NEWS FROM SCOTLAND.

Mr. John Craigen, solicitor, Aberdeen, has received a signal mark of honour from His Holiness Pope Pius X. In recognition of the services he has rendered to religion in the diocese, the Holy Father has created Mr. Craigen an Honorary Private Chamberlain. This title confers on the recipient the privilege of entering the retinue or entourage of the Pope, and of attending him on the occasion of certain ceremonials at the Vatican and at St. Peter's. Mr. Craigen was for some years chairman of the school board of Aberdeen, being the only Catholic member on the board, and is president of the Catholic Truth society of Scotland.

The Catholic Truth Society is an organization which is doing excellent work in Scotland. It has branches in all the larger towns and cities and every month it issues a pamphlet which sets forth some dogma of the faith, combats some popular Protestant fallacy regarding the Church, or gives some extract from Scottish history from a Catholic standpoint. These pamphlets are on sale at the church doors at one penny each, and a stock of back numbers are always available. Besides reading these publications themselves, Catholics hand them to their non-Catholic friends, and thus afford them an opportunity of learning some facts about the Faith.

Mr. Ogilvie-Forbes of Boyndlie, Aberdeenshire, the proprietor of a finely-situated agricultural estate, was at one time a minister of the Presbyterian Church, and a missionary in Ceylon. He is now, and has been for a good many years, a prominent layman in the Catholic Church. Mr. Ogilvie Forbes' ancestors were ardent Jacobites, and one of them, Lord Pitsligo, had to seek refuge in a lonely cave on the north east coast of Scotland, when pursued by Cumberland's troopers after the Battle of Culloden. The old family seat, the Castle of Pitsligo, has been for many years a picturesque ruin.

Pastor Jacob Primmer, a notorious "no Popery" lecturer in Scotland, has worked himself into a great wrath, because The Scotsman, a leading newspaper published in Edinburgh, has been making a judicious use of the sub-editorial blue pencil in dealing with his anti-Catholic advertisements. The Scotsman not only eliminated from Mr. Primmer's effusions many insults against the Catholic religion, but positively refused to insert a number of them. Mr. Primmer first came prominently before the public on the occasion of the baptism of the infant daughter of Prince and Princess Henry of Battenberg at Balmoral Castle. Jordon water was used for the baptismal ceremony, and this Mr. Primmer vigorously denounced as "a Popish superstition." This princess is now Queen of Spain, and a Catholic.

AN ABSURDITY AND AN OUTRAGE.

In an article on the "Royal Declaration" made by the Sovereign of England on accession to the throne, Father Wilfrid Lescher, O. P., describes it as a repudiation by the King of the Catholic religion, expressed in terms which no gentleman would dare to utter now at any public meeting in the Empire. It is now, he says, uttered by the king of Great Britian and Ireland and Emperor of India, whereas it was made for the king of England only. It is addressed to Parliament, where Catholic peers are free by law to sit, and Catholic members are present in the House of Commons. It is the repudiation of a religion freely sanctioned by law. This is enough to say what it is—an absurdity in everything where it is not an outrage. It cannot be made good, it cannot be justified. It was made for a state of things which have vanished. As a defence of the Established Church it has no meaning when we see the people largely withdrawn from that Church, now that the Dissenters are a recognized political force, and Disestablishment looms out upon the horizon. There is no such thing now as national Church except in the sense of legal privilege and mere legality.

As to the meaning of the offensive Declaration in another portion of the Kingdom, Father Lescher observes that: Whatever it may be in England, it is in Ireland an engine of pure oppression and unabashed tyranny. It is expressly intended for the purpose of pronouncing that a Catholic people shall not be ruled by one of their own creed. With a subtle ferocity that the keenest two-edged sword might envy, these words do a contradictory work in England and in Ireland; in the former country expressing the domineering force of the majority, in Ireland expressing the domineering and arbitrary rights of the minority, rights only to be secured by the majority in England.

