

The Catholic Record.

"Christianus mihi nomen est Catholicus vero Cognomen."—(Christian is my Name, but Catholic my Surname)—St. Pacien, 4th Century

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TRANSFORMATION

Only a little shrivelled seed,
It might be a flower, or grass, or
weed;
Only a box of earth on the edge
Of a narrow, dusty window ledge;
Only a few scant summer showers;
Only a few clear shining hours;
That was all. Yet God could make
Out of these, for a sick child's sake,
A blossom-wonder, as fair and
sweet
As every broke at an angel's feet.

Only a life of barren pain,
We with sorrowful tears for rain,
Warmed sometimes by a wandering
gleam
Of joy, that seemed but a happy
dream;
A life as common and brown and
bare
As the box of earth in the window
there;
Yet it bore, at last, the precious
bloom
Of a perfect soul in that narrow
room;
Pure as the snowy leaves that fold
Over the flower's heart of gold.

—HENRY VAN DYKE

WEEKLY IRISH REVIEW

IRELAND SEEN THROUGH IRISH EYES

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THE IRISH ELECTIONS IN THE NORTH

The full details of the local Irish elections throughout Ireland, now to hand, are amazing in their revelation of Republican strength—which is far greater than even most ardent Republicans had expected. The Republicans have carried 84% of all elective offices in Ireland. In the so-called "black" province of Ulster, which the Orangemen have made a by-word for the world, the Republicans combined with what are called the Nationalists (meaning the Redmondites) against the Unionists and they gave these Redmondites one office out of every four. Between them they carried 105 offices in Ulster, against 82 carried by the Carsonites. Or to go to counties they carried 5 of the 10 counties, to 4 counties carried by the Carsonites. These 5 counties which they swept, include 2 of the counties which the Lloyd George Bill was including in Carsonia, Tyrone and Fermanagh.

IN THE OTHER PROVINCES

In the other three provinces, Leinster, Munster and Connaught, the Republicans swept everything before them and carried 490 offices out of 610; the remaining 20 were divided between the Unionists who got 5 and the Redmondites who got 15. In all the history of elections, there was never such a clean sweep made for any one party as that made here by the Republicans. In about a dozen counties every single individual elected was a Republican. The result must have made rather grievous grieving for Mr. Lloyd George and his Cabinet, who had been trying to buoy up their followers with the encouraging news that Sinn Fein was on the wane, that the Irish people were getting tired of Sinn Fein and were returning to sanity. Irish sanity as used in the English political world signifies of course, resignation to English tyranny. After he read the news, Mr. Lloyd George evidently got infected with a little sanity himself—for he at once put the Home Rule Joke upon the shelf.

LORD MONTAGUE'S PLAN

Lord Montague seems also to have been side-swiped by the same sanity—for he proceeded to introduce into the House of Lords an Irish Home Rule Bill, the provisions of which offer Ireland the same conditions as Canada and Australia—namely complete control of her own legislation and taxation, complete independence of the Westminster Parliament, and permission to make her own commercial treaties with foreign countries; also permission to raise her own local land forces. But she must remain with "the Empire." It is not known to what extent Lloyd George and his followers will support Montague's Bill. Nor indeed does it much matter. There was a time, and that not long since, when such a bill would have been snatched at by a large portion of the Irish nation—always of course in the hope that when they had got such an act working, it would put them in position to more easily work out their complete independence. But even that time is past. The nation is now in no mood for half-measures, nor even nine tenth measures. The Irish Republic is established and is functioning, and there is nothing left to the English Parliament to do but recognize it. And the longer they procrastinate over doing so, the more sleepless nights they ensure themselves.

COUNTY OF ANTRIM

There is much significance in the fact that even in the great Unionist county of Antrim the Sinn Fein candidate, Louis Walsh, an able young lawyer and long time a National

worker, headed the poll in the Ballymena division, and this despite the fact that a few days before he had been savagely beaten by a mob of Orangemen in Ballymena for daring to stand for election. Of course the explanation of his being elected at all is that a certain percentage of these who were Unionist are now becoming Sinn Fein. The same more or less is shown even in a general election degree in the election for the Antrim County Council where Mr. Patrick Downey, Sinn Fein, defeated the Unionist who had been chairman of the old council, Mr. J. Stoupe McCance, D.L. These are the indications that are now making Mr. Carson's work much more discouraging than it used to be.

