

THE ECUMENICAL COUNCIL.

YESTERDAY, the 8th of December, was the day appointed for the opening of the Ecumenical or general Council of the Authorities of the Church of Rome, an assemblage of the principal dignitaries of that Church,—Cardinals, Bishops, Abbots, &c. from all parts of the world, with the Sovereign Pontiff at their head.

Since the dawn of the Christian era, history records the holding of nineteen Ecumenical Councils, the first of which was called by the Apostles, at Jerusalem, fifty years after the birth of Christ. The following is the order of the remainder: The first Council of Nice, in the year 325; one at Constantinople in 381; one at Ephesus in 431; another twenty years afterwards—451, at Chalcedon; the next at Constantinople in 553; again in the same city in 681; at Nice in 787; the fourth of Constantinople in 869; the four councils of the Lateran, held at Rome in 1132, 1139, 1179 and 1215; the first and second of Lyons in 1145 and 1274; one at Vienne, in Dauphine, in 1311; at Constance in 1417; at Basle in 1431, and at Trent in 1545.

The principal of these councils were those of Nice, in 325, of Ephesus, in 431, the second of Nice in 787, that of Basle in 1431, and the last, the Council of Trent, in 1545.

The first council referred to above, that of Nice, was held on account of the heresy of Arius, of Alexandria, who maintained that the Father and the Son were not one in substance. The Council declared to the contrary and condemned the Arian theory as a blasphemy, ordered the writings of Arius to be burned, and deposed, excommunicated and banished their author.

The Council of Ephesus was convened to dispose of the heterodox notions of Nestorius, Bishop of Constantinople, who taught that there was a great distinction between Christ as the Son of God and Christ as the Son of Man; that the actions and sensations of the Saviour in his human character were to be carefully separated from those of the Supreme Being, and that the Virgin Mary could not be called the Mother of God, but only the Mother of Christ. He reasoned that it could only be the human nature of Christ that was born of her, since God, being eternal, could neither be born nor die. The Council summoned Nestorius to appear before it to answer for his heresy, but failing to do so he was deprived of his bishopric and condemned to perpetual banishment.

The second Council of Nice was assembled by Pope Adrian in the year 787, to consider the use of pictures and images in the places of worship of the Christians, against which many complaints had been made by the Jews and Mahomedans, who asserted that such a practice was a revival of Paganism. The Council decided and published a decree to the effect that the cross, the image of Christ, the Virgin, the angels and the saints, were entitled to reverential devotion, but not to divine worship.

The Council of Basle, in 1431, was convened for the purpose of effecting a union between the Roman and Greek Churches, but it failed to accomplish the object desired.

The Council of Trent, held in 1545, is regarded as the most important in history. It was called by Pope Paul III, the object being to effect a reformation in the church. At this Council the subjects under consideration were very numerous and embraced almost the entire field of religious belief. New dogmas were promulgated, and old articles of faith re-adopted, among others the Nicene Creed. "Tradition, as a rule of faith, was pronounced equally with the Bible a reliable guide, and the apocryphal books of the Old Testament admitted. The Vulgate was proclaimed the only authentic version of the Bible, and the church the only true interpreter. The Catholic doctrine, of original sin, justification and the sacraments, was defined and anathemas pronounced against all opponents. The doctrines of the eucharist, of confession and extreme unction were also promulgated."

Reforms were demanded which the assembled prelates refused. France and Germany asked the concession of the cup to the laity and the abolition of fasts and celibacy, but these requests were denied; but from that day to the present, owing to the efforts of the Reformers, and other causes, continually working, the power and influence of the Romish Church and its hierarchy have steadily declined in most of the countries of Europe; but of late years in this country and in Great Britain they have been on the advance.

Such is a very brief outline of the ob-

jects had in view by the principal Ecumenical Councils called in past ages. The calling of the present Council has been deemed necessary by the rapid advance of free thought on religious matters, the increase of scepticism as to the power and authority of the priesthood, and the necessity of making a great effort to induce the sects of Christendom to return to their ancient faith in the Catholic Church. The infallibility of the Pope is one of the dogmas that the Council will probably be called to pronounce upon, also to take action on what is called the *Syllabus*, which is to be adopted or rejected as a rule of faith in the Romish Church. This syllabus has been before the world for the past five years, having been issued with the encyclical letter of the reigning pontiff in 1864. This document, it is said, pronounces "against the freedom of the press, Bible societies, liberal clerical associations; the independence of Church and State; the civil contract of marriage as opposed to the governmental view; education outside of the control of the Roman Catholic church; the objects and functions of legislation; the relations of clergy and laity; the modern idea of sound government and the relations of the governed to the governing; the views held by nearly all educated men as to the functions and limits of human reason, and the objects, powers and results of scientific investigation; all of which are pronounced as damnable and sinful and contrary to the faith."

This is the work, or a portion of the work that will come before the Ecumenical Council, now holding its deliberations, or the exercises preliminary thereto, in the city of Rome.

