The Catholic Journal

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THE POPE TO FRANCE

HIS HOLINESS ADJURES THE FAITHFUL TO STAND FIRM.

The Proposed Cultural Associations Condemned by the Holy Father as Contrary to the Hierarchy Given to the Church by Its Divine Founder.

His holiness Pope Pius X. has issued a most important encyclical regarding the French church and state separation law and the duty of French Catholics under it. The encyclical is addressed to "our venerable brothers, the cardinals, bishops and clergy in France and the French people."

In it the Pope says that his chief purpose in addressing the faithful in France is to comfort them in their sufferings, which he feels deeply. There is, however, great consolation in the fact that the Catholics of France are united. The French government's declaration of war was not only against the Christian faith, but against all spiritual ideas. The French Catholics must be prepared for all sorts of trials, but they are certain of final victory. This means the maintenance of their union with the Holy See, which is of the greatest importance, as shown by the efforts of the enemies of the church to dissolve this union.

Contrary to the statements made on the subject, he says, the Church does not desire a religious war involving violent persecutions. Being a messenger of peace and carrying out her mission loyally, the Church does not willingly expose herself to war and persecutions, as she does not desire to see her children suffering.

Regarding the ecclesiastical properties the encyclical says the Pope has not abandoned them. The French government has imposed on the Catholics of France an organization which the Church is absolutely unable to accept without imperiling her existence as a divine institution. The Church cannot prevent the unjust spoliation in progress, but as the proposed cultural associations are contrary to the ecclesiastical hierarchy given to the Church by the divine founder himself the Pope condemns them in spite of the material injuries involved at the hands of the government. Besides, the law confers on these associations attributes regarding both the exercise of worship and possession and administration of church property which appertain alone to ecclesiastical authority. Finally the associations are not only withdrawn from ecclesiastical jurisdiction, but are placed under civil authority.

"We have been accused," the encyclical continues, "of prejudice and inconsistency. It has been said that we refused to approve in France what we had already approved in Germany, but this reproach is unjust and unfounded, for, while the German law is condemnable on many points and was accepted only in order to avoid greater evils, the situations are most different. The German law explicitly recognized the Catholic hierarchy, which the French does not.

"As to the annual declaration required for public worship, it did not offer the legal guarantee that the Church had the right to expect. Nevertheless to obviate worse evils the Church might have tolerated making declarations, but laying down that the clergy shall be only occupants of the churches, without any legal status and without the right to perform any administrative act in the exercise of their ministry, placed them in such a vague and humiliating position that the making of declarations could not be accepted.

"It remains to examine the law recently voted by the chambers. From the point of view of church property the law is a law of spoliation and confiscation and has consummated the pillage of the Church. Although her divine founder was born poor in a stable and died poor on the cross, and although she knows poverty from the cradle, the property she was possessed of none the less belonged to her, and no one had the right to deprive her of it. This ownership, indisputably hers from every point of view, has been officially sanctioned by the state. The statement that the government disposed of the abandoned properties of the Church is adding derision to spoliation.

"From the point of view of the exercise of religion the new law has organized anarchy. It installs a regime of uncertainty and arbitrariness. There is uncertainty as to whether the churches, which are always liable to disaffection, shall or shall not in the meanwhile be at the disposal of the clergy and faithful. In each parish the priest will be in the power of the municipality, with the consequent possibility of conflicts in all parts of the country. In addition, the clergy are under an obligation to meet the heaviest expenses, while their sources of revenue are subjected to the strictest limitations. The new law aggravates the law separating church and state. We can only condemn it with precision and without ambiguity.

"Certain articles of the law throw new light on the realm of our enemies. They wish to destroy the Church and dechristianize France without attracting too closely the attention of the people. If their course was really popular, as they pretend it is, they would pursue it openly and take all the responsibilities. Instead, against the rising tide of popular reprobation the government attempts to throw the responsibility on the Church, its victim. But the object will not succeed.

