

## Persons and Facts

The London Times of January 24 has the following item, which we reprint for the sake especially of the last sentence containing Lord Grey's opinion.

"The Tablet announces the first two scholarships at Oxford granted under the terms of Mr. Rhodes's will have just been awarded by the government of Rhodesia. Both the new scholars are Roman Catholics, and students of the Jesuit college in Bulawayo. In a letter announcing the nominations, Lord Grey pays a high tribute to the importance of the work which the Jesuit Fathers have done in Rhodesia among both whites and blacks."

The Stonewall Argus is crowing over a buff Orphington hen belonging to Ira Stratton, which hatched out five smart chickens on the 7th inst. She was kept in a very ordinary pen and the chickens are still doing well.—Free Press Feb. 24.

The most Rev. Dr. Foley, Bishop of Kildare and Leighlin, agrees with his Grace Archbishop Walsh in thinking that the Land Conference Report is distressingly vague in its treatment of encumbered estates.

Mr. T. O'Neill Lane, who was born at Brosna, county Kerry, fifty years ago, writes to the Boston "Pilot" from Tournafulla, Newcastle West, County Limerick, intimating that he is bringing out an Irish dictionary by subscription. During twenty years he was resident in London and spent a considerable time at the British museum, the State Paper Office, and other libraries collecting materials for this dictionary.

The clergy of the diocese of Bayonne have just received an official notification from the Government that henceforth they are forbidden to use the Basque language in catechetical instructions. A little while ago, a similar notice was sent to the Breton clergy, of whom fifty refused to obey and have had their stipends stopped. M. Combes is clearly determined to wean children from the tenets of the Church by condemning them to ignorance.—Catholic Times

Mr. Combes, the Prime Minister of France, spoke strongly in the French Chamber, against the abolition of the Concordat and the separation of the Church from the State. He resisted it, on the ground that it would at once destroy all religion in the country. You cannot sweep away with the stroke of a pen the belief of two thousand years, he cried. What other faith will you offer to the people of France? A doctrine of purely moral character will not suffice; there must be some creed or other. You have no creed to offer; you have even no moral code to offer except the Christian one. Let the matter alone until you can propose some intelligent and satisfactory substitute. The deputies sat astounded under this unexpected rebuke. Was M. Combes turning a clerical? M. Combes was merely stating facts. The House took his view, and for the present the Concordat remains. But lest his supporters should think he was turning traitor he suspended the salary of a Vicar-General at once, in order to reassure them!

A paragraph appeared in Saturday's "Daily News" under the heading, "The Religious World," in which was given the assertion of Mr. C. Effland, who wrote from Waterloo-road, S.E., that on the previous Sunday at St. George's Cathedral, the preacher during High Mass, Canon Keatinge, had stated that fifty-two persons, or an average of one per week, had left the Cathedral and become Protestants, whilst the converts had numbered only seven. Mr. A. E. Brice wrote at once to the Canon asking if the newspaper paragraph was correct and Father Mason replied from Cathedral House on the same day, Saturday: "Canon Keat-

ing left for India a fortnight ago and there is not a word of truth in the newspaper statement." Catholic Times, Feb. 6.

Madam Melba, who comes from a strict Presbyterian family is reported to have been received into the Catholic Church.

Alderman Sir John Knill who was once Lord Mayor of London, is the next member of the Court of Aldermen in rotation to serve as a sheriff of the City of London.

Mrs. Joseph A. Chisholm (nee Frances Alice Affleck), who died lately at Halifax, was a sister of Lady Thompson, the widow of Sir John Thompson, and a devout Catholic.

The Rev. Charles Walter Davey, lately Anglican curate at Marnhull, Dorset, was received into the Church the other day by the Redemptorist Fathers at St. Mary's Clapham, London.

Lady O'Connell, widow of Sir Maurice O'Connell, who was successively President of the Queensland Legislative Council, Commander of the Forces and acting Governor of the colony, died lately at her residence in Brisbane. She was almost ninety years of age and had married Maurice when he was a young officer in 1835. Sir Maurice died in 1879.

The greatest organ in the world has just been installed in the Cathedral at Seville. It is the only organ in the world that has bass bourdons which will give 32 vibrations a second.

