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### JOTTINGS

Nine French mayors have been suspended for having replaced crucifixes in the schools.

Mr. D'Arcy Scott has again announced himself for the Mayoralty of Ottawa.

Rev. Dr. Thompson, for eight years president of St. Francis Xavier College, Antigonish, has been appointed to the parish of Glace Bay, C.B.

Mr. John J. Rogers, Lindsay, has been elected as the representative of the Separate school teachers on the Advisory Board of Education.

Archbishop Quigley will pay a visit to Rome sometime after Christmas. This will be his first visit as Archbishop of Chicago.

A statue to the late Marquis of Salisbury was lately unveiled in London. The statue shows the late Premier in his robes as Chancellor of the University of Oxford.

As a result of the October Fair held in Ottawa for the benefit of St. Patrick's Orphan Asylum, the institution will be benefited to the amount of \$3,000.

Dr. J. K. Foran spoke last week to the Y.M.C.A. of Ottawa, his subject being "Some Lessons for Canadians" from Scotland's bards, Scott and Campbell.

It is stated that His Lordship Bishop Racicot, Auxiliary Bishop of Montreal, has been confined to his room for several days by an attack of apoplexy.

The Kaiser has just made his third visit to the ancient Benedictine Abbey at Maria Laach. He met with a cordial reception from the Abbot and the monks.

Among the bequests of Samuel Lewis, the recently deceased Jewish money lender of London, now payable on the death of his wife, is one of \$100,000 to the nuns of Nazareth House, Hammersmith.

St. Patrick's Chapel, in Westminster Cathedral, is not to be left neglected. Some children of the Emerald Isle are quietly taking steps to furnish it.

Bessie Glen Buchanan, a beautiful Irish-American girl of twenty, and a member of the staff of the Pittsburg Leader, has just published a book of thirty-seven poems, and during the past three years has an output of 180 poems to her credit.

During a two weeks' mission, just ended at St. Joseph's church, Girardville, Pa., held by priests of the Redemptorist Order, 800 male members of the congregation signed a written pledge not to enter a saloon on pay days, Saturday nights or Sundays.

Canon Sloan, one-time pastor of Fallowfield, was presented by his late parishioners with a purse of gold on the occasion of the celebration of his Silver Jubilee. This was a case of "absent but not forgotten."

Miss Margaret Anglin was awarded \$5,000 damages in her late suit against the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railway Company for injuries sustained through the negligence of the company about July, 1905.

A teacher in the Kingston Business College a few days ago lost her cheque for \$50.00. It was found and returned to its owner by a little boy, Norman Burns, son of Fireman John Burns and a pupil of St. Mary's School. Well done, Norman!

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Indianapolis, Ind., Nov. 19.—Nominations have closed for the election of officers by the United Mine Workers of America. John Mitchell for President, T. L. Lewis for Vice-President and W. B. Wilson for Secretary-Treasurer have no opposition.

Fifty thousand Polish children persist in refusing to respond in the German language to religious instruction in the public schools, and the Prussian Government continues to apply measures designed to convince the children and their parents that their resistance will be of no avail.

For the first time in many years the prayers after Mass have been recited in Irish in the cathedral at Waterford, Ireland. To Dr. Henbery, the celebrated Irish scholar, belongs the distinction of having been chosen to recite them.

### An Energetic Pastor

Some time ago a sketch, taken from an exchange, appeared in these columns, giving an account of the work of Rev. Father Crimmins of Chicago. The story told of the reformation brought about in the slum districts of the great city by the vigorous and often times original action of the priest, a reformation so complete that districts once writhing with squalor and vice became smiling centers in which virtue and its accompanying consequence, peace, now prevailed.

