

#### Father Sartori's Lecture on Ireland.

Rev. Con Luigi Sartori, pastor of St. Stephen's Church, Upper Falls, Baltimore county, recently returned from an extended tour through Europe, in the course of which he visited Ireland. The other day, at Abingdon, Hartford county he gave to his congregation an interesting discourse on the Emerald Isle. He paid a glowing tribute to the beauty of Erin's land, the fertility of her soil, her mild climate, her luxuriant herbage, her manufactures of linen, lace and embroidered muslin, her literature, her arts and sciences, her monuments of antiquity, her bays, rivers, castles and round towers, her warriors and statesmen and her glorious history. On the ancient soil of Erin the mind most vividly recalls the scenes enacted in the past—the pagan kings their battles and their conquests; St. Patrick, who found Ireland pagan, and dying left it Christian. This great event gave considerable impulse to civilization. The Irish people in their faith prove today to be true descendants of those noble sons of Erin who clung to the Cross of the Redeemer. The Irish peace was disturbed by the Danes 300 years after the death of St. Patrick, and a cruel war lasted for 300 years, bringing everywhere desolation. The Irish fought bravely for their faith. Brian Bhru ever will be remembered as the immortal king of Ireland. The "rath" or mound raised up in every quarter of the land will most forcibly satisfy the inquiring tourist that the great Irish warriors have buried there thousands and the tens of thousands and the hundreds of thousands of Danish invaders. Time rolled on, and the Danes again invaded the beautiful island. Their war-cry this time was more clearly defined than it was before with their insolent shout, "Down with the cross, down with the altar!" Henry VIII. came with the same intention; so did Cromwell, but the noble Irish, crossing the Shannon, penetrated the wild wastes of Connaught rather than give up their faith. Cromwell confiscated their fertile land. William of Orange comes to Ireland to destroy her faith. Erin cries out: "I will fight against injustice as long as I can, but when I can no longer wield the sword one thing I will hold in spite of death and hell, and that is my glorious Catholic faith." To travel in a land where so many unarmed priests, monks and innocent women were mercilessly butchered, even while clinging round the cross of Christ and at the foot of altars, is to travel on a sacred soil which speaks to the heart of the tourist of a noble nation, whose national character is faith and child-like submission to their Church.

#### Another Priestly Inventor.

Another addition to the list of priestly inventors and discoverers has to be chronicled. A priest of Namur, the Abbe Thirion, has invented a new kind of roofing which has attracted considerable attention among French architects, who praise it very highly. The idea is exceedingly simple. The roofing is done by ordinary slates but these are fastened not at the top, but at their lower part. "Simple indeed," says the "Cosmos," but it wanted thinking of; it is the old story of Columbus and the egg. Besides, it was necessary, after thinking of it, to invent some practical process for redressing the new idea practical. This the Abbe Thirion has done. The details which are given are very ingenious, and quite merit the encomiums passed upon them. The Abbe Thirion is a distinguished mechanician, and has several times obtained patents for his various inventions.

#### Warning The Orangemen.

Dublin, Dec. 29.—A meeting of the Irish National League was held in Dublin today. Mr. T. D. Sullivan, member of Parliament, made an address, in which, referring to the opposition of the Orangemen and other "Loyalists," he characterized those who were clamoring against Home Rule as bigoted fanatics. The land question, he said, which had long been the subject of bitter controversy between the people and the landlords, must now be brought to a final settlement. It would be impossible, however, to guarantee the property of the landlords against the demands of Irishmen in America and Australia. He warned the Ulster braggarts that if they should resist the Home Rule measure after its passage by the Imperial Parliament their resistance would constitute an act of treason, and that it would be useless for them to endeavor to assert themselves by fighting the queen's troops. Mr. Sullivan said that Mr. Gladstone would persevere with the Home Rule scheme regardless of the clamors of those opposed to the measure.

#### Parents and Children.

There are parents who manifest their love for children by gratifying every wish and abjuring all authority. They are surprised in time that their children neither heed nor respect them. The fault is their own. The very fact that they exercised no controlling influence led to a feeling of contempt. There was no authority to respect, and no qualities that especially commanded confidence. A firm, kind hand is felt and appreciated by children. They are keen readers of human nature and know when they are firmly or weakly governed. Such commands as are given should be so manifestly just as to have the approval of their judgements. They know when they are wrongly punished and understand when harsh rebukes are the mere outgrowth of the parent's irritation and not of the child's wrong. Confidence and love can be inspired by sympathetic firmness better than by mere indulgence. A father once said to his son, who deserved punishment; "My son, if it will better impress you with the wrong you have done, I will expose myself to the punishment that belongs to you." The lad felt the rebuke and begged to be punished and reformed.—Philadelphia Call.

#### Impious Pictures.

Vienna, Dec. 29.—The authorities of Austria and Hungary seem fully determined to punish M. Vereschagens, the Russian artist, for painting and exhibiting his impious pictures, entitled "The Resurrection" and "The Holy Family." In these compositions Christ is depicted as a merely human and historical person. They are very realistic, and their intent is to show that Christ accomplished His miracles by trickery and without superhuman power. The pictures have been multiplied by photography, and are scattered broadcast through the Austrian and Hungarian capitals. They have terribly shocked the Church dignitaries, and an expiatory Mass has been celebrated in the Stephankirche in Vienna to ward off the evils that the exhibition of these pictures would otherwise bring.

The indignation has now spread to Hungary. Cardinal Haynald, Archbishop of Calocza and Bacs, and the leading members of the Magyar nobility have given notice that they will withdraw their patronage from any institution in Budapest which exhibits Vereschagens's pictures. The imperial government at Vienna has taken up the question, and, as a test case, has ordered the prosecution of the Russian artist's Vienna agent for selling photographic copies of the objectionable pictures.

