A SCHOOL QUESTION

THAT IS AGITATING THE PEOPLE OF GREAT BRITAIN.

IT PROVIDES FOR SPECIAL RELIGIOUS IN-STRUCTION AND IS SAID TO BE ACCEPT-ABLE TO THE CATHOLIC CLERGY-THE IRISH MEMBERS TO VOTE FOR IT.

LONDON, April 4.—The Education Bill introduced in the House of Commons by Sir John E. Gorst, Conservative, Vice-President of the Council, is a broader measure than expected and promises to cause much parliamentary warfare. It provides for the establishment of an educational department in every county and borough, to be under the control of the county councils, to administer the Parliamentary grants. The Radicals de nounce the bill as being revolutionary, and destructive of the board schools; but, as the school board system has proven much more costly to the ratepayers, than originally anticipated, it may be doubted whether the public will be aroused greatly on either side. The chief fighting will rage over the religious causes, providing that parents may withdraw their children from religious instruction altogether, or that a reasonable number of parents, so desirous, may claim special religious instruction. This clause is specially aimed to setisfy the Catholics, who are debarred from any state assistance for their schools. The Catholics contend that the bill fails to meet the demands of Cardinal Yaughan and the Duke of Norfolk, on behalf of the Catholic elementary schools. But the Tablet, the organ of the Catholics, congratulates the Government on the in-troduction of a bold, comprehensive bill, which will do much to repair the injustice to Catholics of the board

The hand of Mr. Joseph Chamberlain is plainly seen in the drafting of the bill, many parts of which are obviously the results of a compromise within the Cabinet. To this master political strategist may almost certainly beattributed three features of the bill which are bound to command popular support-those establishing a system of secondary education. improving the lot of pauper children, and replacing the present wasteful faddist school boards by municipal bodies charged with the administration of the educational government and the raising of funds.

ISAAC FORD'S OPINION.

New York, April 5 .- Mr. Isaac Ford cables from London to the Tribune :-The Education Bill, introduced a few hours before Parliament rose, bristles with controversial points. Instead of being a relief measure exclusively for sectarian schools, in which four out of seven of the Welsh and English children receive their primary education, it is a broad scheme for unsettling every question settled by Mr. Forster twenty six years ago, and revolutionizing the administration of the whole school system. Liberals and Non-Conformists have expected a measure which they could condemn as an example of sectarian bigetry. but they are surprised to find the ground of parents may secure any sectarian deceased lady, teaching for their children in any school aided by the state, whether it is voluntary or a board school. App cently there is nothing to prevent Roman Catholic or Church of England parents from having their catechism taught in the ordinary board schools, where they have been reluctant to have their children educated; nor is there anything to prevent Non-Conformist parents from having their catechism taught in Roman Catholic during his lifetime, occupied a leading and Church of England schools, which will henceforch receive a large measure of financial aid from the state. This proposal, while unsettling, is not open to criticism on the ground of religious bigotry. The Liberals also expected to condemn the new measure as a merciless assault upon the school boards. As it is, the authority of the school boards will be greatly impaired by the proposed measure, and the functions of the Education Department at Whitehall will be paralyzed; it is took place to St. Anthony's parish nothing short of revolutionary. It do church last week, was largely attended centralizes the administration of the whole system. It brings all primary May her soul rest in peace. schools, sectarian or board, and secondary and technical schools also, under the direct control of the county and borough councils, which hold the purse strings. The Liberals, who have stood for the principle of local administration, and have championed the county councils, will find it difficult to object to the creation of a local department of education in every county, with com-mittees which represent the elective body in control of the schools. The new bill, while containing many useful features, like raising the age limit for compulsory attendance to twelve years, and while rendering the whole system more flexible, really turns out expert talent from the management in Whitehall and the local school boards and brings in amateurs from the county councils. The hostility of the school boards of expert educators is excited at once. Moreover, patrons of the sectarian schools, while relieved by the prospect of the removal of discriminations against their schools, are alarmed by the menace of local superintendence and by the contingent provisions for having other catechisms than their own taught under their auspices. The remainder of the session will be largely occupied with it, and the Liberals are likely to profit by The Irish members will probably vote with the Government, since Cardinal Vaughan professes to be satisfied with

SHAMROCK FANCY FAIR.

the measure.

Friday afternoon, at the S.A.A.A. office.

