

# The Catholic Register

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

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## Current Topics.

### The Boer War.

quies something of a stirring, if not startling, character to maintain it at a high pitch of interest. Recently the progress of the war was not such as to evoke more enthusiasm, and consequently all through the land people were showing signs of becoming tired of what had flagged into a desultory guerrilla warfare. The slowness of operations and the long waiting for the news of Roberts' advance had almost stifled general interest in South African events. The same phenomenon was noticeable in Canada, if we except the warm interest and expectancy evinced in every trifling detail bearing on the doings of the Canadian soldiers. Monday's news, however, which chronicled the sharp renewal of operations in the immediate course of the advance from Bloemfontein, tended to arouse public interest once more. The capture of Winburg, regarded as one of the enemy's strongholds, by General Hamilton's brigade, the crossing of the River Vet by General Hutton's brigade and the advance of General Hunter's division north of Kimberley indicate that the elaborate plans for reaching Pretoria are now in operation and under test. It is reported that the enemy are retreating, and that the main advance on Pretoria continues with machine-like precision and rapidity. The puzzling feature in the plan of campaign is the inactivity of General Buller in Natal, and what part he has been elected to take in the operations is not yet apparent. The Boers still seem to be more at home in Natal than anywhere else in the line of defence. The renewal of general activity promises well for the British, but whether Roberts will keep the Boers on the backward move until he reaches Pretoria remains to be seen. The broad front upon which Lord Roberts' army is moving indicates that the Boer forces are moving, and consequently each separate division is likely to be attacked by a superior British force. The tactics of the enemy will be to receive and if possible check the advance behind strong positions of defence—being unsuccessful, to fall back and probably to rally in the direction of Pretoria. So far the various engagements have not been marked by the frightful bloodshed that characterized the conflicts in the previous campaign, and it is thought that the British may at least reach Johannesburg without having to fight a really great battle. Both sides are to be disheartened, especially with the apathy shown by the Free-States, but there are no positive indications of surrender by the Boers of the Transvaal.

The Canadian, and the Canadian indeed the Colonial Contingents troops generally, continue to signalize their presence on the field of battle with the bravery and dash which in the earlier stages of the war placed them on a par with the veterans of the British army. At Vet River the Canadians, along with the other colonial troops, were instrumental in turning the Boer flank, and led the way across the river. The following despatch shows in what admiration the Canadians are held by the British soldiers. The Bloemfontein correspondent of the Daily News, describing Greater Britain at the front, says: "To Canada we take off our hats. She has sent us, besides other worthy representatives, a regiment of infantry that wins admiration from every soldier for marching, a distance or fighting. It can challenge comparison with any battalion in Lord Roberts' army, and that is saying a good deal." The Morning Standard correspondent, describing the capture of Bloemfontein, also refers to the entry of the Canadians as follows: "They are fine, strapping fellows, broad-shouldered, clean-limbed and blue-eyed. They swing past with an easy stride and a free gait, conscious of the strength and pride brought with them from the lakes and mountains of Canada. Their boots were out at the toes, stockings undarned, breeches torn, then mended and torn again, but every tatter and every stain was an honor to those sons from over the sea, who have marched shoulder to shoulder with regiments of long and great tradition."

An organist and choir-master has just died in Sweden who had held the same position for seventy-two years without missing a single service. He and his ancestors have played the organ in the same church for two hundred years.

## VISIT OF THE DELEGATE APOSTOLIC

### HIS ARRIVAL IN TORONTO.

His Excellency Monsignor Diomede Falconio, Delegate Apostolic to Canada, arrived from Hamilton at 8:45 on the morning of Thursday, May 4, by the O.P.R. express, accompanied by their Lordships Bishops of Hamilton, and Bishop McEvay, of London, and a number of the clergy of the diocese.

At the Union station the distinguished prelate and his associates were most warmly welcomed by the Rev. Fr. Macdonald, O.P.R. express, accompanied by their Lordships Bishops of Hamilton, and Bishop McEvay, of London, and a number of the clergy of the diocese.

