

The Catholic Register.

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

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PRICE FIVE CENTS.

Current Topics.

The War.

Either the war itself or subjects connected with it form the staple topics not only of ordinary conversation but of discussion in the columns of the press and the magazines. Continued English successes at a great sacrifice of men have made up the record of the past week until the latest despatches publish the fact that Bloemfontein, the capital of the Orange Free State, is practically at the mercy if not in the hands of the British. Outnumbered at every point, except at Mafeking, whose fall is predicted, the Boers have fought a stubborn retreat, though it must be conceded that Lord Roberts has vindicated his merit of the trust and confidence of his countrymen in his skill and ability in the field. In a comparatively short time he put a new face on the war, and has been most successful in following up the advantages gained by the successes which led to the surrender of Oronje.

Speaking of intervention, the time for it is almost past. Once the war is concluded Great Britain will be in a position to face a pretty big war in any part of the world. The end of it will find her armed to the teeth, with great resources still to draw on and with an army free to be deported in short order to any point of attack. True, she was worsted in the initial operations, but with inherent tenacity she clung to it until the tide turned. The end will find her more powerful and indubitably better prepared for a struggle than she was at the beginning, with lessons learnt and the new consciousness of active support from her colonies. Whether her course was right or wrong there seems to be only one end for the war, and that will be the wiping out of the Dutch Republics.

Overtures of peace have been made by President Kruger and Scheyn which Her Majesty's Government refused to entertain. The President asserted that the war is continued to secure and maintain the incontestable independence of both Republics as sovereign international states, and to obtain the assurance that those of her Majesty's subjects who have taken part with the Boers shall suffer no harm whatever, in person or property; on the other hand the sum total of Lord Salisbury's reply is that Her Majesty's Government are not prepared to assent to the independence either of the South African Republic or the Orange Free State. President McKinley is said to have offered his services as an intermediary in the interests of peace. Whilst peace-loving men will acquiesce in the desirability of putting an end to the terrible bloodshed that has characterized the struggle, it is a foregone conclusion that the services of the President of the United States will be politely declined. It can scarcely be otherwise, and unless intervention towards which it is stated, Kruger's efforts are being directed take place, the independence of the two Dutch Republics is gone. Nothing less can satisfy Great Britain in her present mood, for the tremendous outlay of men and money in this most sanguinary conflict.

French-Canadian Loyalty.

On the first of March Mr. Arentz, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of Ontario, made the following allusion to the loyalty of the French-Canadians: "Honourable gentlemen on both sides of the House know that there was a time in the history of this country when neither Englishmen nor Irishmen who have since been taken a great part in working out its destiny had yet crossed the sea, and the French-Canadian people alone were here to hold fast to the loyalty so eloquently voiced in this House to day. It was then that the American people submitted us to the most cruel temptation that ever faced the people of any nation. They brought over from France General Lafayette. And this son of old France, standing on our southern frontier, showing us the flag under whose folds we had been born, asked us: 'Why not come back to the flag of your race, your heroic flag, you know not this flag which is called the Union Jack or royal standard of England Come back,' said Lafayette, 'under the folds of the flag which stands for liberty, equality and fraternity.' It was then that the voice of the Roman Catholic Bishop of Quebec was heard among the soldiers of the French-Canadian legion; and breaking the rank he came to the front and said: 'This flag may not be the flag under whose folds you were born but do not forget that you have sworn that this flag is to be the flag of your country, and if you

withdraw the blessings which you may expect" (loud applause). God bless the French-Canadian! I am so delighted to say it with respect to Toronto, that two who were alone, that the two the mediocrity of Canadian loyalty to the British flag, took up their market and pitched down the cliff of the old rock city the generals of the American army Arnold and Montgomery (Applause). And from that day to this time there have been no more loyal subjects of Her Majesty than the French-Canadians. (Applause.)

Sir William Butler.

Sir William Butler, says Mr St-Ad in the Review of Reviews, as a member of an old Irish family who have preserved their independence and their Catholicism for centuries, inherits passionate sympathies with those who suffer wrong. Of curious interest now is the fact that the two great friends of the bridegroom, supporting him when Cardinal Manning was married with Miss Thompson, in 1877, were Lord Wolseley and Sir W. Butler. A happy word of Sir William's not given in the Review of Reviews was given out in an English gazette town not remarkable for the decorum of its news, and it is reported to mention at most that he had lately been to Lourdes. "Oh, then you saw a lot of winking virgins," ventured the local Colonel. "Not in all my travels," was the reply, "but when I was manoeuvring through your town here, I saw them stationed at every street corner."

