

acting for the anti-Foster section in the Cabinet, and he was extremely anxious for some compromise. He was, therefore, unwilling that the proposed Land Bill should be weighted with unacceptable provisions, so the measure took shape without the clauses which his young adviser recommended. After some days a draft was got ready to be sent across to Westminster, where it was urgently required, as the Bill had to be printed and distributed for the following Wednesday. When all was completed a fair copy was taken up to the prison lest any final revising touches should be required before being posted. Clause by clause the great prisoner went over his Bill until at last the final page was reached. Then he turned over the leaves again and counted the clauses. Suddenly, having completed the reckoning, he threw the manuscript on the table as if he had been stung. "Why," said he, "this will never do!" "What is the matter?" said his solicitor, in alarm. "There are 18 clauses," said Mr. Parnell; "we can't have 18 clauses." "But is there anything out of order in that?" asked the other, wondering whether some point of Parliamentary practice could be involved. "No," said Mr. Parnell sternly, "but what Bill with 18 clauses could have any chance? It would be horribly unlucky." This was a staggerer for the draftsman! Not even the treaty with Mr. Chamberlain, and the promise of favourable consideration of the Bill by the Cabinet, could induce the wary prisoner to risk a defiance of his boyhood's teachings. His amazed adviser then asked what was to be done—could any clause be omitted? It was late in the afternoon, post-hour approached, and another day's delay might prevent the draft reaching the Queen's printer in London (a notorious sloth) in time of distribution to members before the Second Reading. The humour of the situation did not at all strike the legal mind at this crisis! A hasty dissection of the Bill was made, but only to disclose that it could not well be shorn of a clause. What could be hit upon? There in bewilderment and anxiety stood statesman and draftsman in Her Majesty's prison of Kilmainsham, eyeing each other in despair in the darkening cell as the minutes to post-hour slipped away. At last a gleam flashed from Mr. Parnell's eyes, half ironical, half triumphant. "I have it," said he. "Add those d—d clauses of yours, and that will get us out of the difficulty!" It was an inspiration, and so it was done. Thus were the tenets of Mrs. Tuppenny saved from desecration. It may be added that the d—d clauses, though not then adopted by the Ministry have since been embodied in the Tory Land Act of 1887.

Fall Flowers.

In the eastern portion of the United States there are always some few flowers that come to blossom only just before the frost appears; some orchids, gentians, asters and others are familiar examples. In every part of the world there seems to be the same arrangement. In bloom at the present time in flower borders is a plant which is getting to be known under the name of East Indian Lily, botanically *Tricyrtis pinnata*; the flowers are white, but profusely covered with purple dots. These are opening just as the frost is appearing, and they would no doubt have the same peculiar effect in the autumn scenery of the Himalayan Mountains as a Fringed Gentian would have with us. The Maximilian Sunflower of Nebraska, seldom opens till October, when it is a blaze of beauty.—*Mechans' Monthly*.

Thousands of lives are saved annually by the use of Ayer's Cherry Pectoral. In the treatment of croup and whooping cough, the Pectoral has a most marvellous effect. It allays inflammation, frees the obstructed air passages, and controls the desire to cough.

Bishop O'Connor at Bowmanville.

We clip the following from the *Canadian Statesman*, Bowmanville. The Right Rev. Dr. O'Connor, Bishop of Peterborough, visited his flocks in Bowmanville and Newcastle for the purpose of holding confirmation services on Sunday, the 16th. His lordship, who was accompanied by the Rev. Father Collins, the esteemed pastor of the mission, arrived at Newcastle on the preceding Saturday afternoon, and officiated there on Sunday morning, reaching Bowmanville about 10.30 a.m. The distinguished visitor was of course most warmly and cordially received by the Catholic people of the town and district, but the overflowing congregation that packed the church to the very doors, was largely composed of the different denominations, whose demeanor towards his lordship was of the kindest and most respectful character, and tended to make his first acquaintance with this part of his diocese an occasion of the pleasantest and most agreeable nature. After mass, the eloquent Bishop preached a most powerful and lucid sermon which thrilled the hearts of all who had the good fortune to hear it. Immediately after followed the interesting ceremony of administering the sacred rite of confirmation. Although the strengthening sacrament is usually conferred upon christians in their tender years, in the present instance some adults, and persons of mature years, were also confirmed. The favorable impression produced by the sermon of the forenoon had the effect of drawing a large congregation, composed of the various creeds, who listened with reverent attention to the bishop's eloquent discourse at the Vesper services in the evening. Some of the leading members, namely Miss Walsh, the organist, Miss Hallett, Miss Wheeler, Miss Hoaly, Messrs. Foley and Stacey, of St. Gregory's, Oshawa, reinforced by the local choir, rendered the musical part of the services in a way that drew unstinted praise from every listener. During his brief sojourn in town his lordship remained at the Bennett House, and left by the 8.45 a.m. train on Monday for Oshawa, on his way back to Peterborough. The Presentation of the following address to which his lordship replied in very apt and felicitous terms, formed a part of the joyful day's proceedings:

