

GENERAL NEWS ITEMS.

A whip with ten lashes, and a buckshot in the end of each, is used on refractory convicts in the Indiana State prison.

John Q. O'Donnell, a talented young Irishman, who is blind, was elected to the Indiana legislature at the late election, from Decatur county.

Dom Ildoro Robot, Prefect Apostolic of the Indian Territory, has been made Abbot of the Benedictine Abbey of the Sacred Heart in that territory.

A St. Louis Communist divided all his property among the members of the Socialist organization to which he belonged, but he didn't do it till his death.

The municipality of Paris having to make some street improvements recently bought all the property owned by the late M. de la Roche and sold the lots in their new form. Profits, \$300,000.

People have fallen into the habit of considering Spain a "no account" country, but she stood well in comparison with England at the French exhibition. Spain and her colonies received 2500 distinctions of all kinds from the judges of award, and England and her colonies received 3455.

The suspension of the Cornish tin mining industry in England has now become almost total. The few mines still working, with three exceptions, have largely reduced their output.

The Diocese of the Right Rev. Bishop O'Connor, of Nebraska, is in a flourishing condition. He had only twenty-six priests when he began to administer the affairs of the Diocese two years ago, and now he can number sixty-six priests. There are over thirty thousand Catholics in Nebraska, and new colonies are being formed.

A self-binding and reaping machine was run away with by a lively team of horses in Ontario a few days ago. The course lay through a field of wheat containing about one hundred acres, and the machine kept together, binding every bundle that came to it with lightning rapidity. When the team was stopped the machine had cut and bound 150 bundles.

A young lady of Richmond, S. C. exhibited at the fair a few days ago a suit of clothes of her own make. She sheared the wool, spun the yarn, wove and dyed the cloth, cut and fitted the clothes to fit her brother and sewed them (with the exception of the buttons, which she made on a sewing machine) making a handsome outfit as the back of man could desire.

From the 1st of May to the 1st of November 203,167 foreigners entered Paris and were registered at hotels and lodging houses, forty-six nationalities being recorded, while there were 1,647 "miscellaneous." There were 21,778 Germans, 13,573 residents of the United States, 95,115 English people, 5,601 Austrians, 28,830 Belgians, 10,004 Spaniards, 6,682 Dutch, 14,868 Italians, 5,725 Russians, and 11,930 Swires.

The establishment of a Celtic chair in the University of Edinburgh, Scotland, is all but accomplished. A meeting of the university council a few weeks ago Professor Blackie announced that only \$1,500 was wanting toward the sum of \$20,000 required for the endowment of the chair in question. On the same occasion a committee was formed to make such arrangements as will insure the appointment of a professor before next December.

The statistical returns of Methodism for 1878 show that the number of Methodist communicants in the world is 4,489,577, with 204,175 local and traveling preachers, and 2,000,000 churches. The Methodist Episcopal Church reports 1,678,783 members, 12,560 local and 11,308 itinerant preachers. The gain of members is about 17,000 for the year. Other branches of the denomination bring up the total in the United States to 2,396,990 members, 26,652 local and 22,194 itinerant preachers.

A trial has been made on the English coast recently, and with quite satisfactory results. It would appear, of some denouncing gun rockets a late invention in this line. These rockets are intended as fog signals, for use on board ships and at lighthouses. The effect of the density of the atmosphere, or of onerous fog, is said to be rendered apparent by these rockets, which are scarcely heard at a distance of two and a half miles at the sea level, but when they burst at an altitude of 900 yards, the report is heard as a thunder-like peal for ten miles.

Mrs. Anderson is on trial before a jury of six members of the Trinity Methodist Church, Chicago, for renting her property to be used as a beer garden. All the forms of a judicial trial are observed, but there seems to be no denial of the fact charged, the real question being whether she shall be expelled from the church. One witness testifies that he remonstrated with her, and urged her to lease the premises for a livery stable; but she replied that a stable was, in his opinion, more objectionable than a "nice beer-garden with music and no bad smell."

The will of Alexander McGill, of Allegheny City, Pa., has just been filed. It is dated January 1, 1878, and leaves his property, worth \$30,000, to certain relatives for life, and to three sons in Ireland, or the survivors of them, when the American heirs die. If there are no heirs surviving in the old country, the money is to go to the President of the United States, to be applied to the interests of the National Democratic party. If the President is not a Democrat, the money is to remain on deposit till a Democratic chief magistrate has been inaugurated.

