

reaching measure and was largely in accord with the popular sentiment of Ireland. The English tax-bearer, however, has no reason to complain, because, since the union, Ireland has been over-taxed annually to the extent of £2,500,000, and the mother country now owes the little island conscience money totalling £400,000,000.

ENCOURAGING REPORTS come to us from Ireland in regard to the consumption of intoxicating beverages. Bishop Hendrick, of Cebu, Philippine Islands, lately paid a visit to the diocese of Sligo, and in the course of an address complimented the priests and people for their espousal of the temperance cause. "I have travelled," he said, "much of Europe and America and I am pleased to state that in my opinion there is less intemperance in Ireland to-day, as denoted by the presence of intoxicated persons in the streets and at public gatherings, than in any country that I have visited. More than this I will say, that there is a striking comparison between the people of Ireland and other people in this respect."

EXEMPLARY JUSTICE has been meted out by the Roman authorities to the gang of ruffians who assaulted and wounded with knives, last April, two of the students of Scots College. The sentences vary from a year and a half to six years. With such a mayor and such a municipal government as they have in Rome, this is all the more surprising. We may take it, however, that the administration of justice is not solely in their hands, otherwise the rascals would be let off on suspended sentence. We need not be surprised upon receiving reports of outrages upon religion at the hands of men who have given permission to the bill posters to paste all sorts of abominations upon the walls of the churches.

THE RIGHT REV. E. A. LATULIFE, who has been appointed to the vicariate of the new diocese of Temiskaming, was lately presented with a testimonial showing the high esteem in which he is held by his brother priests of Pembroke. The newly created vicariate has been taken out of that diocese. An arduous task will be that of the new Bishop for he will be forced to travel great distances to meet the wants of his scattered flock who are in large part Indians. He is, however, a man of indomitable energy and apostolic earnestness, and no doubt can there be that his administration will be fruitful in good works.

A MOST REMARKABLE change has taken place in the city of Belfast, Ireland. Lord Pirrie, one of the leading citizens and a member of the great ship-building firm of Harland and Wolfe, and an ardent Home Ruler, has been asked to become Lord Mayor of Belfast. A couple of years ago his name was anathema in that city, where he was regarded by the Unionists as a renegade. Why the people of the north of Ireland should not be as ardent Home Rulers as those of the South, has long been a puzzle to level-headed people. Evidently unreasoning prejudice is on the wane.

DURING THE PAST year there has been a decrease of over 4,000 children in the public schools of Rome. Private educational institutions show a large increase, the people being desirous to give their children a Christian education. Thus it is that the efforts of masons, anarchists, and others, under the leadership of Mr. Nathan, the anglo-Italian Jew, are meeting with defeat. It is a pity, however, that the mass of the people do not take a greater interest in the elections. Such a course would put out of power the enemies of religion.

AT THE GREAT missionary congress which lately took place in Chicago, Rev. Albert McKeon, S. T. L., P. P. of St. Columban, diocese of London, by invitation from the president, Rev. Father Kelly, was in attendance. On Sunday evening he preached to an overflowing congregation in the Church of Our Lady of Angels, on Hamlin avenue. On the eve of his departure for Chicago he was presented with a complimentary address and a well-filled purse by his parishioners.

MGR. SHARETTI, Apostolic Delegate to Canada, says Rome, accompanied by his acting secretary, Rev. Dr. McNally, will sail from Naples for his Delegation at the end of the month. He will be heartily welcomed back to Canada by its hierarchy, priests and people. Because of his kindness of character and prudent administration of his holy office, he has become endeared to all classes in this great new country.

CARDINAL GIBBONS has placed himself upon record as an opponent of Woman Suffrage. "Woman," he says, "is the queen of the kingdom of home, and we should be taking away from her a very high estate if we permit her to be distracted with questions outside of the home," very true words indeed.

The man's woman is a modernism abhorred of all.

SERMON OF MOST REVEREND ARCH-BISHOP FERGUS PATRICK McEVAY.

DELIVERED IN HOLY NAME CATHEDRAL, CHICAGO, ON SUNDAY EVENING, NOV. 15TH, '08.

"The harvest is great, but the laborers are few. Pray ye, therefore, the Lord of the harvest, that He send laborers into His harvest." (St. Luke Chap. x. v. 2.)

Your Excellency, Most Rev. Archbishops and Bishops; Very Rev. and Rev. Fathers, and Dear Brethren:

The Missionary spirit of the Catholic Church began with the Divine Founder of that Church, the Son of God Himself, whose life was summed up by the inspired Evangelist in these words: "He went about doing good." To continue the good work our blessed Lord selected the twelve Apostles and commanded them to go forth and preach the Gospel to every creature. He sent the Holy Ghost—the Spirit of Truth—not to the world, but to the Church, for He loved the Church and delivered Himself up for it, that it may be holy and without blemish. To assist the apostles He appointed the seventy-two Disciples and He sent them two and two before Him into every city and place whither He Himself was to come. St. Paul, the great Apostle of the Gentiles, in his Epistle to the Romans, says, "Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of Christ;" and again "Without faith it is impossible to please God." And he further insists that preachers must be sent by the proper authority to preach this Word of God. "How, then, shall they call on Him, in Whom they have not believed, or how shall they believe Him of Whom they have not heard, and how shall they hear without a preacher?"

