

## Spans of the Heart.

No. 15.

### LACRYMA IUS EST JESUS.

Brought were the mornings first impoiled  
O'er earth, and sea, and air ;  
The birth days of a rising world—  
For power divine was there

But fairer shone the tears of God,  
For Lazarus o'er his grave ;—  
Since love divine bedew'd the sod  
Of one He sought to save.

Sweet drops of grace, the pledges given  
Of Mercy's mighty plan,—  
That He, who was the Prince of heaven,  
Had pity upon man !

Let us Thy dear example, Lord,  
Fix'd in our memories keep,—  
That we, obedient to Thy word,  
May weep with those that weep

### ST. GEORGE'S.

The Spiritual Retreat, conducted by the Rev. M. Furlong and two other gentlemen of the same Religious Order, commences on Sunday next, at three o'clock in the afternoon—and not on Low Sunday. This mistake was the TABLET's—or mine. As I have so much to answer for, perhaps the TABLET will take the blame, this once, and exonerate me. For the variety of religious functions during the "Great Week," many expensive things will be required; and for the honour of the Church, the zealous and rich of our body will be pleased to bear this in mind, and provide accordingly. Great fault was found with the calico hangings at the back of the high altar, during the "Forty Hours" uninterrupted adoration of the Adorable Sacrament; but everything else was worthy of the action and of the place. The Bishop carried the Adorable Sacrament in procession round the interior of the church under a rich canopy of eight bearers, preceded by a long train of attendants in surplices and copes, singing-boys and men; Acolytes and Cross-bearers; boys scattering flowers; smoking censers; burning wax-tights; flaming torches; the Guild-men, leading the processional throng, and the group—Cross-bearer, Torch-bearers, and Mitre; Assistant Deacons, in rich vestments, and attendants in white, crowding round the canopy, and bringing up the whole of the rich variegated church, as it were, into one large, gorgeous knot—such was the function at St George's at the commencement of the "Forty Hours," or, as the Chechinots and Nikels and Biscooms say, the Quarant'oro. The quality of the stuff which was used for the drapery on the adored occasion was mean. Well, so it was; and do you take care that it never happens again, so set to work, and make something better, something richer—something more worthy of the sacred place and of the occasion. Dress the altar and the place where "He dwelleth;" make it white as snow, and rich as gold, and let precious stuffs and stones mark it out for "His sanctuary." But what can I do, the poorest of the poor—what do you do? You find fault—that is all. You will not get a blessing, young man, for finding fault with St George's, and doing nothing else; I fear that some trouble will attend you unless you change. And you—my fine, rich, young or old lady-babbling—what shall I say to you? I tell you what, if you spoke less and did more, it would be all the better for yourself. Don't be conceited and consequential. Madam: nothing in the world-politic or world-religious is right with you. Everybody, except the nice man, is good for little; all the rest—statesmen, Priests, or Bishops—are very much below the mark! Now, do learn a secret—learn to hold your tongue. There is a vast deal of talking about charitable objects everywhere, but what else? Nothing else, or the next thing to it; and pray what is that? Twenty shillings from those who could well spare twenty pounds. The ladies and gentlemen look after themselves now a-days, but once upon a time they looked after religious things and religious persons; they looked after the things and the persons dedicated to God—provided, renewed, and did much, very silently, and said very little about it. But now, who looks after the Church and Churchmen? If everything be nice and comfortable and respectable—nice seats, nice music, nice people about—all is nice, no doubt; but, mind ye, don't attempt to ask for

shillings—throw the church open, and trust to public voluntary donations. No one thinks of nobody now. With the things—so with the person? The calico is blamed, but that is all there it ends. Thus, through the whole of the chapter. Then, as to Bishops and Priests—there are no tithes now, no glebes—no, they have changed hands. Well, and how do those who serve the altar contrive to live? I can tell you—with extreme difficulty. But do you, who have the means, ask any questions on this subject? Don't fear—ask; there will be no offence, I assure you—ask me: I shall not be offended. Rich men and women—look ye to this; look as your ancestors looked, and do as did they—their names are in eternal benediction.

FATHER THOMAS.

P.S.—Splendid exceptions there are to this leaden indifference to the wants of the Church and Churchmen. These persons are blessed in their day, and will be—let us devoutly pray—for everlasting ages.