That King Humbert's assassination was attempted is not so surprising when one learns that a number of Italian students have founded a Nobbling club, "to transmit to future generations the memory of great men who have consecrated themselves to the emancipation of the human race." The members have chosen the inaugural "club" members have chosen the name of the intrepid German philosopher, (Nobbling is the name of the man who attempted to kill the Emperor of Germany, a few months ago.) It is to synthesize by his name the aim of the club, which proposes to co-operate with all its powers to bring about the complete emancipation of man, political, economic and religious. "Intrepid German philosopher" is good.

Probably the most attractive part of the remarkably attractive stock E. H. Adams & Co. are now offering to the public, in the department devoted to wraps. Every conceivable style of article that will serve to protect the fragile form of the gentle maid from the chilling blasts and penetrating cold of winter, can be found therein, and of such quality and at such prices as will enable the poor serving girl or school teacher to make herself as comfortable, though perhaps not so stylish-looking, as the cotton king's daughter or the millionaire's wife. Read the advertisement headed "Wraps," and call at 392 Magazine street, four doors above St. Andrew.

Mr. James P. O'Brien, a young gentleman well-known in commercial circles, has opened a depot for the sale of coffee, tea and spices at the old stand of the late firm of M. Hogan & Co., 637 Magazine street. Mr. O'Brien's stock is all new and of the quality no less than as regards price, is guaranteed to give satisfaction. His many friends should look in on him and give him a good send-off on the sea of commercial life by swelling his sales to the highest figure during the first months.

Instruction of the Sacred Congregation of the Propagation of the Faith on the Manner of Procedure to be Observed by the Bishops of the United States in Hearing and Deciding the Causes of the Clergy, both Criminal and Disciplinary.

We copy the following documents from the St. Louis Western Watchman, of November 23rd, which publishes them both in Latin and in English:

Although the Second Plenary Council of Baltimore, amended by the Holy See, ordered a certain form of procedure, formerly established by the Provincial Council of St. Louis, to be observed by the ecclesiastical courts of the dioceses of the United States in criminal causes of the clergy, experience has proven that the judicial forms thus enacted have not entirely removed causes of complaint on the part of those who have fallen under censure. It has often happened, more frequently of late, that priests tried in this way and convicted, especially those who have been removed from their positions of missionary Rectors, have again complained here and there, and have had recourse to this Apostolic See. It is to be regretted that oftentimes many and essential facts are wanting in the receipts, and notwithstanding all our care, grave doubts have arisen as to the measure of faith either to be accorded or denied to the documents in such cases.

These things having been admitted to the Sacred Congregation and seriously weighed, that body has thought proper in the interest of justice to apply a remedy to these annoyances; so that innocent clergymen shall not be punished, nor the guilty escape justice through legal informality. This end would be effectually reached if all the rules wisely prescribed by the sacred touching ecclesiastical trials, were more strictly observed. However, considering that this could not well be done in places in the said United States, it has determined that, at least, some accurate investigations shall be pursued in the trial of crimes deemed necessary before sentence is pronounced. With the approbation, therefore, of Our Most Holy Master, by Divine Providence, Pope Leo XIII, the Sacred Congregation, in a general Council, held at the Vatican, on the 15th of October, and positively commanded that each bishop of the above country shall select, in diocesan synod to be called as soon as possible, five, or, where by reason of peculiar circumstances so many cannot be had, three at least, of his most worthy priests, and, as much as possible, those learned in canon law, who will constitute a sort of judicial council, or, as they say, a commission of investigation, one of whom he shall authorize to preside. But if for any grave reason a diocesan synod cannot be immediately held, either five or three ecclesiastics, as stated above, shall be named ad interim by the bishop to the office in question.

The principal duty of the Commission thus constituted shall be to hear and pass upon the causes, criminal and disciplinary, of priests and other clerics, according to the form hereinafter to be proposed, as also to aid the bishop in passing sentence. Those elected to this office will sedulously endeavor to pursue their investigations accurately, and to adduce all the testimony, and obtain from the accused all that is demanded necessary to the establishment of the truth, and shall furnish good and substantial reasons for pronouncing a safe and prudent sentence.

Whenever there is question of the removal of a Rector of a Mission, the same cannot be ejected from the office committed to him unless by the vote and counsel of at least three members of the above mentioned Commission called to try the case. The Commission elected shall hold office until the celebration of the next diocesan synod, when they will be renewed or others in their stead. Should, however, the number of Commissioners be reduced by death, resignation or other cause, the bishop shall extra-synodically fill the vacancies, as above decreed.

