

The Catholic Register.

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THURSDAY, AUGUST 10, 1899.

Aug. 10 S. Lawrence.

11—S. Xavier.

12—S. Clare.

13—S. Anthony.

14—S. Bernard.

15—ASSUMPTION OF THE B. V. M.

16—S. Roch.

Bishop McEvay.

Right Rev. Dr. McEvay was nobly welcomed to the diocese of London on Sunday last, after his solemn reception of the episcopal power under the hands of his immediate predecessor in the See.

The Catholic people of London honored themselves by the heartiness of their welcome, and although theirs was the leading part in the joy of the occasion, the felicitations of the representatives of the Catholic body in the city of Hamilton, and the Bishop's classmates from St. Michael's College were not less touching and eloquent of esteem and love.

Hon. Edward Blake.

Hon. Edward Blake, M.P., will be back in Canada this week for a brief holiday. The remainder of the month of August and part of September will probably be spent at the summer home of the family on the St. Lawrence, but doubtless the great Liberal statesman will be seen again in Toronto before the end of next month.

We are fallen upon an odd interval in Canada. Never in the history of the country, at least since confederation, has party warfare been so embittered, at the same time that each party in essence day by day the disappointment of the honest masses. The people may indeed ask themselves whether Canada has ceased growing politicians who know how to draw the breath of independence. Nor is this alone the sole measure of our deficiency, inasmuch as passing events are almost continually proving that at the present hour we do not possess in the domestic ranks of our active sons one upon whose knowledge, judgment and patriotism the bulk of the people are willing to rely in a moment of doubt or difficulty.

Hon. Edward Blake is the best type we have. His political career in Canada exemplified the best principles of Liberalism. Although in the days of his leadership the Liberal battle was sustained against overwhelming odds, he consistently taught his comrades, and all who might follow after him, how to maintain argument without giving way to anger; how to insist upon a clear course for the public right without seeming personal friendship; how to be loyal to the crown without servile echoing of the British party cries—and last but not least how to maintain with dignity

our neighborly relations towards the United States.

By displaying at all times an unprejudiced judgment strongly based in the knowledge of our Canadian people and their institutions, Hon. Edward Blake was looked up to with even respect by all classes. Partly on this account, but principally by virtue of his intimacy with our laws and conditions, he has, since his entrance into the Parliament at Westminster, been consulted on various occasions in matters deeply affecting Canadian interests. So that he may be said to have constantly sustained his relations with the Dominion and his fellow-citizens on this side of the water.

Since his last visit Mr. Blake has been engaged in the peaceful revolution that has turned over to the people of Ireland their county and municipal institutions. Not less immense because of the quietness with which it was accompanied, this overthrow of what was in reality an alien ascendancy in Ireland, marks a world-epoch in the advancement of practical democracy. Mr. Blake had a large share in shaping the statutory instrument of revolution; and no doubt his close acquaintance with the working of a somewhat similar law in Canada gave his counsel special weight in the British House of Commons. The satisfaction with which the law has gone into operation in Ireland, and the praise which the chosen representatives of the people have won, even from the landlords whom they overturned, give the safest indication of the steady progress of the nation towards complete Home Rule. One thing is certain from the victories achieved during the period of Hon. Edward Blake's connection with Irish politics: that productive of true reform and fruitful for the cause of the working people as was Mr. Blake's political career in his own country, his achievements in the domain of Irish reform convey a more vivid lesson to the young men just beginning to feel the attractions of life's warfare.

The Irish people in Canada have the highest reasons for holding Mr. Blake in their esteem and affection. This has been said so often that it might indeed sound like purposeless repetition were it not for the fact that Mr. Blake has not been here since the creation of the new Irish councils. The occasion is therefore appropriate for extending the heartiest thanks and congratulations to the Irish-Canadian whose eminent services to the popular cause both in Canada and in Ireland entitle him to the gratitude of all good men. The Register knows that it speaks for all the Irish in Canada when it endeavors to express the heartiest good wishes to Mr. Blake upon his return to home and friends.

The Growing Time.

