

HOLY FATHER SENDS ALMS TO GALWAY BOGSLIDE SUFFERERS.

BREAK OF NATURE DESTROYS FARMERS' HOMES AND RUINS VAST TRACTS OF LAND IN WEST OF IRELAND.
Boston Pilot.

The moving bog or land slide of recent occurrence at Kilmore, near Ballygar, County Galway, wrought terrible havoc, and in its track left scenes of woe and desolation. Hundreds of acres of fertile land were blotted out, the crops were destroyed, the cattle killed and struggling, industrious families rendered destitute and homeless.

The disaster completely unnerved the inhabitants, and left them fearful of further danger. Fortunately, only one death resulted from the slide. Mrs. Ellen McDonnell, a widow, who lived near the bog, was caught in the moving mass and perished.

The calamity took place on Sunday night or early Monday morning. The bog was about a half mile from the village of Kilmore. With a terrible rumbling like that of a volcano, there was an upheaval of the bog to a height of twenty feet. The frontage of the bog was about a mile in width. It swept down on the village of Kilmore, covering the land and engulfing the houses.

INHABITANTS ESCAPE.
The people managed to escape from their houses in time to avoid the moving mass of mud and water.

The cattle, however, for the most part perished. Very little was saved from the houses. In fact some of the residents had barely time to escape with their lives, and lost all they had in the world.

UNSUCCESSFUL EFFORTS TO STOP IT.
Everything possible was done to stay the progress of the liquid mass, but to no avail. For the greater part of the week it continued its onward course, and at one time threatened to destroy the town of Ballygar, which is three miles from the scene of the slide.

LEAVES SCENE OF DESTRUCTION.
Never before has a bog slide done such damage or caused such desolation in Connacht. Viewing the scene of the landslides from the rising ground near the main road, the sight that met the onlooker was appalling.

For a radius of several miles a beautiful, fertile country had been turned into a dark and dismal swamp. The land was covered with the slimy stuff. The by-roads had been wiped out, and the houses nearly buried.

SEEDS OF VICTIMS.
The condition of the sufferers was pitiable. They were stunned and bewildered, and could not seem to realize just what had happened. The privations they had to endure were great.

No sooner had the news of the catastrophe spread through the country than means were taken for the relief of the victims. Food and clothing were sent, and funds were collected. The sympathy of all Ireland was aroused. A county relief fund under the direction of Archbishop Healy of Tuam was immediately started.

NEWS FROM HOLY FATHER.
The news of the accident was made known to the Holy Father by Archbishop Walsh of Dublin, who on sending the contribution from his diocese for the earthquake sufferers in Messina, wrote him of the catastrophe, and requested that he be allowed to keep \$1,000 for the sufferers in Galway. Pius X. did not merely grant the request, he did more. He sent \$5,000 to the poor afflicted ones.

LETTER FROM POPE.
The letter from the Vatican reads as follows:
Dal Vaticano,
February 12th, 1909.

Secretaria di Stato di Sua Santita.

My Dear Lord Archbishop,—I have received Your Grace's letter of the 11th of February, and have laid before the Holy Father your appeal on behalf of the sufferers by the recent disaster in the West of Ireland.

His Holiness was much concerned on learning the disaster caused by this accident. He desires me to convey to Your Grace the expression of his heartfelt sympathy, and to ask you to send \$5,000 to the fund for the relief of the victims. This amount may be deducted from the remittance you have announced for the earthquake sufferers. I am,
My Dear Lord Archbishop,
Your devoted servant in Christ,
R. CARD. MERRY DEL VAL.

HYPNOTISM.

Beamsville, Ont., March 8, 1909.

To the Editor:—

Dear Sir—There is a paragraph in the last RECORD which should, I think, be re-written, re "Priest Astronomers." I know of many professional priest astronomers. At St. John's University, Minnesota, there is a fine observatory at work, at which, besides the Very Rev. Father Abbot, are two or three priests. There is the well known Father Rigge, S. J., of St. Louis. Then there is the Catholic University at Washington, and there is our own Father Kavanaugh, S. J., of Montreal, and lots of amateurs. St. John's University, at my suggestion of the publishers, edited the new edition of the Catechism of Astronomy, published by the John Murphy Company of Baltimore.

I am truly glad to see you giving so much space to Spiritism et il genus omnia. And want to draw your attention to some of its dark places that need special notice.

I have given a great deal of attention to these phenomena, both practically and as a student of oriental mysticism, both here and in the East, and am very fully aware of the real character of their phenomena and the real existence of evil spirits.

