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The Ferrer Monument at Brussels

Removed By Order of German Military Governor.

Several years ago, as will yet be well remembered, a monument was erected at Brussels, the Belgian capital, to the memory of the Spanish anarchist and leader of radicals Ferrer, whom after his execution the radicals of the world chose to regard as a martyr of their cause. This Ferrer monument has recently been removed by the Brussels authorities upon order of the German military governor. The cause of this order was an act of vandalism perpetrated on the monument, which threatened to provoke serious disturbances and riots on account of party-dissensions. To prevent any serious outbreak the German military governor advised the Brussels civil authorities to remove the monument, which was promptly done. By this order the German government in Belgium not only has acted in behalf of the preservation of peace and quiet and in self defence, but it has also performed a true act of civilization, for it has done away with the visible sign of veneration for a man, who was the banner carrier of the cause of disorder, lawlessness, revolution, civil war and assassination. The monument which was a daily incentive of civil strife, has therefore been removed.

Those opposing the principles of anarchy Ferrer fostered will certainly regard the action of the military governor of Brussels with satisfaction. The Barcelona anarchist was breeder of a cast of thugs, who would destroy all civilization, if their teachings prevailed.

C. B. of C. V.

Pope is Neutral.

In an interview with Cardinal Gasparri, by Ernest Judet, managing editor of the Paris Eclair, and published by that paper last week, the Cardinal is quoted as follows in reference to the fears expressed by French Catholics that Pope Benedict XV. would favor Germany in the war:

"We protest against rumors in France that the Holy See is for Germany and against France. They are circulated with the object of stifling the present Catholic revival in France.

"The role of the Holy See in this frightful war resembles that of a mother whose children are fighting. The mother cannot blame one child or another, because thereby she would embitter the conflict. Before everything, she must beg her children to be calm and make peace.

"The Holy See cannot at this moment examine the combatants' mutual accusations or decide which side lies in the wrong. It cries for peace with all its strength, and, unable to prevent the war, it is trying by all the means in its power to render the consequences least painful.

"Only by guaranteeing the strictest impartiality can it obtain any results.

Eduardo Marzo, of New York, a composer, has been made a Knight of the Order of St. Sylvester by Pope Benedict XV. Cardinal Farley delivered to him his diploma. His Masses are well known. He is also an honorary member of the St. Cecilia Academy, Rome.

Because of mines beneath it, the handsome \$200,000 Passionist monastery at Scranton, Pa., has been damaged to the extent of about \$37,000. The citizens, so far, have raised \$10,000 for further safeguarding it and repairing it.

A Canadian Catholic paper tells us there is in the County Tipperary, Ireland, a village named Cnockawneurraghooish and in Poland one named Budysoukoski.

Missionaries And The Slave Trade.

On the 24th of January, 1879, on the summit of the hills overlooking the Arab temples of Oujiji, four White Fathers, the first Catholic missionaries in this region, sent up a cry of victory on perceiving the blue waters of Lake Tanganika glimmering under the setting sun. Falling on their knees, they thanked God for having so safely brought them to the end of their long journey.

What could they accomplish, these generous pioneers of the cross, deprived of all human aid, with no knowledge of the language or of the native customs, exposed to the more or less veiled intrigues of sinister adventures, promoters of slave traffic in all the markets of Zanguebar? Nothing by themselves; much with the grade of God!

At that period it was calculated that the slave trade claimed four hundred thousand victims on African soil each year. The dark shadow of slavery extended not only across the Sahara and Soudan, but throughout the Upper Congo. Livingstone spoke thus regarding his own observations:

"When I tried," he says, "to describe the human traffic in the east of Africa, I was careful not to tell the whole truth, for fear of being accused of exaggeration; but, to speak freely, the subject does not allow one to exaggerate. To overrate its calamities is an utter impossibility. The scenes that I have witnessed, common incidents in this traffic, are so revolting that I am constantly seeking to efface them from my memory. With time, I have managed to forget the most painful, but some return, in spite of myself, and in the middle of the night startle me from my sleep, cold with horror at their vividness."