"As for us, we have done our duty as any other Roman Pontiff would have done it. The high office with which heaven invested us as well as our faith in Christ determined our line of conduct, and we could not have acted otherwise without betraying our conscience or breaking the oath we took when we mounted the throne of St. Peter.

"Therefore we await fearlessly the verdict of history, which must be that, with our eyes fixed unceasingly on the transcendent rights of God, we did not intend to humiliate the civil power or combat a form of government, but only to safeguard the spiritual temple of Christ.

"What we demanded and demand for the Church, of which France is the eldest daughter, is respect for her hierarchy, the inviolability of her property and liberty. If that had been granted, the religious peace would not have been disturbed, and the day our demand is heeded the longed for peace will be restored.

"Assured in advance of your magnanimous generosity, we did not hesitate to tell you that the hour for sacrifice had struck and to recall to the world, in the name of the Master of all things, that man here below must have a goal above the perishable things of earth and that God, honored, served and loved despite all is supreme joy."

The encyclical concludes as follows:

"In full confidence that the Virgin Immaculate, daughter of our Father, Mother of the Word, Spouse of the Holy Ghost, will obtain for you from the most holy and adorable Trinity better days. From the bottom of our heart we give you, venerable brothers and the whole people, our apostolic benediction."

One of the highest officials at the Vatican makes this comment:

"The encyclical shows that the Holy See is fighting a great decisive battle not only for the Catholic Church, but for spiritual freedom and duty. Pope Pius is struggling against the enemies of spiritual light and is nobly facing every sacrifice to accomplish his duty toward God.

"The Pope states that the minimum possible for accepting separation of Church and state in France is separation as it exists in Great Britain and the United States. If the enemies of the Church refuse this, it shows that they are wrong, that their intentions are bad. As Pius VI. died a prisoner and as Pius VII., also a prisoner, underwent shameful violence, so will Pius X. accomplish his duty to the end, as all the Popes followed the direction of the apostle that it 'is better to obey God than men.'"

ARCHBISHOP IRELAND.

A Graphic Pen Picture of His Grace of St. Paul.

The archbishop is a man of average height, powerfully built, with a profile which is often spoken of as resembling that of Dante. He has a massive head and a penetrating gray eye, direct as an eagle's, but changing and becoming gentle with his mood. One cannot imagine that Dante once in all his life should throw back his head, laugh with the hearty human gesture of the archbishop, whose sense of humor is abundant. He is very accessible to the poor, never too busy with matters of state to be interested, like Lydgate, in the affairs of John and Elisabeth, and, above all things, he is practical in his methods of aiding them. He is a robust and virile man among men, a reminder in her person of the time when the Church's ministers were "representatives not of religion only and the claims of God, but of moral order, of the rights of conscience and the sympathies of men, of the bonds of authority of human society, the only trusted guides of life."

The strength of the man lies in his absolute sincerity. He is ambitious—can hardly understand any one who is not. He is certainly a statesman of admitted power and has scored many a quiet triumph on his diplomatic missions. These, however, are never undertaken for his own glory, but because he has some deep purpose at heart. It is the ring of sincerity that makes his eloquence convincing. His gestures are awkward, his voice is at times almost harsh and discordant, his delivery monotonous. But his words strike home because they are spoken in the desire of good.—Exchange.

Archbishop Williams' Jubilee.

On April 27 next Archbishop Williams of Boston, the oldest member of the Catholic hierarchy in America, will celebrate his eighty-fifth birthday anniversary. Already the priests of the archdiocese have decided to make the occasion a notable one in the history of the Church. A committee soon will be formed, composed of some of the most prominent laymen of the archdiocese, to consult with the priests as to the best way to make the occasion one that will show the high esteem in which the venerable head of the church in Boston is held. Archbishop Williams was born in Boston on April 27, 1822.

THE SEASON OF LENT

SOME OF THE LESSONS OF ETERNITY TAUGHT BY ITS SERVICES.

There Are Many Reasons Why the Faithful Should Feast Plentifully on the Word of God, the Bread of Life, During These Six Weeks.