THE DAIL EIREANN IN SESSION

The Dail Eireann met in secret session somewhere in Ireland two weeks ago and drafted a scheme for both arbitration courts and ordinary law courts—an extension of the scheme that has been tried and has worked so well in many parts of the country. They worked out all details, prepared instructions for the proper carrying out of the scheme and appointed the higher judges for the various parts of the island. They also prepared a scheme of taxation which will be put in force when the opportunity and the necessity arise. They debated the matter of the extension and development of their direct trade with foreign countries and arranged a practical scheme for carrying out this development.

CHIVALROUS AND JUST

Another scheme of practical import, which they hammered out, was that for the more systematic policing of the country by the Sinn Fein volunteers. They arranged, too, for the full and proper protection of the persons and property of isolated Unionists in the very Republican parts of the island. During all the war that has gone on for the past few years in Leinster, Munster, and Connaught a single one of these people has not been interfered with—not such a bad record for "the band of criminals" (as Lloyd George styled them) who "terrorize and assassinate" without mercy! But since the Government has begun investigating the Unionists in the North, to provoke and kill Nationalists, it was naturally feared that some of the hotter-headed Nationalists in the South, might be moved to retaliation upon their Unionist neighbors. Sinn Fein is taking care that this will not be permitted. They will ensure toleration for all who dwell within the Irish Republic—which will include even those who openly work and talk against the Republic. The only people who will not be tolerated are the members of the foreign army of occupation—which include both police who are armed to fight against the liberty of the people, and English soldiers.

THE LAND AGITATION

The Dail Eireann also made provision to safeguard land owners against any unfair claim for division of their land that may be made against them. This was being done in some places by some unworthy ones who had more at heart their own personal greed than the advancement of Ireland's cause. The Sinn Fein judge for county Clare, Brian O'Higgin, (who is a poet and also a member of the Dail Eireann) had, on this point, already issued to the people of West Clare a wise proclamation, which is well worth setting down. This document reads:

"It has come to our knowledge that many frivolous and unjust claims to lands are being pushed forward in parts of West Clare.

"Very many of these claims are without foundation and are useful only to the common enemy by causing ill-feeling among those who ought to be friends and comrades and by the expending on petty disputes all the energies that should be directed towards one object and one only, viz., the defeat of English rule in Ireland.

"We are engaged in a life and death struggle for independence. On one side are wealth and power, the lies and armed legions of an unscrupulous Empire; on the other the courage and faith and love of a long-suffering but unconquerable race. Every hand, every brain, every heart is needed in the fight. Given loyalty to the noblest cause on earth it is only a matter of time—and not a long time—until victory is achieved.

"When the fight is won the Dail will make every effort to see that justice is done to all and that no citizen of Ireland need leave her shores to seek a livelihood.

"Meanwhile all persons who believe they are justly entitled to property at present in the hands of others are invited to file their claims with the Registrar of the District Court already established in West Clare.

"But it must be clearly understood that any person who from this time forth persists in pressing forward a claim or setting up a dispute in writing threatening letters in the name of the Republic to a fellow-citizen, will do so in the knowledge

that he or she is acting in defiance of the wishes of the people's elected representatives and to the detriment of the national cause."

ROUNDABOUT DIPLOMACY

One of the Dublin councillors, Mr. Lawless, who has just arrived home, after his recovery in a London hospital from the effects of the Wormwood Scrubs hunger-strike, brings news of his being approached by a personal friend of Mr. Lloyd George—one who, however, tried to impress upon Mr. Lawless that though he wanted to smooth the way for Lloyd George he was not sent by him, nor directly acting for him. He wanted to know from Mr. Lawless just what terms Sinn Fein would propose, in order to effect a settlement. Lloyd George's friend betrayed the fact that the uncertain attitude of Labor upon the handling of munitions for Ireland was putting the Government in a pickle. Mr. Lawless felt behind the man's words that the Government was a little bit panicky lest if Labor established the precedent, they could not in future undertake any war without first going on their knees to the Labor unions and getting their permission. Mr. Lawless gave Lloyd George's friend to understand plainly that if Lloyd George and his government were not satisfied with the very clearly and definitely expressed statements of Sinn Fein—that all they wanted was for Ireland to be left Irish—for the English forces to get out—then Mr. Lloyd George must send to Sinn Fein an avowed ambassador armed with all necessary credentials, to seek further information.

