

name he was not at liberty to make known, had given him \$75,000 to build a new church for the parish. The only condition attached is that the people of the parish pay off their present debt of \$23,000. The congregation was agreeably surprised at the announcement, as no previous intimation had been given. The meeting opened a subscription and the sum of \$15,408.50 was put up on the spot, and the balance of the debt will be paid immediately. The 'person' who gave this handsome donation was certainly not acting for his, or her, own glory, but for the glory of God.

...The Italian Catholic Union, on the invitation of Count Acquederni, has constituted a commission for collecting in Rome offerings for the completion of the monument to Pius IX. in the Basilica of San Lorenzo outside the walls. It is desired to have the monument completed for the centenary of the birth of the great Pontiff. The commission has taken the name of "Commissione Roma incaricata per il Centenario di Pio IX." and has elected as its honorary President the Commendatore Filippo, who has accepted the post. The commission is composed of many well-known Roman gentlemen.

...The last published list of subscriptions for building a church dedicated to St. Joachim is most encouraging. From France, Italy, Belgium, and other countries, contributions are coming in in great numbers. The project of offering the church to the Pope as an Episcopal Jubilee present is meeting with the greatest favor, not only among the clergy, but also the laity. All hope that this church, to be erected in the Prati di Castello quarter of the city will turn out to be a splendid testimony of the universal affection of the Catholics for the Holy Father. Any offerings may be sent to the Director-General of the works, the Rev. Abbe Bruglton, Piazza della Pigna, No. 24.

...The Catholic Church in America is of late a subject of extraordinary interest in the Old World. Referring incidentally to a recent letter from Cardinal Gibbons to M. Decurtins, the Swiss Catholic leader, the *Moniteur de Rome* says: "The Catholics of the United States hold a premier position in Christendom. American Catholicism," it adds, "presents grand spectacles and noble examples. Since the Centenary *fetes* there is no one in Europe who has not been studying that growing and already virile Church in a kindly spirit and with the view of discovering from it the form to be taken in the coming time even by the Old World, disorganized and off its balance. This is the most splendid triumph that any power could ambition. The writings and the episcopal acts of Cardinal Gibbons Archbishop Ireland and Bishop Keane are the object of a sympathetic examination and an expansive admiration. At present the action of the American Church marks an epoch in the history of the country. It enjoys the respect of all because it is an energetic, peacemaking and conquering force."

...Last Sunday a denominational census was taken at the doors of the places of worship in some of the small towns and villages of West Suffolk. The census included only one place where there is a Catholic Chapel, namely, Sudbury. The figures are given by the enumerators are:--

	Accom.	Morn.	Even.
Total attendance at all places of worship.	5631	2651	3329
Roman Cath. Chapel	56	51	47

This is one of the parts of England where there are very few Catholics, but it will be remembered that the little Catholic chapel was practically full morning and evening, while the rest of the places of worship in the district must have been half empty. As usual, the enumerators seem to have only taken note of one Mass at the Catholic chapel.

...Rev. Ignacio Leon Velasco, Archbishop of

Bogota, died in his residence in that city on April 10th. He was born in Popayan, Cauca, the adjoining State to Panama, on April 11th 1834, and he became a member of the Order of Jesuits on November 12th, 1857. Later as a member of that order, he became an exile, and travelled in Ecuador, Central America and Mexico and concluded his studies in theology at Salamanca. Thence he proceeded to the Canary Islands, and after teaching there for some time he returned to Ecuador and Mexico. In 1882 he was raised to the dignity of Bishop of Pasco, in which province he founded schools and other establishments of importance. He succeeded Archbishop Paul as Archbishop of Bogota, and during his brief term of office he earned the confidence of all

...A foreign paper says that on the occasion of the coming fourth centennial an American Congress will be held in the Convent of La Rabida, at which it is estimated some 500 persons will take part. During the congress the Adjutamento di Huelva will invite the congressionists to a banquet to be given near the Convent of Rabida, at the close whereof cars, launches, and steamers will be provided for the guests, to enable them to reach and cross the river Tinto to Palos de la Frontera, to visit that church. They will be solemnly received by the municipality of Palos and escorted to view the bay whence sailed the three Caravels setting forth to discover the New World. They will further be invited to a representation to include the "Pizzaro," of Ferres del Rio; the "Isabella la Cattolica," of Rodriguez Robi, and of a piece composed for the occasion by one of the chief dramatic writers of Spain. A national competition is also opened for the building of a monument or tomb to Christobar Colon, as the great navigator is known to the Spaniards.