The Dublin Freeman's Journal referring to this matter remarks that Prime Minister Asquith's recently expressed emphatic disapproval of the retention in the Statute Book of the Royal Declaration, and promise to institute legislation for its abolition, were somewhat weakened by the statement that some other Declaration would be substituted for the present form, which gives such just offence to every generous mind. The Protestant Succession to the Throne is abundantly safeguarded, The Coronation oath was settled soon after the Revolution by a statute which requires the Sovereign to give an affirmative answer on oath to the following question: "Will you to the utmost of your power maintain the laws of God and the Protestant Religion established by law?" The Bill of Rights enacts "that any person who shall be reconciled or shall hold communion with the See or Church of Rome, or shall marry a Papist, or shall profess the Popish religion, shall be for ever incapable to possess or inherit the Crown, and that in every such case the people are absolved from their allegiance, and the Crown and Government are to descend on such person or persons, being Protestants, as should have inherited and enjoyed the same in case the person holding communion with Rome or marrying a Papist were actually dead."

Truly, as the Freeman adds, these provisions ought to be enough to satisfy the most rabid anti-Catholic as to the Protestantism of the British Throne.—N. Y. Freeman's Journal.

FIVE HUNDRED CHURCHES DESTROYED.

WHAT THE CHURCH LOST IN ITALIAN EARTHQUAKE — MESSINA CATHEDRAL ONE OF THE OLDEST IN THE WORLD.

Next Sunday a collection for the survivors of the earthquake in Sicily and Calabria will be taken up in all the churches of the diocese of Cleveland. The funds collected will be sent direct to the Holy Father, who is devoting to the rescue work all his available resources and all the assistance being received daily from Catholics throughout the world. It would take an enormous sum to cover the loss of property to the Church itself, to say nothing of the greater loss of life.

Writing from Messina, a correspondent of the New York Sun says that nine-tenths of the priests of that city are dead. "The doom of the churches," he writes, "was absolutely complete. I am told that not a single sacred edifice remains standing in all the afflicted area. Five hundred in a single diocese are prostrate, and the total number destroyed is nearly a thousand.

MESSINA'S RUINED CATHEDRAL.

"In the early part of my first exploration," continues the same correspondent, "I reached the ruins of what had been one of the finest cathedrals south of St. Peter's itself. It stood facing a little park-like enclosure, where were an elaborate fountain, palm trees, kiosks and resting places. The church had been in the form of a Latin cross, 305 feet in length and across the transepts 145 feet in width. It had passed through various vicissitudes since its construction was commenced eight hundred and ten years ago. It was damaged by fire in 1254, and it suffered seriously in the earthquake of 1783. Much of it had been rebuilt from time to time, and much wealth had been lavished upon it at various periods in its history. No less a sum than $760,000 was spent upon the high altar alone in 1628, and Messina estimated that the noble structure and its contents of priceless relics of art and antiquity represented the enormous value of $10,000,000.

"The roof had been supported by twenty-two granite columns which are said to have once belonged to a temple of Neptune near the Faro in Roman days. All these are prostrate and in pieces. Many royal bones were in its vaults, including those of Alphonso the Generous, who was buried there in 1458, and Queen Antonia, the widow of Frederick III. of Aragon. The treasury was rich in goldsmith's work of the fifteenth century and in jewels, and probably these will eventually be recovered.

"The interior aspect of this great basilica, like all else in Messina, was that of utter destruction. In one corner I came across the discarded garments of several convicts, showing that some of the escaped prisoners from the penitentiary had used this shelter to change their betraying uniforms for civilian clothes during their brief career of pillage."

MASS IN AN ORANGE GROVE.

How the Church continues her mission in spite of devastation is suggested by this vivid and touching picture in the press dispatch from Reggio under date of January 17:

"For the first time since the earthquake disaster of December 28, Mass was said in Reggio to-day, under conditions that recalled the early days of the Church. Processions passed through the streets of the city ringing bells and calling the people to the service, which was held in an orange grove near the shore. The altar was formed by a table, covered with a white cloth, behind which was hung a picture of Christ. Around this were arranged several candles, a crucifix and some sacred vessels, all protected from the wind by a cloth screen.

