

RELIGIOUS NEWS ITEMS.

The cause of the beatification of Christopher Columbus will again be brought before the Congregation of Rites in October.

The Charitable Irish Society of Boston has determined to establish a system of making known to its members the wants of the unemployed, and as many of its members are business men it is thought that much practical good will result.

Among recent prominent converts to the Catholic church is Prof. Sydney B. Strong, for ten years teacher of natural science in the Friends' Central School in Philadelphia. He was led to the truth by the chance reading of a Ritualist tract on "The Real Presence."

The Rev. Sylvester Malone, rector of SS. Peter and Paul's Church, Brooklyn, N. Y., who recently celebrated his 50th sacerdotal year, during the Civil War gave an effective contradiction to that calumny which says no Catholic priest can be a loyal and patriotic citizen.

Rev. Dr. Burtzell returned to New York from Rome, Wednesday. The Pope has appointed him representative in this country of the Society for the Propagation of the Encyclical Rerum Novarum, of which Cardinal Parocchi, the Pope's Vicar-General, is Honorary President, and Dr. Von Bilger, of Rome, acting Chairman.

If all plans are carried out, there will soon be three Catholic Summer schools in this country. The Catholics of the West are apparently going to work in serious earnest to establish one for themselves, and word now comes that one is to be opened on the Pacific coast. Of sound Catholic education there cannot possibly be too much.

The number of Catholics who emigrated from Europe to the United States for three years ending in 1891 was 946,100. Of this 156,000 came from Ireland, 151,000 from Italy, 107,000 from Germany, 104,000 from Austro-Hungary, 16,000 from Great Britain. The balance were divided up chiefly among Russia, Poland, Spain and Portugal.

The chapel of the Convent of the Holy Cross, New Orleans, was filled with a large and interested attendance Wednesday morning, August 29, to assist at the religious profession and reception of eight young and lovely girls, who had resolved to leave all that youth and ambition holds dear to lead the humble life of the hidden spouse of Christ.

An innovation in the style of seating for Catholic churches has just been inaugurated in the West. Father Cleary's church at Minneapolis, Minn., and St. Leo's church in St. Louis, Mo., have both arranged to have circular pews and bow-shaped floors (amphitheatre plan). This will add much to the appearance of the church and also to the convenience and comfort of its parishioners.

The main church of the great monastery of San Francisco, in Mexico, which since 1869 had been in Protestant hands, is to be restored to Catholic worship. The foreclosure of a mortgage, which could not be paid off, brought into the hands of a wealthy Catholic gentleman the building in which services were attended for three centuries by Spanish viceroys and in which the first *Te Deum* of Mexican independence was celebrated.

The eucharistic conference held at Notre Dame has speedily borne fruit. The announcement was made that Cardinal Gibbons has been requested to call a eucharistic congress and now has the proposal before him for consideration. Before taking any steps in the matter the Baltimore priests will undoubtedly consult the rest of the American archbishops, who, as has been already announced, are to meet for their annual conference next month at Philadelphia. The convening of an American eucharistic congress would mark an epoch in the history of the Catholic church in this country.

There is an unauthenticated report that Cardinal Gibbons has been invited by the Pope to pay him a visit. Should the rumor prove true, it may mean that the Holy Father wishes to consult with the Baltimore prelate regarding the advisability of having another plenary council held in this country. A good many things have happened in Catholic

circles here since the last council was held ten years ago; and ten years, by the way, was the period fixed by the fathers of the first plenary council to divide one gathering from the next. If the cardinal goes to Rome, it is not likely that he will start before December.

THE WORLD AROUND.

In New York 3,000 persons engaged in the clothing sweat shops are on a strike.

A monument to the memory of Emperor William I. was unveiled at Konigsberg, Tuesday.

Five thousand negroes from Alabama are making arrangements to emigrate to Liberia this fall.

The handlers of plain leaf tobacco must, under the new law, pay a tax of six cents per pound.

In the department of Finistere, France, the public schools lost 563 pupils in one year, and the parochial schools gained 2276.

A bronze statue of General McClellan has been completed, and it will be placed in the plaza of the public buildings in Philadelphia.