...The largest individual gift thus far made to the Catholic University at Washington, D. C., is property in New York and Long Branch I. valued at \$408,000 over all encumbrances, from the Rev. James McMahon rector of St. Andrew's Church New York City. Father McMahon had some money bequeathed to him by relatives all of which he invested in real estate. The investments proved profitable and enabled him to benefit thus munificently a work of the Church with which his own fine scholarship put him in sympathy. Father McMahon is a thorough Hebrew and Biblical scholar has published a new version of the New Testament based on Challoner's revision of the old Douay Bible, and has also edited an edition of the Haydock Bible. Father McMahon's gift is for the faculty of philosophy for the laity; thus balancing, as the contributor of the *Pilot's* University Notes happily remarks, Miss Mary Gwendoline Caldwell's magnificent gift for the highest education of the priesthood.

...Lord Salisbury does not like the part the clergy of Ireland are taking in politics. He thinks that they ought to keep their hands off the public affairs of their country. But why? Must they cease to be patriots when they become priests? Have they not always been on the side of faith and fatherland? In Ireland the struggle has always been as much religious as civil—it has been waged to preserve the faith of the people, to win for them freedom of conscience, to oppose the penal laws, to get rid of Protestant ascendancy; and the clergy have always been with the masses in the contest for the right. Why should they stop now? Purity, honor, truth and honesty are as much needed as ever in public life. The peasants need leaders to resist the brutalities of Balfour. The Catholics in the Emerald Isle still labor under disabilities from which the Protestant minority are free. Who has a better right to stand up for the people than the Soggarth

Aroon? Who is a wiser counsellor? Who is more disinterested?

Our readers are cautioned against placing any confidence in a dispatch supposed to have come from Rome, published in the daily papers recently and professing to give the Pope's views on the School Question in this country. The Holy Father teaches Catholics through Encyclicals and other official documents, and does not give his views on any Question through "talks" with unknown ecclesiastical personages, no matter how "high" they may be on the Vatican official list.

Temperance.

...Archbishop Riordan, of San Francisco, has begun an active temperance movement in that city. On April 6th, he spoke on the subject of "Temperance," in the Grand Opera House. The object was to awaken the public to the crying abuse of drink and to promote the cause of temperance and morality.

Over 3,000 persons were present, including many of the most distinguished citizens of the State. In the course of his address the Archbishop gave some very instructive figures illustrating the fearful waste and havoc caused by the unbridled traffic in liquor. He said that in the city of New York \$250,000 is spent every day for liquor. In the city of San Francisco in 1888 there were 4,459 licensed places where liquor was sold. According to the municipal reports this number had increased to 5,172 drinking places. Rating the population at 350,000 this makes one saloon for every 70 souls, or one for every 14 voters. Placing the average receipts of these places at \$8 a day, or \$14,600,000 a year—a sum sufficient to keep the city for two years. The report of Chief of Police Crowley showed that there had been 23,462 arrests made last year in San Francisco, of which 10,469 were for drunkenness. Here his Grace paused impressively, and asked the question, "How many were intoxicated and not arrested?"

A profound impression was made upon the audience when the venerable Archbishop corroborated the judgment of Cardinal Manning, that legislation is absolutely necessary to check the vice of intoxication. "Temperance," he said, "is plainly a matter to be controlled and regulated by legislation. The High License plan is the only feasible and practicable for decreasing the number of saloons. It compels the lowest and most dangerous places to close up." The practical views of the Archbishop were most enthusiastically approved by his audience, as, instead of dealing with glittering generalities, he got down to specific propositions which struck every one present as easy of accomplishment and full of beneficial results. He was loudly applauded when he declared that there should be a complete severance of the saloon from the corner grocery. "This union," he said, "is the greatest source of intemperance amongst women and children." He strongly urged the passage of a law prohibiting the employment of women in saloons in any capacity. He concluded by an eloquent appeal to the Catholics present as their chief pastor, and asked them with their pastors to assist him by word and example, in public and in their homes, to make drunkenness a disgraceful, a dishonourable thing, and temperance an honourable, a noble thing."

The wise and practical council of the Archbishop is in harmony with the spirit of the recommendations of the Baltimore Catholic Congress and is applicable to all parts of the country. The movement under such an able leader is certain to grow in influence and they who give it their active and unreserved support do honour to themselves as well as rendering a service to the society.