Professor Haeckel himself seems to

have been about the most eminent o

the scientists who were present at the

gathering, but it is well known that he

is far from being as versed in scientific

research as were even some of those who

have preceded him. He is but an imi-

tator of Darwin, whose theories he has

adopted in regard to evolution and the

origin of man, though the most eminent

of European physicists, as Professor

Virchow of Berlin, have pronounced

UNDER WHICH KING ?

To the present time, the Sees o

Laval and Dijon, in France, have not

M. Combes was approached to as-

Mgrs. Geay and Lo Nordez, but he

refused to recognize that any resigna-

Under the circumstances the Holy

Father would be justified in nominating

Bishops to the vacancies without

troubling himself to please the Gov-

ernment : but this action would be

interpreted by M. Combes as a breach

to annul the Concordat, though it is

M. Combes and not the Pope who has

Such a pretext the Holy Father does

not wish to furnish, but he has found a

means to supply temporarily the needs

of the two dioceses, without infringing

the Concordat. It is, of course, neces-

sary there should be a head for each

diocese, and it is, therefore, now an

nounced that the Pope will nominate

two titular Bishops as Apostolic Ad-

ministrators for the two dioceses with-

out waiting for the consent of the Gov

ernment. These Bishops will have full

episcopal jurisdiction in their respect-

ive dioceses until there shall be a Gov-

ernment willing to let the Church ful-

fil its functions. These administrators

will receive no salary from the Govern-

ment, but the Pope himself will provide

for their maintenance, unless the people

of the dioceses themselves raise the

necessary sum for this purpose. It is

very probable that this will be done, as

the people of the two dioceses con-

cerned have spontaneously sent to

obedience to the Holy Father in

openly violated that agreement.

tions have taken place.

these theories unproved and fanciful.

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REV. GEORGE R. NORTHGRAVES.

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Author of " Mistakes of Modern Iafidels." THOMAS COFFEY.

Publisher and Proprietor, Thomas Coffey,

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proper to insure the regular ways to authority to Agents or collectors have no authority to stop your paper unless the amount due is paid. Matter intended for publication should be mailed in time to reach London not later than Monday morning. Please do not send us poetry. Oblivary and marriage notices sent by subscribers must be in a condensed form, to

LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION.

LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION, UNIVERSITY OF OTTAWA Oltawa, Canada, March 7th, 1950. the Editor of THE CATHOLIC RECORD, London, Ont: Dear Sir: For some time past I have read your estimable paper, THE CATHOLIC RECORD, and congratulate you upon the manner in which it is published. atulate you upon the manner in published. In spirit pervades the whole, with pleasure, I can recommend

vou and wishing you success, Palievo me to remain. Yours faithfully in Jesus Christ, t D FALCONIO, Arch, of Lariss: Apost. Deleg.

LONDON, SATURDAY, NOV. 5, 1904.

THE PILGRIMAGES TO ROME.

There can be no doubt that the multitudes of pilgrims, who go to Rome annually to express their attachment and loyalty to the Holy See, have their faith and piety strengthened both by their visits to the Holy Father personally and by the many evidences of the antiquity and continuity of the Catholic teaching which they see on every hand. We have never known of any one who had been received at an audience by either Pope Pius IX. or Leo XIII. who was not deeply impressed by the personality of these two great Pontiffs, and who did not feel that he or she was truly in the presence of St. Peter's successor while listening to their benevolent, instructive, and paternal words. These words were felt to be truly the advices of Christ's vicar on earth, and were treasured as such by every one who was admitted to the privilege of a personal interview with either of these Popes. We have not so frequently met persons who have had the same privilege in relation to Pius X., the period of his reign being yet short, but we have no doubt that the same impression was made in every case by the present great high-priest and representative of our divine Saviour : for it is the office which, more than the man who fills it, makes the impression.

