

CONVERSIONS IN GERMANY.

Le Journal de Rome calls attention to the recent articles of several German Protestant papers, which deplore the continued movement towards Catholicism, of late observable in various parts of their country. Statistics published by these same papers, giving a clear statement of the number of conversions occurring within the last few years, have created a profound alarm among the followers of Luther. By a remarkable coincidence the movement towards Catholicism began with the inauguration of the Kulturkampf. The persecutions of the Kulturkampf brought into bold relief the noble and heroic virtues of the Catholic priesthood. Moreover the firmness with which the Catholic populations bore the trials of the persecution and their admirable unity in the face of danger clearly attested the divinity of their faith. In Germany the Church, persecuted, appeared in its most glorious light, and Protestantism visibly weakened in its presence. Protestants of good faith did not fail to perceive the enormity of Luther's crime of rebellion against a Church that could, while enduring such persecution, preserve such unity, unanimity and zeal among its members. Christ was evidently with the persecuted, and not with the persecutors. Hence a desire on the part of many honest Lutherans to return to the Church of their ancestors. Respect for authority is one of the leading characteristics of the German people. Outside the church no such respect as that witnessed within its fold exists. This fact has also very materially contributed to the conversions of many now happily in the possession of truth.

WHAT MR. PARNELL HAS DONE.

It is customary with some Irishmen to belittle the efforts of their political chiefs in the work of Ireland's disenthralment. Mr. Parnell has now led the Irish party in the House of Commons for five years and not a few grumblers are heard asking what he has done. These forget that the Irish leader has had many and great difficulties to overcome. He has had to contend with the most powerful and most unscrupulous government in the world. He has had to contend against Irish treachery and insubordination. The fact is, however, that he has in spite of opposition and of treachery accomplished wonders. In a contemporary we read a summary of the results of the Land Act wrung from an unwilling government by Mr. Parnell, an act which, however defective and imperfect, has assuredly done much good. This summary our readers will peruse with pleasure:

"A return has just been made to Parliament in regard to the operation of the Irish Arrears of Rent act. According to this the sum of £2,570,000 owing to landlords by farmers has been wiped out under the act since 1882. Of this large amount, Ulster gained £280,000, in remission of rent; Leinster £250,000, Connaught £1,000,000, and Munster £500,000. The Nationalist papers commenting upon this return, state that the Land act has already secured to the farmers a permanent reduction of rent exceeding £500,000 yearly. The Bishop of Limerick, the Earl of Belmore, and other members of the commission which has been considering the condition of education in Ireland state that the curtailed rents were better and more regularly paid last year than at any time since the Parnell agitation began. The relations now existing between landlord and tenants are everywhere appreciated."

The consideration of Mr. Parnell's success in the face of difficulties that would have appalled a less able, less sincere and a less patriotic man, impelled Mr. Alex. Sullivan to bear testimony to that success in his Rochester speech. Mr. Sullivan does so with that force and energy and brilliancy so peculiarly his own:

"But what are the results," he asks, "already accomplished by the parliamentary party of which Parnell is the chosen leader, and Healy, O'Brien, Sexton, Redmond, T. D. Sullivan, and their colleagues are the most conspicuous members? At least enough doctoring of the land laws to expose the roots of the malady and make its extirpation by the roots only a question of time. At least enough doctoring of the education laws to expose the infamy by which a people eager for letters have, until within fifty years, been chained in illiteracy. At least enough trialing of bills offered by Irish members to turn the eyes of the world upon the evils of foreign government in county, municipal and national administration, and make it absolutely certain that only one act of legislation can cure the evils—the act by which the Government of Ireland shall be restored to the people of Ireland. Parnell and his party in eight years have done more for Ireland, morally and potentially as well as actually, than was accomplished through the three-quarters of a century by the representatives of Ireland in the imperial legislature. Then let us stand firmly, faithfully, steadfastly, by them until the victory which will encompass everything is won."

