









Italian troops, clad in invisible uniforms, routing an Austrian force on Christmas Day east of Monte Grappa.

The Italians are having a bad time on their Northern front between the Brenna and Piave Rivers, Berlin claiming the capture of Monte Asolone and adjoining positions, with forty-eight officers and 2,000 men.

Dressing Station or Regimental Aid Post, but all are delighted to get to these gatherings.

The Catholic Army Hut Fund so generously subscribed to, has already assisted in providing rosaries, scapular medals, etc. We have also received four "Catholic Chapel" tents, one for each division and are now arranging for the building of huts in forward devastated areas.

Your humble servant in Xto, FRANK L. FRENCH, Pt.

THE BATTLE OF PASSCHENDAELE

On November 3rd, if I remember correctly we detrained at Ypres and marched out the Menin Road to Potijze where we spent the night. I slept between two Tommies. The following day was very busy, the men being supplied with ammunition, forty-eight hour's rations, etc.

From 2 o'clock until 9 p. m. I heard confessions in the open. Our camp was now under shell fire but fortunately our casualties were slight; not more than three or four men wounded.

The fearless profession of "Faith" of our officers and men, as they came up and confessed without a trace of human respect, in presence of their Protestant companions, was to me a source of joy and admiration, and to all a source of edification.

At 11 p. m. that night—Nov. 4th—we moved up front. The journey was long and tiresome, but, though we were rained out all the way, we escaped without a casualty.

At 3 a. m. we decided that Tye Cot—a pill-box—would, though rather unhealthy, be the most central place. Several M. O's. had already located there, the Senior being an Australian Major.

Another writes: "These days were very trying owing to weather conditions and the constant arrival at dressing station of weary, cold and wounded men. On one of these long wet nights as we passed them on stretchers cases had to be held—all were seriously wounded. Five were Catholics and to these I administered the last Sacraments. One of them died on the way back to advanced dressing station."

Another writes: "In general I may say that one wants to forget the scenes and incidents of these days—one feels quite sure that some day God will remember him for assisting by priestly ministrations those in danger of death."

Others express gratitude to officers, doctors, etc., for facilities afforded in their work. This is a constant source of consolation for priests. The military authorities recognize that Sacraments are so real to Catholics that they are reverential before the great reality which Religion reveals.

In other reports you would find much repetition of similar work. When out of the line our Chaplains are always busy providing the various and oftentimes scattered units under their charge with the means of receiving the sacraments and assisting at Mass. Once a week all our priests who are free assemble at an appointed place of meeting, to arrange for co-operation and co-ordination in the work of the following week; and to discuss ways and means generally, as well as to enjoy only for an hour or two the company of their brethren.

ground the shells were more spectacular than injurious. However several of our horses were killed and a number wounded.

As the wounded arrived I helped to dress them and ministered to their physical wants. I anointed the serious cases only. Of these three died before they got out. In order to avoid friction with the Doctors I leave all the wounded who will reach the C. C. S. to be looked after by the Chaplain there, who has more time at his disposal.

The second day of the show a man was brought in, in a dying condition, calling aloud for a priest. We went up to him and he said: "I am a Holy Roman Catholic priest."

Lord Clifford of Chudleigh, whose oldest son and heir, the Hon. Charles Clifford, now serving as a Lieutenant of the Royal Navy, is about to marry Dorothy, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hornoyld of 97 Eaton Place, London, S. W., enjoys the distinction of being the only member of the House of Lords who is the great-grandson of a Cardinal.

Mrs. Thomas Fitzherbert—now shown to have been the wife of George IV.—had been twice married previously, her first husband having been Capt. Weld of Lutworth Castle, in Dorset, and of Stonyhurst. At his death without issue the property went not to her but to his brother Thomas Weld, and it was the latter's son, the nephew, therefore, of Mrs. Fitzherbert, who eventually inherited Lutworth Castle and Stonyhurst.

