



RECENT HAPPENINGS IN EUROPE.

The opening days of next week will behold the assembling of Irishmen from all parts of Ireland, in Dublin, to attend the conference called for the purpose of endeavoring to bring about a spirit of unity in the ranks of the Irish National members of Parliament. The opening session is fixed to take place on Monday next, and a request has been made by the Limerick Unity committee to the Lord Mayor of Dublin, to be given the privilege of holding the meetings in the council chamber. Although letters have been received from all the Irish members expressing their intention of assisting at the Conference it was decided that Nationalist members of Parliament, who through any mischance may not have received circulars be now formally invited through the Press to attend the Unity Conference.

The spring assizes are going on in Ireland (remarks a London contemporary), and the most remarkable feature of them is the general freedom from crime which the counties exhibit. In several parts of the country, white gloves have been presented to the judges. The Belfast Irish Weekly, in commenting on this says: "There are in Ireland towns—Drogheda, for instance—where a pair of white gloves is almost an annual presentation to the presiding judge. How often do English judges get white gloves? We are well within the truth in saying that white gloves, as tokens of the absence of crime, are as rare in England as white blackbirds."

A lawsuit just won by an Irish Jesuit Father, throws some light upon the disabilities from which Catholics still suffer in the United Kingdom. It is generally known that a Catholic cannot yet be Lord Chancellor of England or Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland. But it is not by any means a matter of common knowledge that, as the law still stands, it is a misdemeanor for a man to become a Jesuit. The case, which was decided by the Master of the Rolls, Dublin, was that of Galway vs. Barden, and was brought on a summons by the trustees named in the will of the late Edward Barden, of Beechmount, Tramore, County Waterford, to determine whether the defendant, the Rev. John Barden, S.J., was entitled to the income from the residuary estate of the testator since he had attained the age of twenty-five years. The testator by his will left the residue of his property, consisting of stocks and securities, in trust for his eldest son, the defendant until he attained the age of 25 years, and in case he lived to attain that age and should before that have attained a degree in arts of science in some chartered university of the United Kingdom, or should have become duly qualified as a barrister, solicitor, or attorney, or as a doctor of medicine, surgeon, apothecary, or civil engineer, or enter in any other profession, etc., then in trust to him for the remainder of his life. De-

pendant attained age in 1897, and in 1891 he had entered the Jesuit Order. It was contended, on behalf of those entitled to the property in the event of the gift to the defendant failing, that the defendant had not entered into a "lawful calling," as by the Emancipation Act it was a misdemeanor to become a Jesuit; and that as he was bound by the vows of the Order to hand over to his superiors what he received under his father's will, to hold that the gift took effect would practically be to declare that a gift to an illegal body was capable of taking effect in a court of equity. For the defendant it was contended that he had before attaining 25 become a teacher, which was a calling or profession, within the meaning of the testator's will and the fact that he was a teacher under the direction of the Jesuit Order did not make his calling illegal.

The Master of the Rolls decided that the defendant had before attaining the age of 25 entered into a calling within the meaning of the residuary clause in the will, and that the gift took effect. Steps will doubtless be taken to repeal the obnoxious clause of the Emancipation Act, on which the plaintiffs based their claim.

The annual re-union of the Catholic Association will take place in Holborn Town Hall, London, on Wednesday in Low Week (April 12). That date has been fixed to meet the convenience of the prelates of the English province, who go to London during Low Week for the annual conference of the Hierarchy at Archbishop's House. Cardinal Vaughan will be present if possible, and already the following dignitaries have accepted invitations for the occasion:—His Lordship Mgr. Brindle, the cardinal's newly-consecrated coadjutor, and the Bishops of Birmingham, Clifton, Menavia, Newport, Nottingham, Portsmouth, and Shrewsbury. The Earl of Denbigh, who is president of the association, will be in the chair, and London Catholics are hoping to hear some wonderful pronouncements on the Irish University question. Rarely in the history of the restored Hierarchy has there been so large a gathering of bishops at the meeting of a society having a layman for its president, as will be present on this, the sixth, reunion of the Catholic Association.