Four white men, Catholic priests, were brave enough to combat these awful conditions. The first work undertaken was the ransom of young slaves for whom orphanages were opened. Public opinion in Europe was aroused and the governments slowly took action, sending troops to enforce their orders. The apostles continued to work and pray, and great changes at last took place in the Great Lake region. The negro race now sees an era of peace and justice opening before it, and the missionaries look back on a work well done.

China's Water Supply.

The main artery for trade in China is the mighty Yangtze Kiang river, third in size among the great waterways of the world, but first in commercial importance. It is the main artery for trade between eastern and western China, and for a thousand miles from its mouth it is crowded with every sort of craft, from a native junk to a British steamship. All nations, all varieties of vessels, are represented.

China is rich in rivers. They are at once her wealth and poverty. Though capable of being a source of great mercantile power, owing to the lack of means for controlling them, they frequently overflow vast tracts of land and bring about the death and ruin of millions of human beings. China's frequent famines are usually caused by floods. Over and over again the rice crop in some district is destroyed, and the natives brought to the point of starvation.

With the carrying out of new engineering plans this country will see a new era of prosperity, and the poor Chinese may be freed from an affliction that always threatens.

The Church in our country is ageing. This year is the 126th of the erection of the Sea of Baltimore, and the 107th of the Seas of Louisville, New York, Boston and Philadelphia. It is also the 122nd of the See of New Orleans.

In Minneapolis, last year, out of seven marriages there was one divorce.

Killed While Giving Absolution.

The war is taking its toll of missionaries, and it is on the field of battle now, that some of them are winning the martyr's crown. From Fr. Huysman, P. F. M., comes the story of the heroic death of a young apostle who had been only a year and a half in the South Arcot station, India, when called to join the army.

He held the rank of sergeant, and had been for some time with his men in the trenches when the order came to leave that position and make a bayonet attack upon the enemy. The encounter would be a desperate one; in the hand to hand fight many must perish. The priest-sergeant, mindful of his double office, told those around him to make an act of contrition, and he would give them absolution. He stood up, with hands uplifted above the bowed heads of his comrades, and was about to speak the sacred words of absolution, when a bullet struck him pierced to the heart he fell back into the trenches, dead.

The name of this young priest was Fr. Lagarrigue, and he belonged to the Paris Foreign Mission Society. Commenting on his heroic death while in the performance of this most sacred duty, Fr. Huysman says:

"I was at Kumbakonam the day he left for the war with the others. In the morning we went to sing the 'Hymn to the Departing,' and the 'Song of the Martyrs' at the grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes, and I then noted his fervor and calm dignity. Did he already feel in his heart the call for the martyr's crown? In the letters he wrote to the Bishop during the voyage and from France, he expressed also the sentiments of the true apostle who is always ready to lay down his life at the Master's bidding.

"His death was a glorious one, for he died on the field of honor doing till the last moment his duty as a soldier and as a missionary priest. O happy brother who has been called so soon, so gloriously to eternal reward, while we old warriors are left to mourn and struggle! Our ranks are getting thinner. May we be given strength and courage to continue fighting the long and sometimes tedious battle ever being waged in the mission field."

Rev. Fr. Colman, C. P., preached the sermons at the recent retreat for lawyers at the Blessed Gabriel Passionist Monastery, Boston. The capacity of the monastery was taxed during that retreat.

Bishop Shaw, of San Antonio, was the first of our Bishops to receive an official letter from Pope Benedict XV. In it the Pontiff thanked him for the aid given by the diocese of San Antonio to the persecuted clergy and laity of Mexico.

The new St. Agnes Academy, Stockton, Cal., dedicated by Bishop Hanna on the 21st ult., is a singularly handsome and classic edifice.

The consultants of the diocese of Grand Rapids met and nominated three names for the office of Bishop Coadjutor to the venerable Bishop Richter, who is now in his 76th year, and needs an assistant.

The Archbishops and Bishops of Germany, in their magnificent Joint Pastoral, say the war of nations or "world-war" is a judgment of God for the sinfulness of man.

The Catholic Historical Review for the Study of the Church History of the United States" will hereafter take the place of "The Catholic University Bulletin." It will be a scientific Catholic historical magazine.

In Italian politics, Masonry is no longer the dominant power that it was. Nathanism no longer obtains in Rome.

Benedict XV and Holy Name Society.

