THE MORNING STAR AND Catholic Messenger.

Morning Star and 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.
December 12, 1867.

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TELEGRAPHIC SUMMARY.

FOREIGN.

ROME.—On Friday, 21st, the Pope, after fatiguing receptions, complained of being unwell, and had an epileptic seizure, lasting forty minutes. Though his health requires the doctors' vigilant care, the grave reports recently circulated are groundless. His Holiness continues his receptions.——On the 24th Mgr. Kutschler was preconized Archbishop of Vienna in place of Cardinal Rauscher, deceased.

GERMANY.—The Minister of War asks for an additional quarter of million of sterling for army equipment. Urgency was voted on the measure.——It is stated that the National Liberal party will give Bismarck their full support relative to the Arnim clauses of the penal code.——The Reichstag, by a vote of 141 to 123, passed the amendment to the penal code providing for the punishment of offences similar to that of Duchesne.——That Bismarck is quailing before the storm he has raised by the persecution of the Church, is every day made more apparent by the articles appearing in his organs which are now trying to make it appear that Catholics wish to submit to the infamous laws passed during the last four years. Thus the latest of these falsehoods appears in the Cologne *Gazette*, of the 27th inst. It says that it learns that the Catholic clergy and laymen are using their influence with the Pope to obtain his sanction to a formal submission to the Falk laws, hoping to deprive them of their efficiency against the Church. The orders from Berlin are strongest against the exemption of priests and theological students from military service.

SPAIN.—The campaign has commenced by a simultaneous advance of Alfonso's troops on the Carlists in the provinces of Biscay, Alava and Guipuzcoa. Of course Madrid telegrams claim that Alfonso's troops gained great advantages, but of these they have, so far, given no evidence.——The Carlist Gen. Elio is reported dead.——The report that Tristany has submitted is denied.——Elections for the Cortes took place on the 21st. In a total of 407 members the Ministry have about 300. The Opposition will include 3 Republicans—Castelar, Sermaclura and Auglade; 3 Radicals—Marquis of Sandoal, Conderena and Alavarrieta; 40 to 50 Constitutionalists, including Sagasta, Balaquer. Ulloa, Camcho and Remero Ortz. Fifteen to 20 moderates and 35 to 40 partizans of Catholic unity. The latter will support the Government except on religious questions.

FRANCE.—Reports to the 26th show that the Senate will include 22 Radicals, 16 irreconcilable Bonapartists, 47 Moderate Bonapartists, 70 Fusionists, Legitimists and Orleanists (*i. e.*, Ministerialiste), and 14 Ultra Legitimatists. This includes life Senators already chosen, and will give the Left 120 seats in the Senate.——The London *Times'* Paris special says, in view of the complications caused by the result of the election: "If France is ready to be saved another policy must prevail; a policy liberal, moderate and firm against all violence and agitation. This policy is only possible with the Left Centre. Happily the good sense and honest ideas of President MacMahon will suffice to reassure France, and we may be sure that the next session will open under a Cabinet realizing the promise of Lille, and summoning around it the moderate men of all parties.

TURKEY.—*London, Jan.* 27.—The Berlin correspondent of the *Times* telegraphs that the threatened collision between the Porte and Montenegro has changed the aspect of the Eastern question. He quotes an important statement from the Montenegro *Official Gazette*, that Turkey is determined to make war on Montenegro, and says that the art cle throughout is a justification of the insurrection and denunciation of Turkish cruelty. It declares that Montenegro has so far conformed to the requirements of international law. If Turkey acts differently Montenegro will be freed from all restraint and forced to adopt any measures calculated to protect herself and secure the future of the Servian race. The article concludes: 'No regard for any one or any thing will fetter our action'"——In Servia affairs are threatening, the party opposed to peace and Prince Milan have the upper hand, and it is possible that any moment the Prince may be deposed and war declared against Turkey.——Austria is concentrating an army of 50,000 men on the Dalmatian frontier.