It was also, no doubt, out of regard for Mr. Parnell's success as leader of the Irish nation that that thoroughly patriotic journal, the Western Catholic, of Chicago, lately vindicated him from the assaults of an anti-Irish paper. The Western Catholic advocates physical force for the redemption of Ireland, but cannot refuse its meed of praise to the

disinterestedness and success of Mr. Parnell. As between Messrs. Davitt and Parnell the Western Catholic is with the latter:

"Here," says our contemporary, "is what the Chicago Current says of the reported differences between Parnell and Davitt: 'Parnell went to Parliament for his country; Michael Davitt to prison. Parnell has had champagne and porter-house in the London and Paris clubs, while Michael Davitt has eaten his crust at Dartmore. The one has been crowned with the successes of expediency; the other is feared (with wise apprehension) by the power which has inflicted his sufferings. When Parnell has been sequestered on quail and toast, Michael Davitt has been chained with gangs of felons by the mean virtue of a ticket-of-leave. Both these leaders are dear to the Irish heart, but when they disagree, as they are about to do, the one-armed hero and martyr must not be driven to the rear for the sake of a vote or two in a sham Parliament.'"

"This is all very well, but Davitt's 'Nationalizing' scheme is both impolitic and impracticable; and his attempts to whitewash Orangemen, though made from a good motive, are none the less reprehensible."

Mr. Parnell has now with him the masses of the people both in Ireland and America. In five years he has accomplished so much, what great things may we not expect from him in the near future when he shall have in Parliament a solid and unpurchasable Irish majority at his back?

AN ORDINATION.

L'Echo de Fourviere, speaking of an ordination held at Lausanne, Switzerland, by Mgr. de Mermillod, gives a brief extract from that eloquent prelate's discourse on the occasion. In his peroration the bishop adjured the young priests to pray for Geneva and Lausanne, for their families, their free Helvetia, their dioceses, the Universal Church, the Holy Father and their bishop. Replying to an address from the cure of Lausanne the bishop further stated that it was to him the source of greatest joy to have been enabled to hold such an impressive ceremony in the episcopal place of residence, which, for three centuries had not witnessed this sublime rite of our holy religion. Since Mgr. Mermillod's return from exile religion has certainly taken a step in advance in the Swiss republic, where some of the most resolute and unscrupulous foes of the Church have long exercised political power.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

—Hostilities have begun between France and China. The French will have a walk over.

—In our next issue we propose to discuss at some length the projected annexation of Jamaica to Canada.

—On Sunday last, in St. Peter's Cathedral in this city, Rev. Father Walsh read His Lordship's circular concerning the triduum in honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary on the 6th, 7th and 8th prox.

—We direct attention to the pastoral letter of His Grace Archbishop Lynch in another portion of this issue. The pastoral deals in an effective manner with the absorbing question of Freemasonry.

—The Globe states that La Verite has declared that the British association is formed for the propagation of free thought. We are constant readers of our estimable Quebec contemporary and have seen in its columns no statement of this kind. Will the Globe please show cause?

—Mr. Patrick Egan, the lately elected President of the Irish National League of America, declines to receive the salary of \$3,000, voted at the late Convention to the holder of that office. Mr. Egan here gives another proof of his disinterestedness in the service of Ireland.

—We learn from our esteemed contemporary, the Antigonish Aurora, that "on Sunday, the 17th, a pastoral letter from His Grace the Archbishop of Halifax was read in the churches of that city. It announces that in accordance with instructions from the Holy Father a solemn triduum in honor of the Blessed Virgin will be celebrated on the 6th, 7th and 8th of September, and with the clearness of thought and style that characterizes His Grace, deals with the misrepresentations that are so frequent on this point of Catholic devotion to the Mother of God." We will gladly favor our readers with a perusal of this pastoral at the earliest possible moment.

—The Pembroke Observer of the 22nd inst., says: The annual retreat for the clergy of the Vicariate of Pontiac has been in progress this week at the convent here. It is attended by the Rev. Fathers F. Devine, Oseola; J. Byrne, Eganville; Ferreri, Vinton; Vincent, Calumet; Lemoine, Gower Point; J. McCormack, Brudenell; Shalloo, Sheenboro; Dowdall and Leduc, Pembroke; H. J. Marion, Douglas; Brunet, Portage du Fort; Rougier, Renfrew. The exercises are conducted by the Rev. Father Conly, S. J., of St. Mary's College, Montreal. Tomorrow morning the retreat closes, when the clergymen in attendance will immediately return to their respective parishes.

CATHOLIC PRESS.