LORD FRENCH AND SINN FEIN

Lord French, who on coming to Ireland as Lord Lieutenant, boasted that in three months he would put Sinn Fein out of the heads of the Irish people, has now changed face so far that he has publicly asked Sinn Fein to tell what they want anyhow? It is a mighty difficult thing for a Briton to get it through his head that any sane people who are in full enjoyment of the blessing of English occupation of the country could for a moment reduce themselves to the very low level of asking the English to get out.

SEUMAS MACMANUS,
Of Donegal.

ARCHBISHOP SPRATT

GETS DECISION ENTIRELY IN HIS FAVOR—FATHER MEA SUBMITS

We are authorized to announce that the case between His Grace Archbishop M. J. Spratt of Kingston and the Rev. Charles J. Mea of the same diocese, having been submitted to the supreme ecclesiastical authorities in Rome, the following decision and final arrangement have been reached:

SACRED CONSISTORIAL CONGREGATION

In the matter of the penalties inflicted or to be inflicted in the case of the Rev. Charles J. Mea against the Archbishop of Kingston:

At a full meeting of the Sacred Consistorial Congregation, held on the 27th May, 1920, their Eminences the Cardinals examined in due form the appeal of the Rev. Charles J. Mea and all the acts and documents relating thereto.

The following questions were submitted:

1. Can the penalties imposed upon the said priest, Charles Mea, by the Archbishop of Kingston, on Nov. 20, 1917, be upheld?
 2. Should any decision be issued in this case for the purpose of safeguarding justice and discipline, and if so, what should be such decision.
- Their Eminences responded:
- To the first question "in the affirmative—that is, the penalties inflicted are to be upheld."
- To the second question as follows:
- "The Rev. Charles J. Mea is to be gravely admonished to examine his conscience regarding the serious injury done to the person and the authority of his Archbishop and to beg due pardon therefor; until this is done he is to remain suspended and forbidden to say Mass, and this in the sense intended by the Sacred Congregation."

In an audience granted to the Cardinal Secretary of the S. Consistorial Congregation on the 28th of May, 1920, the Holy Father fully approved and ratified this decision.

(Signed)
O. CARDINAL DE LAI,
Bishop of Sabina,
Secretary.

V. SARDI,
Archbishop of Caserta,
Assessor.

As an obedient son of the Church, with profound reverence for the Holy See and my Archbishop, I fully, freely, and without delay submit to the decrees issued against me, as given in this document.

(Signed)
CHARLES JOSEPH MEA,
Witness:
WILLIAM H. DOONER,
Rome, June 4, 1920.

"WHOLLY DEGRADING"

AN ARRANGING OF BRITISH METHODS IN IRELAND BY AN ENGLISH EX-OFFICER

The following is one of a series of articles written by Major Brakine Childers, D. S. O., in the Daily News.

MILITARY REGIME DISCREDITABLE AND COWARDLY

I am asked to give my opinion of the military regime in Ireland. I give it as one who lives under that regime, and also as a soldier with a varied experience of regular war and an instinctive regard for its deontologies and civilities. For a military regime, directed to the suppression of civil and National liberty, though it is waged under the form of what is called "law," is none the less a war, with an organized army on one side and a civil population, physically well-nigh helpless, spiritually indomitable, on the other.

Now it is impossible for those who levy such a war to make it respectable. It is disreputable and cowardly by its very nature, because it is waged by the strong against the weak for a base and selfish end, the military domination of a people rightly struggling to be free. It may be true that some wars have ennobling effects even upon the conqueror; this kind of war has none. Even to the weaker side, with all the heroisms and sacrifices it evokes, measured in thousands of lives and careers wrecked or impaired for principle's sake, it is impossible to escape from that tragically subtle demoralization which comes to a people bludgeoned into silence by the law, driven underground to preserve its national organization, and too often forced under intolerable provocation into desperate reprisals. Put to the stronger side, to the army and the nation responsible for the war, there is no compensation, the war is solely and wholly degrading.

LETTERS DE CACHET

The army has to act as the instrument of Dublin Castle. Hence emanates a stream of proclamations proscribing anything and everything with a national tendency. Here is the nerve centre of a vast and elaborate system of political espionage, necessary where the political opinion of the great mass of people are criminal under the law. Here come a thousand rivulets of secret intelligence, the reports of a host of spies, informers, and agents, and hence issues a corresponding flood of orders for raids, searches, secret inquiries and arrests, and of those infamous lettres de cachet for imprisonment on suspicion without charge or trial, which are the resort of despotic Governments.