In the hearing of all causes, especially where the court shall have to pass definitely on the question of removal from office, the judicial Commission will observe the following form of procedure:

- 1. The Commission of Investigation shall not be summoned, unless the Bishop beforehand shall have stated, in clear and precise terms, the nature of the cause calling for final removal, and the Missionary Rector shall have chosen to be tried rather than voluntarily surrender his office.
2. The matter having been brought before the Council, the Bishop will charge his Vicar-General, or other priest deputed for that purpose, to prepare a statement of the case in writing, which shall be read, and, if necessary, far obtained, together with the circumstances which materially affect the case or its establishment.
3. He will designate a proper place, day and hour for the meeting, that, too, by letter to each of the Commissioners.
4. He will cite the Missionary Rector in question by letter to appear at the place designated and on the day for the holding of the Council, giving him notice in extenso, where prudence does not forbid, as in the case of occult crime, of the cause calling for his deposition, and warning the Rector to prepare in writing his answer, with the proofs to sustain it, to the charges which, in the preparation of the case, had been obtained orally from witnesses who were already in writing.
5. The Council, having convened on the day and in the place designated, the Bishop shall enjoin secrecy upon all matters brought before the Council; shall give notice that the trial is not a judicial proceeding, but designed and conducted for the purpose of ascertaining the truth with all possible care and diligence, so that the Council may be in a position to form an accurate opinion as to the truth of the facts upon which the cause rests. He will warn them against saying or doing anything in Council which might injure to the damage or hardship of themselves or others; especially that they give no occasion for a suit for libel or other suit before the civil courts.
6. The written statement of the case shall be read before the Council by the official of the Bishop, who will answer all questions put to him by the President or by others through the President for a better understanding of the case.
7. Then shall the Missionary Rector be introduced unto the Council, who will read his prepared answer, and will likewise answer questions; he shall, however, have a perfect right to bring forward, within the time to be fixed by the Council, whatever may serve to his defense.
8. If it should happen that the Rector in question should refuse to appear, he shall be summoned a second time by letter, and a reasonable time given him to appear; should he fail then to appear on the day named, unless lawfully detained, he shall be condemned as contumacious.
9. After all this has been done, the Commissioners shall hold their deliberations and if the majority of the Commissioners judge the case proved, each Commissioner shall prepare his opinion in writing with his reasons therefor; the opinions shall then be compared, the votes of the Commissioners shall be arranged by the Bishop's official, shall be subscribed by the President in the name of the Council, and together with the opinions of each shall be submitted to the Bishop in extenso.
10. Should a further and fuller investigation be deemed proper or necessary, witnesses shall be called on the same day or on any other day selected for the purpose of the Council, the Missionary Rector having likewise the right of being heard in regard to the witnesses he desires to summon.
11. Each witness for the prosecution shall be examined apart and with care by the President and by the others through the President, and in the absence of the Missionary Rector, No oath shall be required, but should the wit-

nesses not refuse and offer to testify under oath, if opportunity be given, a note of this declaration and disposition shall be made in the act.

Should the witnesses agree in their testimony, and should the Council deem it prudent, the testimony shall be repeated before the Missionary Rector, who may himself interrogate the witness through the President.
13. The witnesses for the defence shall be examined as the witnesses for the prosecution.
14. They will afterwards deliberate as provided in No. 9.
15. Should the witnesses refuse or be unable to be present at the Council, or their testimony leave the case doubtful, two members of the Council at least shall be deputed, who by visiting the absent witnesses or the localities, or searching for light upon their doubts in any way possible, will make report of their investigations to the Council, so that they may be left entirely to obtain moral certainty of the truth before sentence was pronounced.
16. All records of the Council shall be carefully preserved in the Episcopal Court, so that they may be readily reached in the event of an appeal.
17. If, however, it should happen that an appeal from the sentence in the Episcopal Court is taken to that of the Archbishop, the Metropolitan will proceed in the same manner in hearing and deciding the cause.
18. All records of the Council shall be carefully preserved in the Episcopal Court, so that they may be readily reached in the event of an appeal.

Given in Rome, from the office of the above Sacred Congregation, this 20th of July, 1878. JOHN CARD. SIMONI, Prefect. JOHN BAPT. AGNOZZI, Secretary.