UNITED STATES.

WASHINGTON.—Gen. Roddy has been indicted for presenting and Ex-Assistant Secretary of the Treasury Sawyer for approving fraudulent claims against the Government.——No action yet on Billings' nomination.——It is said that important developments have taken place in the Spanish complications regarding Cuba. Jovellar, the new Captain General, upon reaching Cuba found that the obstacles were too great to be overcome by Spain in fulfilling her promises to the United States, and so reported to his Government. It is now said that Grant has determined upon intervention and that war with Spain will follow.

The House committees are all working with the greatest energy and public business is progressing. The Appropriation Committee has resolved to commence reform and economy by cutting down congressmen's salaries and then salaries of all government employees. Outside of committee work and the consideration of the Centennial appropriation bill by the House sitting as a committee of the whole, nothing of importance has been done.

In the *Senate* the memorial setting forth the views which influenced Louisiana State Senators Blackburn, Alexander and Greene in participating in the election of Eustis was laid before the Senate and produced a good effect. All the papers in the case were referred to the Committee on Elections. Davis' Treasury investigation resolution has passed after being amended so as to place the investigation in the hands of the Finance Committee instead of in those of a special committee.

MISCELLANEOUS.

A meeting of the stockholders of the New Orleans, St. Louis and Chicago Railroad was held in New York on the 25th, Hon. H. E. Day presiding. The board of directors authorized the issue of $5,000,000 preferred stock, with which to cancel the income and equipment bonds of the Mississippi Central Railroad and to pay the floating debt of the company, which in round figures amounts to $1,500,000. They were also authorized to issue $3,000,000 bonds to better equip the road.——The House Appropriation Committee struck out the appropriation for seven clerks for the House, reduced the salary of members of Congress from five to four thousand dollars, and proposed to make a reduction of ten per cent. on all civil Government employes.——Gen. Porfirio Diaz is said to be preparing to begin a revolution in Mexico.——The London *Times* has a special dispatch from Constantinople which gives the details of the great suffering among the Armenian Christians from the cruelty of their Turkish rulers and the unrestrained rapine of the Koords. Many Christians are professing conversion to Islamism in the hope of escaping oppression.

LEE AFTER GETTYSBURG.

[From "Scribner's" for February.]

Although the campaign into Pennsylvania was not unfruitful of results beneficial to the Southern States; although by the recent shock of arms and this aggressive movement the Federal advance upon Richmond had been materially delayed; although the State of Virginia, for the time being, had been delivered from the waste and burden of hostile invasion; although Gen. Lee had, from perilous environment, withdrawn his army strong in organization, proud in spirit, and with confidence unshaken, and was in full possession of his legitimate line of defence, he could but acknowledge that all had not been accomplished which the late advance was designed to compass.

"This has been a sad day for us, Colonel, a sad day, but we can't expect always to gain victories," was his remark to Col. Freemantle, as sublime in his indifference to personal danger, and calm in the midst of the hurry and confusion of the scene, the Confederate leader encouraged his men when, torn and worn by the battle, they fell back before the triumphant roar of the Federal artillery, which swept the whole valley and slope of Seminary Ridge with shot and shell. As a soldier, and as the chief captain of the Confederate hosts, he admitted that he had been foiled in his aim; and although, in his own language, if a spirit of disappointment and discontent existed in his army, his brother officers had been too kind to report it. The tone of the public press and the sentiment of the country indicated dissatisfaction with the result of a campaign from which grander achievements had been blindly expected than the troops and resources employed in its conduct ought, in reason, to have justified. It was not in human nature, in its most heroic development and conscious of its noblest effort to remain, under the circumstances, entirely indifferent to or unaffected by such expression. As at the time of Pickett's repulse, he said to General Wilcox, who in sorrow reported the almost total destruction of his brigade, "Never mind, General, all this has been my fault; it is I who have lost this fight, and you must help me out of it the best way you can," so now, at Camp Orange, with a dignity, a manhood, and a generosity the most remarkable, denying no responsibility, suggesting no excuse, indulging in no censures, he shielded others by taking upon himself alone the soul-oepressing burden of the general misfortune.

