

last Christmas. Thus you see that by these gatherings "here a little and there a little," the fold of the One Shepherd is increasing fast. May the Almighty assist us in our endeavours, and may His name be glorified throughout the world.

"I have the honour to remain, your obedient servant,

"T. L. A. FREYCEON,

"Mis. Apostolic at Singapore.

"March 20, 1843."

IRELAND.

NEW CONVENT AT DALKEY.—The sweet and beautiful village of Dalkey, to which the Atmospheric Railroad is now nearly opened, has been blessed with one of the finest conventual structures in the empire. Whether we consider the site, the exterior of the buildings, or the interior of both convent and chapel, we are struck with admiration. They are not less glorious to the Catholic religion, and to the progress of pure piety, than honourable to the skill, taste, and judgment of the contractors, Messrs. Williams and Sons, to the architect, Patrick Byrne, Esq., and to the able superioress of the convent, Mrs. Ball, who has already left such a legacy of love and classic elegance in the convent of Loretto, at Rathfarnham. The building combines elegance, convenience, and remarkable durability; and is executed in the modern style of Gothic architecture. It is not, perhaps, in every respect what Mr. Pugin would desire, so famous for point as power: but considering its approximation to the sea, and the diversity of objects which it combines—a church for sacrifice, a convent for religious, and a seminary for boarders—it may be judicious to give it more the appearance of an ancient baronial residence, than of a mere church or convent. The convent commands a most delightful view of the bay and surrounding country of Dublin, Howth, Dalkey Island, &c. In the rear you have a fine prospect of sweet Kiltarney, and the Dublin and Wicklow mountains in all their varied outline. The solemn and interesting ceremony of opening took place on Thursday last, the 17th inst. being the feast of St. Lawrence. At half-past eleven o'clock the solemn high mass was offered to the Almighty, assisted by some of the finest voices we ever heard, and certainly a superior choir; a harp, piano, and sweet toned organ, conspired to give effect to the harmonies. The celebrant was the Rev. Dr. Gaffney, Dean of the College at Maynooth; deacon, Rev. James Kavanagh; sub-deacon, Rev. Michael Mullaly;

master of the ceremonies, Rev. Peter Powell, the zealous chaplain of the convent. In addition to these clergymen we noticed the Rev. Dr. Callan, Rev. Mr. Sheridan, P. P., Rev. Mr. Byrne, Rev. Mr. Hopkins, Rev. Mr. Gordon, of Canada, Rev. Mr. Scully, Rev. Mr. McGarry, &c. The attendance of the laity, although necessarily limited, was most respectable, among whom were several Protestants of distinction. After the first Gospel, the Rev. Thomas O'Carroll, of St. Andrew's Church, Westland row, delivered a most effective and appropriate discourse on the words of the 79th Psalm, "Turn again, O God of Hosts, look down from Heaven and see, and visit this vineyard; and perfect the same which thy right hand has planted." A solemn benediction of the most holy sacrament concluded the devotions of the day.

THE PASSING BELL.—Our correspondent has given us great gratification by the information that the Rev. Dr. O'Connell has resolved to restore at the Church of St. Michael and St. John, in Dublin, the ancient and edifying practice of the passing bell. It will toll on all occasions of death in the parish, without distinction of rank or station; and, while it announces the death of a parishioner, neighbour, or friend, will suggest the truly Catholic duty of a prayer for the passing soul—an act of charity extending beyond the grave. We are surprised to learn that this is the first revival in Catholic Ireland of this ancient and almost universal ceremony.

CONVERSION TO CATHOLICITY.—Died at Mountausic, in the parish of Kilmichael, in this county, on Monday, the 14th instant, William Wolfe, Esq., aged 32 years. Mr. Wolfe, who had been a Protestant, and a gentleman of excellent education became a convert to the Catholic faith some days previous to his dissolution, and received the rites of the Catholic Church, at the hands of one of the clergymen of the parish, with the most edifying and exemplary piety. He did not fail to give, during his illness, the most unequivocal proofs of the sincerity of his conversion. He was much respected through life, and died universally regretted. His remains were accompanied to the family place of interment by a numerous and respectable assemblage of persons.—*Cork Examiner.*

CATHOLIC CONVERT.—Richard Muns of Royal Oak Lane, in the city, was, on the 15th inst. received into the Roman Catholic Church, by the Rev. Patrick Cantwell, C.C., of St. Patrick's.—*Waterford Chronicle.*