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I will make a preface by reminding you of the late murder by a Methodist preacher in his church in Michigan, of the verdict and of his confession as published. Now I quite fully believe that he was not insane, and that his confession was true. Into the pathological feature of this case I am not going to go. Now, I have in the past ten or fifteen years sent at least twenty people to the insane asylum, whose madness began by studying hypnotism, and I fully believe that each and every one of them was obsessed by another personality, and this experience is frightfully common. I have known many ignorant people take up hypnotism. And when taken up by such or any people without the useful physical discipline used in the East, and which occupies long years, it inevitably leads to loss of personality, and obsession. Just as spiritism does, of which I personally know of some startling cases. Even an agnostic government ought, in its own defence, take up these questions. It is devil worship with a vengeance to us. The real should be closed to any such advertisement and the Catholic press is the one to start the movement. Every one knows of the facts who has anything to do with insanity, whatever be their interpretation of them. And I am not at all sure that this very thing is not at the bottom of a great deal of the abominable and unusual epidemic of crime in recent years.

We may be fools in the eyes of science or our interpretation, which however is indorsed by the vast majority of learned men, pace the modern minority, but anyhow the facts are patent to every eye that cares to look through them.

GEO. CHAS. BUCHANAN.

NOTES ON IRISH FAITH.

To the most casual observer there are few things so worthy of admiration as the faith of the Irish people. If one has traveled in other lands this noble spiritual attribute becomes all the more evident; for whilst other nations glory in breadth of domain, in historical glory and the triumphs of war, Ireland, poor, despised and vanquished, glories in the faith she has preserved within her own borders and that which she has sown throughout the wide world. Nor can I think of the happy days of my youth in Wicklow without feeling that the one joy amidst the trials, the one strength amidst the weaknesses, was the living faith of my race. There the temptations were few, there the false gods of modern times were unknown or were as helpless and dumb as the worms that creep away to hide themselves beneath the ground from the first rays of the morning sun. The faithful people of Ireland, from early morning until they closed their eyes in peaceful sleep in the evening, seemed to be mindful of God's presence everywhere and whether in time of work or leisure they make some remarks which clearly show that they love their faith and their God. And this may rightly be given as a general rule of the conduct of the Irish people. Friends and strangers alike begin their conversations, generally by some word or phrase of praise to God; and very often God is the principal subject in the common discourse of the peasantry. They seem to realize God's providence and goodness in all the works of nature and to hear with reverence His voice speaking to their hearts from the summit of the lofty mountains and echoing through the deep glens. His message of love to man. They know that the greatest of human artists could give only a faint idea of the

beauty of the landscape when the sun lights up the shady valleys and throws his sparkling rays against the verdant hills, making altogether a sight more worthy of the gaze of angels than men. And among all this natural beauty there is nothing so inspiring as the frank and public manifestation of the true Irish faith. They are neither ashamed nor afraid to profess it openly, but with a high sense of duty and love they are ever ready to show how deeply the divine truths have taken root in their hearts.

On many occasions have I seen all business cease at out of door gatherings while the crowds bowed in solemn adoration at the first sound of the Angelus bell. Their love for Mary is intense and properly falls short only of that love which they bear to the Saviour of the world. A foreigner would be especially surprised if he were present to see their visible anxiety and how they would run a long distance sooner than be a little late for the holy sacrifice of the Mass. The constant practice of reciting their prayers together in their homes in the evening upon the beads and meditating upon the Divine Mysteries brings them into close union with God. And if you would ask them why they sanctify their homes by this holy exercise, the most simple would be able to tell you, that it is the shortest way to meditate upon the wonderful works of God and the infinite merits of the Redeemer. They would frankly tell you that Christ has said "Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them." Their love for a priest and docile obedience to his commands, is perhaps the greatest stumbling block to the vain-glory and domineering pride of sinful man. And it certainly was the strongest fortification of the Irish when the big guns of the Reformation began to roar upon the shores of vengeful vengeance upon the peaceful and innocent people of Ireland. These are a few things I noticed while Ireland was my home.

Still I do not mean to say that all the people of Ireland are good, but the bad are so few that they are not worthy of mention in a Catholic paper, but I will leave them to be treated by bigots and enemies of the Catholic faith and of the Irish people, or to those who are so fond of novelty and notoriety that they would rather write upon an exception than a general rule. Some there are who do not like to travel in well trodden ways and whose love for vain glory comes them to utter the most ridiculous things about the Irish people.

