The Catholic Record. Published Weekly at 454 and 466 Rich: street, London. Ontario. Price of subscription—42.00 per annum.

BDITORS:

BEV. GEORGE R. NORTHGRAVES,
Author of " Mistakes of Modern Infidels. PHOMAS COFFEY.

PROMAB COFFEY.

Publisher and Proprietor, Thomas Coffey.

Mesers. Luke King, John Nigh. P. J. Neven and Joseph S. King, are fully authorized to reserve subscriptions and transact all other business for the CATHOLIC RECORD.

Agent for Newfoundland, Mr. T. J. Wall, St.

Agent for Newroundland, Mr. T. J. Wall, St. Johns.

Rates of Advertising—Ten cents per line each insertion, agate measurement.

Approved and recommended by the Archishops of Toronto, Kingston, Ottawa, and St. Boniface, the Bishops of Hamilton, Peterborough, and Ogdensburg, M. Y., and the clergy introughout the Dominion.

Oorrespondence intended for publication, as well as that having reference to business, should be directed to the proprietor, and must seach London not later than Tasaday morning. When subscribers change their residence it is important that the old as well as the new adress he sent us.

Agents or collectors have no authority to stop your paper unless the amount due is paid.

LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION.

UNIVERSITY OF OTTAWA.

Ottawa, Canada, March 7th, 1900.

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.

Its matter and form are both good; and a
truly Catholic spirit pervades the whole.

Therefore, with pleasure, I can recommend
it to the faithful.

Blessing you, and wishing you success,

e faithful.
sing you, and wishing you success,
selieve me, to remain,
Yours faith.ully in Jesus Christ,
+ D. FALCONIO, Arch. of Larisss
Apost. Deleg.

London Saturday, July 27, 1901.

THE CALENDAR.

It was announced several times during the last few years that at last Russia had decided to adopt the Gregorian Calendar with the object to conform itself to the usage of all the Christian States, Protestant and Catholic. The present year 1901 was also stated to be the time when the proposed change was to take effect ; but it now appears from a telegraphic despatch from St. Petersburg that the matter has only advanced to the stage that the change is being seriously considered.

On July 16th a conference was held under the presidency of Grand Duke Constantine Constantinovitch, cousin to the Czar, to take the matter into consideration. The most distinguished scientists, philosophers, financiers, Churchmen and Government officials conferred, and it was resolved still to weigh well the consequences of a change in their business, religious and political aspects, before coming to a decision. The matter will be dis cussed till the year 1903 when it is expected that a decision will be reached; and it is further announced as highly probable that the other states belong ing to the Greek Church will follow Russia's lead, whether it be decided to adhere to their present mode of computation of time, or to adopt the Gregorian Calendar.

The Calendar used in the Greek countries is that of Julius Cæsar, with certain trivial modifications introduced by Augustus Casar through per sonal vanity, and not for any scientific reason. According to this calendar every fourth year, that is every year exactly divisible by 4, without leaving a remainder, was a leap year consisting of 366 days. The three intermedlate years consisted each of 365 days. Thus the average year was recko at 3651 days.

The actual revolution of the earth about the sun is accomplished in 365 days, 5 hours, 48 minutes, 49 seconds and a fraction of a second. This is the solar or natural year, and after this period the equinoxes and solstices, and consequently the seasons make their cycle with the same intervals between them.

It is thus evident that between the Julian and the natural years there is a difference of 11 minutes, 10 seconds and a fraction which amounts to thirtyeight hundredths of a second, the Julian being longer than the solar year by so much.

It will be readily seen that by dropping the extra day of leap year three times in 400 years, the length of the average civil year would be very nearly equal to the solar year, inasmuch as the discrepancy would amount to 1 day only after the lapse of 3,866 vears.