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From St. Michael's Palace His Excellency, accompanied by the visiting Bishops, and the clergy of the archdiocese, went in solemn procession along Shuter street to the cathedral, where the order of reception on such an occasion as laid down in the Pontifical. The beautiful cathedral was crowded by an expectant throng, anxious to behold the Papal Delegate, and to do honor to the services of reception.

After the offering of holy water and incense, and the singing of an antiphon with its accompanying responses and prayer, His Excellency, with the visiting Bishops and their assistants, passed up the aisle to the sanctuary.

At the High Mass was celebrated by his Lordship Bishop R. O'Connor, of Peterborough, assisted by Rev. Dean Egan and Rev. Father Gibney, as deacon and Rev. Father Brown, as sub-deacon, of the Mass. Rev. Fr. Marjion was assistant priest, and the Rev. Dr. Tracy master of ceremonies.

His Excellency was attended by the Very Rev. Vicar-General McCann and Very Rev. Dean Harris, of St. Catharines, among them in the sanctuary were Bishop Dowling, of Hamilton; Bishop McEvay, of London, and the priests of the Toronto diocese.

The religious orders of the city were represented: also the Christian Brothers and the Rev. Fr. Superior of the community of St. Joseph and Lovato were present.

The church and altar were decorated with the Papal colours, the main altar being artistically arranged with flowers and garlands, with the rich vestments of the clergy in the sanctuary, imparted to the scene a very impressive character. The singing of the choir was in keeping with the occasion.

During the services at the church the members of the Holy Eucharist of the Knights of St. John, under the command of Col. Heffrang, acted as guard of honor.

After Mass Vicar-General McCann addressed His Excellency, on behalf of the local clergy, most eloquently, as follows:—

"One year to-day our venerated archbishop, amidst much rejoicing, left us in the possession of the Cathedral Church of St. Michael the Archangel. We regret that, owing to illness, he is unable to be present on this auspicious occasion to greet his illustrious guest. We, the priests assembled here, on behalf of his diocese, the returned clergy, and the faithful people of the archdiocese, extend to you a most hearty welcome to Toronto. Recognizing in your Excellency the representative of our glorious Pontiff, Leo XIII., we hail with joy and gladness your advent among us, and beg to assure you of our sympathy and loyal co-operation with you in the discharge of the duties of your exalted office. Your presence will be another link in the golden chain which binds us to the Holy See, the centre of Catholic unity. Holy See, your appointment as Apostolic Delegate the loving care and paternal solicitude of our Holy Father for his children in this far-off Dominion, and we embrace this opportunity of expressing our devoted loyalty to his person, and our reverent obedience to him as the successor of St. Peter and the Vicar of Christ. We wish to thank your Excellency especially for changing the date of your coming to Toronto, that you might honour by your presence the Archbishop by your presence on the anniversary of his installation.

"We are glad to say that harmony reigns in our midst; that the priests, united in the bonds of charity with their devoted archbishop, enjoy the confidence and obtain the generous support and encouragement of the laity in every good work, and in the building up of our religious, charitable and educational establishments.

"We trust your Excellency will have the time to see what has, with the blessing of God, been accomplished, and to visit some of the important institutions of which our Catholic people are justly proud. Your Excellency will be pleased to know that our people give the evidence of the Holy Father given at those entrusted with their spiritual welfare. A grand manifestation of their faith and piety was witnessed, and a magnificent tribute to their loyalty to the wishes of the Holy Father given at the solemnities of the Holy Year, when great numbers approached the Sacrament, and our churches were crowded to overflowing.

"Knowing that your Excellency shares the very deep interest of our illustrious

Pontiff in the cause of education, we are happy to inform you that our schoolwork abroad of the times, and that through our religious teachers we are enabled to impart a solid Catholic education to our children. It will also please you to know that the most cordial relations exist between the various sections of the community in this city.

"We trust that Divine Providence will bless your mission, which is one of grace and good will, and while we shall long cherish the remembrance of your generous visit, we hope that your stay in our midst may be to yourself a pleasant recollection in the future."

