

RANDOM NOTES.

The Spectre of Exclusion in Regard to Catholic Writers.

A Novel View of the Outcome of the Establishment of a Royal Residence in Ireland—The New Move of the Medical Profession in Quebec Against the Society Doctor—The Away of the Kaiser and What May Come of It.

There has been considerable discussion in the States Catholic and secular Press of late over a complaint of a learned writer of Ontario that the Catholic magazine writer and author was denounced against because *per se* he or she was a Catholic. There is no proof in history that such has ever been the case, and it is not only a foolish but a dangerous idea to be permitted to go abroad without an emphatic contradiction. In this connection I deny the accuracy of the arguments adduced for the following reasons:—

- 1st. Genius is not bound by the petty ideas which are the germs of bigotry.
- 2nd. Brains will always tell, and a man of talent can always secure recognition apart from his religious creed.
- 3rd. The distinguishing mark of bigotry is its narrow mindedness and no man or woman imbued with such a spirit has brain power enough to qualify himself or herself to be editor of any respectable magazine.
- 4th. That Addison Protestant and Addison Catholic is as popular to-day as when he lived and history tells us that his conversion to Catholicity made no difference in the judges who judged his work. Who wrote *The Downfall of the House of the Medici*?
- 5th. That in this busy latter end of the nineteenth century literary people have no time to ask what a writer's religion is but simply to judge for themselves whether the work submitted is up to the standard.

In the world of art, literature and science genius is the only guide.

There are many ways of looking at the proposed to establish a royal residence in Ireland. As Mr. Michael Davitt, M.P., suggests, it is scarcely to be considered as the *ne plus ultra* of Irish national hopes, but there is also another side of the shield which is worthy of consideration at least. Within the past few years Ireland has shown a desire to abandon for the time the weapons of war for those of peace and instead of agitating for independence which can only be obtained at the point of the sword, her leading men have begun to turn their attention to the work of building up the commercial prosperity of Erin. Ireland, to achieve success in this, has everything except money, or in other words, customers. She has the national resources, the people ready and anxious to work them and the brains behind them to bring proper results. Therefore, any aid, any factor, in the ultimate success of the movement should be welcomed by the Irish student of national economies with open hands.

Therefore I am inclined to believe that a Royal residence in Ireland would be a stimulus of no small power. It would attract within its radius all the butter flies of fashion which to-day spend their gold in London, Glasgow or Paris, fattening the stranger. It may be possible that a visit to Ireland might become *de rigueur* in the future, and those who disdained the land of their birth as unworthy of a passing visit when under the cloud of Royal displeasure, might, under other circumstances, condescend to spend a little of the money they had wrung from the starving peasantry within the gates of her large cities. Let Ireland once become fashionable, then her commercial prosperity is assured. A Royal residence may, perhaps, produce a second invasion of Ireland more happy in its results than the first.

The fiat has gone forth. The College of Physicians and Surgeons of Quebec have decreed in solemn council assembled that the "lodge" doctor is to be ostracized and if possible to be abolished with as little delay as possible. Now, it strikes me in this way. Of late years there have been two classes or professions who have had matters pretty much their own way. They have been given all the legislation they have asked and have, what with one statute and another, been enabled to surround themselves with a hedge of provisions and penalties. I speak of the legal and medical professions. The lawyers have drawn up so many codified enactments that to be a member of the guild now costs a small fortune. The medical profession is following the example of the other with the result that in its eagerness to arrive at the desired goal it has overstepped the mark. The profession of medicine is as closely guarded as that of the law, but now the men who are the leaders desire to aggrandize themselves still further. They have decided that there should be no "lodge" doctors, that is to say, that the people, the working-man, desirous to protect himself and his family, must pay exorbitant medical fees when by combination with his neighbor he can have those fees so reduced as to give him a fighting chance against the evils of sickness. The Council of the Bar has not dared to take such a step, and in my opinion the medical profession is following this proposition are in the position of those who step in where angels fear to tread. The lawyers permit each other to be legal advisers for banks, other corporations and benevolent societies at so much a year. What is the difference between the lawyer and the doctor? One protects the pockets and the other the bodies of his clients. The next thing we will hear of is a schedule of fees which each doctor can collect under pain of imprisonment. Professions, no matter how powerful, should be careful before they seek to interfere with the rights of the people.

