

ected successor to the dead leader. Not one of Parnell's characteristics survives in Redmond; they are as opposite as the two poles. So, we can see no reason on earth why the Redmondites should keep up the spirit of disunion. If it is personal ambition—they are false to the Irish cause; if it is a blind and mistaken zeal—they are to be pitied, but for the country's sake, to be checked; if it is mere hero-worship, they are acting in direct opposition to what were the desires and plans of that hero; if they see what they are coming to and to what a precipice they are leading the only hope for Ireland's future, they are deliberately helping the bitter enemies of the people they claim to represent; in fine, if they know not what they are doing they should be placed under some tutorship and saved from committing both national murder and political suicide; but if they do know what they are doing, and if they do see the inevitable consequences of their rashness, and the many decades of a black and disappointed future that the failure of Gladstone's effort will bring to Ireland and her people, then they should step across the floor of the House and take their seats at once under the leaderships of Balfour and Chamberlain. Be their motives what they may, history will tell of their deeds only, and the future will judge them by the results. If this measure fails through their fault or opposition, we do not envy their immortality. We have learned, since writing the above, that the Redmondites have decided to support the Bill. So much the better.

THE ASSUMPTION.

The fifteenth of August, mid-summer day, was the feast of the Assumption of the ever Blessed Mother of Christ. On that day the immaculate Virgin was translated, body and soul, from earth to heaven. Although not the greatest feast of the Mother of God, still it is one that has ever been kept with fervor and piety by the Church. Stainless from her very creation, the one destined to become the Mother of the Saviour came forth pure and complete in all perfection from the hand of the Almighty; and as pure and as perfect, after the fulfilment of her glorious mission on earth, did she return to the bosom of God.

In Canada it is not kept as a feast of obligation, but it is one upon which the Church rejoices greatly; and especially all those who, in a peculiar manner are consecrated or devoted to the service of the Queen of Angels, hold jubilee upon that day.

In the Old Land; there where the Faith was planted by our Great apostle, and where it flourished despite the centuries of persecutions and sorrows; there where the Mother of God has ever had so many shrines raised to her honor and so many children to ever sound her praise; there in the land of relics, of songs, of devotion, of great and holy Catholicity, the feast of the Assumption has been one of especial predilection and was lovingly called Lady Day. It falls in the mid-summer, and on the eve of the feast, which is one of obligation in Ireland, universal rejoicings were held all through the land. The fires upon the hilltops were lighted and the peasants gathered around to dance and sing and with innocent amusements, to express their happiness. On the morrow all the pastimes of the eve were changed into solemn and sacred devotions; the Mass, the sermon, the vespers, and the hymns in honor of the Queen of Saints.

We are forcibly reminded for an exquisite ballad from the pen of that sweet Irish poet, Edward Walsh. He was a lyric bard indeed, and his fairy legends,

his pleasant folk-lore, his wonderfully Celtic productions have been sung, with loving remembrance, by many a fire-side and on many a village-green. It is to the eve of Lady-Day that he refers in his beautiful poem of "O'Donovan's Daughter." So natural, so sweet are its verses, that we cannot refrain from here intruding the opening lines upon this subject:

*"One midsummer's eve, when the Bel-fires were lighted,
And the bag-piper's tone called the maidens delighted,
I joined a gay group by the Araglin's water,
And danced till the dawn with O'Donovan's Daughter."*

And the next day he knelt by her side in the humble chapel and offered up an invocation to the model of all maidens, the most perfect of all wives and the most holy of all mothers. Oh! the days of Faith! Electricity and all the modern inventions can never produce the happiness, peace and love that they bestowed.

It is, then, the duty of all good Catholics—upon that great feast and throughout its octave—to beg of the Blessed Virgin that she may intercede for them before the tribunal of All Grace. On the anniversary of that glorious event, when the Saviour "sitting at the right hand of the Father," bent down to receive from earth His Mother, as the choirs of saints and angels heralded her advent into the abode of endless glory. He must listen with a special mercy to the supplications of the most Blessed of all creatures, and her prayers cannot fail to procure for the Church and its Faithful an abundance of choicest blessings. All honor to Mary on the feast of her glorious Assumption; may she watch over and protect the Church of her Divine Son!