This was precisely the correction made to the Calendar by Pope Gregory XIII. in 1582. The feast of Easter was fixed by the Council of Nice in the year 325, being made to depend upon the vernal equinox. Thus ordered to be celebrated on the first Sunday after the full moon occurring on or next after the day of the vernal equinox, the day of Christ's Resurrection having been precisely on that day, as is clear from the Jewish Calen-

In the year 1582, starting with the

Gregory, by ordering Oct. 5 to be we do not see that the humanitarians salled Oct. 15, and that henceforward the centurial years which are not exactly divisible by 400 should be common and not leap years, the correction of three days in 400 years was effected simply, and it would be 3,866 years in Italy to abolish solitary confinement, before the error of the new Calendar and with this end in view, committees would amount to one day. The have been formed in the chief towns to Julian Calendar thus corrected is called the Gregorian Calendar and this is what the Russian Government appears to be about to adopt so as to conform with the rest of Europe.

It was through a foolish obstinacy arising from the fact that the corrected Calendar was made by a Pope, that Russia and the other Greek nations refused to adopt it, and the Protestant same cause. The Catholic States of Europe adopt-

ed the Gregorian Calendar very soon after Gregory XIII. proclaimed it; but the Protestant nations were very loth | themselves in the mire of criminality? to accept even a scientific fact which a 1700. It was not finally accepted by these States till 1774. England adopted it in 1752, the error then by being robbed of so many days rose up in riot against the change, demanding that the eleven days of which they were robbed should be restored to them. After some time, however, they became reconciled to the change, especially as they found that their opposition to it was fruitless.

The error of the Julian Calenda now amounts to twelve days, and it is for this reason that the Epiphany is sometimes called old Christmas Day. The Russians celebrate Christmas on

CAPITAL PUNISHMENT vs. SOL-ITARY IMPRISONMENT.

The incongruous results arising out of the abolition of capital punishment in Europe have been shown especially in the sentences inflicted on the two Anarchists, the murderers of King Humberto of Italy at Monza, and of the good and inoffensive Empress of Austria at Geneva, Switzerland.

Switzerland and Italy have both abolished capital punishment, and for this reason these two criminals, taken with their hands still red with the blood of their victims, were condemned, not to death, which they richly deserved. but to perpetual imprisonment, and in Italy this imprisonment inflicted upon murderers of the first degree has been made absolutely solitary since the last ten years.

It is now asserted, and generally beleved, that this imprisonment is worse than death. It is, in fact, a living death, and Bresci, the murderer of Humberto, must have so felt it, as he watched his opportunity and committed suicide in his cell some weeks ago.

The murderer of the Empress of ough still defiant against the nobil ity, and especially against crowned times brought home to them that the heads, these being special objects of hatred with all anarchists. We are ourselves not of the opinion

that the death penalty should be abolished. This punishment is undoubtedly a deterrent against crime, though we admit that the thought of it has not abolished the crimes which are usually punished capitally. So differently are the minds of men constituted that there is no penalty which man could think of, which would deter certain criminals from the commission of horrible crimes; but these penalties have a general effect at least, and the fear of them has a beneficial effect in preventing the worst of crimes in many instances. Even the desperate efforts made by criminals to evade capture proves this to be the case. They would not make such efforts if they were not held in terror by the prospective punishment of their crimes. If there are still some who are not entirely turned from the commission of atrocious crimes by the fact that capital punishment may be inflicted upon them, it is because the human mind is so versatile and varied that the same facts have very different effects in the Easter was from that year forward impressions they make upon different people. We are safe in saying, however, that the general effect of the death penalty is deterrent.

One of the arguments used by sopenalty is that it is cruel and inhuman ; date of the Council of Nice, the error the place of capital punishment in which was worthy of a moment's at- cannot be supposed, therefore, that he we should not forget that our Lord dehad amounted to ten days, and Pope Italy is more cruel than death itself, tention from them.

have much reason for self-gratulation that they have succeeded in a few countries in abolishing capital punishment, and we are not much surprised to learn that there is now a movement bring about what is called "prison reform," which is to consist in the abolition of the solitary cell; and for this purpose the Prison Reform Association are about to send a petition to the King and Parliament of Italy.

