

FEATURES OF THIS WEEK'S ISSUE

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MESSAGE OF POPE LEO XIII TO THE "N.Z. TABLET."

Pergant Directores et Scriptores New Zealand Tablet, Apostolica Benedictione confortati, Religionis et Justitiae causam promovere per vias Veritatis et Pacis.

LEO XIII, P.M.

Die 4 Aprilis, 1900.

TRANSLATION.—Fortified by the Apostolic Blessing, let the Directors and Writers of the *New Zealand Tablet* continue to promote the cause of Religion and Justice by the ways of Truth and Peace.

April 4, 1900.

LEO XIII, Pope.

The New Zealand Tablet

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 1925.

THE DANGER OF PROHIBITION

OUR beloved Metropolitan has, in an eloquent and masterly Pastoral, issued to Catholics a solemn warning against Prohibition, and we cannot doubt that his wise words will have weighty influence on the result of the polling to-day. Not only is Prohibition ethically unsound and an unwarranted aggression on the freedom of the people, but, in a country in which bigots have more than once proved their power, it is a menace to our religion. The very centre of our Catholic life is the Eucharist: the Eucharist, by divine institution, depends on the materials of bread and wine, and it is intolerable to think that it might become possible that free access to these materials could be denied us by venal politicians swayed by noisy No-Popery bigots.

Whatever about the question of freedom in the abstract, when we recall that our Metropolitan expresses the matured opinion of the Council of the Archbishops of Australia, over which the Apostolic Delegate presided, we consider that the wisest and safest course is to be guided by their advice, which is set forth plainly in the following document, emanating from the highest ecclesiastical authority we have in these southern territories:

PRONOUNCEMENT OF AUSTRALASIAN ARCHBISHOPS.

October, 1918.

We deem it our duty to co-operate with every wisely directed effort to stem the evil of drink in Australasia, and to promote temperance among our people. We have no sympathy with those who oppose well-considered restrictive legislative, or the strict and impartial administration of the laws which regulate the sale of drink. But, need-

less to say we have just as little sympathy with those—and they are very active at present—who do not distinguish between the use and abuse of alcoholic drink; who seem to regard drink as something essentially evil; who, in spite of the comparative sobriety of the people of Australasia, convey to the world by their reckless statements that Australia and New Zealand are drink-sodden lands, and that their people, and especially the soldiers who have risked their lives, are dishonored and degraded by intemperance. No lasting improvement can be based upon false principles and no good cause can be served by false charges and intemperate language.

We frankly admit that drink has done and is doing much evil in Australasia. We are so much alive to the necessity of legal control of the drink traffic that we would regard with sympathy any sane proposal to buy out existing liquor interests, to take the drink out of private hands, and to vest it in some public authority. But we view with misgiving and alarm the crude proposals of those Prohibitionists who, under cover of war conditions demand drastic legislation which would be an unwarrantable infringement on the reasonable liberty of the mass of the people: which would most probably be inefficient for the purpose in view, and which in the end might produce more evil than it would remove.

- ✱ HIS EXCELLENCY THE APOSTOLIC DELEGATE.
- ✱ MICHAEL, ARCHBISHOP OF SYDNEY.
- ✱ FRANCIS, ARCHBISHOP OF WELLINGTON.
- ✱ DANIEL, ARCHBISHOP OF MELBOURNE.
- ✱ JAMES, ARCHBISHOP OF BRISBANE.
- ✱ PATRICK, ARCHBISHOP OF HOBART.
- ✱ PATRICK, ARCHBISHOP OF PERTH.
- ✱ ROBERT, ARCHBISHOP OF ADELAIDE.

That document was issued in October, 1918. Last year, when we were celebrating the Golden Jubilee of Archbishop Redwood, Archbishop Clune, in the course of his eloquent panegyric, paid a magnificent tribute to the wise and fearless guidance which our Metropolitan gave the Catholic people, and the Archbishop of Sydney, as spokesman of the Australian Hierarchy, referred specifically to the great work his Grace had done in fighting Prohibition. We mention these incidents in order to show with what authority he speaks now when once again he raises his voice to warn our people against what might easily be a real danger to the Church.

A NEW CARDINAL FOR IRELAND

A cable, published in the daily papers on last Saturday, announced that at the next Consistory the Most Reverend Patrick O'Donnell, Archbishop of Armagh, Primate of All Ireland, would be created cardinal. Irishmen, all over the world, will welcome this new honor done to their race, and those who know the Cardinal-elect, either personally or through his great reputation, will be pleased that the Red Hat is given to him. The Primate was born at Glenties, Co. Donegal, in 1856. He is a member of one of the greatest of the old Irish septs, and

the blood of men whose names are bright on the pages of our history runs in his veins. Some time ago, the newspapers had a report that three Irish Cardinals were to be created. Most people who knew anything about the circumstances smiled incredulously, but many agreed that there would probably be one, and that the most likely churchman for the honor was Monsignor O'Donnell.

The Cardinal-elect is a man of distinguished bearing, tall and stately, with fine features, affable and eloquent. Don Carlos O'Donnell, a scion of one of the Wild Geese, is a Spanish duke, and a kinsman of Dr. O'Donnell's. The latter was educated at Maynooth, where he was afterwards a professor, and, later, Prefect of the Dunboyne Establishment. So conspicuous were his talents that he was chosen as Bishop of Raphoe in 1882, at the early age of 32. He has been Rector of the Catholic University of Ireland, and a member of the governing body of the Catholic School of Medicine. He sat on a Royal Commission, dealing with Congestion in Ireland, in 1906. In 1915 he received the degree of LL.D. from the National University. A couple of years ago he became Coadjutor-Archbishop of Armagh, with the right of succession, and he has ruled that See since the death of the venerable Cardinal Logue at the end of last year.

Dr. O'Donnell was for many years closely associated with the Home Rule movement, acting as Treasurer for the old Parliamentary Party up to the time of its downfall. He took no prominent part in the later movements, and while not identifying himself with any side was honored and respected by all as a true Irish patriot. In this way, his selection shows Rome's traditional wisdom, as it cannot fail to be acceptable to all parties in Ireland. His scholastic record, and his career as a bishop warrant us in foretelling that he will wear the Red Hat with honor and maintain with dignity the high standard of the distinguished Princes of the Church who have preceded him in Ireland. *Ad multos annos!*

IRISH HISTORY COMPETITION

The period to be covered for this year's Competition in Irish History is from the death of Hugh O'Neill to the Act of Union. To facilitate the study of the history of this period we reprinted (commencing in our issue for April 1, and concluding in the issue of the *Tablet* for August 19) that portion of Sullivan's *Story of Ireland* which treats of the subject. The information therein contained may be supplemented by reference to Carey's *Irish History Lessons* or other works obtainable at the *Tablet* Office.

IRISH HISTORY

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