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London, Saturday, April 9, 1898

THE POPE AS MEDIATOR.

Press despatches announce that the Pope has offered to mediate between Spain and the United States, both Governments having accepted him. ing the Pope's offer to mediate. It would be a happy outcome of t e present trouble if the good offices of His Holiness will be the means of bringing about a solution of the Cuban question. There is no power in the world so peculiarly fitted to intervene in this matter as the great and good Leo XIII. It can with truth be said that all nations hold him in the highest esteem for his saintly life, his distinguished character, his breadth of mind, and his sincere love for mankind of all classes, creeds and colors.

WE BEG TO DECLINE.

A few days ago we were favored with a request from one of the yellow journals of the New York to enter into a clubbing arrangement with the CATHOLIC RECORD. Were we to be offered these papers free of charge we should decidedly object to giving the publishers a list of our subscribers. They are a veritable pest, and it is no small reflection on our American neighbors that such publications are permitted to circulate amongst the people. And is it not time that our Government prevented those bundles of horrible rub bish coming into Canada? The illus tra ions would lead one to suppose that the artists are escaped lunatics, and the news matter is nearly all manufactured in the editorial rooms.

SISTERS FOR THE KLONDIKE.

A band of zealous Sisters of Mercy are on their way to the Klondike to care for the adventurous miners who have gone and are going to that frigid many perils and risks from hardships ters were moved to take this step on first passengers this spring when the to their destination. A number of for the same destination, with the same object in view.

All these ladies who have underare deserving of the highest praise for their gaand humanity and charity.

COMING TO THEIR SENSES.

The Italian Government is becoming aware that there is throughout Italy a strong reaction in favor of restoring the Pope's rights, and the thousands who take part in religious festivals, notably the vast multitudes who joined in celebrating the recent canonizations, force the Government to see, whether it will or not, that the Papacy is taking a firmer hold on the affection of the people, and the Government which does nothing for them but impose excessive taxes is losing proportionately. At the recent jubilee of the Constitution granted by King Charles Albert in 1848, the Catholic party universally abstained from celebrating the occasion, not because they are hostile to the Constitution, but because it has been and is being shamefully violated, particularly in the first article which asserts that "the Catholic Apostolic Roman religion is the sole religion of the State. Other now existing worships are tolerated in accordance with the laws."

EDUCATION IN QUEBEC.

The Protestants of Quebec have obtained from the Government of that

tain which four months' training in son why God should not possess and the Normal schools will be required. The other grades will be, respectively, the advanced elementary, kindergarten, Model School and Academy diplomas. The change was first asked by the Association of Protestant teachers, and was then also urged by the Protestant Committee of the Council of Public Instruction, and it is expected that it will be of great benefit in increasing the efficiency of the schools. The action of the Government in acceding to the request of these Protestant educational bodies is a new evidence of the readiness of the Quebec Government and the Catholic majority in the province to grant all possible facilities to the Protestant minority to bring their schools to the highest state of efficiency.

THE MARRIAGE VOW

Templar, which is the Canadian The London Daily Mail publishes a organ of the Knights Templar, has the special despatch from Madrid confirm- following in regard to the indissolubity of marriage:

of marriage:

Three divorce suits from Toronto and one from Montreal are awaiting the attention of the oily old Senators at Ottawa. Templar readers are, for the most part, Protestants; but we nope they may be candid enough to admit that o our Catholic friends is due great credit for heir belief in the inviolability of the marriage ontract. A legal separation may be permissable under some circumstances—as when one distribute here invited to the second of the contract. contract. A legal separation may be permissible under some circumstances—as when one party has been untrue to vows made to the other—but a divorce never should be granted nullifying the contract and releasing the parties from their vows. A marriage contract is made for life in the sight of God and man; and no law should permit either person a release, with power to marry again during the life of the other contracting party.

A late issue of the Canadian Church Evangelist, speaking of divorce laws, says: "It is said that as against two thousand marriages in San Francisco lat year there were six hundred and forty-one divorces, or about one case of divorce for every three marriages. The record is certainly a very shocking and disand forty-one divorces, or about one case of divorce for every three marriages. The record is certainly a very shocking and disgraceful one, but in a state of society where marriage is looked upon as a civil contract, and as nothing more, it is not to be wondered at. It is hopeless to look for a remedy until the Church as a whole sets her face definitely in the direction of the absolute sacredness of the marriage tie."