But what new punishment will the petitioners devise to take the place of solitary confinement? Will they ask a repeal of the law abolishing capital nations held out against it for the punishment, and to restore the death penalty, or will they petition for the giving to the worst class of criminals an opportunity to hold communication with prisoners not so far sunken as

It is to be feared that if the oppor-Pope announced, and the Protestant tunity of communicating with their States of Germany began to adopt it in fellow prisoners be given to the worst class of murderers, the criminals who have been incarcerated for lesser crimes will be made worse than they amounting to eleven days. By Act of are now by being thrown into the com-Parliament the 8rd of September in pany of condemned and unrepentant that year was called the 14th, and in murderers. These criminals of somemany localities the people, imagining what lesser degree are surely already that they had suffered a grievous loss bad enough in regard to morals, without putting them into the temptation of becoming quite as vile as those who are so much worse than themselves. Among such classes of criminals, the bad which is likely to learned from the companionship of the most hardened criminals, will far counterbalance the good which will be effected by throwing the worst class of criminals into the company of those who are to a small degree not so bad as themselves

> at by the humanitarians will surely not be attained. It would seem indeed that the only way to attain the end desired would be to return to the old legislation of inflicting the death penalty, at least on the most hardened criminals. There is no fear that under such legislation punishment would be excessive y cruel; for it is established by statistics that even under it, only 22 per cent. of the murderers condemned were executed even before the abolition of carital punishment. We believe even that the percentage of those actually Irish people. executed might advantageously be increased; but at all events, surely 22 is but a small percentage to represent those criminals who are deserving of the highest punishment which the law inflicts.

Thus the effect supposed to be aimed

It is stated that so severe is solitary confinement, and so dreadful in its effects upon those subjected to it, that 17 per cent of those so punished commit suicide as Bresci did, and 19 per cent. go mad.

WHY NOT MAKE THE EXPERI-MENT?

Many cogent arguments have been adduced in favor of the Irish demand for Home Rule, but among them all it that of Great Britain has become too carry on satisfactorily in many of its large British counties.

The Irish question has been frequently enough brought before Parliament, but this was done by Irish members for the most part, who were invariably regarded with distrust, and looked at sufficient support for its measure. askance by the majority composed of chiefly owing to the fact that the Par-Englishmen and Scotchmen, partly be- liament had no time to consider so cause that majority has been too tired of the persistent claims of the Irish Nationalist party on their attention, to ling the Board schools of England and and for this reason I came up to day to give ear to the Irish members when Wales; for this bill was not intended shake hands with my friends of Toronto they brought measures before the to affect the voluntary or denomina-House of Commons to satisfy those tional schools. It was announced last claims Hence for years before the week that the measure will be with-Irish party attained its present strength, it was enough that a measure emanated from an Irish member to ensure that it should be ignominiously rejected

This was the case when Mr. Isaac Butt was recognized as the Irish leader, and the same thing occurred under the leadership of Mr. Charles Parnell. It was enough that it be came known in Parliament that any measure brought forward was for the relief of Ireland and it was sure to be rejected; and it was not until Mr. Parnell discovered and used the remark- terests of its people. called humanitarians against the death able plan known as the policy of obstruction that the majority of the membut if the reports are true that the bers of Parliament at last discovered

party controlled the Government. whether Conservative or Reform, Tory or Whig, Irish questions were regarded as a bore, and no attention was given to them.

The policy of obstruction, as our readers will remember, laid it down as a principle that the attention of Parliament to Irish questions could not be secured, except by blocking all measures introduced for the general conduct of the affairs of the Empire, in order to force the Parliament to recognize that Ireland had some claim to its attention. In carrying out this policy Mr. Parnell used all the expedients with which a thorough knowledge of the rules of Parliament furnished him to prevent the passage of any legislation, and it was proclaimed openly that the ultimate purpose was to bring Parliament to its senses by making it aware that Ireland had grievances which ought to be redressed, and to which Parliament ought to give some attention.

