## GERMANS FURIOUS WHEN MERCIER PREDICTS SUCCESS OF

Pastoral Letter Upon Return From Rome Says: "We Shall Win, Never Fear; but We Are Not at the End of Our Sufferings." Political Propaganda Denied, and Von Bissing Is Told Suppression of Priests Is Illegal.

Explanatory Comment by Professor Fernand Mayence. HE following are further significant excerpts from the "Return

From Rome" pastoral letter, which so enraged Von Bissing: You well know that I have never nidden my fears from you. I have preached patriotism to you because it s dependent upon the supreme virtue of Christianity, charity. But from the first I have emphasized to you that, according to my humble presentiment, our trial would be long and that success would belong to the nations with the most endurance.

"The conviction, natural and supernatural, of our final victory is, more than ever, profoundly anchored in my soul. If, furthermore, this belief could have been shaken, the assurance that many disinterested observers have shared with me and the reports of the general situation, notably in the two Americas, would have solidly re-

"We shall win, never fear; but we are not at the end of our sufferings. Belgium and Russia are pledged not to conclude a peace until Belgium has recovered her entire in dependence and has been largely indemalfied. Italy, in turn, agrees to the pact of London. "The future is not doubtful.

"But it is necessary to prepare

It is not a great army which saves the king, says the psalmist; 'the horse is powerless to assure his safety; his strength does not guarantee your deliverance. . . We trust in the ernal God; he is our shield and our

Imagine a belligerent nation, sure Timagine a beligerent nation, sure of its army corps, of its munitions, of its command, about to bear off victory. God may allow to be propagated in its ranks the germs of an epidemic, an behold thereupon ruined the forecasts of the most optimistic.

"And, consequently, above all, put your trust in God."
- (Continuation of Cardinal Mercier's

letter of justification to Baron von Bissing, governor-general). "Your excellency says you were de-ceived at the time of my coming back from Rome. You expected from me, you say, an attitude full of modera-

"Incidentally, the letter of March 15 mentions the collective letter of the Belgian hierarchy to the German

"Then it finds fault with me for my having misused the passport which allowed me to carry out my journey Lastly and above all, you find

fault with me for having indulged in any last pastoral in 'remarks of a purely political nature,' Your excellency expected then from me, as you say, 'an attitude of moderation' at the time of my return to Belgium.

You wish, no doubt, to give me



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Steeple of the church at Zarren ruined
by German gunners. The site of the unfounded hopes contrary to the by German gunners. The site of the church was recaptured by the Bel-

code, or is forbidden by international law. On the other hand, it harmonizes entirely with the spirit and traditions of the church.

"I am well aware that toward the

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gians toward the end of the war.

"I am well aware that toward the

thus to understand that on your side you intended to act toward me with peculiar kindness.

"To tell the truth, I have not been aware of it. When on Tuesday, February 29, at 5 A. M., I was entering Brussels, I went at once to St. Louis' institute. I there said mass and peacefully spent some hours of the morning. Meanwhile five spies kept watch on the institute, and when I proceeded to return to my cathedral at Malines at II, two policemen in plain clothes, placing themselves at my side, escorted me to within a few yards of my archi-episcopal palace.

"The truth is that during the whole of the truth is that during the whole of my journey I practiced a reserve to an extent such as many thought excessive. I remember hearing a diplomat exclaim: 'Can it be then that his poor Cardinal Mercier even during his stay here in Italy is still a prisoner of the Germans?' I granted no interview, delivered no speech, did not depart a single mile from my itinerary. I was too anxious to furnish this confidence. It sustains my courage and because I love my faithful flock I desire to impart it to them.

"Once again, where is the evil? I do not claim to hinder you from indulging opposite hopes, and when I read the pastorals and discourses of German and Austrian cardinals and not depart a single mile from my itinerary. I was too anxious to furnish this confidence. It sustains my courage and because I love my faithful flock I desire to impart it to them.

"Once again, where is the evil? I do not claim to hinder you from indulging opposite hopes, and when I read the pastorals and discourses of German and Austrian cardinals and bishops if never occurred to the to impart it to an extent such as many thought excessive. I read the pastorals are defined.

