

A DEDICATION OF THE CHURCHES OF THE
GENERAL DISTRICT TO THE RIGHTEOUS
LORD. MR. WALSH, ON HIS TRANSI-
TION, TO THE VICARIADE OF LON-
DON.

My Lord—It would seem unusual, nay impudent, for your lordship to pass from this district, over which you have so long presided, without ex-
pecting to give some of the sentiments, which so unfeigned an occurrence has suddenly called forth. It is not that these sentiments have not been in existence for a lengthened period—it is not, that we have been, all those years, insensible to the mighty strides, which Religion has, been silent, but surely, making in the portion of the vineyard entrusted to your care—it is not that we have entertained uncertainty for your many visitors, nor been without gratitude for those many personal friends, which we have each received from you. No, to suppose such a thing would be equally a reflection upon our own natural perceptions, as upon your lordship's dis-
gusted worth. All along have we felt more than we could now say, but the particular occa-
sion has been waiting to demand a public ex-
pression of it. Now, however, an occasion most obtrusively presents itself, and we can no longer confide to our own breasts, or to those more pri-
vate conversations, where they have been long since current, the sentiments of our co-religionists,
and generation which we entertain towards your lordship. Almighty God has indeed been bene-
ficial to us towards this District, and He has ever found your Lordship an able and willing instrument in His hand. Your conduct will, for generations, serve as an example, and the success which has crowned your labours will be an additional motive for us all to emulate them.

This is no mean flattery—an empty panegyric; it is but the feeble echo of a voice which every Catholic will be proud to reverence. It is the voice of the Sovrano. Pious himself, deliberate-
ly uttered, and employed to rectify an act which will be amongst the most eventful deeds of even his glorious reign. That act, indeed, deprives us of their immediate, corporal and domestic enjoyment with your Lordship, which we shall ever remember with gratitude, and consider it a privilege to have enjoyed—but it does not re-
move us from your service, or from your children the temptation of trying to disengage & justify; though your Lordship's humility will not permit you to esteem us so. In conclusion, we pray that your Lordship may long enjoy the exalted honour which is in store for you; that you may from the elevated position in which it will place you be old religion flourish throughout your extensive province, and be reckoned for your past services by daily witnessing their abundant fruits. And in these sentiments we beg your Lordship's blessing, and remain, your lordship's dutiful, endeared & Christ—Signed for himself and the sanctified Clergy.

Henry Wrenthorpe, D.D.

THE STRUGGLES OF CHURCH BUILD-
ING.

By an ASSISTANT SUSPECTOR.
Be the Editor of the Tablet.

"Will nobody give nothing? Nobody?"—Fes-
sible, dear Thomas.

Sir.—The tide of faith, devotion, and love, which has so long deserted our shores, has at last returned, though in a barren wilderness, seems now, by the grace of God, to be returning to gladden the soul of our little island. Who now, usually hear of churches being opened dedicated to the solemn worship of God, according to the ancient & true faith, which it is our glory to profess, & to teach?—such things, with thanks given, how many are there who have but little idea what labours, aches, and disappointments the clergy have to endure before they can present the field the joyful and glorious field of the returning priesthood. England has filled up one of the many blanks which sacrilegious and cupidity has made, and the labours and afflictions are now—when a poor Priest is struggling to drag a temporal officer to a dignified sphere now exists or where there is only a sn-

gle, in a miserable, and ruined condition, which speaks to the heart in language stronger than words can convey of the desolation with which the land has been made desolate. Among the latter class, the present chapel at Greenwich may be especially ranked, it is certainly one of the very worst in the London District. Should any of your readers have a curiosity to see it—I am sure they will require a guide—and I beg to lead them my humble services: it is situated, gentle reader, near the Royal Hospital. If you proceed down East street, (which is not the most respectable in Greenwich) you will observe on the left a narrow turning, which has stones enough left to tell you that once (a very long time ago) it was paved, on either side you will see houses containing about ten rooms, with as many families (not small ones either); at the further end of this narrow turning, if you inspect minutely, you may discover a kind of hole in the wall between two houses, which is the entrance to a sort of archel tunnel, the extremity of which will disclose—if you have courage to proceed—a brick building, the architecture of which it would puzzle even the learned Pugin to describe. I, in my ignorance, will not attempt it; but at any rate, it is visible to all that, externally, it has plenty of doors; and that, internally, the flooring seems inclined to disappear altogether in consequence of the foundation thinking it has done duty enough, and the roof is, of course, bending to the same opinion.

