

# The Catholic Register.

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

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## Register of the Week.

We publish elsewhere the Holy Father's Encyclical upon the Rosary which opens by expressing his deep gratitude to the Blessed Mother of God for all the graces he has received at her hands throughout his long and eminent life. His intention not being however to diatribe upon the devotion itself so much as to remind the faithful of the valuable advantages flowing from it, the Sovereign Pontiff points out three special causes of the evils afflicting society, viz. aversion to a humble and laborious life, horror of all that causes suffering, and forgetfulness of future happiness. A remedy for all the evils which result from this threefold cause is to be found in the Rosary, "at that co-ordinated recitation of certain formulas of prayers accompanied by pious meditation upon the life of the Saviour and His Mother." To this division of the causes of social evils corresponds the division of the Rosary into the joyful, sorrowful and glorious mysteries. Passing in review the various maladies and their remedies the Holy Father exhorts all priests who have charge of souls to multiply confraternities of the Rosary and maintain them in all their fervor, whose example will be a stimulus to the rest of the faithful to imitate them in their esteem for this devotion.

The accounts from Rome state that the grand orient of Italian masons, has taken possession of the Borghese Palace which had been presented by Pope Paul V. to his brother. It had remained in the family through all this time until lately by ruinous speculation the present Prince lost it. The occasion upon which the Masons entered it was the twenty-third anniversary of the breach at the Porta Pia, when with pomp and insult they boasted that as they gained it so they would one day have the Vatican.

A comic journal of Rome lately published a cartoon in which the Pope was represented as speaking to a Cardinal who was untying a packet of papers. The Holy Father was saying: "Oh, yes, kindly hand me a paper. I wish to see what is the state of my health to-day."

A propos of late newspaper reports about the Pope one of the most highly coloured was that a member of the Swiss guard had fired a musket at the Sovereign Pontiff and had severely wounded him. As the Swiss guards never carry muskets, the report found no credence at home or abroad.

The magnitude of the coal strike in England may be judged by the fact that it now involves 1,500,000 wage earners; and nearly a quarter of a million are in a state of semi starvation. Coal was quoted in London

last Monday at \$11 a ton with a prospect of further increase. So great is the scarcity that there was less than a day's supply on hand. In one small town, Castleford, 10,000 people are without the price of a meal between them, at Normanton 600 board school children are getting breakfasts. For paralysis of manufacture and distress it is the most colossal strike that ever occurred in England. Eyes are turned towards Parliament in the hope that it will do something to relieve the misery which prevails as in a time of war. Many speak of the creation of a Minister of Mines and of the organization of all the collieries into a trust regulated by Government on the principle that national interests in the whole matter are paramount.

Mr. Gladstone speaking at Edinburgh on the 27th ult., made a vigorous attack upon the House of Lords with whom rests the responsibility of leaving in the way that barrier, the Irish question, which has taxed the energy and mortgaged the time of Parliament generation after generation. He passed in review the relations which have existed between the two Houses since the Reform Bill of 1832, and cited the Home Rule as the third case in which the Lords had reversed the decision of the Commons. For taking this stand they have several pleas. The opinion the Peers form is purely their own, for which they themselves are alone responsible, the opinion of the Commons is given with all the authority of a national verdict. They pleaded that the people did not know the bill, that it was insufficiently discussed, and thirdly that they require a reference to the country. This is unconstitutional. The House of Commons may by a vote force a dissolution, but not the House of Lords. This doctrine is not only a monstrous innovation, "It is nothing less than high treason, if this is to continue a self governing country. If it should ever happen in the vicissitudes of political affairs that the House of Lords by some accident or collateral process should bring about a dissolution of the House of Commons, depend upon it, the people will not consider the Home Rule bill alone, but will mix with it another question on which the Lords may bitterly lament when it is too late that they ever raised an issue."

"For my part," concluded Mr. Gladstone, "I find this retrospect sufficiently encouraging. If the nation is determined it will not be baffled by a phalanx of 500 Peers. We have the will of the country to execute, and cannot submit to the House of Lords, although they bear high-sounding titles, and sit in a gilded chamber. The next session will not pass without your seeing this subject again appearing above the waves, where for the moment it has appeared to flounder. The nation has given us the authority, and propelled us on our course, and it is our duty,

and our hope and belief that we shall find with the help of the Almighty means to overcome the difficulty."