Mr. Joseph Gilzean Reid, son of Sir Hugh Gilzean Reid, and formerly a student for the Nonconformist ministry, has been received into the Church by Father Morris, at Brampton Oratory, London. Mr. Reid, writing from the Union Society, Oxford, appeals for aid in founding an English Catholic's Sailors' Home at Genoa. Father Hay, the English-speaking priest at that Italian port is to be chaplain.

His Holiness the Pope has granted power to the Australasian Hierarchy to remit, during the next ten years, the obligation of hearing Mass on

the Feasts of the Epiphany, Corpus Christi, and SS. Peter and Paul. Although this power only came in force on New Year's Day, those feasts have already ceased to be Holy days of Obligation in Australia, and are now only feasts of devotion.

The Church of St. Gregorio, Rome, where the ceremony of Mgr. Brindle's consecration as Auxiliary to the Cardinal-Archbishop of Westminster took place recently, is undoubtedly one of the most interesting spots in Rome to the English pilgrim, for it was at the head of the broad flight of steps leading to this Church that St. Augustine took his last farewell of St. Gregory the Great, and, kneeling on the green sward below, the first missionaries of England received the parting blessing of the great Pontiff as he stood on the height in the gateway. Founded in the seventh century, on the site of the family mansion of St. Gregory the Great, the church and monastery, as an inscription in the portico informs us, were first occupied by the Benedictines, until the year 1573, when they were transferred to the Camaldolese monks, who are the present denizens. Since its foundation St. Gregorio has been England's spiritual "pied-a-terre" in Rome, and it was from this hallowed spot, where they were educated, that men like St. Augustine, St. Lawrence, Archbishop of Canterbury, St. Paulinus, Bishop of York, and St. Peter, Archbishop of Canterbury, started forth on their perilous journey towards the distant shores of Britain. The fact that St. Gregorio is Cardinal Vaughan's titular church constitutes one more connecting link.

Mgr. Brindle gives an emphatic denial to the recent rumors regarding the Supreme Pontiff's health, which, he states, is quite satisfactory. At an audience which he had with the Holy Father before he left Rome, he looked says Monsignor Brindle, like a man that would live ten years more.

A solemn "Te Deum" of thanksgiving for the Holy Father's recovery and in commemoration of the twenty-first anniversary of his coronation was sung on Sunday the 12th inst., at the Vatican Basilica, which was crowded for the occasion. All the Catholic societies of Rome, and neighboring towns were present, a deputation having also come from Carmineo the Pope's native town. The members of the hierarchy then in Rome, were almost au grand complet, and besides the great majority of the Cardinals resident in Curia were noticed Archbishops Ireland, Stonor, Keane, Bishops McGilrick and Cotter, Mgr. Nugent, Mgr. Dunn, Mgr. Brindle, (the newly consecrated Auxiliary to the Archbishop of Westminster), the rectors of all the colleges and seminaries in Rome, etc. Cardinal Rampolla, Archbishop of the Vatican Basilica, officiated, assisted by two Pontifical Masters of Ceremonies and by the whole Chapter. Benediction of the Holy Sacrament brought the impressive ceremony to a close.

Father Johnston, Vicar-General of Southwark, Father Scannell, of Folkestone, England, have been made doctors in Theology by the Pope.

ed in the evening before a large body of the parishioners, including the Court of Catholic Order of Foresters, who were there in a body; also a number of non-Catholics. The lecture was followed by the benediction of our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament, the parish priest Rev. Father Dubb, officiating.

The C. O. F. of Hintonburg, numbering about sixty received Holy Communion in a body in the Capuchin Church of St. Francis of Assisi, on Sunday week.

Mgr. Lorrain, Bishop of Pembroke, was in the city last week. His Lordship paid a visit to his classmate of St. Therese College, Rev. Father Champagne, of Gatineau Point, who is still suffering.

To invoke the Holy Spirit on the deliberations of Parliament just assembled, the Veni Creator was solemnly chanted at High Mass in the Basilica on Passion Sunday.

