

THE WEEK IN IRELAND.

TWO RESOLUTIONS.—The following account of a meeting of the Thomastown Board of Guardians, illustrates how unfairly self-sacrificing Catholic nuns are frequently treated, and how well it is that Catholic laymen should be ready to stand between the defenseless religious and the perpetrators of wrongs.

The minutes having been read, Mr. A. O'Donnell said: Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, before you sign the minutes I wish to call the attention of the Guardians to the resolution that has been read by Mr. Barry, proposed by Mr. O'Neil, and seconded by Mr. Forrester. I think that the resolution was passed too hastily and on the impulse of the moment.

DILLON AT TIPPERARY.—Speaking at a great meeting at Toomevara on Sunday, presided over by the Rev. D. Fogarty, P. P., Mr. John Dillon, M.P., said:—Nationalists of North Tipperary, I congratulate all of you and those who organized this demonstration to-day on the magnificent success which has attended their efforts, and I say that since our efforts to reunite the National forces in Ireland were crowned with success last year, I have not seen anywhere any greater mark of the marvellous change which that union has brought about in Ireland than in the streets of Nenagh to-day.

THE ROSARY CHURCH AT LOURDES.

Our readers are already familiar with the story of the Rosary Church with its fifteen altars, each commemorative of one of the fifteen Mysteries, that has been recently erected at Lourdes. The detailed account of the consecration of this monumental temple, which event closed the last brilliant Lourdes season, will prove both interesting and edifying.

exceedingly rich, as, for instance, that of Cardinal Gooshen, Archbishop of Malines, which gleamed with emeralds and diamonds. One prelate, young and of striking appearance, towered above the rest. This was the Right Rev. Dr. McDonnell, Bishop of Brooklyn. On reaching the portal of the church the bishops, forming a half circle, fell on their knees, each kneeling on a white velvet cushion embroidered with gold.

GATHOLIC PROGRESS DURING A CENTURY.

In 1800, about one thousand missionaries were distributed throughout the missions of the world. In 1900, there are 13,500 missionary priests, and 4,500 lay Brothers, working in the various missions, and this is only part of the staff that modern Apostolate has created. The other sex has also claimed its part, and it is the best part, and what was mostly unknown to the former century. We see it now, that is, 50,000 Europeans and 10,000 natives of the mission districts employed everywhere in relieving the poor and the afflicted.

CONSTITUTION OFFICE.

Possibly nothing is more interesting in all Lourdes, outside the sacred shrine, than the Bureau des Constitutions. The account given of this remarkable office is too important to permit of curtailment. It runs thus:—There is no spot in the world of higher medical interest than this Bureau. The American Bishop of Brooklyn was a visitor to it during the recent visit of the Blessed Virgin. He was referred to by the cardinal, and the Bishop of Tarbes and another prelate. That same afternoon, thanks to the courtesy of Dr. Boisgarnier, we were confronted with M. Gabriel Gargam, the miraculous cured of the 21st of August last, whom the graphic correspondent of the 'Daily Mail' made his readers ascribe him to a 'rag of humanity.' We saw before us a mild, modest-looking man of apparently about thirty years of age, tall, pale, and, as he said, 'gentlemanly appearance, and, though not robust looking, showing no sign of ill-health or infirmity. Having heard that he was practically an unbeliever up to the time of his cure, we ventured to say: 'You believe in the Blessed Sacrament passed by?' 'No,' he replied; 'it came back in the morning after the cure, when I received Holy Communion.' We ventured another question: 'Why did you receive Holy Communion if you did not believe?' The answer was: 'I saw death approaching, and I wanted to be in readiness.' He then alluded to his mother's influence in the matter. The aged mother was standing by. With tears in her eyes she said: 'Oh, the prayers that had been made! Sacred Heart that had been made! In presence of this two-fold blessing, a son's conversion and a son's cure, we said to Madame Gargam: 'You ought to be the happiest of mothers. The aged mother was standing by. In his prayers that had been made! In presence of this two-fold blessing, a son's conversion and a son's cure, we said to Madame Gargam: 'You ought to be the happiest of mothers. The aged mother was standing by.

NOTES FROM OHLTON, ONT.