MR. FALCONIO'S REPLY.

His Excellency, after returning his best thanks for the evidence they had given him of their affection and veneration for the Holy Father, said he regretted exceedingly that his Grace the Archbishop was prevented from being present through illness. The sen-

iments of love and veneration which they entertained towards the Holy Father were prompted by the fact, admitted by every true Catholic, that Jesus Christ stands as strong as ever on earth to be exercised after the death of our Lord. Two centuries had passed, nations had risen and had vanished, but the church established by the Lord Jesus Christ stands as strong as ever to-day, and as full of vigor as in the days of St. Peter, who deposited his powers under Divine grace to his successors, the supreme pastors of the Church. Two hundred and sixty-two of those pastors of Pontiff had succeeded to his office, and in the line of the long line of Supreme pastors who preceded him, and therefore their love and veneration for him was legitimate and inevitable, at least with the faithful Christians. As a mark of affection from the Holy Father for his Canadian children he would now impart to them the Apostolic Benediction, which he begged them to receive with the greatest trust, faith and reverence, in order that they might have the full benefit it was intended to bestow. His Excellency then bestowed the benediction on the clergy and laity assembled, and the ceremonies then closed.

RECEPTION AT ST. MICHAEL'S CATHEDRAL.

In the afternoon a reception in the visitor's honor was given at St. Michael's College. The large hall had been beautifully decorated under the direction of Father Howard, and presented a handsome appearance. The College Orchestra, under Father Murray, was present and rendered several very excellent selections.

Those present were: Right Rev. Bishop O'Connor of Peterboro, Vicar-General McCann, Fathers LaBore, Cantillon, Minahan, Carbery, McRae, Ryan, O'Leary, Philigan, Gibbons, Killoran, Egan, McEneaney, LeBlond, Premier Ross, Mosses, Loudon, Foy, Elmsley, Kelly, Dr. Cassidy, Dr. Amyott and Hon. Mr. Latchford.

Rev. Father Tracy read the address of welcome to His Excellency. "In approaching Your Excellency," he said, "we, the faculty and students of St. Michael's College, feel that we cannot intensify the cordiality of the reception which has been already tendered to you. From one and all, the Canadian Catholics heartily welcome you to their midst.

"We recognize in your person the chosen representative of our venerable Pontiff, Leo XIII. Our loyalty, our obedience and our deepest affection we extend to His Holiness through your

Excellency, with the daily prayer that God may spare him to his faithful children in the distant west.

"When it was known that the choice of Apostolic Delegate had fallen upon your Excellency, we hailed the appointment with joy, for your reputation long reached us, when, by your virtues, learning and zeal, you did honor to a sister institution in the United States. We congratulate your Excellency upon the great distinction bestowed upon you by our Holy Father, and we humbly offer our prayers that you may long live to adorn your high office and perform with glory to the Church and to yourself the sacred functions it entails.

"In connection, we beg the Apostolic Benediction upon St. Michael's College, its faculty and its students."

Mr. Falconio was deeply touched with the hearty nature of his reception, and warmly thanked all for their very great kindness to him. Speaking more particularly to the assembled students, he urged them while at school to exert every effort and study hard. If they did this conscientiously they would become great men. It did not matter how humble their birth might have been, their sterling qualities and abilities

This combination had an extremely beautiful effect. The vocal soloists were Miss Nellie Roesch who sang "Who's a My Window?" Miss Marie McGuire, who gave Beck's "Fear not ye, O Israel," and Miss Olga McAlpine, who sang "The Raker's Heart," with "Hath She a Tear," with violin obligato by Miss Hilda Davis. All these numbers were very prettily sung. The chorus—very young and under the direction of Mr. E. W. Schuch, proved an admirable variation. At the conclusion of the concert, Mr. Falconio and the clergy were entertained to a luncheon at the Hotel. The function was admirably and delightfully managed. Choice flowers, in which roses and carnations were predominant, were on the table, while the dining hall itself was prettily decorated.

