

The King and The Pope

The correspondent of the 'Catholic Times' gives the following account of the visit of King Edward to the Holy Father:—His Majesty the King of England went from the Quirinal Palace to the British Embassy beside Porta Pia, held a reception there, and set out thence for the Vatican in the carriage of the embassy, but not—if we are to believe 'Il Giornale d'Italia'—before he had stated that, as his passing through the streets was to be 'private,' the lines of troops were unnecessary. The King wore the uniform of a Field-Marshal and many decorations. With him in the Royal carriage was the Hon Charles Hardinge. In a second were the other members of the suite, Major General Sir Stanley Clarke, and Rear-Admiral the Hon. Hedworth Lambton. Crowds lined the streets and squares of Rome, and everywhere respectfully greeted the Sovereign, who returned the greetings from within his closed carriage, the windows of which were shut. Bands played the National Anthem at various points on the long stretch of distance between the Porta Pia and the Vatican, and last of all on St. Peter's Square.

The First Papal Salute

was rendered by the Swiss Guard at the gateway on Via delle Fondamenta. In the Court of St. Damascus a company of the Palatine Guard, with its banner, under the orders of Captain Di Pietro, a detachment of the Carbineers, under the command of Marshall Vanzi, and the body of the Pontifical firemen, commanded by the Marshal Guoni, rendered honors. The Marquis Giulio Sacchetti, Assistant Foriere, in the absence of the Prince Ruspoli, the Master of the Sacred Hospice, who was indisposed, advanced and opened the door of the King's carriage. His Majesty alighted, and moved towards the Noble Stairway, attended by the Marquis and by Lieut.-Colonel Bernard, Private Chamberlain of Sword and Cape. On the landing were Monsignor Cagiano di Azevedo, Majordomo; Monsignor Costantini, Archbishop of Patras and Grand Almoner; Monsignor Pifferi, O.S.A., Bishop of Porphyrion and Sacristan; Monsignor Grabuski, Secretary of Ceremonial; Monsignor Stonor, Archbishop of Trebizond; Monsignor Merry del Val, Archbishop of Nicaea; Prince Camillo Rospigliosi, Commander of the Noble Guards, with the officers of the corps; the Commander of the Palatine and Swiss Guards and of the Carbineers; Monsignor Lindsay, Prior, Cesarini, and Grazioli, and the lay Chamberlain; The O'Clery, an ex-M.P.; the Marquis MacSwiney of Mash-anaglass, Comm. Folchi, de Gasperi, and H. D. Grissell.

Dignitaries Presented to the King.

The Archbishop of Trebizond presented the dignitaries to the King. His Majesty then reached the Papal Apartment in the lift, while the escort, followed by the Swiss Guard, mounted the Noble Stairway. On reaching the Papal Apartment the King was met by Monsignor Bisleti, Master of the Chamber. Monsignor Sanz de Saunper, de Raymond, Coraggioni d'Orelli, Federici and Trocchi; Count Negroni, acting Colonel of the Noble Guard; Prince Massimo, Master of the Posts; the Chamberlains Prince Antier-Matter; Baron von Schonberg-Roth-Schönberg; W. Osborne Christmas, of Whitfield, and Comm. Ambrosini and the officers of the Swiss and Palatine Guards. Detachments of these two and of all the other troops were on duty, wearing the new jubilee uniforms, and they rendered salutes as the King advanced through the Tapestry Hall to the Papal Ante-Chamber. His Holiness came out to meet the King in this, and accompanied him into the Private Study.

The Audience with the Pope.

The audience lasted twenty-five minutes. When it was all over, the three members of the royal suite were presented to the Pope. Before leaving the Papal Apartment his Majesty inspected the troops, for whom he had words of warm praise. The Swiss Guard, in their cuirasses and plumes, chiefly engaged his attention, and then the Carbineers, whom he admired for their splendid figures and youth. He also received several members of the Papal Ante-Chamber, and some of the lay chamberlains, about the English-speaking ones of whom the Archbishop of Trebizond said: 'They are all your Majesty's subjects.' The King was escorted to the lift with a ceremonial like to that with which he had been received. Going down with the Archbishops Stonor and Merry del Val, he

