

efficient educators. The fact cannot be disputed, whatever the cause may be, which is probably because the members of these orders live under a stricter discipline than the teachers of the Protestant schools. Besides, they have devoted their lives to the work in which they are engaged, and they take a more lively interest in their daily work because they are devoted to it through the motives of serving God and of fulfilling their duty. A religious motive is the strongest possible incentive to zeal, and is the surest of all motives toward the attainment of success.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

We are pleased to learn that the report of the serious illness of the Very Rev. Father Soullier, Superior of the Oblates of Mary Immaculate, was greatly exaggerated. The N. W. Review says that his recent indisposition has not prevented him from transacting the usual business of his office.

It has been announced by the German, a paper of Berlin, Prussia, that owing to the large number of Poles who have made their home in America, a Polish prelate, the Most Rev. Archbishop Hryniewiecki, of Wilna, will soon come to reside in Washington, where a Polish school for higher education is to be erected under his direction. It is supposed, though it is not officially announced, that the object of his mission is the reorganization of the Polish clergy. It is not stated whether or not his jurisdiction is expected to be extended to Canada.

The Belfast Orangemen took occasion anew to manifest their uncontrollable bigotry, as soon as the Duke and Duchess of York left that city after their recent visit thereto. They seem to have been angered by the refusal of the Duke to make his visit the nucleus of an anti-Nationalist or a Unionist demonstration. As soon as the Royal party were gone, the lodges poured forth a lawless horde who proceeded to start a riot, throwing stones at the houses of Catholics, and breaking their windows. The plate glass windows of some merchants were broken by volleys of stones, and the windows of a house in which the St. Vincent of Paul Society holds its meetings were treated in a similar way. The fact that the St. Vincent's Society is a purely charitable organization did not save their property from this violence.

CATHOLIC COLLEGE.

The Northwest Review, the able and vigorous Catholic organ of the Province of Manitoba, contains in its issue of 21st Sept., a couple of letters complaining of the unjust treatment of Catholic teachers by the School Board of Regina. There is a large percentage of Catholic children attending the Public schools of that city, and Catholics constitute a considerable proportion of the population, so that they pay also a considerable share of school taxes, nevertheless the School Board has not had a Catholic member, nor has a Catholic teacher been employed by it during the last twelve years. Recently two Catholic teachers of ability applied for positions on the staff, but teachers of an inferior grade were selected. Catholics are becoming convinced that it is a standing rule with the Regina School Board that "No Catholic need apply," and it is probable that to change such a state of affairs, a Catholic Separate school will be established.

At the meeting of the Baptist Sunday School Association, held last week in Toronto, the Rev. Mr. Eaton declared that "one of the most astounding facts of modern life is the blank ignorance of Christians in regard to the Scriptures, the result, he believed, of inadequate early training." He regards the home as the place where a knowledge of religion is to be obtained and he would give more for one week of lessons conscientiously or unconsciously learned at the mother's knee than for a whole year of Sunday school teaching. The Sunday school, it is of course, a necessary means of instruction, but the fact that children receive a short religious instruction there once a week does not exempt parents from the duty of instructing them at home, or at least of taking care that they be instructed daily in the school-room. It has always been a matter of wonder to us that so many Protestants see no need of having religious teaching in the schools, and the Baptists have been among the most strenuous opponents thereto. The information given by Mr. Eaton on this point should have the effect of making them less opposed to the religious edu-

cation which is given in the Catholic schools. Religion must be taught in the schools, if the rising generation are to be good citizens, knowing their duties to God, their neighbors and themselves.

The official report recently issued by the Registrar General for Ireland gives the gratifying information that the spread of education in Ireland has been very great during the last thirty-five years. The Manchester Guardian says: "The progress of education may be roughly estimated from the number of persons married who signed the marriage registers or certificates, and the advance shown is very satisfactory. In 1856 only 61 in every hundred men and 50 in every hundred women signed their own names. In 1886 the percentage had risen to 76 in the case of the men and 74 in the case of the women, while last year the numbers stood at 83 and 85 respectively. In the birth statistics, the proportion of illegitimate births is exceedingly small, and the Protestant parts of the country compare unfavorably with the Roman Catholic. So far as the ratio of illegitimate births is to be taken as a test of morality, Ireland is, with the exception of Greece, the most moral country in Europe."