Other Protestant journals have expressed themselves as endorsing these views. We are pleased to notice that Protestants are becoming conscious of the iniquity of divorce, the desire for which was the immediate cause why Henry VIII. first established the Church of England. The Church Evangelist wishes that Church now to abandon its traditions which have brought on such alarming results.

A BUSINESS MINISTER.

Milwaukee has had a minister who carried off the prize for the largest number of marriages made by one man the prize being the profits received in marriage fees. The Gretna Green blacksmith, who generally united about 400 couples per annum, did not near come up to this notorious " marrying minister," who, according to the Milwaukee papers, averaged 1,000 marregion, and who are exposed to so riages yearly, and in some years reached 1,200. The minister himself of every kind, and especially from the has admitted that his marriage fees inclemency of the weather. The Sis- from runaway couples greatly exceeded his salary. He rarely received account of the tales of hardships less than \$5, and he stated in an suffered which are reaching us every interview that his largest fee day. The Sisters will be among the was two \$20 bills. The name dimensions in that city, and hundreds of this minister is Rev. Dr. Hune way will be open for them to proceed berger, and he is now moving to Asbury Park, N. J., where, no doubt, he trained nurses of Lady Aberdeen's will continue his free and easy marri-Victorian Order will also soon start age methods. The Chicago Herald says that: "Mere runaway school children have been united for life infants have been wedded to old age, taken the risk of the difficult journey | the ties of consanguinity have been ignored, and miscegenation has been encouraged" by this man, all for the sake of the fees. The same horrible state of affairs, from which Milwaukee has now been delivered, exists in other places, though, perhaps, not to quite the same extent. It is one of the results of lax marriage and divorce laws, and of a ministry which performs its supposed duties irresponsibly, and which celebrates marriages without asking any inconvenient questions. Of course, by such ministers bigamuous and trigamous marriages are frequently celebrated.

ANOTHER SPIRITUALISTIC FRAUD.

We have not denied that in the socalled Spiritualism, wherein the spirits of the departed are supposed to make communication with the living, there is sometimes a reality which gives a flavor of truth to the manifestations rendering them attractive, and lead ing the unwary to give credit to the

revelations made by these means. The sacred Scriptures plainly imply that there have been communications from the spirit world to men, such as was the case when the spirit of Samuel was called up by the witch of Endor to

meet King Saul. (1 Ki. xxviii.) This was an exceptional case, how province an order in Council whereby ever. It was God's special will that the standard of teachers' qualifications Samuel His prophet should appear on will be raised. There will be five this occasion to announce to Saul the grades of diploma granted, the lowest punishment awaiting him on account with weeds.

of which will be the elementary, to ob- of his evil doings. There is no reaexercise as He sees fit the power to allow spirits to make known His will to men. This is within the sphere of God's supreme dominion over all creatures; but we may be sure that when the Almighty chooses thus to make revelations to man He takes care to make it known unmistakably that the vision or the anaouncement is from Himself.

From the right on God's part to exercise this power it does not follow that man, who is subject to God's law, should arrogate it to himself or attempt its exercise, or should consult the dead, or good or evil spirits. This is expressly forbidden by God:

"Neither let there be found among you any one that consulteth sooth ayers, or observeth dreams and omens. neither let there be any wizard, not charmer, nor anyone that consulteth pythonic spirits, or fortune-tellers, or hat seeketh the truth from the dead, for the Lord abhorreth all these things and for these abominations He will destroy them at thy coming. . . . These nations whose land thou shalt possess hearken to sooth-sayers and diviners; but thou art otherwise instructed by the Lord thy God." (Deut.

xviii, 10, etc. We see from all this why it is that, though Almighty God sometimes, under extraordinary circumstances, made use of visions or messengers from heaven to make known His will to men, such as Abraham, Jacob, Joseph, Moses and the prophets, and also under the New Law to the shepherds of Judea, the Eastern magi, and St. Joseph, it is not allowed for us either to take cognizance of dreams, or to consult manner of the so-called spiritualistic mediums, even if it were true that spiritualism were really an intercourse with spirits, as its followers pretend to be the case. This is the more evident, inasmuch as the intercourse being forbidden, we must infer that good spirits have no part in it, and if the intercourse be real it mustibe a communication with evil spirits, whether devils, or the souls of the reprobate. One thing, at least, is certain, that Catholics or any Christians should give no countenance to, and should have no participation in so-called spiritualistic manifestations or seances.