On the other hand there are memorials which attest that Catholic doctrine is the same to-day as it was one thousand years, and even eighteen and a half centuries ago. pendency on the Almighty, or when it There are irrefragable monuments to show that St. Peter's See was fixed in Rome. There is the Mosaic list of Popes dating back from the fifth century, which still exists in St. Paul's Church, though it was damaged by fire some years ago. There is the testimony which Pope St. Damasus left in the catacomb of St. Agnes to the effect that a delegation had come to him from Antioch to ask that the body of St. Peter, which was carefully kept in Rome, should be given over to Antioch, where St. Peter had first fixed his See. To this request the Pope refused to acquiesce, because St. Peter had finally fixed his See in Rome, and had died there a martyr of Christ. There are, especially in the cata combs, other testimonies, not only to the Pontificate of St. Peter in Rome but to other doctrines of the Church which modern heresiarchs have denied, and no one can thoughtfully see these testimonies without acknowledging that pilgrims a sufficient atonement for the the teaching of the Catholic Church has remained unchanged during the lapse of centuries.

practice of the Christian virtues, and their frequentation of the sacraments this did not prevent this Congress from instituted by our Blessed Lord, the aiming at the forcible suppression of Saviour of mankind. Christianity, and from passing resolu-The pilgrims were told of their noble tions to this effect.

ancestors who loved the Church of Christ, and "were devoted without reserve to the chair of Peter, being ever ready to defend and maintain what is true and good." They were exhorted not to be degenerate descendants of those glorious ancestors, for they would thus work not only for their own happiness, but likewise for the prosperity of France.

the pilgrims on their strong faith, their

The Holy Father added that if it be necessary, he will be ever ready to accept any suffering to make France happy, prosperous and great.

The pilgrims were deeply moved by this affectionate address, and they returned to their homes with increased affection for the venerable Head of the Church.

been filled. They are vacant owing to As Premier Combes has become so the resignation of their Bishops which was requested by the Pope, while M. paternal that he must meddle in the private affairs of the French people, Combes. the French Premier, insisted and as he forbids many of his officials that they should retain their offices. M. to hear Mass, to say the Rosary, or to Combes is exceedingly angry that they have resigned in spite of his expressed venerate the crucifix, we presume his next step may be to forbid his subjects wish, as he hoped that through this he might have the nucleus of a French to go to Rome any more as pilgrims. It will not be a difficult matter for him to schismatical Church of which he would find a danger to the Republic in the be the autocrat, as the Czar is of the advices given by the Holy Father to Russian Church. Their acquiescence to the Pope's demand has dissipated the pilgrims; and indeed if danger to M. the Premier's hopes, and shown Combes and his Government is identiwhether it is the Pope or the French cal with danger to the Republic, that view of the case may be right. The Premier who rules the Church of God. pilgrims will certainly become more attached to religion, and their attach certain whether he could agree to the nomination of new Bishops to replace

ment may be communicated to their friends and relatives, and thus many may come to see that France would be better off with a change of rulers; and this conclusion may not be very pleasant to Messrs. Combes, Delcasse and Co.

## THE FREETHINKERS AND THE POPE.

of the Concordat, and would furnish The Holy Father has pronounced a pretext for the introduction of a bill solemn protest against the Congress of Free Thinkers which recently met in Rome and passed resolutions denying the divinity of Christ and the divine authority of the Christian religion. The Church and the Pope, to whose care the deposit of Christian faith has been committed, that they may continue on earth the work of salvation which Christ Himself began, also received attention from this assemblage, and their work was denounced as being unworthy of this age of progress and civilization in which we live.

The Holy Father, in his paternal pro test against the blasphemous meeting, expresses intense sorrow that the divine work which Christ did on earth should be the object of attack by human malice, and all the more that such an attack should be made in Rome, the city from which the Church on earth is governed. He reminds us that intelligence is the noblest gift which the Creator has bestowed upon mankind, but that intelligence becomes sacrilegious when it is subtracted from derejects the consolation and direction of

ITALIAN CATHOLICS AND THE in their expressed condemnation of SUFFRAGE. liberty of conscience, and the toleration of those who disagreed with them. All A despatch from Rome states that

> several Bishops of North Italy, among whom is Cardinal Ferrari, Archbishop of Milan, and an intimate friend of the Pope, have united in petitioning the Holy Father to consider whether the moment has not come when it would be advisable to allow Catholics to participate in the general elections o Italy.

It is said that the petitioners re present that the abstention of Catho lics from voting during the last thirty. four years has brought no advantage to the claims of the Vatican for independ ence, but has seriously endangered the interests of religion by entrusting power to the open enemies of the Church, and they believe that if the people are allowed to vote, at least many good Catholic candidates would be elected who would be somewhat favorable to religion, even though active friends of the Church might not be successful as candidates for the Chamber of Deputies. Thus there would be a strong party in the Chamber willing and capable of preventing legislation aimed against religion.

It is added that the Pope has not as yet decided what course he will pursue in this matter, but that he has asked the opinion of the most prominent among the Cardinals regarding the decision he should take.