It was under such circumstances that the following noble letter was penned.

"CAMP ORANGE, Aug. 8, 1863.

Mr. President.—Your letters of July 28th and August 2d have been received, and I have waited for a leisure hour to reply: but I fear that will never come. I am extremely obliged to you for the attention given to the wants of this army and the efforts made to supply them. Our absentees are returning, and I hope the earnest and beautiful appeal made the country in your proclamation may stir up the whole people, and that they may see their duty and perfrom it. Nothing is wanted but that their fortitude should equal their bravery, to insure the success of our cause. We must expect reverses, even defeats. They are sent to teach us wisdom and prudence; to call forth greater energies, and to prevent our falling into greater disasters. Our people have only to be true and united, to bear manfully the misfortunes incident to war, and all will come right in the end.

"I know how prone we are to censure, and how ready to blame others for the non-fulfilment of our expectations. This is unbecoming in a generous people, and I grieve to see its expression. The general remedy for the want of success in a military commander is his removal. This is natural, and in many instances proper. For no matter what may be the ability of the officer, if he losses the confidence of his troops disaster must sooner or later come.

"I have been prompted by these reflections more than once since my return from Pennsylvania to propose to your Excellency the propriety of selecting another commander for this army. I have seen and heard of expressions of discontent in the public journals at the result of the expedition. I do not know how far this feeling extends in the army. My brother officers have been too kind to report it, and so far the troops have been too generous to exhibit it. It is fair, however, to suppose that it does exist, and success is so necessary to us that nothing should be risked to secure it. I therefore, in all sincerity, request your excellency to supply my place. I do this with the more earnestness because ne one is more aware than myself of my inability for the duties of my position. I can not even accomplish what I myself desire. How can I fulfill the expectations of others? In addition, I sensibly feel the growing failure of my bodily strength. I have not yet recovered from the attack I experienced the past spring. I am becoming more and more incapable of exertion, and am thus prevented from making the personal examinations and giving the personal supervisions to the operations in the field, which I feel to be necessary. I am so dull that in making use of the eyes of others I am frequently misled. Everything, therefore, points to the advantages to be derived from a new commander, and I the more anxiously urge the matter upon your excellency from my belief that a younger and abler man than myself can readily be obtained. I know that he will have as gallant and brave an army as ever existed to second his efforts, and it would be the happiest day of my life to see at its head a worthy leader; one that would accomplish more than I could perform and all that I have wished. I hope that your excellency will attribute my request to the true reason, the desire to serve my country and to do all in my power to insure the success of her righteous cause.

"I have no complaints to make of any one but myself. I have received nothing but kindness from those above me, and the most considerate attention from my comrades and companions in arms. To your excellency, I am specially indebted for uniform kindness and consideration. You have done everything in your power to aid me in the work committed to my charge, without omitting anything to promote the general welfare. I pray that your efforts may at length be crowned with success, and that you may long live to enjoy the thanks of a grateful people.

"With sentiments of great esteem, I am very respectfully and truly yours,

R. E. LEE, General.

"His Excellency Jefferson Davis, President of the Confederate States."

We question whether, at the time, the fact that Gen. Lee had placed his commission as commander-in-chief of the Army of Northern Virginia in the hands of the President of the Confederate States, with the request that he should nominate his successor, was communicated by Mr. Davis to any one save his confidential advisers. Certain it is the knowledge of such an important event was current neither in the army nor among the Southern people at large. Mr. Davis' reply is not before us, but we may rest assured that his cheering words and expressions of confidence, uttered in the name and on behalf of the nation, convinced his favorite lieutenant that he could most ably fill the measure of public expectation, and control the destines of the grand army upon which the Confederacy leaned for the protection of her capital. His resignation was not pressed and the Confederate hero continued to occupy the position for which, above all his companions, he was best suited, encircling with it the balo of his pure life and great deeds, and rendering it illustrious for all time by the tried valor, the self-sacrifice and the devotion of his followers.