The Toronto Globe, in referring to the question, has this to say:—
The physicians are willingly accorded the right to safeguard the public against "quackery" and similar evils. To this

and they may exercise their power to the full, and no one will complain. But they certainly ought to make out a definite and strong case against the "lodge doctor," and the doctor who makes a special arrangement with a family or group of families, before putting him under the ban. It would be as fair for the bar of Quebec to threaten to "debar" a man who accepted a position as salaried counsel for a firm or company.

The great war lord of Germany is preparing a very warm time for himself. Firm in the belief that there is no one greater on this earth than he, his mind is bent on subjecting his people to the very lowest depths of political degradation. He sees himself on a rock, guarded by a strong army, a strong and growing navy, and that is all he considers necessary. He is the War Lord, the Kaiser of Germany, and as matters stand at present his ukase must be obeyed. But he forgets that the army is recruited from the people and that when the people get angry his throne may well tremble. Emperor William seems to me like the brazen statue of the ancient days. He has a bold front and is cased in armor, but the people who compose the pedestal of his throne and who are really the keystone of his power, are restless and uneasy. Petty persecutions ascribed to the Emperor are of daily recurrence, and if these things continue Germany in the near future will be swept with internal war.

The German is slow to take impressions, but when he does absorb them he is slow to abandon them. The growth of the Socialist and Republican spirit in the land of the Teuton has been rapid within the past ten years, and the people are beginning to show their teeth. *Less Mayse* is the great aim. The Germany of to-day is a striking example of medieval times imported into the nineteenth century.

OUR IRISH LETTER.

Cardinal Logue and the Drink Evil—How Ireland Stands.

Death of Two Well Known Priests—A Peculiar Manner of Disappearing of a Fortune—The Doom of Pauper Nurses Sealed.

DUBLIN, October 11.—The death is announced from Wexford of the Very Rev. Canon Murphy, parish priest of Ballycullane. He was born in Coolmain, Oylegate, and ordained in 1847, after studying in St. Peter and Maynooth Colleges. In 1889 he became parish priest of Ballycullane, and from that day until the day of his death was the warmest friend of the Byrnes evicted tenants. He never spared himself in the cause, and through his instrumentality the farms were not taken. To day no one regrets his loss more, as to them indeed he was father and friend.

THE LATE MR. DEASE'S LOVE FOR IRELAND

The late Matthew O'Reilly Dease, born in Ireland, and who made his money in Ireland, left his fortune, some £12,000, to reducing the national debt of Great Britain. It is a pity that his patriotism did not take a more practical turn. His relations viewed, we believe, with anything but pleasurable feelings the family gold disappearing within the Treasury's capacious maw. It certainly must be regarded as very hard lines that so obviously eccentric a disposition of wealth should be permitted. At one time it was believed that the deceased gentleman's family would contest the will. The matter has, however, now been settled, and £12,000 more of Irish money is absorbed by England. It is, of course, practically thrown into the sea so far as this country is concerned.

SAD DEATH OF A WELL KNOWN PRIEST.