The National Headquarters of the Holy Name Society urges Holy Name directors and members of the Holy Name Society throughout the United States to transfer the regular Communion Sunday from March 14 to March 21. The latter Sunday is the day set apart by Pope Benedict XV as the "Pray-for-Peace Sunday." All Holy Name men are urged by the Pontiff to receive Holy Communion on the morning of the 21st of March and also to visit, sometime before evening, Our Lord exposed publicly for their adoration after the Last Mass.

Holy Name men should not forget that the Pope, working so hard for peace, is in great need of financial assistance. The war has made us know the need of money, and it has made the Pope experience needs greater than we can appreciate. Holy Name directors and Holy Name men are urged to make this year a Holy Name Peter's Pence. It is suggested that each local director secure the offerings of the Holy Name men. The local directors can give the offering to the diocesan director, who in turn can place the amount collected with the Bishop of the diocese. Thus each parish will be credited with the amount contributed by Holy Name men and each Bishop will be able to make directly to the Holy See, the sum collected from the Holy Name men of his diocese. The Pope needs our assistance and a million Holy Name men of the United States ought to give through their directors and bishops—\$500,000.00.

Father John T. McNicholas, O. P.

Pope Benedict Blesses American Catholic Press.

The Rev. J. T. Roche of "Canadian Extension," new traveling abroad as the representative of this paper and of the "Michigan Catholic" and the "Catholic Advance" of Wichita, has been received in private audience by his Holiness, Pope Benedict XV. In a letter received some days later the Holy Father refers to his efforts for the restoration of peace and sends his blessing to the American Catholic press. The communication in part reads:

Eagerly wishing that the American press co-operate powerfully in this sublime mission of peace, the Holy Father from his heart blesses all Catholic writers and particularly your reverence, to whom I have the pleasure of offering my great esteem and to be

Yours affectionately in the Lord,
P. Cardinal Gasparri.

Attempt to Blow Up St. Patrick's Cathedral.

New York, March 2.—Two Italians, believed to be anarchists, attempted to blow up St. Patrick's Cathedral, one of the most famous church edifices in the country, during 7 o'clock mass this morning. They were seized by detectives after a lighted bomb had been placed in one of the aisles. The sputtering fuse was stamped out before worshippers knew of their dangers.

From the world over 87 Jesuits representing 16,000 in Europe, America, Asia, Africa and Oceania, were present in Rome to elect their General.

In one of the corners of the Grottoes of St. Peter's is the tomb of Pius X. His humility selected the simplest of graves. The world is only now awakening to the fact that in Pius X it had a great saint.

Canandaigua.

Improvement was reported on Thursday in the condition of Rev. Robert J. Henry, assistant rector of St. Mary's church, at Canandaigua, who has been seriously ill with a bronchial trouble at the home of his father, Joseph Henry in Thorndale Ave., Rochester.

The Poisoned Dart of The Sakais.

Our correspondent, Fr. W. G. Hood, S. F. M., sends this interesting bit of information regarding some strange people of his region.

The Sakais are a jungle people who live in the hills of the Malay states. Their favorite weapon is the sumpitan, or blow-pipe, which is a hollow bamboo tube about six feet long and something less than half an inch in diameter. A wooden mouth-piece is made at one end. The rest of the equipment consists of a quiver filled with poisoned darts and a quantity of downy substance from the leaf of a certain palm which is used as a wad, and a small bamboo receptacle for the "jook" or poison.

The Sakais are very skillful in the use of this weapon, and in the preparation of poisons which are chiefly taken from the uper tree and from roots of creepers which are crushed and the sap drawn off. These with various other poisons are hotted down until about the consistency of treacle and then smeared on the sharpened dart heads.

The action of the poison is remarkably quick and effective, and at a visitor's request one of the natives took a blow-pipe and they went some little way into the jungle in search of something by which the wild man might illustrate the use of his weapon. The visitor says:

"We very soon came across a party of monkeys chattering in some high trees. The Batin, placing a dart into the breach and a wad behind it, took firm hold of the weapon with both hands and raising it slowly to his mouth took aim at a small monkey about forty feet away. With a slight puff the dart left the barrel and found its mark in the monkey's forehead; and with a slight shiver the animal dropped down dead at our feet, death being almost instantaneous."