### SCOTLAND.

PERTSHIRE—Sir William Drummond Stewart of Grandtully, has recently erected a magnificent private Chapel at Murthly Castle, Perthshire, designed for the services of the Roman Catholic Church, and dedicated to St Anthony the Eremita. Sir William is now having executed in chromolithography a series of views and details of it, intended, we believe, for private distribution. Judging from several of the prints and the series of designs of which we have been favoured with a view, this chapel bids fair to rival Roslin in the beauty and variety of its details. It is finished throughout in the gorgeous Byzantine style. An open timber roof, of good design, is powdered with silver stars, on a blue ground. Above the altar, the whole east wall is occupied with a painting of the miraculous conversion of Constantine, executed by Mr Alexander Christie, the talented director of the Edinburgh School of Design; who has also painted a series of colossal heads of saints, which occupy spaces between the windows on the east and west walls; and four beautiful allegorical figures of St Catherine, St Margaret, St George, and St Andrew, which form the chief decorations of the west wall. Besides these, the lunettes, formed by the intersection of the timbers, and the spaces between the arcades on the walls are filled with Byzantine decorations. The backgrounds of the allegorical figures, and of the Saints heads, are chiefly laid in on gold diaper work, and being executed in fac-simile with the chromolithographic illustrations, the result is singularly gorgeous, though at the same time without the slightest sacrifice of harmony.—*Limerick Reporter.*

### IRELAND—AID FOR THE POPE.

CIRCULAR OF THE BISHOP OF ARDAGH.—We quote as follows from the circular of the Right Rev. Dr O'Higgins to the Clergy of the Diocese of Ardagh, in which his Lordship appoints Passion Sunday for his Diocesan Collection;—  
"If the whole Church of God weeps over this persecution of her venerated Chief Pastor, and offers him her sympathies and assistance, assuredly his Holiness has strong and peculiar claims on the Church of Ireland. You will recollect that when, through an unforeseen calamity, the people of this country were perishing by thousands from starvation and pestilence, and when those whose duties it was to procure them the means of preserving life looked on with indifference, PIUS IX., with the tenderness of a father's feelings, opened his scanty treasure and, forgetful of his own wants, munificently came to their assistance. It is also to his circular letter to all the Bishops of the world, in favour of the poor, that we owe those charitable donations from abroad which gave such timely relief and prevent Ireland from becoming a wilderness. But, above all, you can never cease to remember with the warmest gratitude, that on a late occasion, when, under the name of protection and friendship, a most deadly blow was aimed at the faith and morals of our Catholic youth, our beloved Holy Father, with his characteristic zeal, vigilance, and decision, promptly came to our assistance, and condemned, as intrinsically rotten, the projected sinks of infidelity and vice, thus saving Ireland from the awful consequences of an education intended to extinguish the faith of her children, corrupt their morals, and destroy for ever their national independence. It is true that, though in exile, Pius IX. is not at present

in personal danger. All the Catholic princes of the earth sympathise with him in his troubles, and, more than ever, offer him the sincere homage of their undivided spiritual allegiance. But still he has difficulties to contend with which cannot be removed except by a combination of all classes and universal exertion. A band of robbers have seized on his lawful inheritance, and left him without any pecuniary resources. In this emergency it is the obvious and imperative duty of every true Christian, no matter how limited his means to contribute something towards the sacred fund, and to shew to the world that he glories in making the pious sacrifice. I am persuaded that your flock will earnestly enter into these pious sentiments, and that each of them, save those who are labouring under extreme destitution, will make an extraordinary effort suited to the occasion. I cannot conceal from myself that this appeal is made under most unfavourable circumstances, at a time when the people of the Diocese of misery; but still it would grieve me that any one among us professing the Holy Catholic religion would not, even at the sacrifice of a few of his stunted meals, cheerfully come forward and contribute his mite as a token of his heartfelt attachment to the Centre of Unity, and of his affection and veneration for our persecuted Holy Father. I remain, Rev. dear Sir, very faithfully yours,  
W. O'Higgins.

### AN IRISH GUARD FOR THE POPE.

The *Wexford Guardian* has the following piece of news:—"We are assured on the authority of a private letter from Gaeta, that his Holiness has actually entertained the proposition made to him by some Irish gentleman now in Gaeta, of forming a body-guard of Irishmen for his Holiness, on his restoration to his temporal dominions. It is well known that the Swiss Guards have been totally tainted with the infidelity of the Carbonari rebels, and consequently cannot be relied upon. It was represented to the Pope that in the course of a few weeks 10,000 Irishmen could be enlisted in his service, who would protect his sacred person against all foes to the last drop of the blood of the last man of them. His Holiness, with his well-known confidence in the fidelity of the Irish character, is said to have replied, that to the honour and attachment of Irishmen he would intrust himself before all the world—that State considerations might render it not advisable, but yet, that circumstances might arise which would afford him the opportunity of proving to the Christian world, how gladly and gratefully he would accept what he might venture to call the tender of the Irish heart. What a proud distinction this would be for the faithful people of Ireland."

The *Tipperrary Vindicator* contains the following letter addressed to the Roman Catholic Bishop of Limerick, by Colonel Sir Charles O'Donnell, commanding at Waterford:—

Waterford, March 24.