The Rev. Minot Savage, in an address at the Unitarian Conference, recently held at Saratoga, N. Y., declared that the chief cause which hinders the erection of Unitarian churches is the fact that Unitarian doctrines have spread widely among the members of other Churches. He rejoices at the spread of Unitarian doctrines, but protests against the dishonesty of outwardly professing a creed in which one does not believe. He says: "There are too many who remain in churches whose doctrines they repudiate; too many preachers who declare in their sermons what is contradicted in the creeds of their churches."

The allegation is undoubtedly true, as the numerous trials of ministers for heresy, which have taken place within the last few years, prove that it is a common thing now for ministers to deny the divinity of Christ which is the foundation of Christianity, and as a matter of course, where the clergy show this example, the negation of that doctrine must spread rapidly among the laity.

CATHOLIC PRESS.

There are lots of cures for drunkenness, lots of so-called scientific ways of overcoming the habit; but there are none so effectual to a Catholic as the total abstinence pledge, and the help of God to keep it.—Sacred Heart Review.

An awful act of desecration was perpetrated at St. Joseph's Cathedral, Buffalo, N. Y., recently. The tabernacles of four of the seven altars were despoiled, including that of the beautiful marble high altar. Fortunately the gold and silver chalices and other sacred vessels were locked in the safe, and the thief got but one vessel, of comparatively inferior value.

The Presbyterian ministers of St. Louis have decided that they may marry divorced people, if there is a license issued by the state. They can not exercise any conscientious scruples in this matter, but must go right ahead and tie the knot—not so tight, however, that it can not be unlocked during the lifetime of the contracting parties, so that they may marry as often as Henry VIII. did, if they so desire and the state makes no objection.—Sacred Heart Review.

There is no appreciable improvement in the outlook for the winter in Ireland. John Dillon, when asked the grounds for his action in demanding the immediate assembling of Parliament to deal with Irish distress, said: "We want to force the government to take timely measures against the impending danger." At Cape Clear Island, off the coast of southwest Cork, a choleraic outbreak has taken place such as usually heralds the dreaded famine fever.—Catholic Citizen.

The Emperor of Germany takes himself too seriously. "The divine right of kings," which never existed as generally understood, is still in full vigor for him. He regards himself as the absolute lord of the country. At Coblenz, the other day, he said that his grandfather had raised the throne on high, "with its awful responsibility to the Creator alone, from which no man, no House of Parliament, no people can release the prince." Well, some nations have "released" some princes from all their responsibilities, and some peoples may do so again. Monarchies are played out—it has come the turn of the people to rule themselves.—Catholic Columbian.

The German Catholics of Ohio, in convention assembled, adopted the following declaration, which may be commended to Catholics in other parts of the country: "We deplore the existence of so many unprincipled and sensational newspapers, which, instead of opposing public vice, encourage the same by the indecent description of the most shameful acts. We applaud the zeal and loyalty of the Catholic organs of this state, and bid them to continue in the fight for what is good and just.

At the same time we wish to call upon our Catholic brethren to support our Catholic press by their subscriptions and by helping it to obtain business advertisements, and we agree to encourage such business enterprises which interest themselves in our Catholic press."—Boston Republic.

The New York Tribune, in an editorial on "The Bible and Archaeology," considers that the Christian Church escaped irrevocably committing itself to the chronology which put the creation of man about four thousand years before the coming of Christ, only by a happy accident. It says: "The apparent chronological data of the Bible might have been incorporated into the authoritative teachings of Christianity, in which case Christians of today would have been compelled either to give up a tenet of their faith or reject the historical evidence of archaeology. That fear might trouble non-Catholic Christians, but not the followers of that Church which Christ promised to keep free from all doctrinal error.—Boston Pilot.