Most Illustrations and Most Rev. Sir:

Your Grace must be aware of the great advantage to be derived from an accurate description of each and all the Catholic Missions scattered over the world. Besides the honor according to our most holy religion from the actual demonstration of the constant calling of the Kingdom of God in accordance with the promise of Christ, Our Lord, the Sacred Council having in charge the propagation of the faith, whose duty it is, by apostolic labors teaching the Catholic faith, to promote the salvation of souls, will the more readily achieve its end, the more accurate the knowledge they possess of the condition of the different missions, and such of their needs as it behooves the apostolic ministry to assist.

Wherefore, I request your Grace to answer for me the questions contained in accompanying sheet with all possible exactness. As I intend to publish your answers and place them in the hands of all the Cardinals, in order to give them practical aid in managing the affairs of the sacred missions, your digesting and summarizing your answers accurately and carefully, and in a general and formal manner, in favor of the Father, and still pray God to give you health and safety.

Rome, from the office of the Sacred Congregation of the Propagation of the Faith, this 16th day of June, 1878. I remain your Grace's most obedient brother, J. CARD. SIMONI, Prefect. JOHN BAPT. AGNOZZI, Secretary.

QUESTIONS

An accurate description of the Catholic Missions is, by order of our Most Holy Master, Leo XIII, a Divine Providence, to be prepared, which shall contain their formal and material condition. The following information will be given the Sacred Congregation of the Propagation of the Faith:

- 1. The origin, progress and vicissitudes of each mission.
2. The territorial limits, the diocese, Vicariate Apostolic or Prefecture must be clearly described, as well by degrees of latitude and longitude, as by rivers, mountains and other places by which the mission is bounded.
3. The potential jurisdictions, and, if possible, might be added a geographical chart of the mission.
4. The name of the ruling power.
5. The language spoken.
6. The climate.
7. What diseases prevail, and the means of treating or preventing them.
8. The number of cities, towns and villages in the territory of the mission, as well as the population and its origin.
9. Their habits and dispositions and the prospects of the Catholic religion among them.
10. Does the mission enjoy peace or is it suffering persecution or danger?
11. The number of non-Catholics within the mission, the number of Infidels, heretics or schismatics, and the extent to which their errors are spread.
12. The number of Catholics, their rite, and their proportion to the number of non-Catholics.
13. What means and methods the non-Catholics use for perverting the faithful?
14. How many non-Catholic churches, schools, and the manner of proselytism employed in them?
15. Are the faithful scattered and what are the means of access to them?
16. Can the head of the mission communicate readily with the various stations of the mission?
17. Indicate the number of parishes or stations attended by the missionaries.
18. Is the church metropolitan or episcopal; if it is latter, to what suffragan. Is it governed, either by a vicar apostolic or by a bishop?
19. The number and condition of churches and chapels and their precise location.
20. Is the Most Blessed Sacrament decently kept in the churches or religious houses?
21. How many priests, clerics and catechists in the mission and how many of them are natives?
22. Is there a seminary or ecclesiastical college for the instruction of the clergy, and what studies are pursued in them?
23. Are there vocations to the sacred ministry among the native youth?
24. How many religious institutions are there; what number of religious men, and religious women?
25. Do the regulars of both sexes devote themselves to the education of youth?
26. State the means and revenues by which religion and the missions are supported and the sources of each.
27. Does the civil government contribute support, and does the liberty of the church suffer in consequence?
28. How many Catholic schools? Their attendance and course of studies?
29. What other institutions of education or charity exist?
30. Are children of other communions admitted in them?
31. What works are inaugurated for the promotion of the Catholic religion and morality?
32. What is wanting to further advance the mission?
33. What are the principal obstacles to the preaching of the Catholic religion and its progress, and how may they be removed?

Most Illustrations and Most Reverend Sir:

The Supreme Congregation of the Holy Office, on Wednesday, the 24th ultimo, took into consideration a speech, published on the 6th of this year by a paper called the N. Y. Herald, and directed by the president of a society called the Order of the American Union, which breathes the most deadly hatred to the Catholic religion, and in which most villainous schemes are offered for its utter extirpation, were such a thing possible.

We refore the Sacred Congregation has ordered that a copy of the said address be sent to you, with the view that by making the matter known, Your Grace might take pains to admonish the other Bishops of North America to use all care and diligence to study and inform themselves on the arts and schemes of societies condemned by the Church, especially of this so-called "Order of the American Union," in order that they may the more readily guard the faithful from their wiles and, at the same time, adopt such means as will protect the

Church from any damage which might result to her from the plots of these impious and godless men. In the meantime, I pray God to bless and preserve you.

