

It is not surprising that this should be the case on the particular subject to which we here refer, for while some preachers thus loudly condemn bicycle riding, others speak of it, and even of bloomers, as the precursor of the regeneration of the human race. This was the burden of a sermon delivered a couple of Sundays ago in one of the Chicago churches; and, indeed, in many of the churches the same view is substantially maintained Sunday after Sunday, though perhaps the language is not so extreme as that of the Chicago preacher. So true is this that many of the churches celebrated not many weeks ago a "Wheelmen's Day," when the bicycle was made the subject of special laudation.

Before expecting that their views on moral questions will be accepted by their congregations the ministers will need to come to some kind of agreement regarding the acts they condemn, whether they are really moral or immoral. The existing diversity of sentiment creates confusion and embarrassment among those who are expected to be taught, and when they have heard such conflicting views they are thrown upon their resources, and come to the conclusion they wish, rather than that which they ought to draw.

THE TRAPPISTS.

A letter appeared in the Toronto *Globe*, of the 5th, from the pen of Principal Grant, of Kingston, in which the following reference was made to the Trappists of Manitoba:

I drove up the Red River the other day for ten or twelve miles, past Louis Riel's old home, and at St. Norbert had an object lesson that would show to the dullest capacity what might be made of all those untitled or semi-titled acres of loam. Three years ago a little company of Trappist Brothers came out from France and built a monastery on a farm of one thousand five hundred acres which Father Richot, of Bill of Rights No. 4 fame, gave to them. They cleared the ground of its scrub, laid off a garden and began breaking. This year they will harvest twelve thousand bushels of grain, and their garden is a sight worth seeing for the marvellous quantity and quality of its vegetables, enough apparently to supply a town of moderate size. They have put up stables for cattle and for horses, of the most approved modern type: a small creamery, a henhouse with some hundreds of fowls; a pigery of the right kind, and they are building a large granary. Most of the work is done by themselves. As we drove up we noticed the Father Superior, a French gentleman of distinguished family, at work in the garden, and our local guide informed us that he was the humblest, the most hard working and most accomplished of the band. It is well known that the rules of the order of La Trappe are of the strictest kind, but they are somewhat modified in Canada. The day's programme for a clerical member is as follows:—Six hours, that is, from 8:30 p. m. to 2:30 a. m., for sleep; six hours for chapel, six hours for manual labor and six hours for the reading, room and private work. The lay member gives from eight to ten hours to manual labor. No fish or flesh food is permitted. All are strict vegetarians, yet everyone seems physically strong, clear-eyed and clean-limbed. They number fifteen members at present, twelve of them French and three Canadian. The work of the whole establishment is done with military precision, without the slightest appearance of stiffness or restraint. There is implicit obedience, but as it is based on religion it has all the appearance of freedom. The work of the farm has increased so rapidly that they are obliged to hire farm laborers. To these, and to all the inhabitants of the parish, and to visitors, the success of this experiment is an object lesson of the greatest value. It is one of several demonstrations that have been given of the enormous wealth that lies hidden in the land round Winnipeg.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

DR. BARNARDO, the professional philanthropist, has taken the circus mode of advertising. An extract from his book appears in the *Montreal Gazette* of Sept. 6. We are surprised that our contemporary has been so easily imposed upon. Dr. Barnardo's book has been received by almost every newspaper publisher in Canada; and were we to believe the doctor's statements his work would indeed be a most estimable one. The fact is, however, that the doctor is no one of the most arrant humbugs in existence, his philanthropy having the pounds shillings-and-pence basis only. The large cities of England, of course, deem it prudent to be relieved of their criminal population, and the doctor is the high commissioner through which this work is effected. We are under the impression that the Dominion government assists this man in his unlovely task. If this is the case the Dominion government ought to be ashamed of itself. The doctor is, too,

we believe, somewhat of a proselytiser. He is a Protestant of the Mrs. Smiley stamp, about whom the poem reads—
"Then come along to Merrian Square,
And as sure as my name is Reilly
Every northern tale will get mutton and
beef
If he prays with Mrs. Smiley."