#### A Wonderful Plant.

No curiosity exhibited in this city for years had attracted such general attention as that wonderful plant at Shannahan's art gallery. Fully three thousand people have visited the place to look at the botanical wonder. It is said to be indigenous to Japan. Its technical term has not been ascertained, but is known, and appropriately so, as the "Baby Plant." It is of the genus lily, sometimes attaining a height of four feet, and blossoming semi-annually. The one of which we write is, however, not more than twelve inches in height, with leaves about six inches long and two inches wide. The flower is star-shaped, having five petals of a handsome and yellow colour. The calyx encircles and protects a tiny little figure that bears an exact resemblance to a nude baby, its little arms and legs outstretched, and the eyes distinctly marked. Hovering over this diminutive form is a small canopy, angel shaped, having extended arms and wings, and peering closely into the face of the infant. The family of plants of which the "baby" is a member produce not only the specimen now on exhibition, but also give perfect imitations, if such they can be designated, of different animals, insects and birds. Mrs. Mark Hopkins, of San Francisco, has one of the latter varieties, for which \$300 were paid. The plants grow to be about three feet in height when matured, and when in full bloom the one now in the city will look like a shipwrecked foundling, hospital.—Portland (Ore) Standard.

Of all the queer States for a claim of religious tyranny to come from Rhode Island is the queerest. The very foundation of the State was rebellion against sectarianism and a demand for the broadest freedom to all. But it is the unexpected that happens. The Rhode Island Catholics are up in arms against the discrimination made in favor of Protestants in the public institutions of the State, and there seems to be no doubt that their complaint is well founded. In the State Prison and House of Correction Protestant services are conducted every Sunday and the clergyman is paid from the State treasury \$1,400 a year with the use of a horse for himself and

family. The Catholic service, on the other hand, is permitted only once a year and the priest gets nothing from the State. The Catholics insist that if there is to be any religious services in the institutions they should be put upon an equality with the Protestants; and they insist also that the present system is a violation of the provision in the State Constitution that "no man shall be compelled to frequent or support any religious worship, place or ministry whatever, except in fulfillment of his own voluntary contract."—Detroit Free Press.

#### WANTED.

One who will recognize me when I am compelled to wear patched clothes; who will take me by the hand when I am sliding down hill, instead of giving me a kick to hasten my descent; who will loan a dollar without requiring twenty dollars worth of security; who will come to see me when I am sick; who will pull off his coat and fight for me when the odds are two to one; who will talk of me behind my back as he talks to my face.

Such a friend is wanted by ten thousand times ten thousand human beings throughout this broad earth.—Metropolitan.

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This Institution, under the distinguished patronage of His Most Reverend the Archbishop of St. Boniface, is conducted by Sisters of Charity. The latter would respectfully direct the attention of parents and friends of education in general to the condition of well-being and comfort in which they begin this school year. The new edifice, situated a few steps from the old one, is equal to any establishment of the kind in Canada or elsewhere. Spacious apartments, well lighted and ventilated; comfortable class-rooms; vast dormitory bath rooms; water-works; and most improved system of heating, and perfect security against fire; gardens and play-grounds, laid out in the most salubrious and agreeable sites; such are some of the principal advantages afforded by the new building. The course of studies followed by the pupils, under the direction of His Grace the Archbishop, comprehends religious instruction, the usual branches of English and French education, pleasing arts and domestic economy. It has received the approbation of most competent authorities. Difference of religion is no obstacle to admission, but external compliance with the rules is required from all. The St. Boniface Academy counts thirty-seven years of existence. Reports of conduct and progress of each pupil will be sent occasionally to her parents and guardians.

TERMS.—Entrance fee (once for all), \$5.00. Board and Tuition, per month, \$10.00. (A deduction is made when two or more of the same family are sent.) Music and use of Piano, per month, \$3.00. Drawing, per month, \$1.00. Bed and bedding, per month, \$1.00. Washing, per month, \$2.50. Payments to be made every two months in advance. Pupils coming from other institutions must furnish certificates of good conduct from the establishments they left.

Every pupil should be provided with sufficient underclothing, a plain toilet case, a table knife and fork, spoons and goblet, six tea spoons and a napkin ring. The uniform, strictly obligatory, is a black merino dress, and a mantilla of the same color, a straw hat trimmed in blue for summer, and a white hood for winter, a white veil of plain net. Parents are invited to inquire at the Institution for certain particulars before preparing the uniform. When desired it can be furnished in the establishment, as also articles for toilet, drawing and fancy work, but payment in advance is required. School books and stationery are and letters are subject to the inspection of the Directress. No deduction for pupils withdrawing before the end of the two monthly term, unless in case of sickness or for other cogent reasons. Pupils receive visits of their parents, near relatives and guardians, on Sunday, between the hours of divine service and after Vespers, until 5:30, and on Thursday from 1 to 5:30 p.m. No other visitors are admitted unless they are recommended by parents or guardians.

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The publishers of the Capital City Home Guest, the well-known Illustrated Literary and Family Magazine, make the following liberal offer for the New Year: The person telling us the longest verse in the Bible, before March 1st, will receive a Solid Gold Watch, worth \$20. If there be more than one correct answer, the second will receive an elegant Stem-winding Gentleman's Watch; the third, a key-winding English Watch. Each person must send 15 cts. with their answer, for which they will receive three months' subscription to the Home Guest, a 50 page Illustrated New Year Book, a Case of 25 cards that the ladies will appreciate, and paper containing names of winners. Address: F. F. GALT, GALT, HARTFORD, CONN.

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