

## EDITORIAL NOTES.

Continued from first page.

By the recent death of Baron Schorlemer-Alst, which took place at Munster, Westphalia, the Catholics of Germany have suffered a great loss. For the past twenty-five years he has been a member of the Reichstag, and was always conspicuous in the annual congresses of German Catholics. Last year he took a prominent part in the congress at Cologne. He was a leading Catholic champion against the Kulturkampf. He leaves three sons, good Catholics and followers of his example, to mourn the loss which all Germany will feel.

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From Albany, N. Y., the following piece of pleasant news comes, under date of May 4.

In the Assembly, yesterday, Mr. Gerst presented a memorial which was adopted expressing to Lord Rosebery, Premier of England, and the leaders of Irish reforms in Parliament the great interest of United States people in his policy towards Ireland and the hope that the time may not be far distant when Ireland may have the blessings of Home Rule; also expressing the belief in the ultimate success of the movement and declaring that the people of the State would greatly rejoice if it were recorded that under the ministry of Rosebery Home Rule for Ireland was finally realized."

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We are thankful to The Collegium, that bright little monthly from St. Dunstan's College, Charlottetown, P. E. Island, for the very fine tribute it pays the TRUE WITNESS in its April number. In referring to our St. Patrick's Souvenir number, the Collegium remarks that the arms of Prince Edward Island are not upon the Canadian shield that figures on our cover. This we certainly did not perceive; as the artist had the arms of Canada before him when making the design, we cannot imagine how the smallest, yet one of the most interesting Provinces, was omitted. It decidedly was not intentional. If the Island is less extensive than any of the other Provinces, it has produced more remarkable Canadians, proportionately speaking, than any other section of the Dominion. It is the most charming place on our broad map, and the patriotism, ability, and eloquence of its representatives have ever kept it in a front place.

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THE Austrian Baron Konigswater, who was a Jew, married a Catholic wife and subsequently became a Catholic. In his will the Baron's father imposed the condition that if the son became a Christian he should pay one million florins to Jewish public charities. It was a good thing for the Jewish charities that the Baron did become a Catholic, and what is better, it was a good thing for the Baron himself.

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Few religious congregations have developed more rapidly than the Oblates of Mary Immaculate. By the census at the close of last year it is found that the order numbered eleven bishops; the number remains the same, for the death of Archbishop Tache only removed one member of the order to make way for another, in the person of Mgr. Langevin; six hundred and ninety-three fathers, three hundred and fifty-three novices, and four hundred and seventeen lay brothers, making in all one thousand four hundred and seventy-four members. At the end of last year there were also four hundred and sixty-four students preparing to enter the various novitiates. Canada has been one of the most important fields of Oblate missionary labor. This country has been blessed with the

presence of that splendid order especially during the last half century, and a great deal of the missionary work done throughout the wilds of the primeval forest, and the Indian settlements of the great West and North, is due to the Oblates of Mary Immaculate.

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A BILL was recently brought in by the Delaware Legislature to make Good Friday a legal holiday. It was defeated. The result of the vote does not speak very well for the intelligence, sentiment, or Christianity of the majority in that important body. There is, however, a consolation in the fact that the observance of that most sacred day does not in any way depend upon the votes of the Delaware representatives. The fitting commemoration of the most tragic and sublime event in the annals of time will not be affected by the action of any human legislators. Such a rejection only emphasizes the weakness of that would-be independent power.

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THERE has been a marked change, during the past year, in the emigration figures in Ireland. During 1894 only 35,959 emigrants left Ireland; a large number, but still 12,287 less than in the year 1893. In 1851 the statistics of emigration were first collected, and last year's figures have been the lowest in the forty-three years. Two causes might possibly be assigned for the decrease; either that affairs in Ireland are much improved, or that the population has so diminished, that there are very few left to emigrate. We hope that the former is the real reason of the change.

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HERE is a piece of news from New York. It is pretty vague, perhaps, but of course all great undertakings are more or less so at the hour of their inception. Probably in a short time, when the movement becomes better organized, we will have a more exact idea of the methods to be proposed and line of conduct to be followed. For the present, however, the wire only says:

"A movement has been set on foot to hold a convention of Irish-Americans in one of the larger cities at an early date. A number of gentlemen who have been prominent in the Irish cause, and who are of various schools of political thought, have decided to inaugurate a new and bolder policy in the interest of Irish independence.

"While admitting that the Parnell, or Parliamentary movement, as far as the cause of Irish nationality is concerned, is dead, and that the Home Rule question has been ruled out of practical British politics by the British people, the new movement will devote itself to forcing the Irish question upon the attention of the world in such a manner as it is claimed will inevitably compel a settlement more satisfactory to Ireland than any heretofore offered by any British party.

