

A TIMELY ARTICLE.

The Catholic Cause in France.

However opinions may differ as to whether the latest tendencies of French foreign policy are pacific or otherwise, it is certain that from a Catholic point of view the internal state of the country is far more satisfactory than it was. A gradual change for the better has been taking place for some years past, interrupted it is true by some unfortunate incidents, such as the absurd prosecution of the Archbishop of Aix for writing a letter to the Minister of Public Worship which was held to treat so high a functionary with inadequate respect; nevertheless the state of things has been growing very much better than what it was before, during that period of religious persecution inaugurated by Gambetta with his cry "Le clericalisme, viola l'ennemi!" and brought to its crisis by the atheistic zealot Jules Ferry. There were very dark days indeed for the Catholic cause in France. Politicians in power believed that there was a strong current of public opinion against the Church, and that the policy of the "priest eaters" was the one by which popularity was to be gained. There certainly was little sympathy in the country for the persecuted clergy and the religious orders, except in the higher social ranks. The people had become violently republican, and the clergy as a class, being strongly attached either to the Royal or Bonapartist cause, were regarded as political adversaries, and the whole official organization of the country, from the Cabinet down to the most insignificant clerk employed in the sub Prefecture, was directed against them. Persecution was carried so far that signs of a reaction were soon perceived at headquarters. Even M. Jules Ferry was compelled to recognize the fact that France was still a Catholic country and that although it might like to make its parish priests miserable for a while to punish them for their political leanings, it had not the slightest intention to do without priests. Children had still to be christened, and people had to be married and buried with befitting ceremony. The Frenchwoman, moreover, had to be reckoned with. She, while her husband went to anti-clerical meetings, sent her children to catechism and made elaborate preparations for their first Communion. M. Ferry long before he died is said to have regretted much of the zeal he had shown in the persecution of the Church; not because his conscience pricked him, but because his sagacity told him that he had miscalculated the resisting force of Catholicity in France, and that his anti-religious policy had gained him no staunch friends, but a multitude of irreconcilable adversaries. The threatening movement of Boulangism—so nearly crowned with success—proved among other things that the country had had more than enough of religious persecutions, and that what it desired most was internal peace. Boulanger had been shrewd enough to perceive the blunder that men of the party with which he had been associated and who gave him his chance had been making and one of the leading points in his programme was religious and civil pacification. He failed to achieve his end, but those who remained masters of the ground profited by the lessons he had given them. The last Parliament quite realized upon its election that it was the wish of the country that such burning coals as the separation of Church and State should be left untouched. And they were left untouched, except by a Radical minority without influence. Tactics were much changed or modified. Inspectors of communal schools received the hint that they were not obliged to notice every "religious emblem," even when they saw it, nor to mention in their reports that prayers were said contrary to the law, in certain schools. They were to be guided by the prevailing spirit in the locality. There are hundreds of communal schools in France, mostly girls schools, where the crucifix still hangs against the wall and where the lessons commence with Catholic prayers. The encyclicals and letters of Leo XIII. for the guidance of French Catholics have no doubt done much to soften down certain asperities in this country. The Chamber of Deputies, elected last August, and which has just opened its first session, promises to be more conciliatory to Catholic sentiments and interests than the last one. Moderate tendencies are very decidedly in the ascendant. Speaking in

behalf of two hundred Republican deputies, the other day, M. Raynal said: "We desire religious peace, not religious war. Whatever our theoretical aspirations may be as regards the future, we do not believe that we are called upon in this legislature to touch the questions of the separation of Church and State. The majority of the country has not asked for it." No, and a great change must take place in public feeling before it will be asked for. On the whole, therefore, the new Parliament commences its work under circumstances far more favorable to the Catholic cause in France than those which we have had at any time since the Republican became the settled form of Government.—*Liverpool Catholic Times.*

HOW TO BE A GOOD HUSBAND.

All husbands want to be helpful to their wives. Their intentions are all right, but they do not know how to go about it in such a way that their services will prove of value rather than act as hindrances. It does not follow that a man is a mamby-pamby sort of a fellow because he has the knack of doing many little things about the house in a finished and systematic manner as a capable woman. It comes naturally to some to be helpful, while others try hard, but are continually in their own way, and manage to make more trouble by their clumsy efforts than the original duty would have occasioned.