In the afternoon Mr. Falconio visited St. Joseph's Academy, St. Alban's street, which was also beautifully decorated. Here he was presented with an address of welcome, beautifully bound in book form and illuminated, and the young lady pupils entertained him with a choice musical programme. The chorus sang a greeting to his Excellency, Sullivan's "Lost Chord" as a part-song, and a number by Rossini, with a high quality of tone and admirable precision. Chaminade's "Scherzetto" was played on two pianos by the Misses Curtis, J. Noble, B. Curtis, Wilson, E. Wilson and Urlocker, and Dola's "Franzoesche," by a combination of piano, violin, harp, organ and mandoline, by the Misses Curtis, Wilson, Meahan Conlon, Murphy, F. Meahan, Kane, Crighton, Martia, Urlocker, Power and Flanagan at the pianos; Falconbridge, N. Wilson, C. Murphy, D. Thompson, Misses: Misses: Morgan, B. Curtis, Noble and M. Martin, mandolins, and Miss Hastings, harp. This was a unique number, and was enthusiastically applauded. A number of little girls delighted the Delegate by binding him to their choir with letters, and to suggest binding him to Canada. Miss O. Murphy sang "The Last Rose of Summer," and Miss N. Kane "Killarney," with much expression. The elocution class contributed a poem, to suggest binding him to Canada, and everyone present expressed great pleasure with it.

RECEPTION AT ST. MICHAEL'S PALACE.

On Friday evening from 8 until 9 o'clock His Excellency gave a reception at St. Michael's Palace when a large number of the Catholic clergy and laity were present to him.

THE CHILDREN'S ADDRESS.

On Saturday morning at nine o'clock Mass was said in St. Michael's Cathedral for the children of the city at which nearly all the pupils of the separate schools were present, and others to the total of 4,800. His assistants in celebrating mass were Rev. Fathers Ryan and McInnes, and a large number of the local clergy were present in the chancel. After mass an address was presented to His Excellency on behalf of the little ones.

The address welcomed Mr. Falconio to Canada and expressed the wish that the Catholic School-Children of Toronto should stand second to none in their devotion to the Holy See and reverence for the Pope's representative. Four thousand children were gathered in the magnificent Cathedral to greet His Excellency and to tell him the lesson of education preached so often by the Holy Father, and so often by them. It was the education of the heart and mind within the grasp of all, and which makes man true to God and faithful to home and country; that they were receiving under the care of their esteemed Archbishops, his devoted clergy and the religious teachers in their schools. They were the sons and daughters of honest toil, and as such enjoyed a very special title to the affection of Pope Leo XIII., who had endeared himself to all humanity and to all times as the "Pope of the People" by his noble exertions for the uplifting of labor.

Bonjours were also presented by the young ladies of St. Joseph's High School, and of Bonaventure, who were also present. His Excellency blessed the apostolic blessing on the assembled children.

HIS EXCELLENCY VISITED OTHER INSTITUTIONS.

Almost immediately afterward he drove to the Sunnyside orphanage, in the far west of the city, where the good Sisters of St. Joseph received him. His Excellency blessed the Holy Orphanage and expressed his appreciation of the manner in which the institution is conducted. On Saturday afternoon he paid similar visits to the Christian Brothers' Institute and the Good Shepherd convent.

MASS FOR THE ITALIANS.

Mr. Falconio did not forget his fellow countrymen in Toronto. On Sunday morning, at 8 o'clock, he celebrated Mass in St. John's chapel on Church street, for the Italians of the city.

There was a great throng in St. Michael's at 10.00 a.m. on Sunday, when His Excellency assisted at Mass pastorally. His secretary, Mr. J. V. Whelan, of London, England, preached an interesting sermon, and afterwards His Excellency received some of those who had not already met him during his numerous visitations.

AT ST. MARY'S.

In the evening he assisted pastorally at musical vespers in St. Mary's Church, Bathurst street, at 8 o'clock, his Excellency presided at the church, conducted the ceremonies, and immense numbers of Catholics from the western part of the city were present.

