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HOW ROME REGARDS THE WAR WITH SPAIN

As a Contest Between Protestantism and Roman Catholicism.

Sentiment of Members of the "Sacred College" Also Unfriendly to the United States—Pope Sets Up Claim to Cuba.

A Special Cablegram to the Globe-Democrat from Rome dated June 11, says:

Although every effort has been made in Vatican circles to prevent the matter from becoming known, the pope is in such a delicate condition of health that four times during the last three weeks Dr. Lapponi, his chief physician, warned his immediate entourage as well as the papal camerlengo, Cardinal Oreglio, who, by virtue of his office, assumes on the death of the pope, charge of all the affairs of the papacy pending the election of the new pontiff, to prepare for the worst.

It is not that he has suffered from any specific illness, but there has been a most alarming decline in vitality and in strength, and that has brought about syncope of such alarming character that Dr. Lapponi expressed fear that the aged pontiff would never recover consciousness.

The physician as well as those about the pope do not hesitate to attribute his altered condition to his grief on the score of Spain, and he has on several occasions intimated to his attendants, and likewise to the Marquis Mary Del Val, the venerable Spanish Ambassador to the Vatican, that he felt that his hour had come, and that Divine Providence would assuredly not permit him to live to witness the downfall of a Catholic nation so dear to his heart as Spain.

There is no doubt that the sympathy of the Pontiff, as well as the papal court and of the sacred college, are DISTINCTLY AND PRONOUNCEDLY IN FAVOR OF SPAIN and that the present war is regarded at the Vatican as A CONFLICT BETWEEN CATHOLICISM AND PROTESTANTISM, and that a defeat of Spain will be considered in the light of A BLOW to the CATHOLIC CHURCH.

As pointed out to me today by a foreign diplomat accredited to the Vatican, and who has spent many years of his life in that capacity, there is no power in the world, not even Italy itself, which from time immemorial has maintained such intimate relations with the papacy as Spain. The latter has always been the chief ally of the holy see in combatting the reformation, and, since the council of Trent, the theology, the philosophy and the entire influence of the papacy has been Spanish rather than Roman. Moreover, the three most influential members of the sacred college at the present moment, namely, Cardinals Rampolla, Jacobini and Mocenni, have all spent long years as nuncios in Madrid, and are avowedly pro-Spanish, while the favorite prelate in attendance on the holy father and the one who enjoys to the greatest degree his confidence and affection, is Mgr. Merry Del Val, the son of the Spanish Ambassador here.

The pontiff thoroughly disapproved of the present Liberal cabinet in Spain and deplored the policy which it has pursued, as well as the neglect of which its members have been guilty in making proper preparations for the conflict with the United States. Premier Sagasta has never stood well here, owing to the fact of his being the grand master of Freemasonry in Spain, while the Liberals, whenever in office, have incurred the animosity of the holy see by introducing reforms that were antagonistic to the church.

But the relations of the holy father with the queen regent remain as intimate as intimate as ever. He is in constant communication with her, and, although since the rejection by the United States of his offers of mediation, he has been forced to maintain an officially neutral attitude for fear of offending the influential Catholic element in the United States, yet he has NEVER CEASED FOR A MOMENT TO LABOR through his nuncios, and particulary THROUGH THE ORDER OF THE JESUITS, for an intervention by the continental powers in behalf of Spain, with a view to a termination of the war. He is perfectly indifferent to the loss of Cuba, but desires at all costs to maintain the Queen Regent and her son on the throne of Spain, and likewise to secure the retention by Spain of the Philippine Islands, where the Roman Catholic church owns vast property.

The holy father takes the view that both the Philippine islands and Cuba are, strictly speaking, the property of the papacy, Spain holding them from the holy see, as fiefs granted three centuries ago, and Leo XIII claims that from the moment that Spain ceases to fulfill the conditions of the fief and is unable to retain control of these dependencies, the fief ceases to be operative, and the dependencies REVERT TO THE HOLY SEE.

While the pontiff is not prepared to put forward any arguments on this score with regard to the Antilles, where the church interests are relatively unimportant, he is doing so in the case of the Philippines, and there is no doubt that, were France or even Germany to secure from Spain a lease of the Philippines in return for an advance of the money needed to pay the war indemnity, which will doubtless be exacted by the United States, the theoretical claim of either of these two leading powers might be strengthened by a transfer to them of the fiefs by the papacy.

It is intimated in Vatican circles that the unfriendly sentiments of both the pontiff and the sacred college with regard to America, in connection with the present war, will be demonstrated at the forthcoming consistory by the failure of the pontiff to fulfill his original intention of conferring a red hat upon one of the most conspicuous of the American archbishops, who is known here to have been selected for this honor.

The Vatican takes the ground that it would be in questionable taste to give at the present moment to the United States so striking a demonstration of pontifical regard as the creation of a second American cardinal, and the candidate for the dignity in question is, therefore, likely to have to wait for a new pope before he can hope to receive the hat.

In conclusion, I would add on the most reliable and positive authority that Leo's condition is so alarming that the news of any great Spanish disaster, or of a revolution at Madrid, might be followed by fatal results, and culminate in a conclave, that is to say, the election of his successor to the chair of St. Peter.

