

RELIGIOUS PREJUDICE.

The Part Which Certain Novelists Have Taken in Disseminating It.

By C. A. L. Morse's Interesting Article on the Subject in the Catholic World Magazine.

Nearly half a century ago Cardinal Newman, in his famous lectures, delivered in the Birmingham Corn Exchange, accused the Protestant world of merging everything Catholic in a great fog of refusing to think and talk and write of Catholics as human beings with like natural traits to themselves, but rather as strange non-human things, "griffins, salamanders, plunging and floundering amid the gloom" of their uncanny religion.

THROUGH THE MISTS OF INHERITED PREJUDICE.

When the most cursory glance at the priestly characters in English or American novels of the immediate past illustrates this fact. When Thackeray gave the world "Henry Esmond" he gave his masterpiece. It is probably the most consummate artistic piece of historical fiction in the English language.

TO REVEAL IN A VERY DEBAUCH OF MYSTERY.

We are led to suppose that he took a very perverse delight in entering upon and leaving the scene by means of sliding panels and secret stairways. He became a veritable Jack-in-a-box, popping into sight and out again with a knowing smirk like the clown in a pantomime, flaunting his craftily gained knowledge of men and affairs after the manner of a court-fool with his bauble.

SEE THE PROTESTANT TRADITION

trotted out with due fanfare of trumpets and wagging of knowing heads. But now the scene of intrigue is changed from public to private life, and the English Jew, indulging to the limit his natural bent towards oriental extravagance, creates a type of priestly character even more absurd than Thackeray's Jesuit. The priests in "Lothair" are all men of wonderfully distinguished personal appearance.

men, with their brilliant minds and stupendous accomplishments, are steeped to the lips in intrigue and deceit.

DISRAELI, BY A REMARKABLY MALICIOUS TOUCH,

gives all his priests one marked peculiarity—they never walk, they "glide." Cardinal Grandison "glides" from the room after his first interview with Lothair, Fr. Coleman "glides" from the scene after a crafty interview with that hapless hero. And so they all "glide" in and out, and to and fro, quite as though the Catholic clergyman's method of locomotion was intrinsically different from that of other men.

In the case of Thackeray, but scarcely in that of Disraeli, it is possible to excuse much on the plea of a lack of personal knowledge of the actual character and general manner of life of the Catholic clergy as a class, particularly those who are members of the Society of Jesus. Thackeray, with his perforce limited knowledge of the Jesuits, cannot justly be accused of malice for accepting, without question, the popular Protestant legend regarding them.

CARLETON AND LEVER?

Men who with full consciousness of their own malice went to work deliberately to pander to the lowest prejudices of their readers. So lacking in form and style, so puerile, and, above all, so shockingly vulgar, is the work of these two Irish novelists that one is tempted to pass it by unnoted, with the vain hope that our end of the century reading public is at least too well instructed to accept such mandarin chatter as literature.

IRISH NEWS.

A COOLROE EVICTED TENANT DEAD. The death of Mr. John Power, Fishers-town, one of the Coolroe evicted tenants, is announced. Mr. Power, who leaves a widow and six children, had been in delicate health for the past two or three years, and lately contracted an ailment which led to his death.

TYPHUS FEVER IN CORK. At the meeting of the Public Health Committee Dr. Donovan, Superintendent Medical Officer of Health, reported an outbreak of typhus fever in the centre of the city. The disease is at present confined to a few houses.

SLIGO STREET PREACHING. The street preacher Coghlan visited Sligo again, recently, and the usual obstruction was created in George street at the Railway gate. A force of police under Mr. Sheehan, County Inspector, was there, while the preacher occupied the footpath for almost an hour, causing the people to walk out in the middle of the street.