We say this under the hypothesis that these communication with spirits are a reality and not a mere delusion or fraud. But the evidences are numerous that most of these consultations are entirely fraudulent. There have been frequently plans made by spectators to expose the actual state of the case at these manifestations, and nine times out of ten an impudent fraud has been laid bare to public

view. The most recent and a very remarkable instance of such an exposure occurred a few days ago at Jackson, Michigan. During the past winter the spiritualistic craze assumed large of seances were held by a Mrs. Darrow and Dr. Briggs, of Boston. The apparitions of deceased friends of the spectators were numerous, the spirits of any one called for appearing in a materialized state. But a trap was laid on the 4th ult., by a party of Michigan Central railway men, the city police being let into the secret.

A special telegram to the Detroit News-Tribune gives the following account of what then occurred :

"The room was crowded ; the lights turned off and a shadow of the departed appeared in white apparel. A muscular railroad man grabbed the spirit and despite her frantic struggles put on the brakes. The spirit cried, 'Oh my Lord, oh my God,' but the railroader held fast. Meanwhile a woman in the audience grasped a dark spirit and was promptly assisted by two strong men, one of whom was a base ball umpire, who shouted 'out on

first. 'The gas was lighted and a brief examination revealed 'Dr. Briggs and 'Mrs. Darrow,' as the spirits. No arrests were made, but the police are holding the alleged deceivers Prosecuting under surveillance. Attorney Kirkby declined to order warrants for their arrest, as he says they have not violated any statute of

Michigan. We can only express our wonder that, frequent as similar exposures of these frauds have been, there are still people who allow themselves to be duped into believing that the manifestations at these meetings are really spiritual apparitions.

Every day is a little life, and our whole life is but a day repeated. Those, therefore, that dare lose a day, are dangerously prodigal; those that dare mis spend it, desperate.

A man's time, when well husbanded, is like a cultivated field, of which a few acres produce more of what is useful to life than extensive provinces, even of the richest soil, when over run

JINGOISM VS. PATRIOTISM.

It is a habit with the members of certain anti-Catholic organizations to make a display of their pretended unswerving loyalty to the throne of Great Britain, and to cast aspersions or doubt upon the fidelity of those who are not members of the same society. Especially do they endeavor to throw the stigma of disloyalty upon Catholics, and newspapers in sympathy with these societies persistently keep up the cry that Catholics cannot be loyal to any Government inasmuch as they give allegiance to the Pope, whom they delight in calling "a foreign poten-

It is, of course, well known that the allegiance owed and paid by Catholics to the Pope is purely in the spiritual order, with which civil Governments have no concern and over which they have no control, but the societies above referred to, whether Orangemen, socalled "Sons of England" or the P. P. A., have a purpose in misrepresenting Catholics, to whom they are so bitterly opposed.

In the United States the same tactics have been followed by the anti-Catholic societies, and some have asked, "Where would Catholics be found in the event of a war with Spain, a Cath olic power?" The representatives of the defunct Know-Nothingism and Apaism have insinuated or openly asserted that the Catholics generally would be traitors to the country of their birth or adoption.

It is needless to say that such an assertion is a black falsehood. There is no need that it should be refuted, and fortune tellers, or spirits after the it is not for the purpose of serious refutation that we here refer to it, but merely to call attention to the stand which representative Catholics have taken on this point.

> In the American Catholic papers we look in vain for the jingoism which is found among those who hate Spain merely because she is a Catholic power. For this reason alone there are hundreds of ministers who are engaged in exciting the hatred of their people against the Spaniards, and only a few days ago the legislature of one of the States was opened by the chaplain with a prayer that Spain "may be blotted from the map of Europe."

This un Christian language and sentimentis certainly not patriotism, and when uttered in the form of a petition to the Almighty, is nothing less than blasphemy. It is directly opposed to the teaching of the gospel, even if it were the case that the Spaniards entertain animosity against Americans, for have we not the command of Christ: "Love your enemies: for if you love them that love you, what reward shall you have? Do not even the publicans this? And if you salute your brethren only, what do you more? Do not also the heathens this?" But there is no evidence to show that the Spaniards entertain a hatred for Americans, except that they are naturally indignant for the hostility which has been manifested in America toward them.

