

Morning Star and Catholic Messenger  
PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY  
The New Orleans Catholic Publication Company, at  
No. 116 Poydras street, corner of Camp  
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Editors of The Morning Star and Catholic Messenger  
Publication Office—No. 116 Poydras street, corner of Camp.



# Catholic Messenger

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THE MORNING STAR has been started with the approval of the ecclesiastical authority of the Diocese, to supply an admitted want in New Orleans, and is mainly devoted to the interests of the Catholic Church. It will not interfere in politics except wherein they interfere with Catholic rights, but will expose iniquity in high places, without regard to persons or parties. Next to the spiritual rights of all men, it will especially champion the temporal rights of the poor.

Approval of the Most Rev. Archbishop  
We approve of the aforesaid undertaking, and commend it to the Catholics of our Diocese.  
J. M. ARCHBISHOP OF NEW ORLEANS  
September 15, 1867.

"HOW BEAUTIFUL ARE THE FEET OF THEM THAT BRING GLAD TIDINGS OF GOOD THINGS!" Terms—Single Copy, 5 Cents; By Mail, 33—In Advance.

VOLUME VI. NEW ORLEANS, SUNDAY MORNING, JANUARY 25, 1874. NUMBER 51.

Morning Star and Catholic Messenger.  
NEW ORLEANS, SUNDAY, JANUARY 25, 1874.  
(From Our Own Correspondent)  
OUR IRISH LETTER.

DUBLIN, December 30, 1873.  
The weather here this Christmas was wonderful. Nobody recalls anything to have had so much snow, and so abundant and so stiff as this. But for the last few weeks or months we have had neither frost nor snow, or rain, nor cold winds, but a mild, genial, spring-like atmosphere, most favorable to vegetation. Most fortunate for the poor! At other Christmas seasons we have had the order of the day in all our towns and cities; this year had been remarkable for its non-existence in Dublin and elsewhere. Just now, however, the hard weather appears to be setting in, and I should not be surprised if, with our usual ill-luck, we were visited with frost and snow when the farming operations of the spring will require genial rain and sunshine.  
The mildness of the weather rendered the appearance of Dublin this Christmas—always, indeed, extremely attractive—more attractive than usual. Crowds flocked in from the country by the railways. The streets were absolutely thronged. Every shop put on its holiday attire, and decked itself out in holly and ivy. The evening amusements were no more numerous than usual, and on St. Stephen's day we had midday performances in several places. We have three pantomimes—of which that at the Theatre Royal is truly splendid. Here I may mention that preparations have been making for it since April last. The trade societies and all other similar bodies held soirees during the holidays. The Abstinence League had a splendid one at the Rotundo on St. Stephen's night, many influential citizens attending it, and Mr. A. L. Sullivan giving readings—a line of business in which that gentleman appears capable of achieving no inconsiderable success. It is usual to treat the inmates of our poor-houses—children and adults alike—to the comforts of the season; and accordingly on Christmas day the various orphanages, asylums, poor-houses, etc., were visited by charitable ladies and gentlemen who dispensed good things very liberally. The St. Vincent de Paul Society and kindred bodies did good work amongst the poor scattered through the towns, and, on the whole, it may be safely said that the poor were not forgotten. I may add one item more in reference to Christmas. The time-honored practice with grocers and bakers of giving Christmas-boxes to their customers is being gradually discontinued in all our towns—the aforesaid grocers and bakers contributing instead a certain amount of money to a fund for the relief of the poor. This is a great gain to the grocers and bakers; for the Christmas-boxes, you may be sure, cost them much more than their subscriptions to the poor relief fund. I believe also that this was subscribed in this way this Christmas in Dublin. I wish other persons could get rid of giving Christmas boxes. It is really very hard on a pater-familias, who has probably more than enough to do to provide his family with all that is reasonably desirable at Christmas, to have to give besides Christmas-boxes to the post-man, and the butcher's boy, and the grocer's boy, and the milkman, and the newsmen, not to talk of the numberless other folk who drop on you accidentally at such a time with a request for something or another in the way of money or eatables.  
The home literature of the season is this year, I am happy to say, of a better and more voluminous character than usual. It is an unmistakable sign of advancement that literary productions should be going up in the market, and two or three Dublin ventures have been very successful. Amongst these I may mention the Illustrated Christmas Supplement of the Nation, which is printed on the finest paper, contains fifteen excellent portraits of leading Home Rulers, a full-page drawing of the Home Rule Conference in session, and other attractive sketches, besides a couple of excellent essays, three or four tales and poems, and short biographies of Home Rulers aforesaid. I understand that more than 30,000 copies of this supplement were ordered before ever it went to press. Then there is the Dublin Illustrated Annual, from the first number of which, published last year, I laid out