This letter may well be regarded as a truthful expression of the generosity, the modesty, the exalted manhood, and the disinterested patriotism of General Lee. It is entirely characteristic of him to whom the sorrowing words of Sir Ec or for the great Sir Lancelot have been with reverence applied:

"Thou wert head of all Christian knights; * * * thou wert never matched for earthly knight's hand; and thou wert the courtliest knight that ever bare shield; * * * and thou wert the kindest man that ever strake with swords; and thou wert the goodliest person that ever came among press of knights; and thou wert the meekest man and gentlest that ever ate in hall among ladies; and thou wert the sternest knight to thy mortal foe that ever put spear in rest."

The gullibility of the average Englishman is beautifully displayed in the career of the so-called Co-operative Credit Bank, of London, which has recently been compelled to shut up shop with only 11s. 11d. in its drawer. For months the manager of the concern has been advertising in the English papers, inviting deposits, and promising interest upon them at the rate of one and a half per cent. per month, or eighteen per cent. per annum, although everybody who had any knowledge of the the money market knew perfectly well that the best obtainable interest consistent with good security was less than five per cent. per annum. Evidently, his purpose was to pay the promised interest out of the principal, as long as it lasted, pocketing in the mean while a handsome salary, and then let the concern collapse. This is just what has happened, and although the rogue is in the clutches of the law, his dupes will never get another penny of what he owes them.

IMMIGRATION.

IMPORTANT CIRCULAR TO THE CLERGY.

We ask the special attention of our readers to the following document from the officers of the Irish Catholic Benevolent Union, one of the largest and most influential organizations in the country. As the appeal is made to the clergy alone, it is to be hoped that every parish priest in Louisiana will at once communicate to the officers of the I. C. B. U. such information as he possesses, or can easily obtain, relative to the inducements offered immigrants in his section of the State.

By a little exertion at this time the Rev. Clergy can confer lasting benefits on our State as well as render signal service to thousands of our co-religionists in the the cities of other sections.

Most Reverend, Right Reverend, and Rev. Fathers:

We, the members of the National Board of Colonisation of the Irish Catholic Benevolent Union, desire most earnestly and respectfully to direct your attention to the important work we have been chosen to execute.

We are members of the Irish Catholic Benevolent Union of the United States—a Union composed of more than three hundred Catholic Societies, and having an aggregate of nearly forty thousand men. This Benevolent Union received last year, a special blessing from our dearly beloved Pontiff, the illustrious Pius the Ninth. Its special aims and efforts are directed toward ameliorating the condition of our Cathelic fellow-citizens.

It strives to accomplish this by fostering a spirit of fraternal charity, by works of Christian benevolence, and by insisting upon the necessity of *practical Catholicity* amongst its members.

Extending the limits of its aims as it advances in power and influence, it now undertakes a great and important work which, if successful, will prove of lasting benefit to many of our Catholic people by improving their temporal, and, we humbly hope, their spiritual condition.

The Irish Catholic Benevolent Union believes it could benefit many people if it could induce them to leave the misery, poverty and great temptations they daily experience in our large cities, and seek upon the fertile prairies of this great country a new field for fresh energy, a new home for a bright and peaceful future. We are convinced that the temporal and spiritual conditions of thousands of Catholic families would be wonderfully improved if they could be placed upon farms in various parts of the United States. We believe that a great deal of disappointment and failure arises from the fact that some foolish persons take their families to lonely districts far away from other farmers who are members of our holy Church. Persons thus isolated can obtain no aid, no good advice, no comfort from friends they might otherwise make by social intercourse. Their children grow up in ignorance—parents and children are without the spiritual aid and comfort of our holy religion.