The complaint is often made that Catholics are painfully wanting in sociability, and that people may kneel together in our churches for years without ever coming to know one another. It is a curious fact that a prominent Presbyterian divine has just stigmatized over sociability as the cause of the failure of the Protestant churches. "The sooner we come back to the idea of the church as a place for religious worship, and not as a place for social recognition and mutual acquaintance," says Dr. Witherspoon, "the sooner will the non-church goers come to feel at home, and to come and go as they now do in business houses and places of popular amusement." Sociability in itself has nothing to do with religion; however, every pastor knows how much depends on maintaining socialities and "keeping the young people together." If there were less snobbish and social aloofness among Catholics, there would be fewer mixed marriages.—Ave Maria.

A correspondent of the London Spectator travelling in Ireland, writes to his paper about the impending famine:—

Few persons in England realize what the failure of the potato means to the Irish peasant. They are so entirely dependent upon it for food that a poor yield means privation, while a really bad crop brings them to the verge of actual starvation. In the matter of dietetics there is no more repulsive food than the Irish peasant's diet. He knows of only two staple articles of food, potatoes and Indian meal. Deprive him of these and he starves. With a potato he eats them with buttermilk for breakfast, dinner and supper, and when they are gone Indian meal takes their place. He may obtain a piece of fat bacon or a salt herring two or three times a year as a luxury, and these, with a little ale, complete his scale of diet. The first-mentioned articles are not food from the peasant's point of view. They are "kitchen"; that is, a savory to render the potatoes a little more appetizing, and help him to eat enough to keep soul and body together.

The lot of the Hindoo peasant is even worse than that of the Irish. Both are under alien government and hunger is their chronic condition. And yet they are not "loyal" to their benevolent rulers!—Boston Pilot.

The Protestant doctrine of "the right of private judgment of the Bible" has been abandoned. It was a religion of Christ and a Church of the Scriptures for himself. So the right which is the basic principle on which Protestantism attempted to justify its revolt against the Church has been cast overboard. And now heresy trials are in order. If a Protestant may not judge the Bible for himself, he must interpret it as his denomination interprets it or be excommunicated. That's reasonable. So the Rev. W. H. Houston has been on trial before the Southern Presbytery, at Louisville, for heresy, because he holds views on sanctification that the other ministers say embody "dangerous tendencies." They have condemned him. He has appealed to the National Assembly. He ought to change his doctrine or quit the Presbyterian fold—the day for individual interpretation has gone by.—Catholic Review.

At a recent international congress of psychology, Dr. Muller gave an interesting historical sketch of the etiology of self-murder, and, by means of an elaborate series of statistics, traced to alcohol the primary cause of its marked increase of late years. The author estimates the number of suicides in Europe at fifty thousand a year, thus showing that the evil is increasing at a greater rate than the population. The most favored month for suicides is June, the least December. Early morning is chosen in preference to the night, while the mechanic class furnishes the largest number of subjects and the peasant the least. Dr. Muller considers brandy the most pernicious form of alcohol, and traces to its influence the blunting of those weapons which in the struggle for life are the most necessary to sustain the conflict.—Sacred Heart Review.

Charts of the Stars.

Under the direction of Rev. Father Hogan, S. J., director of the observatory of Georgetown University, Washington, D. C., charts of over two hundred of the variable stars will shortly be published. A specimen copy of this celestial atlas was exhibited at the Astronomical Congress in Bamberg, and its great value was immediately recognized.

THE FAMINE IN IRELAND.

Views of an Able and Observant Journalist.

HAROLD FREDERIC WRITES FROM PERSONAL EXAMINATION OF THE FAILURE OF THE HARVEST—TERRIBLE OUTLOOK FOR THE PEOPLE—AN ABSENCE OF AGRARIAN DISTURBANCES—WILL THE GOVERNMENT LEND A HELPING HAND?

The well-known American journalist and author, Harold Frederic, writes as follows from Glangariff to the London Daily Chronicle: "The inquirer in Ireland finds always two stereotyped classes of authorities—the people who think that it is going to be a very bad winter and the people who declare that there is really no cause for apprehension whatever. For the first time in an experience of some fourteen years I find this latter most implacable optimism in Munster admit that there are grounds for nervousness."