The prohibition to Catholics to take part in the elections was issued by Pope Pius IX. after the occupation of Rome by the Italian Government. The Pope considered that the abstention of faithful Catholics from voting at the Parliamentary elections would constitute a continuous protest against the occupation of the States of the Church, and it was hoped that this protest would result in forcing the Government to make peace with the Church by reinstating the Pope as sovereign of Rome at least, and the territory in the immediate vicinity of Rome as far as the sea. It is difficult to say what policy is likely to have the best results, but there are many who think that the interests of religion would not suffer if the suggestion said to be given by the Bishops referred to were followed. These are of opinion that the interests of religion would on the contrary be more secure if this course were followed ; but whatever might be the result of either of the alternative policies, loyalty to the Holy Father will always dictate to true Catholics to follow whatever course he may direct them to take in a matter which so directly concerns himself personally, as well as the rights and dig-

nity of the Holy See.

THE SITUATION IN FRANCE.

It cannot be denied that the majority which sustains Premier Combes in the French Chamber of Deputies is a decisive one; for though it has varied from time to time, sometimes growing less, on the whole it has kept close to one hundred, though it has at times gone as low as eighty. On October 22nd, the question of the rupture of Rome earnest assurances of their diplomatic relations with the Vatican was discussed, and the recall of the

the French Government to have him appointed in the first place. He was more a Government Bishop than a Churchman, and it is no very great matter for surprise that Premier Combes has constituted himself Bishop Geay's defender. But the Bishop himself practically admitted that Pope Pius X. was right, for notwithstanding the French Premier's advocacy of his cause, and his prohibition against the Bishop's obeying the decree ordering him to go to Rome, Bishop Geay admitted his error, and yielded to the Holy Father's desire that he should resign his Bishopric.

M. Combes pretends to believe that the charges against the Bishop were trumped up by the Royalists because Mgr. Geay is a Republican. That was certainly not the case, for the original charges were brought up under Leo XIII., who was a true friend to the Republic ; but in any case, it is the Head f the Church, and not the Head of the State, and particularly an unbelieving Premier, who has the right to decide who is a suitable person to hold the office of a Bishop. To this the Bishop of Laval acceded by resigning his bishopric, though Premier Combes wished him to retain it.

The victory remains with Pope Pius X, though, indeed, it is in the power of M. Combes to persecute the Church. He cannot, however, carry out his plan to make the doctrine and discipline of the Church depend upon his whims, and the firmness of the Pope has taught him this lesson.

He threatens to abolish the Concordat. Should this be done, it may not be so great an evil to the Church as he imagines. The Concordat appears to be of little benefit when the Government which has the operation of it in its hands violates its provisions at will

as Premier Combes has done. Yet, we have still hope that M. Combes will not indefinitely have his own way. There is good reason to believe that his course is not so popular with the French people as he imagines, and he may be thwarted in favor of the innocent party divorced even in his effort to abolish the Con cordat. Already many departmental Councils have passed resolutions condemnatory of the policy of the Govern ment which has caused so much trouble and dissatisfaction through the country. It is a surprise to the Government that among the Councils which have done this is that of the Lower Seine.

This recent resolution shows that there is great dissatisfaction existing at M. Combes' course, and it cannot but influence the next elections, if it does not even influence the present Chamber to call a halt.

We admit that we cannot fully account for the apathy hitherto shown by the French people in supporting M. Combes, but we believe it arises from a general indifference to the political situation. But this indifference is apparently passing away, and those who eem to know best the signs of the times foretell that there will, on the next opportunity, be a large majority against the irreligious policy of the Government, which will bring about the downfall of the present Cabinet.

It is stated also that though there is able majority. no nuncio of the Pope at Paris, and no French Minister M. Nizard was sharply French Ambassador at Rome, there are communications between the Vatican and the French Government, carried on by special messengers, and it is hoped, notwithstanding the hostilities which have been carried on between the two authorities, that an agreement will be reached soon regarding the appointment of Bishops to all the Sees now vacant. Premier Combes gave a list of those whom he wished to be selected, but Pope Pius X. insists that only those who are worthy of the office shall be appointed ; and so far an agreement has not been reached ; but the demand of M. Combes has already been greatly modified, and it is expected that there shall be other modifications to meet the Pope's views. The Pope has already required exact information to be given him in reference to all those who have been named by the Government, and he will not appoint any whom he does not esteem worthy of it. It is said, however, that Government officials have asked a number of priests to fill the vacant Sees, independent of the Pope's appointment ; but all who have been thus tampered with have refused consent. It is, of course, understood that if they were appointed in this way they would be backed by the Government and installed in the Episcopal residences and would receive the salaries from the Government, but none have been in duced to accept the delusive offer They know well that they would not be obeyed by priests or people if they accepted such an appointment; for it is understood that it is not from the State but from the Pope that the fountain of episcopal jurisdiction flows. Among those who received this offer that the Bishop had been brought to the Vicar General of Albi is named, and by him the plans of the Govern ment were made known to the Pope. In would never have been guilty if it this transaction the Government has privilege of his acquaintance. May were not for the influence exerted by experienced a bitter disappointment.