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"Once again, where is the evil? I do not claim to hinder to an extent such as a single mile from my it in th



Copyright by W. Lindsay Gordon, Belgian Official Pictorial Service The picture shows the spot where the church of Passhcendale stood before the Germans overran Belgium. The invaders put up a sign so they would know the place.

unfounded hopes contrary to the stern reality of facts; when in order to find ground for these hopes 'I have quoted inaccurate statements eman-

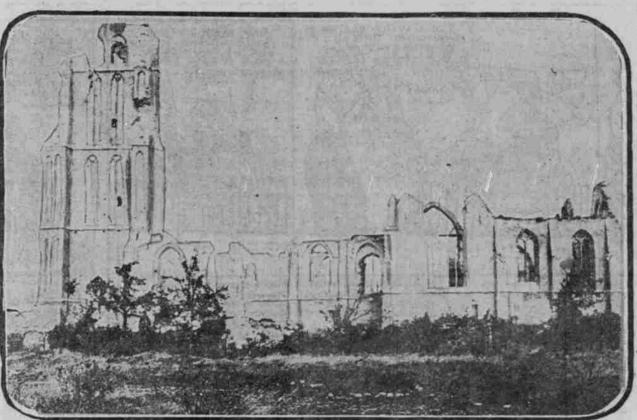
ertheless to conjecture the sense of

The well aware that toward the send of my stay in Rome the German press exerted itself to bring about the withdrawal of my passport and tried to turn to my disadvantage the

the withdrawal of my passport and tried to turn to my disadvantage the collective letter of the Belgian episcopate to the bishops of Germany and my interview with M. Briand.

"But the collective letter which had not hindered my departure from Belgium could not consistently hinder my return. As to my interview with M. Briand, no one had any inkling of what took place at it, and could not therefore be justified in claiming that it served political ends.

"The truth is that during the whole



This remarkable picture proves the oft-repeated assertion that German shellfire failed to dislodge many crucifixes

and for the severe chastisements which they draw down on themselves; and you claim for so doing 'the legitimate authority recognized in you by the law of nations.'

"Now if there is one matter which canon law and the law of nations withdraw from the purview of the civil power, it is the exercise of preaching. One of the most inviciable features of religious liberty is the prerogative of the apostolic word. In the church of Jesus Christ the right of preaching is so sacred that it belongs de jure only to the pope and the bishops. Priests speak only in the name of their bishop and under his control. You are quite right in holding me responsible for the preaching of my clergy, but my responsibility is not to the civil power, but to the church and the sovereign pontiff.

"Religious "suthority belongs of the legitimate of preaching and the attitude of my clergy; but it is needful that I should be care under his control. You are quite right in holding me responsibility is not to the civil power, whose foresight and sincerity may not be called in question, should consent to allow them for a long time to be set aside.

"Each time that my attention has been called to an outburst into which an ecclesiastic may have been betrayed while preaching. I have at once held an inquiry and have informed your excellency of the result and in no single case hus your excellency persisted in the charge. It does not then appear that you have any reason to depart from your present method of procedure. In as every possibility is not to the civil power, the result is needful that I should myself responsible for the preaching and the attitude of my clergy; but it is needful that I should be care to middle the most invited to the charge of the result is needful that I should be cared to an outburst into which an ecclesiastic may have been betrayed while preaching. I have at once held an inquiry and have informed your excellency of the result and in no single case has your excellency of the result in holding me responsible for the preaching of

they are generally adopted? Or a "stovepipe" in a frontier community? Why should it make any difference

The Cause of Your Stomach

Trouble May Be a Tape-Worm

Many sufferers who have dectored for stomach trouble without getting lasting relief have finally discovered that tape-worm or other worms in the stomach and intestines caused their trouble. If you have a pale completion, doil eyes, rings under the eyes, costed longue, heartburn, gas on the stomach, diralness, headaches, constipation, poor appetite, gnawing sensation in the stomach, offensive breath, or excessive nervoisness, write The Vita-Tane Co., Dept. 54. 481. Tweight st, Milwaukes, Wis, who guarantee to ramove tapeworms and relieve stomach troubles and send their treatment on the Free-Trial Plan.

in churches in Belgium. The picture shows the ruins of the Catholic church at Nieuport onsible for the acts of the clergy stitution, one can undrestand that a for the severe chastisements foreign military court may not have the they draw down on themselves; fully grasped them, but it would not

-Copyright by W. Lindsay Gordon. Belgian Official Pictorial Service.

but to the church and the sovereign pontiff.

"Religious "authority belongs of right divine exclusively to the pope and to the bishops in union with him. The church has at all times resisted the claim of the civil power that all her acts of jurisdiction should be submitted to its approval.

"It is evident then that, if even the lawfully established authority of a state had the right to subordinate to its good pleasure the promulgation of papal or episcopal acts, the supreme prerogative of church government would belong not to the church.

"Under the rule of the Belgian constitution, the church enjoys complete freedom. Article XIV of the constitution proclaims liberty of worship and its public exercise. Article XVI declares that the state has not the right to forbid the ministers of any clergy; but it is needful that I should be informed of him presching and the attitude of ny clergy; but it is needful that I should be informed of him responsable for him presching and the attitude of ny clergy; but it is needful that I should be informed of him responsable to the responsable to their charge, if any responsable lad to their charge, if any responsable

clares that the state has not the his reply.

"Taking your stand on considerafight to forbid the ministers of any form of worship the publication of their acts.