A NEW CHURCH FOR BELFAST. On Sunday, 20th June, his Lordship the Most Rev. Dr. Henry, laid the foundation stone of the new Church of St. Vincent de Paul, Ligoniel, Belfast, in its place in the north pier of the canal arch within the fine edifice. The new church will seat about 1,300 persons.

port the ornamental roof. Close to the sacred edifice will be erected new schools and a presbytery, plans for which have already been prepared. The contractors are Messrs. Courtney & Co., Shaftesbury avenue, and the architect Mr. J. J. McDonnell, M.R.I.A., Chichester street, on whom the work reflects high credit.

THE WEATHER AND CROPS.

Latest mails bring the news that the farmers attending the Derry fair state that floods in low-lying lands and in river valleys have been injurious to the crops, and if the weather does not improve shortly the result will be in many places disastrous. Meadows and up-lands alike have benefited by the late rains, and there is now a plentiful supply of grass everywhere.

SAD CASE OF AN EVICTED TENANT.

At the weekly meeting of the Castlereagh Board of Guardians on Saturday the 19th day of June, the case of Mary Fleming, Currohogill, again came before the board. The woman's family were evicted, and after eviction her husband became insane and was sent to Castlereagh Lunatic Asylum.

Relieving Officer Higgins said when he visited the house there was very little food for the family, and three of the children were lying down covered with sacks. No one to earn a shilling for them since the father was sent to the asylum.

Chairman—We could not give it. Mr. Higgins, P.L.G.—We should rather err on the side of mercy.

Personal.

Miss Ann McDonnell has just gone to San Jose, California, to visit a dying sister whom she has not seen for many years. She will be absent from the city till the beginning of August.

The Jacks-in-office of the provinces, says the Paris correspondent of the London Monitor, have again been making themselves ridiculous. Truly, the mayors of those provincial towns are heartily and wofully stupid—the Great Unpaid of England could never hope to arrive at such gross foolishness, though they have a not too enviable reputation for stupidity and crass folly.

The Sovereign Pontiff, after a unanimous decision of the Congregation of Bishops and Regulars, has just issued a decree that the Congregation of the Josephites, founded at Grammont (Bel-

gium) in 1817, and exclusively devoted to the teaching of the upper and middle classes, shall be a sacerdotal one, so that in future all those who enter this Congregation with a view to teaching will be promoted to the priesthood.

ST. ANN'S SCHOOL.

Annual Distribution of Prizes.

Rev. Father Schellfaunt, P. F. and Mr. Frank J. Curran Deliver Addresses.

The closing exercises of St. Ann's School are always specially interesting, because, in addition to the enthusiasm displayed by the pupils' parents, in watching the distribution of prizes, there is always a splendid programme of vocal and instrumental music and other attractive features.

Rev. Father Schellfaunt, C.S.S.R., the pastor of St. Ann's, presided, and seated beside him was Brother Prudent, the able and enthusiastic chief of the school.

The chairman in opening the proceedings paid a high tribute to Brother Prudent and his staff for the grand results attained last year. He reviewed the past history of the school and pointed out that its pupils were to be found in leading positions not alone in Canada, but also in the United States.

Mr. Curran expressed great pleasure at being invited to make a few remarks to the boys of St. Ann's, on the occasion of their closing exercises, particularly as his old teacher and friend the Rev. Bro. Prudent was the Director of the school. It was interesting for the Irish people of Montreal to witness the success that crowned the efforts of those boys who were now closing their school days and in whose hands might some day be placed the pilotage of the ship of State.

PROGRAMME.

- The Bells....Beethoven....Double Quartet Physical Drill. Violin Solo.....P. Kennedy Essay....Notes from My Last Book.....J. O'Dowd Dumb-bell Exercise. "Wrecked at Sea".....Snudds.....F. Hogan Recitation.....F. Hogan Indian Clubs. Essay.....Canada.....Moore....."Off in the Stilly Night".....Moore.....Address by Mr. F. J. Curran, B.A., B.C.L.