Boston Pilot.

Who says that peers have not their use in the economy of nature? An English lord has collected over 3,000 different specimens of postage stamps.

Cad Mille Failthe, "the famous Irish battle cry," as a Boston paper some years ago translated it, was extended to the visiting delegates last week.

At least 20,000 persons walked in the Nationalist procession at Monaghan, on Aug. 15th, and the cablegram naively adds, "The Orangemen obtained from any counter-demonstration." They generally do when they don't outnumber the others ten to one.

One of the fruits of foreign ownership of our Western lands is shown in a recent movement of English cattle-raisers in Wyoming. They have petitioned the English privy council for leave to ship their cattle through Canada to Great Britain, without being subjected to the restrictions laid upon American cattle in general. The granting of such a request would be a discrimination on the part of the British Government in favor of alien cattle-raisers on American soil, as against American citizens engaged in the same business. It is the most impudent proposition ever broached even by English impudence, but a legitimate result of the foolish policy of letting these aliens grab or steal 20,000,000 acres of the nation's richest territory.

Since the first of last month the New York Board of Social Charities, alarmed at the wholesale importation of paupers sent to this country by the British authorities, have begun a vigorous enforcement of the immigration laws and returned sixty of those immigrants to Ireland. Commenting on the previous apathy of the authorities the Philadelphia Times well says:—"As the authorities are at last beginning to measure up the size of this vicious and give it shape and form being able to show the names of paupers, the places from which they are shipped and the agencies by which they are hunted up and packed off to American almshouses, it might be well for the State Department at Washington to furnish the British Government with a little specific information on the subject. Perhaps if the American Government points out to the paupers the British authorities may be able to stop their shipment. It seems to be too much to expect them to discern what is going on for themselves."

The English army owes most of its "marching tunes" to the old Irish airs; but it appears there are some of them that officers cannot stand—knowing, as they do, the memories those airs must evoke in the breasts of Irishmen. An incident strongly illustrates this. At the 26th ult., in the following statement:—"Here's a ridiculous incident of military life. The Royal Irish Lancers left Dundalk en route for Dublin on Monday, and the band of the 16th Lancers escorted them out of town. In consequence of their being an Irish regiment, the sixteenth thought they would best compliment them by playing something national. Lieutenant Colonel Maillart trotted along by his bandstand, and as the symphony struck up, his horse curvetted and danced in the graceful style, and the gallant rider looked proud and happy. But when the opening notes glided into the 'Wearing of the Green'—where! death and sedition!—the Colonel plunged in the spurs, and the bluish of sudden anger empurpled his face. 'Stop that tune! Stop that tune!' he shouted, and the strains of 'Up comes Napper Tandy' drowned his voice. The fellow with the kettle drum seemed to do more for the 'Wearing of the Green' than anyone else, and at him dashed the thoroughly enraged Maillart. 'Stop that J—d tune, I say!' and as he shouted he seized the drumstick and wrenched it from the astonished drummer. But the cornet tattered, and the clarinet toolled, and they all kept on telling about 'the most distressful country' till Maillart thought they had all gone mad. And as the strains died away in the distance the lookers-on heard, now and again, through the notes of the lively song, the maniacal yell of the thwarted but lion-hearted old humbug—'Stop that tune, I say! Stop that J—d tune!'"

BRANTFORD NOTES.

On Monday of last week a little girl of Mr. John McGarrel, aged seven years, was drowned in the canal in front of the starch factory, about a mile out of the city. She had been playing around the bank with a companion and slipped in, only a few yards from where her father was, but the little girl who saw her was so frightened she did not raise an alarm until she reached the house some distance off, and then it was too late to save the child's life. Mrs. McGarrel was in delicate health at the time, and the child's death was a severe blow to her. The sad affliction has called forth much sympathy.

Rev. Father Lennon, of Brantford, and Very Rev. Father Dowling, of Paris, returned from Boston last week where they had been taking part in the ceremonies of dedicating a church on the summit of Bunker Hill, in the parish of Rev. Father Supple. They were in the city during the meeting of the National League of America.

Miss Mary Nolan returned to the city last week from Europe where, for a couple of years she has been travelling and studying. Miss Webling, who went with her, returned a week sooner.