"The promoters of the new movement have been driven, they declare, to adopt the alternative suggested by Mr. Gladstone in moving his Home Rule bill, and will try to make the demands of Ireland a subject for international consideration. Several hundred Irish-Americans, it is announced, have pledged their sympathy and co-operation, and the names are representative of every section of the United States."

## A REPLY TO "JUSTICE."

To the Editor of THE TRUE WITNESS:

SIR,—My heart is oppressed with terrible misgivings, for a letter in your issue of the 24th ult. has taught me that "Justice" is not on our side, but on the other. "Justice" claims that I did not write like a sensible man! Well, if I did not, my only defence is, that I was writing about McCarthy! Again, he states that my fellow sinner "J.A.J." and myself have written lines that "hurt rather than help our cause." With whom, dear "Justice?" With our fel-

low-citizens who are Protestants? No, for the great majority of them look upon Dalton as the exponent of principles which they would not stoop to adopt. They are right-thinking, respectable men, and are not the sort to countenance the vicious schemes of the once successful, but now disappointed and virulent demagogue. Let me point to his henchman's crushing defeat in Protestant Hall-damand to prove that Respectability does not follow the banner of McCarthy. Doubtless the digestive apparatus of each of the "ignorant few" whom "Justice" mentions, finds it difficult to assimilate food unwholesome to the system of their idol.

"Justice" may be a very well-meaning man, but he is an adept in the art of making himself appear the opposite. He is also a very inconsistent man. He says: "Love your neighbor as yourself," and a moment later tells your readers, by implication, that we are boxers and insulters! But mark the tail he has given his letter, for it is a very remarkable tail. He writes: "Let us speak for our separate schools, but let us speak in a sensible and right way." Very well, but does he mean it? How is it that the voice of "Justice" has never been heard (in a "sensible" or any other way) in defense of the rights of the minority in Manitoba, or in denunciation of the mountebanks who would destroy "our" separate schools, which he appears to love so well? And again, why is he so eager to criticize those who have (even in a "senseless" fashion) attempted both? A baby could give the answer.

Our quarrel is not with Respectability, and Respectability has sufficient penetration to see that such is the case. We look upon as enemies all those who are against us, let them be Protestants, timid Catholics, Mahomedans or what you like; and ere "Justice" writes again, as a "sensible" man he should drop his present *nom de plume* and adopt another more indicative of the temper of him who fears to draw upon his head the wrath of the "ignorant few" and of the intolerant.

Doubtless I would have pleased this meek "Justice" had I got upon my knees and implored "dear Dalton" to spare our schools; to promise him a basket of plums if he would but only hold his terrible hand; to tell him that he is our neighbor, and although a queer coon, he is very much beloved by us; that we consider him to be a very "sensible" man with a strict sense of justice; that we are willing to allow him to place his foot upon our necks through love for him.

All this might please "Justice," but I cannot and will not do it, for, luckily, I have got beyond swaddling clothes, and although I am a supporter of separate schools it does not follow that I am a school-boy. J. M.

## ST. MARY'S CHURCH.

The feast of the Patronage of St. Joseph was appropriately celebrated last Sunday evening at St. Mary's Church, corner Craig and Panet streets. After Vespers Rev. D. P. McMenamin ascended the pulpit and delivered a very elo-

quent and practical sermon on the "Great Sacrament of the Altar—the Holy Eucharist." He said there were a number of mysterious facts and miracles about this sacrament. It was that by the power of God one substance was changed into another; that by His power, through the ministry of His priests, the substance of bread was transformed into His own sacred body. He pointed out the distinction between substance and accidents, and clearly demonstrated that the substance of a thing was that which did not change; the accidents were those qualities which were inherent in the substance. All through the sermon was interesting and listened to with devout attention. At the solemn Benediction which followed, Rev. Fathers O'Donnell and McMenamin occupied seats in the sanctuary, Rev. Father Shea acting as celebrant. The choir, under the supervision of Messrs. James Wilson and Paquet, discussed very excellent music.

## ROMAN NEWS.

A Catholic bank is to be established in Milan, and much is hoped from the movement. A district committee at a meeting held a few days ago under the presidency of His Eminence Cardinal Ferrari decided to take steps toward this end, and it is to be called the Bank of St. Ambrose.

The Holy Father has expressed the conviction that the Church will ultimately triumph over political hindrances which have a tendency to prevent the union of churches of the East and West. He exhorts Catholics to pray for this cause, the day of the realization of which, he truly says, will be memorable for the Church, giving to all nations a new religious life.

The facade of the Papal Jubilee Church of San Gioacchino, in the Prati di Castello, which has been very artistically decorated, has just been uncovered. The colonnade is of red Baveno granite, and the interior of the portico of azure granite from the Pyrenees. It is crowned with a symbolical frieze, and there is a beautiful mosaic representing the Last Supper and another showing the reunion of every nation in the adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

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