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escaped but was crowded to its utmost capacity. Masses were celebrated by priests in the open air in the Hebrew cemetery, where there was encamped an army of men, women and children whose former homes were a blackened mass of ruins. Non-Catholics as well as Catholics knelt on the graves of the dead while the Divine Sacrifice was offered. Never before was Mass celebrated in San Francisco under circumstances so striking. It is safe to predict that those who attended the Masses offered up in the Hebrew cemetery will remember the occasion till their dying day.

On the steps of St. Mary's Catholic Cathedral a small temporary altar was erected at which Archbishop Montgomery celebrated Mass. A vast congregation that filled the Cathedral steps and stretched up and down the street was in attendance. It must have been an impressive sight as the Archbishop, addressing the sea of uplifted faces, spoke of the terrible visitation that in the space of a few hours had wrought such havoc in the desolated city. A press despatch describing the scene says: "The Archbishop's words and his reference to the death of Fire Chief Sullivan affected the entire assemblage, tears streaming down hundreds of faces upturned to the tiny altar in the open door of the vestibule." Blackened masses that marked the former sites of happy homes and lordly palaces of trade, stretching away into the distances, lent emphasis to the words of Archbishop Montgomery.

Last Sunday will be memorable in the history of San Francisco as ushering in the dawn of hope. On that day it was known that the worst was over. The fire fiend that at one time had threatened the entire city was stayed in his onward progress. It was with overflowing hearts then, that the sore tried people of the great city knelt in grateful prayer thanking God that the worst had not befallen them.—Irish World, April 28.

SOUND TRAINING FOR LIFE

Cannot be Imparted without Religious Teaching

Regarding the education bill brought into the British parliament by the minister of education, Rt. Hon. Mr. Birrell, the Catholic Times of Liverpool, prints the following pointed letter addressed by Rev. Dr. William Barry.

To the Right Honourable, the Minister of Education, Whitehall, S.W.

Sir:—As a Catholic priest, a man of letters, and a teacher for many years I submit these considerations on the bill which you are bringing into parliament:

1. Education is a national concern. It is not merely parochial. Let its budget be put upon the national treasury, and the friction which has been caused by throwing the schools on the rates will be largely diminished, if not wholly done away with.

2. You, sir, as a student and observer, know well that sound training for life cannot be given to our people apart from the Christian religion. Discipline character, conduct, in this land are not to be secured on a secular basis.

3. Hence you are proposing to have children taught the Holy Scriptures, in all cases where parents do not object. This means state establishment so far, and would satisfy nonconformists; in fact, it endows them.

4. But it neither would nor could satisfy those for whom real education is bound up with historical and dogmatic Christianity. And these are the adherents of the Catholic Church before all. Anglicans, indeed, have their own spokesmen, who are addressing you daily. But it is especially Catholics that have suffered from the unequal treatment dealt out by the state. Catholics have had to pay, since 1870, for schools, their conscience would not permit them to enter; they have built and kept up their own all over England and because they never could accept the sectarian, non-conformist plan of education.

5. A national system does not consist in levelling down to the least common denominator, which would make us all nonconformists. All pay taxes; and each group of taxpayers is entitled to bring up its children on its own religious principles. If the state leaves the purely secular basis, then it ought to give each denomination fair play and equal privileges. Anything short of this must involve confiscation of the rights of subjects.

6. Catholics will, in conscience, refuse to be taught by non-Catholic teachers. They have always welcomed state examination of the whole curriculum for which the state provides. But their schools, their staff, their religious programme, must be in their own hands;

otherwise, under pretence of freedom, they will be victims of a penal code more insidious and destructive to their religious liberty than you, sir, at least, can think just or reasonable. Liberty for all means liberty for each. The modern state professes not to interfere with conscience. But the Catholic conscience is already alarmed, and will feel itself deeply outraged if the moral training of our children is left at the mercy of local sectarian or secularist prejudice. We have still the power to vote; we ask only for equal treatment, and that in all cases. It is the liberal principle. Will you, sir, make it the foundation of your bill?

State of Ohio, City of Toledo,
Lucas County, SS.

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Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence this 6th day of December A.D. 1886.
(Seal) A. W. Gleason.
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Winning a Battle by Telephone

That the Japanese victory at Mukden was won by skillful use of the telephone is asserted by M. S. Sullivan in "The Electrical Review." Says the writer:

From the subdivision of each portion of the army, telephone lines were run to a portable switchboard, and from the various switchboards trunk lines were run to headquarters several miles to the rear. Thus the parts of each portion of the army were made to correspond with the subscribers of a telephone sub-station in a large city, the headquarters being analogous to the central station, to which all of the subsidiary stations are connected by trunk lines.

The rapidity with which the Japanese established telephone communication was remarkable. Lines were laid well in advance of the main body of troops, even when the army was advancing by forced marches, and perfect connection was maintained at all times between the different divisions. Whenever conditions permitted, the reels of wire and the instruments were carried in wagons. The lines were laid on the ground as rapidly as a horse-drawn vehicle could advance. If the line so laid was to become permanent, a detail followed the wagon at leisure and attached the wire to trees or hastily erected supports.

For "flying lines," or lines within the zone of action, which connected the commander's headquarters with the various divisions on the firing line, the detail following the reel wagon merely laid the wire in protected places on the ground where it was least likely to be disturbed. These lines were taken up, moved, or abandoned, as occasion demanded. Where the nature

of the country or other conditions rendered the advance of a wagon impossible or inexpedient, the line was advanced by men carrying coils of wire on their shoulders.

Mixed Wives

In the early part of the last century there lived in an old New England town a Mr. Church, who in the course of his earthly life was bereft of four wives, all of whom were buried in the same lot. In his old age it became necessary to remove the remains to a new cemetery. This he undertook himself, but in the process the bones became hopelessly mixed. His "New England conscience" would not allow him, under the painful circumstances to use the original headstones, so he procured new ones, one of which bore the following inscription: "Here lies Hannah Church and probably a portion of Emily."

Another: "Sacred to the Memory of Emily Church who seems to be mixed with Matilda."

Then followed these lines:

"Stranger pause and drop a tear:
For Emily Church lies buried here
Mixed in some perplexing manner
With Mary, Matilda, and, probably,
Hannah."—Harper's Weekly.

They are leisurely in England. Mr. Austen Chamberlain said of his father, "My right honorable friend, the member for West Birmingham, is, I regret to say, laid up with an attack of influenza." If he had been a member of the United States Congress he would have said, "Pop's away. Got the grip."

Rev. A La Bonte, O.M.I., of the St. Boniface Industrial School, will be ordained priest, and Rev. Maurice Pierquin, subdeacon, next Sunday.

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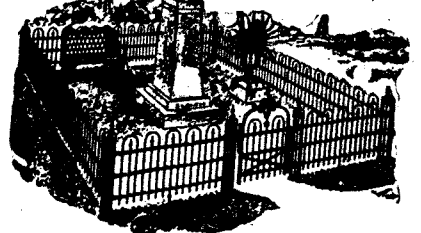
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