Where in the world the fellow ever got the name of "Barnardo" we do not know, but certain it is that he came originally from Cork. Why he should be permitted to unload the dump heap of English cities in Canada is a mystery. If he is allowed to continue his despicable work there will soon be a hornet's nest flying about the heads of our Ottawa Ministers. This nefarious work has gone altogether too far already, and it should be stopped.

A STATEMENT concerning the anti-missionary riots in China has been published by Rev. D. T. Williams, pastor of the Central Christian Church of Cincinnati. He says these riots are anti-missionary instead of anti foreign. That the Government blue book against foreigners contains lies so indecent that it would be a violation of the law anywhere in the United States or England to reprint them. He writes that tracts containing blasphemous lies and illustrated with terribly obscene pictures written by Mandarin Hünen in 1890 are still in circulation and are inciting riots. How remarkably like the Chinese officials are the ex-priests and ex-nuns and anti-Catholic Protestant preachers of this country! It is also passing strange, but yet quite true, that there are thousands of people who place the same faith in their statements as the average Chinaman does in the assertions made by the Yamen.

THE Parliamentary election in Kerry, where so much bitterness was caused by the nomination of a candidate by the Healyites in opposition to the candidate previously put forward by the followers of Mr. Justin McCarthy, has resulted in the choice of Farrell, the McCarthyite nominee, by 1,209 votes, against 474 votes cast for Murphy, the Healyite candidate. It is a great pity Mr. Healy does not retire from the field of Irish politics. He has for many years been a most disturbing element therein. To us on this side of the Atlantic it is a matter of surprise that he should find a constituency in which he could be elected. He is doing more harm to the cause of Home Rule than Colonel Sanderson and all his followers.

The *Contemporary Review* has a very vigorous article by "Ouida" on Francesco Crispi. As may be imagined the article is anything but complimentary. Speaking of his government she says:

"The Government of Francesco Crispi has sent the country back sixty years. By him, and through him, all the old instruments of torture are in use. Spies fill the cities, detectives scour the fields, informers listen to all speech, public and private; packed juries condemn; venal judges sentence; military courts imprison civilians. There is a reign of terror from Alps to Etna, and the police, armed to the teeth, swarm everywhere, and the prisons are crowded with innocent citizens."

We give the quotation for what it is worth. Inveective and rhetoric are no longer fashions of public opinion. However, comparing "Ouida's" remarks with those of more impartial writers, we are inclined to believe that Crispi is no honor to Italy.

THE *Iconoclast* notes that while anti-Catholic papers delight in publishing every scandal that can reflect discredit on the Church, Catholic papers never retaliate in like manner. It is quite true, and the reason of it is that Catholic editors have too much charity for those who, though not of the fold, belong to Christ. We have the truth, and we shall always have an audience, despite the efforts of "escaped" nuns and ex-priests.

A FUTILE attempt was made by the A. P. A. element a few days ago in Cincinnati to create an impression that the Catholic Church is opposed to patriotism, and is especially hostile to the Stars and Stripes. A Protestant gentleman whose wife is a Catholic, and who belonged to a society known as "The American Flag," died, and it was learned that before death he became a Catholic, and that the funeral services would be held in the cathedral. The Apostats of the city thought this an opportunity not to be lost, and the rector of the cathedral was asked if it would be permitted to display the American flag during the funeral service. Meantime a report was circulated to the effect that the cathedral authorities would not allow the American flag within the walls of the cathedral; but, to the dismay of the delegation which asked permission to display the flag, the rector acquiesced in the demand as soon as it was made, though unaware of its covert purpose. Yet on the day of the funeral not a flag was to be seen. When this was observed by the officiating priest, and the reason of the demand became known, the priest thought it right to make public the facts as they occurred, and made the following announcement:

"A committee from the Order of The American Flag called on me and asked if they could bring flags into the church. 'A million of them, if you wish,' I replied: 'the more you bring in the better we shall like it. The Catholic Church and our Catholic citizens honor the flag of our country, and know the lesson it teaches, and we are always most happy to see it at all times and in all places.' I was surprised that no flag was to be seen in the church."

