

# The True Witness

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## RELIGION FOR THE FILIPINOS.

The Washington correspondent of the Baltimore "Sun" furnishes a list of the questions propounded by the McKinley Inquisition which indicate its purposes in connection with the Propaganda outlined by Prof. Jacob G. Schurman, who proposed in the New York "Independent" of December 25th last, to create and establish for the Filipinos a brand-new religion—"only a little one." The following is from the Baltimore "Sun's" Washington correspondence:

From the questions being asked by the Philippine Commission of the leading Filipinos it appears that the Commission is considering the advisability of purchasing the estates of the friars in those islands as a method of settling all disputes. A list of the questions has just been received from Manila. They read as follows—

How long have you resided in the Philippines?

In what places in the islands have you lived?

What opportunities have you had before 1898 to observe the relationship—religious, social and political—between the friars and the Filipinos people?

How many friars have you known personally?

To which class of society in Spain do they belong to your own personal knowledge?

How much agricultural property and other business interests do you know of from which they obtain a revenue?

What political function did the friars exercise in this island during Spanish rule?

What were the ordinary relations between the Spanish governors and the chief officers of the Church?

What charge did the friars make for weddings, baptisms and interments?

How were those charges of taxes established?

What effect did they produce?

What was the moral standing of the friar and what opportunity had you to observe his immoral conduct? Please give samples, if you can.

What do you think will be the principal nature of the hostility against the friars?

Does this hostility exist against all orders or is there any difference among them?

The friars have been charged with having caused the deportation of Filipinos, and in some cases were guilty of cruel, insulting domination. What can you say definitely about this?

What is your knowledge of the morality of the Filipino priests?

What do you know in reference to the preparatory instruction given the Filipino priest in fitting him for the priesthood?

What do you think would be the result if the friars would go back to the parishes in the provinces?

What do you believe would be the effect in the island if an American archbishop was appointed?

What do you think of the establishment of a public school in which ministers of all kinds of religion can instruct the pupils who desire their instruction for one-half hour before their regular hours of study?

Do you think the Catholics in the island would desire it?

If the friar had no political influence, and if he must live from the voluntary contributions of the people, do you believe that this would result in a change of feeling among the people toward the friars?

What do you believe would be the result if the Government purchased all the property of the friars and used the revenues to create a public fund for the furthering of public instruction in the islands?

One might easily fancy in reading these questions that Mr. McKinley's Commissioners had made a close study of the methods employed by English Commissions to obtain possession of Catholic Church property in Ireland. Here we have a set of questions framed by the lawyers for the prosecution to be put to their carefully chosen witnesses. The defense is not represented in this court. Mark this question: "What opportunity had you to observe his immoral conduct?" In this query immorality is put down as an established fact.

The whole series of questions is built upon this insulting assumption of guilt proven. The proselytizing object of the whole thing is too transparent to need comment. It is a gross outrage upon the faith of millions of American citizens, and they should know how to resent it.

## MISSION FOR IRISH IMMIGRANT GIRLS.

The annual report of the mission of Our Lady of the Rosary, for the Protection of Irish Immigrant Girls, which institution is in charge of the Rev. M. J. Henry, and is situated at No. 7 State street, New York, was issued recently. It says in part:

During the past year about 22,000 Irish men and women left their native land and entered America by the port of New York. The blight of landlordism, the continued opposition of England to the development of the native Irish industries, the dread of enforced enlistment in the English army drove, during the past year, thousands of the youth of Ireland to America. The number of Irish immigrants who landed at this port alone exceeded the number at a corresponding period of last year by at least 2,000. As the number of Irish girls who land is usually larger than the number of Irish boys, we may, in the absence of precise figures, calculate that over 12,000 young women from Ireland reached our shores during the past twelve months.

These figures tell a sad story. How many homes made desolate! How many heart-strings rent asunder! How many sighs and sorrows at the cruel, unnatural, perhaps life-long separations of these 23,000 sons and daughters from those nearest and dearest to them on earth.

A large majority of these emigrants never travelled before; many have little or no idea of conditions of life in America. Few, indeed, who have not with them addresses of friends supplied by kindly neighbors. But whether these friends are in New York, Boston, Omaha or San Francisco—whether they are able or willing or fit to receive and provide for them, are matters that do not enter into their calculations. They know they are going to America and they know their friends are there, and

with this knowledge they are content. It will not require a great deal of reasoning to reach the conclusion that these young emigrants have a very perilous journey before them. In the case of the Irish girls—for the first time away from the sacred environment of home, exposed for the first time to the wiles of a designing world—their youth and proverbial beauty heighten the moral dangers to which they are exposed. Until they reach Queenstown these 12,000 young women may be said to be comparatively safe, but once they step from the sacred soil of their native land and board the foreign-bound vessel, perils to body and soul confront them.

