

case of impediments which are of ecclesiastical right, and ecclesiastical celibacy surely falls under that head. But the question is whether he did dispense, and as we have no other authority than that of the Milan correspondent of the *Daily Chronicle*—the *Acta Apostolicae Sedis* have not recorded this "far-reaching" decision—we are entitled, at the very least, to say, Wait and see! In the meantime, let us remark that there is one thing which is perfectly sure—the Pope did not, and could not, pronounce the *ordination null*. Once a priest, it is "in aeternum."

The Power of Protest

'A word in season,' says the sacred writer, 'how good it is!' Illustrations of the value of a timely word of protest against such evils as indecent or offensive literature have been literally pouring in upon us of late. A few weeks ago we protested against an objectionable anti-Catholic story which appeared in a well-known Christchurch weekly, the *Canterbury Times*; and the editor promptly sent us an ample apology, and an assurance that no further fiction would be purchased by the office from what had proved to be such an unreliable and disreputable source. Last week we recorded the case of a Wellington bookseller, who, on having his attention drawn by the secretary of the Catholic Federation to the offensive character of a book which he was advertising, at once withdrew the advertisement, and undertook to take no further orders for the volume, asking at the same time to be kept advised by the Federation in regard to offensive books so that he might avoid stocking such publications. A further instance of a prompt and satisfactory response to a Catholic protest against vile and calumnious literature is furnished by American exchanges to hand. The 'literature' in this case was one of the most unsavory productions of the unsavory Chiniquy; and the protester was the reverend librarian of an important Catholic educational institution. The protest was embodied in the following letter, which was addressed some short time ago to the Tabard Inn Book Company, of Philadelphia, by the librarian of St. Mary's College, North East, Pa.:

'To the Tabard Inn Book Company, Philadelphia,—
'On perusing your "Catalogue of Book Bargains" for 1913 we came across this item (page 51): *The Priest, the Woman, and the Confessional*, by Father Chiniquy, author of *Fifty Years in the Church of Rome*, the forty-third edition, published by Fleming H. Revell Company at one dollar; our price, 75 cents. Now, we cannot understand how a respectable firm can publish such a scurrilous book without making itself partner to the offense and besmirching its good name! But what we are still more puzzled about is, how another respectable firm can handle such a vile attack, brimful of indecencies and lies—and at the same time be bold enough—to avoid a stronger expression—to offer the catalogue containing it to a Catholic institution. Now, please take notice of the following: If you send us henceforth any catalogues, advertisements, etc., they shall go into the waste basket unnoticed. Besides, this letter, with explanations of the case of F. Chiniquy, will be sent to the Catholic papers!' The *Catholic Chronicle* of Erie, Pa., also took a hand in the matter, and supplemented this outspoken letter by a protest of its own from which we quote a sentence or two: 'Here comes a firm of publishers, the Fleming H. Revell Company, and dares to publish Chiniquy's "scurrilous attacks" (a very, very moderate expression) and another booksellers' firm, the Tabard Inn Company, puts them in their catalogues; and both have the effrontery to send their solicitations for trade to the same Catholics whom they have thereby so grievously offended! If Catholics henceforth withdraw their patronage from such as must seem "Allies of *The Menace*," can any one blame their conduct?'

The Tabard Inn Book Company, of Philadelphia, has now replied to the note addressed to it by the Redemptorist Fathers of North East; and has intimated its intention of withdrawing its whole stock of

Chiniquy's volume from sale. The company says it 'was wholly unconscious of the lascivious contents of Chiniquy's book.' 'We never pretended to have read the thousands of books which we purchase from other concerns—the mere mention of such a thing being possible we feel assured will appear as ridiculous to you as to ourselves. Therefore, we cannot see ourselves so worthy of censure as your article indicates.' In conclusion, the company's correspondent writes: 'It is not our intention to involve ourselves in any controversy with the reverend clergy at St. Mary's College or the *Erie Catholic Chronicle*. Our business principles have never heretofore been questioned and in this instance we have the satisfaction of feeling that we acted most amicably when we decided to allow the several copies of *The Priest, the Woman, and the Confessional*, which we now have in stock to be classed unsalable, thereby rendering a complete loss to ourselves. However, such is our principle and the fair-minded reader of your article who has ever dealt with us we feel assured will vouch for the authenticity of this statement.' It no doubt occasionally happens, as here, that the bookseller has acted in ignorance; but wherever he is called upon to make any little sacrifice because of his mistake it may safely be asserted that he will get it all back.

Diocesan News

ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON

(From our own correspondent.)

October 18.

Last Sunday there was Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at St. Anne's Church.

Last week the children of St. Joseph's Orphanage, Upper Hut, were entertained by Commissioner McCurdy, of the Upper Hut Town Board, at a picture entertainment.

The Rev. Father James Tymons, S.M., who at one time filled the position of secretary of the Waimate branch of the H.A.C.B. Society, has been appointed chaplain of St. Mary's (ladies) branch of the H.A.C.B. Society.

Mr. W. J. Feeney, of the Railway Service, and a past president of the H.A.C.B. Society, was with his sister (Miss Feeney) a passenger for Sydney by the steamer which left yesterday. Mr. Feeney will be absent from the Dominion for about six weeks.

Mr. C. J. Lennon, formerly of the Post and Telegraph Service, is now attached to the Government Radio Station, Melbourne. Mr. Lennon, who was a member of St. Aloysius' branch of the H.A.C.B. Society here, is still actively engaged in Catholic work, he being on the State Council of the Victorian Catholic Federation.

The usual fortnightly meeting of the St. Mary's (ladies) branch of the H.A.C.B. Society was held in St. Patrick's Hall on Monday evening. Sister G. O'Flaherty, B.P., presided, and there was a large attendance of members. The Rev. Father James Tymons, S.M., the newly-appointed chaplain, was present, and heartily welcomed by the president. One candidate was initiated and another proposed. It was decided to hold the next meeting on Tuesday, October 28, owing to the regular meeting night falling on Labor Day. At the conclusion of the meeting a very pleasant euchre party was held, and attended by a large number of members and their friends. The prizes were won by Misses Hannify and Weight and Messrs. Bastin and Reeves.

A very successful 'vase' tea was held on Thursday evening at the presbytery, Patterson street, by the members of St. Joseph's Altar Society. Despite the inclemency of the weather, there were about fifty guests present, and a very enjoyable evening was spent. The first prize in the competition was won by

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