

A Great Catholic Institution in Protestant Belfast.

Had anyone said, twenty years ago, that the capital of Orangemen would, within that time, have become the seat of one of the finest Catholic institutions in Ireland, he would have been laughed at, or sneered at, and probably all but assailed by some of the muscular Christians of the period.

There is much in a name. It requires tact and a something little short of genius sometimes to find one that suits.

The late Dr. Dorrian, Bishop of Down and Connor and founder of the hospital, the name of the Mother of the Sick is due. It is almost the only public building in Belfast which is not "royal."

But for this change in the general atmosphere in Belfast life the good Sisters of Mercy would never have been able to secure the erection of the splendid building which has succeeded the faded and solitary mansion where the "Mother of the Sick" first set up her humble establishment.

Of course, while such sentiments prevailed among Belfast people, none of them though born in Ireland and descended from ancestors comfortably settled there for nearly 300 years, could unreservedly admit that they were Irish.

ludicrous. They were perhaps Irish "to a certain extent," to adopt the words of a young city duke who was ashamed to acknowledge the complete paternity of his rustic progenitor—he was his "father—well, to a certain extent," or he may have been that nondescript known as a "Scotch Irishman," or something equally as incongruous and impossible.

Yet there is nothing very remarkable in this exceedingly low kind of comedy. It seems to mark a natural stage in the progress of some places, as it does in the history of some individuals of mixed or uncertain origin, like many Belfast men, or the pretentious dignitary of the New York Board of Education.

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The memory of the good bishop is revered for his virtues and his many good works, among other the founding of the Mater Infirmary; nor should we forget the honor due to him for the name. Belfast, notwithstanding its admitted superiority in the departments of shipbuilding and linen weaving, has long had a reputation such as belongs to no other city in Ireland—indeed, to no other city in Christendom, or outside it—and such as no city, be the same Christian or pagan, is likely to have again.

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mate, by a charm which I shall not attempt to analyze, the idea of its being an hospital disappears almost the moment he enters its doors and it becomes to him a home. To one sick of body and sick of mind, wearied and worn out from any cause, at odds with the world or at odds with himself, it realizes to a most soothing and sympathetic manner his dream of a refuge, a retreat, a place of rest and retirement such as the ordinary world cannot give.

Meanwhile the beautiful structure—the new Mother of the Sick—towards completion, and some five years ago was opened for the reception of patients. Its liberality is as conspicuous as its beauty, for while specially providing for the spiritual wants of Catholics, its wards are open equally to the members of other creeds, and to the poor no less than to the rich.

The Mater is a triumph not only of Catholic benevolence and perseverance. It is also a monument of the generosity and good-will toward their Catholic fellow-countrymen and of others—and their number is no longer small, even in Belfast—who are not Catholics; the token of a higher manhood generally, and the pledge of a closer communion hereafter between all sections of our Irish people.—Kilian Bruce, in New York Freeman's Journal.

PATENT REPORT.

The following U. S. patents have been recently secured through the agency of Messrs. Marion & Marion, Patent Attorneys, Montreal, Can., and Washington, D.C.

- Information regarding any of the patents cited will be supplied free of charge by applying to the above-mentioned firm. Nos. 781,998—Edward Brougham, Brandon, Man. Tension Device. 782,187—Wm. Albt. Baldwin, Smith's Falls, Ont. Sulky plow. 782,280—Gavin Shaw, Lindenwood, Ont. Feed trough. 782,718—Phyllis Boire, Montreal, Que. Means for locking whips in whip sockets. 782,920—Jean D. Ouellette, Montreal, Que. Improvements in gloves and mittens. 782,926—Philippe Ed. Roy, Montreal, Que. Ash sifter. 783,093—Isidre Belair, Montreal, Que. Emergency door. 784,021—Walker G. Anderson, Toronto, Ont. Wardrobe. 784,154—Messrs. Gutteridge and McConnell, Hamiota, Man. Machine for forming building blocks. 784,336—Arthur J. H. Lefebvre, Montreal, Que. Safety razor. The Inventor's Adviser is just published. Any one interested in patents or inventions should order a copy.

The pleasure of doing good is the only one which does not wear out.

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From the Catholic Transcript. "No nation can permanently retain free government unless it can retain a high average of citizenship; and there can be no such high average of citizenship without a high average of education, using the word in its broadest and truest sense to include the things of the soul as well as the things of the mind."

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Not Much of a Religion.

Some years ago they used to tell a quaint story down in Mexico of a Methodist preacher named Cottrell, who, after years spent in mastering Spanish, went over to that country to convert the "benighted Catholics."

"Say, mister," he asked, "do you forgive sins down there?" "No, I don't, but—" "Can you bring Our Lord Jesus Christ down on your altar?" "No; but—" "Can you get the soul of my mother out of Purgatory with your prayers?" "No," somewhat indignantly.

A person's worth should be judged by his usefulness, not his wealth. Laughter opens more doors and wins more hearts than tears.

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KID GLOVES

Our Glove Department has selected three brands of Kid Gloves for Easter selling. These are of different prices, but each is of the class of the best—each pair in a pretty Glove Box is guaranteed.



THE RELIGION

There has been of late a remarkable revival of Napoleon, not only in France, England and other countries, but even in the United States. A mind so acute as Napoleon's was almost certain to find its way to the subject of the revolution, upon which he had so much to say.

"Paganism," he continued, never accepted as truth by Greece—neither by Pythagoras, nor by Plato, Anaxagoras, nor by Pericles, nor by the greatest of the advent of Christianity, faith, and a living faith—Bossuet and Fenelon, who was to preach it, but Desfontaines, Leibnitz and Pascal, and Racine, Charlevoix, Louis XIV. Whence this that a creed so mysterious and so sure as that of the apostles had been accepted by all our great while the Theologians, drew the laws of nature, never upon any instructed intellect reason is natural. Behind of mythology the sage was to detect the march of the latest societies, the illusion of the human heart, and symbols of pride and science.