

The Catholic Register.

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

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Register of the Week.

The Pope has sent out an important encyclical to the Bishops in the East Indies, commanding them to establish *Diocesan Seminaries* wherever possible for the education of native youth to the priesthood. In this he is but following out the elevating custom of the Church in all ages. Race and color are no bar to the highest positions in the Church of Christ—that true Democracy, where merit is the only qualification for advancement. The Pope, in taking this step, is guided by the soundest principles of missionary work—principles which have been ably enunciated by his Grace of Toronto—that the Church has not a firm and lasting foothold in a country until it produces its own native priesthood. We regret, however, that his good intentions are hampered by lack of funds. It is a subject of surprise and regret that Protestants, in spite of the prevalence of indifference, are contributing more lavishly to missionary work than Catholics, with the honorable exception of the French people. And it is all the more surprising when we read the accounts of the works of both missions, showing that the Catholic missionaries make far better use of the slender means at their disposal than the sectaries do.

The Pope has further shown his zeal to give the best education to the numerous souls under his charge, by re-establishing the College of the Maronites at Rome. The long tried devotion of this faithful Eastern Church was manifested in the pilgrim age lately made to his Holiness. For faith, amid difficulties, this stalwart band of Christians might be appropriately called the Irish in the East.

There is a quiet depth of pathos in the visit of the Holy Father to the tomb of St. Peter on the eve of the great Apostle's Feast. The words of our account are simple: "The Holy Father, kneeling, buried his face in his hands and remained until 10.30 p.m., absorbed in silent prayer." But to a Catholic heart there is a world of thought in that simple scene. The spare, white-haired old man, bowed down in prayer before his predecessor's tomb. Like him he is a prisoner in his own See; like him he seeks to lead the fallen world to the truth and peace of Christ, and receives in return imprisonment and persecution. But to us it contains not pathos alone, but renewed hope. Christ was persecuted, Peter was persecuted—shall Leo escape it? It is from such scenes as this we learn to feel that, in more ways than one, the Church is never nearer being the Church Triumphant than when she is the Church Suffering.

The action of the Catholics of England in dedicating their land to St.

Peter is most grateful to St. Peter's successor. As a writer in the *Dublin Review* shows, England was from the earliest ages devoted to the Prince of the Apostles, kings, bishops and people without number having made the toil some pilgrim's age to his See. The event is a happy omen. We have devotions to saints symbolical of every virtue; that to St. Peter is especially the devotion of unity and obedience. It will reflect itself in that feeling of loyalty to the person of the Sovereign Pontiff, which has developed so strongly among Catholics in our day.

Six thousand dollars have been subscribed for the memorial fund of the late Cardinal Manning. It is to be applied, in accordance with his known wishes, to some plan for the relief of London's poor. This is most appropriate. The Cardinal's best memorial is where he would wish it—in the affectionate hearts of the poor and suffering, and no amount of marble could, with any sculptor's skill, make him a monument half so grand, not if an Angelo were to carve a mountain in his form.

There is much consolation in the latest reports from Uganda, where some time ago the Protestants, Mohammedans and Pagans (a fine combination) united to massacre the native Catholics. Sir Gerald Portal, who was appointed to settle the trouble, restored the Catholics to most of the territory from which they were driven, and decreed that the offices of Minister of Justice, and commanders of troops and canoes should be held jointly by a Protestant and a Catholic. As he is a Protestant, his evidence as to the comparative merits of the French priests and the Church Missionary Society is a valuable testimony to the effective work of our missions. He praises the devotion of the natives at Mass, the efforts made by the priests to promote agriculture and road-building, the order, regularity, cheerfulness, self-sacrifice and zeal of the priests, and the excellence of their training. "It is," he says, "perhaps unfair to draw comparison between these men who have reaped the benefit of a long course of training at Algiers and those who labor in the ranks of the Church Missionary Society, who, in the majority of cases, have been drawn from ordinary commercial avocations, and who, after undergoing a short course of training in religious subjects, are despatched to the mission-field with very imperfect knowledge of the work which they have been sent out to take up." Quite true as regards the individuals, but the systems must be compared as they are. The lack of unity of belief and obedience among the English missionaries "is a glaring contrast to the confidence reposed by the French priests in their

executive head." Or in other words, the discipline of the Catholic Church is indispensable for efficient work among the heathen, and the doctrine of private judgment is in practice as in theory, absolutely incompatible with the evangelizing mission of christianity.