On Sept. 17 the formal opening of the new rectory of St. Joseph's Church, Clinton, Ont., took place. His Lordship McEvoy of London, Rev. Father McMenamin, the parish priest, Rev. Father Alward, rector of St. Peter's Cathedral, London, and several priests assisted at the ceremony of blessing the new residence. After the ceremony a sumptuous

FRANCE'S COMING CONTEST.

[By a Regular Contributor.]

The ultimate outcome of the critical situation in France is decidedly the most momentous political problem of continental Europe to-day. The suppression of the Public Worship Budget by the Committee of the French Chamber of Deputies has created a grave uneasiness in many quarters, although Rome is by no means surprised at such a course being taken. In one of his analytical letters to the 'Sun' that organizes the Roman correspondent, 'Innominato' has pointed out how after the elections of next May that a complete change will take place in the aspect of the French political situation. He wisely indicates that on the eve of an election it is not the ministry's policy to precipitate a breach between Paris and Rome. On this question he makes a very sweeping assertion, and one that has all the looks of being pretty exact. He says:—

HAPPENINGS IN ROME.

PAPAL AUDIENCES.—The week before last His Holiness gave audiences to several English-speaking prelates. Amongst them may be mentioned Mgr. Chapelle, Archbishop of New Orleans and Apostolic Delegate for the Philippine Islands. He has spent some months in Rome. On Thursday Mgr. Robert Fraser, rector of the Scots College, had the honor of an audience with the Holy Father, who expressed the greatest interest in the satisfactory progress made by the Church in Scotland, adding that it was in a great measure due to the excellent training which the young students of the Scots College received in only 22 dioceses. In 1900, there were 2,000 missionaries and two million Catholics.

AN AMUSING STORY.

A Roman correspondent tells of an amusing story that is now going the rounds of the journalistic circles there. It appears that on the occasion of President McKinley's death the European editor of a well-known telegraphic agency, closely connected with a leading New York yellow journal, sent the following telegram from London: 'His Holiness Pope Pius IX., Vatican Point. Kindly tell us your opinion about President McKinley's assassination.' It was no doubt a 'lapetus calami' on the part of the harassed and over-worked London editor, but the telegraph employees, whether desirous of giving the too-enterprising journalist a lesson or of having a joke at his expense, simply wired back to London the stereotyped phrase 'Unknown at this address.' Yellow journals, especially transatlantic ones, appear to think that nothing is easier for a Roman correspondent than to walk up to the Pope's private apartments and interview His Holiness, often on the most trifling subjects. Unscrupulous correspondents, representing, I am sorry to say, a large percentage of the fraternity, indirectly tend to encourage this mistaken idea, as they invariably manufacture imaginary interviews with the most exalted personages in response to the extravagant instructions which they receive from their ignorant editors. The sooner it is understood in New York editorial offices that to solicit the Pope's opinion on everyday topics means throwing away telegraph fees, and that to address His Holiness directly in a curt professional manner represents a gross breach not only of etiquette, but of the most elementary good manners, the better for everybody concerned, for truth, for the press, and for the public.

TRUE HEROISM.

The following item of news carries its lesson with it.—The Italian papers tell of a brave deed, the heroine of which is the Mother Superior of the monastery 'Del Paradiso,' near Leghorn. On the 11th inst. a lay-sister named Matilde Finoni, while lighting the kitchen fire, unfortunately upset a paraffin lamp, becoming instantly a mass of flames. Her agonized shrieks brought the Mother Superior, Sister Mary Orietta, on the spot, and the brave nun lost no time in throwing the poor girl on the ground, attempting to suffocate the flames. But her own clothes having caught fire, it was only with the greatest difficulty that the rest of the community succeeded in putting out the conflagration. The lay-sister's life is despaired of, and her would-be rescuer lies in a most critical condition. From time to time rumors of these brave deeds find their way through convent walls, and set our hearts beating with pride and admiration; but how long will it be before the force of evidence succeeds in breaking down the 'great wall' of anti-monastic and irreligious prejudice?

'DOOLEY' IS DEAD.

The following despatch will interest many.—'Mr. Dooley' lives no longer except in Gettysburg, Pa. The original 'Flinley' Police Commissioner, and formerly in the Twenty Hospital, died yesterday.