Rome, from the office of the Congregation of the Propagation of the Faith, this 22nd day of August, 1878. Your Grace's most humble servant, JOHN CARD. SIMONI, Prefect. To Most Reverend JAMES GIBBONS, Archbishop of Baltimore.

106 NORTH CHARLES STREET Baltimore, Sept. 9, 1878. Right Reverend Dear Sir: On the 7th inst., I received from His Eminence Cardinal Simoni, a letter, together with a copy of the New York Herald, containing an address from Edwin Cowes, President of the Order of the American Union, denouncing in force terms the doctrines and spirit of the Catholic Church. I cannot better carry out the instructions conveyed to me by His Eminence on this subject than by forwarding to you a copy of the letter itself.

I am, with great respect, your Lordship's obedient servant and brother in Christ. JAMES GIBBONS, Archbishop of Baltimore.

Good and profitable reading;—Levy Bros' column advertisement.

INVESTIGATING THE FEVER.

Richmond, Va., Nov. 21.—Col. Hardee, of New Orleans, read a paper to-day before the Public Health Association, in which he said that in no large city of the United States were effectual works of sanitary engineering more needed than in New Orleans, and in none do greater natural difficulties exist. The city is built on made ground or overflow deposits of the Mississippi, and if it were not for the artificial bayous the river would flow through nearly every street in the city during the months of the spring rise. Contrary to the expectations of the founders, the city has grown along the higher grounds of the river bank, and is now nearly twelve miles in length and only one in width.

Colonel Hardee showed by a number of maps that the high-water mark in the Mississippi River was 16 feet above the main tidal level of Lake Pontchartrain, and that there is a basin of low land back of the city between the Metairie ridge and the banks of the river which is about 14 feet below the high water of the river; also that beyond the Metairie Ridge and between it and Lake Pontchartrain there is a belt of cypress swamp on nearly the same level as the waters of the lake, and which was designated by Colonel Hardee as a pestilential case around the vital parts of the city. In addition to the threatened overflows from the Mississippi River, the waters of Lake Pontchartrain are often raised several feet above their normal level during southeasterly gales, which frequently bring the waters into the city. The present system of drainage was represented as embracing only about one half of the superficial area within the city limits, or that district between the Metairie Ridge and the banks of the river. This drainage is performed by four drainage machines, which are located in the basin previously alluded to, and to which points all waters from rains or other sources are accumulated, to be pumped into the basin of Lake Pontchartrain. A new system contemplates the construction of covered sewers through the city in place of the present open drains, which are offensive in every respect, and which are breeders of disease.

Considerable time also was devoted to a description of the privy vaults in the city and the means used for emptying them. These vaults are subject to leakage and excrementary matter percolates through the soil, and during the summer a great quantity of deleterious gas is exhaled. This may in time be corrected when underground sewers can be established.

The speaker alluded to the fact that the recent epidemic was more virulent and prevailed to a greater extent in parts of the city that were entirely paved and well drained than in those parts where it was proved that garbage was thrown upon the streets and in the immediate vicinity of the lowest canals and drainage reservoirs.

At the night session Surgeon J. S. Billings, of the United States Army, submitted a report from the committee to which was referred the general report of the Yellow Fever Commission, and returned it to the Executive Committee with the remark that the preliminary conclusions presented by the Commission are in accordance with the prevailing opinions of the medical profession of this and other countries, with the exception of that relating to disinfection. The committee also submitted a brief sketch of what would be considered a satisfactory demonstration of the cause of yellow fever. Probably the best place to carry on such an investigation would be at first the city of Havana. It must be clear that such an investigation will require much time and labor and that its results should be presented accompanied by clear and convincing evidence.

Goods retailed at wholesale prices by Levy Bros., 363 and 367 Magazine street.

WHAT WE BUY ABROAD, AND WHAT WE SELL ABROAD.