Two districts I have personally inspected within the past fortnight, both in county Cork. The first is in a fairly prosperous country, of which Youghal, Middleton, Carrigrohilly and Cloyne are the principal points of population. Here, as elsewhere, the potatoes are bad, but here, under ordinary circumstances, this would be of secondary importance if the barley had been well saved. It is a brewing and malting district, and barley is its money crop. When I came away no part of the crop was likely to be saved from Canon Keller down they took the most despondent view of the calamity, however, and I see that later reports speak of the ruin as if it were complete. This, with the failure of the potatoes, will for once, put East Cork in almost as bad a position as her immemorably afflicted western sister.

The little peninsula of West Carbery, which lies between Roaring Water bay and Dunmanus bay, has a heart-rending history. Skibbereen, which stands at its inland gate possesses a horrible supremacy over all other parishes in Ireland in the matter of human deaths by starvation. Here everything, with a solitary exception, to be examined later, is worse than it has been before in fifty years. The course of the potatoes are here the great staple food crop and they are practically a total failure. Perhaps a fifth or a sixth part of them can be used for human eating, but even this selected fraction is of miserable quality, wet, coarse grained and tasteless.

The explanations of this disastrous failure to the potato bear a sinister likeness to the accounts of 1847. There was an exceptionally wet spring which delayed the planting generally a month. Then as the belated shoots came to a certain height there came across the land a kind of blighting mist which withered the plants as it passed. Most of the mountain people speak of this as a storm or a flood which misled me at first, but it seems that they all mean the same thing—a sort of sultry and sweating mist which lay upon the fields for two or more days. The exception noted above in the general disaster is that of the green crops. All over county Cork, from Youghal to Glangariff, the cabbages, turnips, mangel wurzels, and all the rest are in a most luxuriant state. I have never seen them so big and fine as to tops before, and the roots seem to be all right as well.

What makes the outlook in this Schull-Crookhaven district peculiarly bad is that the fishing has also failed. Ever since Baroness Burdett-Coutts gave her magnificent present of cutter boats, nets, tackle, school plant, etc., to the fishing communities of Baltimore and Cape Clear, it has been growing increasingly hard for the unaided villages further west to make a living out of the sea. The boats and the fishermen have been able to cripple and well-nigh stamp out the unassisted industries of their neighbors. The people on the mainland have almost given up fishing. The fishing itself on this coast has been perverted queer all the year. It has put no money into anybody's pocket to the present, and promises little or nothing for the autumn.

By the 1st of November the five hundred people on Long Island will be without food or the means of procuring it. On the mainland it is not so bad as this, but it is very bad indeed. There are several thousand people in this little peninsula who will not keep alive through the winter without assistance. There is, of course, the considerable government problem of providing seed potatoes for next spring. But there is the more urgent popular problem of seeing that famine and fever do not begin their work before the government's slow machinery can be set in motion.

Thus far I catch not a sign of what used to be called agrarian disturbance or agitation. No doubt landlordism is still on the backs of the people, but various legislative readjustments and the altered spirit of administration have between them put the burden about so that it no longer presses on open sores. There are still too many constables to be seen, but they have nothing to do but watch the weather and pray for rain to flood the trout streams for them. Even in this Glangariff district to which I have just come there is nothing visibly remaining of the fierce spirit I remember there in 1847. The potatoes here are a total failure, among the poorer farmers at least, and this is one of the very poorest districts in all Ireland, but one hears not a word about "landlords" or "agents" or "rents."

Later on these words may come to the top in popular speech, but at present they are not mentioned. Don't imagine from this that any notable political change has been effected.

The people are Nationalists as sincerely as ever they were, and they like the system of misgovernment and muddling under which they live as little as ever they did. It is only that the abuses of the system have become temporarily obscured or abated in the people's consciousness. They are for the moment thinking of other things. An acute touch of distress in the bad districts, however, would bring the subject sharply back into their minds again. If there is not speedy help that acute touch must surely come, and with it many things that no good person will welcome.

In his cable letter of Saturday to the American papers Mr. Frederic also takes up the subject of the starving people. No one fears, he says, that they will be allowed to die unless by reason of the clumsy workings of the ill-devised and clashing governmental machinery. Relief works will undoubtedly be started to enable the peasantry to earn enough for food, and though there must be a good deal of individual suffering, humanity will be spared the scandalous spectacle of other years.

