

RELIGIOUS NEWS ITEMS.

Amongst the occupants of the archiepiscopal See of Milan have been forty canonized saints.

The Papal Consistory, which was to have been held shortly, has been postponed until March.

Prince Hohenlohe is the first Catholic to be not only Chancellor of Germany but Premier of Prussia.

The Cardinal Archbishop of Paris will celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of his priesthood December 27th, in Notre Dame.

The University of Notre Dame has issued a neat calendar for 1895. The next term of this great institution will open January 4.

The Holy Father is said to astonish those about him by his activity and energy. His health was never better than it is at present.

Rev. Dr. Burke, lately assistant pastor of Our Lady of Good Counsel Church, New York, has been placed in charge of the Rosendale parish in Ulster County, New York.

The funeral of the late Count Ferdinand de Lesseps took place last Saturday in the Church of St. Pierre de Chaillot, outside of Paris. The church was crowded.

A Catholic Congress held at Stuhlweissenburg, Hungary, last month, was attended by over 15,000 citizens and peasants. The resolutions requested the king to refuse assent to the ecclesiastical bills.

Princess Louise, sister of King Christian IX., of Denmark, and aunt of the dowager czarina of Russia, the king of Greece and the princess of Wales, is dead. She was 74 years of age, and was appointed abbess of the Convent of Itehoe, Holstein, in 1860, and died in that institution.

A despatch from Rome brings this information: "In connection with the reunion of the Eastern and Western churches the Pope is preparing a constitution, presumably the one recording the decisions of the recent conference. Among its provisions will be one to determine the functions of the later missionaries in the East."

Converts are coming into the Catholic Church steadily in all parts of the United States. For instance, last year, in the remote, sparsely settled and poorly equipped diocese of Jamestown, North Dakota, which has only about 40 priests to cover the whole State, there were 101 adult converts baptized. How the clergy found time from their ministry to their Catholic flocks to instruct these neophytes is a wonder, although Bishop Shanly is a host in himself and his priests have his spirit of zeal.

The will of Rev. Father Andrew J. Clancy was filed for probate in New York. The estate is valued at \$10,000. After several small bequests the residue of the estate is left in trust, his mother to receive the income, or, if necessary for her support, the principal. At her death \$1,000 each is given to St. Joseph's Seminary and to the Mission of the Immaculate Virgin; \$500 each to the Sisters of the Poor of St. Francis in charge of St. Joseph's Hospital, the Sisters of the Poor of St. Francis in charge of St. Francis' Hospital, the Little Sisters of the Assumption and the Sisters of St. Vincent de Paul. The residue goes to St. Joseph's Seminary.

IRISHMEN DON'T NEED DRINK.

YET, FATHER McSWEENEY SAYS, THEY HAVE THE GREATEST NEED OF TEMPERANCE SOCIETIES.

As a preparation for the Convention of the Catholic Total Abstinence Union of America, which is to be held in New York in August next, the Catholic temperance societies of that city met last Sunday night in St. Brigid's Church in Avenue B. The Rev. Dr. P. F. McSweeney welcomed the delegates and said:

"The mistake has been made of ascribing to this gathering an object of a semi political nature. Now, while every good Catholic would like to see the liquor stores closed, still, we feel that it is not well to force people to be good.

Our object is to persuade men to join temperance societies.

"I have been thirty-two years on the mission, and have come to the conclusion that drink is the most dreadful evil the city of New York has to contend with to-day, and especially among our people. When I say our people I mean among Catholics generally and the Irish especially.

"If there is a race on the face of God's earth that has no need for stimulants it is the Irish. God has so made them that they do not need it. Irishmen never throw themselves into the river because of adversity, unless it be in a fit of delirium tremens. They are like a rubber ball; the harder you throw them down the higher they will bound."

The Rev. A. P. Doyle said that the National Union now had 60,000 members enrolled in 728 societies. The next meeting will be held on the first Sunday in January in the Church of the Sacred Heart, in West Fifty-first street.

SCOTTISH CATHOLICITY.

