

CONFISCATION DENOUNCED.

LETTER TO PARISH PRIESTS.

Spoilation of Establishments of Worship Calls Forth Powerful Letter.

We reproduce from Rome the following striking letter of the Archbishop of Paris to the parish priests of his diocese, motivated by the imminent dispersion of the ecclesiastical property there:

"The Journal Officiel" of the 11th current has published the list of the properties which have belonged to the public establishments of worship in the Department of the Seine.

"The Church, established by God on a perfect society to lead mankind to eternal happiness, has received from the Sovereign Master of all things the right of possessing such temporal property as is necessary for the fulfillment of its mission.

"We declare, therefore, that the property which has belonged to the establishments of worship in this diocese belongs, and shall ever belong, to the Church, and that all and every attribution of this property made without her consent shall be and remain null in justice and before God."

"Finally, we remind all that those principles and the sanctions apply also to the property of which the religious congregations have been dispossessed.

CONSCIENCE APPEALED TO.

"We appeal to the judgment and the conscience of all honest men and to the judgment of God against the spoliation already committed and against those that are going to be committed."

"You will be good enough, M. le Cure, to make known to your parishioners our protests and warnings."

"It is hardly necessary to add that those who may thus be put in possession of ecclesiastical property may not continue to hold it, but must come to an arrangement with the diocesan authority to employ it in a way in harmony with the intentions of the donors and with the laws of the Church."

The Holy Father.

Interesting Sketch of His Daily Life.

Perhaps it is because Leo XIII. lived to be ninety-three, Pius IX. to be eighty-five, and Gregory XVI. to be eighty-one, that Pius X. does not cease to be considered in Rome comparatively young man, though now seventy-four.

"The change would seem not to be for the better, but the Pope does not appear to have suffered from it. He has perhaps grown a little heavier, but his movements are remarkable by easy and graceful for one of his years."

"The strain was all the harder upon Pius X., owing to the fact that he is always an early riser. On that same morning he was about early enough to see the first groups of pilgrims arriving in the Piazza of St. Peter's."

vate receptions and the public ones, at some of which he delivers important addresses.

"The morning's work is thus prolonged almost to the very moment of dinner—for the Pope dines at one, and sups in the evening, and there is this important difference in the two repasts that whereas there are two dishes for the midday meal there is only one in the evening; both are cooked by the Pope's old cook from Venice, Mgr. Bressan and Mgr. Pescini, one or both invariably share the Pope's table, from which all formality and ceremony has been banished since these distant days nearly six years ago."

"After the cup of coffee following dinner he reposes for a little while in an arm chair. If he sleeps, he needs no awakening, and the time remaining until four o'clock is spent in his bed room (the two secretaries have bed rooms adjoining his) saying the Matins and Lauds for the following day, reading or writing."

"Once a week, and oftener only when there is some special reason for it, the Holy Father sees his two sisters and niece who occupy a modest apartment almost within the shadow of the Vatican, and their visit rarely lasts longer than half an hour, but the two secretaries who are old friends of the Santo sisters since the Venetian days, visit them occasionally and carry messages to and from the Vatican. The other members of the Pope's family come to Rome only at rare intervals, but when they do come they are very warmly welcomed by the Pope. They still lead the same life and live in the same manner as on that wonderful morning of August 1, 1902, when they heard the amazing news that their brother or uncle or cousin had become Pius X! The Pope's brother is still postmaster of a little town near Mantua, and the Pontiff, who is deeply attached to him, as well as to all the members of the family, has been known to refer to him with humorous grandiloquence: 'To-morrow we shall receive our brother the Postmaster General.'"

Even had Italians were proud of Leo XIII., but there were a large number of good Italians who were never drawn to him personally. All Italy loves Pius X.—Rome.

No one need endure the agony of corns with Holloway's Corn Cure at hand to remove them.

Pedestrians on a prominent street were treated to a funny incident, in which the wit of a ragged newsboy turned the uppishness of a richly dressed woman to chagrin.

The woman was shopping where the sidewalks are occupied in part by vendors of small mechanical toys. She led a poodle beside her and the dog continually pulsed at the leash. The dog finally remained motionless when its mistress gave a particularly vigorous and vicious tug at the tan-colored strap.

Just then the newsboy came along, and joy could be seen in his squinting eyes. Watching the dog for a moment, he said:

"It'll go if you wind it, won't it, lady?"

An Irish Chapel Car. One of the interesting features of the proceedings at the great Eucharistic Congress was the address of Father Ambrose Coleman on the state of religion during the span of time indefinitely indicated in the term "the penal days" in Ireland.

The pictures of the persecution and the devices resorted to by the persecutor in order that the practice of religion might not die out in the land would form a great theme for novelist or dramatist, as well as a historical painter. One device resorted to then suggests the origin of our now famous chapel car in this continent. The Irish had in a century and a half before us, though their car did not run on rails, as ours does. The people of Farrington, a southern townland, had what they called "The Ark," a travelling chapel on wheels, with windows all around, so as to enable the people assembled at the crossroads to see all the actions of the priest while celebrating the Holy Sacrifice. This was the plan resorted to at the time when every landlord in the locality refused to allow a chapel to be built on the land. Several of the surviving Catholic landlords had private chapels, wherein Mass used to be fervently celebrated by some distinguished traveling priest. It was in one of those private chapels that the incident which was related by the late Canon Doyle, of Vansgrange, in County Wexford, which resulted in the limless birth of the late Mr. Arthur MacMurrough Kavanagh took place. His mother, an English lady,

got into a passion on discovering a private chapel in the family mansion and in her fury broke the crucifix placed above the altar. Trampling on it as it lay on the floor, she broke the extended figure of the Saviour, leaving the body limbless. When her sor, and heir came to be born he was like the dismembered image, a spectacle for pity and wonder for all the world. The literature of the Mass in the Penal days in Ireland, if collected, would form one of the most thrilling chapters in the history of religion.—Standard and Times

World's Oldest Priest. The Paris Univers states that the oldest priest in the world is one in the Diocese of Cambrai, Canon Gadenne. He was born in Lille and baptized there on the 10th of April, 1806. He was ordained priest at the age of twenty-six, on the 11th of June, 1832, and has since been cure of Maches, near Donnes, since 1846. So this venerable priest has been laboring in God's vineyard for seventy-seven years, and has attained the ripe old age of one hundred and three years four months and some days. About the year 1880 this aged priest, then almost an octogenarian, thought his death was approaching, and so ordered a tombstone to be prepared for his grave, on which he had the following inscription engraved: "Here lies Charles Gadenne, Canon of Cambrai and of Amiens, who on the died in obedience and fidelity to the Roman Catholic Apostolic Church." This stone now lies in the garden attached to the canon's house. It is told that on the day of his baptism April 10, 1806, his godmother prayed that if her little godson was to do good his life might be a long one. If the vigorous longevity of Canon Gadenne be looked on as an answer to the prayer of a truly Christian woman, then there is indeed reason to congratulate the centenarian priest, his parish and his diocese.

Historic Vestments. At a recent procession at Stoneyhurst College, England, after High Mass, Father Cassidy, S. J., and a number of priests left the cloister and proceeded to the church as the Sacred Host was being removed from the altar. The procession then took

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