A reader of the Catholic Register interested in the Chicago priest by the sketch, took occasion on a recent visit to call upon Father Crimmins and see for herself something of the ways and methods by which his reforms were brought about. When the Toronto visitor and a friend called, Father Crimmins was found in the peaceful work of mowing the lawn in front of his house, and on the object of his visitors being declared, he at once placed himself at their disposal and an hour or more of his time was not so precious but that this very busy priest could spare it for the service and entertainment of his callers. Through every nook and corner of the parish residence and property Father Crimmins escorted his visitors, explaining as he went the brief history attached to each. The property is situated at the corner of Thirty-Second street and Emerald avenue. The parish is St. David's and the present incumbent is but a year in possession. On taking over his present work the chief obstacle experienced was the opposition to any departure from old and established forms. Father Crimmins believes in the betterment of material environment as an accompaniment to spiritual development. Consequently he tried at first to improve the habitations and streets of his people. His parishioners in this instance were not and are not of the poorest, but they were opposed to all local improvements. In a short time, however, they were brought to see that sanitary abodes and healthy and fair-seeming sidewalks were in no wise derogatory to the maintaining of old and respected traditions.

The streets are now paved and taxes for this and similar purposes no longer form an objection. House, school and church have been attended to. The presbytery, a solid brick house, plain but substantial and comfortable, was built in a month. The school-house contains ten rooms and basement, the latter used for gymnasium purposes, and was completed in three months. The upper flat contains a hall and this so far is the parish church. Though a hall it is fully equipped to serve church purposes. An altar, beautiful statues, handsome carpet, a baptismal font, a cabinet for holding the vestments and electric lights, are all here. Father Crimmins finds that entertainments to bring his people together are the most expedient means of procuring financial aid for the requirements of his parish. The debt during his year in the district has amounted to \$35,000. This is rapidly decreasing under the results from a series of local entertainments, and a bazaar from which Father Crimmins hoped to get five or six thousand dollars was in contemplation at the time of the call. Father Crimmins has established three choirs, one for the little girls, another for the boys and the third an adult choir. The block of church property now presents a fair and substantial front in a locality which a year ago thought little of religion or its requirements. Father Crimmins' energetic methods may be judged from a fact mentioned in the previous sketch, that when the people of his parish paid no heed to either admonition or warning, but continued to send their little ones to the saloon for beer, the children were met by the watchful pastor and the contents of the cans spilled upon the sidewalks. Such measures in the end prevailed. The present parish of St. David's and its already prosperous condition is another tribute added to the energy and earnest work of Father Crimmins, one of the zealous workers of the zealous Archbishop Quigley of Chicago.

### Bomb Explodes in St. Peter's

Rome, Nov. 18.—A bomb was exploded in St. Peter's to-day. The edifice was crowded and an indescribable scene of confusion followed. There were no fatalities. As soon as the echoes of the tremendous roar had ceased a canon sought by reassuring words to quiet the people, but in vain. They fled in all directions and a number of women fainted.

Women and children screamed and men tried to protect their families in the crush. The church is so large, however, that there was ample room for the crowd to scatter and no one was injured. No trace of the perpetrator of the deed has been found.

Since Saint Anacleto, who was ordained by Peter himself, erected an oratory in 90 A.D., on the site of the present basilica, to mark the spot where the remains of St. Peter are buried, no such dastardly occurrence is noted in the annals of the church.

To-day was the anniversary of the dedication of the basilica to St. Peter, and it was beautifully decorated for the occasion. Holy relics were exposed, and a large number of the faithful attended the service. Cardinal Rampolla, formerly papal secretary of state, was among those present. He took part in the service in the choir chapel.

The last Mass had just been concluded when the explosion occurred, and only one canon, who had not quite finished, remained at the altar of St. Petronilla. This altar is at the end of the right aisle, and it was near here that the bomb had been placed.

### TREMENDOUS ROAR.

As the canon turned to bless the communicants there was a tremendous roar, which echoed through the lofty arches of the immense dome like a thunder clap. At the same time a dense smoke spread throughout this portion of the basilica and a strong odor of gunpowder filled the air. Confusion and panic at once seized the people.

The canon at the altar tried to stem the tide of fear. He shouted: "Do not be afraid; it is nothing, merely the noonday gun."

His words, however, had little effect; they were refuted by the smoke and the pungent smell of powder, and the people continued their headlong flight. Chairs were overturned, making the confusion more serious. Men and women fled, stumbling in all directions, and the screams of children and cries of anguish were heard on all sides, and for a few moments it seemed as if nothing could obviate a grave disaster.