Mrs. T. F. Moore, president, occupied the chair. Mr. P. H. Bartley, vice-president voice of Pastor Lawrence:—"There is master, Aftert, predicted that "this ox master, Aftert, predicted that "this ox most and the world with his belof the Association, was also present and addressed the meeting on behalf of the directors of the Association, was also present and voice of Pastor Lawrence:—"There is no danger," he cried.

which was the transfer of the first of the f

ants of the different sections was then | the last word, the hyacinthe at his side taken up and completed. Everything caught another blazing brand, and then now points to a very successful issue to the undertaking of the ladies in the entottered to one side and a sheet of flame deavor to assist the Association to re-rolled over the pastor's head. The terriduce the debt incurred in the equipment of the new grounds.

same place next Sunday afternoon, at 2.30 o'clock, when badges will be dis-tributed to the ladies who are connected with the different departments, and the final arrangements entered upon for the opening of the fair on the following Saturday evening, at the Windsor Hall.

EASTER SERVICES AT ST. ANN'S CHURCH.

At the Easter morning service St. Ann's church was crowded, the musical portion was the best ever given in that church. Farmer's popular Mass in B received a very finished rendering from a choir of sixty voices, the solo and chorus work being all that could be desired. The boys of St. Ann's school who sustained the soprano and alto parts deserve special praise, they sang with a precision and effect that was delightful o listen to, the whole being accompanied by an efficient orchestra, which did full justice to the parts allotted to them.

At the evening service, after an eloquent sermon by Rev. E. Strubbe, C SS. R., Benediction followed, the officiating priest being Rev. Father Catulle, C.SS.R., superior of the Redemptorist Fathers in Canada. The following programme was rendered:—Sanctus, "Easter Mass," rendered:—Sanctus, 'Easter Mass,' (Fauconnier), Mr. M. Mullarkey and choir; 'Ave Maria,' (Dubois), Mr. W. Murphy, soloist; 'Regina Cali,' (Novello), choir; 'Tantum Ergo,' trio and chorus (Rossini); "Laudate Dominum," (Gounod), choir. Finale, "Marche Paque." (Scotson Clarke). organ and orchestra.

The singing was very fine, especially in the "Tantum Ergo," The solos were by Master McCrory, Messrs, W. Murphy and E. Quinn showing a full knowledge of their parts; the chorus was given with great force, which excited numerous comments from those present. As in the morning, the orchestra were fully competent to manage their part. The talented organist of the St. Ann's parish Church. Mr. P. J. Shea, has every reason to be proud of the success which followed his eiforts.

RESOLUTIONS OF CONDOLENCE

C. M. B. A., BRANCH 54.

At the last meeting of the above branch, held on Wednesday. April 1st, the following resolutions of condolence were

passed:—
Moved by Chancellor C. O'Brien and seconded by first vice-president Cogan, That this branch tender their heartielt sympathy to brother and second vicepresident Leithead, because of the death of his beloved mother, whom the Almighty has been pleased to summon to

her eternal rest. That we deem it our duty, on this mo irriful occasion, to testify to the high the re-is no mistake. She tells you exesteem which the deceased and her transfer things about your intimate worthy son held, and do hold, in this affairs, and the precision of her state branch, by recording this sad event on our minutes, publishing them in THE cut from under them by the curious ex- | TRUE WITNESS and Catholic Record, and pansion of the conscience clause. The forwarding a copy of same to our worthy bill provides that a reasonable number | second vice-president and family of the

FRANCIS D. DALY, Secty.

OBITUARY.

THE LATE MRS DOLAN.

It is with profound regret that we have to announce the death of Mrs. Dolan, wife of Mr. J. J. Dolan, and youngest sister of the late James McCreudy, who, position in the commercial circles of this city. Mrs. Dolan was ill but two days, and only her immediate relatives were aware of her sudden indisposition. When the announcement of her death was made it was a great shock to her large circle of friends. The deceased was a general favorite in social circles, as she possessed a lovable disposition and was a familiar figure in the midst of gatherings where the cause of charity was to be advanced. The funeral, which by citizens of all creeds and nationalities.

THE LATE MRS. KENNEDY.

We have also to announce the death of Mrs. Mary Kennedy, wife of the late Patrick Kennedy, at the advanced age of ninety years. The deceased was a native of the County Mayo, Ireland, and came to this city more than half a century ago. She was a well known figure in St. Ann's market for nearly forty-live years. Mrs. Kennedy saw many changes take place in this city during the course of her long and ac ive career. She had the happiness of possessing all her faculties up to the hour of her death, which took place at the residence of her daughter on Monday last.

