

The Catholic World

CANADA—Practical Evidence of Friendliness

Lord Strathcona is a non-Catholic, but a little time ago he made a donation of £1250 to the Catholic High School of Montreal. In a letter to Hon. Justice Curran, enclosing a cheque, he wrote: 'Whilst I am personally more immediately connected with the Protestant Church and institutions of the country, not the less have I a warm feeling for my fellow-citizens of other denominations, including the Catholics, both English and French-speaking, and I would gladly, as far as possible, aid them in their efforts for higher education.' This is not Lord Strathcona's first practical evidence of friendliness to Catholic purposes. Some years ago he made a donation of £250 to the Shamrock Amateur Athletic Society, a leading Catholic organisation for young men in the Dominion.

ENGLAND—The Education of Children

Preaching at St. Patrick's Church, Soho, on Sunday morning, December 13, the Archbishop of Westminster said a part of the work of the Catholic Church was the education of her children, and it had recently been made clear by the unexampled generosity of Catholics, and by their great sacrifices that they were determined to safeguard the best interests of the children, so that they could take their place in the world as good Catholics and good citizens.

Ordained Priest at the Age of Seventy-four

A little over a year ago (says the *Catholic Times*) Prince Lowenstein-Wertheim-Rochefort, a great German noble whose eldest son is married to a cousin of King Edward VII., and who was one of the founders and leaders of the Centre Party in the Reichstag, renounced his estates, position, and dignities, and at the age of 73 became a novice in the Dominican Order. On December 18 he was ordained priest by Cardinal Fischer, Archbishop of Cologne, and is now at St. Dominic's Priory, Havestock Hill, N.W., on his way to the Isle of Wight, to visit his sister and daughter, who are both nuns in the Benedictine Convent at Ryde. His daughter is one of three who have all entered religious Orders, and his sister is the widow of Dom Miguel, King of Portugal, 1828-1834. The Prince, whose name has been intimately bound up for half a century with the struggle for the rights of the German Church and Catholic religion, is now known as Father Raymund. The ceremony of his reception into the Dominican Order in the Conventual Church of Venloo was very striking. An immense crowd, which included many of the distinguished relatives, was present to assist at the Pontifical High Mass. The Prince, supported by his eldest son, wore his robes of state with the Collar of the Golden Fleece, the Grand Cross of the Order of Malta, and that of the Order of Christ. These glittering badges of his knighthood and worldly rank he laid upon the altar, receiving in exchange the white tunic and black mantle of a Dominican. The event created a considerable sensation in Germany at the time, and the career of the venerable prince-priest is still watched with sympathetic interest.

FRANCE—Joan of Arc to be Beatified

The promoter of the Cause of Joan of Arc (writes the Rome correspondent of the *Catholic Times*) read on Sunday, December 13, in presence of the Holy Father, a document expressing approval by the Sacred Congregation of two miracles wrought by Almighty God at the intercession of the Maid of Orleans. A large number of French residents and many who had come specially from France for the occasion were present, and manifested intense enthusiasm at the success of the process. It may be said that the Beatification of Joan of Arc is now almost an accomplished fact, and will probably take place in May. To Monsignor A. S. Touchet, Bishop of Orleans, whose efforts to promote the cause which French Catholics have so much at heart have been ceaseless, Pius X. expressed pleasure at the progress of the process, and he congratulated the Bishop on the possession of another patron for Orleans. His Holiness said: 'The example of the Maid of Orleans' heroism should encourage all French Catholics to-day. In her virtues she gave them a model. She was pure as an angel, strong as a lion in battle, and amidst troubles, simple as a child, and ever fervent in religion. She performed for her country a task that was considered impossible. What is impossible in the eyes of men is possible to God. The French people should love their country, their God, their Faith, and their Church as she did.' One of the three miracles approved of by the Congregation of Rites took place at Orleans in 1900, when Sister Teresa,

of the Order of St. Augustine, after having invoked the aid of Joan of Arc, was cured instantaneously of an ulcer; another at Faverolles in 1893, when Sister Authier was cured of the same disease in the same way; and the third at Fruges in 1891, when Sister Jeanne Marie Sangier, after having invoked the assistance of the Maid, was instantly cured of chronic tuberculosis.

