

THE CATHOLIC RECORD

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London, Sat., Feb. 18th, 1888.

DEATH OF THE RIGHT REV. MGR. BRUYERE, V. G.

It is our sad duty to announce the death of the Right Rev. Monsignore John Marie Bruyere, V. G., Administrator of the Diocese.

The cause of death was paralysis, which attacked him on January 25th, since which date he remained comatose in a precarious condition.

The kindly and amiable disposition of Monsignore Bruyere made him beloved by all classes, and his death will be heard of with sorrow throughout this continent.

He died in full resignation to the holy will of God, and was fortified in his last illness by the reception of the usual Sacraments administered to those who are in danger of death.

Requiescat in pace.

LENT.

This week the Church desires her children to begin their preparation for the great festival of Easter.

For this purpose she has established the holy season of Lent, which is to be observed in such a manner as will be most conducive to our salvation.

For the great mystery to which this holy season is a period of preparation is the most important event in the great Plan of Redemption which was accomplished on earth by our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

The English term Lent appears to be derived from the Saxon word *lenten*, spring; but the Latin name *quadragesima*, from *quadraginta*, forty, refers to the length of time during which the season lasts, forty days; and in the languages which are derived from the Latin the Lent is called by a name which is evidently a corruption of the Latin word.

It is called in Italian, *Quaresima*, in French *careme*; and even the Celtic tongues have names of Latin origin, as the Welsh *Gareys*, *Manx*, *Karrys*, *Breton*, *Corays*.

On this fact we may remark the conclusive evidence which it affords of the Roman origin of the Church as established among the ancient Britons, who certainly would not have had for this season a Latin name, unless their Christianity had a close connection with Rome, before St. Augustine brought the faith to the Anglo-Saxons.

certain that the fast of 40 days was then in existence, though there was a diversity as regarded details in the mode of its observance.

The object of the institution of Lent is that we sanctify ourselves by the exercise of good works, especially by prayer and fasting.

Fasting is useful to subjugate the flesh and drive away temptation to evil.

Throughout the New Testament equally the practice of fasting is commended.

The church, knowing from the divine Revelation committed to her, that fasting is a divine precept, has fixed the time and manner in which it should be observed.

Three hundred and three Protestant ministers of Shropshire and the adjoining Welsh counties have forwarded to the Prime Minister, the Secretary for Ireland, Mr. Gladstone, and the members for Shropshire, Cardiganshire, and North Wales, a strong protest against the course of the Government in Ireland.

Our course at the last Provincial general election we do not regret, nor have we reason to regret it.

The date of the last Provincial elections is so recent that all our readers will remember that this issue was raised by the Ontario Conservatives.

Wales has made against the tyranny of the present rulers. The clergy of Cardiff of all denominations, and the Welsh Calvinists of the vale of Cwrd, not long ago issued similar manifestos, eliciting from Mr. Balfour the reply, intended to state that they were ignorant of the facts of the case.

The Greeks call Lent, *Nestis*, which signifies fasting, and other languages, as Dutch, German, &c., employ words of the same signification.

It is certain that the fast of Lent is of most ancient usage in the Church. The Council of Nice in 325, and the Council of Laodicea in 365, speak of it as a universal observance at these respective dates.

Hence Moshelm, who says that its duration and manner of observance were determined only in the fourth century, is in error.

Scotland has spoken in equally decisive tones. The Marquis of Breadalbane said in a speech at Perth but a few days ago:

Such a large meeting showed that the sympathies of the people of Scotland are with their Irish brethren, that they should have home rule granted them, or that they should be placed in a position to manage their own affairs.

As far as Mr. Clancy is concerned, we had with him no personal quarrel. We were sorry to see him then in the ranks of our enemies, but as he was there he had to bear the consequences.

In the last Dominion elections we did not consider that the same issue was before the electors, hence we assumed our usual neutral position; and should Mr. Clancy be a candidate in

measure for Home Rule which he had so gallantly fought in spite of all opposition.

Scotland and Wales have, during the present agitation for Home Rule, manifested a most generous spirit of friendship for Ireland.

Every day makes it more certain that Balfour rashly entertained the scheme for the settlement of the Irish question by imprisoning the principal Nationalist leaders, and subjecting them to prison treatment which they would not survive.

A new witness has appeared to give evidence that the facts were related by Mr. Blunt long before he became himself one of Balfour's prisoners.

The Irish Canadian of last week, in an article on "The Political Situation," thus speaks of the Record:

In the last general elections for the Province Mr. Clancy received the support of the Conservative party, of the Protestant Conservatives in bulk who stood to him faithfully, and of such of the Catholics as were not influenced by the CATHOLIC RECORD.

The Record is a Catholic, not a political journal, and where politics merely are concerned it has not interfered nor will it interfere in the issues at stake between the two parties of the Dominion and Province.

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Kent, to fill the vacancy in the House of Commons, there occurs to us, at present, no reason why we should depart from our usual course of neutrality in politics.

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Times will also brand Dr. Aird as a Socialist and Anarchist.

THE NATIONAL LEAGUE IN OTTAWA.

We feel a pleasure in inserting the interesting letter addressed by Mr. Fitzgerald, President of the National League of America, to Mr. Connell J. Higgins, President of the Gladstone Branch, Ottawa.

The generous gift of \$1000 by Mr. and Mrs. Hayes of Ottawa in aid of the cause of Ireland is presented in response to a special appeal to constitute a fund to be known as the "Bill of Honor," to which friends of Ireland are invited to contribute.

DEAR SIR—I have very great pleasure in acknowledging receipt of yours of 17th inst., covering bill of exchange on London for £204 15, proceeds of one thousand dollars, subscribed in aid of the Irish cause, by Mr. and Mrs. Hayes of Ottawa.

On a smaller scale, the Island of Lewis, in Scotland, has been the scene of events similar to those which have occurred in Ireland, and which made the latter country England's reproach in the eyes of the whole civilized world.

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FROM statistics given in the English Catholic Directory for 1888, published by Messrs. Burns & Oates, London, it appears that Catholicism is making steady progress in that country.

Not long since a number of these crofters made a raid upon a deer forest on the Island of Lewis, and killed a number of deer.

THE St. Louis Catholic World, and the Church Progress of Marshall, Illinois, have amalgamated under the name of the Catholic World.

MGR. O'CALLAGHAN has been selected by the Holy Father as Bishop of Hexham and Newcastle. The consecration will take place on the 18th inst.

LONDON Truth says: "The Empress Eugenie has expended £100,000 on the museum at Farnborough.

They only broke one of the iniquitous laws of man, which permitted wild animals to fatten on the land, while human beings were allowed to starve.

It remains to be seen whether the

LETTER FROM BISHOP CLEARY.

Hotel Molino, Rome, 7 January, 1888.

My DEAR MONSIGNOR—It will gratify you and all the clergy to learn that myself and the Dean are very well in health and spirits, although still fatigued after our long journey of twenty-one days.

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presented through His beloved mother at the shrine which she has chosen for the working of her greatest wonders in this our day.

As we passed from Pau to Lourdes we read in a French journal that good Dr. Carbery, Bishop of Hamilton, had died in Cork.

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