FATHER FÉLIOT has written the life of Father Hecker. It is the picture of the career of a man who has done much for Catholicity and limned by a reverent and loving hand. It is inspiring and instructive.

FATHER ZAHM's lecture on Evolution has been severely handled by the critics, lay and clerical. One gentleman has dubbed him an "agnostic philosopher," and others brand him a liberal of the most advanced kind. It is one question whether Father Zahm's idea of evolution is found in the Fathers, and it is another whether it is heretical or not. The learned lecturer's orthodoxy is above suspicion, and his theory, which is not new, has received a warm welcome from those in authority.

THE remarks of Mr. Knox, son of an Irish Protestant Bishop, who was recently elected to office by a constituency almost exclusively Catholics, are worthy of remembrance. "A young Protestant," he said, "knowing the record of his Catholic fellow-countrymen, might have expected tolerance, but I do not believe there is any country in the world where a politician would receive, from the clergy of a Church to which he did not belong, the same unquestioning support and constant warmth of welcome which I have received from the Catholic clergy and people of Cavan, from the Bishop downwards."

THE A. P. A's are feeling very sore after the drubbing administered to them by Senator Hoar. It has made them and their methods objects of approbrium from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

IT is a surprising fact that the Catholics of the Swiss Republic contributed during 1894, \$23,000 for foreign missions, while the wealthy Austro-Hungarian Empire gave only 57,000 francs, or \$11,400, less than one half, for the same purpose. The Swiss Catholics are to be reckoned as among the most earnest and zealous Catholics in the world, and they stand in the foremost rank in all movements for the propagation of the faith.

A CORONER's inquest has recently elicited the fact that an English seaman calling itself "The Peculiar People" refuses all aid from doctors when there are sick among them, though, when their horses or cattle are sick, the skill of medical men is invoked. The Bible, they say, has nothing in it against doctors when animals are to be cured, but human beings are to be cured only by faith and the laying on of hands by the "elders of the Church." One mother belonging to this sect testified that she let five out of six of her children die of bronchitis in this way. This is the manner in which private interpretation of the Bible works: not only the "unlearned," but also the "unstable," wrest it to their own destruction.

IT is stated that a wealthy Birmingham (England) merchant who has made his fortune chiefly through the manufacture and sale of idols for the Hindoos, has made his will, whereby a large sum is to be devoted to the missions established in India for the conversion of the natives from Hindooism. He thus proposes to undo in part the work he has been engaged in doing all his life.

CARDINAL LANGENIEUX seems to have inherited the spirit of Louis Veuillot. He has the chivalric courage and dauntless opposition to sham and wrong that made the great journalist a tower of strength. He says what he thinks, and plainly. Truth to him is too sacred to be robbed in the vesture of meaningless rhetoric. Herein is the secret of his power and influence—the

reason why he is to-day the leader of the Episcopate of France.

A PRESS despatch from Chicago, dated 9th instant, informs us that there is great excitement in Hyde Park Methodist church circles over the report that the Rev. Herbert G. Leonard, pastor of the leading church in that fashionable suburb, had yesterday received the Papal blessing from Mgr. Satolli. It is said that the Ablegate blessed the Rev. Mr. Leonard in the name of the Pope at a function at the Convent of the Sacred Heart, to which the Methodist minister had been invited. Rev. Mr. Leonard later admitted that it was true. He said that he had received the blessing, and that he was proud of it.

EMINENT CANADIAN PRELATE.

Rt. Rev. Richard Alphonsus O'Connor, D. D., Bishop of Peterborough, Ont.

Although the diocese of Peterborough only received its third Bishop, Right Rev. Dr. O'Connor, on the 1st of May, 1889, no Canadian See, for the years of its existence, writes Mr. Wm. Ellison, in the *New World*, of Chicago, has rendered greater service to the cause of religion and morality.