Mr. Falconio was assisted by Rev. Father McCann on stage.



MGR. FALCONIO.

Fact or Fancy.

Men and Women.

No. 18.

The crusade against women wearing their hats or bonnets in places of assembly has broken out afresh in the United States. I do not doubt, by the success which has attended the efforts of a long suffering public to have women discard their headgear in the theatre, a Christian's organization, the Rev. C. F. Green, has issued the decree of "Hats out of Church." Many are the arguments advanced pro and con, but the weight of evidence seems to be preponderantly in favour of the hats and bonnets. Scripture, religious law, custom, church edict, and woman's rights all sanction the practice of covering the head in church. St. Paul says, "Every man praying or prophesying with his head covered dishonoureth his head. But every woman that prayeth or prophesyeth with her head uncovered dishonoureth her head. For a man indeed ought not to cover his head, forasmuch as he is the image and glory of God, but the woman is the glory of man." One woman argues rather ambiguously "If women were obliged to remove their hats their thoughts would naturally be distracted from holy things." That is true, says one of our separated brethren, the most holy thing about a good many church-going women is their hat or bonnet, while their neighbour's head-gear divides their interest to be a good one. An easy-going Christian husband says, "half my wife's pleasure in life would be gone were she deprived of the pleasure of buying her new church bonnet, and the reputation of sitting by and wondering just what this one and that one would say about it, and how jealous her best friend would be when his glories burst upon her astonished vision. No, let the dear creature wear their bonnets and let us in church, we are often glad to hide behind their outspreading brims, and take a quiet nod during the especially dry sermon." It is obvious that this lukewarm Christian understands feminine nature, and probably rejoices in a good bank account.

Some London ladies are said to have formed an Anti-Scandal Club. One would like to know the mode of procedure. Such a club might easily defeat its own purpose. It can have no work to do before it except a scandal. The first question is, "What's the latest scandal?" "Lady B.—is said to have compromised herself with Lieutenant C.—Either it is true or it is not. Who knows? If it is true we must lift our hands and let it go. Lady B.—is said to have let it go. If false, we are often glad to hide behind their outspreading brims, and take a quiet nod during the especially dry sermon." It is obvious that this lukewarm Christian understands feminine nature, and probably rejoices in a good bank account.

The greatest need of the world today," says Dr. Dewar in a paper entitled "A Defence of Individualism," is more men and women who will be living epistles, illustrating the truth and power of religion in all spheres of human life. We want them in the pulpits—men of incorruptible integrity and true patriotism. We want them as editors of our public journals—men of broad unsectarian views, who will rise to the sacredness of their work as educators of public opinion. We want them in the marts of trade and commerce—men of unswerving uprightness, to whom wealth will be a means of usefulness, and not a mere instrument of selfish gratification. We want them in our Sunday Schools and Public Schools—men and women who feel it to be a grand and sacred thing to direct the first awakenings of intellectual life and influence the destiny of immortal beings. We want them everywhere—men and women who shall equal the lowly toil of daily life by the faith and patience with which work is done. These are the noble words expressive of high ideals that make for the good of the nation, and are within the aim of every patriotic man and woman:

"Work for the good that is highest, Do not get out of patience after That glory is over the highest, Which shines upon men as they are. Work though the world may defeat you, Heed not its anger and scorn; Nor weary ill sandals shall greet you With scutes through the grates of the morn."

What if the poor heart complaineth, Soon shall its waitings be o'er; For there, in the rest that remaineth, It shall grieve and be weary no more.

The Easter offering at Wolfe Island Roman Catholic Church was \$175.

Michael Cudaly of Chicago, one of the trustees of the Roman Catholic university at Washington, has subscribed \$50,000 to the endowment fund.

Mr. Leland Stanford, though a Protestant, has given the old Stanford Home in Sacramento, Cal., to the Roman Catholic Bishops, together with a \$75,000 endowment, with which to maintain it as an orphanage.