From the days of Pentecost until the present time, the Catholic Church has ever obeyed the Divine Command to go forth and teach all nations, and all the nations that have been converted must trace that conversion to the missionaries sent forth by the Head of the Church in the See of Rome. We read about St. Dionysius being sent to France; St. Boniface to Germany; St. Augustine to England; St. Columbkille to Scotland; St. Patrick to Ireland; St. Francis Xavier to Japan, Malacca and Dundstan. The first churches, schools and charitable institutions in America were created by the Catholic missionaries, who, in their poverty and privations did wonderful things for God. To convert the savage tribes, those missionaries left their homes and country and plunged into the wild and vast forests of the New World. Some, like Father Brebeuf and Lacombe, were put to death by the fierce redmen and died martyrs for the Faith, and others, like Pere Marquette, died in the lonely forest where no brother priest was present to give a parting absolution to his soul, and no Requiem Mass was sung over him, and no relations present to mourn and pray around his tomb. Brave souls were these early missionaries, and their example should not be forgotten, for they brought honor and glory to the Church of God by their zealous and heroic lives. And, thank God, the heroes and saints have not all passed away. They can always be seen in the Church of God. They can be found in all nations and in all centuries, for the charity of Christ urges them on and they fight with weapons that are not carnal, and they conquer in the Sign of the Cross. Even in the material age in which we live, there are many priests preaching the Gospel in isolated and difficult places—in the deserts of Africa and the cold regions of Alaska and Yukon. Many still have to travel on foot, horseback, in canoes or sleds, and spend the long, dark nights as best they can in the lonely forests filled with wild beasts. They have not the ordinary necessities of life, and suffer untold hardships in the long and dangerous journeys. Such a one is the Venerable Father Lacombe, now attending this Congress. He has spent his life in the great lone land of the Northwest, and ever has been the true friend of the Indian and the Half-breed, loving and defending these tribes, whether Pagan or Christian, savage or civilized. These missionaries are surrounded generally by many enemies and by few friends, but having in their hearts the Spirit of Christ, they fear not, for the Master whispers to them in the darkness and gloom, as He did long ago to the Apostles, "It is I; be not afraid. Be of good heart."

But the harvest is so great, and the laborers so few. The Indians, the half-breeds, the colored people in many places; the careless Catholics; the thousands of people coming to the New World; the millions of people who are non-Catholics, all waiting for some one to preach to them the Gospel and to break to them the Bread of Life. How true are the words of the Master to His disciples: "Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and see the countries for they are white to harvest." (John, 4 chap.)

The harvest is great! The harvest is the vast multitude of people having immortal souls to be saved—men, women and children made in the image and likeness of God, and redeemed by the Blood of Christ, and no one to announce to them the joyful tidings of their redemption! Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and see these countries. See these vast countries of the United States and Canada; see the people of all tribes and nations and tongues pour into the countries. See the tremendous material wealth and progress and freedom they offer! See the people, leaving the old lands to make in the New World a home for themselves and their children, people who say to us, like Ruth of old, "Thy people shall be my people, and thy God, my God." Lift up your eyes and see these countries. No wonder people come from all parts come to them. They are magnificent countries, those in which we live. There are no other countries in the world to-day in which people have grander opportunities of doing good than in the United States and Canada. The Catholic Church is practically free to do her work in her own way. The children of the Church enjoy liberty

which is denied in many other countries. God has favored us in many and wonderful ways. He has entrusted us with the greatest and most glorious of all works, the work of extending His kingdom on earth, the work of saving immortal souls, the work of securing Heaven for the children of God.

Not only has He entrusted us with this work, but He has given us the means of doing it, and the question we should ask ourselves to-night is shall we rise to the occasion? Shall we respond to the will and call of God? Shall we prove ourselves to new faithful children of Mother Church? Some good people may say that they are not called to be missionaries; that they are not bound to bring men to the knowledge and love of the Master; that they are not bound to help in the saving of their fellowmen. In a word, they are not their brothers' keepers. It is well to remember that there are many ways to help in a good cause. We read how Moses gained a battle, although he was not actively engaged in the struggle. He went to the top of a hill having the rod of God in his hand. And when Moses lifted up his hands Israel overcame, but if he let down his hands, a little Amalek overcame; and Moses' hands were heavy and Aaron and Hur stayed up his hands on both sides and in this way the battle was won for the people of God. In the battle for souls all can and should help by prayer, by upholding the hands of the missionaries who are fighting the good fight. We can join in prayer to the Lord to send more laborers into the harvest, to assist those who are bearing the burden and the heat of the day. The laborers are few! We are told on good authority that, at least fifteen hundred priests are required at the present time to meet the demands of the United States, and considering the vastness of the harvest, this estimate seems to be moderate. In proportion to population we are even worse off in Canada. Three hundred more priests could find immediate work in that vast country, which is fast filling up with people well disposed to the Catholic Church. Some imagine that men can be converted by the press, by the reading of the Bible, by tracts and books; and while we admit that all are good in their place, we know that it is impossible to convert souls to God in that way. God's way is clear, and no other way has yet succeeded. He said, "Pray the Lord of the harvest that He send laborers into the harvest." Remember the Lord Jesus, who shed the last drop of His Blood. The harvest being His, it is proper that He send the laborers to save it, and no one else has any right to do so. Even in the old law, God selected the priests from a certain tribe. In the new law, He does not confine the selection to any family or nation, but He still makes His choice. No man has a right to be a priest, and no Bishop has a right to ordain one unless it is made reasonably certain that God has chosen him for the office.