"There were present many women and children, all of whom knelt before the improvised altar, while the men stood with uncovered heads behind them. On the outskirts of the crowd were several shepherds in the midst of their flocks, standing erect in their characteristic dress, with hands crossed over the top of their crooks, upon which they rested their chins. The whole scene might have been taken from one of the early Biblical pictures of a primitive religious service. The crowd followed the ceremony with great interest, and much fervor was shown in carrying out the religious forms."

FATHER DAY, S. J., ON WOMAN SUFFRAGE.

As to the female suffrage movement, Father Henry Day, the well known English Jesuit, discoursing recently on "The Church and Woman's Rights" said that from the standpoint of Christian teaching he could see no reason why unmarried women who possess property should not be granted this privilege. In regard to married women the case, he said, is different. They are one with their husband, and their position is not sufficiently independent to enable them to use the privilege freely. The bestowing of the franchise on married women would mean either conferring two votes on the husband or else the bringing into existence a cause of friction between husband and wife, and of domestic disunion and bitterness. The objection is raised of the natural incapacity of woman to vote. But this would seem to be an objection resting on no solid foundation. Women are admittedly not lacking in mental endowments and in spiritual gifts, while they may not be as strong in reasoning nor as powerful in controversy as men. But their sympathies are just and their instincts are true. While they would be out of place in the councils of the nation, and in the arena of stormy debate, there is nothing to prevent their using a beneficent influence at the poll.

But in regard to woman, the vote and the franchise, Father Day described as small things. The true mission of a woman is in her home, to make her husband happy, to bring up children, to create great men. That is the second birth that has not been cursed like the first. That is the way to female blessedness, and the crowning of woman.

If there could be a woman plebiscite throughout civilization the verdict, we believe, would by an overwhelming majority be in favor of this view of woman's mission and against the Suffragettes.—N. Y. Freeman's Journal.

PILES Dr. Chase's Ointment is a certain and guaranteed cure for each and every form of itching, bleeding and protruding piles. See testimonials in the press and ask your neighbors about it. You can use it and get your money back if not satisfied. 60c. at all dealers or EDMANSON, BATES & CO., Toronto.

DR. CHASE'S OINTMENT.

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A Quick Breakfast for Dark Mornings.

When you rise late the only breakfast is Shredded Wheat—ready to serve—easily digested, fits you for half a day's cheerful work—none of that grouchy feeling usually following "hurry-up" breakfasts. Try with hot milk and salt to taste.

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DETROIT PRIEST AT ST. PETER'S CATHEDRAL.

London Free Press, Feb. 8.

At Vespers at St. Peter's Cathedral last evening a special sermon was preached by Rev. Father Van Antwerp, in aid of the poor of the parish, under the auspices of the Society of the Children of Mary.

The Rev. Father made an eloquent appeal for charity, taking for his text: "Now there remain these three, Faith, Hope and Charity, but the greatest of these is Charity."

He began by remarking that faith, hope and charity were three divine virtues, commonly called theological virtues. Faith and hope, he said, were the fundamental virtues, and charity, the greatest, was built upon these two as upon a firm foundation, as without faith it was impossible to please God, without hope, to attain to God, and without charity, to be united to God. Charity was the essence of the Christian religion, for God is love.

True organized charity was found only in the Catholic Church. Outside of the Catholic Church there were some magnificent examples of individual charity, such as Florence Nightingale, but these were isolated and by no means common. Outside the Church there was much so-called charity, that is, human charity, or pity, benevolence, philanthrophy, an instance of which was the magnificent response from the whole Christian world to the suffering Italians.

But, said the reverend Father, this may not be real charity, which is the love of neighbor, because we see God in those we help. For, said the speaker, as Paul, the great apostle of the Gentiles, tells us, that even if we delivered all our goods to feed the poor and delivered our bodies to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth nothing.

"Real charity, then, is something more than mere giving." "It is giving to the needy and the poor because we see Christ in them. In the Catholic Church we see this organized charity, and it is the only religion which has organized charity in the real sense of the word.