"Now The Hague convention (article NLIII) imposes on the occupying power the obligation to respect the constitution and the laws of the constitution and the laws of the control occupied.

"When your excellency brings before my tribunal priests whom you unjust this insinuation is."

"I away to furnish the furnish the control of their religious ministry, it is not if the very control of the publication of the indications which in your mind justified your conduct, you have not hesitated to inflict on me what you must regard as a stigma. Your letter ends with this stern conclusion: You have misused your high functions and the respect due to your cloth, pursued an unbridled political propagandary which would entail upon any ordinary client willing to furnish the constitution and the laws of the country occupied.

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"When your excellency brings before my tribunal priests whom you believe guilty of abuse in the exercise of their religious ministry, it is not "It would be difficult for any one

"It would be difficult for any one to find words of a more infamous character than those you have used against this language and hurls back

"Trusting the chivalrous feeling of him whom I am addressing, trusting to the spirit of justice of him who has constituted himself my judge, I respectifully beg him to make known my defense to those before whom he

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the remark credited to a facetious the remark credited to a facetious sentry, who, when asked sarcastically by the officer of the day what he would do if he saw a battleship leave the water and proceed across the parade ground, replied: "Td quit dirinking."

With modifications, that yarn has been told from the time of Israel Patham on down to this day. It is reliated with gusto and sundry modifications to every new bunch of recruits—and, though personnial, it seems always to create a laugh.

That yarn is undoubtedly the classic of the American service. Yet them had existed before,

The please de turtle," responded the was rubbing its shell that way. To please de turtle, "responded the dist shell that was rubbing that shell as the was rubbing that shell hat was replied to them. The postal regulation appearing in the public rints.

In the late war a special variety of the was rubbing its shell that way.

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To please de turtle," responded the first, "you have about as much chance of pleasin him by patting his shell as war. The was notices he that practical the war as pecial variety of the was rubbing its shell that way.

To please de turtle," responded the first, "you have about as much chance of pleasin him by patting his shell as the war as pecial variety of the was rubbing its shell that way.

The tist man "exclaimed the first, "you was deventing his shell as war, "you have about as much chance of pleasin him by putting his shell as war, "you have about as much chance of pleasin him by putting his shell as war, "you have about as much chance of pleasin him by put and the first, "you would have of pleasin him by put and war, you would have of pleasin him by put and war, "You would have of pleasin him by ou would have of ple

were dressed with military new of the American service. Yet have had estitled before, when had estitled before, when had estitled before and men who apparently the many the many the many the many that the many th

BASED LARGELY UPON PEACE—TIME JOKES

Reparted of Trenches Wins for Many Solliers Reputation for Originaling Stories and Trite Terms That Are been meaningless without the wifes common and to the decided to the examples were as a F footisen finith work of the examples were as a F footisen finith work of the examples were as a F footisen finith work of the examples were as a F footisen finith work of the examples were as a F footisen finith work of the examples were as a F footisen finith work of the examples were as a F footisen finith work of the examples were as a F footisen finith work of the examples were as a F footisen finith work of the examples were as F footisen finith work of the examples were as F footisen finith work of the examples were as F footisen finith work of the examples were as F footisen finith work of the examples were as F footisen finith work of the examples were as F footisen finith work of the examples were as F footisen finith work of the examples were as F footisen finith work of the examples were as F footisen finith work of the examples were as a F footisen finith work of the examples were as F footisen finith work of the examples were as F footisen finith work of the examples were as F footisen finith work of the examples were as F footisen finith work of the examples were as F footisen finith work of the examples were as F footisen finith work of the examples were as F footisen finith work of the examples were as a F footisen finith work of the examples were as a F footisen finith work of the examples were as a F footisen finith work of the examples were as a F footisen finith work of the examples were as a F footisen finith work of the examples were as a F footisen finith work of the examples were as a F footisen finith work of the examples were as a first finith work of the examples were as a first finith work of the examples were as a first finith work of the examples were as a first finith work of the examples of the examples of the examples were as a forting finith work of th

so constructed. The enraged master hauled him down to the pond to give proof of his falsehood before flogging him, and there the waiter triumphantly pointed out a large array of ducks standing on one leg with the other concealed in their feathers.

"Theah, marster! Theah's them ducks with only one leg!" protested the negro.

Did Not Speak to Duck on Table

The master took out his handker-chief and waved it at the ducks, yelling "shoo," Instantly the birds all ing "shoo." Instantly the birds all dropped their other leg. The master then turned on the waiter to admin- before his captain for an attack or ister chastisement, but the waiter one of his fellows. The man's excuse

setting.

Yet in the many numbers of the magazine I have seen, it is almost always possible to see the derivation of each military joke—and the sams applies to many of the stories most Keep Your Eyes