Prince Bismarck's health is thought to be endangered by his anxiety over the condition of his wife, who has been sick several weeks.

Two Japanese accused of being spies, and who had sought protection of the American consul at Shanghai, have been surrendered to the Chinese authorities.

By her new treaty with the Congo State France is getting too near the head waters of the Nile to please England, which makes the English press growl.

A great railway project for the South is being financially backed by the greatest syndicate in the world, composed of the Rothschilds, Vanderbilts, Drexel, Morgan & Co.

Uvalde, Texas, was swept by a flood Thursday and twenty-five persons drowned and two million dollars worth of property destroyed. The Southern Pacific railroad was a heavy sufferer.

The first successful attempt at long distance heliography was made at Denver Tuesday, when a message was signalled from Pike's Peak, a distance of sixty-six miles in an air line.

Some more Atlantic records have been broken. The Campania has reduced the eastward record to 5 days, 10 hours and 47 minutes, and the Lucania the westward to 5 days, 9 hours and 29 minutes.

Gen. Nathaniel P. Banks, ex-Governor of Massachusetts, and at one time Speaker of the House of Representatives, died Saturday. During the war he was commander of the Federal Department of the Gulf.

Japanese merchants residing in China are preparing to leave the country, having become alarmed at the action of the American consul in surrendering two Japanese who had sought the protection of the consulate.

Negotiations have been opened in Madrid for a new commercial treaty between the Spanish colonies and the United States in view of the cancellation of the reciprocity treaty between the two countries.

Charles Mooney, the oldest man in Oregon, died at Oregon City, aged 107 years, last Friday. He was born in Ireland in 1787. He came to the United States after reaching manhood and emigrated to Oregon in 1853, then already 66 years old. He had been too feeble to work for fifteen years.

Terrible forest fires have been raging in Minnesota, Wisconsin and Michigan. Several villages, it is reported, have been destroyed. The loss of life has been estimated at 500. Multitudes besides have been severely burned, while thousands have been left homeless. The greatest loss has been in Minnesota. Forest fires have been raging also in many places in the eastern states.

The prefect of the department of the Seine, which includes Paris, to ascertain what supplies could be relied upon from the surrounding country in case of a siege, ordered an account to be taken of all poultry-yards, and found that there were 101,540 chickens, 3,240 geese, 7,020 ducks, 1,315 turkeys, 458 guineas, 32,643 pigeons, 50,640 rabbits. This would hardly furnish a good dinner to Paris.

France is wrestling with the problem of keeping agriculturist laborers at home,

Why not try
WYETH'S MALT EXTRACT?

Doctors highly recommend it to those

Who are run down;

Who have lost appetite;

Who have difficulty after eating;

Who suffer from nervous exhaustion;

And to Nursing Mothers,

as it increases quantity and improves quality of milk.

PRICE, 40 CENTS PER BOTTLE.

AN UNLUCKY SWORD.

When Napoleon I. entered Cairo, on the 22nd of July, 1798, he was presented with three swords of honor, richly inlaid with precious stones. He brought them back to Europe, and in 1801 he gave one to General Ney and another to Murat, keeping the third for himself. Ney received his at an imperial reception; the sword passed from one to another of those present, among whom was a young subaltern of the Auvergne regiment. When Napoleon escaped from Elba, Ney left the King and took sides with his former chief. After the allies entered Paris the place became too hot for him, and he made preparations to get out of the country with a pass procured for him under a false name, but his wife and a friend persuaded him that there was really no danger, and he decided to stay in France. Then came the order for his arrest; he fled to a castle in the possession of some friends, and succeeded in reaching it without his whereabouts becoming known. But he was destined to be betrayed by the sword of honor given to him thirteen years previously. He was one day looking at the paintings in one of the more public rooms of the castle which he usually avoided, and feeling tired he threw himself on a couch, first taking off his Oriental sword, which he always wore out of affection for the Emperor. Suddenly he heard voices; he sprang up and hurriedly left the room, forgetting his sword. A minute later a party of ladies and gentlemen entered the room, one of them being the young subaltern of the Auvergne regiment, now a colonel. He at once recognized the sword, and in spite of all the owner of the castle could do, he called in some gendarmes and proceeded to make a search for Marshal Ney. Finding that he was discovered Ney gave himself up quietly. On the 7th of December, the marshal was shot, scarcely two months after the owner of the second sword, Murat, had met his fate in the same way.