Only five of these untried suspects were found in the Bastille when it was stormed. Hundreds are now in Irish and English jails by order of the Castle.

ODIOUS AND PROVOCATIVE

Such is the master to be served. What of the service? Broadly speaking, the army must go where the police go and do what the police do (with certain somber contingents of responsibilities in the background, where the police sink into insignificance). For in Ireland the police, instead of protecting the civil population, have to be protected from them, so odious and provocative are the duties these unhappy but courageous officers of the law are forced by the law to perform. So the soldiers—their comrades in ignominy—must scour cities, villages and country districts in lorries, tanks, or armoured cars on a constant round of suppressions and raids; raids and suppressions. They must suppress every conceivable kind of meeting, political and social gatherings, fairs, concerts, sports, language classes, newspapers, printing plants; they must even hunt from pillar to post a non-party Economic Committee because it is organized by a Republican; they must even help to kidnap children at the school door and turn back with bayonet odd women coming to market their fowls. Fixed bayonets and trench helmets at all these "operations." So, too, at the raids, which proceed without cessation at all hours of the day and night, on private houses, shops, business offices, tram, in one case a bank.

LOOTING, INSOLENCE, WANTON DESTRUCTION

Take a typical night in Dublin. As the citizens go to bed the barracks spring to life. Lorries, tanks, and armoured search-light cars muster in fleets, lists of "objectives" are distributed and, when the midnight "curfew" order has been issued—the strange cavalcades issue forth to the attack. Think of raiding a private house at dead of night in a tank (my own experience)—or in a tank whose weird rattle and roar can be heard miles away! The procedure of the raid is in keeping with the objectives are held for the most part by women and terrified children. A thunder of knocks; no time to dress (even for a woman alone) or the door will crash in. On

opening, in charge the soldiers—literally charge—with fixed bayonets and in full war-kit. No warrant shown on entering, no apology on leaving it, in nine cases out of ten, suspicious prove to be groundless and the raid a mistake. In many recent instances even women occupants have been locked up under guard while their own property is ransacked. Imagine the moral effect of such a procedure on the young officers and men told off for this duty! It is a wonder that discipline is relaxed, unparadoxically irregularities occur—looking, in fact, drunkness, cruel severity to women, wanton and senseless destruction. All these things have been happening. If the Daily News will give me space I will give chapter and verse in full.

SAVAGE SENTENCES

Lastly, the courts-martial. This branch of a soldier's work in Ireland should be, and for all I know is, intolerably odious to just and honorable men. Soldiers have no business with law; they are not trained for it; they could not do impartial justice if they would; while I believe every one of the officers detailed for these tribunals would admit that his function in enforcing the "law" as an armed servant of the Executive is an absolute disqualification for administering the same "law" as a judge. I have seen some of these courts-martial. They deliver savage sentences for the most trivial offences, but they give no impression of active bias. A kind of listless, fatalism. The prisoner does not plead or cross-examine. So nobody cross-examines. If a nice point of law arises it is expounded by the legal officers; the case proceeds and ends like the march of destiny. There is at least this to be said of letters de cachet that they render these military courts less frequent.

THE REACTION HAS BEGUN

I send with this one word of warning to the English readers of the Daily News. This Irish war, small as it may seem now, will, if it is persisted in, corrupt and eventually ruin not only your army, but your nation and your empire itself. What right has England to torment and demoralize Ireland? It is a shameful course, and the more shameful in that she claims to have fought five years for the liberty of oppressed nations. But she does make and exert that claim it will react disastrously upon herself. The reaction has begun.

MR. ARTHUR GRIFFITH

ON NEGOTIATIONS AND THE DERRY SITUATION

A recent issue of the Irish Bulletin reports an interview with Mr. Arthur Griffith, during which he said he "was ready to discuss the situation (in Ireland) with Sinn Fein or anybody else who had a right to speak on behalf of the Irish people, said that "if the proposal means that accredited representatives of the Government of Great Britain are ready to meet the accredited representatives of the Government of Ireland to negotiate a Treaty of Peace between the two nations, the Government of Ireland will, I believe, accept that proposal."

If, on the other hand, "the proposal means that private conversations should take place with English politicians, it has no meaning for the Irish people."