We say, then, that the absence of jingoism from the columns of the Catholic papers is an evidence of the true patriotism of the United States Catholics, who desire to avert war, with its horrors, unless a resort to arms be necessary in order to vindicate the honor and security of the United States, but if these things require that war be declared, the Catholics will be found in the front ranks of the army, as they were during the civil war with the South.

This is well understood by the generality of American Protestants, and is admitted even by those distinctively Protestant journals which are not under the sole influence of bigotry. Thus a New York Presbyterian organ, the Observer, said recently:

"When it comes to the point, the Pope would never dissuade Catholics rom loyal support of the arms of the United States, nor would all the Catholics obey if he did."

A meeting held a few weeks age in Datroit for the purpose of giving expression to the public sentiment in favor of the relief of Cuba, and to take measures toward this end, made this matter clear. Bishop Foley was one of the speakers, and the News-Tribune report says :

"It remained for Bishop Foley to arouse the greatest enthusiasm of the evening when he promised the fealty of American Catholics."

The venerable prelate did not pronounce dogmatically on the point whether the Cubans have sufficient reason to justify their revolt against their Spanish masters, but he did not hesitate to declare his personal opinion that such is the case. He is evidently convinced that Spain governed the country for the sake of the profits to Father Faber.

the Spanish treasury, rather than for the greatest good of the people. He said :

"No doubt much could be said in favor of war at the present time, but

that is not a question for us to decide. "International law does not take part in humanity. Here are a people struggling for their liberty and pouring forth generously of their heart's blood. Whether Cuba had a right to revolt or not is a matter of personal There is no one to say that opinion. the American colonies did not have the right to revolt in 1776, and I believe that Cuba has the same right now.

"We are assembled here to take steps toward the relief of the suffering in Cuba. The Government has wisely taken in hand the distribution of the supplies that may be raised, and I think the officials have acted most wise ly in sending them on boats which carry, in addition to the provisions, a few rapid firing guns."

Reverting then to the question of war, and to the statement of some professing patriots, that Catholics would not fight against a Catholic country, the Bishop continued:

"Fear not, gentleman, it is said that because Spain claims to be a Catholic nation it will weaken the patriotism of American Catholics. It will not weak en one, whether he be Bishop, priest or layman. If this Government decides war to be necessary you may rely upon the patriotism of every Catholic of the country, from Archbishop to layman.'

Archbishop Ireland spoke recently to nearly the same effect when inter viewed by a reporter on the subject, with a view to the publication of his sentiments, and it may be taken for granted that these are the sentiments of the whole Catholic hierarchy and people of the United States. Nevertheless, it is not their desire that war should be declared for the mission for their departure, which mere pleasure of fighting, and if the cause of humanity requires the intervention of the United States in Cuban matters, it is even then better that the purposes of intervention be effected by diplomacy than by bloodshed, notwithstanding the desire of the Illinois chaplain who would have Spain blotted from the list of European nations.

From the reception accorded to Bishop Foley at the Detroit meeting, another in them. lesson may be derived by which it would be well for the members of the anti-Catholic societies on this side of the first born in every house of the of the line to profit. During the period when Apaism flourished, Detroit was its hotbed. The enthusiasm with which Bishop Foley was received is an evidence that the waves of bigotry lose their force when the people return to their sober senses, or when common sense resumes its sway.

We say nothing of the disaster to the Maine warship as a cause for war. It may be considered a certainty that neither Spain nor the officials of that country had anything to do with the explosion: and it is highly probable that it is rather to be attributed to carelessness on the part of the absentee officers who went to enjoy themselves elsewhere, while leaving subordinates in charge of the vessel.

What we have said of the loyalty of the Catholics of the United States is equally applicable to the Catholics of Canada. In the event of a war with any power they could be relied on, notwithstanding the misrepresentations we are wont to hear uttered whenever the 12th of July comes round; and in reference to those societies which misrepresent us it is not to be forgotten that within the reign of her present Majesty, their professions of loyalty have been several times proved to be a mere mockery, as when the Orangemen of England and Ireland attempted to set aside Victoria from the throne, and to put the Duke of Cumberland in her stead, though he had no title to it, and when, more recently, the Orange leaders in Ireland blatantly threatened rebellion if an Irish Home Rule Bill became law. In Canada also, the flimsiness of Orange loyalty was shown by such acts as the burning of the Parliament buildings in Montreal, and the insults offered to Lord Eigin, the Governor General of Canada, and to the Prince of Wales on the occasion of his visit to this country.