Mr. Hugh MacDonald, of Glengarry, who has been attending the Collegiate Institute here for some months past, left for Collingwood on Monday.

Mr. Thos. McGinn, of Rochester, formerly of Burford, is visiting in this neighborhood.

A liquor seller, as he presented his bill to the executor of a deceased customer's estate, asked him if "he wished the items sworn to." "No," said the executor, "the death of the deceased is sufficient evidence that he had the liquor."

Medicine improperly taken invariably inflicts injury, if there is any value in it. No person should therefore take any intoxicating beverage as a medicine, unless it is apparent that it is needed.

DEATH OF EDDIE FERON.

Strathroy Age, Aug. 21.

The sad news of the death of Master Edward Feron, brother of the Rev. Father Feron, of the R. C. paragonage here, which occurred on Sunday morning last, brought expressions of the most genuine regret from our townspeople generally. The young man has during Father Feron's charge of the parish here spent his vacations in Strathroy, and his frank, manly ways and agreeable disposition won him the most kindly good will of all. He was about two weeks ago prostrated by an attack of sickness which rapidly developed into typhoid fever. With this congestion of the brain also set in, and to the latter he succumbed on Sunday last, when within a few months of his twenty-first birthday.

The funeral services on Tuesday forenoon last were of an imposing character, and showed the marked respect entertained for the Rev. Father Feron by his clerical brethren in the Diocese of London. The church was most fittingly decorated for the occasion by nurses Vina and Carrie from the London hospital, whose trained services had also been secured for the deceased during his illness. The floral offerings that covered the coffin fittingly indicated the respect entertained for the family among us, our citizens of all denominations being represented by these tokens of loving sympathy.

Mass was celebrated in the church at ten o'clock, at which were present a very large number of our townspeople, attracted by the same feeling of regard for the bereaved relatives and to mark their respect for a young man than whom very few of his years more generally possessed the good will of the community. The Right Rev. Mons. Bruyere, Vicar General of the Diocese of London, presided, the Rev. Father Bayard was celebrant of the mass, with Father Murphy, deacon, Father Brady, of Woodstock, sub-deacon, and Father Walsh, of London, master of ceremonies. Father Brennan, of St. Mary's, was also present in the sanctuary. The singing of the choir was in sympathy with the occasion and the impressive liturgy of the church was rendered in all the perfection of detail which is particularly visible in the presence of dear Sister Bathilde, S.M., who presided at the organ. The sermon of the Rev. Father Flannery, of St. Thomas, was in every way fitting the occasion. Speaking to those who mourned the loss of a brother, he counselled them to be of good cheer and comfort in the knowledge that he who had gone "had worn the sweet flower of a blameless life." They were not to mourn as those without hope, but to rest in the assurance that God had taken him because his work was done. The deceased was buried in the R. C. Cemetery here until such time as it is convenient to remove the remains to the family vault in Montreal.

OBITUARY.

We deeply sympathize with our esteemed friend Mr. John W. Kearns, of this city, in the sad affliction which visited his household during the past week. On the 21st his son William Frederick, aged fifteen years, died of typhoid fever after a short illness. This young man gave promise of a brilliant future, and had, indeed, even at this early age, attained a high place in the regard of the authorities of the Western Union Telegraph Company in Detroit.

On the 23rd the father of Mr. Kearns passed peacefully away. He was a native of Limerick County, Ireland, and at the time of his death had attained the ripe old age of 85 years. Besides being deeply regretted by his immediate relatives, many warm friends will sincerely regret the absence of one whose noble qualities endeared him to all who had the pleasure of his acquaintance.

On Monday last we received by telegram from Montreal the sad intelligence of the death of Mr. Patrick Dinahane, a native of this city, but for many years resident in Montreal. He was the eldest son of the late Richard Dinahane, an old and highly esteemed resident of London, and brother of Rev. Peter Dinahane, a distinguished priest of the Order of St. Dominick. The very many friends of the deceased gentleman in this city will receive this intelligence with a pang of sorrow.

THE WILLIAMSTOWN CONVENT.

The Williamstown convent will re-open on Tuesday, 2nd of Sept., when the classes will be formed, and studies resumed for the ensuing year. The course of study is thorough and practical, and includes English, French, Music, Drawing, Ornamental and Fancy Work, Plain and Fancy Sewing, Religious Instruction and deportment.