which has been this year contributed to by Lady Wilde (Speranza), her son, W. C. K. Wilde—a promising litterateur—Frank Thorpe Porter, and other writers of less note, but which has not, I have heard, had so great a success as last year. I may just add that most of the drawings in the Nation and in the Annual are by John Fergus O'Hea, a young and clever Irish artist, who did some of the best things that ever appeared in the London Tomahawk, and who is now painting a picture of the recent national conference, to the order of Mr. Lesage, the photographer and print seller of Sackville street. I understand the painting will be ready in about four months from this date. Mr. O'Hea is already favorably known by a painting of the Panchestown Races.  
I need hardly say anything about the religious observances of Christmas. In this Catholic land the time is one for frequenting the churches and chapels more than for feasting at home, and everywhere the piety and Catholic feeling of the people have received a remarkable manifestation. Cardinal Cullen himself preached in the Pro-Cathedral, Marlborough at Mass on Christmas day, and on the same day there were sermons of Eminence a pastoral, dealing chiefly and in a forcible manner with the religious persecution on the continent. He remarked, among other things, that the action of the Prussian Government towards the Catholic bishops proved how wise the Irish people and the Irish hierarchy had been in rejecting scornfully the proposal to put a royal veto on the election of their bishops. [This pastoral appears in another column of to-day's STAR.] It is worth remark that the very persons who, next to certain English statesmen, most approved this proposal were the aristocratic Catholics of Ireland, whose descendants are now, fitly enough, amongst the most ardent opponents of Home Rule.  
Of politics I can say but little in this letter and on one subject. Mr. Monsell, who had been for twenty-six years M. P. for Limerick, has been made a lord, and so vacates his seat in the House of Commons. He was lately dismissed from the Postmaster Generalship, when Mr. Gladstone wanted to reorganize his ministry in the anti-Catholic, anti-Irish interest, and the peerage is the compensation. It is really well for the national cause that Mr. Monsell has been so provided for. He was one of the most noxious class of Irish politicians. He was a Whig, devotedly attached to office and to England, and always acted as the medium through which the Government and the Catholic hierarchy communicated with each other; in which capacity he generally managed to bamboozle the Whigs into stepping into Whig traps. He is gone, and in all probability his political career is closed forever. He will be succeeded in Limerick by a Home Ruler. Mr. John J. Kelly (son of Mr. James Kelly once Repeal M. P., for Limerick city) has already come forward with a full and perfectly satisfactory declaration of Home Rule principles. But it has been objected to him that his father was an exterminator of his tenants and that he should, like Captain Ryan of Galway, make restitution by restoring or compensating pecuniarily the evicted, or as far as is practicable, before he asks any body of Irish tenant-farmers to return him as their representative. This is a most significant circumstance. The result is that Mr. Kelly will not be elected and Mr. W. H. O'Sullivan, of Mallock probably will. Mr. O'Sullivan is a farmer and shopkeeper—a man of the people. He is a thorough Home Ruler—indeed he is more, for he was imprisoned as a Fenian subject under the suspension of the Habeas Corpus Act in 1867. He is, it is needless to say, a Catholic. If elected, he will be the first man of his class in the House of Commons, and there will be a triumph won for Home Rule which will create a greater effect and a greater sensation in England and Ireland than any other half a dozen that have been achieved.  
J. J. C.