A sad accident, resulting in the death of the Very Rev. Patrick Jones, P.P., of Blackdithe, county Wicklow, took place near Blessington last week. Father Jones was well known and universally esteemed and beloved in Dublin, where he passed twenty-seven years of his life as curate in the High-street church, and the news of his demise under tragic circumstances has occasioned widespread regret. On Sunday evening Father Jones attended the devotions in connection with the Forty Hours' Adoration at Ballymore-Eustace Church, which is somewhat over four miles from his residence. When driving home in the evening, accompanied by Father Duffy, C.C., in turning a corner opposite Lord Miltown's demesne wall the vehicle in which the reverend gentlemen were seated, through some accident, overturned, and the occupants were violently thrown out on the road, with the result that Father Jones was so dangerously injured as to render his death imminent at any moment. Father Duffy, although badly hurt, at once repaired to Father Jones's side, and, seeing that life was likely to ebb away at any moment, he administered the Last Sacraments of the Church to the dying priest, who shortly afterwards expired. From the time that he met with the accident scarcely an hour elapsed before death supervened on his injuries. Father Jones was born in the parish of Ardhanan, in the county of Tipperary, about the year 1844. He was educated at St. John's College, Waterford, and ordained in 1867. His first mission was to St. Andoens, where, in conjunction with Father Heffernan, he acted as curate for 26 years until he was, in 1892, appointed parish priest of Boystown.

THE VICTORY IS WON.

At last! The Local Government Board have issued a sealed order prohibiting the employment of Pauper Nurses in Irish Workhouses. An end has thus been put to a system, not only discreditable to the administrators of the Poor Law, but actually a disgrace to civilization. We congratulate Dr. Smyth, Naas, who was the pioneer of this great reform on the success which has attended his

untiring exertions. But for his vigorous and persistent onslaughts on the "abomination" the public would have remained in ignorance of its horrors, and to-day the Pauper Nurse's tenure in the Workhouse Hospitals would be as secure as it was before Dr. Smyth commenced his crusade against it. The Workhouse Reform Association whose action gave an impetus to the agitation against the Pauper Nurse is also deserving of honorable mention. In recording the eradication of one of the greatest evils of the Poor Law system—an outrage, indeed, on the sick poor—we may be permitted to express satisfaction that to a movement so prompted by the teachings of science as well as by the dictates of humanity, the Leinster Leader has been able to render material assistance.

CARDINAL LOGUE AND THE EVIL OF DRINKING.

Cardinal Logue, in answering an address presented by the Temperance Society of Donegal, had the following to say on the subject:—

You have truly said that we get a bad name here in Ireland for being a little too fond of the drop, and we get that bad name very unjustly. I thoroughly agree with you, Mr. McNeely, in that view which you put forward in your address, and you say it can be proved from statistics, and I believe it can. I believe there is more drinking in England and Scotland than we have here in Ireland, and if you want a proof of it, I can give you one within the bounds of my present archdiocese. There is a great distillery where there are over 100 persons employed in making whiskey, and one drop of the whiskey is not drunk in Ireland. Then, in the same neighbourhood there are two large breweries—three in fact—one in Drogheda, one in Castleblinham, and another one in Dundalk, and they are building a new one there, and very little of the produce of these distilleries is drunk in Ireland, and what I say of these places that have come under my own notice can be said. I think of Dublin and other places, for the manufacture of spirituous drink in Ireland, that their best customers are outside Ireland. There is one thing which always fastens a bad character upon us, and it is this—If an Irishman gets a little drop he cannot keep quiet. He will not go into a corner and keep quiet till it dies, but he must make a noise; whereas these Saxons and Scotchmen when they get drunk they get their heads down and keep as quiet as mice till it dies out of them. I thoroughly agree with what you have said in your address, that the drinking in Ireland is not as bad as we have got the reputation for. On the contrary, I think we are making great advance, and I am happy to say we are making a great advance in the matter of temperance.

MR. PATRICK COONEY WAS LUCKY.

A very singular occurrence took place in the streets of Edenderry on Saturday last. In the afternoon Mr. Patrick Cooney, P. L. G., of Cadamstown, was driving down the town when the horse attached to the cart on which he was driving shied and attempted to bolt. To manage the animal Mr. Cooney took the reins in both hands, but before doing so he removed his pipe from his mouth, as he was smoking at the time. In the pocket into which he put the pipe there was a sum of £100 rolled up in a tea paper bag, which was in turn rolled up in a small canvas bag. It now happened that the ashes of the tobacco were burning when deposited in the pocket, and the fire came into contact with the canvas bag which burned away gradually. Mr. Cooney went to put up the pony and trap, and having done so went to the bank to lodge the money. On entering the bank he put his hand in his pocket to draw out the money, but his surprise can be imagined when he found the receptacle on fire. He plunged in his hand again to save the money, whipped it out and threw it on the floor. The canvas bag was completely burned, and so was the tea bag, but fortunately the notes were only slightly blackened from the effects of the burning of their cover, and were saved to their owner. Mr. Cooney is to be congratulated on his good luck.