To the great surprise of the world and his wife, the gray steps adopted (with "musical honors") by the Parliament of Canada for the purpose of bringing Herr Kruger to time have utterly failed to impress that plegmatic Dutchman. The latest news from the Transvaal is to the effect that Kruger has snubbed Mr. Chamberlain again, and that all the inhabitants of the Boer republic have been made liable to imprisonment for the country's defence in the event of an English invasion.

All we have to say about the matter is just what we stated last week that Kruger is most disrespectful to Sir Wilfrid Laurier. Paul was magnanimously proffered the opportunity of adopting "Canadian institutions" (including the "threatening machine" and other precious chattels); and in his republican pride and buccolic prejudice he positively treated the noble offer with indifference. What is to be done with such a man but leave him to his fate!

One sad effect of Kruger's conduct is already visible here in Canada. It has really stirred up a domestic feeling of disrespect for our great Premier. Principal Grant has written to the Globe from a sick bed in a New York hospital in a way that challenges the Parliament of Canada to speak for the Canadian people on this subject, and he adds a contemptuous allusion to Sir Wilfrid Laurier's statement concerning the constitution and history of the Transvaal. The editor of Citizen and Country, and several other editors are also displaying a reckless disregard for the Premier's wisdom; and even in the Senate (although any sort of contumacy may be expected in that quarter) the great Sage of

Bothwell, when adding the weight of his high opinion to the pronouncement of the Premier, was laughed at and contradicted by a member of the opposition—Her Majesty's "loyal" opposition, forsooth.

Censorship or prosecution is simply too good for the editors. And as for the Senate's patience with that body will presently cease to be considered a patriotic virtue.

However there is another side to the shield. The Premier shows unmistakably that he is not discouraged. On the contrary he is gradually taking on all the trappings of dignity that history allows to Constantine the Great or that the modern world grants to Admiral Dowe. Sir Wilfrid's latest achievement is the snubbing of an emissary of President McKinley, who came with an invitation to the corner-stone laying of the new Chicago Post-office. The special ambassador's name was Fitzpatrick (not the Bohemian General); and when he went back to Washington he reported Sir Wilfrid's reply, "that in the present state of public feeling in the United States it would not be entirely safe for the Governor-General and himself to visit Chicago, as he feared they might in a great gathering of such a character as the Chicago ceremony be subjected to some unpleasantness or indignity." Certainly; after the indignity put upon the Premier of Canada by Herr Kruger, it is impossible to be sure of the behaviour of these republicans, whether they be Anglo-Saxons or Dutchmen. Nor is Sir Wilfrid taking more elaborate precautions than his royal friends, the Czar of Russia and Emperor William, who are also considering how to safeguard their dignity when they visit the French republic for the opening of the exposition of 1900. There is, as we all know, "the dignity that doth hedge kings;" and it is most lamentable that it should ever be under the unworthy necessity of rubbing its skirts against any republican mob.

The Canadian Cardinal.

From time to time reference has been made to the vacancy left in the Canadian hierarchy by the death of Cardinal Taschereau. There are three possible recipients of this appointment. It was not expected that a Canadian would be found in the list of the recent consistory, but that reservation did not necessarily imply an indefinite postponement. We are not now surprised to see a quick revival of anticipation in Canada as well as in outside circles where interest is felt in Canadian affairs. The Rome correspondent of The Weekly Register, London, has reason to believe that the consistorial appointments then made were only part of those in contemplation. The same correspondent declares:

"I think I am now in a position to say that a consistory of some importance will be held at a date not long before Christmas as a kind of forerunner of the Jubilee year. The death of Cardinal Mercier leaves the Pope another vacancy to dispose of, and as there are some Hais already vacant, and there may be more before the date of the consistory, I expect to see a list of three or four new Cardinals in all, and I shall personally be surprised if one of them is not a Canadian."

Dismissing a recent article in THE REGISTER on the great preponderance of Protestants on the Ontario bench, THE Catholic Times, of Liverpool, England, says: "The Canadian Catholics must be easy going folk when they tolerate such glaring unfairness. They may rest assured that it will continue if they do not place it beyond doubt that they are determined to assert their rights."