To The Rt. Rev. R. A. O'Connor, D.D., Bishop of Peterborough.

MY LORD—On behalf of the Catholic congregation of this mission, we bid your lordship a hearty welcome to Bowmanville. As humble and devoted Catholics we are in duty bound to offer to your lordship the tribute of our filial homage and respect. Coming from your spiritual children, this is due you as supreme pastor of this diocese. But apart from your exalted rank as bishop in the church of God we take due notice of your noble qualities of head and heart, and we recognize in you the true shepherd whose life is spent in caring for the spiritual and temporal welfare of both priests and people in your extensive diocese. Bearing this in mind as well as the fact that this is your first visit to us, it increases the heartiness and warmth of our welcome. We can assure your lordship that, although we occupy an exceptional position, and labor under the disadvantage of being deprived of the regular services of a resident pastor, we hold to the saving truths and principles of our faith with as much loyalty and steadfastness as any flock under your lordship's jurisdiction. On this occasion we cannot refrain from speaking some sincere and well-earned words of praise in reference to the good work done by the Rev. Father Collins, since he assumed charge of the mission. It is but simple justice to say that he is the most zealous, punctual and painstaking priest that ever administered to the spiritual wants of the congregation.

We gladly refer to his constant efforts to guide aright the footsteps of those in the household of the faith, and his solicitude in bringing back the strayed sheep to the fold. To his great pains in instructing the children to his additional labors in giving us an afternoon service and benediction of the blessed sacrament, as well as the privilege of hearing mass on the Monday mornings. Nor can we omit to speak of his efforts on behalf of the faithful in Newcastle for whom he holds a separate monthly service in their midst. In a word, it is our unanimous wish that your lordship will be pleased to continue Father Collins with us as our pastor in the years to come. To the young members who are to-day receiving confirmation from your lordship's consecrated hands, as also to every individual member of your flock, the happy memory of this joyful day will be long preserved as a sacred treasure. That you may be long spared to the diocese which already shows abundant fruit of your wise rule, is the earnest wish of our hearts. Begging your lordship's blessing upon us and upon the congregation at large, we are your humble and obedient servants.

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| P. MARA, | O. MCGARRIGLE, |
| P. FARRILL, | M. FARRELL, |
| T. HOTTERELL, | T. HAYES, |
| I. MO ARTY, | I. KENNEDY, |
| WM. ELLISON, | JNO. KENNEDY. |

The hearts that were made glad by reason of the good bishop's pastoral visit will naturally wish and pray that God may ever guide and guard his footsteps, and the same grateful hearts will yearn for the time when the highly esteemed and venerated prelate's visit may be repeated to us.

Caprivi's Personality.

As Caprivi's figure has grown to even greater bulk in the politics of the German empire, his personal life has begun to attract much of the keen interest formerly felt in Bismark's habit. The chancellor observes severe simplicity in his habits. In the vast official palace at his disposal he occupies but a small suite of rooms—his office, dressing-room, bed-room, dining-room and garden pavilion. His whole force of servants is composed of a butler, groom, coachman and female cook. In summer the chancellor rises punctually at 6 and in winter at 7. He dons the undress uniform of the colonel of the Seventy-eighth Infantry regiment, of which he is honorary chief, takes an early cup of tea and then walks or rides until 10, when he begins his official duties. Until 11.30 he receives department representatives. In the next half hour he confers with Freiherr Marshal von Bieberstein, Minister of Foreign Affairs. Exactly at noon he takes luncheon with his aide-de-camp, Major Ebmeyer, and is well pleased if any friend comes in casually to be his guest. From 1 o'clock to 5 he works steadily. He dines between 6 and 7 and then reads, works or attends to his social duties until 10, when he invariably goes to bed.