The Apostles left all things to follow the Master, but He told them "You have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and have appointed you." And St. Paul says, "Neither doth any man take the honor to himself, but he that is called by God, as Aaron was." (Heb. 5, Chap. 1.)

The one to decide the question of vocation to the priesthood is the confessor. It is his duty to decide and the duty of the subject to obey, and once it is settled that any young man is called to share in the priesthood of Christ, his parents and friends and all Catholics should help that young man to secure the education required for the high and holy office he aspires to.

Why should all Catholics help in this good work? Why should they not help? Every Catholic knows that no matter how degraded he may become, no matter how contagious a disease he may contract, no matter how loathsome a prison he may inhabit, no matter how great the danger may be in reaching him, there is always one friend he is sure of, one friend he can trust with all his secrets, one friend that will give him life, if necessary, to bring him the consolations and blessings of our Holy Religion, and that friend is the Catholic priest. Surely it is a good investment to increase the number of such staunch friends and consolers, and every Catholic worthy of the name should help in this great work. Not only all Catholics should join in increasing the number of priests, but it is easy to show that all good citizens would be justified in doing so, for the priest induces all to give to Caesar, or to the State, what belongs to the State, as well as to God, the thing, that are God's.

All good citizens know that the safety of the State depends on the virtue of its citizens; the security of the home; the protection of the marriage bond; the Christian education of the rising generation; the guarding of life and property; the rights of capital and labor; the upholding of the law and public officers; the necessity of honesty and decency and sobriety in private and public life are things that every good citizen must desire to see flourishing in the State. The priest upholds the rights of the Church; the rights of God and the rights of man, and is a power for good in whatever locality he is placed.

Take the city of Chicago, to which we are brought, and remember its thousands of foreign-born citizens. What organization is able to deal with the different nationalities? To speak their language; to understand their customs and to make them law-abiding citizens? Is it not members of the priesthood in the grand old Catholic Church? Even in a material way, who will deny the power of the priesthood in helping to build up a city? See the magnificent churches, schools, educational and charitable institutions in this great city and all must admit that the priests have done their share in keeping pace with the rapid growth of Chicago. What is true here is true all over the United States and Canada. Then, honor to whom honor is due. Every fair-minded citizen must admit the power of the priesthood for good in the State, and hence can join, if he wishes, in its increase in this country. How are we going to join in the great movement of Church Extension? We

can help by prayer: by good example and by giving financial aid according to our means. God frequently selects his priests from poor families and very seldom from the rich, and, no doubt, many vocations are lost because the young men see no way to spend years in the college and seminary for training. They forget that if God calls them to Holy Orders, He will also provide the means to reach that end. We can always rely on the help and blessing of God if we do our part. In this great work of extension, you need not go far for help. In this city you have the Church Extension Society which in a short time has done wonders. Your zealous Archbishop and clergy have shown a splendid example to all by promoting this missionary work with so much zeal and success. In Canada we are showing our appreciation by starting a society on the same lines, and we have reason to believe that by it great good will be done.

In both countries there are many things to be effected for religion, education and charity, but if once we had a sufficient number of zealous priests at hand, the churches, schools and homes for the orphan and infirm would soon follow. In any case, we must not get discouraged at the vastness of the work. The Church in America has overcome many difficulties in the past and will gain many victories in the future! For, while the Church suffers with her Divine Founder she also shares in His glory and triumphs. All must admit that the work of extending the Kingdom of God is a glorious work, a work pleasing to our Blessed Lord, to His Holy Mother, and to the angels and saints of God. We have the approval and blessing of Our Holy

Father, Pius X.—the Vicar of Christ on earth. We have present His Excellency, the Apostolic Delegate, to represent the Holy See. We have the sanction of His Excellency, the Apostolic Delegate, to Canada, and we have the earnest endeavors of the Archbishops, Bishops and clergy and thousands of faithful laity to help this great cause. Not merely the present generation, but future generations, will be influenced by the success of this missionary movement, and hence all should help with zeal and generosity now.

We should show our gratitude for the gift of faith and try to procure it for others. We should be loyal children of the grand old Catholic Church, and bring all others into this one true fold, so that there may be one fold and one Shepherd. They should be anxious to share in the glory and reward to come and to bring others into that Eternal Kingdom where we are told the souls of the Saints are at rest and everlasting glory is on their heads, and where we too, shall all hope to reign with God forever and forever. Amen.

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