

A Catholic Centenary In Australia.

In a recent issue of the Sydney "Morning Herald" there appeared a very interesting article from the pen of Mr. James T. Donovan, dealing with the humble beginnings of the Catholic Church in Australia.

Of these three Catholic priests, one only was allowed to exercise his functions as a minister of religion in Australia. The Rev. James Dixon was granted "conditional emancipation" by Governor Philip Didley King early in April, 1803.

With this proclamation, which is dated April 19, 1803, there were published on April 21 a set of regulations to be observed by the Rev. Mr. Dixon and the Catholic congregation in this colony.

The first mass under the regulations published in the "Government Gazette" was celebrated in the vicinity of the Circular Quay at nine o'clock in the morning of Sunday, May 15, 1803.

The official permission for attendance at Mass was revoked within 12 months. There had been a "rising" among the prisoners in March, 1804,

and the Sunday "meetings" were discontinued on the ground that they were "gatherings of traitors." Yet it is recorded of the Rev. Mr. Dixon that when the prisoners rose in revolt, "he accompanied the commanding officer and exerted himself nobly on the side of order and humanity."

From 1808 until 1817 the Catholics in New South Wales were without minister or ministrations. In 1817 the Very Rev. Jeremiah Francis Flynn arrived in Sydney. He had not been appointed by the Home Government, and Governor Macquarie would not recognize him or give him the desired permission to officiate as a priest.

Archdeacon John McEneroe, who arrived in 1832, Dr. William Bernard Ullathorne (1833), Archbishop John Bede Polding (1835), Archdeacon Rigney (1838), Bishop Francis Murphy (1838), and Bishop Wilson, of Hobart (1842), are counted among the ecclesiastics who have "built up" the Catholic Church in Australia.

Archbishop Polding, who had charge of the See of Sydney from 1835 till his death in 1877, was succeeded by the Most Rev. Roger Bede Vaughan, who died while on a visit to England in 1883.

Archbishop Murphy, of Hobart, and Bishop Murray, of Maitland, are the two veteran members of the present Australian hierarchy. Dr. Murphy, who has worn the mitre of a bishop 56 years, came from India to Tasmania in 1865.

The spot on which the first mass was celebrated 100 years ago is not known. All the traditions of the "nursery-stage" of the Catholic Church in Sydney cling about St. Mary's Cathedral.

like the outstretched wings of a carved angel over them. And with the Benedictine Bishop and the pioneer priest there are two other "faithful servants well remembered"—Archdeacon McEneroe and the Rev. Daniel Power, who came to Sydney in 1827 and who died at Parramatta in 1830.

MORMON METHODS

It seems, according to missionary reports, that out in the Tuamotu Islands the inhabitants, called Kanaks, have been afflicted with Mormon evangelizers, and that the Catholic Church there has had no end of trouble, especially on account of the vile methods used by these people to deceive the natives.

The following can be evolved in the brain of man. The Pope permits himself to be called the Vicar of the Son of God. These words form the chronogramme VICARIUS FILII DEI.

The Mormon leaders alone, however, set forth these doctrines and ideas; the subordinates are not allowed to so speak. They give the Bible, as a work of God, to the people, they are seeking to convert, to read; and yet in Mormon books the Bible is represented as the sole cause of the corruption of the world.

Here is a really funny piece of reasoning, as it is described in the missionary's letter; but the humor vanishes, when we consider the harm that is being done by such tactics. The attack is on the Pope.

Here is the anti-Christ and unspeakable base; why, they say, not so long ago a certain person visited the Vatican and saw there horrors of every description; it is not said just what they were, probably a more delightful state of shuddering abhorrence may be experienced, by leaving particulars out and maintaining a vague uncertainty.

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His

THE LAST HOLINESS, Pope Leo XIII. 4.04 o'clock on Monday, July 13, 1903. The venerable Pontiff came peacefully to his death. The death came peacefully, and he was conscious when he opened his eyes, and then closed them. The words were "Blessed be God." The final scene was profoundly touching. Pope's death having since noon, his death was surrounded by practitioners of the Sacred and the whole Pontiff's nephews from the doctors.