

# The Catholic Journal.

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## THE POPE'S LETTER.

Archbishop Satelli and His Mission in the United States.

The Holy Father Settles the Controversy on the School Question—Decrees of the Council of Baltimore Remain in Full Force—Official Translation.

The official translation of the much-discussed Pontifical letter from the Pope on the school question, shows the Pope's love of America, eulogizes Mgr. Satelli, gives the two-fold purpose of his mission, his position on the school question explained to the Archbishops in New York, misunderstood by others, indorsed by the Pope, who declares it to be in harmony with the Council of

which we had reposed in his prudence. Now, his legation had this for its first object—that it should be a public testimonial of our good will toward your country and of the high esteem in which we hold those whose who administer the government of the republic; for he was to assist in our name at the dedication of the universal exposition held in the city of Chicago, in which we ourselves, by the courteous invitation of its directors, have taken part.

But this legation had this also for its purpose—that our presence should be made, as it were, perpetual among you, by the permanent establishment of an apostolic delegation at Washington.

Now, in our fraternal solicitude for

then certain prelates of your country, whether displeased with the interpretations put upon some of these propositions, or fearing the harm to souls which it seemed to them might thence result, confided to us the reason of their anxiety. And we, knowing that the salvation of souls is the supreme law to be ever assiduously borne in mind by us, wishing moreover to give you another proof of our solicitous affection, requested that each of you should, in a private letter, fully open his mind to us on the subject, which was diligently complied with by each one of you.

From the examination of these letters it became manifest to us that some of you found in the propositions no reason for apprehension, while to others it seemed that the propositions

declared in your letter of May 28 of last year, to our venerable brethren, the Archbishop and bishops of the province of New York, so we again, as far as need be, declare that the decrees which the Baltimore councils, agreeably to the directions of the Holy See, have enacted concerning parochial schools, and whatever else has been prescribed by the Roman Pontiff, whether directly or through the sacred congregations, concerning the same matter, are to be steadfastly observed.

Meanwhile, as a pledge of our affection, we most lovingly in the Lord bestow upon you and upon our said venerable brethren, and upon the clergy and faithful people intrusted to your care, the apostolic benediction.

## God's Poor.

Think of it, always to be ill-clothed, to be hungry, to be penniless, or to labor hard for a coin or two, while all around there are people who have more than they need, can we wonder that in their very despair of ever getting out of the slough of their misery, many of the poor remain there and sink deeper still? Oh, for the kind, strong hand to pull them out—yes, even if they slip in again—to help no matter if it is as often as seventy times seven. As they grew happier they would grow kinder and better, and turn with a burst of joy and thankfulness to God, because the crushing burden was at length lifted off and cast away. We may judge hardly of the sins of the poor, but not so will it be with God. He

## DOMESTIC READING.

When God is within us we are satisfied with everything. He who neglects prayer will soon cease to love Jesus Christ.

If we love the Cross of Christ we shall find it light and easy to bear.

Do you wish to please God? If so, endure labor and be cheerful.

All things grieve and afflict man if he will not bear them for the love of God.

Man is naturally prone to anger, but it is the duty of a Christian to resist it.

What is the use of being esteemed by men when one is despicable in the sight of God?

Have an ardent desire for your sanc-



THE WORLD'S FAIR COLUMBIAN EXPOSITION, BUILDING OF ELECTRICITY AND ELECTRICAL APPARATUS.

Baltimore which remains in its integrity. The correspondence follows:

"YOUR EMINENCE—I herewith transmit to Your Eminence the Pontifical letter upon the noted school question. I do not doubt but that Your Eminence will read with pleasure its contents, and I hope that the important document will see calm re-established in the minds of all who have been interested in this question. It is the desire of the Holy Father that Your Eminence would kindly have the letter printed and distributed to all the Bishops of the United States. I would remain with profound respect. Your Eminence's devoted servant,

"M. CARDINAL RAMPOLLA.

"ROME, June 1, 1893.  
"To His Eminence, James Card. Gibbons, Archbishop of Baltimore."

The Pope's Letter.

To our beloved son, James Gibbons, Cardinal priest of the Holy Roman Catholic Church, Titular of St. Mary's beyond the Tiber, Archbishop of Baltimore, and to our venerable brethren, the Archbishops and Bishops of the United States of North America:

Beloved son and venerable brethren, health and the Apostolic benediction. We have often given manifest proofs both of our solicitude for the welfare of the faithful people and Bishops of the United States of America and of the peculiar affection with which we cherish that portion of our Father's flock. Of this we have given an additional and unmistakable evidence in sending to you as our delegate our venerable brother, Francis, Titular Archbishop of Lepanto, an illustrious man, not less pre-eminent by his learning than by his virtues, as you yourselves, in the recent meeting of the Archbishops in New York, have plainly testified, thus confirming the trust

your well-being we had above all given command to the Archbishop of Lepanto that he should use all his endeavors and all the skill of his fraternal charity for the extirpation of all the germs of dissension developed in the too well-known controversies concerning the proper instruction of Catholic youth; a dissension whose flame was fanned by various writings published on both sides. These commands of ours our venerable brother fully complied with, and in the month of November of last year he repaired to New York, where there had assembled with you, beloved son, all the other Archbishops of your country, they having complied with the desire to which I had communicated to them through the Sacred Congregation of the Propaganda that, after conferring with their suffragans, they should join counsels and deliberate concerning the best method of caring for those Catholic children who attend the public schools instead of Catholic schools.

