

The Chartreuse Monastery

The expulsion of the monks of the Chartreuse monastery, decreed under the Associations' Law, took place on April 29th. The gates of the monastery were forced open by a party of engineers, and 23 monks were in the chapel. They left the building without compulsion.

A Defeat for the Government

At the Senatorial Election in the Gironde, M. Decrais, who openly opposed the summary proceedings of M. Combes against the religious Orders, was elected in preference to the Ministerial candidate.

The Concordat

From a cable message received last week we learn that a profound sensation has been created in France through the special commission appointed by the Chamber of Deputies by 17 votes to 16 adopting the principle of separation of Church and State. M. Clemenceau challenges M. Combes (the Premier) to declare his policy.

Petty Spite

M. Combes (writes a Paris correspondent) is not satisfied with expelling the Congregations from France, and his hatred follows them even in foreign lands. He has caused a formal request to be addressed to the Belgian Government to the effect that French Congregations which have been expelled from France be not allowed to settle down or open establishments anywhere in proximity to the French frontier. In accordance with this, the Belgian Bishops whose dioceses are in proximity to the French frontier have withdrawn permissions which have already been given, and the monks who had settled there have now to leave and seek other quarters.

Decision Reversed

The Court of Appeal at Aix has declared that monks forming part of a dissolved Congregation who had previously been freed from their vows and been regularly secularised, and who continued to live together had committed no law against the Law of Association. This decision was rather awkward for the Government, and if upheld would have seriously interfered with the clean sweep which it is intended to make of the Congregations. The matter was, therefore, brought before the Court of Cassation, which is the supreme and final tribunal in France, and the Court of Cassation has obliged the Government by reversing the Aix decision, and by deciding that the action complained of was an offence against the law.

Inconsistency

Said the Paris 'Temps' on the vote for the rejection of the authorisation of the Carthusian Order under the Association Bill:—'Amongst the Deputies who voted the rejection, the vote of many was particularly comic, especially that of the Socialists. For the Chartreux treat their workmen exceptionally favorably, having included certain measures hitherto unsuccessfully demanded by Socialism, notably that of workmen's retreats. But more than that, the Order itself, with its community of goods, its division of labor, its absolute equality between individuals under chiefs whose power is entirely dependent on election is a little Collectivist society. Yet the Collectivists went against it when they ought to have been the first to defend and admire it. Such is the logic of our politicians.'

GERMANY.—A Dispute Ended

The dispute between the Right Rev. Michael F. Korum, Bishop of Treves, and the German Government, regarding teaching in the Catholic girls' schools, has ended with the Government yielding to the Bishop's contention that German and history shall be taught by a Catholic teacher. The text books formerly used are abolished and certain Catholic text books are substituted.

Congress of Catholics

Since 1848 the Congress of Catholics has met in Germany year by year with scarcely any exception. This body has grown in influence and membership until it has become the head and centre of the whole Catholic social life of Germany. The total strength of last year's Congress was about 3000, and the report—an octavo volume of 700 pages—was published within six weeks of the conclusion of the Congress, giving the calling and standing of all the members. It showed that the members included 70 Catholic members of Parliament, 57 members of the German Catholic nobility, 91 lawyers, 43 doctors and apothecaries, 174 Catholic Government officials, 320 Catholic merchants, 57 farmers, 112 artisans and laborers, 116 pressmen, 331 students, 125 teachers, architects, builders, priests, and soldiers.

ROME.—The King's Visit to the Vatican

The 'St. James's Gazette,' writing with reference to King Edward's visit to the Holy Father, says: 'One may be sure that, though the privacy of the interview made it possible to dispense with ceremony, his Majesty showed the respect due to the years of the aged Pontiff, and to his position as spiritual head of a Christian Church which holds the allegiance of some millions of the King's subjects, without abating a jot of the dignity due to his own Sovereignty over the greatest of temporal Empires. The silly protest of certain fanatical associations in this country against the visit of courtesy, which must have been of intense interest both to the King and Leo XIII., is quoted by some of the Italian papers without comment; but the "Times" correspondent in Rome ridicules the misconception of these worthies that the King's visit to the Vatican was likely to be displeasing to the Quirinal. The Italian se-

cular press places it beyond doubt that the civil authorities in Rome entirely approve of the courtesy shown to the head of their Church.'