NOVEMBER 5, 1904.

THE BOSTON P. E. CONVENTION. A conclusion has been reached at the Boston Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church on the question of the marriage of a divorced person.

The Bishops were in favor of the prohibition of all such marriages, except in the case when the parties have been reconciled and wish their remarriage to be celebrated anew. The House of Deputies, composed of clergy and laity, was divided in opinion, the clergy being mostly against the marriage of a divorce ; and the laity in favor thereof, if the divorced person has been the innocent party when a decree of divorce has been issued by the courts on the ground of adultery.

The question in dispute was earnestly debated without either side giving up its view, till at last a compromise was agreed upon, and it was agreed that no minister, knowingly and after due enquiry, shall solemnize the marriage of any person who has been or is the husband or wife of any other person then living, from whom he or she has been divorced for any cause arising after marriage. But this canon shall not be held to apply to the innocent party in a divorce for adultery, provided that before the application for

such remarriage a period of not less than one year shall have elapsed after the granting of such divorce.

Clauses are added requiring the papers and the decree of the court to be shown in evidence that the divorce is asked for in accordance with the requirements of this canon ; and to the minister the discretion is given to decline to solemnize such marriage.

An amendment was also passed in reference to the administration of the sacraments, providing that if a clergyman shall have reasonable cause to doubt whether a person has been married otherwise than as the Word of God and the discipline of this Church allow, such clergyman shall refer the matter to the Bishops before administoring the sacraments. The Deputies had made an exception to this clause on the ground of adultery who had remarried, but the Bishops struck out the exception. Their action was afterward accepted by the Deputies.

It is supposed by leading Churchmen that the middle course thus adopted will greatly diminish the number of remarriages of divorcees in the Church ; but it is stated to be the intention of those who are entirely opposed to such remarriages to obtain an expression of opinion by the Convention against such marriages under any conditions.

According to the compromise which has been effected, the so called innocent party is actually authorized to marry some third person, though delays are thrown into the way. If we are to believe that this canon is intended to meet the divine law on the subject of marriage, as we have been told, it seems that it should either allow the marriage without putting difficulties on the road, or prohibit it absolutely.

The motion for a change of name of the Protestant Episcopal Church was defeated after a long debate, the present name being retained by a consider-



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Many thousands of pilgrims have visited the Eternal City during September and October. They have come from Austria, Germany, England, Ireland, America, from many provinces of Italy, and other countries. Among addresses made by the

to these pilgrims, one of

rkable is that made to the from France. This adar und is king contrast to the illcurrilous language uttered nature remier Combes in refer rec ope, and the French pil ence to th grims could not but be struck by the contrast. It was kind and affectionate, and expressed the most profound love working people ; but it made no reference to the virulent attacks made by gress in which he strongly condemned the present Gov rnment against the Church. The however, congratulate lowed by these Congresses in the past Christianity.

vine truth Rome is the city which was destined by Almighty God as the depositary of Faith, and the insult to our Almighty Creator is the more grievous that Freethinkers should select the Eternal City

as their place of meeting, because it is the city which has been designated as the tranquil and venerated See of Christ's vicar on earth.

The Holy Father expresses that he has received much consolation for this insult to the Divine Majesty, from the fact that he has heard recently from many pilgrims to the Holy City expressions of strong faith and filial affection, and particularly from one

thousand members of the Catholic Association of French young men who visited the city a few weeks ago, and were received by the Pope at a solemn reception. Nevertheless he does not deem the reception of these wickedness of the Free Thinkers, and he appointed a solemn public service of atonement for the outrage offered to the

Divine Majesty, and for the honor and good name of the city which had been defiled by the blasphemies of the Free Thinkers.