FATHER MCCALLEN'S LECTURE.

In Windsor Hall, this evening, Father McCallen, of St. Patrick's, will deliver the second of his interesting stereopti-con lectures on Ireland. Nine hundred financial support from the state, and by patrons attended the first lecture. As the proceeds of all these lectures will be devoted to works of charity, and as the views thrown on the canvass are all of a very high artistic merit, a pleasant evening's entertainment, as well as an opportunity to help on a good work, will be afforded.

FIRE IN A CHICAGO CHURCH.

MANY WOMEN INJURED IN THE WILD RUSH

FOR ESCAPE. Eighteen hundred people were in the Second Baptist Church. Chicago, on Sunday evening last, and the Rev. Dr. W. M. Lawrence, pastor of the church, There was a large and enthusiastic meeting of the lady workers in connect blazing brand fell from the ceiling blazing brand fell from the ceiling blazing brand fell from the ceiling tion with the Shamrock Fancy Fair, on Friday afternoon, at the S.A.A.A. office. pulpit. Instantly there was a rush for

directors of the Association. He expressed very great satisfaction in behold-not pause. Again the Pastor cried out: ing such an enthusiastic gathering of "If you will resume your scats, I will about thirty years old, devoting his life, ladies. The work of naming the assist- finish my sermon." But, as he uttered meanwhile, to the study of scholastic,

the great chandelier, with the 105 lights, tied worshippers waited for no further counsel. They stormed through the There will be another meeting at the aisles, over the pews, and were wedged in a struggling mass at the doors.

Organist Howard Wells attempted to quell the paric. The voice of the pastor was lost in the turnult, but the great roar of the organ could still be heard. Its melody, however, had no effect.

A woman who lay upon the threshold was being trampled upon when patrolman Woolsey dragged her up the steps She was taken away, bleeding and in a swoon, by friends who were summoned.

FRANCE TO BE DISHENBERED

AND GREAT BRITAIN HUMBLED IN THE DUST.

THESE ARE THE PREDICTIONS OF MILLE. CONESDON, NOW EXCITING THE GAY FRENCH CAPITAL WITH HER PROPHECIES.

Panis, April 5.-Paris has worked itself to a pitch of great excitement dur-ing the past week over the terrible forebodings of a new prophetess, who is a complete exception to the rule about the dishonor of her kind in their own country. She is Mile, Conesdon, who modestly assumes the role of monthpiece of the augel Gabriel to the French nation and the world. Her interesting message is the announcement of an immediate war, which will result in the complete humiliation of both France and England. The newspapers are full of accounts of the young woman's words and doings. The street where she lives appropriately, enough, the Rue Paradis, is blocked by a mob of superstitious believers from morning till midnight. The public disturbance has become so great that the police notified her yesterday that she must change herquarters. The most remarkable thing about her is that, like Brother Schlatter, she refuses to accept a penny for making use of her alleged supernatural powers.

This is her simple history: Her parents, well-to-do Breton people, noticed six or seven months ago that the usual placidity of their daughter gave way to fits of torpor and trances, during which the girl would utter extraordinary phrases in a graff voice. They attributed this at first to indigestion, then to a small disappointment in a love affair. and thought that a change of surround ings would do her good.

She certainly disconcerts the most secretical of her callers, including journati-ts, doctors and other hard-headed

At English correspondent, who talked to ber, says: "She falls instantly into a trance, and answers questions in a sing song manner, automatically, and in a vice which certainly is not hers. translinary things about your intimate ments is disquicting. I have witnessed so many phenomenas in thought-reading and physiognomics, and assisted in so many of M. Charcot's experiments. that I could not say whether this is a case of illuminism or mere furnisterie.

Her general European prophecy is that a universal war will come within a year, including a revolution in Paris. followed by the dismemberment of France and the enlargement of second ary powers like Belgium and Switzer land. The destruction of England's power of wealth will be almost as com-

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS.

It is to be regretted that there are so many readers, even among Catholics, to whom St. Thomas Aquinas is scarcely more than a name, indeed, with which is associated all that is greatest in scholastic philosophy, but which has for them no connection with that numbler form of science of life relating to everyday questions and events; with alms giving, with patience in physical pain, with the virtue of hope, with friendship. with the nature of happiness. Yet the "Summa Theologica" of St. Thomas dwells on all these subjects.

