

THE CROSS OF CHRIST

SERMON BY FATHER BURKE, O.P.

ON THE FEAST OF THE FINDING OF THE CROSS.

[From the Dublin Freeman of May, 11.]

On Monday, last, the festival of the Finding of the Holy Cross, the occasion was celebrated with particular devotion in the beautiful new church of the Holy Cross, Clontarf.

After the last Gospel Father Burke ascended the pulpit and preached the following sermon taking for his text:

"But God forbid that I should glory save in the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the word is crucified to me, and I to the world."

These words, dearly beloved brethren, are taken from the sixth chapter of the Epistle of St. Paul to the Galatians, fourteenth verse. How strange, my dearly beloved brethren, that the inspired Apostle should have taken as the one object in which he gloried the Cross of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

by his side. Oh, where was the angel of pity and mercy when our Saviour hung upon that cross? Why did not that angel stand on Calvary when they were stripping the form of our Saviour to lay Him on the cross? Why did not that angel cry out, "Stay thy hand; He whom thou torturkest is the Son of God." But no; no angel was there; no pity was there—no mercy from the Father in heaven.

had come to take up His own. And thus, dear brethren, behold the triumph upon the cross. It was not the gibbet of a victim; it was rather the triumphal car of one who had gained a great, a glorious, an undying victory.

ENGLAND.

POPULATION AND WATER SUPPLY OF LONDON.

The population of London is now about 3,500,000, and its rate of increase is such that it doubles in forty years. If, however, we include all the area which the Registrar-General calls the "Greater London," the population reaches the enormous total of 4,225,000.

Water is supplied to the 533,000 houses of the metropolis by eight companies, and the available supply, drawn from the basin of the Thames, is claimed to be sufficient for a population of 5,000,000.

THE ENGLISH STRIKES AND AMERICAN INDUSTRY.

The late strikes in England have developed a new phase in the determination of the cotton-masters not to come to any terms with the operatives. A despatch from the United States Consul at London to the State Department, shows that American competition has had a potential influence in diminishing the English cotton trade at home and abroad.

Our cotton trade has lately secured a ready and profitable market in the East Indies, in Turkey and in Egypt, the preference given to them by the natives being due to the fact that they are manufactured of long cotton staples, while the English goods are made of short, besides being adulterated.

SPIRITUALISM.

ANOTHER SPIRITUALISTIC EXPOSURE.

The Chicago Times of May 9, thus describes an attempt to expose some spiritualistic impostors who are pretty well known in Canada:—

Last night the fates were propitious in having no rain and having Mrs. Weeks present. The company consisted of the Times' reporter, four other and muscular men, and two ladies who wanted to see the fun, and besides these about eight men and the same number of women, who went there the same as any one goes to a seance, all unsuspecting of the impending row.

puget, after whom North and South America is named; did not discover this continent proper either. The land he discovered lay near the equator and he, too, was deluded with the notion that it was a portion of Asia.

HIS EXCELLENCY MGR. CONROY AND THE CERCLE CATHOLIQUE.

The members of the Cercle Catholique of this city, having obtained permission to present His Excellency the Apostolic Delegate with an address,—representing that their association took no part in politics, His Excellency made the following very suitable and excellent reply:

I thank you very sincerely for having invited me to visit this evening the Cercle Catholique of Quebec, and for the cordial welcome with which you have received me.

I accepted your invitation the more willingly because you assured me in your address that your society does not in any way take an active part in politics. As a Delegate of the Holy See, I could not but view with satisfaction an association which proclaims that the purpose of its existence is the intellectual and moral culture of its members.

I desire also to congratulate you, and through you, the citizens of Quebec and the French-Canadian population of the whole Dominion, on the touching ceremony of the interment of the remains of Mgr. de Laval, at which it was my happiness yesterday to assist.

It was my lot some twenty years ago to stand by the side of another grave, that had just been opened to give back for a moment to the world's homage the ashes of a great man who had reposed for some centuries in its embrace.

THE DISCOVERY OF NORTH AMERICA.

A Wall street broker laid a wager the other day that Christopher Columbus discovered the continent of North America, and of course lost it. It is surprising how many intelligent persons entertain the same error.

May God's blessing long preserve such a people! May it grow in every gift of the dew of Heaven and of the fullness of the earth! and may its sons living in harmony with their fellow-citizens of every class be protected in their own rights by the law and respecting scrupulously the rights of others, advance in moral and material prosperity and continue to add strength to the Confederation of Canada!