Nevertheless, it is stated by those who witnessed the Free Thinkers' assemblage that it was a complete failure in regard to the intellectual standing of those who took part in it. In fact,

the Paris correspondent of the New York Tribune declares in a cable despatch to his paper that it was a complete flasco. M. Berthelot, the distinguished French chemist, was invited to attend but he declined, and Professor Haeckel declared that his absence was a heavy blow to the success of the Confor France, and particularly for the gress. But M. Berthelot was not only absent, but he sent a letter to the Con-

the present crisis. These assurance must be a cause of tremor to M. Combes and his Cabinet, as they must be regarded as a strong hint that they have already gone too far in their efforts to destroy religion. M. Combes has relied on the fact

that there is an army of between six and seven hundred thousand officials through the country who depend upon him for their daily bread, so that he has in this a security for a certain amount of influence to be exerted in his favor at the next elections. But he may overestimate the strength which this fact gives him. There may be many who will value their petty salaries above conscience, but it is very possible that there will be honesty enough found in the electorate to tell their rulers plainly that they have already gone too far toward dechristianizing the nation.

Hitherto, we confess, we have been deceived in our expectation that the French people would rise in their might to put an end to infidel domination, as the Belgians did years ago. We are not so sanguine in our expectations as we were ; yet we do still believe that the time will come, perhaps

unexpectedly, when this will be the case ; and that the more virulent these rulers show themselves to be, the more quickly will the sharp sword fall which we believe to be hanging over their heads by a slender thread.

One thing is sure, that the French Government must now be certain that the Bishops and clergy will not render obedience to an infidel government in its usurpation of an authority which has been divinely given only to the successor of St. Peter. It is yet to be seen what the people will do. If they do not obey those whom the Holy Ghost has appointed to rule the Church of God, they need to be reconverted to the course which had usually been fol-

criticised. The session was a boisterous one, and the despatches say that Deputy Beaudry d'Asson called Prime Minister Combes "a brigand," and was restrained with difficulty from assaulting the Premier.

It is very possible, and even probable that the disorderly conduct of M. Combes' opponents has been misrepresented, as we know that it is a favorite pastime with the associated press reporters to represent in an unfavorable light those in Europe who support the Catholic Church, and to represent in the best light possible those who are endeavoring to work out her overthrow. We must therefore accept the assertions of these writers with the proverbial grain of salt ; yet we have no doubt that the minority represented the course of the Premier as dishonorable and irreligious, which it really is. At all events. there seems to be no doubt that M. Combes was sustained by a vote of 325 to 227, the

majority being 98. The Premier declared that the Concordat between the Church and State cannot be kept up ; for the Pope has no right to discipline a Bishop, contrary to the French laws, as Pope Pius X. had attempted to do with Mgr. Geay.

The truth is that the supervision of the Episcopate belongs essentially to the Pope, and no French law or laws of any other country can restrict that right, which is included in the office which Christ committed to St. Peter. M. Combes said that Pope Pius X. had seized upon the incident of the Bishop of Laval in order to disavow the policy of Pope Leo. The truth is account by Pope Leo himself for certain improprieties, of which he perhaps SOLDIERS AT MASS.

G. V. L., of Elm Creek, Manitoba, writes :

"There are certain French noblemen who stand during the elevation. Is that a privilege granted the French nobility and the French army ?"

When Pepin the first king of the Carlovingian dynasty of France was solicited by Pope Stephen III. to protect him against Astolphus, king of the Lombards, Pepin hastened to the rescue of the Holy Father, and defeated Astolphus. The exarchate of Ravenna was taken by the victorious monarch and added to the dominion of the Pope. It was allowed when Pepin and his soldiers assisted at Mass, that the same form of homage should be shown to the Blessed Sacrament by the soldiers, as was shown to the king: namely, they stood in the royal presence and presented arms. Hence at the elevation of the Mass the soldiers when in military array presented arms standing, and the custom has been continued, but there is no privilege of this kind that we are aware of where there is not a military array. The concession was given in recognition of the aid given by the army to the Pope.

We regret very much to chronicle the death of Rev. Father Twohey, parish priest of Trenton, Ontario. Father Twohey's death took place at Mount Clemens, Mich. He had gone there for treatment for inflammatory rhuematism, but died of typhoid fever. Father Twohey was a native of Lindsay. To the Archbishop, priests and people of the Archdiocese of Kingston Father Twohey's death will be sad news. He was a most exemplary priest of Holy Church, and was held in the highest regard by all who had the his soul rest in peace ! and going