The pleasing result is due to the fact that the new diocese has been blessed with episcopal rulers of foresight, enlightened and Apostolic zeal, tempered by tact and prudence, commending by their lives the doctrines of the religion of which they are the preachers. The first Bishop of the diocese the late lamented Dr. Jamot, was pre-eminently a man of this character, and so was his successor, the able and energetic Bishop Dowling, whose translation to the diocese of Hamilton left the vacancy which has since been so worthily filled by the present distinguished incumbent. The Crozier wielded to such good purpose by his two eminent predecessors lost none of its beneficent sway of falling into the hands of Mgr. O'Connor.

When Bishop O'Connor entered upon the administration of his diocese something over six years ago, a great deal of the work of diocesan organization had to be continued, and many unfinished projects carried into execution. St. Joseph's hospital, the cornerstone of which had been laid barely a year previously by Dr. Dowling, had to be completed. An enlargement of Notre Dame convent and additions to the schools of the episcopal city were undertaken by the new Bishop shortly after his installation in office. But the energetic prelate's labors did not stop here, for the constantly increasing wants of a new and growing diocese are ever present, and call for attention and adjustment. As the number of the faithful multiplied new parishes came into existence, and that meant new churches, convents and schools; and of course these foundations need pastors, nuns and teachers. From this it will be inferred that Mgr. O'Connor's episcopal responsibilities kept pace with the progress of his extensive diocese. As an evidence of the development of Catholic interests in this See it may be mentioned that new churches have been built at Douro, Sudbury, and in fifteen places throughout the large district of Algoma, and a few weeks ago at Cobourg. Dr. O'Connor laid the cornerstone of a new church which will be a source of pride to the large congregation there.

The diocese of Peterborough extends over a very wide territory. It takes in the counties of Peterborough, Victoria, Northumberland and Durham, together with the districts of Muskoka and Parry Sound, Algoma and the district of Nipissing west from North Bay.

The amount of labor involved in the pastoral visitation of these widely-separated flocks may be imagined, yet the Bishop's paternal concern for the spiritual and temporal welfare of his flocks has caused him to make ten pastoral visitations of the whole diocese, as well as frequent visits to the more populous places and larger parishes.

Scattered through the Manitoulin islands, on the shores of Lake Superior and Lake Nipigon, His Lordship has numerous Indian Catholic missions, which count about 5,000 souls. To carry the sacrament of confirmation and the other spiritual consolations of religion to these faithful children of the forest Dr. O'Connor has penetrated these regions where the foot of a white man never trod before, traveling for days along the streams and portages and through the dense woods where silent, primitive nature holds undisturbed sway. All this means great fatigue and episcopal anxiety, but the paternal heart of the prelate is consoled and compensated by the deep Christian fervor and filial attachment displayed in these Indian missions, where the faithful Catholic Indians gather in loving obedience to pay deserved respect and reverence to the chief pastor of the diocese.

The subject of this sketch, Right Rev. Richard Alphonsus O'Connor, D. D., third Bishop of Peterborough, Ont., was born in 1838, at Listowel, county Kerry, Ireland. When the future Bishop was only three years old his parents left their native home, and, emigrating to Canada, they settled in Toronto, in the Separate schools of which city, young master O'Connor made his preparatory studies. About this period brighter days had dawned for the Catholics of Ontario, adherents of the true faith had waxed stronger in their social and religious positions, and their educational facilities had greatly

improved. St. Michael's College opened its doors in 1852, to receive students, and young O'Connor was one of the first to enter. At this seat of learning he took a full course in literature, mathematics, classics and philosophy, with very marked distinction. In order to perfect himself still further in ecclesiastical science and the different branches of human knowledge which serves to strengthen the soul which devotes its life to the service of the Church he went to the Grand Seminary, Montreal, where he made a profound study of theology, and of the Holy Scriptures, and in 1861 he received the sacred right of ordination from the venerable hands of the late lamented Archbishop Lynch, Toronto, and was assigned to the Gore of Toronto, as the first field of his priestly labors. A zealous discharge of his clerical duties here led to speedy promotion, and he was appointed to Niagara Falls, and some time afterwards to the flourishing parish of Adala. Here the labors and responsibility pertaining to the administration of a populous parish brought out the rare administrative qualities of the energetic pastor, and in 1870 Archbishop Lynch appointed him Dean of Barrie.