THE THREATENING FAMINE.

Boston Republic.

With the imminence of famine in Ireland the land question comes again to the front with irresistible force. In no civilized country in the world save Ireland alone could the failure of a single crop bring about the awful condition of the people which prevailed in 1846-47 and 1879-80, and which now confronts the hapless tenant farmers. People in America inquire why it is that a potato blight can produce wholesale famine and put the Irish people in the position of beggars before the world. It is because the potato is the chief staple food of the people. All other crops and farm products must be sold to pay the rent. And the landlord must have his rent or the tenant goes out into the highways to die of hunger and exposure.

In the famine of 1846-47 over half a million people died in this way. They were compelled to give up the little remnant of a crop which the farms had yielded. But this was not enough, and the rapacious landlord evicted them, burned their cottages and their little furniture and left them absolutely without money, food or shelter. The same policy was attempted in 1879-80, but the Land League agitation brought the case of the Irish people before the civilized world and the hand of the brutal landlord was stayed. Money was raised in America, in Austria and in South Africa to buy food, and the pressure of public opinion forced England to modify the land laws.

But this modification acted only as a poultice to the sore. It did not eradicate the cancer that has been growing within. There was temporary relief but no permanent cure. Only the lance can effect that. The main trouble with Ireland is that she is systematically robbed, both by the imperial government and by the absentee landlords. In good times she is put to her best endeavor to pay her obligations and secure enough to eat. But when the crops are small or defective starvation stares her in the face. Ireland has been paying yearly for half a century about \$12,000,000 more than her proportionate share of the imperial revenue. She has, besides this been obliged to pay most exorbitant rents for the lands which her people lease for tillage. These enormous drains upon her industrial and economic resources have left her in a crippled condition financially. She has nothing laid away. When anything goes wrong, when there is a short crop or a worse blight, she has no money to purchase food. She must beg or starve.

Two years ago a royal commission, named by the Tory government and composed of experts, brought in a report showing that Ireland had been robbed of over \$600,000,000 in fifty years by the English government. Instead of proceeding to apply the remedy and to stop this terrible exaction, the Tory party appointed another commission to go over the same ground and bring in a different report. When the tenants ask for redress for landlord robberies and brutalities this same Tory government increases the military forces in the neighborhood and employs them to aid the crowbar brigade in their nefarious work of eviction and demolition.

It is little wonder then that Ireland is confronted with a serious famine, and that the Irish parliamentary leaders have requested Mr. Balfour to summon Parliament for the purpose of voting funds for relief in the threatened districts. It is a misfortune that at this critical juncture there should be a serious rift in the ranks of those who profess to be devoted to the cause of their country. If all the warring factions were united, if the fatal spirit of discord and disunion had not gained so firm a foothold, and if the Irish people could present a solid, united front in demanding justice, no government could withstand the attack. They devote their time to trying to annihilate each other rather than to fighting the common enemy. As a consequence their influence is reduced to the minimum. Their country, which is entitled to their endeavors, is left to the mercy of her traditional foes, the Tory landlords. Let us hope that the grave emergency which confronts the land will bring the leaders

to a realizing sense of their obligations and responsibilities, and that the Nationalists of all stripes will bury their animosities and bickerings and unite in one solid phalanx for Ireland and her freedom from British tyranny.

Missionary Beams.

From The Missionary.

The cleverest enemies of the Catholic Church are not those who vilify her, but those who try to stifle all mention of her.

Apropos of the report lately printed that the famous Protestant evangelist, Rev. B. Fay Mills, has abandoned the Presbyterian faith and united with the Unitarians, it has also been stated that another—the foremost of Protestant preachers—Mr. D. L. Moody, has a son who desires ordination to the Protestant ministry, but that Mr. Moody himself, while anxious to accomplish this result, is afraid to send his son to any of the Protestant seminaries, lest the rationalism and higher criticism with which they are all tainted would destroy the simple faith his son now possesses.