The sermons and instructions heard in church during Lent, both at Mass and at the week day services, are extremely important to all Christians. You may think that you know your religion well enough, but that may never be truly said of God's truth. Religion has new beauties for every succeeding day, and—what is often forgotten—life has new needs ever arising, requiring anew the use of the aids of religion, among the most powerful of which is hearing the word of God. Are you a good Christian? Then you need to thank God for it; you need to grow in virtue; you need to be reminded that he who stands should take heed lest he fall; you need to set a good example to others; you need to pray for the conversion of sinners; you need to enjoy more heartily and intelligently the privileges of the Christian state, all of which is helped by attending the Lenten services.

Are you a sinner? Then, in God's name, you must turn your face away from your sins and study the lessons of your hereafter as they are taught in the church between now and Easter. You have too long forgotten that there is a place which the breath of the Lord has kindled, as with a torrent of fire, set apart for such as you. There is a day of wrath, when even the just man shall hardly be saved. What, then, shall become of you? I can see you tossing on a bed of pain, racked with fever, delirious, or, if conscious, screaming with horror at the thought that He whom you have so many times insulted will shortly enter your room and say, "Depart, accursed wretch, into everlasting flames." There is a place of unspeakable joy, filled with angels and saints, toward which you, writhing in the dark abyss, shall reach out your hands in vain. Such are some of the lessons of eternity taught in the church during Lent. Do you imagine that you can afford to pass them by?

But the great lesson of these sad works of Lent is the love of our Lord Jesus Christ. What can prove love better than suffering? Who has suffered like Jesus Christ? "More than this can no man do—that a man should give up his life for his friend." Our Lord did that for His enemies, you among the rest. By hearing the sermons you will learn to sympathize with Him. That means deep sorrow for sin—calm, deliberate, reasonable, but deep and true sorrow. That, again, means a sorrowful confession of sin, an iron purpose of amendment, avoiding all dangerous occasions, such as barrooms, bad plays, foul reading, bad company. And finally, when you kneel at the table of angels and receive the true Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus Christ, our Lord will give you to understand how sweet is His love, how strong is His affection for you.

Let each one, therefore, make up his mind to feast plentifully on the word of God, the Bread of Life, during this Lent by attending faithfully at all the public services in the church, by assiduous prayer and by a devout reception of the sacraments.—Catholic Citizen.

Built With Catholic Money.

Among the Catholic Church property seized and confiscated in France during the revolution was the property of two or three colleges founded in France by the Irish Catholics for the education of their children at a time when British penal laws prevented them from getting a Catholic education in their own land. After the revolution England claimed from the French government and got compensation to the extent of $2,500,000 for the property of British subjects seized by the revolutionists. In this sum was $1,350,000 in lieu of the Irish Catholic college property, Irish Catholics being British subjects, although barred by British law. Instead of paying the money over to the Irish Catholic owners of the property thus compensated for or to their heirs or representatives, the British government used every cent of it in building Buckingham palace, which is now one of the king of England's royal residences. Not a dollar of this money has ever been restored.

The Pope's Six Years.

Pope Pius while returning from his daily walk in the Vatican gardens recently was approached by three high church dignitaries, who inquired after his health.

"Thank you," replied the Pope gently. "I need have no fear, for I know I have yet six years to live."

When some astonishment was expressed as to what led him to such a prediction he explained:

"I was vicar at Tembolo nine years, head priest nine years at Soltano, nine years canon at Treviso, bishop of Mantua and patriarch of Venice for the same length of time. You see I have six years left to me in which to accomplish my task."

Elected Vice-President

Willard A. Marakle, well known in Rochester as a special Albany correspondent for New York, Buffalo and other papers, has been elected first vice-president of the New York State Legislative Correspondents' Association, composed of the representatives of the daily press who report the doings of the State Legislature in Albany.

WILLARD A. MARAKLE

Mr. Marakle has also been elected as one of the special committee of three correspondents who are to act as a "steering committee" if any difficulty arises between the state officers, the Legislature and the correspondents as has been hinted if the Senate attempts to exclude from the floor the correspondents who do not write things up as the senators would like to have them written.

