

The Catholic Register.

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

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Register of the Week.

When secret associations are attacking the Church from the outside, it is to be deplored that attacks are made upon it from within by a press and a knot of lawyers who wish to be *renovatores clericorum*. Montreal presents this spectacle. It is a consolation to find one writing in the tone of Mr. Tarte, who, while he does criticize the clergy rather severely, concludes with the following truthful statement and excellent advice: "The Canadian clergy, taken as a whole, are the most important and useful branch of our organization as a people. I will add that a separation at the present time between the clergy and the people would be an irreparable disaster; and it is because there are numerous signs and precursors of this separation that the religious and civil chiefs of our society ought to speak and act."

The Church lost a valiant champion in the venerable Archbishop of Milan, Mgr. Luigi di Calabiana, who died at the advanced age of 85. A Bishop in 1847, he was nominated Senator soon afterwards by the King, Charles Albert. For years he steadily opposed the invasion of the State in the question of civil marriage and the project of forcing seminarists into the army. When the Piedmontese Government wished to pay the budget of worship out of the suppression of several communities Mgr. di Calabiana upon the advice of all the bishops and with the consent of the Holy See, offered to make a yearly payment to the Government of the sum required. Although this satisfied the financial requirements it did not satisfy the ambition of Cavour, who passed the Bill. Thereupon Mgr. di Calabiana retired from politics. When the war against the Temporal States of the Pope was begun he wrote a book upon the subject. "The temporal power of the Roman Pontiffs defended in its integrity by the suffrages of the Catholic world during the reign of Pius IX."

The Holy Father has placed a portion of the Palazzo Altemps at the disposal of the students of the new Spanish College established in the Eternal City. These students, some forty in number, are distinguished by the blue trimmings on their soutanes, and they attend the Gregorian University.

The *Riforma*, a Roman newspaper and Crispi's organ, says of the new paper money issued by the Italian Government: "We can boast of having the ugliest metallic money, the ugliest stamps, and the ugliest coupons in the world. The new progeny takes after the family."

For some time a Miss Ellen Golding was lecturing in England upon convent life, and relating the usual

tales of ill treatment, &c. Her sister, a lady living at Hull, has published the following statement: "I am not myself a Roman Catholic, nor have I any desire to favour them, but for the sake of truth and justice I consider that the facts should be made known. My sister joined an Order in England, and went abroad to a Convent at Calais belonging to the same Order. While she was there I used to go once or twice yearly to see her. The Nuns were always most kind to me, and I usually stayed in the Convent. On one occasion I was there for a week, and had full opportunity to see how the Convent was conducted. I never saw the slightest suspicion of anything objectionable. My sister and I had plenty of opportunities for private conversation, and she always said she was happy in the Convent. It is nonsense for her to say she had difficulty in getting outside the walls. She went about the town with me, and once when leaving she came with me to the boat, and was actually on board till the very moment of starting. I said to her, 'Now, Nellie, if you want to leave you have nothing to do but to come along,' but she refused. After leaving the Convent she stayed with us for six months and wanted for nothing. She told me about her life in the Convent, but never said one word about the poisoning or immorality she speaks of now. I am positive that if there had been any foundation for these statements I would have heard of it. She told me that in her Order punishments, except in the stricter application of the rules, were unknown. The dark room she now speaks of is an invention, and as for the steel belt she says they were forced to wear, she never saw one in her life until she visited the offices of the Protestant Alliance."

Hitherto all civil servants in the Isle of Man were obliged to take the oath of religious supremacy. This ruled Catholics out of all offices. A deputation waited lately upon the Governor with reference to these disabilities, when they were gratefully informed that a minute had been passed by the Council doing away with them, and declaring that only the oath of allegiance and that prescribed for any particular office would be required.