The following appeared in The Globe of Friday: "A large and thoroughly representative meeting of Catholic Liberals from all parts of the Province was held yesterday afternoon. It was finally decided not to hold a public convention. The conclusions arrived at the meeting were unanimous, and the utmost cordiality and good feeling were manifested. Among those present were O. K. Frazer, Brockville; F. R. Letchford and Charles Murphy, Ottawa; J. R. O'Reilly and P. K. Hulpin, Prescott; John A. Osholm, Cornwall; C. D. MacAnally, Belleville; P. J. Woods, Brampton; P. J. Crowley, St. Catharines; T. F. Brown, Waind; W. J. Murphy, London; D. J. O'Keefe, Oshawa; M. P. P., Windsor; C. J. McCabe, Dr. W. McKewen, W. T. J. Lee, A. Cottam, W. T. Koraham, B. E. Hughes and Thomas Mulvey, Toronto.

Our English contemporary The Weekly Register, London, is vigorously discussing the proposal to bring forty French monks from Solomes to sing the daily office in the new Westminster Cathedral. The objection which has the support of the chapter is taken on national grounds and is thus expressed by our London namesake: "We have only to imagine the effect on the English mind of a national English cathedral with forty Frenchmen piping the office in an apse behind the high altar." The arrangement for the present hangs fire and may be abandoned.

Our old friend "Flavour" is not always entitled to the benefit of the doubt when he falls into error. However, we are willing to concede it to him in connection with the following paragraph from his hand in The Mail and Empire of Saturday: "No one will dispute that the Government has acted rightly in commencing the extreme penalty in the case of Edward O'Neill, the 10-year old boy murderer. The crime was as bad as it could be with no extenuating circumstances, and, of course, the law is nothing more than a mere brute, but still the authorities could not afford the full penalty. So the community will be satisfied with the cost of keeping the prisoner for the remainder of his natural life. The crucial question is a complex one."

The boy's name is Elliott, not O'Neill.

In our old country news columns to-day will be found a short account of an open-air procession in London held by Italian Catholics. The incident has had a disastrous effect upon Mr. William Johnston who is affording the House of Commons another reminder of what kind of an animal your true Orangeman is where religion is in question. He intends to ask the Solicitor-General whether he is aware that recently there has been organized in the neighbourhood of Hatton Garden an outdoor religious procession in honour of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, "in which various Roman Catholic clergymen walked"; whether the law imposes a penalty on Roman Catholic clergymen who take part in public processions; and whether the prosecution against Roman Catholic processions, issued on the 16th June, in the fifteenth year of her Majesty's reign, will be reissued to prevent the repetition of the offence committed.

Sir Alfred Milner is an ex-editor, trained by Mr. Stead in the old days of The Pall Mall Gazette. Stead does not think that Milner used him quite fairly, and writes a "character sketch" of his ex-assistant from this point of view. "One of Milner's duties," writes Stead, "was to go through his chief's articles in proof and 'tone them down.'" "He would squirm at an adjective here, reduce a superlative there, and generally strike out anything that seemed calculated needlessly to irritate or offend. He was always putting water in my wine. He was always combing out the knots in the tangled mane of the 'P.M.G.', and when the Hon. opened his mouth Milner was always at hand to be consulted as to the advisability of modulating the force of his roar." His task was most useful, but when he proved he sometimes went to the quick, and the victim smarted while his offspring bled. And now I am sadly avenged. For by some strange Nemesis Milner seems to have been doomed, to use up as material for his own despatch (from Capetown) all the strongest overstrained adjectives and epithets which in the whole three years he was with me had come out of the proofs of the Pall Mall."

Our military celebrity, Sam. Hughes, of Lindsay, has done much during the present session of parliament to introduce warlike methods into the legislative business. It was he who wanted his colleagues and the country at large to huc "thousands of Canadians," armed to the teeth, at the devoted gray head of Paul Kruger. Col. Sam Hughes was of course to be in command of the legions. As soon as Chamberlain and the English Jingoism heard of it, their instant increase of confidence said as plainly as actions could speak: "Now let loose the dogs of war." Next day at the meeting of the Privileges and Elections committee Sam proceeded to get into training for the impending fray. He engaged in hand grips with a member of the committee and wrestled a book from the hands of his opponent with the most dashing bravery. He has made marvellous progress since, and has even charged upon one of the oldest men in the House, Mr. Britton of Kingston. Now Sam is not past forty years of age, whereas Mr. Britton is nearly eighty, so that all the advantages and odds are obviously on the side of the younger man. But Sam doesn't mind being handicapped even to the difference of forty years or so. The newspaper versions of the encounter over Sam with the hero of the most reckless bravery. We clip the following from Friday's Globe:

OTTAWA, Aug. 8.—The proceedings before the Privileges and Elections Com-

mittee have been marked by a good deal of bitterness between members, but to-day for the first time two members of Parliament actually came to blows in the committee.

