

# San Francisco Mail News

(From our Exchanges.)

A despatch from Rome to the *London Standard* says:—"The congregation convened to consider the question, have decided that under no circumstances can the Pope accept the provision made for him under the Italian law of guarantees."

The Roman correspondent of the *London Times* writes as follows:—"The scene in St. Peter's on Easter Sunday was the same witnessed on that day during the last eight years, with the addition of one entirely new element. In the front of the little door by the side of the chapel of the choir above which the body of Pius IX. is lying, were people kneeling in prayer. They were not praying in the quiet, unconscious, and yet evidently fervent manner in which I had just seen others around the tomb of the Apostles; they were lifting up and extending their clasped hands in supplication towards the sarcophagus front, on which are the words "Pius IX., P.M."

His Eminence Cardinal Howard has, with all the customary formalities, taken possession of the English College at Rome, of which His Holiness has made him protector, vice Cardinal Capalti deceased.

Pope Leo XIII. is a poet. His verses, both in Latin and Italian, are being gathered together for publication after revision by His Holiness.

The attempt to make a Protestant out of the Pope has ended in complete failure. "I fear," telegraphs the correspondent of the *London Standard* at Rome, "I fear that the Jesuitical and violent party has definitely triumphed at the Vatican." This is slang, the meaning of which may be unintelligible to many of our readers. The plain English of it is that the Pope is discovered to be a Catholic, and that the good people who fancied he might be a Protestant have been undeceived. However, they are bound to have their revenge. Since Leo XIII. is altogether as bad as Pio Nono they are going to kill him. He is to die with "the liver com. jaint," "The Pope's liver affection," we are told, "is not alarming, but he ought to go away, and he desires to go to Perugia; but he is unable to resist the pressure put upon him to remain in the Vatican." The wicked Jesuits have got hold of him, and they mean to keep him.

Nocturnal adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in Paris is arranged in such a manner that every night in one of the parish churches a number of the faithful unite to adore our Blessed Lord in the Sacrament of His Love. The most edifying examples are given by the workmen, who after labouring all day do not mind the fatigue of a night in the church. Not long ago a young man, who a few days previous had lost his wife by death, which left him the entire care of little boy six years old, took the child to the parish church, in the sacristy of which a little bed was prepared, where he slept whilst his father was praying before the Blessed Sacrament.

A great Catholic Congress, similar to that held at Poitiers in 1875, will, according to the *Union*, take place this year in a town near Paris. The spot will be chosen on a line of railway leading to the capital, so as to enable the Catholics who are so disposed, while visiting the Exhibition, to take part in that important meeting.

The Abbé Debaize, commissioned by the French Government to cross Africa, from Zanzibar to the Atlantic, expects to be absent three years. Nine missionaries from Algiers accompany him as far as Zanzibar, their main object being to establish Catholic missions at Lakes Victoria and Tanganyika. The sum of 20,000 dols. was voted by the Chambers for this mission. The Abbé Debaize, who intends to march in the steps of Livingstone, Cameron, and Stanley, has had no previous experience of African travel.

The Paris Exhibition, though still far from being complete in its arrangements, is unanimously acknowledged to be an unquestionable success. An idea of the influx of foreigners can be gathered from the fact that, according to the official report of the Ministry of the Interior, out of the 160,000 beds which had been prepared for strangers in the hotels of Paris, there were 1,700 unoccupied at the close of the first week.

A subscription has been opened in Paris for the presentation of an offering to the Holy Father "on the joyful event of his accession." The list of subscriptions already published shows the object to be well supported.

The largest French vessel ever built in a private yard was launched at Havre the other day. She is over 300 feet long at the water line, has engines of 2,650 horse-power, and will be devoted to the conveyance of troops between France and Cochin China. She is called the "Shamrock," in allusion to the Irish ancestry of Marshal MacMahon.

Monsignor Patterson, President of St. Edward's College, Ware, England, has carefully revised and completed the popular and beautiful life of Pope Pius IX. by the late honoured John Francis Maguire, M.P., two editions of which have just been published in London. There is one incident related by Mgr. Patterson which is quite new to us, and which we are happy to see recorded. He states that one of the very last persons recognized by Pius IX. was His Eminence Cardinal Manning, to whom the dying Pontiff said affectionately, "Addio carissimo."

In a journal published in a small town in Maine, we find recorded as an every-day event, seven divorces. One was granted because the husband was "jealous and suspicious" of the wife, and "refused to provide for her." Another was given on the ground of "abuse"—the husband in this case being the abused party. The third was decreed because the husband "tried to alienate the wife from her father and mother;" the fourth, because the wife threw a pistol at the husband and threatened to burn the barn; the fifth, because the wife went to balls without her husband's consent; the sixth, because the husband treated his wife "with great contempt and disrespect, manifesting a jealous disposition;" and the seventh was for "neglect to support." In four of the cases the wife was the complaining party; in the other three the husband was the plaintiff.

