

BODMIN—OPENING OF ST. MARY'S CHURCH.

This neat church, built in the early English style, was opened with becoming solemnity on Thursday last (the Feast of our Lady of Mercy), by his Lordship the Bishop of the Western District and the clergy of the duchy. Being the first Catholic mission founded in that part of the country for upwards of three centuries, public curiosity was considerably excited, and vast multitudes assembled to witness the ceremonies, and to be instructed in the doctrines of the Catholic Church. Bishop Ullathorne gratified to the utmost of their wishes this laudable desire on the part of the multitude for personal information respecting the doctrine and rites of their fathers. Three several times on the day of the dedication, and three times on the Sunday following did the pious and learned Bishop, by his lucid and learned discourses, bring conviction and comfort to their understandings and their hearts.—It was impossible for candid minds to listen and not be convinced. Accordingly numbers of individuals expressed on the spot their conviction of the truths of Catholicity, and signified their intention of attending in future the Catholic worship; whilst some highly respectable individuals and connected by the nearest relationship with members of the Protestant Church establishment; gave in their unqualified adhesion to Catholicity, and even fixed on a very proximate opportunity of joining the Church. Nothing could exceed the decorum of the thronged audiences. Their zeal grew with the interest which the Bishop's discourses excited. Every attendance improved on the preceding until at length the church—ample as it was supposed to be—proved insufficient for the multitudes. Behold in Cornwall another successful effort to propagate Catholicity in central and populous districts in which hitherto no organised Catholic congregation existed merely because no opportunities were offered to the countless, fervent, and truth-loving spirits for satisfying their innate thirst for truth! Appeals to the public have of late been made for small pecuniary assistance in this great work of mercy and of love—edifying appeals that could neither compromise the dignity of the sacerdotal character, nor disgust the sensibilities of the public. Yet it is said these appeals were made with little or no beneficial result. This is discouraging when it is considered that Cornwall was hitherto one of the strongholds of irreligion, and the last forlorn fortress of usurped spiritual domination. In seizing the capital of the county and planting the standard of religion within the fortress, a great work has been accomplished. But outposts are to be secured and protected; distant stations to be established; and a complete machinery put in motion to reanimate the long suspended action of religion and to diffuse vitality

and health into his decrepid and emaciated frame. When small trifles for the dispersed and distant members of the Catholic body will secure on a permanent footing these inestimable blessings, it is to be hoped that the pastor of this mission will be yet liberally assisted in carrying out such sublime and meritorious projects. Let it be remembered that those who assist will be associated in the merit and reward of this glorious undertaking.—St. Mary's Bodmin,—Feast of St. Wenceslaus.—*Correspondent of Tablet.*

IRELAND.

DINGLE.—THE VINCENTIANS.—“I met the Vincentian Missionaries on their return from Dingle, where they had been to try to convert the *Soupers* (wretched beings who had been induced by promises of *soup*, &c., to renounce their faith.) I had a detailed account of their labours and, I rejoice to add, success. Numbers have returned to bewail their crime, and face want and persecution in a spirit of penance. One circumstance will convey to you an idea of the total prostration, if I should not rather say, destruction of Catholic feeling in that neighbourhood. It is this—that the comfortable Catholics, such as shopkeepers, &c., were in the habit of counselling the poor ignorant creatures to go over to their seducers for a time, until their distress should cease: nay, some used to subscribe to the fund for proselyting their fellow-Catholics! These good missionaries however, have now every reason to hope, from the wise and salutary measures taken, that a better spirit has been permanently awakened, and that many still outstanding will soon be reclaimed.”—*Extract from a private letter.*

AN IRISH STUDENT IN ROME.

At the *Concursus* held on the 13th and 21st of July last at the Roman University, twenty-nine students were entered as competitors for the gold and silver medals; and after a scrutinizing examination of eight hours on each day, the two prizes were carried away by a student of the diocese of Cloyne. The successful candidate for university and ecclesiastical distinction is only in his twenty-third year—a Sub-deacon in Holy orders, a student of the Irish College at Rome for about a year—his previous course having been pursued in the Irish College in Paris. His name is Thomas Cloke, a nephew of the venerable and venerated parish priest of Charleville. The competitors for those distinguished honours were selected from the various Colleges in the Eternal City. It seldom falls to the lot of any one student to obtain the two medals; but on the occasion in question it