The vast size of the church, however, gave room for the crowd to scatter, and at the end of a few moments the people were surging toward the doors, excited and nervous, but orderly. As soon as the smoke cleared away a hasty examination showed that nobody had been hurt in the crush, and, furthermore, that no one had been wounded by the explosion. Calm was gradually restored and people returned to view the extent of the damage.

### POPE HEARS REPORT.

The Pope was engaged in his regular noon hour devotions when the bomb went off. He heard a muffled sound, which surprised, but did not alarm him. Monsignor Misciatielli, sub-prefect of the apostolic palaces, and Monsignor Bisletti, major domo of the Vatican, at once hurriedly entered the pontiff's chamber. They were so pale that the Pope immediately asked, "What has happened?" "Do not be alarmed, Holy Father," was the answer, "a bomb has exploded in the basilica, but fortunately there are no deaths to deplore, and no one has been wounded."

The Pontiff asked anxiously if the church had been injured. On being reassured he fell on his knees, saying he must implore mercy for the misguided perpetrator of the deed. A three days' service of praise will be celebrated in all the churches in expiation of this offence to religion.

### THIRD OUTRAGE.

This bomb explosion makes the third anarchist outrage in Italy in four days, the other two being the murder of Prof. Rossi in Naples yesterday, and the explosion of a bomb in front of the cafe Aragono in this city on Nov. 14. The attempt of to-day has caused deep-seated and universal horror and indignation on account of the locality selected by the miscreants, and the resentment of the people is very great. St. Peter's is the greatest basilica in Christendom. It took 350 years in the building and stands to-day a result of the efforts of 43 popes and the genius of Michael Angelo, Bramante and Rafael. The commission of such an outrage in such a place has called forth unlimited condemnation and is characterized as providing that the perpetrators of the crime were actuated by feelings worse than those which moved the Vandals and the Saracens.

The rumor having spread abroad that the Pope intended to visit St. Peter's to-day to pray before the tomb where the outrage was committed drew an unusually large crowd to the basilica. This rumor was unfounded.

The theory is held that this attempt was not directed against the papacy, but rather a challenge to society in general by attacking religion, the most sacred institution of the people.

The giving of gifts that are essentially Catholic is becoming more and more the custom amongst Catholic people, therefore, the Register begs to state to its readers that a magnificent stock of all classes of Devotional articles, such as Rosaries, in gold and silver, or precious stones (which are contained in satin lined boxes at a very low figure) as well as Prayer Books, and Sacred Pictures, Statues, and Statuettes, in endless varieties, can now be had in Toronto. A visit to the show rooms of W. E. Blake, 123 Church street, Toronto, will easily prove a very profitable one. Even evenings during December.

### MARRIED

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### Pray for my Soul

Pray for my soul. More things are wrought by prayer Than this world dreams of. Wherefore, let thy voice Rise like a fountain for me night and day. For what are men better than sheep or goats, That nourish a blind life within the brain, If, knowing God, they lift not hands of prayer, Both for themselves and those who call them friend? For so the whole round earth is every way Bound by golden chains about the neck of God. —Alfred Tennyson.

### To Our Blessed Mother

(A First Composition.)  
Mary, dearest Mother, Help, oh help, we pray, Your poor misguided children In exile far away. In distant lands, dear Mother, They seldom hear thy name; Whisper softly to them Of thy glorious Son. How He died to save them And suffered for their sake; Show them, dearest Mary, The safest path to take. So when their exile's over They may a refuge find In the Heart of Jesus, Who died to save mankind. —A. M. B.

Books make the best Christmas presents. The gift of a book carries no obligation nor does its acceptance. In most cases it is a gentle compliment to the literary tastes of both giver and receiver. When one sends a clever book to another it carries a sort of implication—"I have read this book and I think your own bright mind will appreciate it." (Perhaps there is a little egotism in that, but not enough to be offensive.) While there are many books every one has not the facility of procuring them. A package of books to your friend in the country is surely a great treat. Blake's Catholic Church Goods House, 123 Church street, Toronto, Canada, have over 3,000 titles of books on its shelves.

The funeral of the late Mr. Hurley of Lindsay was one of the largest ever seen in the town. Over one hundred carriages were in line.

The difference between buying poor furs and good furs is that when you put your money into poor furs they may wear a season—perhaps look well for a season, but they can't be made over, and they have no value after the season is gone.

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