This was the beginning of a pastorate which lasted nineteen years, and which was uncommonly fruitful in good results. I am sure it was the wish of both priest and people that their pleasant relations should end only with the demise of the pastor, but God had willed otherwise, for word reached Barrie in the spring of '89 that Very Rev. Dean O'Connor had been named Bishop-elect of Peterborough by the Holy See.

The confirmation of this fact was the signal for hearty congratulations from the clergy and Catholic laity of the diocese. The faithful of Barrie, however, viewed the change with mingled feelings of gladness and regret, while they could not help rejoicing at the deserved elevation of their devoted pastor they could not part from him without keen feelings of sorrow.

On the 1st of May, '89, in the cathedral at Peterborough, the Very Rev. Dean O'Connor, was raised to the episcopal rank, and took possession of his diocese, with all the ceremonial befitting the solemn occasion. Eminent Bishops and priests came from a distance to witness the imposing spectacle which was conducted by the consecrating prelate, the Most Rev. James Vincent Cleary, D. D., S. T. D., Archbishop of Kingston.

The newly-consecrated prelate lost no time in entering upon the practical and onerous duties of his office: his active mind grew stronger under his increased burden of responsibilities, and every want of his growing diocese, its devoted clergy and faithful laity received his prompt and fatherly attention, and the abundant fruits of his episcopal work is seen to-day in the gratifying position of Catholic interests throughout the limits of his diocese, religiously, educationally and socially.

As a pulpit orator Dr. O'Connor takes high rank. All his utterances are well reasoned and logical and teem with apt illustrations and references from Holy Writ. He has, besides, a well-modulated voice, great breadth of comprehension, precision of thought and a pleasing expression. When he speaks, the listener realizes that he is hearing solemn words of truth coming from the heart of a Bishop of God's Church, and a true shepherd and pastor of the best interests of his people.

In the immediate work of caring for the spiritual and temporal well-being of the large cathedral parish his Lordship has associated with him on the cathedral staff Venerable Archdeacon Casey, Rev. D. J. Scollard, Chancellor, and Rev. Fathers Scanlan and Fitzpatrick. The last two named priests, in addition to their home duties, attend outlying missions.

The highly respected Vicars-General of the diocese are Very Rev. Father Laurent, parish priest of Lindsay, and Very Rev. Joseph Browne. In a new diocese where so much constructive work has to be done, so many new churches to be built and so many parishes organized, the Bishop has largely to depend upon the loyalty, zeal and devotion of his priests and people. In this respect Mgr. O'Connor's efforts are seconded with a readiness and heartiness which must bring joy to his paternal heart.

Being comparatively a young man, vigorous in body as he is clear in intellect, it may be presumed that the Rt. Rev. Bishop O'Connor is destined for long years of noble service in the Church, and that his faithful labors of the past are but forerunners of greater things in the future.

His Good Deed Rewarded.

Father Lacordaire, the eloquent preacher of France, gave the following remarkable incident in one of his conferences, so popular and so fruitful of good results, in this way:

A Polish Prince, De X—, an unbeliever and declared materialist, had written a work against the immortality of the soul, and was upon the point of having it published, when, while walking one day in his park, a woman bathed in tears suddenly threw herself at his feet and in tones of deepest sorrow, said to him: "Good Prince, my husband is dead. At this very moment perhaps he may be in purgatory, may be suffering, and, ah, me! I am in such misery that I have nothing to offer to have a Mass said for the repose of his soul. Deign in your goodness to help me to relieve my husband."

The gentleman, although he did not believe in a future life or in purgatory, nevertheless had not the courage to refuse this earnest and tearful re-

quest. He took a gold piece in his hand and gave it to the woman, who went joyfully to the parish priest to have some Masses offered for her husband.