Rev. Father Whelan, rector, celebrated a solemn Mass of Requiem for the deceased members of Branch 23, C.M.B.A., on Tuesday last week, in St. Patrick's.

St. Patrick's Day was duly observed in Perth. In the evening a literary and musical entertainment was given

by the children of the Separate Schools. They were assisted by Misses O'Heilly, Knouff and McCann, of Ottawa.

St. Patrick's Day was duly celebrated in Vinton, by a High Mass and a sermon preached by Rev. Father Gauvreau of the University.

His Grace the Archbishop presided at the opening of the church in St. Thomas d'Alfred, and also at the opening of the Forty Hours' devotion, Tuesday of last week, in the same church.

Two hundred and sixty confessions were heard during the Children's Mission preached by Rev. Father Maurice in the Capuchin Church, Hintonburg, last week.

In St. Patrick's on Palm Sunday, the Emerald Court, of C. O. F., approached the Holy Table in a body.

On Easter Sunday, Division No. 1, A. O. H., St. Patrick's Parish will do likewise.

The St. Jean Baptiste Court of C. O. F., numbering about three hundred, received Holy Communion in the Basilica, on Passion Sunday. A sermon suitable to the occasion was preached by Mgr. Routhier, V.G.

The training school for nurses in connection with the Catholic Hospital, was formally opened on Tuesday of last week.

St. Patrick's Day was duly celebrated in Kemptville by a High Mass and sermon.

High Mass was celebrated and a sermon preached in Renfrew by Rev. Father Ryan, the parish priest.

A Sacristy will be added to the Church in Almonte during next summer.

During Passion Week, the Rev. Father Devine, S.J., preached a retreat for the English-speaking Catholics of Aylmer, Que.

Rev. Father Lepailleur, parish priest of Mile End, was in the city last week, the guest of His Grace.

It would be well to be on the lookout for an alleged American priest, who has been imposing on people here lately. He took his departure after being denounced by the Dominican Friars of St. Jean Baptiste Parish.

THE PARK INCLINE RAILWAY

Mr. F. B. McNamee, Vice-President of the Montreal Park Incline Railway Company, made a vigorous and successful fight during the last days of the discussion in connection with the new charter for Montreal, which has occupied so much attention of the legislature at Quebec. A great many are at a loss to understand the attitude which Mr. Ames the Chairman of the Parks and Ferries Committee has seen fit to adopt in this matter of the incline railway, for rich and poor alike are ready to testify as to its utility and the thousands of fresh air seekers who week after week use the incline during the summer months are so many adherents to the champions of its raison d'etre. The railway in question has never been the cause of a moment's disorder either to the park or to the mountain top, it is not an eyesore. It meets a pressing want, and in fact time has demonstrated it to be an absolute necessity.

The company under the administration of Mr. McNamee deserves great credit for the businesslike manner in which the undertaking is conducted, as well as for the generous policy it has displayed toward the inmates of charitable institutions without regard to creed or race.

Edit... the stage Irishman.

St. Patrick's T. A. & B. Society.

The members of St. Patrick's Total Abstinence and Benefit Society, the oldest temperance society in America, will celebrate the 59th anniversary of their organization by a vocal and instrumental concert to be held in St. Patrick's Hall, 92 St. Alexander street, on Easter Tuesday evening, April 4th. A humorous address, entitled "Blunders," will be given by the Rev. Pres., J. A. McCallen, S.S., and the programme will include many well known musicians. The stalwarts of St. Patrick's Parish should have a "bumper" house.

DOINGS IN NATIONAL SOCIETIES.

The Ladies' Gaelic Class have found their quarters too inadequate, and in future will meet every Thursday evening at Miss Cronin's Academy, St. Antoine street. At their last meeting they added largely to their numbers. Amongst those joining being, Miss Howlett, County President, Daughters of Erin, and several others.

