

Of all the illustrious names in our literature, there is, also, not one who is so free from the national taint of anti-Catholic prejudice as Shakespeare.— If he writes for a moment as a Protestant, or to the disparagement of religion and virtue, it is but for a moment only; for the whole current of his thoughts is noble, pure, religious and Catholic; and whatsoever is immoral, grovelling, earthly or puritanical, is but accidental and a superficial adjunct. Though living under Elizabeth, and writing on all kinds of historical and foreign subjects in which it would have been easy to pay court to the dominant anti-Catholic spirit of the day, he seems unconscious of the very existence of Protestantism as a religious theory or as a power competent to guide the consciences of honest, and true hearted and unaffected men.

Cordially, therefore, we sympathise with all that is doing to preserve his house from ruin, and anticipate from it a growing sense of the shallowness and hypocrisy of those who denounce the whole Catholic system of the veneration of relics. Such movements in the public mind tend to do away with a host of prejudices, and prepare it to admit the same principles of conduct when applied to the purposes of religion. Men who begin with a pilgrimage to Stratford, may end with a pilgrimage to Loretto; or at any rate, they will be little disposed, if they are a people of any degree of fairness and candour, to join in the foolish, unmeaning tirades against Catholic superstition, which go far to keep alive the spirit of hostility to the true Faith still far too prevalent with high and low amongst us.

### General Intelligence.

[From Correspondence of the N. Y. Freeman's Journal:]

Sir—I am able to redoem the promise I made of sending you some more items of Roman news, selected from letters written in the Eternal City.

It is generally known that Monsignor Brunelli, formerly Secretary of the S Congregation De Propaganda Fide, is now in Madrid as the Nuncio Extraordinary to the Court of Spain. He retains the title of Secretary of the Propaganda, but his office is filled in Rome by Monsignor Barnabo Silorata, appointed Pro-Secretary by the Holy Father. All communications addressed to the Congregation should be directed to Monsignor Barnabo or to the Cardinal Prefect, Franzoni.

Cardinal Micara left 18,000 dollars to the Congregation.

Rev. Patk. Madden, of the diocese of Kingston, a student of the College of Propaganda, was ordained Priest in the Church of the Institution on the 1st of August. He is now on his way home, having left Rome on the 20th of the same month.

Dr Newman, and Mr. St. John, were ordained on Trinity Sunday, and said their first Mass the day of Corpus Christi. They have already donned the honored garb of St Phillip Neri, and taken possession of the ancient Convent of Santa Croce in Gerusalemme, with seven companions. They will return to England after finishing the Noviciate in Rome. Their aim is to establish a branch of the Phillipines adapted to the English Mission. May Heaven crown their undertaking with its blessings, and Oxford yield many new sons to St Phillip.

The mission of Father Ryllo to Central Africa, has finally assumed a more definite form. The Bishop of Mauricaster, Monsignor Casolani, with whom the idea of such an enterprise originated, will stop for the present in the last city bordering on the desert upon the frontiers of Egypt, while F. Ryllo and his two companions, Rev. Angello Vinco and Rev. Ignatius Knobler, will push boldly on to those countries of the interior which have so long remained unvisited by a Catholic Priest. They will thus have a resting place point between their mission and Rome. The region of the new Vicariate begins where the Abyssinian Prefecture Apostolic terminates, so that the first country subject to it is Nubia. The three gentlemen last named departed from Alexandria for the interior on the 21st day of July. It is a mission of discovery for the present, encouraged by reports from different sources of the nations in the interior towards Christianity.— These reports were confirmed by all the Missionaries of the coast who were consulted, and by merchants from the nations themselves. A more resolute little band of explorers than the three whose names are mentioned above, could not easily be found. They are prepared for the undertaking by having learned different languages, especially the Arabic, in which they are all three proficient, by acquiring some knowledge of medicine, purchasing instruments for taking observations, making charts, &c., and their character is such as to leave no doubt that they will either succeed or perish in the undertaking. May the writer as a personal friend of those missionaries earnestly request the faithful of this country to aid them by their prayers? Their self-devotion in so noble a cause would do honor to the earliest ages of the Church. J. C.

### UNITED STATES.

ALBANY.—On Sunday last, the Rt. Rev John McClosky, late Coadjutor of the Bishop of New York, took possession of his newly erected see, and for the first time celebrated Pontifical High Mass in St. Mary's which henceforth is to be the Cathedral. The Rt. Rev. Dr. Hughes delivered on the occasion a discourse such as few who heard it, had heard the like before.

TROY.—On the afternoon of the same day, Bish-