Displayed the Greatest Satisfaction

with his audience, and marvelled at the vigor and brightness of the Pope, whom he described as seeming to be a man in the sixties, rather than in the nineties, and stated that he would like to have a portrait of his Holiness. This Monsignor Stonor procured. It was signed by the Pope with his own name and with the date of the same evening, and delivered to the King on the morrow. On leaving the Vatican the King was driven amidst the same public honors to the Quirinal Palace. The accuracy of the special correspondent of the Reuter agency here comes into question. The King, he stated, paid a private visit to his Holiness because the latter had expressed a request to this effect. 'La Voce della Verità' of May 2nd, which would not have hazarded statements on a matter of this importance, says that the Government of his Britannic Majesty asked the Holy See if his Holiness would be pleased to receive a visit from his Majesty, to which the Holy See naturally replied that the visit was very welcome (and) even desired.

The Church in Japan

The visit of the Japanese squadron to Hobart, and the presence at Mass at St. Joseph's Church of a Japanese officer, Lieutenant Yamamoto, recalls some of the memories of the Church in Japan in days long past, and also directs attention to its present position in that progressive country. Japan (says the 'Monitor') has now entered enthusiastically into Western ways. She has adopted a constitution modelled upon those of England and the United States, taking the hereditary principle of monarchy from the one, and the system of election to the Senate, as well as to the Lower Chamber, from the other. Liberty of conscience is the law. There are 60,000 Catholics in the country. Of the clergy at least 30 are natives. Tokio has an Archbishop, and there are four suffragans. Education is a power in public estimation, and of course the teaching congregations of men and women are, as we should expect, well to the front in a brave show of

Schools and Colleges.

There are four colleges for boys, conducted by the Fathers and Brothers of the Congregation of Mary, with a total of 800 to 1000 boys in residence. The vast majority are from pagan families. No boy is admitted to religious instruction or devotions without the written permission of the parent. Many parents have no hesitation in granting it, indeed some press at once for religious instruction, believing that religion is a great boon for their children. In this way each college has a good average of at least 10 conversions annually. Lieutenant Yamamoto owes his faith to his college, and now several members of his family have followed his example.

Of course there are widespread prejudices yet to overcome; but the Church wants only freedom, and that she has. Two of the lecturers at the University are Catholic religious. Three of the professors have become Catholics within the last couple of years. One holds the Chair of Literature, another that of Philosophy, and the third that of Chemistry.

Lieutenant Yamamoto

Catholics are stepping into positions of public importance. One is already Rear-Admiral, and Lieutenant Yamamoto has already several brother officers in the navy. This young Catholic has been fortunate so far. During the Boxer War he was much employed by the admirals of the relieving expedition. He is a good linguist, thanks to his Catholic masters, and his services in this direction have been rewarded with special distinctions by the Russian and French Governments, as well as by his own Emperor. He has travelled much and observed intelligently the characteristics of the various nationalities visited. Recently he had an opportunity of visiting Rome, and the Holy Father granted him the rare privilege of a private audience. He seems destined for high things, and we cordially wish him and his fellow-Catholics of Japan a full harvest of spiritual joys in return for the long years of suffering which their ancestors in the faith bore with a glorious fortitude.

Mr. Henry W. Lucy, not always a kindly critic where Irish members are concerned, referring to Mr. Healy's speech on the Land Bill, writes in the 'Observer':—'Through nearly a quarter of a century he has whetted the razor of his wit on the strop of the House of Commons, and being of tempered steel, he has got it now in fine, workmanlike condition. It has come to pass that the gammon of the early eighties, who, as he made cart-wheels down the floor of the House, wished it were a roadway productive of splashes, has reached the position of commanding influence in the mother of Parliaments. There are only two other members—and they speak with the authority of Cabinet Ministers—who can fill the House as does Tim Healy. His last appearance on the scene testified in striking manner to this magic power. When at four o'clock on Thursday afternoon he interposed, the House was empty, the debate approaching a comatose state. An hour and a half of the sitting, which at its close did not leave more than sixty minutes at the disposal of the Minister in charge of the Bill, had been appropriated for delivery of two speeches the House would willingly have let die. Five minutes after Mr. Healy was on his legs the returning tide set in. It steadily flowed till presently Mr. Healy's barbed shafts were flashing around the heads of a delighted audience that filled every bench and stood in a throng at the Bar. The sudden emptying of the House when a bore follows a brilliant speaker is easy to understand. What is mysterious is the swift filling of the Chamber when the converse is the case.'

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