SMILES.

"With what are you going to surprise your husband on his recovery from his long illness?" "With my new hat."—*Fliegende Blätter*.

Miss Carbart—"Our acquaintance has been so short that I feel I ought to know more about you before I consent to become your wife."

Pelham Parker (stiffly)—"Very well. I can refer you to any of the girls I have been engaged to."—*Tit-Bits*.

IT'S A SECRET

that many women owe their beauty to Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. The reason—beauty of form and face, as well as grace, radiate from the common center—health. The best bodily condition results from good food, fresh air, and exercise, coupled with the judicious use of the "Prescription." In maidenhood, womanhood, and motherhood, it's a supporting tonic that's peculiarly adapted to her needs, regulating, strengthening, and curing, the derangements of the sex.

If there be headache, pain in the back, bearing-down sensations, or general debility, or if there be nervous disturbances, nervous prostration, and sleeplessness, the "Prescription" reaches the origin of the trouble and corrects it. It dispels aches and pains, corrects displacements and cures catarrhal inflammation of the lining membranes. It's guaranteed to benefit or cure, or the money paid for it is refunded.

Dr. Pierce's Pellets cure constipation, indigestion, biliousness, headache and kindred ailments.

It is said that the ruin of agriculture precedes the fall of a nation. The country people no longer form the majority of the population. They go to Paris and other large cities, where many of them contract vicious habits, become idlers and drunkards, and help to swell the ranks of socialism and anarchism. Foreign competition has ruined French agriculture.

THE WHITE SISTERS.

PROTESTANT TESTIMONY TO THE HEROISM OF CATHOLIC NUNS.

Mission work in Kabylia, as indeed elsewhere throughout Franco-Moslem territories, is due even more to the Sisters of Our Lady of African Missions than to the indefatigable and unselfish labors of the White Fathers, praiseworthy and resultant in innumerable good works as the efforts of these apostolic emissaries have been and are, writes William Sharp in an appreciative article in the current Atlantic Monthly.

Among the Arabs, there was and is a spirit of wonder and admiration for the dauntless courage, the self-sacrificing devotion, the medical knowledge and skill, the tenderness, saintly steadfastness, of these heroic women. Hundreds have been brought to a different attitude through observation of the *Sœurs* of Notre Dame d'Afrique. In the words of an eminent Jesuit, "the moral superiority of these women, with their self-denying kindness, their courage and devotion, deeply impressed the unbelievers, who gazed at them with astonishment and admiration, as if they belonged to a different order of beings, and were something more than human."

From a White Father in Biskra I learned that the work so silently and unostentatiously done by these African Sisters is one of so great importance that if, for any reason, it were impossible for both the White Fathers and White Sisters to remain there as missionaries, the Fathers would unquestionably have to give way.

"In a word," he added, "we are the pioneers, forever on the march after receding boundaries; the Sisters are the first dauntless and indefatigable settlers, who bring the first practically virgin soil into a prosperous condition, full of promise for a wonderful and near future."

I asked if there were many mischances in the career of those devoted women.

"Few," he replied; "strangely enough, fewer than with the White Fathers. We have had many martyrs to savage violence, to the perils and privations of desert life. The Sisters have had martyrs also, but these have lost their lives in ways little different from what have beset them in any other foreign clime."

Personally, I think the greatest work is being achieved by the Roman Catholic Church, and in particular by the institutions and societies inaugurated, and the specially trained emissaries sent forth by Cardinal Lavigerie. Everywhere I went in North Africa I was struck by this fact.

From what I saw and heard throughout the length and breadth of French North Africa, I am convinced that one of the greatest works of contemporary Christianity is being fulfilled there in divers ways, and mainly through the instrumentality of that famous prelate whose name will henceforth be linked with those of Cyprian and Augustine as among the foremost glories of the Church of Christ in Africa.—*Providence Visitor*.

Powers—"I don't believe in paternal government at all."

Bowers—"There is a greater danger than that ahead of us."

Powers—"What is it?"

Bowers—"Maternal government."—*Puck*.