Mr. Britton was cross-examining a witness, Maitland Whitley, as to the time of day when he had his dinner and voted, and asked him: "You are a married man, and keep house?" "No I am single," the witness replied.

"How many children?" asked Col. Hughes, who was sitting on a front bench.

Mr. Britton turned angrily to Mr. Hughes and told him he had no right to ask the witness such a question, as he was not a member of the committee, but his usual impudence had done so.

Col. Hughes said that Mr. Britton had no right to address him.

Mr. Britton appealed to the Chair.

Mr. Fortin said: "Members of the House who are not members of the committee will please remember, as they well know, they have no right to interpose or address the committee, except by special leave of the committee."

Mr. Hughes objected to Mr. Britton calling him impudent.

Mr. Britton said: "He is a man of the greatest impudence that there is in the House—a perfect scoundrel."

Col. Hughes retorted, jumping to his feet: "I won't stand that from anyone," and made a dash for Mr. Britton. He drew back to strike him.

Mr. Britton squared to meet the blow, saying: "I dare you to do it."

Mr. Sifton and other members of the committee rushed between them and prevented bloodshed.

Mr. Britton sat down and refused to go on unless some action was taken towards excluding Mr. Hughes, but the Chairman said there was nothing before the committee and the matter dropped.

Were it not that the news appears in the "Missions Catholiques" we should feel inclined to say, The Liverpool Catholic Times, to doubt the authenticity of the statement that fifty thousand Nestorians have become converts to the faith. Mgr. Almayor has, it is announced, sent to the Sovereign Pontiff a letter announcing the conversions as the outcome of his preaching of two sons of St. Dominic who, at the command of the Holy Father, went as missionaries to the Nestorians—Fathers Rhetor and Franco—and stating that thirty thousand Armenians joined the Catholic Church as the same time. These wholesale conversions, like conversions for the purposes of marriage, do not always generate the feeling that the change of faith has been based upon sincerity of conviction. But in the case of the Nestorians and Armenians, it must be borne in mind that they are not far removed from us, and that therefore the step they have taken did not involve any great mental effort. For some years the Russian Orthodox Church has been making overtures to the Nestorians, and from time to time there have been reports of conversions, but it would seem that the two Dominicans have been more successful than the Russian emissaries with all their resources.

S. S. Examination.

Dear Mr. Editor.—In your issue of July 27th you publish a list of the successful candidates at the late "De La Salle entrance examinations," in which your readers were told "F. Huxley, St. Helen's came out first boy for the whole city." As a matter of fact Norman and John Brady, brothers, head the list of boys and girls of the whole city; and Lilly Benn takes the fifth place of the boys and girls of the whole city. But these children belong to St. Basil's School. Will you kindly explain? I should not have troubled you with this communication had it been the first accident that deprived St. Basil's boys of their well-earned laurels.—I am yours etc.

Death of Mr. P. W. Ryan.

The news of the death of Mr. P. W. Ryan, eldest son of the late Mr. H. H. Ryan, of this city, came as a shock to the community. The deceased had been ill for some time, and his death was daily expected. The body was brought from Walkerville, Quebec, and was conveyed to the family residence in Rosedale. On Tuesday morning the funeral services were held in Our Lady of Lourdes church. The Rev. Father Cruise, pastor, celebrated Mass, and pronounced the Absolution, assisted by the Rev. Father Tracy. The Rev. Father Murray presided at the organ. The church was crowded with friends of the family. The heartfelt sympathies of THE REGISTER are extended to the bereaved mother, Mrs. Ryan, and the members of the family.

Personal.

Rev. Brother Arnold, for many years the director of the Christian Brothers of this city, was here for a few days on a visit to his old home, De la Salle Institute. His many friends in Toronto will be glad to hear that the good Brother, though advancing in years, is still hale and hearty, and save a rheumatic draw back as active as ever. His headquarters are now at St. Louis, whither he goes about making visits at other points where his community are located. God speed him and spare him yet for many years.