This plan was an extraordinary device, and was regarded by the English people as a piece of malicious stupidity, and the very objectionable measure known as the closure was passed by Parliament to counteract it. Nevertheless, it ultimately succeeded in its main purpose, for from the date when it was employed must be dated also the salutary measures whereby the condition of the people of Ireland has been greatly ameliorated, though even as yet comparatively little has been done toward removing the real grievances of which Ireland complained.

As soon as the attention of the British Parliament was called to the consideration of Irish questions, it was discovered that the duties of Parliament are too onerous and multitudinous to allow proper attention to be paid to the sub jects with which it ought to deal, and thus the way was paved towards giving Ireland some degree, at least, of local government, and the result has been that measure which even Lord Salisbury's Government felt it to be its duty to concede, whereby many Irish local matters which hitherto were supposed to have been attended to, and which could be attended only by the Imperial Government and Parliament, were handed over to the control of the Irish County Councils, elected by the

The inability of Parliament to deal with matters of the greatest import ance, simply because it is overburdened with work, has had recent illustration from the fate of the education bill which was brought for considera tion before Parliament by the Govern

This bill was not intended to en force uniformity on the schools, but it | Hon. Mr. Brodeur to address the vast | Bishops by the Rev. Canon Dixon, proposed to place the county boards under the general supervision of a central body in every county of England and Wales. It is supposed that by this supervision, the efficiency of the Board schools would be greatly in exhibit a brotherly feeling toward which fact it was expected that greatcreased without interfering with the those of the other Provinces of Canada, er sympathy would be gained local individuality of the counties. In and stated that as a representative of for St. Jude's church schools, and Austria is living, but is said to be would appear that none should have fact, the proposed arrangement would the Province of Quebec he could de- funds obtained to cancel the debt upon broken down in health and spirit, more weight with the British public assimilate very much the British school clare how glad the people of Quebec them. We are pleased to note that an the fact that it has been many system to that of Ontario or Quebec, are to work with their brethren in N where there is direct Government government of so vast an Empire as supervision, which may be compared British Empire. "We are proud," he trades upon the patriotism of Canawith the proposed British county gigantic an affair for the Government supervision, as the Canadian provinces and Parliament of Great Britain to may be compared in population with Day, because as French Canadians we this method of collecting funds if he

There can be little doubt that this provision would improve the British to make Canada a vast and great naboard schools, yet the Government, though having now so decisive a majority in Parliament, could not secure national festival. Every country, small a matter as the education of the but one which brings the people tothree million children who are attenddrawn, as it has been found impossible to consider it in the present stress of parliamentary business; and this is the third withdrawal of similar bills.

Surely, if the Parliament is so overworked, it would be advisable to pass some of its work over to local bodies, such as an Irish Parliament would be : plained of at present as existing between Ireland and England, and which arises from the consciousness that Ire. land is not governed for the best in-

Archbishop Keane may be regarded as a disinterested observer, as he is future prosperity of Canada, and while not a resident either of England or we should undoubtedly be firm and solitary confinement which has taken | that there was an Irish question at all | Ireland, but of the United States. It | faithful to our religious convictions, would exaggerate the probability of a fines our neighbors, whom we should Fenelon.

It made no difference what English | future friendly feeling possibly aris- love, to be all men, even those who ing out of changed conditions between the people of the two countries. He recently visited Ireland, and in relating the result of his observations he remarked a few days ago that the people of Ireland do not desire the disruption of the British Empire, but if they were only well governed in accordance with their wishes they would become truly attached to the Empire and would be loval subjects. Would it not be to the interest of the people of England and Scotland to bring about this condition of affairs by granting to Ireland such a measure of Home Rule as is enjoyed by Canadians or Australians?

Surely it would be worth their while for British statesmen to make the experiment, now that they must be convinced that Parliament has too much to do. If Lord Salisbury will not do this, some future statesman will, and says: will so earn the gratitude of the whole Empire.