The assembled prelates will probably endorse the views of their spiritual head and pronounce as damnable and heretical the truths of reason, science and natural religion, and they will doubtless bring all the power and might of the Catholic organization throughout the world to enforce their views upon the people generally, and carry them back to the darkest ages of priestcraft and Romish intolerance; but their efforts, if made, can not but prove abortive. The human mind can no longer be enslaved by edicts from the Vatican, and the efforts made by the so-called successor of St. Peter and his underlings to accomplish, to them, so desirable an end, cannot but eventuate in precipitating the final conflict between Truth and Error—Light and Darkness, and hastening the complete emancipation of the human mind from that serfdom, slavery, superstition and ignorance of which the Church of Rome—the Mother of Harlots, and its priesthood and emissaries have, for ages, been the foundation and vanguard.

DISTRESS IN ENGLAND.

The English press is talking loudly at the present time about the wide spread distress prevailing in that country. The following, on this subject, is from the *Morning Advertiser*, one of the leading London papers:

"The state of distress, nay, absolute destitution, which has for some time past existed, and is every day increasing among the working classes of the country, is something as deplorable as it is novel and astounding. In times past, the working classes of England were among the best paid, the best fed, and the most prosperous in the world. But a sad change has come over the country of late years, and it is among the higher class of operatives that distress is now spreading with giant strides. The numbers of the unemployed in the country are certainly not less than a million, and some estimates would bring them up to something like two millions. The poor-rates of the poorest parishes, which can least afford to bear the strain, are unprecedentedly heavy compared with the rich parishes, and are growing more and more onerous. It is impossible to pass a police-station from about dusk until the night is far advanced without being afflicted with the sight of a long string of miserable objects in the shape of candidates for casual relief. As fast as one relay is marched off to the workhouse a fresh band of unfortunates may sometimes be seen to gather. It is no uncommon thing to count as many as thirty or forty of these unfortunates patiently waiting in a queue, like the starving *sans culottes* at the bakers' shops in the old French revolutionary epoch. Go where you will, the streets of towns and the roads in the country swarm with unfortunates—men, women and children—seeking for work, but unable to find it. After making every possible deduction

for professional beggars and tramps, vagabonds and impostors, there is a frightful amount of distress flooding every part of the country. Meanwhile the average wages of the unskilled laborers cannot be taken at more than about 10s. a week. There may be places where such wages rise to 14s. or 15s., or even more; but then there are places where they fall to a lower amount, and do not exceed, as it seems, so low a figure as 8s., and even 7s. Such wages as 10s. a week can only be defined as starvation wages, especially when a wife and family have to be supported out of them."

LIST OF LETTERS

Remaining in the Office at Salt Lake City, Utah Territory on the 12th day of Dec., 1869; which if not called for within one month, will be sent to the Dead Letter Office.

GENTLEMEN'S LIST.

Allen Saml E	Hobson A M
Allen Henry D	Hogan Jno W
Anderson H J	Hunt Wm
Ashworth Benj	Hutchinson Jacob F
Baldwin J K	Jensen S
Barazzi D	Joice Milton
Berry J L	Kelly W A 2
Bender Jas M	Keupfor L H
Benson Hyrum	Laurin Jacob
Bertrand Andrew	Larson S J
Bishop Geo	Lingquist A
Blair Albert	Lloy Wm
Blain W W	Lynberg F G S
Borquist R	Lytle S
Browning T H	May Fred
Brian T B	Maycock Thos
Busby Jos	Meyer Fred H
Bunker D W	Mickle Geo W
Burrows Wm	Mitchell Wm
Bunting Jas	Moller Hans
Carter Erastus T	Moore J D
Call Chester	Moore R C
Carrigan Jas W	Montgomery R E
Carlson O P	McGregor Alex
Cameron H C 2	McLauren Jas
Cater Wm	McQuiston Jeff
Calhoun Jas Jos	McLean John
Chamberlain T T	McHale Thos
Clark Geo	McMaster Wm
Clark & Co	Newman Wm A
Clark Jos	Newin W W
Cobbabe F F	Newson W D
Cook G W	Nelson A
Cook T W	Oblad J F
Colwell Robt	Olson P
Cochran R B	Ortman Henry
Coop John S	Parker Wm
Crosley E	Peck M H
Cutley Wm	Perkins V Gideon
Davis Edwin W	Peck Jos
Davis David L	Pedersen Mads
Davis David 2	Potvin A
Day Chas	Polton Jas
Desanles Julia	Rader C T
Deppe Wm	Rager Wm H 2
Dimmock Geo	Reidhead Jno
Downer Albert	Rudy Geo H
Drake T J	Sayers Wm
Duncan Miles	Schmack Chas
Dugard F P	Sherwood Jas J
Dudler Albert	Snow S
Duncanson D	Snyder John
Eklund A E	Snowball Jno
Ely John	South Chas
Errickson C L	Thirkill C
Fairfield W H 2	Thorn A
Fant Wm N	Thompson T C
Frazer Alex	Treceder R M
Gill Adam H	Tract Mr
Gossner B	Valentine Jas
Gray N F	Walker M H
Gray John	Wade Geo C
Gregory J K	Walker W H
Guthrie Jas M	Webb M T
Hancock John	Whitney C W
Halvorsen C	Whitelock E
Haines Harry	Whitemore Chas
Hausford John	Whitehead Geo A
Hazell Henry	Wiggle E
Hall Thos	Willard H
Hamilton W	Williams Christ
Hadfield Thos	Williams & Rachel
Hauks Alva	Wodoms Richd M
Haney J M	Wolf I M
Harris Jno	Wright John
Hawkins S S	Wright Geo
Harwood Jonas	Wyatt John
Heyhoe Jno	
Hellstrom J A	
Hirsche J M 3	
Hirst Jno	

LADIES' LIST.

