

Gymns of the Heart.

No. 19,

STELLA MATUTINA!

STAR of the Morning, like an eye
That beams upon the brow of love.

Oh! let thy lustrous radiance
Shine from above!

Crown of the opening day of days,
When Jesus as an infant smil'd;
Teach every heart aright to praise
Thy Holy Child!

Brightness of beauty,—Diadem
Of nature rising out of night,
Lamp of the church! her Bridal Gem,
Fountain of Light!

Glory of that celestial zone
Arrang'd by God in dread array,—
A galaxy around His throne
Of saints that pray;

Centre, and source of endless grace
For those, who on thee humbly call;
With the bright visions of thy face
Illumine all!

Star of the Morning, like an eye
That beams upon the brow of love.
Oh! let thy lustrous radiance
Shine from above!

PROGRESS OF CATHOLICITY IN ST. LUCIA AND ST. VINCENT.

The following extract is from the St Lucia Palladium of February 9:—"On Saturday last we had the pleasure of witnessing the ceremonies of confirmation at the Church of St. Florent, in this town, held by his Lordship the Bishop of Olympus, when some hundreds of persons, old and young, became recipients of the Sacrament of the Roman Catholic Church. His Excellency the Governor was present on the occasion attended by his private secretary, his Honour the Chief Justice, Honourables the Colonial Secretary, Attorney-General, Solicitor-General, Comptroller of Customs, American Consular Agent, and other distinguished personages. Mass was said by the Rev. Abbe Christophe, assisted by the Rev. Abbes Lecaillet and Dandin, as Deacons; and after the Confirmation an appropriate sermon was delivered by the Rev. Abbe Poirier.—On Wednesday the Bishop held a Confirmation in the town of Gros-Islet when eighty were duly confirmed by his Lordship. On the following day (yesterday) a large assemblage of persons from different quarters were present at Gros-Islet to witness the ceremony of the laying of the first stone of a new church in that town by his Excellency Governor Darling. At ten o'clock the procession moved from the parsonage, and proceeded in solemn order around the site of the intended edifice. His Lordship was canopied under the dais, the following Priests officiating on the occasion:—The Rev Messrs Jacquart, of Castries; O'Rielly, of Gros-Islet; Cosgrove, of Denney; and the Abbes Christophe and Poirier, his Lordship's secretary and chaplain. Arriving at the destined spot, and the usual preparations being made, his Excellency the Governor assumed the cross, and square, and with much dignity of manner laid and adjusted the foundation-stone in its place.—Grand Mass was celebrated by the Rev Abbe Jacquart, The Rev Abbes Christophe and Poirier officiating as Deacons. The work was then consecrated with a solemn Benediction by the Bishop, the whole concluding with an eloquent sermon by the Rev Abbe Poirier. This was followed by a collection—the plate being handed round by Mr F Lousta and Mrs B Lacorbiniere—when about 100 dollars were contributed to the funds for building the church. At one o'clock the Governor, the Bishop, and other, distinguished parties, were handsomely entertained at the parsonage at a *dejeuner a la fourchette*. The company subsequently adjourned to the 'Cap' estate, where a superb luncheon, provided by the hospitality of the churchwarden, awaited them, and which they sat down at half-past three o'clock. His Excellency, we understand delivered a speech on the occasion, which we regret our inability to produce to our readers, no reporter of our journal having been present at the entertainment.—On the 31st ult., Dr Smith had administered Confirmation to 147 postulants at St Vincent. There was a grand High Mass on the occasion, at which the Rev Abbe R C Poirier officiated as Celebrant; Rev Abbe A C Christophe, as Deacon, Rev B Tee-

van, as Sub-Deacon; and the Rev John McNamee, as Master of Ceremonies. His Lordship the Right Rev Dr Smith presided in full pontificals. The Bishop was on the previous day entertained at dinner by his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor

THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY.

Every devout servant of the Blessed Virgin Mary will read, with extreme wonder and delight the accompanying decree, recently put forth by the Parliament of Palermo. Is it possible, that, amidst the turmoils and horrors of revolutions and bloodshed, in a country whose religion has been slighted and her ministers degraded; is it possible, one asks, that in such a country and at such a time, the supreme Senate have found leisure and disposition to turn their thoughts to a subject of such heartfelt devotion to every faithful Catholic, as that of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary? Yes, He who holds in his hands the reins of empire and who can extract from the lips, even of the enemy of human salvation, his glorification and praise, has made the President of the Chamber of Commons of the kingdom of Sicily, in the name of the whole kingdom, authorize the ratification of a vow in honor of the Immaculate Conception of Mary. The following are the terms of the decree:—

"Art 1st. The President of the Government is authorized to approve and ratify the vow made annually, in honour of the Immaculate Conception of the Virgin.—This vow shall be pronounced on the 8th of December, in the church of St. Francis at Palermo, in presence of the Chambers.