CANADIAN NATIONALITY.

The speech of the Hon. L. P. Brodeur, M. P. for Rouville, Que., and Speaker of the House of Commons, delivered in Toronto in the Queen's Park on the occasion of the celebration of concerns the home life of their people Dominion Day was noteworthy, from as in French Canada. A land without the fact that Mr. Brodeur is a French. Canadian proud of his nationality and religion, and that as such he was invited by the Toronto Committee for the celebration of the day to deliver a speech, the purpose of which was to cement the union between the two Provinces which are widest apart in the Dominion, both as regards race and creed.

The people of Toronto showed the pest possible will in selecting so able a representative of our French and Catholic Province to speak with such an object in view, and Speaker Brodeur made it manifest that he fully appreciated the object of the gathering, and it was quite equal to the occasion. Lieut Col. Mason, as Chairman of the Committee, introduced Mr. Brodeur, remarking that "the union of the Canadian Provinces, formed thirtyfour years ago, had turned out wellbetter, in fact, than many Canadians had anticipated would be the case.

"Canadians of all the Provinces had become a unit working for the common benefit, prosperity and welfare of their own country, and of the great Empire of which they constitute an of the Dominion.' important part, and now we are approaching the time when Dominion Day will be celebrated with sentiments of unity and fraternity in all parts of the Dominion." Col. Mason was loudly applauded when he introduced the audience before him.

The Hon. Mr. Brodeur then arose to speak amid prolonged cheering. He ing to English papers) upon the urged strongly on the people of Ontario, and especially of Toronto, to in the South African war, from Ontario for the unity of the great this mode of exciting sympathy, which said, "as French Canadians to take dians. We are convinced that Canon part in the celebration of Dominion Dixon himself would not have taken are the pioneers of civilization in this country, and we wish to join with you tion. It is of the highest importance to have in our own country, Canada, a every nation must have its national festival-not a feetival written merely on the cold leaves of the statute book. gether en fete as you are here to day ; on this great national day."

Mr. Brodeur then urged upon all Canadians, whether Catholic or Protestant, to be tolerant, friendly and brotherly to one another to make of Canada a great nation, for we have

great common interests to mention. In conclusion he asked that differences of religion and race should not keep us asunder as Canadians. He continued: "Let us not forget and if this were done, there would not that we are members of the great be that constant friction which is com. Christian family; that we are building up a nation under the protection of the British flag and the great British Empire, and let us write a page of history which our children will be glad to read and to learn.

This is the true keynote to the

differ from us in race and creed. It were much to be desired that friendly interchanges of views, like Mr. Brodeur's address before a Toronto audi. ence, were more frequent between the people of Quebec and Ontario, and then much of the distrust which has marred the relations of the two Provinces with each other would disappear.

THE FRENCH CANADIANS.

A respected correspondent calls our attention to the following extract from Mr. Gilbert Parker's dedication of his new book "The Lane that has no Turning," to Sir Wilfred Laurier. The author shows in these words keen appreciation of the noble qualities to be found in the people of the Province of Quebec. Mr. Parker "I have, as you know, traveled far

and wide during the past seventeen years, and though I have seen peoples frugal and industrous as the French Canadians; I have never seen frugality and industry associated with so much domestic virtue, so much edge. much domestic virtue, so much educa-tion and intelligence, and so deep and simple a religious life; nor have ever seen a priesthood at once so devoted and high minded in all that poverty, and yet without riches, French Canada stands alone, too well educated to have a peasantry, too poor to have an aristocracy : as though in her the ancient prayer has been answered Give neither poverty nor riches, but feed me with food convenient for me. And it is of the habitant of Quebec, before all men else, I should say Born with a golden spoon in his

To you, sir, I come with this book. which contains the first things I ever wrote out of the life of the Province so dear to you, and the last things, also, that I shall ever write about it. I beg to receive it as the loving recreation of one who sympathizes with a people from whom you come, and onors their virtue, and who has no fear for the unity, and not doubt as to the splendid achievements of the nation, whose fibre is got of the two great civilizing races of Europe.

