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LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION. UNIVERSITY OF OTTAWA, Ottawa, Canada, March 7th, 1904.

To the Editor of THE CATHOLIC RECORD, London, Ont. Dear Sir: For some time past I have read your estimable paper, with much interest.

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cost. It is futile to say, with some, that they were deceived by a fable. The Apostles would not have invented a doctrine whose preaching would incur the hatred of the Pharisees and subject them to all manner of persecution.

CHRIST VICTORIOUS.

The certainty as to the reality convinced the Apostles that the Master was the God foretold by the prophets. It emptied them of cowardice and made them champions of a cause that seemed doomed to failure.

THE SCHOOL-ROOM THE BATTLE-FIELD.

The powers of the intellect have arrayed themselves time and again against Christ. From Celsus to Rousseau and Strauss and to our own time, the scoff of the shallow sceptic and the criticism of the scholar have endeavored to relegate Christ to the ranks of a great philosopher and reformer.

WHERE CHRIST TRIUMPHS.

This is clear to us, and we have no hesitation in saying that the force of events will compel all friends of civilization to acknowledge it to be correct. Christ triumphs, however, in the schools that are alone the fountains of good citizenship.

A LIVING WITNESS.

Says Cardinal Newman: "When we consider the succession of ages during which the Catholic system has endured—the severity of the trials it has undergone, without and within which have befallen it, the incessant mental activity and intellectual gifts of its maintainers, the enthusiasm which it has kindled, the fury of the controversies which have been carried on among its professors, the impetuosity of

the assaults made upon it, the ever increasing responsibilities to which it has been committed by the continuous development of its dogmas, it is quite inconceivable that it should not have been broken up and lost were it a corruption of Christianity.

A VALUELESS TITLE.

The Toronto Mail and Empire of March 19th gives an account of a lecture by Mons. D'Aubigné in Westminster Presbyterian Church on the Religious Crisis in France and the work of the McAll Mission.

The Mail scribe informs us that the lecturer is the son of the "eminent" French historian. As a passport to the confidence of those who know anything of history the title "eminent" in this connection is valueless.

THE RELIGIOUS CRISIS IN FRANCE.

It would be a useless threshing of old straw to comment on many statements in Mons. D'Aubigné's lecture. By the way, however, here is an opportunity for the gentlemen who love truth to say something about them in the columns of the Mail and Empire.

THE SPREAD OF RATIONALISM.

A curious conclusion has been reached by Rev. Professor King of Oberlin University as the result of his studies of Biblical lore and Higher Criticism. He asserts that owing to the changes which have been made in the common belief of mankind, arising out of the historical researches and scientific discoveries of recent years, it is necessary to restate many things in the biblical writings to make them conform to modern thought.

THE TEMPERANCE MOVEMENT IN FRANCE.

An extensive temperance movement has sprung up in France in late years which gives promise of continuing to spread till it becomes of vast dimensions throughout the country. The Anti-Alcoholic Union has now sixty thousand members, and there are many other local temperance or abstinence associations which bring up the number of those who are fighting the evil of intemperance to a large army.

a people? It is quite true that its prominent men are friends of the liberal Protestant, but this should be mentioned with shame by our separated brethren in this country.

ATHEISTIC FRANCE.

Mons. d'Aubigné asks for aid that the great forces of atheistic materialism and of the clerical party might be successfully controlled. Clap trap to get the dollar! The liberal Protestant in France is hand in glove with the atheist.

AN UNSIGHTLY THING.

When Mons. D. Aubigné says that the monks and nuns taught that an untruth was not a lie when told in the interests of the Church, he makes one think of his father, the "eminent" French historian.

A RARITY.

Mons. D'Aubigné assures us that the great unrest of the French nation for the last one hundred and fifty years can be explained only by the fact that the country has been dominated by a religion foreign to the genius of the people.

THE CATHOLIC CHURCH AND ZIONISM.

The Roman correspondent of the London Tablet in a recent issue of that journal states that Henrik Steiner, a well-known Austrian-Jewish journalist, is endeavoring to obtain from the chief governments of Europe a declaration that they are not hostile to the plan of the Zionists to people Palestine with Jewish farmers and traders.

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past, to the fathers by the prophets: last of all, in these days hath spoken to us by His Son, Whom He hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also He made the world."

The new Testament was written by the Apostles and their early disciples who knew well the facts they relate. They wrote by virtue of the commission given to them and their successors by Christ Himself: "Go ye, therefore, and teach all nations . . . teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you; and behold, I am with you all days, even to the consummation of the world."

By virtue of the same commission, the Catholic Church, "the Church of the living God, the pillar and ground of truth," has pronounced the New Testament to be truly the word of God.

There are in the Bible more than three thousand proper names of persons and places, and some facts relating to all these are recorded; but there is not one person or place mentioned who can be shown to be a fabulous being, or concerning which it can be shown that the facts stated are contrary to authentic history, whatever may be the historical discoveries which modern research has brought to light.

The Bible is not a book of science; nor is its purpose to teach science. Yet in many instances it comes into contact with science. It touches upon astronomy, chemistry, history, geography, chronology, physics; it tells us of the origin of man, his early pursuits in life, his migrations, but in all these matters there is no statement which is not in accordance with the most modern discoveries of scientific men.

The creation of the world out of nothing as described in the Bible, the unity of origin of the human race, and other matters of which modern science and philosophy teach, are all in conformity with what true science teaches, and this must continue always to be the case, inasmuch as one truth can never be contradictory to another. Nay, it has even been shown that the details of creation given in the first chapter of Genesis are quite reconcilable with all that the science of geology properly understood has brought to light regarding the origin of the universe.