This is a caustic reflection on the state of scholastic Protestantism when so prominent a Protestant preacher notes the decay beginning at the top. Against the rapidly disintegrating armies of the sects, the united Catholic Church marches as a mighty host, its torches aflame with undying fires of faith, changeless and inexhaustible—scintillating the final victory, which centuries of battle have only deferred to enhance the glory of its consummation. Whatever is born of God overcometh the world. This is the victory that overcometh the world—our faith, St. John says. The Catholic faith, born of God, held by the Church inviolate and inerrant, must overcome the heresies invented by men. Protestantism, with its confusion of doctrines, cannot long satisfy the soul of man, which obtains rest in its search for God only in the knowledge of infallible truth. This the Catholic Church alone can give. The days are pregnant with hope.

The Archbishops of the United States are going to meet this year at Washington, and the date of their convocation has been announced for October 21. There are fourteen Archbishops now in that country, but one See is vacant, owing to the death of Monsignor Janssens.

K. S. J.

Toronto, Sept. 28, 1897.

CATHOLIC RECORD London Ont.: At the last regular meeting of St. Patrick's Auxiliary, No. 6, Knights of St. John, held on September 21, 1897, the following resolutions were adopted:

Whereas it has pleased Almighty God in His infinite wisdom to remove from home and friends our beloved sister Kate Landy, the members of St. Patrick's Auxiliary extend their deepest sympathy to sisters Louise and Maude Landy and the family of our late sister, and we pray that God in His infinite mercy and loving kindness will sustain them in this their hour of sad affliction; therefore be it

Resolved that the charter be draped for the period of three months, and these resolutions be engrossed on the minutes, a copy thereof tendered to Louise and Maude Landy, and published in the CATHOLIC RECORD, Catholic Register and the Knights of St. John.

Mary O'Reilly, Rec. Sec.

DISTRIBUTING BREAD AT MASS.

Two Thousand Needy Applicants Every Day at a Paris Church.

London, September 25.—The clergy of the Church of Sacre Coeur, Paris, distribute a pound of excellent bread at early Mass to destitute applicants, the sole condition being that they attend the service. The applicants on admission to the chapel receive a prayer-book, and after service, on handing back the book as they leave, each receives a pound loaf. The daily average of the number of applicants is two thousand. There are only about a dozen women and children, the majority being men of advanced years.

NEW BOOKS.

We are in receipt of a copy of Benigno Bros.' latest publication, an Illustrated Explanation of the Commandments, being a complete and thorough exposition of the commandments of God and of the Church; with numerous examples from Holy Scriptures, the Fathers, and other sources; adapted from the original of Rev. H. Gillias, D. D.; with a reflection and a practice on each commandment by Very Rev. Ferris Gledhill, C. S. R., Provincial of the St. Louis Province, and author of "Popular Instructions on Marriage," etc. Price, 75 cents. The publishers are to be commended for their enterprise as well as their thoughtfulness in presenting to the public such a complete and thorough explanation of the commandments in a handy volume and at such a low figure. That the book is all that is represented can be seen from its bearing the "Imprimatur" of the Archbishop of New York.

PRESENTATION TO M. J. O'REILLY, PRESIDENT OF THE LEO LITERARY SOCIETY.

From the Hamilton Herald of Sept. 28 we learn that the weekly meeting of the Leo Literary Society was held the previous evening in St. Mary's Hall. After the regular business had been transacted, J. D. Cherrier, on behalf of the society, presented the president with a very handsome smoking set and the following address:

To M. J. O'Reilly, President of the Leo Literary Society: On behalf of the officers and members of the Leo Literary Society, we beg to present you with a small token of our appreciation of your services in connection with the administration of the society's affairs, and also to assure you that they esteem it an honor to have served under you as their president. They hope and trust that you will long be spared to continue your good work and in the hours of depression you may turn to this small present, and under the spell of My Lady Nicotine be soothed and comforted with the remembrance that the members of this society are always your best friends.

Signed on behalf of the society, president, J. P. Dougherty, Vice-President, John W. Smith, Secretary.

Hamilton, September 27, 1897.

Mr. O'Reilly made a very feeling reply, and thanked the members for remembering him in such a substantial manner. The evening's programme was then proceeded with as follows: singing by James Williams, A. Burke and V. Burke; duet, Moosa, Nelson and A. Burke; harmonica solos, A. Burke and W. Kelly.