If, as is suggested, Chief Justice Coleridge is appointed Viceroy of India, Sir Charles Russell will probably succeed to the Chief Justiceship of England. It was the narrow bigotry of the late Tory Government, in throwing out Gladstone's motion to remove one of the galling disabilities of Catholics, that deprived Sir Charles of the position of Lord Chancellor in the new Cabinet. It is a noteworthy fact that England could find no better man in whom to confide her interests in the Behring Sea dispute than this Irish Catholic jurist.

After all the long patience of the last fifteen years of moral suasion the Irish members, at the last moment, were forced to try, in the words of the Cork lad in O'Brien's novel, "what a touch of physical force can do." The bitterly insulting taunt which the renegade Chamberlain applied to the venerable person of his former chief was too much for those who best knew his purity of motive and honesty of purpose, and drew from T. P. O'Connor, ordinarily a peaceful man, the fitting name "Judas." A scene occurred the like of which was never before witnessed in the house. But it is a noteworthy fact that the Conservatives, those so-called representatives of all that is oldest and best in England, were the real movers in the disgraceful scene which followed. Their refusal to enter the division lobbies at the Chairman's call was the cause of the fracas. Of course the reporters, with a brilliancy of design which would do credit to a great painter, have selected from the struggling mass those members who would best strike the popular fancy. Healy, Redmond, Major Saunderson, Dr. Tanner are the men who stand out in the painting. They are chosen for the same reason that a little row in Ireland is talked of by every one, while, if men are shot down on the streets in an English riot, it is not thought of. The whine of the London *Times* would be amusing were it not so malevolent. They regret that the English Conservatives should have lowered themselves so much. Why? Because it hurt the good order of Parliament? No! but because they should leave these things for the Irish, in order that the *Times*, from the mudhill of purblind Tory self-complacency, might criticize those low mortals. It is a happy event for England and for Ireland that their twin destinies are in

the hands of the grand old statesman of Midlothian, and not in those of the theatre thunderer.

The Home Rule Bill is now through committee, and will go before the Lords late in August. According to the new financial arrangements, Ireland pays one-third of her revenue to the Imperial Exchequer, and the Imperial Government collects the revenue for a period of six years. Though this is a sore hurt to national pride it is not without advantages, as the Ulstermen could hardly hesitate to withhold their share of taxation from the Imperial Government. That the lords will reject the Bill is hardly doubtful. What Gladstone will do with the Lords depends on his next majority. In the meantime new election laws will strengthen the power of the Liberal party in the constituencies.

Germany has been amusing herself in the meantime by devising a system of tariff retaliation with Russia. She may find that such a system is what our Australian friends call a boom-crang.

In the world of labor, the principal event is another great strike in the English coal mines. This time the demand is for higher wages. In the United States it was rumored that T. V. Powderly was about to resign his position as Master-Workman of the Knights of Labor. We are glad to hear the statement is unfounded, not only because Mr. Powderly is a good Catholic, but because he has shown himself a good, practical, conservative leader, consulting the true interests of the working class rather than rushing into unreasonable strikes without occasion.

The Catholic Summer School at Plattsburg, on Lake Champlain, has begun its work under excellent auspices. Some of the ablest thinkers in the Church in America are to lecture there, and the numbers who flock thither will carry away the rarest gems of Catholic truth and eloquence. Among the distinguished lecturers many are already familiar with the Revs. P. A. Halpin, S. J., Fr. Zalm, C.S.C., A. F. Hewit, C.S.P., Thomas McMillan, C.S.P., Brother Azarias, George Parsons Lathrop, and Maurice Francis Egan. It is but another indication of the promise given by the Church in America that she will yet give to the Church as glorious names in the treasury of good words as she has already given in the treasury of good works.

The financial depression in the States still gives cause for anxiety. The failure of public confidence has caused a run on the banks, and some of the oldest institutions have gone under. The hopes of renewed prosperity seem to be centered in President Cleveland. His intentions are to have an early session of Congress, repeal if possible the Sherman Silver Act, remodel the coinage, and then deal with the tariff at more leisure.