## RUMORS OF WARS IN EUROPE.

### HOW PRUSSIA SCHEMES FOR THE VANTAGE GROUND.

#### Further Partition of France Proposed.

[From the London Tablet, January 3.]  
A curiously persistent rumor which at length reaches us in a form that commands consideration, has been cropping up in numerous quarters of late. Let us hasten to say that we by no means guarantee its correctness. On the contrary, we are convinced that the project, which we here, however real or practicable, must depend on a great many combinations, any one of which might prove abortive, and so spoil the best laid schemes. At the same time, there are abundant reasons for referring to the subject at once. In brief it is asserted and reasserted and is supported by a great deal of corroborative indications, that the plan for forcing on another war with France, which has so often engaged the attention of the politico-military authorities of Germany since the discovery of France's unexpected powers of recovery, is again occupying the attention of these same authorities with this difference, however, that Germany has devoted more consideration to the question of allies and confederates than on former occasions. Whether in consequence of the knowledge of the jealousy regarded by the most demonstrative of Kaiser Wilhelm's imperial ex-guests, or from the desire to make sure of the work this time, the Berlin Government is stated to have cast about for accomplices on whose devotion reliance may be placed, and which are capable also of affording not only material but moral or immaterial—the terms are tolerably interchangeable in contemporary diplomacy—assistance in the execution of the projected design. The Berlin Government has been accused of feeling its way before now with reference to the alliance of Prussia with France. Alarmist leading articles have mysteriously appeared in the columns of journals reputed to be quite equal to the services required by strategy of this sort, and public opinion having proved adverse to the proposed measures, the alarmist articles have been promptly repudiated by the Prussian authorities. Not the least curious circumstance in connection with these manifestations, though perfectly explicable from certain points of view, has been the docility with which the journals engaged in propagating the alarm or exciting out the feeling, have not only exhibited an unchanged tenderness towards the hand which smote them. At length however, there are reasons for supposing that the Prussian Cabinet has learned from the results of various tentative experiments of various kinds, both what description of articles for hostility aimed at, and what system of assault would be best calculated permanently to cripple the only nation likely to contest the predominance of Germany on the Continent.  
It has been often stated by the most discerning critics that in every war planned by Prussia—and Prussia was pretty certain never to meddle much with any war which she had not planned—two rules would be sedulously observed by that accomplished Power. In the first place, Prussia must not appear to be the aggressor. This is the first rule. In the second place, Prussia must conform with the opinions of the age. This is the second rule. In 1870, for instance, Prussia took every precaution to be advertised as compelled to draw the sword in self-defence and on behalf of the principle of "nationality." In 1874 or 1875, according to the route to which we refer, Prussia will again seek to seem to step second or even third into the field, and will advertise herself with the utmost care to be exclusively concerned with the defence of the sacred principles of "nationality" over again, and "Liberalism" as a superadded attraction.  
The mission of Count von Roon, the chief of the Prussian General Staff, through Switzerland and Italy, is described to be immediately connected with the above design. Count von Roon, in fact, is alleged to be engaged on a task of extraordinary moment and delicacy. Perhaps we ought to say that instead of delicacy, it is more accurately to be described as being thoroughly prepared, at least as regards the judicial and negotiators. To get Italy to declare war on France on suitable Liberalist terms, which will of course be forthcoming in abundance, to come in as second in order to save Italy and "Liberated Italy" from the "Crusaders" of Versailles, and to obtain from the worthy Liberals at Bern the requisite authority to enter Swiss territory, and to turn the French position at Belfort, as well as threaten Lyons and Grenoble, while corresponding movements were being effected on the old track of 1870 northwards; all this, and all the truth, a plot which assuredly need not fail for want of good dispositions on the part of the usurpers of Rome and the persistence in the ready countenance of revolutionists, are likely to be prepared to do his bidding in 1874 or 1875 with the same alacrity, as we know from the competent authorities, as Herr Karl Blind, they displayed in 1870. At the same time it is already known that the Prussian Government would engage the sympathies of a sufficient portion of the public in Great Britain, and in Spain and Austria-Hungary, under present circumstances, so that they may present