THE PILGRIMAGE TO ROME.

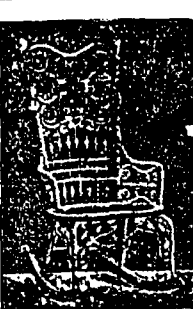
Great preparations are being made for the grand pilgrimage to Rome. It involves an absence from Ireland of only three weeks, and from present indications it will be one of the largest in the history of the Catholic Church in Ireland. Every effort is being made to make it thoroughly representative.

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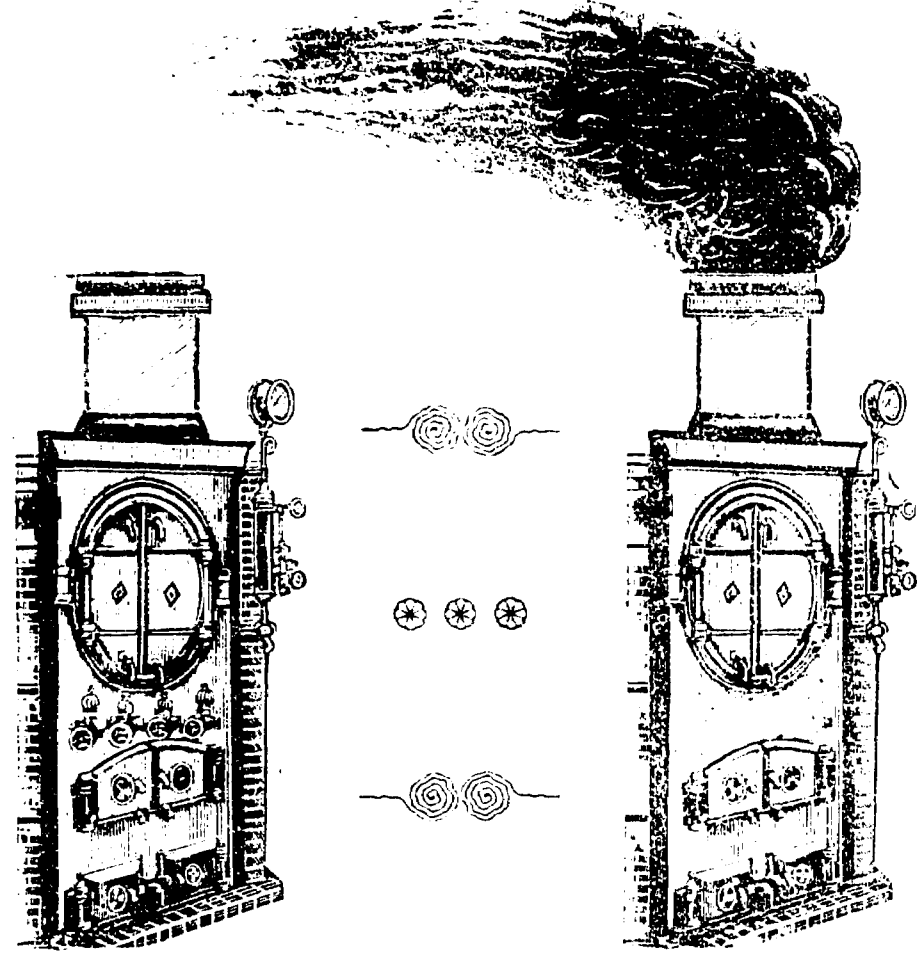
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