Five days afterwards, towards evening, as the Prince was shut up in his study revising his manuscript, he raised his eyes and saw standing before him a man dressed as a peasant of the country: "Prince," said this unknown person, "I come to thank you. I am the husband of that poor woman who asked assistance of you a few days ago that she might have some Masses said for the repose of her husband's soul. Your charity has been accepted by God, who has permitted me to come to thank you: your aims was the means of opening for me the gates of Paradise."

Having said this, the peasant disappeared like a shadow. The emotion of the Prince was indescribable; the effect on his mind was so irresistible that he immediately committed his manuscript to the flames, had recourse to the confessional, entirely changed his life, and persevered in the fervent practice of Christian Faith until his death.

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION.

On Tuesday of last week the Hon. G. W. Ross visited the Separate schools of this city. He was accompanied in his visitation by Rev. M. J. Tiernan, Chairman of the Separate School Board, and Rev. Fathers Noonan, McCormack, Valentine and McKee. There were also present School Trustees McNeil, Pocock Hanavan, LeBel, Bishop-elect Trustee Murphy, Thos. Coffey, John Pocock, and H. Beaton.

The Hon. Minister first visited the senior boys' room of St. Peter's school, where he was warmly welcomed, on behalf of the teachers and trustees, by Rev. Father Tiernan, and a few well-chosen words were spoken by Master Fred, Bricklin on behalf of the school-children. He also presented a bouquet. Hon. Mr. Ross spoke to the boys about fifteen minutes, his remarks being most appropriate, practical and pleasant. The replies of the pupils to the questions of the Hon. Minister were for the most part given promptly and intelligently. The remainder of the children were grouped in another large room which the Hon. Minister afterwards visited. Little Edna Pocock presented the distinguished guest with a bouquet and Violet LeClear recited a few appropriate words of welcome, in the name of their companions. Here, also, was given evidence of efficient work. The party then drove to the Sacred Heart and Holy Angels schools, where like exercises were gone through with. The Hon. Minister expressed himself in the warmest terms as to the efficiency of the Separate school pupils. He was likewise much pleased to note the first class condition of the schools: they are commodious, well lighted and well ventilated.

When so much is now said by opponents of the Separate schools in regard to their inefficiency it is pleasant to note, from time to time, as in this instance, that the accusation is without foundation in fact, and we have no doubt that the London Separate schools will be found equal to any of the Public schools in the province in the matter of efficiency. The nuns, who have complete control of our schools, deserve much credit for their earnest and painstaking endeavors. Their hearts are in their work, and evidences of its efficiency are to be seen in every school in the city.

VISIT TO THE SACRED HEART ACADEMY.

Having concluded his visit to the Separate school in connection with the Sacred Heart convent the Hon. Mr. Ross and the party accompanying him were escorted through the Academy by the Lady Superior. Here was found evidence of a first class educational institution for young ladies. The class rooms are large, well-lighted and well-ventilated, neatness, order and cleanliness being their most striking features. The chapel, class rooms, dormitories and the large recreation room in the basement presented indeed a most inviting abode. A new school term was about being opened on the day of the Minister's visit, and the pupils were already arriving. Last year was one of the most successful in the history of the institution, and from present appearances it is confidently expected that this year will even surpass the previous one. We feel that it were superfluous to say aught of the superior educational advantages given young ladies by the nuns of the Sacred Heart. Their work is well known the world over and their graduates every where bear the stamp of superior training in everything which makes womanhood respected and beloved. The visit was a pleasurable one to the Hon. Mr. Ross. His life has been devoted to the work of education, and he is an ardent admirer of everything which tends to advance its interests. The Catholic educational institutions are doing a noble service in this regard, and God has indeed blessed their efforts.

The necessity of prompt action as well as of thought is taught in the following Servian legend, which is suggestive of much when one considers the condition of Servia: "When the earth was divided among the tribes of mankind, each expressed what it most desired. The Latins wanted wisdom, the English wanted the sea, the Turks wished the land, the French desired gold and war, the Russians asked for mountains and mines, while the Servians, in response to the inquiry, 'What would you have?' said, 'We are thinking.'"