new code of canon law, embodying numerous different ecclesiastical laws now existing.

THE POPE'S ALLOCUTION

In his allocution delivered before the secret consistory Pope Benedict denounced the aerial bombardment of open cities and condemned all those who, he said, had defied the laws of God and man in the present war. The Pope said according to press dispatches.

It is well to recall, aside from the laws of God, that if even the law of man was obeyed at present, peace and prosperity would ruin in Europe. If we neglect or disdain laws and authority, discord is the sure result. This is the highest social law. As a result of ignoring this law we see every principle of right violated in Europe, acts committed in defiance of the laws of God and man, peaceable citizens and even young boys taken from their homes to fight amid the tears of wives and mothers. We see open cities and defenseless inhabitants exposed to aerial attacks and we see by sea and land nameless horrors. I cannot but deplore again these crimes and condemn all those by whom they are committed. The Pope concluded his remarks with a prayer that, as the new code of canon law would make a more tranquil epoch for the Church, so also the time might come when the spirit of law might again be respected in the world and bring harmony and prosperity to the nations.

THE NEW CARDINALS

The new Cardinals are the following:

Monsignor Pietro La Fontaine, born at Viterbo, November 20th, 1860, appointed Bishop of Cassano di Jonio in 1906; Secretary of the Congregation of Rites in 1910. Patriarch of Venice in 1915.

Monsignor Donato Sbarretti, born in Montefranco (Spoleto), November 12, 1866, after some years in the Apostolic Delegation at Washington elected Bishop of Havana 1900, appointed Apostolic Delegate to Canada in 1901, subsequently Secretary of the Congregation of Religious and later Assessor of the Holy Office.

Monsignor Auguste Dubourg, Archbishop of Rennes in France, since 1906, previously Bishop of Moulins. Monsignor Louis Ernest Dubois, born in St. Calais, 1856, Archbishop of Rouen in France for the past year, previously Bishop of Bruges since 1901.

Monsignor Vittorio Emanuele Ranuzzi de Bianchi, born in Bologna in 1859, Bishop of Recanati in 1903. Major Domo to His Holiness since 1914.

Monsignor Tommaso Pio Boggiani, O.P., born in Bosco Marengo in 1863, Bishop of Adria 1908. Apostolic Delegate to Mexico, 1910. Archbishop of Edessa and Assessor of the S. Consistorial Congregation, 1912.

Monsignor Alessio Ascalesi, born in Casanuovo (Naples) in 1872, Bishop of Muro Lucano 1909, of S. Agata dei Goti 1911, Archbishop of Benevento 1913.

Monsignor Louis Joseph Maurin, born in Le Cloutier (Marseilles) 18157 Bishop of Grenoble, 1911, recently appointed Archbishop of Lyons.

Monsignor Nicola Marini, Uditore of His Holiness, Secretary of the Supreme Tribunal of the Segnatura, of the Sacred Congregation of the Council.

NEARLY A "PLENUM"

With the exception of the Archbishop of Benevento, Mons. Ascalesi, who becomes the youngest member of the Sacred College at the age of forty-four, the other names are those given in the speculative lists published recently by the newspapers. The death of Cardinal Della Volpe, had reduced the number of Cardinals to 58; the addition of 10 new members raises it to 68, which is only two short of the "plenum" of 70, and indeed is the highest figure attained for more than a generation. It will be observed that five of the new Cardinals are chosen from the Roman Curia; Sbarretti, Ranuzzi, Boggiani, Marini, Giorgi, and as Cardinals Scapinelli and Fruehwirth are also about to take up their residence in Rome, the real increase in the number of immediate advisers to His Holiness, and workers on the Sacred Congregations, will be no less than 7.

Of the 68 Cardinals who compose the Sacred College, 29 will be in Curia, France, with its three new Cardinals, will have 8 members of the Sacred College—an unusually large proportion; the number of Italian and of non-Italian Cardinals was exactly balanced before the consistory, 29 of each; now there are 36 Italians, and 32 from the rest of the Catholic world. It was the famous Consistory of 1911, with its 19 "Creations," which produced for the first time in history this quasi-equilibrium. Italian Cardinals having hitherto been in a strong majority always.