Questioned as to the Premier's statement that the British Government were ready to face a five years' war rather than submit to the establishment of an Irish Republic, Mr. Griffith replied:—"He declared war on Ireland when he attempted by armed force to prevent the assembly of the duly elected representatives of the people of Ireland, and when the 200,000 of the young men and women of Ireland should be driven out of their country. He now declares that he is ready to continue the war for five years and suffer a million casualties. At the end of such five years Ireland would still be Ireland but the British Empire would have gone the way of the Austrian Empire."

On Mr. Lloyd George's declaration:—"We take the same view of exactly that position as President Lincoln took of the attempt of the Southern States to claim secession," Mr. Griffith said:—"The attempt to draw an analogy between the case of the Southern States and Ireland shows how desperately necessary it is in the opinion of America. There is no analogy. The Southern States formed an integral part of one nation and had never enjoyed a separate political existence. Ireland and England are different nations, and Ireland enjoyed for one thousand four hundred years a separate political existence. That existence England has for generations attempted to crush by force of arms. England holds Ireland as Russia held Poland—not as the United States held its constituent elements. The analogue of Ireland is not the Southern States but

Poland. The analogue of England's Prime Minister is not Abraham Lincoln but the Russian Czar."

Mr. Griffith's further statement that "If they (the British Government) insist upon compelling the North of Ireland, whether it will or not, to come in and say: 'Self-determination shall be self-determination for the 3 southern provinces but not for the north' it would be a fatal error," referred, in Mr. Griffith's opinion, to a difficulty of England's making for England's interest. "The recent Co. Council election," he observed, "have shown that beyond doubt. Of the supposed 6 'north-eastern' counties, 2 at the polls have registered allegiance to the Republic, and all have elected Republican Councillors. The principle of self-determination, as laid down by President Wilson and accepted by the English Government in the hour of England's impending overthrow, is a principle applicable to nations and peoples, not to parties and shires.

"If Yorkshire or Cheshire sought to withdraw from the jurisdiction of England, England would rightly prevent their doing so—they are an integral part of England and can have no right to separate themselves from the English nation. Each Irish county is an integral part of Ireland, and can have no right to separate."

"Mr. A. Griffith, in an article for 'Young Ireland,' declares that the rioting in Derry has been planned and directed by Unionist leaders, in collusion with persons of eminence in England and with servants of the English Government in Ireland, and that arms and money had been provided for the men when the English Attorney General in Ireland named a 'Civilian Guard.'"

"The persons of position in Belfast who organized the Derry sitting," he adds, "boasted last week that they were importing overseas, without any interference by the English Government, as much arms as we like." Before the present outbreak a quantity of Ulster Volunteer arms were brought into Derry from another county. Pending their removal from the place in which they were stored, they were placed under a guard of 'the R. I. C.'"

"That such things occurred, and are occurring, without the knowledge of the 'conciliators' in Dublin Castle is possible, but difficult to believe. For two days the Nationalists of Derry, practically unarmed, were left at the mercy of the gentlemen supplied with R. I. C. guarded rifles. When they procured some arms and proceeded to defend themselves, the English military and the Unionist shooters 'fraternised' and later these English military, we read in the press, fired upon the Nationalists. The object aimed at by the instigators and financiers of the Derry riots is not merely political. It has an economic side, which was discussed in Belfast by the promoters only a fortnight ago. The younger generation of Protestant workingmen in Belfast have not become Sinn Feiners, but they have ceased to take interest in Unionism.

"The plates in the shipyards which the visitors formerly found adorned with cheery inscriptions of 'To hell with the Pope,' have ceased for months to bear them—a phenomenon which has disquieted the plutocratic upholders of ascendancy. It foreboded a breakaway of the working men from the control of their masters, which has been exercised for generations through the Orange Devices of the last ever been the sectarian passion of the workingmen of the Ulster plutocrats when their farmers grew restive under the landlord regime, or when men sought for any right that might imperil their masters' squalid ascendancy.

"Thirty-six years ago, when the English Parliament was considering a broadening of the then franchise which would, practically for the first time, permit the workingman a vote, the game that is being played today in Derry was also played. The late Mr. Charles Dawson was announced to lecture in the Derry Town Hall on the subject, and in order to provoke a sectarian riot Lord Ernest Hamilton, with a gang of men, occupied the hall, and shot down several inoffensive people who purposed attending the lecture. In the thirty years that have passed even Orangemen has progressed. The conspirators in Belfast and London, who planned, financed, and directed the riots in Derry will find that the tactics of 1884 and 1886 no longer pay a dividend."