"My Lord—I have perused your address to the Roman Catholic clergy and laity of the diocese of Limerick, recommending a collection in aid of His Holiness the Pope, with feelings of deep interest and sympathy for the position and sufferings of the Holy Father.

"So far as a Protestant may be permitted to the utmost acquiesce in the sentiments it embodies, and as a private and humble individual beg to be allowed to contribute my mite to the fund about to be created for so laudable a purpose.

"And, my Lord, were it sanctioned by my Queen, I should be happy to raise a Legion of Limerick and Tipperrary 'Boys' in the cause of the persecuted Monarch. In such an enterprise I venture to assert, that of the O'Donnells of the south a thousand at least—men who have the will to do and the soul to dare, would readily array themselves under my banner, inscribed as it is with the ancient motto of Christianity and of their sept,—to defend the sacred chair of Peter, and replace the holy, pious, and enlightened Pontiff who has been elected to occupy it.

"I have the honour to be, with much consideration and respect, your Lordship's most obedient and very humble servant.

C. R. O'DONNELL.

Colonel of the Staff commanding at Waterford. To the Right Rev. Dr. Ryan, D.D., Catholic Lord Bishop of Limerick, &c."

DESTITUTION OF PROTESTANT MINISTERS.—At the close of his sermon at Trinity Church, last Sunday morning, the Rev. Dr. Buck made the following lamentable statement. He said that in consequence of his appointment to the incumbency of a church in a neighbouring county, an appointment which he owed to the kindness of utter strangers, he should terminate his ministry in that church in the course of three or four weeks. His regret at parting with a congregation before whom he had officiated for nine months would have been greater had he considered that his services had been deemed of advantage to them, but when he reflected that for the performance of his ministerial duties during that period he had not received £20, and, although his duties in the week had exceeded those which he had performed during the previous twenty-four years, that he had not received a single fee of any kind for doing them, he could not consider that his labours were valued by the proprietors of the church. He might say, and he could do so with perfect sincerity, that during this period he and his family had suffered from absolute hunger, and that he had only been preserved from starvation by the destruction of his little property.—*Liverpool Courier.*

### Births

- April 13—Mrs Foley, of a daughter.
- 16—Mrs Linclian, of a son.
- 16—Mrs Murphy, of a daughter.
- 16—Mrs Larkin, of a daughter.
- 16—Mrs McGrath, of a daughter.
- 17—Mrs Doyle, of a son.
- 17—Mrs Sunderland, of a son.
- 18—Mrs Griffin, of a son.
- 18—Mrs Foley, of a daughter.
- 21—Mrs George, of a daughter.
- 21—Mrs Buckley, of a son.
- 24—Mrs Kenny, of a daughter.
- 25—Mrs Coady, of a son.
- 25—Mrs Buckley, of a daughter.
- 26—Mrs Grant, of a son.

### Married.

- April 16—George Mitchell, to Catherine Malong.
- 17—Andrew Lyndsay, to Catherine Mahony.

### Died.

- April 13—John, son of Thos and Ellen Roache, aged 10 years.
- " 17—Patrick, son of Thomas and Ellen Roache, aged 13 years and 2 mths.
- " 20—James, son of Thomas and Ellen Roache, aged 15 years.
- " 21—Margaret, daughter of Thomas and Ellen Roache, aged 5 years.
- " 23—Timothy Dirreen, native of County Cork, aged 28 years.
- " 23—Daniel, infant son of William and Honora Delany, aged 1 year and 2 months.

### Academy for Young Ladies,

#### AT BROOKSIDE,

Under the Direction of the "Ladies of the Sacred Heart."

THE PUBLIC are respectfully informed, that an ACADEMY for Young Ladies will be opened in a few weeks, at Brookside, Spring Gardens, where a solid and refined Education will be given under the direction of the Ladies of the Sacred Heart, whose superior Educational Establishments in Paris, Rome, Turin, and the principal Cities of Europe, have for many years past secured the patronage of the most noble and respectable families in the Old World. Their success has been so remarkable in the United States of America, that the most respectable citizens in the neighbouring Republics, without distinction of religion, have confided their children to their care.

MUSIC, the MODERN LANGUAGES, and every branch of a polite Education will be taught. The system pursued by the Ladies of the Sacred Heart is strictly parental, and the mild influence of virtue is the guiding-principle which enforces their regulations.

Several members of the Royal families of Europe have received their education under the auspices of the Ladies of the Sacred Heart.

The healthy situation and beautiful grounds of Brookside are so well known to the citizens of Halifax, as to require no special description. Further particulars will be made known on the arrival of the Ladies themselves. Halifax, 21st April, 1849.

### DIRECTORY FOR 1849.

The Directory for 1849—just Published. Price 7d.—can be obtained at this Office.