To such readers it must often seem strange that those who think deeply of the great problems of life return, sooner or later, to St. Thomas, as St. Thomas himself, does to St. Augustine. These two illustrious Doctors of the Church seem to have sounded all the depths and heights of human feeling and of human thought. St. Augustine is the solace of those whom sin and suffering have tilled with the spirit of penance. Many whose eyes are blinded so that they see not the shining portals of the City of God derive help and comfort from the "Confessions" of St. Augustine, which reveal the struggles of his own nature, as it rises, through faith and sorrow, from the heights of intellect to the heights of spirituality; passing meanwhile, with such anguish as only great souls can know, through the valley of the shadow of death; gaining, finally, that peace whereof he says: "Thou madest us for Thyself, and our heart is restless until it reposes in Thee."

Partly because of the form in which they are written, but largely on account of the subjects of which they treat, the writings of St. Thomas are far more impersonal than those of St. Augustine. We gaze at him from afar, or we associate with his symbols in sacred art, where he is represented as writing swittly to the book of Theology, with his eyes uplifted toward the Dove, the Holy Spiri: The events of his life may be briefly stated. St. Thomas, one of the family of the counts of Aquino, was born at the castle of Rocco Secea, in the kingdom of Naples, in 1224. He received the rudiments of his education from the Benedictine monks of Monte Cassino, but, at the age o nineteen, he joined the Dominican order. Later, he studied in Cologne under Albertus Magnus. There will one day till the world with his bellowing."

He did not begin to teach until he was

dialectic and Aristotelian philosophy. He first attained celebrity in Paris. where the degree of Doctor was conferred on him by the Sorbonne, and where he SOME HISTORIC SPOIS ON THE remained until 1261, when Pope Urban IV. called him to Italy, to teach in the universities of Rome, Pisa and Padus. Declining all dignities, he finally retired to the Dominican monastery in Naples, and devoted himself entirely to study and to teaching. He died at Fossanuova in the Kingdom of Naples, while on his way to attend the General Council of Lyons, in 1274.

life gives us little on which to base a a very interesting article on the mispersonal interest; yet, as we think of sionary labors of Father Baraga, afterhim pacing the beautiful cloisters of wards first bishop of Marquette, Mich., Monte Cassino, meditating already, in under the title, "Frederick Baraga his youth, on the nature of sin, on the Among the Oltawas." We give the apend of man, on the Eternal Lord; when pended extracts: we see him at Cologne, silently absorbing the teaching of his great master, Ottawa Indians in their village, and whose fame was so soon to pale before his own; when we contemplate the simplicity, the love of study for his own and return to the calm of monastic life; this holy missionary on Grand River when we remember all these things, St. Thomas grows nearer to us, and love, as well as reverence, finds a place in our iearts.

His work has the distinct note of the greatest intellectual efforts, inasmuch as it is "for all time." Only those who of their style as obscure. It is a remarkable evidence of their adaptability to modern needs, that Socialists and Individualists, outside the Church, quote St. Thomas' definitions of natural and positive law, and of the law of nations, in support of their opposite views; while the Labor Encyclical of Pope Leo XIII is founded on the "Summa Theologica.

Only brief portions of his work have been translated into English. Those who wish to obtain an idea of his ethical philosophy are referred to the "Aquinas Ethicus" of Father Rickaby, S. J.* As mental discipline, there are few more admirable exercises than the study of St. Thomas' works. His intellectual grasp is so firm, his own vision so penetrating that through him we also to rise a clearer atmosphere, to a higher reverence for truth, to a more hopeful spirit in dealing with the moral and social problems of the age in which we live.

In conclusion, we quote as follows from the encyclical of the Sovereign Pontiff, Leo XIII. on Scholastic Philosophy: "Let the teachers whom you shall directly choose make it their aim to instil the doctrine of Thomas Aquinas. into the minds of their scholars, and to set, in a clear light, his solidity and excellence above other authors. . . But lest supposititions atterances be

taken for true, or adulterate for genuine. see to it that the wisdom of Thomas be drunk in from his own streams."-Sacred Heart Review.

"Aquinas Ethieus." Joseph Rickaby, S.J. Benziger Brothers, New York, 1892.

DIED.

