

meagre and scanty diet as the meanest labourer or mechanic would deem an intolerable hardship.

Such a narrative as this, however imperfectly told, cannot but suggest useful though melancholy thoughts, and may help our separated brethren to understand the state of this country, and especially of the poor, before such houses, with which England was once covered from one end to the other, were levelled to the ground, that "reformers" and sensualists might feed upon their revenues. But it would be superfluous to offer any comments upon a fact which illustrates so painfully the contrast between the spirit of the old and of the new religion, and which exhibits so impressively some of the worst consequences of the subversion of the Faith and institutions of our fathers; and we will conclude with the remarkable confession of one of the principal founders of the Anglican Church, the reformer Latimer, who never perhaps spoke so true a word during all his guilty career, as when he acknowledged, in his first sermon, before King Edward VI., that "Abbeys were ordained for the comfort of the poor."

DEATH OF THE MOST AGED PRIEST OF SCOTLAND.—At Ardoch, on the 3rd March, died the Rev. Lachlan M'Intosh, Catholic Priest of Gairnside. He had sat for sixty-four years on the side of Gairn, a faithful Catholic pastor watching over his flock and labouring hard for their eternal salvation. Of the congregation which he found when he came to Gairnside he saw the greater portion laid in their graves; and of the present congregation, there are very few on whose head he did not pour the water of Baptism. He always enjoyed good health, and had reached the age of ninety-four when he died. He has left behind him at Ardoch two sisters one of them aged ninety-six and the other ninety-one. It is seldom that so many members of the same family so literally inherit the promise of the commandment and live so long in the land. The ages of the three when put together reach 281 years—*Aberdeen Herald.*

ISLINGTON.

A ceremony of great and deep interest to the Catholics of Islington took place on Wednesday, in the Solemn Blessing of the Cemetery attached to the Church of St. John, previous to its being opened as a place of interment. The Catholic of the neighbourhood has henceforth the gratifying conviction, that in his death his bones, and those of all who are dear to him, when they are called from earth, may repose near the altar at which he has knelt in prayer, and side by side with those whom he has loved in life. How much more consolatory is this holy, pure, and Catholic conviction, than the sense that his ashes may be deposited

where reverence to the dead is little regarded, and where the impious and the unbeliever rest with the faithful and the good? The ceremony commenced at eleven, with a Mass, celebrated by the Rev. H. Lea. After which the Bishop addressed the assembled congregation on the nature of the service, and the meaning and antiquity of the ceremonial. The procession was then formed, and proceeded to the cemetery, when every service was gone through with the usual solemnity, the clergy chaunting the Psalms and Litany. The Right Rev. Dr. Griffiths was attended by the Revs. J. Holdstock and J. Walsh, as assistants. The Rev. T. Bowman serving as Master of Ceremonies, and Rev. H. Lea as Chaunter. Among the clergy were noticed the Rev. J. Nerinckx, Rev. A. Wareing, W. Kelly, J. Hearsnep, C. Coles, J. Bamber, H. Herera, W. M'Avila, P. O'Dwyer, F. Ring, T. Parkinson, J. Toursel, and Mr. Smith. A number of the Brothers of the various Holy Guilds, and honorary members, attended the procession in their costume, which added much to the splendour of the ceremony.—*Correspondent of Tablet.*

KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.

An elegant new Catholic Church is rising rapidly towards completion in this place, or we should more correctly say, at Saberton, a village situate midway between New and Old Kingston, at the distance of about half a mile or less from each. The situation is admirably chosen. It is on the banks of the Thames, having only the high road between it and the river. On the opposite bank lie the rich woodlands of Hampton Court. The style of architecture is Constantinian. The length of the church is eighty-two feet, the width forty-eight, the height of the tower seventy feet. It will have a nave, aisles, and chancel, and be constructed of Bath and Portland stone. There will be a presbytery, school-rooms, and cemetery attached, occupying about an acre of ground. The whole is the gift of Alexander Raphael, Esq., and will amount, we understand, to £10,000. The architect is Mr. Parker.

CONVERSIONS.

The Rev. George Dudley Ryder, Vicar of Easton, near Winchester, second son of the late Dr. Ryder, Protestant Bishop of Lichfield and Coventry, has been received into the Catholic Church, together with his lady and the members of his family, at Rome. Mr. Ryder was married to a near relative of the late Mr. Wilberforce, and is also, we believe, connected by marriage with Bishop Wilberforce, and Archdeacon Manning. His conversion, therefore, may be regarded as an important one, and that it attests the power of our