The helpful man notes when the coal-cuttle needs filling or the grass requires cutting. He can, on a pinch, cook the breakfast or sweep the parlor. He does not walk over and around an article that has been dropped upon the floor, but picks it up and puts it in its proper place. If a rug is disarranged he quickly fixes it and straightens pictures or a cric-a-brac without being told to do so.

If curtains are to be hung, he gets the stepladder and does not contrive to break the best mirror in his passage from one room to the next with the aforesaid flight of steps. He knows where the tacks, pins and hammer are, and he does not call upon each individual member of the family to hand him the various articles that he drops on the floor.

If the baby cries at night, he does not make any uncomplimentary remarks, but is able to fix its food without burning a hole in the bottom of the saucepan or spilling the mixture over his wife or the howling infant.

And the last and crowning virtue that he possesses is that he can find his own possessions in a bureau-drawer without calling wife and children to assist him in search for something that is directly under his nose. The helpful man is a jewel, but, as we remarked before, he is a most decided rarity.

COMMERCIAL.

FLOUR, GRAIN, Etc.

Flour.—Patent Spring.....\$3.65 @ \$3.90
Patent Winter.....3.60 @ 3.85
Straight Roller.....3.00 @ 3.20
Extra.....2.75 @ 3.00
Superfine.....2.50 @ 2.70
Fine.....2.15 @ 2.30
City Strong Bakers.....3.40 @ 3.65
Manitoba Bakers.....3.25 @ 3.55
Ontario bags—extra.....1.35 @ 1.40
Straight Rollers.....1.40 @ 1.45
Superfine.....1.15 @ 1.30
Fine.....1.00 @ 1.10

Feed.—Sales of car lots have been made on track at \$15.50 to \$16. Short lots of fine quality have changed hands at \$16.50 to \$17.00. Mouille is quiet at \$20 to \$22 as to quality.

Oatmeal.—Rolled and granulated \$4.20 to \$4.50. Standard \$3.85 to \$4.10. In bags, granulated and rolled are quoted at \$2.05 to \$2.10, and standard, \$1.85 to \$1.95.

Wheat.—No 2 spring for May sold down to 67½ yesterday, at 67½ on a through rate of freight to Liverpool of 25¢ per 100 lbs. In Manitoba wheat No 1 hard 1 field at 61¢. Port Arthur with 6½ bid No 1 hard at Brandon is quoted at 41¢ and No 2 at 43¢. Here prices are purely nominal.

Corn.—Prices are nominal at 60¢ to 61¢ in car lots.

Peas.—We quote No. 2 at 67½ to 68¢. In the Stratford section sales are reported at 61¢ to 61½ per 60 lbs.

Oats.—Lots at 37½ to 38¢ per 34 lbs for No. 2; No. 3 are quoted at 34½. Mixed oats have sold in the West for export at 30½ on a 300 through freight to Liverpool.

Barley.—No 1 Malting barley is offered freely at 60¢ in car lots. Feed is quoted at 42¢ to 43¢.

Malt.—Sales are reported at 70¢ to 75¢.

Buckwheat.—Here we quote 52¢ to 53¢.

Rye.—In this market prices are purely nominal at 52¢ to 53¢. Sales in the West, however, have been made at 43¢. A sale was made here at 48¢.

S. & S.—Red clover was sold West of Toronto at \$5.00 for Montreal account, and prices are quoted here at \$4.75 to \$4.25 per bushel. Alsike is quoted at \$7.00 to \$7.25. Western timothy is quiet at \$3 to \$3.25.

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Capital, \$5,000,000.

EASTERN ASSURANCE CO. OF HALIFAX N.S.
Capital, \$1,000,000.

PROVISIONS.

Pork, Lard, &c.—We quote:

Canada short cut pork per bbl.\$17.50 @ 18.00
Canada clear mess, per bbl.17.00 @ 17.50
Chicago clear mess, per bbl.17.00 @ 18.00
Mess pork, American, new, per bbl.17.00 @ 17.25
Hams, per lb.12 @ 12½
Lard, pure in pails, per lb.11½ @ 12½
Lard, com. in pails, per lb.10 @ 11½
Bacon, per lb.11½ @ 12½
Shoulders, per lb.10 @ 10½

Dressed Hogs.—Holders in the West asking \$8.25 which means \$8.80 laid down here. We quote prices here \$6.50 to \$8.50. At any rate the market is firm at the moment at \$6.50 per 100 lbs. for car lots.

DAIRY PRODUCE.