The several branches are in charge of efficient and accomplished teachers, who will spare no pain in the education and advancement of the pupils.

For particulars apply to the Convent, or address the Lady Superiores.

HYMNIAL.

The joyful tolling of the bells in St. Bernard's church in Newtown, on the 11th inst., announced that some important and pleasing event was about to take place. Shortly after nine o'clock a procession of carriages drove up to the church, when Mr. Stephen Grace, of Ottawa, of the firm of M. & S. Grace, supported by his cousin J. D. Grace, of the same city, and Miss Mary McMahon on the arm of her brother, and accompanied by Miss M. McMahon, who acted as bridesmaid, were ushered into the church. The altar of the sacred edifice was richly attired in appropriate colors, with a contrast of fragrant flowers. The marriage ceremonies were solemnized at half past nine o'clock with Rev. Father Lavigne presiding. After the nuptial knot was tied the party drove to the residence of the bride's mother where the wedding breakfast awaited them. The bride was the recipient of many magnificent and costly presents, a few of which we mention:—A gold chain and locket, by Mrs. J. Eagleson, Ottawa; a crystal set, by Mrs. J. Grace, Armiprior; a silver butter dish, by Miss M. Smith, and other valuable

presents too numerous to mention. The happy young couple left by the evening train, and while on the way to the station, numerous bouquets of flowers were thrown into the carriage in which the bridal party drove, showing the high esteem in which the bride was held by her numerous friends in Newtown.

MR. O'HART'S NEW BOOK.

O'HART'S "IRISH LANDED GENTRY WHEN CROMWELL CAME TO IRELAND," a companion volume to his "Irish Pedigrees," same price. Just published, demy 8vo. Fancy cloth, about 800 pages.

CONTENTS:

Preface. Dedication to the illustrious Lady Herbert of Lea, including causes which led to the war in Ireland in 1641 and the Proclamation by the Supreme Council of the Confederate Catholics in June, 1643. The Regicides of King Charles I. Summary of the Commonwealth. Records in Ireland. Forfeiting Proprietors in Ireland, under the Cromwellian Settlement. Involvements of the Decrees of Innocent's under the Commonwealth Rule in Ireland. Persons Transplanted in Ireland in 1653 and 1654. Involvements of the Connaught Certificates to the persons Transplanted. The "Fortynine" Officers in Ireland. Soldiers of the Commonwealth in Ireland. Restores, Grantees, and Nominees of Charles II. in Ireland. Communion of Grace. Abstract of the Acts of Settlement and Explanation. Names of Persons in the Grants under the Acts of Settlement and Explanation. Books of "Survey and Distribution" in Ireland. Irishmen who served in the Spanish Netherlands. The Irish Parliament of King James II., A.D. 1689. King James' General and Field Officers in Ireland in 1690. Forfeiting Proprietors in Ireland under the Williamite Confiscations. Grantees of Estates and Purchasers of Estates then Forfeited in Ireland. Sketch of the Irish Brigades in Foreign Countries. The "Wild Geese." Descendants of the "Wild Geese." The Irish Brigades in the Service of France. The Irish Brigades in the Service of America. The Legislative Power in Ireland in 1797. Parliamentary Constituencies in Ireland during the Period of the Union. Foreign Religious Foundations by Irishmen. A General Index; and a very elaborate Index of Surnames, including perhaps, every Surname in Ireland since the English Invasion.