The weekly meeting of the Montreal Gaelic Society was as usual held on Monday evening, a large attendance being present. After the regular class instructions had been gone through, songs recitations and music was indulged in. Those contributing being:—Messrs. Mangan, Dodd, Ward. A feature that was much appreciated was a selection of Irish airs on the Irish pipes by two local gentlemen.

The standing committee of Division No. 1, A. O. H., met on Monday evening to transact business of importance connected with the interests of the Division, and it is pleasing to note that the business which called the committee together was disposed of in a very satisfactory manner.

We are pleased to know that Mr. Michael Lynch has been again elected president of Division No. 2, A. O. H. He has been always a great favorite with the boys south of the canal, and will not promise them diamonds and give them brass. He is one of the most indefatigable workers in the cause of Hibernianism in the city, and is held in high esteem by the Point St. Charles boys.

The annual entertainment of Division No. 2, A. O. H., will be held in the basement of St. Gabriel's Church, on Easter Monday evening. A lengthy and varied programme has been prepared for the occasion, and amongst other items, contains a fancy military exhibition drill by the Knights of the Green and White plume. Captain Kane will put them through the final instructions next Sunday evening, when the full corps are requested to muster at the "Barracks" at 2.30.

The Hibernian Knights contemplate holding a literary entertainment about the 19th of May, in the Armoury of the Victoria Rifles, at least permission will be asked at the next meeting of the County Board of Directors for such. The proceeds will be exclusively devoted towards purchasing accoutrements for the large number of new recruits who have lately joined the corps.

A trip to Boston during the National Convention of the A. O. H., in June, 1900, is in contemplation by the uniformed Hibernian Knights. Preparations are already under way, and a fund for that purpose started. It is their intention to run an excursion, as expectations at the present indicate that there will be fully one

hundred members in the corps by that time. A committee was appointed at their last regular meeting to secure a new hall for the first of May.

Division No. 3, A. O. H., will move into their new quarters on Notre Dame street, west of McGill street, on the first of May. They will give an "at home" on or about the fourth of May, to the members and friends. A committee of no less than twenty was appointed at their meeting on Monday night to make arrangements for such. A most enjoyable time is anticipated, and those desiring a pleasant smoke should not fail to attend.

The entertainment given by the Young Irishmen's Association on St. Patrick's night was one of the most successful ever held by the society, judging from the "bumper" Mr. W. P. Stanton, the treasurer of the committee was seen to deposit on the 18th inst. in the City and District Savings Bank. We congratulate you gentlemen, and wish you a few more such rolls.

There is every probability of the "Hells of Shandon" Company playing a week's engagement in this city early in the summer, with James W. Reagan as leading man; being a Hibernian. Bro. "Jim's" return will be looked for with interest. He is certainly a great favorite in this city, and a bumper house is assured him.

No. 4 Division, A. O. H., which for some time back has been suffering from an attack of "la grippe" is again adding largely to its numbers. There is no reason why this should not be one of the strongest divisions in the city. They have a large field for operations and able and skillful set of officers.

About one hundred members of St. Mary's Court, No. 161, C. O. F., attended Holy Communion in a body at St. Mary's last Sunday morning; a pleasant feature of the occasion was the presence of so many charter members of the Court. Amongst them were noticed: Messrs. M. Frawley, M. Fogarty, T. Phelan, J. Phelan, J. White, R. Busley, W. Smith, Charles Meahan, J. Morley, and several other charter members.

The delegates to the United Irish League of Canada met in the Hibernian Hall, on Sunday afternoon. The principal business transacted was the referring of a circular which was about to be issued to the Irish societies of Canada to a special committee composed of Messrs. M. Birmingham, P. C., Stanton, J. C. Mangan, John Dodd, and H. J. Cantwell, for revision. The question of admitting gentlemen not members of any society as delegates was discussed.

THE CONNAUGHT RANGER.

SOLEMN REQUIEM SERVICE AT ST. ANN'S CHURCH.

A solemn Requiem service was held in St. Ann's Church on Monday morning at 8 o'clock, for the repose of the soul of the former pastor, the late Father Catulle, C.S.S.R.