The statistics of our foreign commerce show that during the year ending June 30, 1878, our exports of domestic merchandise were larger than during any previous year in the history of the country. Since the beginning of the new fiscal year, our exports have gone on still further increasing, while the imports have decreased, and the balance of trade is now even more in our favor than it was last autumn. From 1863 to 1873, the period of our greatest extravagance and prodigality, our imports largely exceeded our exports, the excess ranging from thirty-nine millions to over one hundred and eighty millions. During the last three years, however, the case has fortunately been reversed, and now we are selling far more than we buy. During the year ending June 30, 1876, the excess was \$70,643,481; 1877, \$151,152,051; 1878, \$257,786,964. The promise now is that the balance for the present fiscal year, ending with next June, will be even greater, rising to somewhere about \$300,000,000.

Let us now see what are the main commodities the export of which has so vastly increased, and what are the chief articles of foreign production for which our demand has largely fallen off during the last ten years. That is, how much, and where, we have gained as a self-supplying and as a selling people. The following table gives the values of the principal commodities of domestic

production, the exportation of which greatly increased from June 30, 1868, to June 30, 1878:

Table with 4 columns: Commodity, 1868, 1878, Increase. Rows include Agricultural implements, Live animals, Bread and breadstuffs, Coal, Copper, brass, & manufactures of iron, Cotton, manufactures of wool, Iron and manufactures of steel, Leather and manufactures of leather, Oil and petroleum, Tea, and Total.

The local increase in the exports of the above commodities constitutes 64 per cent. of the total increase in the exports of all merchandise from 1868 to 1878. In comparing the figures of the values of the two years we must bear in mind that the increase has been made in spite of the fact that the market price of some of the articles has considerably decreased in the interval.

The falling off in importations has been great and of yearly increase since 1873. The following are the chief articles of foreign production for which the demand has heavily declined during that period:

Table with 4 columns: Commodity, 1873, 1878, Decrease. Rows include Clocks, watches and materials, Manufactures of cotton, Manufactures of iron, Manufactures of wool, Manufactures of steel, Iron and steel, Copper and brass, Manufactures of lead, and Tin and tinplate.

It will be seen from the above tables that while our exports of cotton manufactures have greatly increased, our imports of them have fallen off heavily. This is a gain which is not temporary only. It will be permanently maintained, and be steadily increased until our imports of cotton manufactures shall be reduced to a merely nominal quantity, while our ability to compete for the sale of our own cotton manufactures in the markets of the world is beginning to be acknowledged even in England. In our manufactures of wool for home use we have made a great advance, and our demand for those of foreign production must continue to diminish. Our woolen mills are now turning out a quantity of cloths which rivals the best of foreign importations, and the great majority of woollen stuffs now worn in the United States are of home manufacture. In iron and steel we have become practically independent of the rest of the world. In 1872, for instance, we imported railroad bars to the value of \$19,740,702, whereas in 1878 the value was only \$530. We have the facilities to make all the Bessemer steel we are likely to need for ten years to come, and our founders have no fears of foreign competition for the home market in either iron or steel. In edged tools we maintain an acknowledged superiority, and as the table of our increased exports shows, our exports of iron and steel and their manufactures were much more than double in 1878 what they were in 1868.

The outlook for our foreign commerce is therefore very encouraging. We stand in need of a smaller variety than formerly of imports, and we are yearly increasing the number of commodities of our own production for which there is a foreign demand.

ITALIAN CATHOLICS AND THE RIGHT OF SUFFRAGE.

THE POSSIBILITIES OF THE FUTURE.

Italy, as everybody knows, is of all constitutional countries the most imperfectly represented in its Legislature. Out of a population of upwards of twenty-seven millions only about six hundred thousand have the right to vote, and of these little more than half exercise that right, the twenty seven millions being thus governed by about a quarter of a million. But the present Government is about to introduce a measure of electoral reform, and Signor Zanardelli, the Minister of the Interior, has been telling his constituents at Iseo something about the details of the proposed scheme. The franchise is to be extended to all males who shall have attained the age of twenty-one years; but there is to be an educational test, which will probably tell rather severely upon the rural populations, especially in the south of Italy. The change in the law, if carried, will of course increase the Catholic vote, and should it be at any time decided by the Holy See that the time has come for advising Italian Catholics to take part in political elections it may have a considerable influence on the future of the Church in Italy. It must be remembered, indeed, that as, in consequence of the educational test, the extension of the franchise may profit the towns much more than the rural districts, the advanced Radical element will in all probability simultaneously receive an accession of strength. Still, if there is anything like a manhood suffrage the Catholic cause will gain immensely.