And here it is where the Providence of God is shown. Here is seen the evidence of the powerful influence of the Mother of God in response to the fearful appeals of Irish parents for the welfare of their exiled children. Let it be told for the greater honor and glory of God and to the credit of the Irish race that there is in New York an institution of charity called the Mission of Our Lady of the Rosary, whose object is to safeguard these emigrant girls. It extends the arms of its protecting influence even over the blue waters of the Atlantic, and these 12,000 young women have, during the past year, been saved from every danger until their friends were met or they were started in an honorable career in a strange land.

From the day the home was founded until now it has been an invariable rule that no immigrant girl be charged for her support. Her stay at the home has always been free of expense. The charitable contributions of the public have enabled the directors of the home to make ends meet without calling upon the often scanty means of its guests.

During the past year the accommo-

dations of the home were often taxed to the utmost.

About 262,000 young Irish girls landed at the port of New York since the mission was established in October, 1883. What the mission has done for them may be summed up as follows: 1. It has exercised a moral influence over steamships to safeguard the immigrant on board their vessels. 2. It has watched over, guided and assisted at the landing depot those who intended to proceed by rail or steamboat to destination. 3. It has examined the claims and fitness of the relatives or friends who called for the immigrant.

4. It has provided a home at 7 State street, where were kept free of charge all those whose friends did not call on the day at all, or who were unable to proceed on their journey. 5. It has tried to locate relatives of those who brought indefinite addresses. 6. It has secured positions in good families for those ready to go to work. 7. It has provided a chapel before whose altar the immigrant has knelt to receive comfort, encouragement and strength for the battle of life before her.

8. It has supplied the good offices of the priest, in whom alone the Irish girl is ready to confide. And so conscientiously and faithfully has the mission performed its duty that not one girl during the seventeen years of its existence has failed either to reach her destination in safety, find her friends or secure employment.

The mission depends entirely on charity for support, receiving no aid whatever from the city, State, or Federal Governments. On each recurring October 1, we bring our claims to the attention of the public, and appeal for funds to carry on the good work in which we are engaged.

## IRISH CHRISTIAN BROTHERS.

On the 10th ult., the Anglo-Italian commercial school of the Christian Brothers, under the protection of St. Patrick, was auspiciously inaugurated in the Eternal City, writes the Rome correspondent of the Catholic "Times" of England. At 4.30 p.m. His Eminence Cardinal Respighi, vicar-general of His Holiness Leo XIII, arrived at the school, and was met at the entrance and conducted to the oratory by Monsignor Adam, archbishop of Cesarea; Monsignor Stanor, archbishop of Trebizond; Monsignor Kelly, rector of the Irish College; Monsignor Angel, secretary to His Holiness the Pope; Rev. Pio de Mandato, S.J.; Rev. Don R. Segentini, pastor of St. Bernard's; Rev. Brothers Hennessy, Costen, Mescal and Thayne of the Christian Brothers.

The oratory, which was beautifully decorated, communicated by a large folding door with the spacious class rooms, which were filled to their utmost capacity by a distinguished and representative assembly. In addition to the many Romans, there were also present very many of the English-speaking residents of Rome, including a strong representation from Irish members of the regular clergy, the students from the College Green Div.—J. P. Nantetti.....N Dublin Har. Div.—T. Harrington.....N Stephen's Gr. Div.—J. McCann.....N St. Patrick's Div.—W. Field.....N GALWAY—Hon. M. Morris.....N KILKENNY—P. O'Brien.....N LIMERICK—Alderman Joyce.....N NEWRY—F. G. H. Carville.....N WATERFORD—J. E. Redmond.....N CORK—COUNTIES.

ANTRIM—East Antrim—Col. McCalmon.....C North Antrim—W. Moore, Q.C.....C Mid-Antrim—R. O'Neill.....C South Antrim—W. E. Macartney.....C ARMAGH—Mid-Armagh—J. B. Lonsdale.....C North Armagh—Col. E. J. Saunderson.....C South Armagh—J. Campbell.....N CARLOW—J. Hammond.....N CAVAN—West Cavan—Thomas McGovern.....N East Cavan—Samuel Young.....N CLARE—West Clare—W. H. K. Redmond.....N West Clare—Major Jameson.....N CORK—North Cork—Jas. C. Flynn.....N Northeast Cork—Wm. Abraham.....N Mid-Cork—Dr. Tanner.....N East Cork—Capt. Donegal.....N West Cork—J. Gilhooley.....N South Cork—E. Barry.....N Southeast Cork—E. Crean.....N

DONEGAL—West Donegal—James Boyle.....N DUBLIN—DEMONSTRATION OF FAITH.

A splendid demonstration of Catholic faith was that which took place Sept. 21 in the famous Sagro Monte, in the neighborhood of the North Italian lakes. On that day three large crosses were solemnly blessed at a lofty height of over 5,600 feet, in the presence of a concourse of 25,000 faithful.