Solemn High Mass was celebrated by the Rev. Father Lemieux, C.S.S.R., Vice-Provincial of the Redemptionist Order, assisted by Rev. Father Biliiau, C.S.S.R., and Rev. Father Rheanne, C.S.S.R., as deacon and subdeacon respectively. His Grace Archbishop Bruchesi occupied the pontifical throne, having for deacons of honor the Rev. Father Filiatault, S. J., Provincial of the Jesuits, and Rev. Father Rioux, C.S.S.R., Superior of Hochelaga Convent. Mgr. Racicot acted as assistant priest. The church was entirely draped in deep mourning, and was crowded to its utmost capacity with members of the congregation who had assembled to pay a last tribute of love and veneration to the memory of their esteemed pastor. During the whole service Holy Communion was given by two of the Fathers of St. Ann's, and it can be safely estimated that over fifteen hundred received our Divine Lord for the benefit of the deceased pastor. The musical portion of the service was admirably rendered by a choir of sixty voices. Representatives from all the religious communities in the city

were present, together with many of the local clergy.

Among these were noticed the following:—

Rev. Fathers Donnelly of St. Anthony's, McDermott of St. Patrick's, Larocque of St. Louis de France, McDonald of St. Gabriel's, Rousseau, S.S., of St. James, Lecoq of the Grand Seminary of Theology, Lalande of Montreal College, Turgeon, Rector of St. Mary's College, Tranche-montagne, S. S., of Notre Dame Church, St. Columban, O.S.F., Superior of the Franciscans, and many others. Mayor Prefontaine, Hon. Dr. Guerin, Dr. E. J. C. Kennedy and many other prominent citizens were also present.

On Sunday last, feeling references were made in many churches by the Rev. Pastors to the lamented death of the late Father Catulle, C.S.S.R., who during fifteen years labored zealously for the spiritual welfare of the Irish parishioners of St. Ann's Church. Rev. Father Quinlivan, P.P., of St. Patrick's, during Grand Mass dwelt at length upon the career of the deceased priest. Rev. Father Strubbe, C.S.S.R., parish priest of St. Ann's, at the evening service also touchingly reviewed the life of their pastor and recalled his many acts of self sacrifice on behalf of the Irish people.

NOTES FROM OTTAWA.

Special to the "True Witness."

Ottawa, March 28.

The heavy snow storm which prevailed on Saturday, 18th inst., and on Sunday the 19th, rendered pedestrianism almost impossible. Rev. Father Whelan animadverted on the matter saying that while he had read in the previous evening's papers that a Christian representative of Ottawa had said that the running of street cars on Sunday would be a desecration, he, Father Whelan, would like to know to what excess of Christian stupidity the snow ploughs had been prevented from clearing the sidewalks that morning, thus preventing people from getting to Church.

In St. Joseph's Church on Passion Sunday, the members of St. Joseph's Court C. O. F. received Holy Communion in a body.

All accounts from Almonte agree that the annual St. Patrick's night concert, very Rev. Canon Foley presiding was a pronounced success.

The members of Branch 24, C.M.B.A., C. O. F., Branch 376 Division No. 2, of the A. O. H., and the parish

Conference of St. Vincent de Paul Society, numbering in all over four hundred, received Holy Communion in a body at St. Bridget's Church. An appropriate sermon was preached by the pastor, Rev. Canon McCarthy.

In St. Jean Baptiste Church, on Passion Sunday, Branch 58, C.M.B.A. approached the Holy Table in a body.

On the Monday of Passion week Mass was celebrated in the County of Ottawa jail, Hull, in order to allow the Catholic prisoners to comply with the Easter duty.

The Men's Mission in Hintonburg, Capuchin Church closed on Monday of last week. Rev. Father Maurice, was the preacher. Over four hundred confessions were heard.

In honor of St. Patrick's Day, a concert was given by the Separate School children of Pembroke.

Osgoode duly celebrated the festival of Ireland's Apostle by a High Mass, and sermon in the morning. Rev. Father McPhail, C.S.S.R., lectur-