On the 20th October, the Unita Cattolica, the leading Catholic newspaper in North Italy, contained an editorial headed, "Universal Suffrage and the Duty of the Catholic Population." In this article it is stated that the Premier, Cairoli, has promised to present immediately to Parliament a declaration of urgency, an Electoral Reform Bill prepared by the Home Minister, Zanardelli, which will confer the privilege of voting "upon all males who shall have attained the age of twenty-one years and shall be provided with sufficient proofs of their ability to read and write." The new Reform Bill will not take the privilege of voting from those citizens who heretofore, although not able to read and write, have enjoyed the electoral franchise in virtue of their property assessment.

The Unita Cattolica regards the new Reform Bill as tantamount to the gift of universal suffrage to Italians. A general election must follow the passing of this Bill, and it will be the duty of all Catholics to avail themselves, so argues the Unita Cattolica, of the privilege of voting. As long as the suffrage was confined to a limited number, forming a small minority of the population, the policy of abstention was recommended by the Holy See.

No electi ne electori, was the maxim proclaimed in 1860 and followed up to the present time. But that maxim was but a transitory expedient, not a moral or permanent rule. It was declared inconvenient for Catholics to plunge into electoral strife under unfavorable circumstances, but it was never pretended that it was illicit for Catholics under any circumstances to take part in elections. The Sacred Penitentiary, when interrogated on the subject, responded with the words non expedire. And at that time it was not expedient, because then the Pontiff reigned and governed in Rome, and the elections were made under Sub-Alpine statutes. The suffrage was then the privilege of a small number, and scarcely five hundred thousand citizens, out of twenty-five millions of Italians, had the right to vote.

Moreover, the Government, by means of its prefects and police agents, could direct the elections as it pleased, and, as a matter of fact, every Ministry which had the control of the elections gained always the victory. It was at that time right and proper to protest against the privilege granted by the Government, and against the violence offered by these State elections to the Catholic majority, which manifested its existence, while abstaining from elections, by contributions of Peter's Pence and by repeated demonstrations of loyalty and affection to the Holy Father. These demonstrations convinced the Italian Government and the Catholic world that the sentiments of the major part of the Italian population were on the side of the Church and the Pontiff. The Catholics, by sending millions of lire to the Pope, by obeying their Bishops and reverencing the will of the Church, proved their loyalty to the Pontiff in a way more efficacious than by flocking to the voting urns under a system condemned even by Gilbert, who announced in the Rinnovamento that "partial suffrages have always something fictitious, arbitrary and unnatural."

But, now, so argues the Unita, we find ourselves near to a great political, and it may be a great social, Revolution. The universality of suffrage may save us from preceding dangers, and from intrusions, violence, caprice, and exclusions on the part of the Government. The Catholic populations are called on to manifest the principles of their faith and the affections of their hearts. A new era is at hand, and perhaps Providence is opening for us a gateway of safety. The very enemies of the Church are condemned to prepare her triumph, and we must seize the weapon placed in our hands. As we shall certainly avail ourselves of the liberty of teaching, if only we concede it to us, and as we shall freely use the liberty of the Press, so ought we also to use the privilege of voting. After the proclamation of universal suffrage we shall be as much convinced not only of the expediency, but even of the necessity and duty, of joining in the political elections, as we were before, under a most limited suffrage, of the utility of abstaining from them. Therefore, [it is the Unita which speaks] we shall begin from this day forth to insist on this point, and we shall refer to it in frequent articles, in order to convince the Catholic people, arouse them, and urge them to work and to render a signal service and benefit not only to the Papacy and the Church, but to Italy and themselves. Universal suffrage constitutes us a Republic de facto, if not de jure. We alone can and must save our altars, our families, our properties and social order. Catholic people, the great moment has arrived, and, therefore, prepare yourselves to combat loyally in the name of God and our country! The Virgin of Lepanto will aid you in the strife, and the victory will be yours.

God will do nothing for us until we are humble. Whenever we feel tempted to take pride or pleasure in ourselves, let us reflect that this comes from the devil, who would fain draw us away from God, back to our own nobility and sin.

"I don't see how there ever came to be so many words in the world!" exclaimed a girl who was studying her spelling lesson. "Why, sis," said her brother, "they come through folks quarrelling. Then, you know, one word always brings on another."

If a thing is worth having it is certainly worth asking for. Levy Bros., the enterprising dry goods merchant of the Garden District, solicit the patronage of our Catholic population as well as of their large advertisement in another part of today's paper, and we hope will receive every portion of it that has fallen to their share in the past.

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