La Compagnie de Pulpe de Chicoutimi.

The above company, in being bonds to the amount of two hundred and fifty thousand dollars, bearing interest at the rate of six per cent, for the purpose of completing and equipping another pulp mill of greater capacity than the one they have now running, show a most creditable progress in business, and one which should appeal strongly to possible investors. A glance at the prospectus issued by the company, which appears elsewhere in our columns, shows that the company was organized in 1897, and has since carried on its business without interruption. From a daily output of fifteen thousand dry pulp, its production is now ready to be increased as to demand a much larger mill with a capacity of fourteen thousand tons per annum. The excellent site of the mill near the junction of the Chicoutimi River with the Saguenay, at the eastern termination of the Richelieu and Ontario Navigation Company, as well as the unrivalled water power at command, afford the greatest facilities for the obtaining of wood for manufacture and for the shipping of the pulp after it is manufactured. That the company has an assured market in England and France for its entire output, that the output for this year (1900) is all sold, and that the orders have already been received by the company from two firms in England for the whole product for 1901, are a sufficient guarantee, even apart from the excellent account of assets appearing in the aforementioned prospectus, that investors will be well repaid in their six per cent of "La Compagnie de Pulpe de Chicoutimi."

This world was not made for any one person in particular. I realize that it was not made with a special view to our individual comfort, the better for ourselves and for other people.

We are poor not in proportion to our income, but in proportion to the things we want—think we want—and care for. There is not more a question of temperance than of money.

A good many of us are fond of taking a positive stand in arguments about little things as if our opinion could not possibly be wrong. But half the things we "know" we guess at, and the other half somebody else has guessed at for us.

Everyone is ready to praise a success and criticize a failure. But who is it to define success or failure? Often and often what looks like failure paves the way for success that makes a nine days' wonder; and an apparent failure may represent better work, and more unshin energy than an apparent success.

United States Correspondence.

(From our own Correspondent.)

CHICAGO, March 10th, 1900.

REMINISCENCES.

THE READER.

Just now is very wintry. There has been a snowfall and "the beautiful" lies upon the ground with more than the usual consistency of thickness. Rail roads have been blocked, street cars hindered, pedestrians disconcerted. But the "fall" has made employment for thousands of men out of work, although in Chicago people are not compelled to clear the walks of snow. The Supreme Court decided years ago that that was the business of the City corporation and that beggarly body does not have it done on account of the expense.

A GOOD IRISHMAN AND CATHOLIC.

There are a good many good Irishmen and Catholics in Chicago, and I have pleasure in calling to the notice of your readers on in particular. It is William J. O'Connell. He is a man of many graces and possesses the esteem of Catholics and non-Catholics alike. He is an old Chicagoer, and has been an active worker in the cause of his race and religion. He has filled honorable and many public and representative positions but for years has been enjoying a comparatively private life as the manager of a bank. His son, however, is ever active in the cause of faith and fatherland. He has been a delegate to the Chicago Convention of 1885, organized by the late Thomas D'Arcy McGee before he entered Canada, and in favor of establishing western Catholic settlements. The writer was an active worker in that cause himself and consequently his sympathy goes out warmly to the same cause. The peculiar feature about that movement was that McGee went to Canada while the people mostly were in the States. He here took the liberty of mentioning some of the Canadian delegates to that convention. From Toronto, they were the late John Shea and Senator O'Donoghue; from Hamilton, the late W. J. O'Brien; and the late Daniel Murphy. Bishop Charbonnel was a warm advocate of the scheme and the first Toronto meeting favoring it was held in his parlor. Mr. McGee controlled the convention. Not much came of his labors, however, because the people were not yet ready to accept different States, territories and provinces, never met. Illinois however, gained a good many settlers on account of it, because Illinois was then a very favorable field for immigration, and my friend O'Connell was himself engaged in forming settlements on his own account, the good results of which he showed me in his records kept in his office. In honor of those Illinois Irish settlements McGee wrote a song entitled "The Irish Home in America," of which the following is the chorus:

"The Irish Homes of Illinois,
The happy homes of Illinois,
No landlord there
Can cause despair
Nor blight our fields in Illinois."