ROME—Papal Jubilee Gifts

An interesting episode in the Papal Jubilee celebrations occurred on Saturday morning, December 12, when the Holy Father received the Knights of the Holy Sepulchre, who presented his Holiness with a gift of a number of portable altars, each containing a complete set of sacred vessels. Sir Thomas Esmonde, M.P., represented the Irish Knights. Count Fani, the Italian representative, delivered the address to his Holiness. The Pope in reply described the gift as most useful and appropriate, and warmly thanked the members of the Order, which his Holiness remarked was the oldest of the Papal Orders. At the same time he expressed his desire for its increase and prosperity. In conclusion the Pope bestowed the Apostolic Benediction upon all the Knights and their families.

Forthcoming Consistory

The Rome correspondent of the *London Times* says it is more than likely that a Consistory will be held early in the present year, and that some Cardinals will be created, among them the Patriarch of Lisbon, and, very probably, Archbishop Bourne, of Westminster.

Restoration Work at St. Peter's

One of the most characteristic signs of the present Pope's zeal in connection with church services is his wish to see everything connected with the House of God plain, clean, and substantial (writes a Rome correspondent). On no account will he tolerate any dilapidation or shabbiness in a sacred edifice, no matter how poor may be the building itself, for all things in it can at least be kept clean and in good repair. One of the first undertakings of Pius X. after his election to the Throne of Peter was the restoration of the floor of the Apostolic Basilica, but the work had to cease for some time owing to want of funds. Now, however, the sum of 100,000 lire has been deposited by Pius X. with Cardinal Rampolla, Archpriest of St. Peter's, to overhaul thoroughly the marble pavement, the beauty of which centuries have done so much to disfigure.

UNITED STATES—A Gold Medal for the Holy Father

His Grace the Most Rev. Dr. Glannon, Archbishop of St. Louis, U.S.A., had a private audience on December 9, in connection with his official visit. The Archbishop presented the Pope with a gold medal which the committee of the St. Louis Exposition of two years ago tendered for the acceptance of the Holy Father, as a sign of their gratitude to Pius X. for having sent several artistic objects of great value to the Exposition.

Civil Authorities must be Respected

In a recent address in Baltimore, Cardinal Gibbons said: 'The Church teaches that the civil authorities must be respected no matter what the nationality or religion of the incumbent in office. I recently received a letter from a man asking me whether he ought to respect Mr. Taft, the President-elect, because he was informed that Mr. Taft was not a believer in Our Lord. I was amazed, and can scarcely believe that the man was a true Catholic. You must have no less respect for those at the head of your Government than you have for the Pope in his department. There is a great evil in this land that forbodes revolution or a partial upheaval of society. The only way to avoid a catastrophe is to teach our young men to respect the authorities placed over them.'

Resignation of Bishop Spalding

The Right Rev. Dr. Spalding, Bishop of Peoria, has issued a farewell letter to the clergy of the diocese announcing officially that his resignation as Bishop of Peoria had been accepted by the Holy Father, and that the Rev. H. J. O'Reilly, formerly Auxiliary to the Bishop of Peoria, had been appointed diocesan administrator pending the selection of a new bishop.

An Energetic Pastor

In the *Catholic Herald* of Sacramento, California, we find an account of the blessing and opening of a new Catholic church which has been erected under many difficulties by the energetic and zealous pastor, Rev. Father Tubman, brother of the highly esteemed Rector of Timaru, Rev. J. Tubman, S.M. Whilst Father Tubman was on a visit to Ireland the old church was destroyed by fire; he hastened back to his parish, bought a new site in the centre of the town of Reno, on which was a fine residence, now used as a presbytery. Objection was taken to a change of site, but Father Tubman persevered notwith-