It is not our purpose to prove here in detail the truth of the Bible in those matters which have been violently attacked by Deists and Atheists masquerading under divers names, as this would require much more extensive treatment than we could give the subject in our columns. We shall only remark therefore, that Protestantism until lately boasted of its faith in the Bible, which it held to be the only source of Christian faith. It abolished the authority of an infallible Church, a Church against which the gates of hell shall not prevail, and with which, till the end of time, Jesus Christ will remain as its Teacher, and the Holy Ghost as its Sanctifier, and declared the Bible alone to be the rule of Christian faith.

But now, and especially in recent years, Protestantism has become more and more identified with Deism and Rationalism, and the authenticity, truth, and inspiration of Scripture have been assailed by Protestant divines to such an extent that practically the defence of Holy Scripture has been left entirely to Catholics. The position taken by Rev. Dr. King is simply that which very many of his colleagues in the ministry who have specially studied the subject have taken. Oberlin University is of the "Evangelical Congregational" denomination, and it is no more wonderful that it should fall under the tuition of a Rationalistic faculty than that this same thing should have happened to Union Theological Seminary in New York, Lane Seminary in Cincinnati, and others both in America and Great Britain. The fact is that Protestantism is being fast overwhelmed in Deism under the guise of "Higher Criticism."

THE TEMPERANCE MOVEMENT IN FRANCE.

An extensive temperance movement has sprung up in France in late years which gives promise of continuing to spread till it becomes of vast dimensions throughout the country. The Anti-Alcoholic Union has now sixty thousand members, and there are many other local temperance or abstinence associations which bring up the number of those who are fighting the evil of intemperance to a large army.

The French people are in the main temperate, though light wines are used very freely as a beverage, especially during meals. The stronger liquors

such as absinthe-au-devie and the like, are seldom used, and drunken men are rarely seen, yet occasionally there are exceptions to this rule.

Most of the temperance associations do not insist upon total-abstinence from light liquors which have but a small percentage of alcohol, but they forbid the stronger liquors, and on this basis they have become extremely popular, many of the temperance societies embracing the whole population of the parishes in which they are instituted.

A remarkable feature in regard to temperance associations is that the workmen are earnestly enlisted in them and interested in increasing their membership. Formerly the workmen were difficult to reach owing to the political influence of the saloon-keepers. Illustrated lectures are delivered regularly under the auspices of the anti-Alcoholic Union, for the benefit of the young, to show the evil physical effects of alcohol, and to teach temperance, and at Toulon and some other ports sailors' homes have been established where non-intoxicating drinks are sold, and these are for the most part well patronized.

At Brest the anti-Alcoholic Union has at its meetings persons of every shade of politics—Conservatives, Republicans, Monarchists, and even Socialists, and the same commingling is found in other cities.

JOHN ALEXANDER DOWIE.

Dr. John Alexander Dowie, the Elijah of Zion, Ill., has turned up in New South Wales, but has got into bad odor with the people of that colony by his denunciations of King Edward VII. Among the things said concerning the King, the pseudo-prophet declared that no one imagines that his Majesty has much religion to spare, and if he succeeds in getting into heaven at all, it will be by the skin of his teeth. In consequence of his disrespectful talk concerning the king, the mayor of Adelaide has forbidden him the use of the town hall and other corporation buildings, and other owners of halls have also closed them against the prophet, so that he has been completely handicapped in the delivery of his lectures. He had deposited a cheque for rent of the Jubilee Exposition Building, but the cheque was returned to him, and the agreement cancelled by the board of directors. There is now no building in Adelaide in which he can lecture; and owing to the irritation excited by his senseless utterances it was feared that violence would be done him. He was advised by friends to leave the colony, which he did, leaving his hotel suddenly. His whereabouts are now unknown.

THE CATHOLIC CHURCH AND ZIONISM.

The Roman correspondent of the London Tablet in a recent issue of that journal states that Henrik Steiner, a well-known Austrian-Jewish journalist, is endeavoring to obtain from the chief governments of Europe a declaration that they are not hostile to the plan of the Zionists to people Palestine with Jewish farmers and traders.

He came recently to Rome and obtained an interview with Monsignor Mery del Val, the Cardinal Secretary of State of the Holy Father. He was very graciously received, and explained the Jewish proposition, expressing the hope that the Pope will make no objection to the carrying out of the plan. His Eminence answered frankly that there will be no opposition on the part of the Holy See, provided that the possession of the Holy Places which the Christians now hold shall not be interfered with.

Herr Steiner answered that the Jews will not make any attempt to interfere against the Christian possession of the places they hold dear. On the contrary, the Jews will be really glad to have the Christians among them, as their presence will be to the Jews an assurance that they will themselves be better protected by the various governments of Europe.

The Jews, he says, desire that the Sultan's troops shall be removed from the Holy Land, and that good order in the country be preserved alternately for a year at a time by English, French and Russian troops. They are not now expecting that the colonization can be effected in the near future, as they did hope till recently; but their efforts are directed toward preparing the way for this.

His Eminence had no objection to offer to the proposals, but he took occasion to remark that it is to be regretted that the Jews in most countries identify themselves so completely with the war which is being continuously waged on the Catholic Church, and with the secret societies which she condemns as inimical to her own interests and those of civil society.

Herr Steiner admitted that there is