At Toronto we did something in directing settlers to the full grants of the Illinois land, and in the year 1885, where I had the pleasure of occupying a seat alongside of the Hon. R. W. Scott, who then and there made his first appearance in public in behalf of Catholic interests, and which I must regard as a very successful one. He had for that distinguished Canadian statesman strong feelings of respect and affection.

To return to my Chicago friend O'Connell: I will mention a little incident which will show the respect in which he is held. There is a Historical Society in Chicago, with a very fine building of its own and a fine library in which books and documents relating to the city of Chicago and state of Illinois form a specialty. I had occasion to visit it a few months ago seeking some information that I could not find in the public library. I met the librarian secretary at the door going to a belated dinner and at first he refused to admit me to the reference. I told him that I was a Catholic and he recommended me to call upon him. The situation of this gentleman was an "open sesame." "I will go back with you," said the librarian, "now, that Mr. O'Connell recommended you, he is persona grata here." I then followed a complimentary little procession in praise of my friend. There are many interesting episodes in Illinois history relating to Catholicity, that will bear turning to occasionally, for this I found made named by the Duke of LaRochelle, Joliet and Mackinac to the Illinois. It was a good deal to make those venerated names familiar. They are not fully exploited however, in the writings of John Gilmary Shaw of New York.

It is not two years since. The bill is likely to pass the Senate, then what will be the result? It will do much good for the Catholics.

A CHRISTIAN DAILY NEWSPAPER.

A few, C. M. Sheldon is essaying to publish a "Christian Daily" for one week and has had the Topoka Capital placed in his hands for that purpose. It is to have the support of the Christian Education Society, the Epiphany Union, and the Women's Christian Union and other religious bodies. But the publisher does not expect to prove that a Christian newspaper is a success. It will be a religious newspaper but a wide-awake, up-to-date secular journal running over the sparkling news and news, and edited as Jesus would probably edit the modern daily if he were on earth. It is wondering what the next proposition will be to a modern Secretary's use for the Son of God! The use to which some of them put him astounds me. They talk and write about him as if they owned him, as if it was necessary for them to have him do or say anything they wanted.

HENRY B. FULLER.

is a Chicago magazine writer and critic who is not an Anglo-Saxon worshipper. In an article in the Saturday Evening Post of Philadelphia he asserts that the Anglo-Saxons of all people are the least religious in the world. "The Continental nations," he says, "have come to look upon the Englishman as being not a good European; he is as much set apart by his morals as by his geographical situation." "No Englishman can be a good European," he says, "because he is not a European." Mr. Fuller is too sweeping. He makes the common mistake of considering all Englishmen as Anglo Saxons. There is the stumbling block of most of the literary men of the day. The London Times once said that the Englishman is the most religious of the nations. There are Englishmen and Englishmen. Neither does Byron stand alone among Englishmen in the estimation of continental Europeans. Let me point out the exceptions, of Gladstone, Ruskin, Darwin, and Lord Robert Cecil. They are a voice among the art-loving continentalists. But in them the elements were largely Celtic. If they were not all pure Celts like Lord Robert, they were at least half Celts—men of artistic temperaments and humane feelings.

THE IRLISH AND AMERICAN SOLDIERS.

The following is a copy from the Central Charities of the Irish and American Methodist denominational paper. It goes to show that there is a spirit of fair play permeating the better Protestant denominational papers of America: "A correspondent of the New York Tribune writes from London: 'An incident which is worth considering, by those who were talking only a year or two since about dead and decadent Spain. A few weeks since nearly six thousand Spanish prisoners who had been for eighteen months in the hands of the English, were occupied or were free by our troops and were crowded into Manila. Here the Spanish government agents furnished each man in the ragged and sorry looking horde with a new outfit and \$15.00 in money. And now come the most creditable results of the performance. Out of the whole number not a man found his way to the lockup or the prison; not one was seen drunk on the streets; not one case of misbehavior was reported. We believe that no such behavior could so readily be made under similar circumstances concerning a body of American or English soldiers. That these men, after a year and a half in prison, did not abuse their newfound liberty is greatly to the credit of the British and our own army, which cannot be said to wholly degenerate when it produces such excellent specimens of manhood.'"

HOW GALLIC BLOOD TALKS.

