

CATHOLIC INTELLIGENCE.

VERY REV. JOHN HENRY NEWMAN, D.D., the illustrious Oratorian, was born on the 21st of February, 1801. He is consequently in his 79th year.

The Diocese of Hartford was established in 1844, and now has 93 churches and 10 buildings, 30 chapels and stations, 100 priests, 50 clerical students, 9 female academies, 43 parochial or free schools, 19 religious institutions, 3 orphan asylums, and a Catholic population of 150,000.

It is said that the Protestant Primate of Scotland wrote to the Cardinal Archbishop of Paris a report on the letter of the latter to M. Loysson. It is said also that Cardinal Guibert returned the Primate's communication without any comment. Supposing the facts to be as stated, we must conclude that impertinent interference has received a fitting rebuke.

There is a bigoted school committee in Fall River, Mass., which refuses a certificate of school attendance to children attending parochial schools. Managers of mills require youth applying for work to furnish certificates of school attendance, and those who attend the two parochial schools are thus annoyed by the action of the school committee. Father Bede has called public attention to the matter by a communication in a Boston paper, and this may have the desired effect.

The Church of the Madonna del Miracoli, at Venice, a masterpiece of Venetian architecture, is going to decay. It was built in 1487. Seventy years or more ago it was resolved to take measures for its preservation, and 180,000 lire was appropriated to begin the work of restoration. For the last ten years, however, this design has been wholly abandoned. It is water soaked and crumbling, and whole flocks of pigeons have their nests in it.

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul is doing a wonderful favor to God's poor. Its last general report gives as its receipts for 1877, \$250,000 francs, or 1,650,000 dollars, and as its expenditures, 7,110,000 francs, or 4,422,000 dollars. The receipts for the several countries were: France, 2,730,000 francs; The United States, 1,153,000 francs; Belgium, 766,000 francs; Holland, 615,000 francs; British Isles, 591,000 francs; Other countries, 2,395,000 francs. These figures do not represent all the relief distributed, as several councils failed to send their reports.

The following was related by the Rev. Father Stone, Passionist, in a lecture delivered at the Church of St. Charles Borromeo, Brooklyn, New York, on Feb. 27th.—I know one very able and distinguished man, a Bostonian, who was attracted by hearing the tramp in the street long before daylight on a Christmas morning, and his curiosity being excited, he got out of his comfortable bed, looked out of the window, and saw the people going tramp, tramp in the snow in one direction. He did not know what it meant, but his curiosity led him to venture out on this cold Christmas morning and he found himself in the old Boston Cathedral, the pro-cathedral in Boston, and there for the first time he witnessed the Catholic service, and that first burst, as it were of light upon him, convinced him that there was something divine there. He ended by becoming a Catholic.

By previous agreement, the committee of arrangements having in charge the charity reception for the Little Sisters of the poor, met Archbishop Wood last evening, in the Home for the Aged and Infirm, on Eighteenth street, above Jefferson. There were also present the Sister Superior of the Home and the Sister Provincial of the Order in the United States, the latter having just arrived from Brooklyn. The Archbishop was clad in purple cassock, purple cape and purple beretta. Peter S. Dooner, the treasurer of the committee after making a brief speech, handed the Archbishop a check for \$9,108.62, the net proceeds of the reception. The Archbishop thanked the committee for their zeal and energy, and said the amount returned was larger than had ever before been obtained in a similar way for any Catholic charity in Philadelphia. Before concluding his address, he referred to what he termed the unfortunate financial complications that had arisen in other portions of the country and he said further: "We should thank Providence for our prosperous condition. I am not only able, but willing, and I am fully prepared, to meet all demands, dollar for dollar, that may be made upon me as the head of the Archdiocese. The church property in the Archdiocese is worth twelve millions of dollars, and upon that the debt amounts to only about \$800,000, and the largest portion of that debt rests upon two churches,—those of St. Bonifacius and St. Charles Borromeo. I truly wish that the people who have money in my hands would come and ask for it and obtain it. I would not trade my Archdiocese for any other See in the world. I have the best churches, the best priests, the best Sisters and the best people." At the conclusion of the address, the Archbishop's Benediction was pronounced.—Philadelphia Times, March 12.

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