## AFTER THE ELECTIONS IN IRELAND.

The London correspondent of the New York "World" cables the following statement issued by Mr. William O'Brien, M.P., on the results of the recent general election in Ireland:

"The general election has realized the wildest hopes of the most sanguine men. It found us with the country half organized and with an election fund ridiculously inadequate."

"We had to make head against a confederacy of the most formidable and unnatural kind bent upon perpetrating the disorganization of the country, bankrupting the general election fund and taking advantage of the hurly burly and chaos of a general election to drive another wedge of dissension into the heart of the Irish party."

"The United Irish League had against it an array of influences, selfish, anti-national, corrupt, that to all human seeming there was no resisting."

"Lo! the morning after the great encounter the League holds the field by a majority more overpowering than ever Irish political organization commanded before, and the scattered items of the Healy cohorts in their ruin and their shame are crying to the hills to fall upon them and hide their heads."

"The electors showed a temper so unmistakable and irresistible that in only three instances out of eighty-one did any open antagonist of the League take heart to challenge their verdict."

"A national convention has now been summoned by the League to direct the future of the new Irish party and to cheer, guide and stimulate Mr. Redmond and his colleagues in their great work of forcing the Irish question to the front in the British Parliament, by every means that courage, combat and self-sacrifice can supply."

**THE COMPLETE RETURNS.**

Subjoined we give in full the complete returns of the recent general election in Ireland.

**BOROUGHS.**

BELFAST—E. Belfast Div.—G. W. Wolf.....N W. Belfast Div.—H. O. Arnold Forster.....C S. Belfast Div.—W. Johnston.....C star.....C L. U. N. Belfast Div.—Sir J. Haslett.....C

HILLFOOT—William O'Brien.....N J. F. X. O'Brien.....N

DERRY—The Marquis of Hamilton.....C

DUBLIN—College Green Div.—J. P. Nantetti.....N Dublin Har. Div.—T. Harrington.....N Stephen's Gr. Div.—J. McCann.....N St. Patrick's Div.—W. Field.....N

GALWAY—Hon. M. Morris.....N KILKENNY—P. O'Brien.....N LIMERICK—Alderman Joyce.....N NEWRY—F. G. H. Carville.....N WATERFORD—J. E. Redmond.....N CORK—COUNTIES.

ANTRIM—East Antrim—Col. McCalmon.....C North Antrim—W. Moore, Q.C.....C Mid-Antrim—R. O'Neill.....C South Antrim—W. E. Macartney.....C

ARMAGH—Mid-Armagh—J. B. Lonsdale.....C North Armagh—Col. E. J. Saunderson.....C South Armagh—J. Campbell.....N

CARLOW—J. Doherty, Wm.—North Donegal.....N O'Donnell, Thomas—West Donegal.....N

CLARE—O'Kelly, Edmund—North Kerry.....N O'Mara, James—South Kilkenny.....N

O'Shaughnessy, P. J.—West Limerick.....N Reddy, M.—Birr.....N White, Patrick—North Meath.....N

CORK—DUNDALK—McGovern, Thomas—West Cavan.....N McIlroy, William—North Sligo.....N Mooney, John J.—South Dublin.....N

Morris, Hon. Martin—Galway City, U.S.A.....N Burke, James—West Donegal.....N

Corbett, T. L.—North Down.....C Cullinan, John—South Tipperary.....N Delany, W. P.—Ossory.....N Duffy, M.—South Galway.....N Gordon, John—South Derry.....N Hamilton, Marquis of—Derry City, C. J. A. Alderman—Limerick City, C. Kennedy, P. J.—North Westmeath.....N Leamy, Edmund—North Kildare.....N Landon, William—East Limerick.....N McCann, James—Stephens Green.....N McFadden, F.—East Donegal.....N McGovern, Thomas—West Cavan.....N Mooney, John J.—South Dublin.....N Morris, Hon. Martin—Galway City, U.S.A.....N Murphy, John—East Kerry.....N Nantetti, Joseph P.—College Green, N. Nolan, Col. —North Galway.....N Nolan, Joseph—South Louth.....N O'Brien, Kendal E.—Mid-Tipperary.....N O'Brien, William—Cork City.....N O'Doherty, Wm.—North Donegal.....N O'Donnell, Thomas—West Kerry.....N O'Kelly, Conor—North Mayo.....N O'Mara, James—South Kilkenny.....N O'Shaughnessy, P. J.—West Limerick.....N Reddy, M.—Birr.....N White, Patrick—North Meath.....N

**HOW THE PARTIES STAND.**

Totals.....334.....67.....186.....82

Total Ministerialists—401

Total Opposition—268

Government majority—133

Total elected—669

**GAEILIC LEAGUE'S PLAN.**

Dr. Douglas Hyde, president of the Gaelic League, delivered a lecture in Dublin recently on "The Educational Influence of the Gaelic League." The first educational step of the Gaelic League, he said, was to bring back to the people of the English-speaking districts their share of self-respect by teaching them that they were the possessors of a great past, a national possession of which no man could rob them.