## TELEGRAPHIC SUMMARY.

ROME.  
On the 16th a consistory was held at which His Holiness appointed a number of foreign bishops.  
The Italian government is said to have received a dispatch from the Duke Descazes, Minister of Foreign Affairs, warmly expressing the friendly feeling of France for Italy.  
GERMANY.  
The North German Gazette says that "if the policy of France is made subservient to the temporal aims of Papacy, the peace of Europe will be compromised."  
There was an exciting scene in the Landtag this week. Herr Mallinkrot, a Catholic deputy, quoted a passage from a recent work of General La Marmora, alleging that Bismarck, in 1866, discussed the cession to France of a portion of Rhenish territory. Bismarck arose and pronounced the statement an audacious and malicious falsehood.  
IRELAND.  
On the 16th a serious election riot took place in Clermont. Several persons were wounded and the contest was only terminated by the arrival of the police, who arrested a large number of persons.  
FRANCE.  
On another test vote regarding the treatment of the press the Government has been sustained by a large majority. The bill conferring on the press, as passed by 45 majority.  
On the 20th the Duke DeCazes, regarding the postponement of an interpellation on foreign affairs, submitted by an ultramontane deputy, declared the apprehension that peace might be disturbed which had recently manifested themselves, were unfounded. The Government was solicitous for the welfare and spiritual independence of the Pope, but at the same time sincerely desired to maintain relations of harmony and friendship with Italy. The Government would labor incessantly to prevent misunderstandings with any power, for peace was necessary to the prosperity of France. The Duke said he made the above statement with the full concurrence of President MacMahon. A motion to postpone the interpellation was carried.  
SPAIN.  
General Dominguez, who commanded the Government troops at Cartagena, has opened the campaign against the Carlists in Valencia. The Government has this week suppressed three Republican papers published in Madrid.  
THE TWO WARS.  
England and Holland each has a war on hand in the distant East. Dispatches from Penang report the Achinese continue a desperate resistance to the occupation of their country by the Dutch. They recently gained the principal position held by the invaders, but met with a repulse. The Dutch army has been reinforced.  
The English troops on the gold coast in Africa, operating against the Ashantes, are suffering terribly from disease. The soldiers die within a few hours after being attacked.  
UNITED STATES.  
WASHINGTON.—The Senate has been all the week engaged in the discussion of the Financial question. Several remarkable speeches were delivered, those from Gen. Gordon, of Georgia, and Carl Schurz, of Missouri, receiving marked attention. The nomination of Judge Waite, of Ohio, as Chief Justice of the United States, was confirmed on the 20th by the following vote: yeas 63, not voting and absent 7.  
The House has been engaged on the Financial and Transportation question. On the 20th it spent the day arranging over a new rule proposed to be added to the rules, and intended to choke off motions to suspend the rules on all sorts of fancy propositions. The right to make this motion only occurs on Mondays and during the last ten days of a session. The Democrats opposed the new rule, and was backed by some prominent Republicans, including Dawes. The rule, however, was finally adopted by a small majority.  
MISSISSIPPI.—The Supreme Court having decided the late election constitutional, Gov. Ames and all other officers elected entered on their duties last week. The House organized on the 20th with Shuler, colored, as Speaker.  
GEORGIA.—The joint resolutions of the General Assembly, condemning the civil bill, passed. The resolutions affirm that the effect of the passage of the bill will be to break up the public school system in Georgia. All appropriations will be withheld by the Legislature should the bill pass.  
TEXAS.—Gov. Davis having yielded to the newly elected officers, peace prevailed. Davis intends to apply to Judge Woods of the Federal Court for an injunction. The contest for United States Senator increases in interest. There are now five candidates in the field—Throckmorton, Reagan, DeMorse, Maxey and Flournoy. The following resolution was adopted in the House:  
Resolved, Peace now prevails throughout the State of Texas, and the Capitol is no longer a fortress or arsenal of arms, therefore, be it resolved, That the Sergeant-at-arms be required to cause the artillery now standing on the hill and commanding the good city of Austin, to be removed to some other place, or to some other position of the Capitol grounds, where they will peacefully sleep the sleep that knows no warlike waking.  
DESTRUCTION BY ICE.—Buffalo, N. Y., Jan. 22.—The weather and high water, caused the

## THE GREAT WORKS OF THE SISTERS OF MERCY.

As already announced, the Rev. H. Giesen, S. J., at 7 o'clock, in St. Alphonsus Hall, for the benefit of the works under the patronage of the Sisters of Mercy. Of Father Giesen's merits as an orator and lecturer it is unnecessary for us to speak, his fame being, in this country, co-extensive with that of the noble Order of which he is so useful a member.  
Since his transfer from St. Alphonsus Convent to the missionary house at Chatawa, Father Giesen has been continually traveling through the South giving missions. That he everywhere moved the hearts of the people; awakened the indifferent to a realization of their peril, and the good to increased fervor and zeal, all who have ever listened to his words of earnest exhortation will understand. In Memphis, so great was the anxiety of the people to follow the mission given by him, that hundreds of persons found it impossible even to get standing room at the doors of the churches when he preached.  
As he will give this, his first and only lecture, for the purpose of assisting the Sisters of Mercy in their works, our readers will justly conclude that he considers these works of great importance. Whether they are or not, we will leave to each of our readers to judge for himself after reading the following brief sketch.  
The House of Mercy was opened January 23d, 1872. Since then over three hundred women and young girls have found a home within its walls, the average residence of each being about five weeks. The young girls are taught trades, and the women are provided with situations in respectable families, the Sisters having a record on which is entered the name of any party making application for a trustworthy servant. If a suitable person be not in the institution, the Sisters, from among the large number of poor persons they know, soon find one. This work was commenced in March last—ten months ago—since which time over 700 persons have been placed in good situations. The idea that the Sisters exact payment for their services in getting servants for families is altogether erroneous. Having only one resource, the charity of the faithful—they, of course, would refuse no donation, but that they do not exact compensation is proved by the fact that only on a half dozen occasions did they receive any remuneration, and then it was voluntary on the part of the persons benefited.  
One of the chief works of the Sisterhood is the visiting of the sick and the poor. Over 800 families have received their generous assistance, many of them residing at great distances from the Convent, some in Gretna-towers in Boulogne and Algiers and others in the lower parts of the city.  
The Sisters have charge of the parochial girls' school, and also teach music, painting, embroidery, needlework, etc.  
With this record of a few of the works of the Sisters before them, we sincerely believe that not one of our readers, if he can spare the amount, will hesitate about purchasing the pleasure of hearing, to-morrow evening, our great Redemptorist missioner.  
The New York World says that the Mayor of Chicago having a bad habit of getting up "a corner on swear words," one of the churches publicly prayed for him on last Sunday!

## THE MORNING STAR AND CATHOLIC MESSENGER.

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