For these and many other reasons,—which you as Shepherds of the flock know as well as we,—the I. C. B. U. has been led to believe that the only true method of settling many of our brethren as happy farmers upon the prairies is by the formation of Catholic colonies.

The Irish Catholic Benevolent Union at their recent Convention at Rochester, New York, resolved to enter upon the serious work of establishing Catholic colonies. A National Board of Colonization was instituted, and the duties of the Committee defined in the following terms:

"It shall be the duty of the Committee to consider and propose measures relating to the subject of Colonization; collect all necessary information and statistics which will tend to promote and assist in the establishment of colonies. It shall be empowered to make arrangements with Railroad and Steamboat Lines for the transportation of Colonists, and shall render a report of the transactions at the regular meeting of the National Union."

The undersigned were elected at the above named Convention, to constitute the National Board of Colonization; and we now commence our labors by humbly asking the aid of your prayers for our final success. We look confidently *to you* for encouragement, convinced that you in your wisdom recognize the grand field for the exercise of true charity and benevolence which we now enter upon. We are well aware that our first important task is *to procure reliable information* concerning lands suited for Colonization. We must *establish confidence* amongst our people in our words and deeds.

We turn, therefore, to you Most Reverend, Right Reverend and Reverend Fathers, confident we can procure *from you* all the information we require. Catholic people desirous of adopting an agricultural life will place the most implicit reliance in your statements. We send you a printed table of questions which you will please fill up at your earliest convenience. We offer no apology for thus troubling you, for we feel the task of answering our questions will be an agreeable one as it tends to do good for poor brethren in Christ. Begging your blessings, we remain your faithful children in Christ.

REV. THOMAS AMBROSE BUTLER,
President, St. Louis, Mo.
P. J. DONAHUE,
Secretary, Washington, D. C.
REV. JOHN A. FANNING, Illinois.
JOHN SHELLY, Kentucky.
THOMAS FOLEY, St. Louis, Mo.

The following are the questions to be answered:

1. Do you know of any section of country in your State or Territory suitable for Catholic colonies?

2. If so, please name the place, or district of country in which it is situated. Also the State or Territory, and also the diocese.

3. Please state here what is the average price of land in the section of country to which you refer.

4. Please inform us is there any government land for sale in your district or diocese.

5. Please state the nature of the soil, and whether there is much timber land.

6. Please state the nature of the climate, and the prevalent diseases.

7. What hopes can be entertained as to the Spiritual wants of Colonists being provided for in a short time from the present?

NOTE. We wish to form colonies of not less than fifty families. If any of our Most Reverend, Right Reverend, or Reverend Fathers can give us exhaustive descriptions of the lands they know suitable for Catholic colonies, we will gladly receive them. Please direct your communications to P. J. Donahue, National Secretary, 1707 19th street, N. W., Washington, D. C.

RAILROAD CONSTRUCTION IN 1875.—The *Railroad Gazette* has made up its tables of construction during the past year, from which it appears that 86 companies constructed 1843 miles, against 105 companies 2625 during 1874. The *Gazette* says: "The construction of last year, though less than for any previous year since 1865, is yet larger than seemed probable down to very nearly the end of the year. Early in the year very little was done; at its middle we had reported but 336 miles completed, so that more than three-fourths of the whole was completed in the last half of the year. It is true that usually the large part of the track is laid in the last half of the year, but in 1875 the proportion has been greater than for previous years, for which we have records, and this leads to the conclusion that there was a slight revival in railroad construction during the last half of 1875, and that this work was in the most depressed condition, since the war, during the first half of the year."

THE BETROTHED:

BY MANZONI.

[Continued.]