See the communities of men and women who have given up the world and its prospects and have left father, mother, sister and brother to put into practice true Christian charity. See the little sisters of the poor caring for the aged and infirm with more than a sister's or a mother's love. See Sisters of the Good Shepherd reaching out a helping and protecting hand to poor fallen womanhood, making of them sainted Magdalenes. See the Christian Brothers caring for the homeless youths, making of them good citizens, see the sisters of charity in hospitals the world over, devoting their lives to the care of the sick and all for what? For any human motive? Oh, no, it is for true Christian charity, love of neighbor because of God, because in all they see the Crucified One and they know that they are servants of God, that as often as they do the least thing to the least of God's children they do it unto Him, for Christ Himself tells us that on the last day He will say, "Come ye blessed of My Father; receive the kingdom prepared for you, for I was hungry and ye gave Me to eat, I was thirsty and ye gave Me to drink, I was naked and ye clothed Me, sick and in prison and ye visited Me." Then shall the just say, "When, Lord did we do all these things to You, and our Blessed Lord will reply, "As often as ye did the least of these to your neighbors ye did it unto Me."

The organized charity of the Catholic Church was a convincing proof of her divinity, said the reverend Father. He concluded with an eloquent appeal to all to be charitable in the real sense of the word according to their means.

The church was well filled, and in very few places empty seats could be found.

Six representatives of the society took up a collection, which proved to be a very generous one.

During vespers about forty young ladies were enrolled into the Ladies Sodality of the Blessed Virgin Mary by the Rev. Father Aylward.

Father Van Antwerp, the speaker for the evening, is pastor of the Holy Rosary Church, Detroit, and is a brother of Mother Van Antwerp, of the Sacred Heart Convent, this city.

Decoration Of St. Mary's Church.

The Reverend Father Casey, of Lindsay, has appointed the Thornton-Smith Company, of Toronto, to redecorate the interior of St. Mary's Church, recently damaged by fire.

AN INCIDENT.

A party of sightseers, all of whom were non-Catholics, decided to visit the churches in the town through which they were passing. From church to church they went arriving at last at the only Catholic church in the place. When the group emerged from the sacred edifice one of them said: "How strange! Scarcely a word was spoken by any of us while we were in there, and think how we laughed and chattered while passing through the other churches." The others did not attempt to explain the reason of their silence, but all admitted that there was a mysterious something that checked the flow of conversation and forbade levity of manner before the Catholic altar. A Catholic to whom this incident was related suggested that the hush and decorum was due to the invisible but real Presence in the tabernacle. Did the visitors feel the influence of Our Blessed Lord's nearness? Cardinal Vaughan in his volume "The Young Priest," asserts that "the Eucharist sometimes becomes sensible to persons entering into Its presence. I know several cases in which Protestants received the grace of conversion in consequence of the sensible and very powerful influence of the Blessed Sacrament during a visit made through mere curiosity."

"INCONCAIVABLE" IGNORANCE.

The reader has doubtless heard of the witty Irishman's excuse for the superstitions of paganism: "Sure, it's all owing to their inconcaivable ignorance." The excuse perhaps, might well be applied to others besides the pagans. The San Francisican Leader for October 3 has a case in point. It quotes a passage from a sermon preached a few days previously in Oakland by a Presbyterian minister, presumably a fair minded man and able to read and write, a Rev. Mr. Baker. The passage quoted is the following: "In the Catholic Church permission to commit sin may be purchased in advance by money, or, strange to say, a stipulated number of Ave Marias and Pater Nosters.—Holy Family Church Calendar.

Our Lady's Lamp.

Night is hardly past, the chill dawn brightens,
Duty's long day begins its dull routine—
But a mother's smile makes light the burden,
For Mary is our Mother and our Queen.
Happy is the maiden, who, at rising, hastens
Down in the silence where the dim stars shine,
On through the darkness, fleeing from her taper,
To light the lamp before our Lady's shrine.

Aye, be it only in her heart she lights it,
Or, like a little maiden that I know,
Boasting that hers is the duty and the honor
First to our Lady's altar-lamp to go.
First of her schoolmates, eagerly she rises—
"Sweetest of duties, dear Mother, it is mine"—
(Thus to pious mother writes the pious maiden)
"To light the lamp before our Lady's shrine."