The International Committee for the silver jubilee of the Pontificate contemplates erecting a statue of Leo XIII., as the Pope of Workingmen. His encyclicals on the social question will be integrally reproduced on bronze tablets encased in the sides of the base.

The curious mistake in names, which we copied last week from the Voce della Verita, has now passed into the Catholic Times, of Liverpool, Manchester and London. In chronicling a large number of "well known English personages who have had the honor of being received in private audience by the Holy Father," the Rome correspondent of that great paper mentions "Messrs. Intyre and Mochamps, two prominent Canadian Catholics with their families." This will amuse Jim McIntyre "intirely." "Mochamps," however, is all the more pardonable in an English paper in view of the fact that the only Winnipeg Directory, for 1903, contains these two entries on the two columns—cheek by jowl—of page 482: "Mochamp, Mrs., widow Onesime, h 205 Garry," and "Monchamp, Emily, widow Onesime, h 205 Garry." The latter is the right spelling. But what is to be thought of the Directory publishers' acumen, when it never occurred to them that these two entries, three inches apart, might possibly refer to the same person.

The following clipping from the "Citrograph" of Redlands, California, refers to "Tommy" L'Eveque, who often exhibited his typographical skill on the Northwest Review.

You know there is an old saying that "Happiness is so great that it kills." Well, its not true. For weeks our faithful and efficient "ad. man," Thomas L'Eveque, has been anticipating the arrival of his good wife from the old Canadian home. When she arrived this week, Tommy's joy was so great that, if the old saying had been true, he would certainly have succumbed. Mrs. L'Eveque called at this office and we really don't wonder that Tommy is happy, for he is at last at home in the best part of the continent and his cup of joy runs over.

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The "Citrograph," official organ of the city of Redlands, which has lately begun its seventeenth year—just a trifle younger than we are—is beautifully printed on dainty paper and therefore quite worthy of Tommy's artistic support.

Mr. Joseph T. Dumouchel presented this week to the museum of St. Boniface College three beautiful glass cases of admirably stuffed birds: A spoonbill duck, a great northern diver and two varieties of prairie chicken.

That solemn old friend of our school geography days, Popocatepetl, one of the two tallest volcanoes in Mexico, has just been sold to an American syndicate. The top crater—for there is also a lower one—of Popocatepetl is full of sulphur, which is mined regularly.

The annual meeting of the Manitoba Equal Suffrage Club, held on the 24th inst., in this city, recorded as present the enormous number of eight members.

Mr. James Riorden, roadmaster of the C. P. R., who has been ten years with the company and did such splendid work last year during the snow blockade of March 14-18, has transferred his allegiance to the Canadian Northern, and is now roadmaster for that company, with headquarters in Winnipeg.

The Pope is reported to have expressed to the Spanish ambassador, the Duke of Almsdovar, his hope that Spain would soon return to her former greatness. Spain's finances have greatly improved since she lost Cuba and the Philippines.

### OUR MODERN PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

(From Arthur's New Home Magazine.)

Ram it in, cram it in,  
Children's heads are hollow;  
Slam it in, jam it in,  
Still there's more to follow;  
Hygiene and history,  
Astronomic mystery,  
Algebra, histology,  
Latin, etymology,  
Botany, geometry,  
Greek, and trigonometry;  
Ram it in, cram it in,  
Children's heads are hollow.

Rap it in, tap it in:  
What are teachers paid for?  
Bang it in, slam it in:  
What are children made for?  
Ancient archaeology,  
Aryan philology,  
Prosody, zoology,  
Physics, climatology,  
Calculus and mathematics,  
Rhetoric and hydrostatics;  
Hoax it in, coax it in,  
Children's heads are hollow.

Scold it in, mould it in,  
All that they can swallow;  
Fold it in, hold it in,  
Still there's more to follow.  
Faces pinched, sad and pale,  
Tell the same unvarying tale.  
Tell the moments robbed from sleep,  
Meals untasted, studies deep,  
Those who've passed the furnace through  
With aching brows, will tell to you

How the teacher crammed it in,  
Rammed it in, jammed it in,  
Crunched it in, punched it in,  
Rubbed it in, clubbed it in,  
Pressed it in, and caressed it in,  
Rapped it in and slapped it in,  
When their heads were hollow..

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