Judging by the tone of the Italian press, as far as it can be gathered from the extracts we see in English exchanges, King Umberto is no exception to the adage: "Uneasy lies the head that wears a crown." The blame for many of the misfortunes now resting upon Italy are laid at the door of the House of Savoy. There exists a feeling amongst the majority of the nation that Umberto should have acted with greater force of will and

not have allowed the ministers to offend the national conscience, especially in religious questions. The idea of united Italy was always as hollow as a drum, and just as noisy when beaten by anti-clerical Jews and Free-masons. It is not in the character or history of the Italians from the days of Rome's republic down to the present; and it looks as if Umberto would have to pay for his own and his father's faults and shortcomings, and the countless blunders of unprincipled ministers.

After twenty years of service the chief cashier of the Bank of England, Frank May, has been requested to resign without a pension, on account of involving the Bank in heavy losses. He was entrusted with almost unlimited powers in making investments, and had availed himself of this power to invest large sums of the Bank's funds in companies in which his son was deeply interested. Although, according to the *Daily Telegraph* of London, the sum is not more than £20,000, still the Directors could not fail to condemn very strongly the use of their money for concerns which were doubtful in prospects as well as in method. According to the *Herald* correspondent the retiring cashier has not a penny to his name.

The English House of Commons is still in Committee on the Parish Councils' Bill. On Thursday last Walter McLaren, Radical and pronounced advocate of woman suffrage, moved for the enfranchisement of women who would be entitled, if they were men, to vote in local government and parliamentary elections. The President of the Local Government Board opposed for the ministry the proposed amendment. A division of the House being taken, the Government was defeated by a vote of 147 to 126. Amongst those who voted against the ministry were the Hon. Edward Blake, Justin McCarthy and Wm. O'Brien.

A conference was held on the 17th between the Mine Owners' Association and delegates from the Miners Federation under the chairmanship of Lord Rosebery, and the long standing difficulty was settled by a compromise. The men agreed to go to work at the old wages until February, when a Conciliation Board will be formed. This Board will hold its first meeting on Dec. 13, and will be constituted for one year.

Emperor William opened the German Reichstag in person on Thursday last. After thanking the members for the course they look in regard to the increase of the army he explains that the first task before the house is to provide for the expense which it entails. A new and more satisfactory relation in matters of finance between

the empire and the various states is to be discussed, by which the present vacillations in the empire's demands may be abolished. Taxation is to be levied on tobacco in order to raise the revenue. An extraordinary increase of the tax on imports from Russia is proposed in the hope that Russia will abandon her policy of protection.

The Bishops of Hungary have spoken upon the civil marriage Bill through one of their number, Bishop Schlauch of Grosswardein. This Bill requires that a civil ceremony should be performed first. The Bishop maintains that the law of the Church against divorce is the best for the community. If Catholics live together as man and wife without being married according to the rites of the Church the sacraments are to be denied them, and their children are to be regarded as illegitimate.

It was reported the other day that Mello's fleet in the harbor of Rio de Janeiro and his friends on shore were about to combine in order to strike a decisive blow before the arrival of Peixoto's fleet. The Government is trying with great difficulty to prevent any communication of the insurgents with the Provinces, as many of them seem ripe for an outbreak.

At a Protestant Episcopal Congress held in New York the other day a discussion was held upon the duty of the churches of Anglican communion, towards Roman Catholic countries. With becoming modesty the chairman maintained Rome to be schismatic. Thanks, awfully.

Political events in the Hawaiian Islands have turned completely round, by the American Government restoring the monarchy which last January they had been instrumental in removing. United States troops had been landed during the troubles, but the question was whether they were merely to protect American citizens or to aid the provisional Government. For the former purpose they were ill stationed, for the latter well stationed. Secretary Gresham concludes that the continued existence of the provisional Government was due to the belief of the Hawaiians that if they made an effort to overthrow it they would encounter the armed force of the United States. This was the Queen's view, who submitted under protest. The *New York Times* sums up the argument for restoration: "The two contingencies upon which the establishment of the provisional Government and the submission of the deposed Queen rested are now to terminate. The provisional Government was to exist until terms of union with the United States had been negotiated and agreed upon. That contingency has failed, and the Government's reason for existing is at an end. The Queen yielded her authority until such time as the Government of the United States should undo the action of its representatives and reinstate her. That contingency is now to be realized."