Such is the chapel at Greenwich, to which is attached a large, and very poor congregation—none are rich—and but few of the middle class. Yet the poor pastor, enterprising & zealous which distinguishes the Archdeacon, has not only commenced, but (nearly) overcome obstacles, difficulties, and disappointments, which only the most indefatigable zeal could surmount; has nearly raised in a splendid temple worthy the days of England's Catholicity. In this work he has been assisted (as well as their poor means would allow) by the lay members of the congregation, who, some time since, formed themselves into a society, under the patronage of our Blessed Lady, for the purpose of raising a fund, by weekly contributions, for the same purpose.—And on every Sunday morning the committee may be seen visiting the garrets, and cellars of

the poor—not to relieve their wants, but to ask them charity—to receive some of the few pence they have earned by a week's hard toil. The application is not made in vain, they give to the full extent of their means; no bold calculations whether or not they can afford it, it is for the honour and glory of God; they give, and thank you for receiving their offering! But who ever doubted the charity of this poor? Still, what is the amount thus collected? One thousand pence makes but little more than £4., and how far will this go towards destroying the weekly expense of erecting a magnificent choir? But the poor man has faith, firm, unshakable faith; he opts, he trusts that God will send aid from some kin, benevolent soul who has the means.

"What news?" is the common weekly inquiry of many, "Has Father North got any help from the great ones?" When I left the good news to continue—alas! how very many soldiers

that good Mr. North sent us—pounds, methinks I see the servant "God bless him" of the poor man ascend to heaven, and the choices blessings of God descend upon the person for whom the prayer was uttered. Good, kind, Catholic Deed, may I hope upon my next

week's visit to the habitations of the poor to have

the pleasure of announcing that the Church of

our Lady Star of the Sea has received an offer-

ing from you. Yes, I will hope that we may

live to tell of letters addressed to Father North,

Crofton's Hill, containing Post-office orders,

and cheques for large & small amounts,

a wise amalgamation of charity, which will

bring consolation to the poor in the midst of their

sufferings and distress, practically illustrate that

they are not forgotten by the rich & wealthy

bishops, & relieve the heart of our good pastor

from some of the many labours with which it is

beset, and to oblige little difficulties to the

rest of all the thy bishops.

Greenwich, St. Laurence's Bishopian

1838.

SAINT COLLEGE IN MEXICO

There is no question upon which we feel

it is difficult to write that so emboldened & audacious

our acts charged upon some of the officers and

people of the American army, in Mexico;

we have seen & heard much of the

officers of the Mexican army

here all agreed in acquitting that portion of the army of any ignoble, disgraceful properties. With one or two exceptions, we are inclined to agree with them, but we confess ourselves utterly incompetent to form a reliable judgment in the matter. ... We much desire more accurate information, &, in the meantime, we will not withhold such things as the following.

(From the Catholic Advocate.)

It is mere sorrow, than in anger that we refer to the following painful facts and circumstances which have fallen under our own observation during the past few days.

About a week ago, a package enveloped in a large silk covering was brought to the Cathedral of St Louis in this city, and there offered to the clergy for sale. On being opened, it was found to contain what was thought to have been the vestments of a tabernacle, with its suitable curtains, or hangings. On being questioned as to the man whom these articles were obtained, the individual who brought them for sale stated, in substance, that this belonged to an American soldier just returned from the Mexican war, that he had found them, accidentally, in a church, in a Mexican Catholic Church, in which his company was quartered, and that he had brought them along with him as valuable curiosities—if not as trophies—of which he asked the moderate sum of only thirty dollars! The stuff appeared rich, consisting of what seemed to be gold cloth, ringed with silver lace. It was probably the shining quality of the material which attracted the admiring eye of the finder, and induced him to bring the article to the American market. But he is not the first man who has practically dis-
covered the truth of the old proverb—not everything which glitters is gold.

Sacrilege has generally turned out to be a bootless, if not a dangerous speculation. Thus, we were shown the other day a Mexican stole which had been purloined in a similar way by a returned volunteer. He had, it would appear, sought to sell it, but not succeeding in obtaining the price he asked, he had cut it up with a saw to make of it sashbands for his own use! A German Catholic lady obtained it of him, and had it restored as far as possible to its original form, placing it in the hands of a Catholic clergyman of our city.

