

so because there has been peace in those parts of Ireland where the Sinn Fein Government has, for a season, held undisputed rule. There will be peace, and the Governments of England and Ireland may then meet to discuss the terms of settlement. We believe that the terms offered by the Irish will not be severe. They are, as they have often shown, and never more plainly than in 1914, a generous people. They are also a sensible one. They realise the manifold advantages of an alliance with Great Britain, the manifold disadvantages of isolation. We have lost Ireland as a vassal; she is now a thorn in our side; and she will be a danger in time of war. If we would prove our sense no less than our generosity, we must come to terms.

RECITAL OF HORROR

CARDINAL LOGUE'S LETTER READ IN PARLIAMENT.

The following extract from the *Freeman's Journal* for February 22 last, was sent to us by Father O'Connor, of Cork, Ireland (says the *Catholic Advocate*, Brisbane):—

Lord Robert Cecil, in the House of Commons last night, read the following letter from his Eminence Cardinal Logue to Right Rev. Dr. Amigo, Bishop of Southwark:—

"With the assistance of the priests, I have done my best to keep things quiet in this diocese. Hitherto we have had comparative peace, but the forces of the Crown seem determined that we shall suffer like the rest.

"There is a camp of "Black-and-Tans" at Gormans-town, on the borders of the diocese, and while that camp remains we may give up all hopes of peace and safety. It seems to be a nest of bandits and homicides.

"In the month of December they visited Ardee, a country town, which was, and is, perfectly peaceful. As far as I could ascertain, there was not a murder in the whole district for a hundred years. Those guardians of the peace invaded the house of the principal merchant and carried away a quantity of goods to the amount of £150.

Ardee Crime Recalled.

"Their next visit to Ardee was made under their officers in lorries, some of the men having their faces blackened. They dragged two poor young men out of bed in the small hours of the morning, and shot them dead. Others would have met the same fate, but fortunately took the alarm in time and were absent when sought for.

"Their last exploit in Ardee was to seize the whole stock-in-trade of two young people, a brother and sister, and load it on their lorries. These young people kept a draper's shop, and there is nothing left to them—hardly a reel of thread. Their loss amounted to £1500 or £2000, and now they are ruined. The people about Drogheda and the surrounding country will soon be reduced to beggary. Their houses are raided day and night on pretext of a search, and money, valuables, and anything that can be carried away seized at the point of the revolver.

Murders at Drogheda.

"As an instance, one man who was raided and lost heavily some time since, has just lost £400 in a second raid. Those who sell cattle or farm produce have not time to put the money in the bank for safety before it is seized upon. The poor people are afraid to complain lest their houses should be burned down.

"Hitherto it was only robbery in the Drogheda district. Now bloodshed has commenced. A few nights since two young men, fathers of families, were taken from their beds at dead of night, brought to a lonely place by armed men, and were found shot dead there next morning. There is not even the excuse of reprisals for this action. There was no crime in Drogheda and the district, except robbery to which I have referred. You may judge, my dear lord, how vain it is to counsel peace or secure a spirit of peace and charity in such surroundings.

Whenever you are justly accused of a fault, humble yourself, and candidly confess that you deserve more than the accusation which is brought against you.—St. Gregory.

RELICS OF CATHOLIC ENGLAND

Remarkable interest has been shown recently in non-Catholic circles in some of the great things of the Catholic past of Britain. Monuments to the piety and religious activity of Catholic times have of late received marked attention on the part of certain non-Catholic people.

Not only Anglicans but Nonconformists also are showing public interest in ancient Catholic history. The Hevilee Congregational Young People's Society of Exeter recently heard a talk on the Priory of St. Nicholas. This was an ancient Benedictine monastery, parts of which have been restored by the Exeter Municipal Corporation. Considerable surprise was shown by some members of the audience at the ancient and historic nature of the priory, and great interest in the subject was manifested. The lecturer was a Protestant, but he treated the subject very sympathetically, noting the priory's many changes under various priors, until, under Henry VIII., it was demolished, and the stones were sold to citizens. Only a part of the establishment was left standing, and this was converted into tenements. Its beauty was hidden for some 250 years, after which it was taken in hand by the city authorities, and restored to its present attractive condition. A lecture on some Yorkshire abbeys was recently given before members of the Exeter branch of the Historical Association. It was presided over by an Anglican Prebendary. The lecturer was an Anglican. He spoke of two great Benedictine houses dedicated to St. Mary at York and Whitby. He pointed out that Yorkshire was chiefly known as the home of the Cistercians. An interesting account of old Bristol Bridge, with its quaint wooden houses and chapel, built on an arch, dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary, was recently given in a lecture on mediæval Bristol.

POLITICS AND RELIGION IN INDIA.

The Anglican Bishop of Chelmsford recently stated that out of every ten Indian Christians five are Roman Catholics, four Nonconformists, and one Church of England. That is a peg on which we have two hats to hang, one political and the other religious (says the *Catholic Herald*, of India).

If Catholics are as numerous as all other Christian bodies together, it is surprising that to represent the Christians in the Imperial Council of State, Government has selected two Protestants. In a way the selection is technically correct, but the fact that wherever a Christian representative is appointed, he is invariably Protestant, suggests that to the official mind the word "Christian" in the Reforms Act means "Protestant," and that the designation "Roman Catholic," does not mean "Christian," which is technically wrong. It also means that the officials responsible for the appointments mistake the Thirty-Nine Articles for a political text-book, which is bad history; and select as politically fit only those who are religiously fit, which is bad logic; and deem none worthy of a seat in the Councils but those who believe in two sacraments, which is bad theology; and the whole thing is a piece of wooden-headedness which will alienate the feelings of two million Moderates, at a time when there are none to spare, which is bad politics any way. Now for the clergyman's hat. The Bishop of Chelmsford inquires why there is only one Church of England man to every ten Christians. The speaker did well not to attribute the fault to the missionaries, "who had done magnificently in the face of tremendous difficulties," but was he right in blaming the laity for "their apathy in the support of foreign missions?" We are rather inclined to think that it is the strongly national character of the Church of England that prevents its diffusion among other nations. Anyhow, the unfortunate anti-British feeling now prevailing throughout India will do her no good, and she is in for a very critical time. But whatever happens, the Church of England must be loyal, and cling to the principle that brought her into existence and supported her.

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