DECLINED PRIME MINISTRY BECAUSE OF ROMAN ADHERENCE. The Lords Clifford, who belong to the same family as the fair Rosamond, with whom Henry II. became so infatuated that she was poisoned by his jealous consort, Queen Eleanor, have suffered a great deal on account of their adherence to the Roman Catholic Church.

POLLEN SEES U-BOATS FOILED

BRITISH EXPERT GIVES OUR NAVAL FORCES MUCH OF THE CREDIT

Arthur Pollen, the British naval expert, who has sailed for Europe spending six months in the United States, gave to the Associated Press a statement in which he said that the campaign of the allied navies against the submarine had at last resulted in keeping the world's ship tonnage from showing a monthly decrease, or soon would do so.

He said that six months ago the German submarines were causing a net attrition in the world's tonnage at the rate of nearly 25% annually. While the present rate of attrition is difficult to estimate, it appeared that last month Great Britain launched as much tonnage as she lost; the first ship laid down by the United States since the War has been launched, and within the next twelve months, he said, a substantial portion of the 6,000,000 tons provided for in this country undoubtedly would be added.

Speaking of the change in the chief command in the British Admiralty, Mr. Pollen said: "It means that Germany's last attack on Allied communications has failed and that there is no reason why ultimately the full military power of Great Britain, France, and Italy, and more important of all, of the United States, should not be felt in the western theatre of war. This is a tremendous result."

From 1870 until last year, that is to say for nearly half a century, Lord Clifford had never visited Europe. He was, therefore, quite unknown to the quantity, not only to his fellow countrymen but even to his relatives when he returned to England last year to take his seat in the House of Lords. It would be an exaggeration to intimate that he made a good impression

in that higher chamber of the imperial legislature. For on the occasion his first and only address to his fellow peers—he has not repeated the experiment—he was literally shouted down owing to the complete irrelevancy and absolute drivel of his remarks, which he read in an almost inaudible and droning voice from a typewritten document of portentous size.

Mr. Pollen mentioned the consultations with the British Admiralty of "three distinguished and resourceful American naval officers"—Admirals Sims, Mayo and Benson. "Through these men, American professional knowledge," he said, "has gained a first-hand experience of the reality of war and has been able to contribute an impersonal and partial judgment upon the character of the operations to be pursued and of the methods of command under which they should be carried out. I cannot doubt for a moment that much of the improved efficiency of the counter-campaign is due to this intellectual stimulus."

Of the recent North Sea raid by the German forces Mr. Pollen said: "The only remarkable thing about such incidents is not their occasional occurrence, but their rarity. Were the British or the American Navy in the position of the German navy, I fancy they would be far more frequent."—N. Y. Times.

AN OLD ENGLISH FAMILY

EVER TRUE TO THE FAITH OF THEIR FATHERS

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Two Brothers. The Duke was two brothers, one of whom is a Jesuit priest at Stonyhurst where he used to go by the nickname of "Pink Eyes." The other brother, married to the daughter of a Parisian lawyer of the name of de Chere, has preferred to retain the name of Hornoyld, disowning the foreign nobility titles of his elder brother and the latter's pretensions to descent from the ancient Counts of Gandolfi, who owned the Castle of Gandolfi now part of the patrimony of the Papacy, and where the Papal Secretary of State is accustomed to reside during the hot summer months.

THE TALE OF THE YEARS

Centuries come and go; the portals of the years swing to and fro; but ever the same tale repeats itself. Civilizations flourish and decline, nations are born and pass away, yet the story of the human heart remains the same.

The stage of the world may change in its setting. The language of the drama of human life may find expression in many and varied tongues. The actors may differ in garb and gesture, but the plot itself is ever the same.