When the meeting of Archbishops had seriously weighed the meaning and bearing of these propositions, and had asked for certain declarations and corrections in them, all this the Archbishop of Lepanto cheerfully complied with; which, being done, the distinguished assemblage closed its sessions with a declaration of satisfaction and of satisfaction with the way in which he had fulfilled the commission intrusted to him by us. All this we find in the minutes of the meeting, which you have taken care to send us.

But the proposition of our delegate having been inopportune made public, minds were at once excited and controversies started afresh, which, through false interpretations, and through malignant imputations scattered abroad in the newspapers, grew more widespread and more serious.

partially abrogated the disciplinary law concerning schools enacted by the Council of Baltimore, and they feared that the diversity of interpretations put upon them would engender dissensions which would prove detrimental to the Catholic schools.

After carefully weighing the matter we are intimately convinced that such interpretations are totally alien from the meaning of our delegate at they are assuredly far from the mind of this Apostolic See. For the principal propositions offered by him were drawn from the decrees of the Third Plenary Council of Baltimore, and especially declare that Catholic schools are to be most sedulously promoted and that it is to be left to the judgment and conscience of the ordinary to decide, according to the circumstances, when it is lawful and when unlawful to attend the public schools.

For while presenting his propositions to the distinguished meeting in New York he expressly declared (as is evident from the minutes) his admiration for the zeal manifested by the bishops of North America in the most wise decrees enacted by the Third Plenary Council of Baltimore for the promotion of the Catholic instruction of the young. He added, moreover, that these decrees, in as far as they contain a general rule of action, are faithfully to be observed, and that although the public schools are not to be entirely condemned (since cases may occur, as the Council itself had foreseen, in which it is lawful to attend them), still every endeavor should be made to multiply Catholic schools and to bring them to perfect equipment.

But, in order that in a matter of so grave importance there may remain no further room for doubt or for dissension of opinions, as we have already

Given at Rome, from St. Peter's, on the 31st day of May, in the year 1893, the sixteenth year of our Pontificate.  
LEO XIII., Pope.

## A Scene at a Famous Shrine.

A writer in Macmillan's Magazine has an interesting description of the famous shrine in Brittany dedicated to St. Ann. The scene, he declares, when the worshippers are gathered together, of collective devotion has few parallels in Europe. Every pew is full of worshippers. The aisles are thronged with men and women, not lying down, for there is no room, but curled up and squatting in miscellaneous attitudes, leaning their sleepy heads against each other or the wall. Gently threading your way up the dimly lighted nave, past the bronze of St. Peter, your are attracted first by a brilliant illumination in front of an altar in the south transept. Here you find row after row of pious Bretons kneeling before the golden statue of their patron Saint, while others thrust their heads and knick-knacks into the hand of a novice within the altar-rail. The lad lays each article against the glass pane and covering the remnant of the miraculous statue, and hands it back to the happy owner. Infinite candles of every size blaze on a great tin chandelier, which gets into an infinite mess. The chandelier is a big one, but every fresh pilgrim desires to see his own particular little flame burning before this altar, and to give them all a turn the attendants now and then extinguish a score or two of candles and add them to a heap of tallow on the floor. The description is picturesque and interesting.

The man who rejects Christ believes he can make a better heaven for himself than the one God has prepared for

knows the temptations, the despair, the struggle perhaps which went on so long before the final fall. He knows a thousand things which we can never know of the hidden life of our fellow creatures, and His severest judgment will fall on those who might have saved them, but who turned coldly aside from the weaker who chanced to slip on life's rough highway.

## The Age We Live In.

We live in an age of struggle. Every man is mad after success; but the best success does not consist in marrying a rich wife; or earning a title; or having a huge balance at our bankers. It consists in the possession of a sound mind in a sound body; in intercourse with the noblest natures; and familiarity with the most inspiring truths; in a capacity for simple and innocent happiness; in the blessings of a home where true love has kindled his torch and raised his purple wings; in the hearing ear and the seeing eye and the loving nature; in a heart at leisure from itself to soothe and sympathize; in a sure estimate of what things are really good; above all, in a conscience at peace with God.

Every man that deserves to be called Christian acknowledges the duty of self-denial. You have the opportunity in your daily life of denying your own will—denying yourself for the sake of others; giving up your will to theirs; giving them the first place; exacting nothing for what costs you most; doing it in silence and never speaking of what you have done.

The importance of developing the entire physical, intellectual, and spiritual capacities of children far transcends the minor matters which create divisions amongst state craftsmen.

unction and a great confidence in Jesus and Mary.

May the two names so sweet and powerful, of Jesus and Mary, be always in our hearts and on our lips.

Walk forth fearlessly into life; thou art not alone, and He who is with thee is the strong God, the Almighty God.

The trembling of the heart under the stings of sorrow is the cry of the soul for succor. And the good God responds.

A person never enters a house without saluting the porter. Now the Blessed Virgin is the portress of Heaven.

By denying our self-love and our inclinations in little things we gradually acquire mortification and victory over ourselves.

O, to pray believingly! It does away with the necessity of faith, for at once we touch God, we feel Him, we lay hold of Him.

Many persons tormented by temptations against chastity have overcome them simply by their love of Mary Immaculate.

It is not always the preacher who has the most pie on his table who is doing the most to keep the devil from having an easy time in this world.

Humility is the sovereign virtue of man. It is that which improves, perfects, and preserves him. Without humility we can acquire no other virtue nor attain perfection.—St. Bonaventura.

## Forgive.

If you find it very hard to forgive injuries, look at the crucifix and think that Christ has shed all His blood for you; that He not only forgave His enemies, but prayed the Eternal Father to forgive them also.—St. Philip.