Cook Opera House.

John T. Kelly, the favorite New York comedian, formerly a member of the famous Weber & Fields' Stock Company, is to be the head-line attraction in the bill of vaudeville announced for next week at the Cook Opera House. He will present a one-act sketch entitled "A Game of Con." Second in importance will be the favorite Southern girl, Clarice Vance, whose ability to make a coon song yield its full measure of fun and melody, has made her well liked here. W. B. McCallum will have his plantation jubilee act, "The Sunny South," in which ten darkies from the land of cotton sing and dance with an inspiring enthusiasm. The act is equipped with picturesque scenery and handsome costumes. Rossire and Doretto, comedy acrobats, will have the turn in which one of the men falls down on an average of sixty-three times a minute. Elmer Tenley promises an original monologue. Maxmillion, described as a violinist possessing superb temperamental gifts will play. The Franciscos will have an act of travesty and legerdemain. Mabel Sinclair, said to be the only woman ventriloquist on the American stage, will show her act. The Kintograph will show new moving pictures.

Baker Theater.

"How Baxter Butted In" will begin another week at Baker Theater Monday afternoon. This is a musical comedy melodrama and will offer more entertainment to the Baker's patrons than any preceding play.

Besides the usual between-the-act specialties, musical numbers will be introduced during the performance by members of Baker Theater Stock Company. Specialties will be done by Clifford Stork, Adelina Raffeto, Everett Butterfield, Ethel McNinch, Roose Bettinger and a thoroughly equipped chorus. The musical feature will be a swing song, in which the entire company and auxiliaries will participate.

SENECA FALLS

The financial affairs of St. Patrick's Church are in fine condition, according to the annual report. The money received for the past year was $9,000. The disbursements for the year were $8,700, leaving a balance of $1,200. The society now has a surplus fund of $4,000 at interest. Several improvements have been made during the past year. One of the most expensive was the installation of a complete new heating system. The church was shingled and the parochial school was newly floored.

LIMA

The banns of marriage were announced Sunday between Anna Cleary and James Malone, both of Lima.

An anniversary High Mass will be sung Saturday for James Whalen.

Prayers were offered Sunday for Mrs. Catherine Marron of Rochester. Two of her daughters, Mrs. John Hogan and Mrs. William Flynn, are residents of Lima.

William McGrath has returned from the City Hospital improved in health.

Mrs. Thomas Cullen of Rochester is home caring for her mother, Mrs. Michael Slattery, who is seriously ill.

Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Burns are spending the month in Chicago.

Around the Globe

Catholic News From Many Places

According to a press cablegram from Mexico City, 35,000 persons were January 12th at the first great religious ceremony of the year at the Guadalupe basilica. The occasion was the annual pilgrimage of the Archdiocese of Mexico to the sanctuary of the Virgin. Monsignor Alarcon, Archbishop of Mexico, pontificated.

G. M. Arnold, who was lately elected Mayor of Gravesend, England, for the seventh time, is a convert to the true faith. The life he has led among the men of Kent has done more than anything else to convert one of the most bigoted counties in England into a reasonably tolerant one.

A memorial to the Irish poet and novelist, Gerald Griffin, is proposed in Ireland. As this gifted Irishman became a Christian Brother before his death, it is proposed that the memorial will take the shape of a Christian Brother school at Limerick.

According to a press cablegram from Madrid, King Alfonso has authorized the opening of a Protestant chapel in connection with the palace, for the benefit of Princess Henry of Battenberg, mother of Queen Victoria, who is the king's guest pending the confinement of the queen.

The non-Catholic merchants of Great Falls, Mont., showed their generosity by subscribing over $1000 toward the erection of the new Cathedral now nearing completion in that city.

Leaving behind him improvements to the college building costing $100,000 and the burden of indebtedness removed $50,000 as monuments to his untiring efforts in administering the affairs of Seton Hall College, South Orange, N. J., Monsignor John A. Stafford retires from the presidency of that institution this week to again take up parish work as rector of St. Paul's of the Cross, Jersey City, successor to the late Rev. Thomas Quinn. Rev. James F. Mooney, professor of moral theology in the Seton Hall Seminary, takes the place of Monsignor Stafford.

