

During 1890, 4,558 children and 590 adults were baptized. Besides the schools there are 8 orphan asylums, 1 foundling asylum and 1 hospital.

PROGRESS OF CATHOLICITY IN AUSTRALIA.

It is said that Catholicity is not progressing, and this its enemies endeavor to establish by statistics. Now, it is sufficient to cast a glance at Australia to find a proof of the falsity of that assertion. In 1876, for example, there were in Australia 450,000 Catholics, not counting those in New Zealand. To-day, fifteen years later, we find that the Catholic population of that country is 750,000 souls, or nearly double. There is shown a corresponding increase in the ranks of the clergy. From 330 in 1876, the Australian clergy has grown to the number of 620, an increase of 290 priests.

The number of churches and chapels has been augmented by 260, and the Catholic schools have multiplied as if by magic. There are now 450 schools more than in 1876.

The population of Australia, including Tasmania, is at least 5,400,000 persons, and if the increase continues proportionately during twenty years, half of that continent will then be Catholic.

Mr. Chas. Lennig, of Philadelphia, has given to the University of Pennsylvania the magnificent sum of \$700,000. The income of \$500,000 of which is to be used in connection with the Towne bequest for purchasing of instruments, materials, etc., in mechanics, and will be called "The Charles Lennig Fund." \$20,000 is to be devoted to free scholarship, (excluding theological) the scholars to be selected without regard to faith or nationality. The use of tobacco and liquors by the beneficiaries will preclude their enjoyment of the fund. — *The Pennsylvanian*.

GENERAL NEWS.

The exercises in honor of St. Joseph were begun earlier than usual this year, owing to Easter falling on the 29th of March.

Rev. Canon McCarthy, pastor of St. Bridget's Church, will deliver the sermon on St. Patrick's Day at the University.

Very Rev. J. M. McGuckin, O.M.I., Rector of the University, is engaged in giving a course of Lenten lectures at St. Joseph's church. The course of sermons at the Sacred Heart is being preached by Rev. Fr. Fillatie, O.M.I.

On the feast of St. Thomas, His Grace Archbishop Duhamel kindly consented to celebrate Mass for the philosophers in the University Chapel.

His Grace, Archbishop Duhamel, delivered a brief but very instructive sermon on the Patron of the Day. He particularly dwelt upon the humility and chastity which adorned his soul and the love of study which filled his heart during his whole life, qualities which gained for him the title of "Angel of the Schools."

The series of lectures on the Labour Question, delivered by Rev. Father Fillatre, O.M.I., before the St. Patrick's Literary Association, proved to be of an interesting and instructive character.

Prof. H. Glasmacher is engaged in delivering weekly lectures on the subjects included in the English honor course.

Rev. Fr. Langevin, O.M.I., Director of the Theological Seminary, was in Montreal last week. He preached before the St. Vincent de Paul Societies of that city at the Oblate Fathers' Church.

Rev. Fr. Constantineau, O.M.I., gave a short retreat to the parishioners of Perkins' Mills, where Rev. Fr. Forget is stationed.

Washington's birth-day was, as usual, observed as a holiday. In the evening, "Major John André," an interesting and very appropriate five-act drama, was presented by the students in a very creditable manner. The entertainment, however, was private; but, owing to the unlooked for success which attended the efforts of the amateur actors, the play will be re-produced for the public on Easter Tuesday. A full house may well be expected.

A book of poems from the pen of Mr. J. K. Foran, one of Canada's young poets, and a former student of the University, is being published. The manuscripts are at present in the hands of Mr. James J. Roche, of the Boston *Pilot*.