So in holy convents, where gay children cluster
Round the childlike angels that guard them well;
So in holy convents, more tranquil, where these only
Live their life of prayer in choir and cell;
So in holy homesteads, in the world, not of it,
Peaceful homes and pure, kind friend, like thine—
May we all, at least in heart, keep burning
The lamp of love before our Lady's shrine.

—REV. MATTHEW RUSSELL, S. J.

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This is a fine, handsome clear-toned, full-sized violin highly polished, nicely colored, complete with string bridge, three gut strings, ebony finish pegs, long bow of white horse hair and box of resin. Everything complete sent securely packed in a box. Just send us your name and address, and agree to sell only 8 boxes of our Famous New Life Vegetable Pills. A grand remedy and cure for all Weak and Impure Conditions of the Blood, Indigestion, Stomach Trouble, Constipation, Weakness, Nervous Disorders, Rheumatism and Female Troubles. A grand Tonic and Life-builder. These are our regular 50c. size. They are easy to sell, as each customer who buys a box of medicine from you is entitled to receive a present of Silverware Cuff Links or ring. Don't miss this chance of your life. Send us your name and address at once, and we will promptly send you by mail (postage paid) the 8 boxes of medicine. When sold remit to us the $2.00 and we will send you this handsome Violin, etc., just as represented. Write to-day. Address THE NEW LIFE REMEDY CO. Dep. 97 Toronto, Ont.

"Easter Postals, 100 different subjects, postpaid for $1.50. Cards retail at 5 cents each. The Red Star News Co., London, Ont.

Catholic Women's Club, Toronto.

The Catholic Women's Club of University of Toronto were entertained last Wednesday by the Sisters and pupils of St. Joseph's Academy. Tea was served in one of the large reception rooms after which a delightful literary programme was given by the pupils in the assembly hall. The members numbering about twenty-five were nearly all present and among the invited guests were Miss Salter, Miss Lawlor, Miss O'Connell and Dr. May Callaghan.

ALICE M. ROONEY, President.

To Those Going West.

Any of our people who purpose taking up settlements in the great Northwest will find it to their advantage to write to Box 317, Walkerville, Ontario. By so doing they will receive valuable information.

A Rich Treat.

On Friday next Thomas Augustine Daly, poet and humorist, will deliver one of his inimitable lectures at the Collegiate Institute, London. We hope there will be a bumper house to greet this deservedly popular and brilliant litterateur.

AS A VISIT FROM AN OLD FRIEND.

WE WELCOME THE ARRIVAL OF DR. A. W. CHASE'S ALMANAC FOR 1909—THE ANNUAL DIARY CONTEST HAS MADE THIS THE MOST POPULAR OF ALMANACS.

As a reminder that another year has rolled around we find on our desk the 1909 edition of Dr. Chase's Almanac, and, like many of our readers, we have come to look on this annual publication as an old friend.

This year the style of cover has been entirely changed and instead of a rural or agricultural scene, we find prominence, in the cover design, given to the portrait of the famous old physician, who by reason of his great Receipt Book and well-known Family Medicines, has made his name a household word familiar to two generations.

So highly esteemed are these products of the genius and skill of the old doctor that his name has come to be considered synonymous with merit, and, when new fangled treatments are tried in vain, resorts is had to these medicines which have stood the test of time and proven themselves without equal.

But to return to the Almanac, we find the most prominent features to be the weather forecast, which has a splendid reputation for accuracy, and the annual diary contest, in which $200 in gold, and also other rewards, are offered for the best diary kept in Dr. Chase's Almanac. Each year great enthusiasm is shown in this diary competition, and besides winning valuable prizes, people are learning the benefit of keeping a record of business transaction and daily events.

If you have not been so fortunate as to receive a copy of Dr. Chase's Almanac, the publishers, Edmanson, Bates & Co. Toronto, will send you a copy, postpaid, if you mention this paper. You will find this almanac well worth sending for, as it contains much information which is valuable and useful.

The North American Life.