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EDITORIAL NOTES.

WE ASK Mayor Desjardins' critics—and especially *Le Monde, La Presse* and *La Patrie*—to read and ponder over the following:

"The famous Festival of Arts and Industry, projected in celebration of the anniversary of the breach in the Porta Pia, is now dead and buried, after the voting at Montecitorio of the law respecting building works in Rome and the refusal to authorize a lottery of ten millions for the Roman exhibition. The executive committee have resigned, and in a short time a general meeting of the shareholders and subscribers of the exhibitions will be held to decide upon what is to be done in this critical contingency. The Masons will seek to control it, not for the good or evil which may result from it to the city of Rome, but to wound and insult the Pope and the Catholics of Italy. The word of command issued by the Grand Orient of the Valley of the Tiber is that the idea of a national exhibition should be abandoned, but that steps should be taken for an exhibition in 1905, to celebrate the fall of the temporal power of the Popes"—*quod est videndum*.

These organs are evidently warm admirers of the Italian Government and King Humbert; they also go into ecstasies of delight in presence of the flag that was flaunted in the face of Catholicity when the Papacy was robbed, and they must be more or less fraternately inclined towards the Grand Orient of the Valley of the Tiber, since they give such a firm grip of the hand to his subordinate officers, consequently for their pleasure and edification we give them this piece of news.

CONSIDERABLE talk has been created by the decision referred to in a despatch from London, England, dated the first of August, and which reads thus:

"Clerical circles are considerably agitated over a ruling just made by Sir Frederick Jeune, Chief Justice of the Court of Probate and Divorce, to the effect that a minister of the gospel has no right to plead privilege when asked to state in court the substance of a confidential communication made to him in his sacred capacity by one of his parish-

ioners. Hitherto it has been the unwritten law of England, as well as of many other countries, that a divine shall not be compelled to disclose such communications, and in cases which occur almost weekly Roman Catholic priests are excused from disclosing statements made to them under the sanctity of the confessional. In the case in court the divine belonged to the high church branch of the Episcopal denomination, and was in the habit of hearing confessions. The Court, however, compelled him to disclose the information that had been made to him. Several Catholic priests, who have been interviewed concerning the decision, declare that they would go to prison for contempt of court rather than reveal the secrets of the confessional on the witness-stand."

The last sentence is not only true, but we may add that there never lived, nor does there live to-day, a Catholic priest who would not go to the scaffold before he would reveal a confessional secret. And the Judge who gave such a decision cannot have much respect for his own oath of office when he could attempt to force others into a breach of faith.

IN ORDER that our readers may not fail to appreciate the actual state of affairs in Italy, the fearful struggle going on between the government—or masonic—party and the Catholic—or religious—party, and the significance of the hearty welcome given by the friends of Italy's government to her envoy here, we ask them to read the following account of what has been going on while the "Etna" was in our port. Let our conferees peruse the same.

"Scandalous scenes have lately taken place at Milan and in the celebrated Cathedral. It seems that there is a Madonna there which is very much venerated, and a woman who had been lame for life was miraculously cured. This fact, of course, attracted a large number of the faithful, not only from Milan, but from the surrounding country, and the Cathedral was every day overcrowded. It seems that this grated very much upon the feelings of the anti-clericals. A demonstration was formed and a large number of students, excited by the Masonic sects, began to laugh and ridicule in the church the numbers of people who were kneeling in prayer. A group of students belonged to the clerical party remonstrated strongly with their colleagues of study, but this interference infuriated the others, causing a regular disturbance in the church which made it necessary for the police to interfere and a large number of arrests were made. Amongst them was a young girl of eighteen who had actually been encouraged to take part in the demonstration by her father as she confessed. For several days afterwards a large crowd of boys (one cannot call them else because the Lega Lombarda of Milan says they are between fifteen and twenty years of age) have been stationed outside the Cathedral insulting those who enter it and those who come out. A celebrated restaurant, celebrated for its magro (fasting) dinners, was attacked by the demonstrators who broke the windows. The Milan papers say that these young boys have just been used as instruments by the Masonic sects, who also rule the schools now, to show their hatred to the Church. The Masons have also published a program full of hate against the Church, religion, and, in fact, law of any kind, exciting the students to all sorts of revolution. 'But,' as the same journals remark, 'why have not the Masons courage enough to come out themselves instead of using young boys as their tools?'"