The old, old passions are still aglow in the hearts of men. The devotion of Abel and the crime of Cain are enacted anew with every day. The sublime deeds of virtue or of vice may be read alike in the latest sheet that is fresh from the press, with the printer's ink still moist upon it, or in the ancient parchment scroll that comes to us from the cloister desk of some long forgotten scribe whose soul is in bliss in Paradise.

The reason is plain. The same human nature remains unchanged, and the same mighty fact of original sin is indelibly recorded, not merely in the Book of Holy Writ, but in every page of the great world's history. It may be seen imprinted on the baked bricks of royal Babylonian archives or inscribed in hieroglyphics on papyrus rolls found in dark Egyptian tombs. The very volumes written to deny are in themselves the most conclusive proof.

All history may be summed up in two words: selfishness and self-indulgence, except where religion has lifted man into a higher sphere of nobler motives and a purer life. Nothing new will the new year bring. There is but one prescription for personal happiness, and but one solution for all the problems that perplex the world, and that is conformity of the heart of man with the will of God. So it was in the past, so it is now, and so it ever will be until the angel trumpet sounds.

Nothing new will the new year bring that the world has not experienced before. Yet there is one new thing that God may give to us, and for this we should constantly pray. A new heart, O Lord, create in me; a heart filled with love of Thee, and conformed to Thy most Holy Will.—Rev. Joseph Huslelin.

THE CATHOLIC CHURCH EXTENSION SOCIETY OF CANADA

THE RUTHENIAN CONFLICT



This ugly caricature of His Holiness the Pope is taken from a pamphlet recently published in Winnipeg in the Ruthenian language for the purpose of turning the Ruthenian people against the Catholic Church.

Archbishop Szeptycki in 1910. He says in his Report: "While on our side the Ruthenians of Canada have not a single periodical, the Protestants have at least four. The Ruthenian part of the Winnipeg Telegraph is also edited by a Protestant, a pupil of Manitoba College."

He goes on to write of a stream of cheap anti-Catholic pamphlets and books in Ruthenian, and concludes: "Here, then, is almost a whole literature on one side, and on the other side not a single pamphlet, because the books published in Galicia or even in the United States in Ruthenian have not for Canada the same actuality as the Canadian periodicals."

REV. T. O'DONNELL, President, Catholic Church Extension Society, 67 Bond St., Toronto. Contributions through this office should be addressed to: EXTENSION, CATHOLIC RECORD OFFICE, London, Ont.

FATHER FRASER'S CHINESE MISSION

Taichowfu, China, Nov. 26, 1916. Dear Readers of CATHOLIC RECORD: That your charity towards my mission is approved by the highest ecclesiastical authorities of Canada let me quote from a letter from His Excellency, The Most Rev. Peregrino F. Stagni, O. S. M., D. D., Apostolic Delegate, Ottawa: "I have been watching with much interest the contributions to the Fund opened on behalf of your missions by the CATHOLIC RECORD. The success has been very gratifying and shows the deep interest which our Catholic people take in the work of the missionary in foreign lands. . . . I bless you most cordially and all your labors, as a pledge my earnest wishes for your greatest success in all your undertakings."

I entreat you to continue the support of my struggling mission, assuring you a remembrance in my prayers and Masses. Yours faithfully in Jesus and Mary J. M. FRASER

- Previously acknowledged... \$12,176 56
"Thanksgiving," Halifax... 5 00
In memory of Margaret McCormick, Glenora... 1 00
Mrs. C. Meagher, Read... 2 00
Geo. J. Stefler, Hespeler... 50
A Friend, Cheltenham... 1 00
J. P. Collins, Calgary... 1 00
M. E. W. Prescott... 1 00
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J. J. C... 20 00
B. Keegan, Edmondville... 1 00
Mrs. R. Beagle, Port Arthur... 1 00
F. J. M. Holmfeld... 1 00
In memory of R. J. McNeil... 2 00
James Morrison, Markdale... 2 00

This is the spirit of acceptance, the spirit in which all work should be done. Here I have been allotted. I would be otherwise, but since it is thus decreed, I will win my victory by doing my utmost in my appointed place. Plainly I have a mission here—if I prove recreant to one that seems to me lowly, should I have been more faithful in one that was high? The vision shall shine for me these gray days, as it shone when I saw it, some far morning, face to face.—Anna C. Minogue.