In another column will be found the report of the business of the North American Life Assurance Co., presented to the twenty eighth annual meeting of the shareholders, held at its home office on Thursday last. Its satisfactory character is apparent from the addition of $81,980.59 to the cash income, which has increased to $1,807,078.28. This is due in part to the further reduction obtained in the ratio of expenses to premium income, enabling the company to claim place in the front rank of economically managed life insurance concerns. The assets rose during the year ending Dec. 31, 1908, by $854,762.01 and now stand at $9,690,638.09, invested in the best class of securities available. The directors further report that after making ample provision for all liabilities and paying over $124,771.26 in dividends to policyholders, the net surplus was increased to $876,214.15. The company now carries a total insurance in force of $40,341,691.00, whereof $4,465,224.00 represents the polices issued and revived during last year. These figures testify to careful and conservative management and reflect high credit on the directors and officials.

DIED.

PURCELL.—At Guelph, Ont., on Saturday, Jan. 30, 1909, Mrs. Michael Purcell, aged seventy-three years. May her soul rest in peace!

FORSTER.—In this city, on the 3rd inst., Miss Susan Forster, sister of Rev. Fathers F. and D. Forster. May her soul rest in peace!

KEILTY.—In Prescott, on Feby. 3rd, Mr. Thos. Keilty, Collector of Customs. May his soul rest in peace!

SOUTH AFRICAN VETERANS.

S. A. Veterans. Write me for particulars which will be to your interest. Will locate you. R. M. C. Houston. C. N. R. Land Department, Regina, Sask, Box "9." 1581 2

WESTERN LANDS FOR SALE.

Going West. Am in a position to sell you first class land on direct line of railway for $3.00 per acre. Will locate you on good homestead adjoining. R. M. C. Houston, C. N. R. Land Department, Regina, Sask., Box "9."

TEACHERS WANTED.

WANTED A QUALIFIED TEACHER, CAPable of teaching English and French, for S. S. S. No 2, Hazel. Salary $500. Address Rev. T. Crowley, Sec. Treas., Warren, Ont. 1582-2.

WANTED, IMMEDIATELY, A TEACHER FOR R. C. Sep. School No. 14, Haldimand, for remainder of the year or till midsummer vacation. Apply, stating qualifications and salary, giving references to Thomas Calnan, Vernonville, Ont. 1582-2

FARM FOR SALE.

LOT 6, CON. 5, IN TOWNSHIP OF ARTHUR, County Wellington. Contains 200 acres, stone house, bank barn, all in good repair. Well watered with spring creek. Land is rich and clean. One hundred acres of this farm in pasture for 12 years. In a Catholic settlement—Separate school at corner of lot. Will be sold on easy terms of payment. For further particulars apply to Dennis McNamara, Mount Forest, Ont. 1582-2.

HOMES WANTED.

GOOD CATHOLIC HOMES WANTED FOR the following children: two girls, aged seven and nine, and three boys, aged eight, four and two and a half years. These children are bright, intelligent and nice looking, and are all worthy of good homes. Applications received by William O'Connor, Inspector Children's Branch, Parliament Buildings, Toronto. 1581-3

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THERE IS A GOOD OPENING FOR A Veterinary surgeon in the town of Red Deer, Alberta. Population between two and three thousand. Surrounding country largely devoted to stock raising. Further particulars can be procured on application to Rev. Father Voisin, Catholic mission, Red Deer, Alta. 1581-3

HOUSEKEEPER WANTED.

A RELIABLE AND COMPETENT HOUSEkeeper wanted for a missionary priest, living in a farming country of Saskatchewan, fifteen miles from a good size town and station. A young widow, even with a child few years old, would be accepted, on references. Apply to Rev. missionary priest, at Ossa, P. O., Sask. 1581-3

FOR MARCH 17.

ORDER YOUR IRISH POST CARDS NOW and get a fine assortment of the 'better kind' 25cts per doz., stamps or silver. C. McInerney, 233 Catherine st. N., Hamilton, Ont. 1582-4.

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By order of the Board,
JAMES MASON,
General Manager

Toronto, Jan. 23, 1909

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