Accused Editor Sent Here.

Robert L. Long, editor of the American Citizen, who has been fighting the attempt of the Massachusetts authorities to get him back to that state to answer a charge of criminal libel, is still in Rochester, and is still saying:

In a late issue of the sheet he refers to Bishop Hickey's plan to raise money for "a home for girls and women" as a scheme which he calls upon Rochester people to watch, to see that the public funds are not misused to help it. Public funds? The idea is funny. We cannot recall the time when the public funds were used to build any Catholic church, school, convent or institution in Rochester and we challenge Long to prove the assertion. He also refers to the committee as composed largely of politicians, liquor dealers and public office holders. Another false assertion. The members of the committee are composed of citizens of Rochester who do not need any defense on our part.

In the issue of Feb. 27th, he states that all Catholic papers are of a course and vicious quality, and he takes issue with an editorial published in The Catholic Journal, with a stirring comment. He says "A word to the wise!" But where are they? Certainly, none of them are reached by that paper sheet! Watch a crowd of them, and note the trace of "wisdom!"

Another funny idea of Long's. If he would take time to read up a little he will find that Catholic people of Rochester and vicinity are among the most influential citizens of the state and many of them are numbered among our subscribers. A fact that cannot be said of the American Citizen.

In St. Joseph's Church, New Orleans, there is being erected a \$22,000 altar, the gift of Mrs. Hugh McManus.

In the diocese of Nagasaki, Japan, 31 Japanese priests will soon be ready for missionary work.

News From Ireland.

Miss Hamilton, formerly a Miss Rodley in Ireland, Councilor White, District Director, was unanimously re-elected to high office at the recent elections.

Alexander Stewart, formerly of Harrymount, Wick, passed away recently at the residence of his daughter-in-law, Tobermurray Cottage, Lurgan, at the age of 101 years.

At the preliminary examination of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland, Samuel G. Sheroock, was a successful candidate.

F. Reddy returned at three o'clock yesterday at Belfast, after a fifth year of absence.

Kilrush Board of Guardians has passed a resolution by which it is proposed to purchase a house on the death of Miss Conboy, of Lisnally.

The school of Artillery, Ballinacorney, has been presented with a splendid football silver challenge cup by Mr. J. P. Roche, M. P., the object being to give a fillip to Gaelic sports.

Cornelius Moynihan, Barrister, has been successful at the preliminary examination of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland.

J. F. Kieran, Manager of the Lister bank, Clontarf, has been promoted to the management of the Rathdowny branch.

Helen Murriel O'Keefe, daughter of the late Mr. O'Keefe, has been successful at the preliminary examination of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland.

Patrick Griffin, M. P., who was elected at the recent election, died suddenly at his residence, 11, Mount Street, on the 28th ult.

Among recent deaths in the county were: At Carrigart, James Logue, father of Rev. James Logue, C. C., Dunelm; At Carrigart, John E. O'Connell.

The late Captain, the Rev. Dr. E. S. Mulholland, Irish Curate of Ballyvaughan (killed in action), left an estate valued at £11,000.

H. Smith, stationer, has been appointed to the position of Chief Clerk of the County Council, in place of Mr. J. J. O'Connell.

The late R. Johnston, of Edgewood Abbey, left an estate valued for duty at £10,700.

Dr. O'Dea, Galway, who was recently elected medical officer for the Cappadocian District, Ballinrobe, has resigned the position.

John Mahony, aged 30, a native of Waterville, was killed in the shoe store of Mr. Ryan, Michael street, Waterford, suddenly recently.

R. P. Colman, J. P., Dunelm, has been appointed a deputy lieutenant for County Kerry.

Isaac Bell, master of the K. L. Kenny Hun, fractured his collar-bone while hunting recently.

Mr. O'Flynn proposed the re-election of Alderman O'Donovan. Mr. Duggan seconded. Mr. O'Flynn proposed Mr. Walsh, and Dr. Griffin seconded.

Mrs. Catherine Doherty, Ballyvaughan, was driving home with her son, when the horse bolted, and she was pinned beneath. She was taken immediately to the county infirmary where life was feared extinct. The coroner's jury, which returned a verdict of accidental death, expressed sympathy with the deceased's husband and family.