With many, an idea prevails that he who claims the "Land of the crag and glen" as his birth-place, has little in common with Catholicity, or if fortunate enough to possess the faith, holds it but lightly or indifferently. In fact, the word Scotch calls up in certain minds visions of John Knox, Jennie Geddes and a host of other erratic celebrities of the so-called reformation of the Church in Scotland.

Owing to the conspiracy of silence on the part of historians, the majority of people know very little of the glorious history of Catholic Scotland prior to the advent of the vulgar founder of Presbyterianism; yet ancient Scotia could boast of schools, colleges, monasteries and other seats of learning second to none in Europe.

Scottish saints and martyrs were raised to the altars of Holy Church. St. Margaret of Scotland is held in reverence throughout the Christian world as a model queen and saint. Even as far back as the days of the famous Emperor Charlemagne missionary zeal was characteristic of the Scottish priesthood. It is related that one day when the great Conqueror was but a boy, while hunting in the Black Forest of Germany, he was accidentally separated from his attendants, and in the hope of meeting them he penetrated into the depths of the forest, and when nearly exhausted he came upon a chapel or hermitage erected by a Scottish monk. The young prince, in lieu of a better offering, reverently placed his jewelled cap at the feet of the statue of Our Lady, promising to return and have erected a shrine more worthy of her honor. He did so, and until this day may be seen "The Hermitage of Our Lady," which owes its origin to the pious zeal of an humble Scottish religieuse.

According to legendary lore the thistle was chosen as the National emblem in honor of the Blessed Virgin. During the flight into Egypt the Holy Family rested by the wayside when a band of robbers were seen approaching, and would have molested the travellers had not the thistles that grew at their feet raised their heads and spread their leaves, forming a veritable thicket which screened the holy wayfarers from observation, "and," continues this quaint old legend, "therefore, was chosen her blessed thistle in her honor and to remind the Scots to be ever ready to defend innocence and virtue even as the thistle defended Jesus and Mary from the prying eyes of the wicked highwaymen."

It has been said that the people of Scotland were only too eager to renounce the Faith, and this fable has been told over and over again, until by its very persistence it has gained a semblance of truth, much desired by those who would thus veil the misdoings of the reformers.

The Reformation was not a question of faith, but of sacrilege and robbery, the outcome of the greed of the minions of Henry the Eighth, who pillaged and burned the monasteries and churches over the heads of the faithful.

Hold the faith lightly! Many of the fairest spots under Auld Scotia's skies have been crimsoned with the life blood of the martyr. Parted with the faith eagerly! The death of Mary Stuart, the beautiful and unfortunate Scottish Queen, is sufficient to refute this calumny. Had she abjured the Ancient Faith, she would have preserved to herself not only her life, but her crown and kingdom, yet the



SURPRISE SOAP

LASTS LONGEST GOES FARTHEST.

The cheapest Soap to Use. 181 THE ST. CROIX SOAP MFG. CO., ST. LOUIS, MO.

Why

Don't You Use

Surprise?

It does away with hard work, —don't boil or scald the clothes nor give them the usual hard rubbing. (See the directions on the wrapper).

It gives the whitest, sweetest, cleanest clothes after the wash.

It prevents wearing and tearing by harsh soaps and hard rubs. Rub lightly with Surprise Soap,—the dirt drops out. Harmless to hands and finest fabrics.

might of all England arrayed against her was futile to shake her allegiance to the See of Peter, and in the cold gray dawn of a February morning she sealed her belief in Catholic truth, when her queenly head rolled from the scaffold.

Hold the faith with indifference! Oh! no, rather like her sister, England, she wandered not from her Bread, it was stolen from her.

His Grace, the Archbishop of Glasgow, in an address before the First National Council of Scotland, after the restoration of the Hierarchy, says:

"The people were unwilling to be deprived of their faith. A hard struggle they made, but in vain. In August, 1560, the Catholic religion was proscribed by the Parliament, and as far as Parliament could do it, the Pope's jurisdiction was abolished. To say or hear Mass was made a criminal offence; on the first occasion to be punished with confiscation of goods, on the second with banishment, and on the third with death."