One of the curious things about the present South African war is that the commanders of the rival armies are of French extraction and our host of British soldiers could hardly be distinguished from our General Roberts. The difference is that Roberts' mixture is Irish and Joubert's Dutch. Both seem to have good fighting qualities. The home of the fighting Roberts is in the West of county, near Sair Vieux, in France. The father was an officer before him, serving in India, where the hero was born. His only son fell in the present conflict as an early stage. His mother was a Tipperary woman named Isabella Hunt. Lord Roberts' father was a Frenchman in his Irish origin, but this may be for the purpose of influencing his countrymen to join the British army. The Roberts, who are also Waterloo men—Lord William, the soldier and Lord Charles, the admiral—have been affected great affection for their fellow countrymen in their respective branches of the service, probably for the same alluring purpose. Waterloo has given other great soldiers to the service, and among them is one who was born at Belmont in 1781, and was Commander-in-chief of the army in India in 1839, during the mutiny, and entered Calcut on May 21st. of that year covering himself with glory. But the Waterloo soldier that his countrymen are most proud of is Thomas Francis Meagher, who won such distinction as an officer, and was Commander of the Irish Brigade in the war of the great American rebellion. It is a little consolatory, however, for Waterloo men that the

leading man of the British army and the leading man of the British navy are both of their country.

ANOTHER ILLINOIS COMMISSION.

President McKinley appoints a good many commissions but seldom appoints Catholics upon any of them, although two or three hundred have already referred to the President's list. There were recently Spanish and where Catholics are the people that mostly have to be dealt with. I suppose when he appointed McKinley, his friend, to the Supreme Court he thought of doing his whole duty to the Catholic population of America. In this respect he offers a striking contrast to his democratic predecessor, Grover Cleveland who appointed Catholics to positions when he found them competent and worthy. Mr. McKinley's latest appointment is that of Judge Taft of Cincinnati to the chairmanship of a new commission to the Philippines, and whose duty shall be to organize civil government there. With him on this commission are to be associated Col. D. C. Worcester and Col. Chas. Dauby, members of the first Philippine commission and two others whose names have not yet been announced. I have not seen it stated anywhere that those gentlemen have any of them the knowledge of the Spanish language, or know anything of the genius of the people they go to govern. I do not think they can govern those people successfully if they propose to force Anglo-Saxon ideas and language down their throats.

DENOMINATIONAL LEAKAGES.

The Epworth Herald, a very largely circulated Methodist organ, has a significant editorial on the foregoing page. "A few months ago," it says, "an editorial appeared in the Christian Advocate, presenting some significant facts for the consideration of Methodists. By means of certain tables sent annually for the preceding eight years was given, together with the net gain in membership for the same years. The article was very suggestive, leaving with the reader abundant material for study and investigation. Among the most striking facts developed was that of the nearly two-and-one-half millions of persons enrolled as probationers during the period named, less than forty per cent had been received in full, leaving over sixty per cent unaccounted for. 'What a sad loss to the church!' This is a question far more interesting than answerable." A Chicago minister of the same denomination touching this very question remarked in a recent paper, that instead of making an attempt to receive would be much better off if they were more careful in admitting probationers to membership and that it would be a good thing if about one half of the present membership were cut off. This contention is not a candid one, but it is to the membership not very comforting, and the denomination as a branch of the evangelical Christianity.

POLITICS.

The political war is on. The campaign of 1900 has commenced. One of the features of our system of representation is that a candidate for office has to fight two preliminary battles in his own party before he can have an opportunity to face the enemy. He has first to fight a contest for a club nomination, then for a convention nomination. Those who are as vigorous and hard hitting as the party fight is strenuous. It is considered in Illinois that a republican nomination is as good as an election. Therefore to secure the party nomination is everything. The legislative election comes the next thing. The nomination is the present incumbent of that office. He is up for reelection but Governor Tanner wants it. There are four aspirants for the governorship and the republican party is torn up as it never was before. It is torn up in Illinois, and it is torn up here, and is torn up in almost every state of the Union. But the severity of the democracy is something amazing. They are confident the prize of office is within their grasp, and they enjoy the republican (Donnybrook) condition of things.

SOMETHING ABOUT IRISH AMERICANS.