During several years I lived in the States where worldly wealth and pleasures seemed to predominate, where temptations were numerous and aggressive and where, too, I have seen the faith of the Irish stand the test. And if we would consider the number of eminent Bishops, competent and worthy priests of Irish descent and their untiring efforts to propagate the faith, we have another proof that the faith of the Irish can withstand every assault and flourish in any land. But the Bishops and priests could do very little if the laity were not faithful and generous. And perhaps, too, the exploits of the great are better known than the devotion of the humble; the wonderful achievements of the widows' mite is often altogether forgotten. The loyalty and self-sacrifice of the good Catholic people cannot be too well known or admired. For nothing less than firm and lively faith, a generous spirit well clad with the grace of God can overcome great difficulties and acquire laudable success. This is what the Catholics of the States have accomplished, as the monuments of faith, charity and Catholic education, testify in every city in the land. It is very difficult for the greater number of working people to support the Church and State, to contribute to charitable institutions, the schools of the Church and the extravagant schools of the State, to pay rent and supply all things necessary for family and home. And yet Catholics do all

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this with an air of cheerful independence and generosity. But this is not the only manner in which they cheerfully serve God and country. Great numbers of them, who work like machines all day can be seen calling at their parish church twice or three times a day to adore Our Lord in the Sacrament of the altar and to have a friendly conversation with their Saviour though their faces are very often begrimed with the dust of honest toil. And in times of Missions and Retreats, large numbers are present at five o'clock to assist at Mass and hear the word of God. This devotion cannot be easily surpassed by the Catholics of any other country and certainly we cannot find such sublime example and self-sacrifice in the lives of the people of any other faith.

LETTER OF THANKS FROM APOSTOLIC DELEGATE.
Mgr. J. E. Meunier, Administrator of the Diocese of London, Windsor, Ont.
Right Rev. and Dear Monsignor:—I am in receipt of your favor of the 1st instant containing a cheque for \$1956.49, of which amount \$1494.25 is the result of the diocesan collection for the victims of the Italian earthquake and \$462.24 for the African Missions. I have made two cheques of the relative amounts, the first of which I forwarded to His Eminence the Cardinal Secretary of State and the second to the Most Eminent Prefect of the Propaganda. I must offer you the expression of my thanks and appreciation to yourself, to the clergy and people of the Diocese of London for the generous manner in which they have charitably come to the assistance of their brethren of the faith so cruelly afflicted. With sentiments of esteem, I am, my dear Monsignor, Yours very sincerely in Christ,
DONATUS, Archbishop of Ephesus, Apostolic Delegate.

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RHODE ISLAND RED EGGS \$1.00 AND \$2.00 per setting. See Canadian Poultry Review, for my winnings and premium offer, or write me for list. J. Charlton, proprietor, Red Feather, York, London, Canada. 1975-13.

WHITE R-S COMB LEIGHORNS. FIRST prize in Boston. First prize in Ottawa. Price per setting (one dozen) \$1.50. E. O. P., London, Canada, R. Johnston, 497 English St., London, Canada. 1975-2.

SALESMEN WANTED FOR AUTO SPRAY. Best Compressed Air Hand Sprayer made. Simple best of all sprayers. Canada, U.S.A. 1975-13.

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A book that tells how to escape the drudgery of wash day. It's just a little book, but it's one of those books with a message. A man might skim through it, and miss the message. But any woman who reads the simple story, "Washing a Tubful in 25 minutes," will fully comprehend what it means. To her it means goodbye to the wash-board forever. Goodbye to the old back-breaking, nerve-straining method of washing clothes by hand-curling. For it tells of a new and better way of doing the weekly washing. More temps have been ruined, more complexions spoiled, more joy has been done in the health of woman-kind by the old way of washing than by any other kind of household work. The women of America expend enough energy for the washing every week to move the machinery in a thousand miles and factories! Why this terrific waste of strength? Simply because, until very recently, inventive genius has been too busy devising labor-saving machines for men. Now, at last, a machine for woman's use has been perfected that almost runs itself. It is known as the 1900 Gravity Washer. Thousands upon thousands of these wonderful washers have been sold. They are doing the laundry work in the homes all over the country.

THE MONTH'S MIND.
Mass for the repose of the soul of the late Thomas Kelly was celebrated at Prescott, March 23rd inst. The celebrant was Father Kelly, the deacon was Father O'Connell and the subdeacon was Father O'Hanlon. Monsignor Masterson, parish priest and Vicar General, occupied his accustomed place in the sanctuary. Fourteen prayers were offered by a large congregation for the repose of the soul of Thomas Kelly. May he rest in peace.

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