

serve a St. Patrick's-day pass off so pleasantly and so happily as did that on Wednesday last; scarcely a drunken individual was to be seen throughout the city.

ST. PATRICK'S SOCIETY AND THE SOCIETY FOR THE PROPAGATION OF THE FAITH.

On the evening of the first Sunday in March the usual meetings of the above societies were held in Saint Patrick's Hall. The Rev. Dean M'Encro was in the chair, and in opening the proceedings of the evening, he said, that it afforded him the greatest satisfaction, as it must do to every member of Saint Patrick's Society, to witness the progress the contractors had made in getting the splendid Gothic windows now in course of being put into the edifice. But they must be still better pleased to notice the progress the collectors had made in raising funds to pay for these very tasteful and perfect specimens of Church architecture. The collection was £12 6s 6d. The Rev. Chairman then opened the business of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, by stating that on the arrival of every vessel from the various regions of the globe, they were being put in possession of some new and important intelligence as to the progress of the Faith throughout the civilized as well as the savage portions of the globe. The Arch d' Alliance that entered the Harbour of Port Jackson on last evening, after having touched at several of the Missionary stations scattered throughout the countless isles of the great Pacific Ocean, had brought very encouraging news as to the spread of the Gospel, and the cultivation of Christian virtues amongst the lately savage and cannibal inhabitants of several of these groups of Islands. One or two missionaries have visited our shores to recruit their exhausted health under the salubrious sky of Australia and to depart again for their apostolic labours as soon as they may be restored to a comparative degree of health. The missionaries at San Christoval, the faithful companions of the venerated Bishop Epalle, had suffered much from fever, produced by the excessively humid and warm atmosphere of that tropical climate.—*Sydney Chronicle*.

CONVERSION OF FORTY PROTESTANTS IN DERRY WORKHOUSE.

Some forty conversions to the Catholic Faith have taken place in the Derry workhouse. It is to be presumed these conversions were sincere. No man should be accused of corrupt motives in an act of such vital importance, unless there be unmistakable *prime facie* evidence of his want of sincerity. In the present case there is no such evidence. Behold how the Protestant organ treats these converts:—"Several paupers," says *the Mail*, "in the workhouse of Derry, have recently

gone through the technical process of changing their religion, having no religion to change, being as credulous as ignorance could make, or superstition desire to find them, a miracle was promised as the price of their conversion.

PHILADELPHIA.

The Baptist Church in Fourth-street has been consecrated and opened by Bishop Hughes as a Catholic Church.—*Freeman*.—At Quincy, in Illinois, a Church is nearly completed 101 feet long, 65 wide, and 40 high, with a steeple of 170 feet. The greater part of the population of 6,000 are Catholic Germans.—*Wahrheit's Freund*.—At Hazel-green in Wisconsin on the 11th of August, the Rev. Samuel Mazzuchelli, founder of the Catholic Institution at Sussinawa Mound, opened a new Catholic church, a neat brick building.—*Argus*.—There are eight Catholic churches in Cincinnati.—*Cist's Advocate*.

A REMARKABLE RECONTANTION.

The Rev. Nicholas Beatty, who some time ago, it appears, renounced the Roman Catholic religion has returned to that faith, and has addressed a very remarkable letter to his bishop, the Right Rev. Dr. O'Higgins, on the subject. Mr. Beatty says:—"I declare to your lordship, in the presence of God—and desire my words to be proclaimed throughout the church of Ireland—that in renouncing the holy Roman Catholic faith as I lately did, I acted against the dictates of my conscience, and I was instigated only by the evil passions of my heart, by anger, and a want of submission to the lawful authority of my superiors. The writings which have been published in my name, I intend more fully to retract; but I wish to say here that they are, and ever were, totally opposite to my convictions. In fact, I never for a moment doubted the doctrines of that one, true, and holy Roman Catholic church in which I had been baptized and educated, and to the bosom of which I have now returned."

In a territory of the province of Lucca, there was a certain nun who was held in great reputation for her sanctity about the time that St. Joseph of Cupertino lived, and he being one day in the house of the marquis of that place, and being asked by him concerning his opinion of the report which was circulated of the sanctity of that nun, he replied, "One you have here who is indeed a saint, who is not known;" and forthwith he named to him a certain poor widow, concerning whom there had never been any talk. The marquis made inquiries concerning the qualities of this one, and he found that she always remained at home shut up in her little cottage along with her little