Among the most recent deaths in this state is that of Gen. John McNeill of Blountville, in Tennessee. He was distinguished as both a soldier and a citizen, and won recognition in the civil war. At the time of his death he was acting in the capacity of a receiver for banks and railroads in Chicago. He was a kind, considerate and lovable gentleman. Another notable death was that of Dr. Leslie Keeley of Duluth, the celebrated gold cure doctor for inebriates. He was born in the South, of Irish parents and was very successful. His death was caused by heart complaint. He met his death while visiting in California.

NOTICE.

Donations for the Sisters of Charity of Balahaderia, Co. Mayo, Ireland, whose appeal we published last week, may be forwarded to Miss Frances Cook, care of Hon. R. W. Scott, 274 Daily et. Ottawa.

Fact or Fancy.

Mrs. and Mr. W.

NO. 19.

History, sacred and profane, proclaims the counsel of Lamentation, which a possibility of life by nature, or Providence. Any movement to break from the ring ends as some point to the circumference, the natural laws upon which society rests are as fixed as the laws that keep the planets in their course; it is as impossible for woman to leave her own sphere as it is for the earth to break from her fascinating dance of attendance upon the sun. At whatever point of the circumference may men have been a little more elastic, but they never can be broken. It is this elasticity that affords the pleasing illusion to the New Woman that she has broken loose into the open fields of sex emancipation, when in reality she is merely gravitating in a lower plane of air selfishness, frivolous intellectuality, insatiable and unfulfilled desires.

A bachelor friend whose knowledge and opinions of women in this abstract—if it may be so called—condition, asked me the question, "What is a New Woman any way?"—and before I could form a definition found me with another, "Did you ever meet with a New Woman?" He was as impetuous as to convince me at once that he was in a state of invincible ignorance; so to save the situation I answered with a prudent emphasis on "No; I never did," which answer seemed to satisfy both questions, as well as the inquirer, who immediately rejoined, "Neither have I." But then my own acquaintance with womanhood is limited to every day people, who have for the most part but little time to devote to any new development, while my friend, an ancient admirer of the sex, is too haughty to be anything more than a gaze at a becoming girl, who that lacks distinctions of any account. It is doubtful if the New Woman exists outside of the world of fiction, but there has been many impostors.

Woman is a beautifully inconsistent creature—indeed her inconsistencies are among her greatest attractions—sometimes she is splendid in her conceptions of grand ideas, but poor in the execution of them. Over in the United States, for instance, the Kindergarten League of Good Compositions of Women has hit upon a solution of the negro problem. What they propose to do is to give the negro children a sound moral training, and they have solemnly pledged the people to do the work as soon as the funding is complete. It is a grand scheme and they are enthusiastically about it, so long as it is understood that that undefined quantity "the people" are to do the work. When, however, the leaders in the movement were asked if they would undertake to do the teaching themselves, they were positive in their refusal to undertake it. "The theory is beautiful and simply grand," said a woman who is anxious to see the experiment made, "but it would not be suited to the task of teaching the negro children. I would not teach them, for I do not believe I could permit myself to do so under any circumstances. It would be lowering myself." This is just where the difference between a man and a woman comes in. When a man gets the idea into his head that a certain thing ought to be done, if it is at all within his power, he goes to work and does it himself. The woman sees the "beauty of it" but she wants someone else to do the "doing." Woman is so prone to be made by other people. They are great at being and well, I don't know but most of us men like to have them boss us. At any rate, unless someone is found to do the actual teaching in this case, the scheme is likely to fall through for the want of workers.

It has been said that a girl never marries her ideal. I shouldn't wonder if she says it is true. A girl who will go to the trouble of framing an imaginary man is not ripe for marriage, and when she is ready and desirous of marriage the real man is so far ahead of anything the feminine mind could invent that her ideal becomes but as a shadow to the substance. Women are but daughters of Eve and Eve like it, she women look like the first man she met. The average girl, I am reliably informed, does not receive many offers of marriage, and generally accepts the first man that proposes to her. Of course, there may be exceptions in novels and in the million-aire class, but generally the girl allows a man to go so far as to formally propose to her, she means to accept him. This is probably the reason why so many men are backward in putting the matter to the test; they instinctively discern woman's inherent capacity for business.

British women are said to average two inches more in height than American—presumably American women. This is probably the reason why the average British woman looks down upon her American cousins. The position, however, is somewhat reversed by the penchant which British lords have for American women with money.

I. O. U.