CHATS WITH YOUNG MEN

IF YOU WERE BOSS?
If you were the boss and a fellow like you
Came in and requested a raise,
If he did his work in the way that you do,

TAUGHT A LESSON
A scheme that was proposed to the St. Francis Debating Club was condemned as not practical by a loud-voiced member, who boasts that his motto is "efficiency."

pulse of human and divine love; the love of fellow-man, which constitutes friendship; the love in holy matrimony, which preserves its sanctity; the love of human society, which creates strong and honest citizens; the love of country, which breeds high-minded patriots; the love of God, which brings forth heirs to the Kingdom of Heaven.

he was left naked, his body one bleeding sore. Even the Arian bishop was ashamed of this brutality and offered to punish the priest if the saint would prosecute him.

He ate but once in seven days, and when God led him to a solitary life, kept fast of forty days. Thirty-seven years he spent on the top of pillars exposed to heat and cold, day and night adoring the majesty of God.

happ the best guess at the secret is national nervousness. We must recognize the fact that the world expects much more of women than of men; often it demands that they reconcile incompatibilities.

Capital Trust Corporation Limited
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'A SOUND MIND IN A SOUND BODY'
Is the best condition a man can be in when making his Will, but no condition of mind or body can excuse a man for delay in making a proper provision for those dependent on him.

DO NOT BELIEVE IN HELL
There will be little surprise over the statement that a large number of sectarian clergymen neither believe in nor preach the existence of hell, or eternity of punishment, says The Ave Maria.

OUR BOYS AND GIRLS

SHORT SKETCH OF LIVES OF SAINTS OF THE WEEK

JANUARY 1—THE CIRCUMCISION OF OUR LORD

Circumcision was a sacrament of the Old Law, and the first legal observance required by Almighty God of the descendants of Abraham.

JANUARY 2—ST. FULGENTIUS, BISHOP

In spite of family troubles and delicate health, Fulgentius was appointed at an early age procurator of a busy city: to see the marks which this devotion to the so-called practical leaves on every side.

FASHIONS

THE OLD YEAR'S BLESSING

I am fading from you, But one draweth near, Called the Angel-Guardian Of the coming year.

JANUARY 3—ST. GENIEVIEVE, VIRGIN

Genevieve was born at Nanterre, near Paris. St. Germanus, when passing through, specially noticed a little shepherdess, and predicted her future sanctity.

FASHIONS

THE OLD YEAR'S BLESSING

I brought Joy to brighten Many happy days; Let the New-Year's Angel Turn it into Praise.

JANUARY 4—ST. TITUS, BISHOP

Titus was a convert from heathenism, a disciple of St. Paul, one of the chosen companions of the Apostle in his journey to the Council of Jerusalem, and his fellow-laborer in many apostolic missions.

FASHIONS

THE OLD YEAR'S BLESSING

If I brought your Pleas, All wealth's bounteous charms, Shall not the New Angel Turn them into Alms?

JANUARY 5—ST. SIMEON STYLITES

One winter's day, about the year 401, the snow lay thick around Sisan, a little town in Cilicia. A shepherd boy, who could not lead his sheep to the fields on account of the cold,

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RAW FURS
BIG MONEY IN TRAPPING THIS YEAR
FREE Mink's Trappers' Guide—52 pages; how and where to trap; what bait and traps to use; in full of useful information.

St. Thomas College
Chatham, N. B.
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STAINED GLASS MEMORIAL WINDOWS AND LEADED LIGHTS
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We Make a Specialty of Catholic Church Windows

Hearts that were not in the same way as those of the past, but they are in the same way as those of the past.

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