Whoever permits the occupations whereby he gains a livelihood to absorb his whole thought and energy is necessarily an incomplete man. He lacks openness of mind, breadth of view, the sense of beauty, and the disinterested love of knowledge. His perception of spiritual truth is dimmed, and he is made incapable of the purest and most generous emotions. To give him something of this, leisure, it rightly used, may serve; and hence I say the man is worth what his leisure is worth.—John Lancaster Spalding.

CATHOLIC NOTES

Prof. Daniel Sargent, of Harvard University, has been received into the Church by Father Martin Scott, S. J.

According to the Baltimore Review William Porter Spurgeon, editor of the Washington Post, was received into the Church on his deathbed about two weeks ago. He was one of the greatest journalistic powers in this country.

London, June 24.—A Jesuit priest, Father Hippolyte Delahaye, president of the Hollandist Society, has received the degree of Doctor of Letters, Honoris Causa, from Oxford. He is famous as an authority on the biography of saints.

When a committee was organized in Malines to erect a monument to Cardinal Mercier, the eminent prelate wrote to the organizers that he absolutely declined the proffered honor, concluding his letter with the following: "Monuments are for dead people, and I should wish not to be excluded from among the living."

Constantinople, June 7.—Mons. Dolci, the Apostolic Delegate in Constantinople, has been decorated by the British High Commissioner with a British decoration. Mons. Dolci rendered important benevolent services to British prisoners of war in Turkey, and succeeded by his intervention with the Ottoman authorities in saving the lives of two British residents who had been condemned to death on a charge of espionage.

Some 1,000 Catholics in England recently participated in the annual walk from Newgate to Tyburn in honor of the Tyburn martyrs. For most of the way it followed the road along which the martyrs were dragged on the hurdles. The walk was organized by the Guild of Our Lady of Ransom, and was headed by Rev. Philip Fletcher and Rev. J. H. Filmer. The walk ended at the Tyburn Convent, Hyde Park Place, where Benediction was given from the balcony to the kneeling crowd below.

It is reported from England that Rev. Francis Gurd, M. A., formerly curate of St. Mary and John Cowley, Oxford, has been received into the Catholic Church. News from England reports also that Rev. John Muirhead and Mrs. Muirhead have been received into the Catholic Church at St. Aloysius' Church, Oxford, by Rev. Charles Plater, S. J. Mr. Muirhead recently resigned the living of St. Columba, Lomay, Aberdeenshire. He had previously been a curate at Hunslet parish church and at Christ Church, Manchester.

Dublin, June 17.—Feelings of Catholics are outraged by the extent to which police surveillance is being practiced in Ireland. Rev. Hon. Mr. Ginnell, Member of Parliament, a man of three score and ten, now shattered in health by eighteen months' imprisonment, lately repaired to Dalvin, County Wicklow, to recuperate. On Sunday last he was followed to Mass by four policemen, two of whom knelt in the seat in front of him, and two in the seat behind.

Through a friendly agreement between the Vatican and the Italian Government, the famous custom of conducting the devotions of Stations of the Cross inside the Roman Coliseum is about to be revived. Never since the loss of the Pope's temporal power has the devotion been publicly celebrated within the Coliseum precincts, and in commemoration of the event the Holy Father has appointed a special Cardinal Legate to preside in his name.

Definite plans to organize the entire membership of the Catholic Church in the United States into a workable unit through the agency of the many lay organizations were formulated in the organization of the National Catholic Laymen's Council of the National Catholic Welfare Conference. Sixty delegates from more than twenty different States and representing twenty five different laymen's organizations attended the meeting and subscribed for themselves and for their organizations and their dioceses to the plan of this great movement of laymen.

Dublin, June 15.—The pilgrimage season at Lough Derg, Donegal, has just opened and will continue till the feast of the Assumption, August 15. A vast crowd, including several Americans, have come this week to the famous lake-island where St. Patrick himself prayed. No other pilgrimage in the world equals the rigor of St. Patrick's Purgatory. The penitents fast for three days on a single meal of black tea and dry bread. Discarding boots and stockings from the moment they land, they do not put them on again until the third day when about to depart. The Stations are performed barefooted over the sharp stones of the rocky isle. In drenching rain and sweltering heat, pilgrims may be seen engaged in this devotion. Social distinctions disappear. Wealthy and poor, gentle and simple commingle and are alike. The night typifies the faith and asceticism of Ireland. Last year there were 14,800 pilgrims.