Now are these the only cases of sacrilege which have lately come to our knowledge. We have heard of several other articles of sacred furniture brought by our soldiers just returned from Mexico, some of these offered for sale, others exhibited as curiosities. We greatly fear that this system of sacrilegious pillage has been carried on to a much greater extent than the newspaper abominations have led the public to believe.

These sacrileges are, indeed, sad and deplorable. Making every possible allowance for the excesses and abuses which are unfortunately incident to war, nothing can excuse or palliate such wanton outrages. We are sure they will not be approved of for one moment by the worst and basest, but that they will cause the blush of shame and indignation to mantle every honest bluse. The American government is not, of course, to be held responsible for outrages which it neither authorised nor connived at, and which were opposed to both the spirit and the letter of the restrictions given to those who were engaged in the war. But where were the officers of our army, while these horrid sacrifices were being committed by the men under their charge? Were they slumbering at their posts, or did they condone the rapacity of the soldiers? If the former, what shall we say of them? If the latter, what shall we say of their standard of morals?

Our remarks are limited, of course, to those officers and soldiers who have been guilty in the miseries & wantonness, falsehoods etc. for the honour of our country, that their number is too great to detail, of exposing ourselves to the ridicule of our enemies; we have, however, plucked the mole from our shoddy eyes, and the political party, by its opponents, deserves the same. We learned, through there, not to take for granted, all the statements which may be charged upon a religious sect or a political party, by its opponents; but to examine and decide for ourselves, the truth or falsity of their doctrines taught, or the policy advocated. A valuable lesson! which we have also learned to study and compare open.

Mr. S. is a wise man, a liberal and com-
munity views, by his done, and will do good

good in his day and generation. We have

felt grateful to him for his kind instruction, which we were enabled to pluck from the mass of

prejudices out of our own eyes, and the

best of our soldiers, & to the

nal vengeance on the first, many who would prove wretched enough to extend forth his hand to touch any of the sacred vessels, and ornaments of the churches. We believed at the time that he was sincere, as he was most certainly a gentleman. Had all the subordinate officers been like him we should not be compelled to indispose, offend and to expose to public view our honour at all honorable to those connected in perpetrating them.

What of men meet the Mexican Catholics have suffered, of our troops when such things as these were perpetrated or permitted? But a parallel case. Suppose that an army of Mexicans, Catholics, had overrun our fair Republic, pillaging the Protestant churches of their valuables, and bearing them off as trophies of the war of conquest, what would be said of them, even if these excesses had not been general or sanctioned by the general chief? We greatly fear that in such a case, our people would have formed a very unfavorable opinion of the character of the invaders.

With the memory of such outrages fresh in the minds of the Mexican Catholics, what success are the Protestant bibles and tracts among them likely to have in converting the Mexicans from their darkness of papery to the pure light of Protestantism? We think, very little, and they will find it so.

[From the Catholic Advocate.]

THE R.P. REV. DR. SPALDING.

We read with no little pleasure the following tribute to the Rt. Rev. Dr. Spalding, from the editor of the "George-town Herald," and dear readers, and the Catholics of Kentucky particularly, will no doubt be glad to find it in their columns of the Catholic Advocate.—[And the readers of the F. J. equally glad to find it in ours columns]—Astor copying our paragraph where we announced that the Bulls for the canonization of Bishop Spalding had arrived at Mr. Henry Ry French says:

"We had the pleasure of making the acquaintance of Mr. Spalding, years since, at Braga town;—and it affords us sincere gratification to learn from the foregoing paragraph, that his merits are so highly appreciated by the honored dispensing dignitaries of his own church. Very truly yours,

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"Mr. Spalding is a man of extensive education and is possessed of a high order of talents, his writer as well as a speaker; he is a courteous and estimable gentleman, and in our judgment, a sincere, practical Christian. His talents, however, have not been, that at a very early age, we were impressed with anti-Catholic views, and outworn prejudices against the forms and ceremonies of the Roman Catholic Church, we believe that his teachings and his example, aided by his great eloquence and singular powers of persuasion, eventually, would have made us a convert to his faith, which is more abused and ridiculed less understood, by its opponents, than any faith of which we have knowledge, with the exception of another.

"To Mr. Spalding, we were indebted for the removal of many silly prejudices against the doctrines, the forms and the ceremonies advocated and used by the professors of that doctrine, and more honored truth. We learned, there, not to take for granted, all the statements which may be charged upon a religious sect or a political party, by its opponents; but to examine and decide for ourselves, the truth or falsity of their doctrines taught, or the policy advocated. A valuable lesson! which we have also learned to study and compare open.

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