Small-pox prevails to an alarming extent in London, and tends to increase, in spite of all attempts to suppress it. According to the official weekly return ending April 20th, 80 deaths were reported from small-pox. This is a higher number than has occurred since April, 1877, when the general belief prevailed that the visitation was merely temporary. It is no longer regarded as an epidemic, but a chronic disease. The *Pull Mall Gazette* says: "It is evident that, unless some energetic action is taken in the matter, we shall have to deal with an adversary more deadly and persistent than any we have yet had to cope with."

Mr. John Ross, of Bladenberg, England, of the Coldstream Guards, has become a convert to the Catholic faith. He was received into the Church a few days ago in London. Mr. Robert Ross, of Bladenberg, his eldest brother, is also a convert, and was nominated first on the list as High Sheriff of Down, for the present year, but as he is now a novice of the Jesuit Order, he declined to act.

The Pope, in the late Encyclical, spoke of suicide as one of the prevalent evils of the day. His Holiness was not speaking at random. The extent of this fearful evil in our own country is scarcely understood. In New York the suicides were 150 in 1876, or one in 194 of all the deaths; in 1877 they were 148, or one in 176. In San Francisco the proportion of suicides to all other deaths was, in 1876, one in 80; and in 1877 it was in 81. The following table shows the terrible increase of self-destruction in San Francisco:—

Fiscal year.	Suicides.	Fiscal year.	Suicides.
1860.....	31	1870.....	47
1861.....	30	1871.....	51
1862.....	13	1872.....	37
1863.....	18	1873.....	38
1864.....	20	1874.....	61
1865.....	17	1875.....	64
1866.....	24	1876.....	60
1867.....	29	1877.....	76
1868.....	28	1878.....	107
1869.....	29		

Taking a leaf out of the Catholic book, some of the Protestant Episcopalian Bishops are now warning their people against the evils of round dancing, and urging them to abstain from it. This, for instance, was what "Bishop" Whittle did the other day at the convention of his sect at Lynchburg, Virginia. He was anxious that no one should receive the "Holy Communion" or be presented for "confirmation" who indulged in this amusement. But he was compelled to confess that there was no power to punish the offenders. An attempt was made to pass a canon providing for such punishment, but it failed. The Episcopalian "Church" is not very virile.

The Boston Fruit Dealers' Association now calls itself the Anti-Communitic Street Traffic Association of Boston, a name that is enough to make a stand take wheels unto itself and flee away, and which would strike terror to the heart of any dangerous woman who ever supported her children by selling oranges at a bleak street corner.

The *New Orleans Star* says—On Saturday, April 20, at too late an hour for notice in our last issue, our venerable and highly-esteemed fellow-citizen, Professor D. K. Whitaker, L.L.D., received conditional baptism in the chapel of St. Simeon's Academy, Annunciation street. This is quite a triumph for the Church, as the Professor, though always a man of spotless character, had entertained very strongly anti-Catholic views.

Canada is a knowing coon of a dependency, after all. Just to think—while the Canucks were spouting patriotism to England, and talking of getting up an army to demolish the Bear, they were silly preparing "a Fenian invasion" as an excuse for keeping all their men and money at home. Isn't that it, Bluenose?

The *San Francisco Post* and the *Real Estate Circular* declare that if the Chinese were compelled to leave that city real estate would rise, and trade and industry would revive. John Chinaman calls this "allee same heap stuff—no go" and as a Chinese company for the manufacture of boots and shoes, clothing, tinware, and cigars, has established itself in Nevada County, it looks as if "no go" were prophetic.

The Apostolic Delegate, Bishop Conroy, speaking at the Cathedral, Omaha, Nebraska, on the 3rd May, in the presence of Bishop O'Connor, and a great number of the clergy and laity, said:—"The foul spirit of Revolution is now abroad in the modern world, setting class against class, and stirring up between labour and capital, between the rich and the poor, between the masses and the civil authority, dissensions, which, in their mad outbursts, will shake modern civilization to its centre, and endanger the very existence of society. No organization but that of the Church has shown itself possessed of strength sufficient to meet these mighty influences of disunion, and to repel from itself their destructive force. She alone panders not to the passions of the rich or of the poor, she alone condemns unjust acts, whether they be committed by the holders of capital or by labourers' organizations. She alone rebukes the excesses of rules, and teaches subjects to obey for conscience sake. She will not allow her children to belong to those secret societies which usurp to themselves over their wretched adepts the dread functions of supreme power; and it is well for the world to-day, and it will be well for the world in the near future that her hold upon the consciences of two hundred millions of men, instead of being weakened, grows stronger in this period of social crisis."

The *Boston Watchman* tells of a lady who lately tried to find a place in an hospital in that city for a poor woman suffering from an incurable disease, and who, after nine efforts, succeeded in placing her charge at St. Elizabeth's Hospital, in Waltham-street, conducted, we believe, by the Sisters of St. Joseph. "No one doubts," remarks the *Watchman*, "the beneficent character of all the hospitals and homes from which she was turned away. No one questions the validity of the reasons given for the refusal in each case. Out of ten provisions for the relief of the suffering, only one was found for the relief of the suffering, only one was found where the patient could be received upon the simple statement that she was sick and poor: and this was under Romish auspices. We need not enlarge upon the painful circumstances: the mere recital must convey its own lessons to our Protestant readers."