Condemned.

The London Tablet's Roman correspondent telegraphs that Prof. Mivart's three articles in the Nineteenth Century upon "Happiness in Hell" have been condemned by the Holy Office of the Inquisition and accordingly placed upon the Index Expurgatorius.

St. Ann's T. A. & B. Society.

Yesterday the monthly meeting of the St. Ann's T. A. & B. Society took place, Ald. Kennedy presiding. The new director, the Rev. Father de Ridder was welcomed by the Society, who thanked

the members. New members were enrolled and some of the returns of the picnic made; these show a nice balance in favor of the society. The family of the late Mr. Jas. Brennan was consoled with in their sad affliction, and a committee was appointed to consider the manner in which the Father Mathew anniversary should be celebrated.

St. Patrick's T. A. & B. Society Annual Picnic.

The annual picnic of St. Patrick's T. A. & B. Society was held at Sherringham Park on Saturday. The affair was as usual a great success. The programme of races included events for young and old. The results were as follows:

Boys' race, ten years and under—H. Connolly, 1; Jas. Nash, 2; W. Crowe, 3.
Boys of thirteen years and under—H. Connolly, 1; Eugene Feeley, 2; Thos. Stevens, 3; W. Costigan, 4.

Girls' race, fifteen years and under—Annie Fitzgerald, 1; Bessie Milloy, 2; Annie Cosgrove, 3; Mary Holland, 4; fifteen entries.

Members over fifty-five years of age—Timothy O'Connor, 1; Jas. Connaughton, 2.

Members races—M. Durcan, 1; S. McArthur, 2; H. Martin, 3; F. Doyle, 4.

100 yards, in heats—James Connolly, 1; A. G. Bowles, 2.

Hop, step and leap—T. Kenniff, 1, 30 ft. 3 in.; J. A. Gillespie, 2, 36 ft. 10 in.

Three quick leaps—T. Kenniff, 1; J. Connolly, 2.

Quarter mile—J. A. Gillespie, 1; J. Connolly, 2; George Wheble, 3.

Special members race—P. Connolly, 1; J. H. Kelly, 2; J. J. Costigan, 3; Jas. Milloy, 4.

Quarter mile, members of young men's societies—G. McArthur, 1; J. W. Feeley, jr., 2.

Committee race—M. Durcan, 1; Thos. Martin, 2; Z. McArthur, 3; J. O'Toole, 4.

Pipe race—M. Durcan, 1; J. A. Gillespie, 2.

Bean guess—J. T. McCaffrey.

The committee in charge of the affair were Messrs. M. Sharkey, 2nd vice-president; A. Brogan, N. P.; James Connaughton, James Tierney.

Games committee—Mr. A. Martin, chairman; Messrs. J. H. Kelly, James Milloy, J. H. Feeley, M. Durcan.

Music committee—Mr. W. P. Doyle, chairman; Messrs. Thos. Martin, S. McArthur.

General committee—Mr. John Walsh, chairman; D. Brown, J. O'Toole; Secretary, Mr. Jas. J. Costigan.



Mrs. Mary E. O'Fallon

of Piqua, O., says the Physicians are astonished, and look at her like one

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Completely Cured by Hood's Sarsaparilla.

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Hood's Sarsaparilla

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