The faithful were reduced to much the same straits as their English co-religionists under Elizabeth, or as Irish Catholics under the penal laws. Among the many shifts they were put to to evade their savage pursuers, the coast population were often driven to take to their boats and put to sea, where, under favor of the midnight, the faithful pastor offered Mass upon a raft. Surely the people who could resort to such measures rather than forego the exercise of their faith must have been devoted to it.

The attachment of the people to the old faith was unmistakably shown. Paisley Abbey was set on fire in 1561 by the Earl of Arran, and the Earl of Glencairn, who were deputed by the Lords of the Secret Council. But the people of Paisley continued firm in their adherence to the old faith. When the preachers of the new doctrines came to Paisley, they were refused admittance to the Church, and the people staked the doors against them.

Henry VIII. endeavored both by open invasion and domestic treachery to establish the Reformation in Scotland. In 1535 he labored to convert his nephew to the new religion; in 1542 he sent an army of 20,000 men to Scotland; he corrupted the nobles from their allegiance; and must be considered as the father of the Reformation in Scotland.

To go back to Bannockburn, a modern historian tells us that before the engagement the Scots knelt to pray, but with characteristic one-sidedness, he omits to say that the prayer of this grand Catholic army was the "Ave Maria" followed by the singing of "The Magnificat." Imagine thirty thousand men on the eve of battle chanting the Magnificat. Is it any wonder that victory rested on the banners of the brave Scots.

Any one who has seen a Highland regiment at Mass, has witnessed a scene never to be forgotten. The strong earnest faces of the soldiers, their fervor, the sheen of the tartans, the flash of the swords, as they salute Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. Oh! he would be cold indeed who could look on without emotion or entertain for an instant the thought that the Scotch were indifferent Catholics. Since the restoration of the Hierarchy the increase of Catholicity in Scotland has been simply marvellous. Convents, schools and colleges have sprung up as if by magic, thus showing

the world how more than willing her people are to return to the true faith. During Scotland's long dark night of Protestantism her sons clung to the banner of the Cross, although with the majority it was not from a religious but from a national sentiment. So when the light of faith once more shines on this glorious country of the North, may she not attribute her happiness to the intercession of her Patron, St. Andrew, and of these countries to whom faith was brought by Scottish missionaries, none will rejoice more than Erin, whose generous heart has every reason to warm to the Tartan, for amongst the many illustrious names that grace the annals of Bonnie Scotland one shines out glorious, resplendent, that of the great apostle of Ireland, St. Patrick, who, according to tradition, was a zealous enthusiastic Scottish Catholic.

S. SUTHERLAND.

Catholic Holiday Gifts!

The Choicest and Most Acceptable of Gifts.

—CONSISTING OF—

An extensive assortment of

PRAYER BOOKS.

In all styles and prices, from the cheapest children's editions upwards.

PRAYER BEADS.

In Wood, Cocoa, Pearl, Amber, &c., &c., with Cocoa, Leather and Pearl Cases.

CROSSES and CRUCIFIXES

In all sizes, prices and designs.

STATUES, FONTS and

RELIGIOUS ARTICLES

Glass, Brass and Silver Candlesticks.

RELIGIOUS PICTURES.

Plain or colored, Oil, Chromo or Oleograph.

TALES, STORIES and

BOOKS in Sets.

Profusely Illustrated Toy Books.

XMAS and NEW YEAR

BOOKLETS.

D. & J. SADLER & CO.,

Catholic Publishers, Church Ornaments and Religious Articles.

1669 NOTRE DAME STREET.

Have Your

SLATE, METAL OR GRAVEL ROOFING,

ASPHALT FLOORING, ETC.,

DONE BY

GEO. W. REED,

16-8 783 & 785 Craig Street.

CASTOR FLUID Registered; a delightfully refreshing PREPARATION for the Hair. It should be used daily. Keeps the scalp healthy, prevents dandruff, promotes the growth of a perfect hair dressing for the family. 25 cents per bottle. HENRY R. GRAY, Chemist, 122 St. Lawrence Street.