

The Catholic World

ENGLAND.—Cardinal Logue

Cardinal Logue, in a letter to Mr. Chilton Thomas, speaks very warmly of his late visit to Liverpool in connection with the recent Catholic Truth Society's Conference. His Eminence says: 'A much longer journey than I had to undertake to be present at the Liverpool Catholic Conference would have been more than amply repaid by the pleasure, instruction, and edification which I derived from the Conference, and by the very great kindness I experienced from everyone I met during my stay.'

Entertained at Arundel Castle

His Grace the Duke of Norfolk, with Lady Mary Howard, entertained some 200 members of the Catholic Association at Arundel Castle on July 16. The noble host and hostess treated the guests with their accustomed hospitality, and delighted everyone by the cordiality of their welcome.

Young Men's Clubs

At the Liverpool Catholic Conference last month the Rev. F. Sagassen struck an obvious truth in his admirable paper on the Catholic Boys' Brigade. Speaking of the need of Catholic young men's clubs, he says: 'For the past thirty years Catholics have valiantly borne an almost intolerable burden, in order that our Catholic children should have a Catholic education in our Catholic elementary schools. And yet we have so far made no organised effort to keep them in touch with the Church when they leave school, at the most dangerous time of their lives from a religious point of view. One sometimes is almost tempted to ask whether it does not appear that we are literally throwing away years of work in our elementary schools by this want of effort on our part to provide for children when they leave.'

Orangemen Snubbed

The Anglican Bishop of St. Asaph has sent the following answer to the secretary of the Loyal Orange Institution of England: 'The Palace, St. Asaph, July 16, 1903. Dear Sir,—I beg leave to acknowledge the copy of the resolution passed at Exeter Hall referring to an informal conference between representatives of the Church of Rome and the Archbishop of Canterbury, "who thinks it possible to draw up a Royal Declaration which shall contain no condemnation of specific articles of the Roman Catholic religion." The resolution expresses a hope "that the other members of the Anglican Episcopal Bench will repudiate any complicity in any such conference, tending to weaken one of the most important safeguards of the Protestantism of the British Throne." I decline to repudiate any action which the Archbishop of Canterbury may have thought it wise to take in this matter. Indeed, I abstained from voting for Lord Grey's motion in the House of Lords because I believed that the Archbishop will give practical effect to what he said in his speech on that occasion. The Royal Declaration as it stands is needlessly offensive, and I cannot think that the Protestantism of the British Throne finds "one of its most important safeguards" in a declaration of that character. I trust that the essential purpose of the Declaration can be secured without wounding and insulting the religious feelings of the Roman Catholics.'

FRANCE.—Expelling the Monks

A cable message received last week stated that the police and military were engaged for many hours in carrying the monastery barricades which were barring the progress of the expulsion of the Redemptorist monks at La Rochelle. When the barricades were captured the monks retreated to the roofs, but quickly succumbed to the streams of water that were pumped on them from the fire hose.

The Colonies

The French Minister for Education recently telegraphed the Governor-General of Indo-China as follows: 'The Chamber has passed the following resolution:—"The Chamber requests the Minister of the Colonies to secularise all public establishments, and also to remove religious pictures and emblems from the institutions dependent upon them." I reckon upon you for the execution of this measure to which I have pledged myself. You will therefore make arrangements for replacing the religious by lay persons as quickly as possible.'

A Foolish Policy

M. Anatole Leroy-Beaulieu, the famous French economist, has written a strong article in the 'Journal des Debats' on the evil effects of suppressing the French Orders in Africa. In the French colonies of Tunis and Algeria are thousands of Maltese, Italian, and Spanish laborers. The great method of making them French citi-

zens was the French school, which, conducted by Catholic Orders, appealed to them all on the side of religion. Italians, by treaty, can carry on National schools in Tunis; the English are starting schools there, as also are the Mussulmans. During the discussions on the Law of 1902 in the French Chamber, it was said that the colonies and protectorates would not be affected; that the first thing the Government did when it had the power was to write to the Bey of Tunis, a Mussulman, instructing him to drive the Orders out of his dominions. There were not sufficient French schools under the old system; much less chance is there now when the budget for public schools will hardly suffice for France. The third Republic is sowing seed that promises to produce a nice harvest.

Breaking up Convents

M. Combes (says the 'Catholic Times') is quite busy during his holidays. In one batch, three thousand convents, belonging, be it noted, to authorised Congregations, have fallen into his net by a decision issuing from the Council of State which for some reason or other was not content with their legal position. The nuns, teaching Sisters, must be turned adrift by their superiors before August 1st under penalty of fine or imprisonment. After that date, no two of them may live together if they continue to wear the religious habit; nor can even one of them go to teach in a school without making such school a religious institution in the eyes of the law, and so subject to pains and penalties. The fate of these ladies is one that appeals for Catholic sympathy. Brought up in the cloister, utterly ignorant of the world and its ways, not knowing where to turn for a livelihood, in many cases having no home, they are exposed to trials and dangers which to them must be heart-rending. Truly, when we contemplate such things as these, perpetrated in a civilised country like France, we must exclaim, with Burke, that the age of chivalry is gone.

ROME.—Leo XIII. as a Poet

The attention of the literary world was first called to the poetical activity of Leo XIII. by J. Brunelli, who published an Italian translation of the Pope's Latin 'Carmina' in 1883. Three years later Munz contributed a critical essay to 'Usere Zeit' upon 'Pope Leo XIII. as a Poet.' In the following year E. Beringer translated the Pope's Latin odes, sonnets, and hymns into German. Last year a magnificently-printed collection of the 'Carmina' was published in America. Dr. Josef Bach, the Rector of the Bishops' Seminary in Strassburg, has now issued a still more complete annotated edition, with the reprint of his 'Appreciation of Leo XIII. as a poet.'

RUSSIA.—The Church in Siberia

The spiritual poverty of the Catholics in Siberia may be inferred from the fact that the parish of Tomsk, which is about the size of France, and in which the number of Catholics has risen from 12,000 to 24,000 in seven years, has only one church. In the city of Tomsk itself there are some 4700 Catholics, the rest are scattered over the immense parish. In other parts of Siberia there are Catholic priests who travel every year some 25,000 versts (over 16,000 miles) in the performance of their parochial duties.

SCOTLAND.—Blairs College

There are now 83 students at Blairs College. This year 25 students will go to Spain, Rome, and France, to finish their studies for the priesthood.

A Minister Resigns

The 'Hamilton Advertiser' reports that the Rev. Henry Gray Graham, of Avondale, has resigned from the Presbyterian ministry and Church of Scotland. The matter was considered at a special meeting of the presbytery of Hamilton, the proceedings of which were private, and the following statement was supplied to the press: As Mr. Graham had intimated to the committee of the presbytery which had conferred with him his intention to seek admission to the Church of Rome, the presbytery resolved to suspend him 'sine die' from performing any of the functions of the ministry of the Church of Scotland as from this date.

SWITZERLAND.—A Catholic Congress

The first national Catholic Congress in Switzerland is to be held on September 27 and 28, under the presidency of Dr. Pestalozzi Pfylfer, of Zurich. There will be two general public meetings and nine sectional meetings. The three 'national' languages (French, German, and Italian) will be allowed. A large number of the most eminent Swiss clerics and laymen have announced their attention of taking part in the proceedings.

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