Cardinal Vincenzo Vannutelli, Bishop of Ostia and Palestrina, who has just celebrated his eightieth birthday, is the official Dean of the Sacred College, though the Dean by age is Cardinal De Cabrières, Bishop of Montpellier, who was 86 in May and the Dean by date of creation is Cardinal Netto, formerly Patriarch of

Lisbon, and the Dean by episcopate is Cardinal Gibbons, Archbishop of Baltimore, now the senior bishop of the whole Catholic world.

LETTER FROM FATHER FRASER

Taichowfu, China, Nov. 9, 1916.

Dear Readers of the CATHOLIC RECORD: In wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year let me thank you sincerely for helping to support this mission during 1916. I am sure it will be satisfactory for you to learn that the mission is making progress along all lines and in all its branches and that the money you so kindly contributed has not been spent in vain. The following will give you an idea of the progress made in our province during the last twenty years:

	BISHOPS
In 1896	1
1906	1
1916	2
	FOREIGN MISSIONARIES
1896	13
1906	27
1916	85
	NATIVE PRIESTS
1896	10
1906	15
1916	33
	SISTERS
1896	6
1906	99
1916	117
	CATECHISTS AND TEACHERS
1896	38
1906	277
1916	512
	CATHOLICS
1896	10,419
1906	20,725
1916	47,845
	DYING PAGAN INFANTS BAPTIZED
1896	3,000
1906	5,000
1916	8,880

These figures look well but still there are 20,000,000 pagans in this province to be converted. At the holy season of Christmas when the angels announce the glad tidings, "Peace on earth to men of good will," let us all, big and little, rich and poor, priests and people, take the resolution to do all in our power to bring the heathen world into the bosom of Holy Mother Church. Let us remember in the midst of our Christmas rejoicing those miserable creatures who have never yet heard of the Babe of Bethlehem, into whose lives Christmas brings no ray of light or happiness, whose Christmas Day is nothing but an ordinary working day. Oh the pity of it all! How heartbreaking and soul depressing to walk through the streets of a Chinese city or Christmas Day and see all the people engaged in their ordinary occupations working like slaves, carrying, hammering, tading, and never a thought for the Infant Saviour for they know Him not. Will not some of the many who read these lines come to preach the Gospel in China and save the souls for whom Christ died?

Yours faithfully in the Infant Jesus and His Blessed Mother,
J. M. FRASER.

FATHER FRASER'S CHINESE MISSION

Taichowfu, China, Dec. 11, 1916.

Dear Readers of CATHOLIC RECORD: It may be a little surprise to you to learn that it takes \$100 a week to keep my mission going. I am glad when I see that amount contributed in the RECORD, but when it is less I am sad to see my little reserve fund diminished and the catastrophe arriving when I must close my chapels, discharge my catechists and reduce my expenses to the few dollars coming in weekly. I beseech you to make one more supreme effort during 1916 to keep this mission on its feet. You will be surprised to learn what a great deal I am doing with \$100 a week, keeping myself and curate, 80 catechists, 7 chapels, and free schools, 8 churches in different cities with caretakers supporting two big catechumens of men, women and children during their preparation for baptism and building a church every year.

Yours gratefully in Jesus and Mary,
J. M. FRASER.

Previously acknowledged...	\$8,604 15
F. J. M.	10 00
J. F. White, Ottawa	10 00
J. E. F.	1 00
W. H. Henneberry, Devil's Island	10 00
Estate of the late Mrs. E. J.	10 00
Walke, Sydney Mines	600 00
An offering to St. Anthony's	26 00
J. J. Gallant, Mt. Carmel	10 00
Mrs. J. J. Gallant, Mount Carmel	10 00
J. McI.	2 00
J. J. McI.	2 00
P. P. A.	20 00
J. C. McI.	30 00
Bachelor's Mite	10 00
A Friend, Trancade	10 00
A Friend, London	10 00
Two Sisters	10 00
In honor of Holy Souls	10 00
For deceased parents	10 00
B. T. S. Richmond	10 00
Mrs. Wm. Kelly, Burritts Rapids	10 00
A. E. Lency, North Timis	10 00
Kaming	10 00
E. McI.	10 00
R. M. R.	10 00
Dobbertin Family, Webb	10 00
Sask.	10 00
Sheenboro	10 00
J. C. Martin, Grates Cove	10 00