KENNEDY-At her daughter's residence 34½ Aylmer street, on Sunday, April 5 Mary sowlay, widow of the late Patrick Kennedy, aged 90 years, a native of County Mayo, Ireland, and dealer in St. Ann's market for 44 years, and mother of Kearney Brothers. American and Irisb papers please copy.

A PARNELLITE ELECTED.

cood Dr. J. Edward Kenny, Parnellite, who recently resigned in the College Green division of Dublin city, M. J. L. Carew, Parnellite, was returned without opposition.

CHEERFUL IDIOT: Mad dog saved my life once | Sensible Man: Rubbish! how? Checriul Idiot : Didn't bite me.



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BISHOP BARAGA.

SHORES OF LAKE MICHIGAN,

RICHARD R. ELLIOTT WRITES OF THE MIS-SIONARY LABORS OF THE FIRST BISHOP OF MARQUETTE.

Mr. Richard R. Elliott, a brother of the famous Paulist missionary, contrib-This bare record of the facts of his lutes to the American Quarterly Review

Where Father Baraga preached to the

where he had built his first chapel in the

Grand river valley, in which he haptized the aboriginal owners of the soil more sake, which made him leave the arena than sixty years ago, there are now five where the battles of life were fought, Catholic churches. The footprints of soil have not been trodden by generations of the Ottawa race. What the fate of these generations has been, it would be difficult to say. Their history differs but little, perhaps, from that of other western Indian nations, whose pressure. in their normal state, in the homes of are ignorant of his writings can speak their forefathers, had become an impediment to settlement of the regions in which these homes were located, by the white rac s. The red man required ten thousand acres of wild land to constitute his hanting domain; while the white tunn who cultivated the soil required for his support fifty acres at the utmost. The Indian had to get out of the white

> man's way. The expatriation of the tribes of the Ottawa nation deropulated the missionary centers of Father Baraga. Arbre Croche, particularly, is a name which has a place only in the history of the

This locality where, sixty two years since, Father Beraga preached to the Ottawas, and where, during the long winter of 18312, he wrote his first-book in an American Indian language, has become a summer resort; while its pe culiar and ancient Indian name has been changed to the commonplace one of Harbor Springs. It is one of the beauty spots on the shores of Michigan's lakes. Its springs are said to be healing; they ought to be, for they were blessed by holy men from Michillmacime more than 150 years ago. The isfund of Mackinac whose eventful history during the past is so interesting, is an example for some of the remarkable changes which have occurred during the last two decades. During the early part of this century, as has been stated it was one of the principal stations in the west ern lakes of the American For Company whose trappers gathered furs in regionas far west as the Pacific ocean. The condition of the inhabitants of the is land, when Father Richard first visited it in 1799, has been outlined. It had not materially changed during Father Bara za's sejourn at Arbre Creehe.

Coureurs de Bois, traders, half-breeds Rtawas and other straggling Indians orming the lower strata of its population, came and went, senson after senson. The chief factor of the American Fur Company and his stuff, the officers of the parrison and their tamilies, formed the exclusive upper circle of its population. The removal of the Ottawas was soon followed by that of the fur company's Dumin, April 6.—In the election, to- depot. The garrison of two companies remained, but the frade of the Phine became of little account.

During the past fifty years a Catholic Church has been maintained, whose paster visited the settlements on the islands and main shore, but his local parishioners were few. The Indian de partment assembled the near-by Chip newas and a few Ottawas, during the month of July of each year, and distri buted the government annuities, while the fur company had its depot at Mackinae, and under the anspices of its factor an evangelical missionary agency was established.

The Indians have gone; the fur company also; and the missionary agency has been discontinued. All that was left, connecting the present with the past, was the Catholic church and the garrison of the United States soldiers. Since the "fifties" the island has become a favorite summer resort. During nine months of the year it is

a solitary place; but, during June, July and August, crowds come from far and near to enjoy the health-inspiring air, and to eat the fish caught in the cold waters of the vicinity, which are probably unsurpassed among the tresh water species. Another great change is now going on. Congress has donated its military reservation to the state of Michigan for a state park. In the month of Sept., 1895, the commanding officer lowered the United States flag, which had fluttered for a century, and the troops retired to Fort Brady at Sault Ste.

The Catholic Church is all that has life on Mackinac island connecting with its past history of more than two centuries.

Wheresoever the footprints of Father Richard and of his missionaries, and of Father Baraga and his assistants, bad marked the advent of these saintly men, on the mainlands of the coast of Lake Michigan, the most wonderful transformations have taken place.

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