Butter.—per lb.
Creamery, August22¢ to 24½
Creamery Sep. and Oct.22½ to 24½
Eastern Townships22¢ to 23½
Western18¢ to 20½

For single tubs of selected, 10 per lb may be added to the above.

Cheese.—
Finest Western colored11½ to 11½
Finest Western white11½ to 11½
Finest Quebec1½ to 1½
Underpicks10¢ to 10½
Liverpool cable white55¢ to 55¢
Liverpool cable colored55¢ to 55¢

COUNTRY PRODUCE.

Eggs.—Sales of Montreal limited have taken place at 16¢ to 17¢. Fresh long stock is firm with sales at 22¢ to 24¢ and for nearly guaranteed stock more money has been realized.

Dressed Poultry.—Turkeys meet with ready sale at 10¢ to 10½. Good frozen stock and fairly well at 9¢ to 10¢ and scalded at 9¢.

Nice young chickens properly dressed for this market are in good demand with sales at 8¢. Scalded chickens have sold at 6¢ to 6½ per lb.

Ducks are in good request, and sales have been made 8¢ to 9¢, a lot of fancy dry-picked bringing 10¢.

Geese are not in such urgent demand although a fair amount of stock has been disposed of at 6¢ for nicely dressed stock, an occasional nice dry-picked lot bringing 6½¢, while common stock is offered at 5¢.

Game.—Partridges have sold at 50¢ to 60¢ per brace.

Honey.—White clover honey in comb at 12¢ to 13¢. Dark buckwheat comb is quoted at 10¢ to 12¢. Extracted 7¢ to 8½¢ for new, and 6¢ to 7¢ for old.

Maple Products.—Syrup 60¢ to 65¢ in cans as to quality, and 4¢ to 5¢ in wood as to quality. Dark sugar 60¢, and we quote 6¢ to 7¢.

Loose Hay, etc.—Sold at from \$6.50 to \$9.00 per 100 bundles of 15 lbs each as to quality, the inside price for dark cow hay and the outside for prime clean Timothy. Loose straw \$3.00 to \$5.00 as to quality and condition.

Straw Hay, etc.—At \$10.00 to \$10.50 for No 1 Timothy and \$9.00 to \$9.50 for No 2. There is also some demand at country points for No 2 shipping hay at \$8.00 to \$9.00 per ton.

Beans.—Jobbing lots are quoted at \$1.35 to \$1.50 for good to choice hand picked, and other kinds all the way from \$1.00 to \$1.25.

FRUITS, Etc.

Apples.—No. 1 selling at \$3.50 to \$4.00 per barrel for round lots and No. 2 from \$2.50 to \$3.00 per barrel.

Grapes.—At \$3.75 to \$5.00 per barrel as to weight and quality. Catawba grapes are selling from 2½¢ to 3¢ per bush.

Grape Fruit.—Quoted from \$3.00 to \$3.50 per box.

Oranges.—Florida oranges are in good demand from \$2.00 to \$3.00 per box according to size.

Lemons.—We quote from \$3.50 to \$5.00 per box.

Onions.—There is a slight decline in Spanish at 80¢ to 85¢ per cwt.

Potatoes.—From 60¢ to 65¢ per bag in car lots on track.

Bananas.—The demand is limited at \$2.25 to \$2.50 per bunch.

Cranberries.—Are quoted from \$3.00 to \$7.00 per bbl.

Pears.—A Florida pears are in fair demand at \$1.75 to \$2.50 per box.

Pigs.—Are selling well from 80¢ to 10¢ per lb. for choice while fancy are selling from 12¢ to 13¢ per lb.

Dates.—Are in good demand at \$1 to 5½¢ per lb.

Coconuts.—Are in limited demand at \$1 per sack of 100.

FISH AND OILS.

Pickled Fish.—Shore herring are quiet but firm at \$1.25 to \$1.50, in good sized lots, 2 green Labrador selling at \$5.00 to \$5.25 per bbl. Green cod, N. 1 is quoted at \$4.50 to \$5.00. Dry cod is quiet at \$4.50 to \$5.00 per bbl. 12½¢. Labrador salmon in 11-reem at \$2.50 to \$2.75 for No. 1, and \$1.80 for No 2; in bbls \$12.50 to \$14.

Oil.—Steam refined coal oil continues firm at 48¢ to 50¢. N. W. oil and oil is steady at 48¢ to 50¢, and cod liver oil 65¢ to 70¢ for W. and 45¢ to 50¢ for old.

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