The following is the list of prizes by order of merit:

- FIRST CLASS—John Nolan, E. Kennedy, T. J. Hogan, B. Healy, J. McCarron, J. Kiely, J. Butler, R. Latimer, J. Kennedy, J. Slattery, J. Scott, V. Armstrong, J. Shields, J. Lynch, G. Roberts, J. Murphy, O. Kelly. SECOND CLASS—T. Higgins, J. King, J. Stafford, C. McGuire, J. Maguire, J. Paré, A. Pujos, F. Hutchinson, A. Rossau, W. Woodfine, J. Dundon, J. Boles, M. Donnelly, P. Enright, M. Rinaldan, T. Moore. 2nd Section—L. Benoit, A. Norva, H. Barry, J. Kelly, E. O'Brien, Wm. Mullin, J. McElroy, F. Paquette. 3rd Section—J. Walsh, T. Boyle, R. Craven, R. Blackstock, J. Latimer, A. Crowe. THIRD CLASS—M. McMahon, J. Driscoll, W. Hamill, M. Foley, F. Forrester, P. Kennedy, E. Charbonneau, H. Manning, G. Murphy, Joseph Ryan, T. Ryan, J. Mullin, J. Mailloux, A. Doyle, M. McNamara, J. Green, E. Cassidy, B. Donnelly, J. Coleman, T. Hogan, J. Moss, G. Huber. FOURTH CLASS—J. Callaghan, R. Lennon, L. Kavanagh, W. Kennedy, R. Gattien, A. Brabant, F. Brown, E. Gannon, J. Gilligan, M. O'Brien, A. Denis, W. O'Flaherty, J. McCaffery, M. Kelly, E. Routhier, F. Supple, J. Corcoran, C. Ryan, J. McLaughlin, W. O'Brien, J. Doran, Michl. Kelly, M. McPhillips, J. Boyle, E. Mooney, A. Coudry, J. Tierney, C. McNamara, James Madigan. FIFTH CLASS—Ed. Curran, J. Banoff, J. Scullion, J. Shields, M. Rafus, C. Thibault, W. Madigan, H. Thompson, A. Green, J. Meehan, J. Queen, G. Sebire, T. Meehan, E. Hammill, F. Carroll, T. McKnee, S. Craig, W. McDonald, H. Belanger, W. Castello, O. McCarthy, J. Kenahar, T. Cartwright, W. Hogan, A. Stanley, P. Guilfoyle. SIXTH CLASS—H. Murphy, H. Weyer, J. Manning, J. O'Donnell, R. Linton, W. Murphy, T. Curran, Ed. McCarthy, P. Cosgrove, Ed. Murphy, J. Kavanagh, J.

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Gallery, J. Carroll, G. Flowers, J. Cavanagh, J. Kane, M. J. O'Donnell, J. Walsh, M. O'Brien, F. Sheridan. 2nd Section—Dan. Bohan, D. Supple, E. Tobin, J. Brennan, P. McDonald, H. Molloy, J. Fitzgerald.

AWARD OF MEDALS.

Gold medal, presented Mr. F. J. Quinn, awarded to F. J. Hogan, for education. Master Edward Kennedy won Mrs. W. Brennan's medal for letter writing. Mrs. J. Coffey's medal, for religious instruction, was carried off by Master Bernard Healy, and Master James Butler won the medal for gentlemanly conduct, presented by Mrs. M. Gillis. Special prizes were awarded to: J. Nolan for excellence; Joseph O'Dowd, for composition; Arthur Pappas for penmanship; Michael Donnelly, G. Murphy, John Callaghan and Edward Murphy, for good conduct.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

THE B. I. S. AT THE DIAMOND JUBILEE.

St. Dunstan's College Commencement—Degrees Conferred—The Valedictory and Closing Orations. SUMMER-IDE P.E.I., July 6.—The parade in Charlottetown on Tuesday afternoon, June 22, which formed a part of the Diamond Jubilee celebration, is generally admitted to have been the best and most imposing ever seen in that city.

On Monday evening last the commencement exercises of St. Dunstan's College took place in St. Patrick's Hall, Charlottetown, with a large attendance of those who are interested in the higher education. The programme was most interesting, and the results of the year's work highly satisfactory to the parents and friends of the graduates and undergraduates.

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