

The first regularly appointed priests recognized by the government were the Rev. John Joseph Thierry, who was stationed at Sydney, and the Rev. Philip Connolly in Van Diemen's Land. Governor Macquarie, who seems to have been a young Bismarck, gave them some curious instructions. They were not to endeavor to make converts from the Established Church but confine their ministrations exclusively to the members of their own Church. They were never to hold a religious meeting of any kind without giving three days notice to the government as to the time and place. They were never to celebrate mass except on Sundays and according to the ritual of the Church of England, and then only at the same hours in which the Protestant chaplains held their service. I wonder what sort of a mass that would be; a mass according to the ritual of the Church of England. Perhaps the *Friend of India* might enlighten my ignorance. They were not to interfere with schools or orphanages, as all orphans, no matter to what religion their parents might belong, were "to be instructed in the faith and doctrines of the Church of England." These harsh regulations enforced with severity caused poor Father Thierry a great deal of trouble. He could not look on quietly and see the lambs of his flock devoured by the wolf of heresy. He called a meeting of Catholic gentlemen, and formed a Catholic educational society, and tried to establish an orphanage, but in one of his letters to the newspapers he made use of some expressions which seemed to reflect on the conduct of the Protestant chaplain. For this he was publicly reprimanded by the governor. He published an apology, and expressed his regret for having done so. All in vain. Bismarck suspended him, stopped his salary, withdrew the official recognition of his rank, closed the gaols and hospitals against him; even criminals sentenced to death could only obtain his services by special memorial, and this state of things lasted for twelve years, from 1824 to 1837, and during these twelve years Father Thierry could only say mass and administer the sacraments by stealth. Time after time did he write to the governor, petition after petition was sent to him by the people begging him to permit their priest to minister to their spiritual wants; it was all of no use. The blood and iron souled Macquarie, like his ancestor Pharaoh, or like his grandson Bismarck, would not permit the priest to offer sacrifice to God. On one occasion word was brought to Father Thierry that a