KEEP THIS IN MIND

Unfriendly Mexicans.

Phoenix, Arizona, June 11 —The Republican of this city says there is a prospect of trouble between the Mexicans and Americans, at the towns of Clifter, Morenci and Metcalf. Those towns, especially Morenci, have been the scenes of frequent disturbances for years. The present threatened outbreak is said to be based on the sympathy of the Mexicans with Spain. The Mexican population of those mining camps has been recruited chiefly from Chihuahua, and is said to be made up of a class of citizens who found it necessary to leave the southern republic to save their skins.

Gov. McCord lately received a letter from Senor Maximo Gavito, the Mexican consul at Bisbee, describing the condition of affairs in Eastern Graham county, whereupon the governor wrote the district attorney at that place, inclosing a copy of the consul's letter and of his own reply to it, saying that similar copies had been sent to the town marshals at each of the above mentioned towns in Graham county, with the request that they use their best efforts toward preventing friction and asking that the district attorney co-operate in the matter.

THE AMERICAN should be on every newsdealers counter. Will you and your friends see to it in your city? Keep asking for this paper.

DEWEY SQUELCHED THE ARCHBISHOP.

The Manila Prelate, Caught in One Lie, Told Another to Clear Himself.

The Archbishop Went "Out Like a Tallow Dip, With a Sizz and a Very Bad Smell," When Dewey Sent Him His Own Signed Pastoral Letter.

Washington, D. C., June 1.—An official with Admiral Dewey writes a friend in the Navy Department that the Admiral astonished a high church official out there at Manila very much recently.

"The Bishop of Manila," so the letter runs, "had been circulating pastorals, urging his people to rise up and kill 'los hereticos' (the heathen Americans,) who would not permit the sacraments of matrimony or the last rites for the dying to be administered. Dewey waited until he could fix some of these stories definitely upon the reverend Ananias, and then wrote him a note, in which the Admiral expressed his astonishment that an Archbishop could so far forget and debase his holy office as to be guilty of lying, and lying so basely. If he heard any more of these falsehoods from his reverence or any of the minor clergy, he, Dewey, would turn his guns loose upon the Archbishop's palace at Cavite and the cathedral at Manila, and level both to the ground. 'False teachers shall not disgrace the holy name they pretend to reverence by uttering the most absolute falsehoods in the name of God."

"A French priest, who has a brother that is a chaplain in the United States navy, undertook to carry the note to the Archbishop. In three days there came back a most abject apology to the American commandant, in which the holy man denied that he had ever said, or thought the wicked things imputed to him. In reply, Dewey simply sent the Archbishop his own pastoral letter that he had somehow obtained which contained the very words and expressions the archbishop had sworn he never thought of, much less used. This ended the correspondence. But the Archbishop was snuffed out like a tallow dip, with a sizz and a very bad smell."—Globe-Democrat.

Jesuits Working This Scheme.

Influences other than commercial and political are beginning to have a bearing on the Philippines policy of this government. In the past week the President has received very strong representation upon the subject from religious bodies. The Protestant churches are taking a deep interest. Some anniversary gatherings have adopted memorials. Eminent ministers on their way to or from assemblies and conferences have stopped in Washington and given their views to the administration and members of Congress. Religious reasons against the return of the Philippines to Spain are being advanced. The same influences are pressing the government to take and hold the Carolines and the Ladrones.

Methodist ministers, who are leaders in their denomination, to which the President belongs, have called on him to says that the moral sense of the nation will not submit to the restoration of Spanish rule in the Philippines. They declare the United States owes it to the Philippines to give them religious liberty. They argue that this nation has christian duties to perform, and that it will disregard its obligations if it suffers misrule and religious intolerance to resume full sway when it has been almost banished. These ministers talk with much feeling. Their convictions are very positive. It seems that they are backed by considerable sentiment of the same kind in the churches. If this religious argument regarding the Philippines is as widely entertained as it appears to be, it will figure in the determination of the government's course. The Protestant bodies make the point that missionary efforts to better the condition of the natives to civilize them have been prohibited in the Philippines by the influence of the Catholic orders with the Spanish authority. They tell the president of repeated efforts in vain to get a footing on the islands for christian missionaries. They are about to put forth new efforts, and they insist that it is the duty of the United States to at least give the attempts to evangelize the Philippines protection.

The case of the Carolines is being used to point the argument. At one time the people of those islands were, under missionary influences, advancing rapidly toward civilization. The Spanish authorities expelled the missionaries, and the natives relapsed. If the administration listens to the church people, the Carolines and the Ladrones as well as the Philippines, will be wrested from Spain.—Exchange.

Are We to Have More of Coppinger.

Washington, June 9.—Now that the army for Santiago de Cuba is fairly on the way to co-operate with Admiral Sampson, the entire energies of the war department are directed to getting ready the army intended for Porto Rico.

Maj.-Gen. Coppinger is likely to replace Maj.-Gen. John R. Brooke, who was first selected as the leader of the Porto Rican army of invasion. Gen. Coppinger may also be the military governor of the captured province.

The army for Porto Rico will number about 20,000 and will consist of both regulars and volunteers.

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