Ajax Mrs Wm	Hocking Mrs Jane
Allen Mrs Julia	Hunt Mrs Saml
Ashby Miss L A 2	Jones Miss Ann
Barlow E or S	Lees Mrs Stephen
Beard Mrs Emma	Newman Bessie
Bishop Miss E	Odell Miss M
Bradshaw Sarah A	Park Miss Isabell
Burt Miss Jane	Perry Mrs Ann
Burton Mrs W	Radsborough Mary
Bull Miss Annie	Rogers Emeretta
Cook Miss Ann	Sands Miss Jennie
Danielson Christina	Sackett Mrs P E
Fredericksen Mrs	Sanders Mrs M J
Green Mrs Betsey	Thompson Mercy B
Gunn Harriet	Whittaker Hannah
Hadley Miss Jane	Williams Florinda
Hamber Rachel	Wilson Miss E
Hale Mrs Margt	Wright Mrs
Harrington Mrs	
Hall Miss Charlotte	
Horrocks Catharine	

Persons inquiring for the above letters are requested to state when advertised.

A. W. STREET.

Postmaster

POST OFFICE SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH
DEC. 13, 1869.

List of unmailable letter, or letters that cannot be forwarded, because not properly prepaid:—

Beckstead Thos, Jordan, U
Chadwick Abm, Ogden, Hole, U
Courtney J H, Kimbalville, Tex
Ellis Mr, Corinne, U
Farnsworth S M, Pleasant Grove, U
Felph Wm, Pleasant Grove, U
Houtz Phillip, Springfield, U
Heaton Clarissa, Council Bluffs, Iowa
Heaton, W C, Portage, U
Hemenway Mina, Petersburg, U
Hubbard & Spencer, Chicago, Ill, 2
Livingston Chas, Ogden, U
Painter Jane, Brigham City
Pack Ward E, Quincy, Ill
Petersen L P, Spanish Fork, U
Rix Annie, San Francisco, Cal
Reeves J H, New York, N Y
Swanson P A, San Francisco, Cal
Stewart Saml, Castle Rock, U
Teasdale S P, Ogden, U
Wylie Olio, Corinne, U.

The above will be sent to the Dead Letter Office in one week from this date, unless the writers call and have the necessary stamps affixed.

A. W. STREET, Postmaster.

BRANCH OFFICE

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FLORENCE

READ THIS!

THE FOLLOWING IMPORTANT CORRESPONDENCE explains itself—

CHALLENGE TO SEWING MACHINE MEN.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., August 21, 1869.

Agents for all Sewing Machines, Louisville, Ky.—Gentlemen: We hereby challenge you to exhibit your Sewing Machines for premium at the Kentucky State Fair, commencing September 14, 1869.

The absence of any Sewing Machine, with its representative, at the designated time and place, will be regarded as an acknowledgment of defeat and inability to compete.

KENNEDY & CHURCHILL,

Agents Singer Sewing Machine, 160 Fourth St. GEO. W. SCOVILLE, Agent Improved Howe Sewing Machine, 106 Fourth Street.

CHALLENGE ACCEPTED.

Messrs. Kennedy & Churchill, Agents Singer Machine, and Geo. W. Scoville, Agent Howe Machine.—In response to a challenge you published in the "Courier-Journal" of the 22d inst., permit us to ACCEPT your challenge to exhibit our Sewing Machine for the FIRST PREMIUM at the coming Kentucky State Fair. As you have thrown down the gauntlet, we most cheerfully pick it up.

JNO. McCONNELL & CO.,

Agents Florence Sewing Machine, No. 110 Fourth Street.

THE RESULT.

The FLORENCE FAMILY SEWING MACHINE was awarded the TWO HIGHEST PREMIUMS at the Kentucky State Fair over ALL ITS COMPETITORS, and was declared by all who examined it to be THE BEST SEWING MACHINE on exhibition.

The following is a list of the ladies and gentlemen who composed the Committee, and by whom the premiums were awarded.

DR. BROWN, Chairman,

Eminence, Ky.

MRS. W. BENEDICT,

MRS. JUDGE LOGAN

MRS. E. LOW,

HON. GEO. E. H. GRAY.

REASONS.

1—Simplicity and great range of work. 2—Its making four different stitches, viz: the lock stitch, double lock stitch, knot stitch, and double knot stitch. 3—Its reversible feed motion, operated by simply turning a thumb screw, enabling the operator to run the work right or left, and convenience of self-fastening the ends of seams. 4—The perfect finish and substantial manner in which the Machine is made. 5—The rapidity of its work, and the quality of the work done. 6—Its self-adjusting tension.

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