Oar correspondent comments on the above as follows:

"This outpouring of such a noble and generous heart is very consoling d, and more than compensate inde for all that venom and abuse that he been heaped upon the heads of the people of Quebec, and their belove ergy, as wellas, incidentally, upon a fair share of other Provinces, who with the people of Quebec, form at least 43 per cent. of the people of the

OUT OF PLACE.

A despatch from Montreal states that Anglican circles there are much excied over appeals made in England to Churchmen through the English Rector of St. Jude's Church. These appeals for help are based (accordpart Canada took so willingly Montreal Churc had reflected upon its incongruity and unsuitableness.

The Very Rev. H. A. Constantineau, Rector of the University of Ottawa, has been on a visit to Regina, N. W. T. We trust he will return to Ottaws with renewed strength to carry on successfully for another term the great work of that simirable institution of which he is the distinguished head.

A POSITIVE DUTY

If we Catholics are no better than our neighbors - more truthful, more honest, more charitable, more merciful, more patient, more submissive to Providence, more pious, more holyhow will they be attracted to the Church? Oh, our judgment will be terrible if souls are lost through our bad example or our lack of good example !

SO LOVE HAS ORDAINED.

So I take my life as I find it, as a life full of grand advantages that are linked indissolubly to my noblest happiness and my everlasting safety. I believe that Infinite Love ordained it. and that if I bow willingly, tractably and gladly to its discipline, my Father will take care of it.—J. G. Holland.

Eyerything contributes to try you; but God who loves you will not permit you to be tempted beyond your strength. He will make use of the temptation for your advancement.

The Catholic Churc Greatest Civiliz Catholic Col On the occasion Pope Pius IX., June markable oration wa Protestant gentleman Baker, in the city

Ala. The words an as elevated as though consecrated lips. Go of the wonderful world of the Catholic Chu among other things : yet in that was through calumni ing and often man Church was forced to

cross. And he, who Pilate's palace, who Nazarene, craving head down, in toke His sake with that de of the martyr, whi manded of many sine of his successors, and unconquerable scul one who keeps watc at his tomb to-day. The course of Chris is sometimes traced w darkness and confu

days of illiteracy and which it had to pr direction of an arm obscured by smoke view from interven best observed by water that is carried at its of Christianity, the steady columns of e fronting everywher most surely indicated ensign, flashing per history's thickest g been steadily borne s the ages, at the her by the Holy Fathe Of that ensign, thu has never for a mon For eighteen hunds been conspicuously crisis of civilization We see it there Alaric, when its Ser

peror were helpless. powerful barbarian. through the Salarian and, by the light of had set on fire, turn loose to slaughter s see again that ban sacred vessels of th Peter and St. Paul. multitude of terror and children, who is rors crowd around th as by the order of A guard, mingling th with Christian hymn and the golden treas and fire, safely acro eter of Rome and trembling throng

harmed within the fortress of the Vatica Again we catch as he goes out from to confront Attila, t who called himself God," and striking heart with those unarmed justice and warns him away fro aside the whirlwind

We hear people of age, judging all th superstition of the the dark ages. author of the ninet of the most renown the English tongue, Macaulay, takes a d England, fit to rank tured page," declar spoken of by divi Genesis was never during those evil de rode in darkness at deluge beneath w entombed, bearing feeble germ from w more glorious ci spring.

this so-called ignor derive our language six hundred years, invasion by Julius mained under the Cæsars, and notwi lightenment of the the splengor that withstanding the ef to civilize and adve notwithstanding th that triple wall; w chained by the reli was a dark as well stition. But the in magic the change first, justly called t Augustine with for channel, who lands no other weapon t verts the whole is faith. And that almost disappeared

the clouds of barbe

England, prosper England," resplen

of that Catholic tru

What, for instance