The Kaiser's Visit

The Emperor of Germany, wishing to please his Catholic subjects, took special measures to invest his visit to the Holy Father with great éclat. Breakfasting at the German Embassy, prior to setting out for the Vatican, he had on his right Cardinal Rampolla, Papal Secretary of State, and on his left Cardinal Agliardi. On the way to the Vatican troops presented arms. German flags were waving in every quarter. Hymns in the German tongue were sung by pilgrims from the Fatherland and others. Immense crowds lined the streets, and the windows and balconies were filled with spectators. The audience with the Holy Father was most cordial, and at its close his Holiness gave as a present to the Emperor a beautiful mosaic representing the Roman Forum. To the Crown Prince and Prince Eitel Frederick, whom he received subsequently, his Holiness also presented handsome mosaics. As the Kaiser, after having waited on Cardinal Rampolla, returned to the Embassy he was enthusiastically cheered by pilgrims from the Rhine, and two of them tendered him bouquets of flowers. On the following day his Majesty visited the Benedictines, whom the French have driven from their country. At Monte Cassino he was received by Arch-Abbot Krug and the whole community, and after he had been conducted through the abbey the Arch-Abbot presented to him a History of the Hohen-zollerns, which has been printed at Monte Cassino.

SCOTLAND.—Peter's Pence

An address, accompanied by a Peter's Pence offering of one thousand pounds, was presented to the Pope by the Scottish pilgrims.

Death of a Catholic Lady

The death took place, at Bruntfield Place, Edinburgh, on May 3, of Mrs. Anna Maria Stott, wife of Gibson Stott, formerly captain, 92nd Highlanders, eldest daughter of Colonel Ronald Macdonald, of Morar House, Inverness-shire, and cousin of the late Archbishop Macdonald. The remains of the deceased lady, who had reached the ripe age of eighty years, were taken to the Church of the Sacred Heart, where a Requiem Mass was celebrated. The funeral took place at the Grange Cemetery, Rev. Father Hayes, S.J., officiating both in the church and at the grave.

SOUTH AFRICA.—The Jesuits as Teachers

Earl Grey, one of the late Mr. Rhodes's trustees, has written a letter to the Rev. F. Barthelmy, of the Society of Jesus, and rector of the mission at Buluwayo, congratulating the community and scholars on having won the two first Rhodes scholarships. 'I am glad this honor should belong to the Jesuit Fathers, whose devoted and unceasing labors, from the earliest moment of our occupation to the present time, in the interest of both the white settlers and native population of Rhodesia, have won the ungrudging admiration and gratitude of us all.'

GENERAL

A Change of Use

According to an exchange the Government House at Gibraltar where Sir George White received the King was formerly, like several other houses nearer home in which his Majesty is entertained, a religious. Indeed, the paper used for correspondence at Government House is still stamped, 'The Convent, Gibraltar,' a designation that might easily lead to little mystifications and confusions, such, for instance, as that which rumor already assigns to it, the addressing of Lady White as 'The Rev. Mother' in response to orders received from 'The Convent,' by London tradesmen. True, the Church avenges itself at times by the purchase of properties that the world has had very much for its own; such, for instance, as Egypt House at Cowes, where rooms in which the King dined and supped in other days are now becoming accustomed to the steps and austerities of nuns; or, nearer our doors, the town house facing Hyde Park which French nuns have converted into a house of prayer.

The Propaganda

A sketch of the Propaganda by the Rev. Dr. Freri affords a list as follows of countries placed under the care of that Congregation as missionary fields. These are in North America: the United States, Canada, Lower California, Honduras, and the West Indies, excepting the islands of Cuba, Porto Rico, Hayti, Guadeloupe, and Martinique. In South America: Guiana, Patagonia, and three Prefectures-Apostolic in Peru. In Europe: Great Britain and Ireland, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Holland, Luxemburg, parts of Germany and Switzerland, Greece, Crete, and all the Balkan States. In Africa: the whole continent, except Algeria, Carthage, Ceuta, Angola, and the Canaries and Bourbon Islands. In Asia: the whole continent, except Siberia and the See of Goa in India. In Oceania: all except the Philippines.

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