In the ancient Cathedral of Genoa a vase of immense value has been preserved for 600 years. It is cut from a single emerald. Its principal diameter is 19½ inches and its height 3¼ inches. It is kept under several locks, the keys of which are in different hands, and it is rarely exhibited in public, then only by an order of the Senate. When exhibited it is suspended round the neck of a priest by a cord, and no one is allowed to touch it but him. It is claimed that this vase is one of the gifts which was made to Solomon by the Queen of Sheba.

Marie Cahill, the actress, has offered to found a library of value to dramatic students at Georgetown University, and the offer has been accepted by the Rev. Father Bugli, S. J., the president of the college. Miss Cahill arrived in Washington yesterday and delivered to the college her first presentation, a valuable Bell edition of Shakespeare's twenty volumes, printed in London in 1785. This set is the only one of its kind, for while Bell editions of the period are not extremely rare, this is the one that was specially prepared for Prince George of Wales, and contains not only a special dedicatory book plate but has also on the outside binding the royal British coat-of-arms.

The Sisters of St. Francis of Dubuque, Iowa, have in their possession an iron cross, presented to them by the Emperor of Germany at the request of the Mayor of Herford, immediately after the war of 1870, during which long and trying seige the Sisters of the Dubuque order served on the battlefield. The cross bears the emblem of the Emperor and an eagle, and is considered one of the highest honors that can be bestowed for bravery in Germany.

Wednesday night of last week as Henry Austin Adams was delivering a fierce philippic against marriage to an audience of socialists at Egan's Hall, Seattle, Egan, the proprietor, rushed on the stage and peremptorily ordered Adams to stop his "vile meanings," which, he declared, were filthy, degenerate and calculated to cause infinite harm among the morbid and weak followers of socialism. Adams had just declared his disbelief in God, and denounced in wild climaxes the existing order of society. After the ejection of Adams the socialists dispersed.

According to El Paia, the legislature of the State of Puebla, that country, is considering a bill which, if enacted into law, will make most difficult the graduation of students attending Catholic academies, colleges and universities. While strictly worded, the proposed law would [illegible]

[illegible] to Catholic education [illegible] as a dark attempt of [illegible] press the Church.

That [illegible] Orphan Asylum [illegible] recent of 1 year of [illegible] last Monday in the [illegible] was [illegible] plainly [illegible] phan Asylum. [illegible] believed to be [illegible] ash. Upon [illegible] Sisters sent them [illegible] of hygiene for analysis. [illegible] nection is recalled the death [illegible] 26, 1906, of three little [illegible] phanage from same [illegible] not explained. The [illegible] was that the deaths [illegible] children eating [illegible] root of the tree.

Washington [illegible]

The [illegible] created [illegible] capital [illegible] cently in Washington [illegible] representatives of [illegible] denominations [illegible] wool over our eyes [illegible] Protestant [illegible] Rev. A. [illegible] Church. The [illegible] was turned down [illegible] of to whom it [illegible] ocian preaches [illegible] or that he was [illegible] French government [illegible] to [illegible] good [illegible] [illegible] with [illegible] [illegible] Hopes [illegible] Louis, [illegible] having [illegible] not [illegible] [illegible] every [illegible]

[illegible] the Seed [illegible] holds [illegible] of New York City [illegible] of the Constitution [illegible] contest [illegible] provides that [illegible] term [illegible] Proceed. [illegible] proves that he is [illegible] this country [illegible] on disfranchisement [illegible] grounds for an [illegible] character, or [illegible] ger, of imprisonment [illegible] and limit on account [illegible] shall not be deprived [illegible] of means of the [illegible] ing unable to read [illegible] The Senate and [illegible] in conference and [illegible] agreement is expected [illegible] the passage.

[illegible]

[illegible]

About [illegible] of students [illegible] third [illegible]