UNTOLD MISERY—WHAT A WELL-KNOWN COMMERCIAL TRAVELER SUFFERED AND HOW HE WAS CURED.—GENTLEMEN,—About five years ago I began to be troubled with Dyspepsia, and for three years suffered untold misery, from this terrible complaint. I was at that time traveling for Messrs. Walker Woods & Co. Hamilton, and was treated by some of the best physicians in the country, but all to no purpose. I continued to grow worse, one day I was induced to try a bottle of Northrop & Lyman's VEGETABLE DISCOVERY and to my great surprise and joy, I soon began to improve. I continued using this medicine and when the third bottle was finished, I found I was entirely cured; and as a year has elapsed since then, I feel confident that the cure is complete and permanent. To all afflicted with this distressing complaint I heartily recommend Northrop & Lyman's VEGETABLE DISCOVERY believing that the persistent use of it will cure any case of Dyspepsia.

Signed, T. S. McINTYRE

Relatively—"Is Barton rich?" "Well, only relatively so. He has a rich aunt."

Iron Crown of Lombardy.

The famous "Iron crown of Lombardy," reckoned as being one of the most precious relics of Jesus now in existence, the "holy coat" and the several pieces of the "true cross" not excepted may be seen any day in the year by the sight-seer who visits the National Museum at Naples. Although known to ancient, medieval and modern history as the "iron crown," it is in reality, says the *St. Louis Republic* a crown of gold, made in the form of a gigantic bracelet, the only iron in its composition being a frame-work in the shape of a circle—a thin, narrow strip—on the inside of the gold band. The secret magic of the name rests on the tradition that this inside ring of iron was made from the nails driven through the hands and feet of Jesus at the time of his crucifixion.

We first hear of this relic in the year 501 A.D., when it did service at the coronation of Agilulf at the time when he was crowned king of the Lombards. History states that it was made especially for that memorable occasion by the order of Princess Thuedelinde, wife of Agilulf, but the historian neglects to tell us where, when and how the Princess gained possession of nails, which were hammered into a frame-work for her sacred regal insignia. The Princess was a great church woman, and soon after the coronation of her husband she caused the crown to be presented to the church at Monza.

The next we hear of it when it was used in connection with the ceremonies at the coronation of Charlemagne. After this it was used in crowning all Emperors, whose subtitle was that of King of Lombardy. In the year 1806 Napoleon visited Milan for the express purpose of examining the relic, and while so doing placed it upon his head with the remark: "God has given it to me. Woo unto him who shall attempt to wrest it from me."

Soon after this event the great Napoleon founded a society known as the Order of the Iron Crown, which still flourishes in Austria, where it is reckoned the height of honor to be admitted to membership in the institution.

When Milan was looted in the early part of the century the iron crown was taken to Vienna by the Austrians. There it was kept among the State treasures, wrapped in a purple velvet robe that had once been worn by Frederick the Great, until the year 1806, when it was presented to the King of Italy, who deposited it in the National Museum at Naples, as mentioned in the opening.

Poison of the Press.

The rage for sensations and suggestive illustrations in the daily press is bad for the newspapers and the public. There is an incredible amount of wickedness in certain newspapers and periodicals of the present day. Many of the journals which are scattered broad cast over the country seem to have for their sole object to pervert the minds and the hearts of men, and they are daily filled with misrepresentations, and calumnies, and falsehoods against our holy religion, and with everything that is calculated to stir up the passions in the soul. Such literature should not be tolerated for a moment in any Catholic household, but should be thrown into the fire. There is no dearth of good newspapers, and these alone should be allowed in the family.

Homage to Beauty.

Anybody in foreign lands who sees the Christmas number of the Montreal STAR will get a grand opinion of Canada. The Christmas STAR will be in demand everywhere the world over, where a thing of beauty gets the homage it deserves. The Christmas STAR this year is said to embrace features never before in any illustrated paper in the world. Canadian will be proud of the Christmas STAR and it is a certainty that friends at a distance will be rejoiced to receive it as the prettiest Christmas souvenir of modern times.