Loyalty is better proved by acts than by words uttered in thundering

Take up Your Cross.

Oh! after weary life is there still to be another weary waiting for our deliverance and our rest? If we must burn, let it be with the fire of love now, not with the fire of chastise ment hereafter. As to those who may be lost I confidently believe that our heavenly Father threw His arms around each created spirit and looked it full in the face with bright eyes of love in the darkness of its mortal life, and that of its own deliberate will it would not have Him. Which of the dead have avoided hell? Those, and those only, who on earth took up the cross, and took it up daily, and so, and only so, and always so, have followed Christ.

EASTER SUNDAY.

The festival of Easter, which is called in the language of the Church Dominica Resurrectionis, the "Sunday of the Resurrection," or Pascha, is the first in rank among the festivals of the year. It is the day on which our Lord Jesus Christ rose triumphantly from the tomb, being victorious over sin and death and the powers of darkness.

The English name for Easter is supposed to be derived from the name of the Anglo Saxon goddess Eostre, whose festival was celebrated about this time of the year, so that in origin, the word has no reference to the Christian mystery celebrated on the day. But Pascha is the Hebrew word Pesach put into a Greek form, and signifying passage. Almighty God instituted this festival under the Old Law, in memory of the deliverance of the children of Israel from the bondage of Egypt. This deliverance was effected through numerous miracles wrought by the hand of Moses, whereby many disasters were brought upon the land of Egypt, owing to the refusal of the king or Pharaoh to allow the Israelites to go into the desert, a three days journey, away from the abominations of Egyp-

tian idolatory, to offer sacrifice to God. This appeared to Pharaoh an unreasonable demand, and, instead of acceding to it, he increased his oppression and the burdens imposed on the people, and not till ten fearful plagues were sent upon Egypt in succession was Pharaoh's obstinacy overcome, to the extent that he gave perafterward regretting, he sent an army to turn them back in order to put them to work again. This army was destroyed. When the waters of the Red Sea were miraculously made to open a passage for the Israelites to pass through, the Egyptians followed, and on Moses' stretching forth his hand toward the sea, the waters returned and the Egyptians were overwhelmed

The last of the ten plagues which afflicted the oppressors was the death of Egyptians. The Hebrews were ordered to sacrifice a lamb on the fourteenth day of the month, just before the permission was given for them to depart, and to put the blood upon their doorposts, so that the houses whereon the crimson mark was seen should be passed over by the destroying angel who should come by night to kill the first born of the Egyptian families. Thus the Hebrews escaped the plague; and this day was appointed as the great festival of the Jews for all time. being called the Pasch, or passage, because the angel passed by the houses of the Hebrews, sparing them, and passed into those of the Egyptians to inflict the decreed penalty upon them. It is generally held that the word implies also the passage of the Israelites through the Red Sea.

The Christian festival is called by the same name Pascha, because the Resurrection of Christ occurred during the Paschal selemnity, being on the second day of the celebration, and just as the Jews were delivered from their bondage, so we are delivered through the Resurrection of Christ from the bondage of sin and eternal death.

Of the importance of this mystery we are assured by St. Paul in 1 Cor. xv. The Apostle tells us in this chapter that unless we hold fast the gospel he preached, we have believed in vain, and among the gospel truths to which we must specially cling he mentions the Resurrection:

"Now if Christ be preached that He rose again from the dead, how do some among you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? But if there be no resurrection of the dead, then Christ is not risen again, and if Christ be not risen again, then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain. Yes, and we are found false witnesses of God: because we have given testi-mony against God, that He hath raised up Christ, whom He hath not raised up, if the dead rise not again . . . and if Christ be not risen again, your faith is vain, for you are yet in your

It is thus seen that the Resurrection is the principal mystery of the Christian faith, and on its truth Christianity rests as on a sure foundation. Hence it was of great importance that it should be attested by unimpeachable evidence. To this end we have the testimony of the four Evangelists, two of whom were eye-witnesses of the fact, and the other two being contemporary witnesses were in a position to know the truth. Sts. Peter and Paul also testify to it, and from St. Paul we learn that Christ appeared after His Resurrection, first to Cephas or Peter, then to the eleven, and after to more than five hund whom many w wrote, but ot say, were des knew of the those who had by special reve by God. The wrote short b ment, though Resurrection granted the w life, as being tians, and the nesses also to tion.

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