The nature of the elaborate works with which Mr. John O'Hart has enriched the genealogical literature of Ireland is now too well known to require explanation or comment. His volumes of "Irish Pedigrees" contain a vast amount of information which it must have cost him an unusual amount of time, patience, and labor to collect, and which future workers in the field of Irish history, whether local or national, must find exceedingly useful. * * His latest work will add to his reputation as one of the most industrious and historical compilers which this or any other country has produced. It is entitled "The Irish and Anglo-Irish Landed Gentry when Cromwell came to Ireland"; but this description of it would give a most inadequate notion of its contents. Besides more than 257 genealogies additional to those which are to be found in the "Irish Pedigrees," we have here lists of names and other documents of the highest importance in reference to the war of 1641, the doings in Ireland after the Restoration, the struggle of 1659, the Williamite confiscations, the achievements of the Irish in France and in the Spanish Netherlands, the Irish brigade in the American Civil War, and the Irish Legislature at the period of the Union. It would be impossible in the space at our disposal adequately to describe or even to mention all those lists and documents, but we may briefly say that in one sense they are the most vivid accounts that can be given of the memorable events to which they relate. We talk vaguely of the men who waxed fat on the confiscations of Irish land, of the hundreds and thousands of Irish Catholics who were reduced to utter poverty by those confiscations, of the Irish soldiers who served in the Low Countries, in France and in America, of the Irish Parliaments of the Second, and of the names of those men, and there are few of them which will not, as the names of their ancestors, have a special interest for the present generation of Irish readers. Here we see how it is that so many Frenchmen and Spaniards now bear Celtic names; how Saxon names are more prevalent in some parts of Ireland than in others; how men the stem of whose family is to be traced to some fertile spot in Leinster or the midlands are found on the bleak and sterile hillsides of the West. All Mr. O'Hart's information is interesting; but we venture to think that the catalogues which have reference to the Cromwellian confiscations will be read with the greatest avidity by most persons. The list of the members of the Irish Parliaments of 1659 and 1797 will also be scanned with peculiar attention. Mr. O'Hart, as we have intimated, abstains for the most part from commenting on his own extracts from the records of the past; but we are glad to be able to add that in his dedication to Lady Herbert of Lea, if he does not himself explain the circumstances which led to the war of 1641 and the subsequent diabolical proceedings in Ireland about which his pages are so largely concerned, he lets others tell the story, not, indeed, in detail, but, for his purposes at least, in quite sufficient detail. The extracts he gives from well known Catholic and Protestant writers—Sir Charles Gavan Duffy, Mr. Walpole, Major Wood-Martin, Mr. J. T. Gilbert, and the Rev. Denis Murphy, S. J.—and various official documents of the period of 1641 which he sets forth at length, set at rest all doubts on the points mentioned. On the whole, we repeat that his latest compilation is a very useful addition to our historical literature, and we can only hope that it will bring him not merely renown, but substantial pecuniary profit as well.

Every man of Irish birth or descent should have a copy of this great work, which is published for the author by H. M. Gill & Son, Dublin. Price, 12s 6d, or post free to Canada or the United States for 13s 6d sterling. It may also be had direct from the author by enclosing post office order or check for the amount, addressed: John O'Hart, Ringsend, Dublin, Ireland.

Catholic Picnic at Bothwell.

A grand union picnic will be held in Bothwell on Thursday, September 4th. Sir John A. Macdonald and the Hon. E. Blake are both expected to be present. The band of the 7th Fusiliers, of London, will be in attendance, and excursion trains will be run from Woodstock, St. Thomas, London, Windsor, Chatham and all way stations. Return tickets to Bothwell will be sold at the following rates: Windsor and Detroit, 50c; Belle River, Stony Point and Chatham, 40c; St. Thomas, Woodstock, Ingersoll and London, only 75c. Athletic sports, grand music and eloquent speaking will be the order of the day. This promises to be the best picnic ever held in Bothwell, and ample accommodation will be made for thousands.

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London, Aug. 2, 1884.

To all whom it may concern: Being compelled on account of protracted bad health to retire from the management of the London Commercial College, I take the opportunity to return my very sincere thanks to the public for the exceedingly liberal support extended to this institution during the many years which I have been connected with it. Since my retirement, supplemented by several years of office work and the outside business which must necessarily be transacted by the principal of a college, has overtaken my physical strength, and in compliance with the earnest and urgent advice of my friends, I have been obliged to take a rest, and consequently have sold out all interest in the college to Mr. Wellington Pantou, who will conduct it in the same very commodious premises which we have occupied for some time past.

Mr. Pantou has been teaching in the institution for the past seven years. Here we see the greater part of which time he has had charge of the actual business department, and his thorough knowledge of business, combined with his position of principal of a college of this kind, has enabled him to give to the students a practical education. Very respectfully,

WM. N. YEREN.
N. B.—For circular containing terms, course of study, etc., address Principal, WELLINGTON PANTOU, Box 315, London, Ont.

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