Our fugitives for a while continued their flight, rapidly and silently, utterly overwhelmed by the fatigue of their flight, by their late anxiety, by vexation and disappointment at their failure, and a confused apprehension of some future danger. As the sound of the bell died away on their ear, they slackened their pace. Agnes, gathering breath and courage, first broke the silence by asking Renzo what had been done at the curates? He related briefly his melancholy story. "And who," said she to Menico, "was the devil in the house? What did you mean by that?" The boy narrated that of which he had been an eye-witness, and which imparted a mingled feeling of alarm and gratitude to the minds of his auditors,—alarm at the obstinacy of Don Roderick in pursuing his purpose, and gratitude that they had thus escaped his snares. They caressed affectionately the boy who had been placed in so great danger on their account: Renzo gave him a piece of money in addition to the new coin already promised, and desired him to say nothing of the message given him by Father Christopher. "Now, return home," said Agnes, "because thy family will be anxious about thee: you have been a good boy; go home, and pray the Lord that we may soon meet again." The boy obeyed, and our travelers advanced. Lucy kept close to her mother, dexterously but gently declining the arm of her lover. She felt abashed, even in the midst of all this confusion, at having been so long and so familiarly alone with him, while expecting that a few moments longer would have seen her his wife: but this dream had vanished, and she felt most sensitively the apparent indelicacy of their situation. They at length reached the open space before the church of the convent. Renzo advanced towards the door and pushed it gently. It opened, and they beheld, by the light of the moon, which then fell upon his pallid face and silvery beard, the form of Father Christopher, who was there in anxious expectation of their arrival. "God be thanked!" said he as they entered. By his side stood a capuchin, whose office was that of sexton to the church, whom he had persuaded to leave the door half open, and to watch with him. He had been very unwilling to submit to this inconvenient and dangerous condescension, which it required all the authority of the holy father to overcome: but, persuaded by the company were, he could endure no longer. Taking the father aside, he whispered to him, "But Father,—Father—at night—in the church—with women—shut—the rules—but father!——" Omnia munda mundis," replied he, turning meekly to Friar Fazio, and forgetting that he did not understand Latin. But this forgetfulness was the most fortunate thing in the world. If the father had produced arguments, Friar Fazio would not have failed to oppose them; but these mysterious words, he concluded, must contain a solution of all his doubts. He acquiesced, saying, "Very well; you know more than I do."

Father Christopher then turned to our little company, who were standing in suspence by the light of a lamp which was flickering before the altar. "Children," said he, "thank the Lord, who has preserved you from great peril. Perhaps at this moment——" and he entered into an explanation of the reasons which had induced him to send for them to the convent, little suspecting that they knew more than he did, and supposing that Menico had found them tranquil at their home, before the arrival of the robbers. No one undeceived him, not even Lucy, although suffering the keenest anguish at practicing dissimulation with such a man; but it was a night of confusion and duplicity.

"Now," continued he, "you perceive, my children, that this country is no longer safe for you. It is your country, I know; you were born here; you have wronged no one; but such is the will of God! It is a trial, children, support it with patience, with faith, without murmuring; and be assured, there will come a day, in which you will see the wisdom of all that now befalls you. I have procured you a refuge for a season, and I hope you will soon be able to return safely to your home; at all events, God will provide, and I his minister will faithfully exert myself to serve you, my poor persecuted children. You," continued he, turning to the females, "can remain at ——. There you will be beyond danger, and yet not far from home; go to our convent in that place, ask for the superior, give him this letter, he will be to you another Friar Christopher. And thou, my Renzo, thou must place thyself in safety from the impetuosity of others, and your own. Carry this letter to Father Bonaventura, of Lodi, in our convent at the eastern gate of Milan; he will be to you a father, will advise you, and find you work, until you can return to live here tranquilly. Now, go to the border of the lake, near the mouth of the Bione" (a stream a short distance from the convent); "you will see there a small boat fastened; you must say, 'A boat;' you will be asked for whom, answer, 'Saint Francis.' The boatman will receive you, take you to the other side, where you will find a carriage, which will conduct you to ——. If any one should ask how Father Christopher came to have at his disposal such means of transport by land and by water he would show a little knowledge of the power possessed by a capuchin who held the reputation of a saint."

The charge of the houses remained to be thought of; the father received the keys of them; Agnes, on consigning hers, thought