Last Saturday was a great day for the sons of Ireland in Chicago when they had the day specially devoted to their celebration at the World's Fair. It was a right and proper thing; for nobody of immigrants have contributed more to build up the neighbouring Republic, and have become more loyal to its institutions than the vast numbers of stalwart, brave Irish laborers and peasants who, driven from their native land, found a home and liberty in the vast United States. With good reason, therefore, did the thousands gather in procession, undaunted by the down-pour of rain or the mud-covered road. The Hon. Edward Blake, Messrs. Arthur O'Connor and O'Driscoll, members of the British House of Commons, and Lord Mayor Shanks of Dublin, rode in closed carriages. When Mr. Blake came to address the gathering he was received with a great ovation. After his speech he read the following letter from Mr. Gladstone:

"DOWNS STREET, Whitehall, Sept. 2.  
"DEAR MR. BLAKE—I learn with great pleasure that there is to be an Irish day during the World's Fair at Chicago; nor am I less satisfied to know that you have undertaken to attend the gathering on behalf of the Irish people and of their representatives. There could not be a more interesting nor, except on the day of the final victory, a more encouraging occasion. After seven years of close and sustained struggle throughout the country a House of Commons was elected last year which has passed, after 82 days of debate, a bill for conferring upon Ireland the management through a freely elected Parliament of her own domestic affairs, and when at the close of next week the bill will be rejected by a large majority of the House of Lords we shall know, the people of Ireland will know, the world at large will know, and even the House of Lords will know, that this rejection will mean no more harm than a dilatory vote. You are about to address Americans, who in all ranks and in all parts of their magnificent country have shown an active and almost universal sympathy with Ireland, and more especially Irish-Americans, through whose energies and inexhaustible affection for Ireland has been effected the most remarkable oceanic migration ever known in the history of the world. And you are in a condition to point out to them these two things: first, the distance which has been actually travelled over between the physical misery and the political depression which marked the early years of the country and the victory recorded last night is unmeasurable; second, the distance between that recorded victory to the final investment of Ireland with full self governing control over her domestic affairs is not only measurable but short. It was unanswerably observed during our debate that the recent success has been brought about by change of opinion where opinion has been most hostile, viz.: 'Change of opinion in England.' Scotch, Irish and Welsh votes were with us in 1886, but we stood in a minority of nearly 120. It has been the signal and favorable change in England that has converted this minority into a majority of 40 for home rule. Yet England still exhibits her reduced majority to intercept one of the greatest benefits ever conferred, not only upon Ireland, but upon her. In this attitude she is alone among all the peoples of the English-speaking race. She has not yet quitted but she is quitting. Yet the last struggle still remains, and, like the former struggles, it will be great and it will demand the friendly efforts of all those wherever placed who under God have lifted this great cause out of the abyss and set it on an eminence from which there remains but a single step into the promised land. I cherish the most sanguine hope that the conduct of the Irish nation when their great object has been attained, will fulfill every reasonable hope cherished by those who have aided, and will convert its present enemies into friends. Very faithfully yours,  
"W. E. GLADSTONE."

The English Catholic papers relate that the missions in some parts of China have been of late bitterly persecuted—the mission of Mienyang having been destroyed in a riot. This place is in the province of Hupoh, in which are also Sungpu, the scene of a recent massacre of the Swedish missionaries, and the town of Lachon, where the latest attack on the foreigners occurred. The Viceroy of the two provinces, Hupoh and Hunan, is Chang Chi Tung, well known as hostile to all foreign influence, and it was from Hunan that the anti foreign pamphlets of the literate Chou Han were issued. A great gathering of officials were deputed to investigate the murder of the Swedish missionaries, but the only result was a persecution of the friends and neighbors of the Swedes. A friendly Coolie, who, in the first instance, sent word of the massacre, has been tortured and beaten; an iron rod was passed through his collar-bone and riveted to a chain. The strong feeling against foreigners is also shown in the fact that Madame Dantremere, wife of the French Consul at Hankow, has been compelled to leave a temple in the hills, which she had rented as a summer retreat for herself and her children, and to return to Hankow. The Taotai, or Superintendent of the district, on being communicated with, showed, it is said, pretty plainly that he sympathized with the feeling of hostility, and said that he could not protect Madame Dantremere and her children. "Then," said the French Consul, "I shall have to call upon my country to protect them."

The Catholics in the South of England are just now annoyed with one of the "ex-nuns," who is portraying the horrors of convent life, to the benefit of her own pocket, and the scandal of the faithful. Father Hubert of Salisbury, where one of the newspapers had taken up the subject, preached upon Nuns and Nunneries. His eloquent peroration will serve Canadian cities and towns, not a thousand miles from Toronto: "There is much work to be done in the world, work for those who do not know God but to blaspheme Him, work for those who have no religion. Let them work among their own poor, ignorant people. But let them not think they are serving God by presiding over meetings, or supporting by their presence foul slanders uttered against us Catholics. This is not religion. What will be the result of their calumnies? Will they prevail upon one Catholic to turn away from his religion, or prevent one Ritualist from becoming a Catholic? No, but they are the cause of bad feeling among their fellow-citizens. Our people love their nuns and priests, who, in time of sickness and pestilence, work and are ready to die for them. Our people can see the Sisters of Charity in hospitals, on the battlefield, and in times of revolution, as in France, stemming the fury of demagogues. All are manliness and charity, let these slanderers remember that we believe in the same Jesus Christ. I ask them to leave our priests and nuns alone, I ask them to remember that religion is not to abuse others, but is to practice that virtue of which the great Apostle of the Gentiles spoke when he said, 'Charity is patient, is kind, and thinketh no evil.'"