THE CONFERENCE AT THE HAGUE.

(Written for THE REGISTER.)

Man is a fighting animal. Restless, covetous, ambitious, he is ever on the move and seldom unwilling to jostle his neighbor out of place or profit or both. And, as the neighbor "very much like him, and refuses to budge if he can help it, collision and contact become inevitable. Then bad temper and pride and obstinacy, and the lower instincts which reason but insufficiently represses hurry him into war.

How to prevent such a calamity has always been a live problem with the thoughtful and religious portion of the race; and never more so than in our own day when the meretricious magnificence of armaments is enough to scorch the bravest heart. All sorts of attempts have been made and countless experiments tried for the purpose of putting an end to the great scourge, or at least of mitigating its horrors.

The greatest contemporary effort in this direction is now about finished in a city of obscure Holland, where representatives of all the powers have convened upon invitation or suggestion of the Czar.

The assembly thus formed is worthy of being carefully studied, for it is beyond doubt most grand and august from every point of view. In personnel it is made up of men, the first, for their various regions in ability, learning and zeal. The old Roman senate, which to common minds seemed a meeting of the gods, can hardly have been more venerable. And then the aim and purpose of the meeting lift it high above all commonplace, and invest it with an interest which it is difficult to exaggerate. The wealth, the power and the wisdom of the world are fairly represented in this parliament of the nations with a view to scourge and promote the well-being of mankind.

Who but must wish them success? Who when he reflects upon this mighty force directly or indirectly controlled by these delegates can doubt that they will achieve more than they are wont to do?

And so I think they will. It is not to be believed that so many able men can meet and confer upon such high interests without being lifted above their native littleness and given to see more deeply into the ways of preventing war, or, at least, of qualifying some of its worst features.

This much at all events can be reasonably expected, and for that reason—the Russian ruler deserves well of his people if he has done as much as he has for the representatives of the powers themselves to come up out of the arid desert of theory and talk and address themselves to the work of discovering, if so be they can, a more noble means of lightening the military burden of their people. How far they will succeed in reaching this much desired end the future alone can decide.

But that they will not, say do not, even hope to get an end to all war is about as probable as a prophet's prediction of God upon earth. I mean of course the Pope, the vicar of Him who is called, the Prince of Peace. It makes one almost despair of the whole business if one opens with such a blunder. If an ocean of tears and prayers had been crossed the mariners would not have been in rejecting the only ship that promised to be able for the voyage, and their folly would be like that of the prospectors of this conference.

We put aside here all thought of the spiritual power of the Pope, though, of course, that is the most important element in the whole matter—and look at the case with merely political eyes.

Why does the wisdom of parliament rule that every member shall address not his opponent but the speaker of the house? Partly, it is in order to temper passion and moderate discussion by eliminating, as far as possible, the element of personal feeling, but mainly because the speaker is chosen for his judicial-mindedness and impartiality. Theoretically at least, he is chosen to be any party the moment he takes the chair; he represents extravagance with an equally firm hand, no matter which side they proceed from, and is the ideal President just in proportion as both sides find him, guided in his discoveries, by wisdom and justice and fair-play to everyone. But above all he must completely merge the partisan in the judge.

Now who could bring so many of these necessary qualifications to the chair of the great conference as the Pope or his representative? First of all he must take as more of a Catholic view of things than other Catholics; of a Frenchman, a German, or the citizen of any other land, not only may, but, in a sense, is bound to be the special advocate of his own country's interests. These with him are permanent. If he ceases them he ceases comparatively little what may befall outside. The Pope, on the whole he will feel bound to fight for home, and as everyone else will do the same there is little chance of argument. Now the Pope begins by being a great measure free from this drawback. He has no country of his own; territory at least, but he has no interests therefore interests everywhere. In his therefore to German comes home to him as closely as ever. His headquarters are now at St. Louis, whither he goes about making visits at other points where his community are located. God speed him and spare him yet for many years.

When the other delegates can only hope to end, that is, in getting an adequate view of the relations of all the countries, in order to adjust them to