"Art. 2nd. The form of the vow shall be modified as follows:—

"Most glorious Virgin, in presence of the august Trinity, of the Angels and Saints of Heaven, of all persons here assembled, and of the Legislative Chambers, we venerate thee, and acknowledge that thou wert preserved, by the merits of thy divine Son, from original sin, from the very first moment of thy blessed conception, conformably to the apostolical decrees hereunto relating.

"We firmly believe, that thy soul was pure and immaculate from the first moment that it pleased God to create it, and unite it to thy body.

"By special order of the Parliament, we approve, ratify, and renew, in the name of this capital and of the whole kingdom, the promise which the supreme authority has always given, of concurring in maintaining and defending thy Immaculate Conception, ardently desiring that all may happen for the greater glory of thy Immaculate Conception, for the welfare and exaltation of the church, for the extirpation of heresies, for the peace and happiness of all Christians people, especially for the liberty and independence of Sicily, and finally, for the general good of this illustrious capital.

MORALS OF SPANISH FEMALES.

"The women of Spain are distinguished for beauty of person and dignity of manner, and are noted for their fidelity and constancy. The strictness with which they were formerly treated, and the seclusion in which they were kept, are in a great measure done away."

The writer of the foregoing is nearer the truth than any or all the others who have expressed a contrary or doubting opinion. The one most quoted is Byron, who seems to luxuriate in last century flings at Spanish women, and, since this time nearly all others adopted his sayings as incontestably true, and the thing seems to be settled by all English writers that female virtue does not exist in Spain. I here as a matter of justice, record my testimony in favor of the Spanish women. With the exception of one instance of equivocal conduct which I witnessed in Cadix, I have, in all my wanderings in Spain, never seen the Spanish women, young or old, who was not entirely exemplary in her conduct, and irreproachable in her character and manners. I have never yet seen the Spanish woman who was not careful to fulfil her duties to her family and maintain the high self-respect which accompanies personal purity. I did not go into the streets to find specimens of Spanish female character or virtue. The abandoned creature may be found in all other countries as well as here, and Spain is therefore not alone in that respect. I have seen Spanish mothers and daughter in their own home, and have seen them abroad in soci-

ety, and it is upon such occasions that I have made up my estimate of their character. Now, show me what English traveller, or writer, has done the same. There is not one who has not adopted the libels of his predecessors without knowledge of the facts he relates, and all, with a cruelty which deserves execration, have passed off the base dogmas and opinions of others, in this respect, as the result of their own observations, or else, like Byron, they have consorted with the debased of the sex in the common receptacles of vice, and with none others.—Seven Years in Spain.

"Tel inquam noxiam sapientiam, ut discamus laudabilem fatuitatem."

Sti Gregorii, Moral lib. xxvii

Let us leave this hurtful wisdom, that we may learn praiseworthy folly.

St. Gregory.

Come let us leave that wisdom weak,
The maze of earthly intellect—
And at the Cross, bowailing, seek
For lowly virtue in neglect.

Despite the loud-tongued voice of fame,
The purchase of an idle breath;
Let us despise a shadowy name,
Not got in life, and lost in death...

Let us look out beyond the lines
And limits of a fleeting day,
Where all from every birth inclines,
Even at its best, to pass away.

The happy eye, that gleams in love,
May gladden for a little while—
how soon does sickly death remove
That sweet and heart-reviving smile!

And is it Death alone can quench
The gladsome eye?—Ah! sadder still,
A colder world Love's bonds can wrench
In twain, and best affections chill.

Then let us fix our weary gaze
Where sure repose may meet our view;
Where, on a firm and changeless base,
Our hearts may rest content and true.

Seek, and thine earnest search shall find
Or e'er 'tis long, this goodly gem,
So as ye come, with lowly mind,
To the Catholic Jerusalem,—

The Church of God,—despite neglect,
Yet still the link 'twixt earth and heaven,
Whereby to man the pleased aspect
Of God, restored again is given.

Then hasten to her saving pale,
Bear in thy hand her branch of peace,
Sure that His word can never fail,
Who gave her birth and glad increase.

Fear not the world's contempt or shame,
Its idle fame, its passing dross,
Thou hast a higher, nobler name,
The Bearer of the lowly Cross.

And oh! what hidden love shall fill
Thy heart with ease, thy soul with light,
What new delights and treasures still
Repay, even here, a passing spite!

ACTS OF THE SECRET CONSISTORY HELD AT GAETA BY HIS HOLINESS PIUS IX.

Gaeta, April 2d, 1849.

Our Holy Father, Pope Pius IX., held this morning, in the royal palace of Gaeta, a secret consistory, in which he proposed the following churches:—

The archiepiscopal church of Sardes, in *partibus infidelium*, for Mgr. Jean-Marie Moland, transferred from the episcopal church of Amiens to the Coadjutorship, with the future successions of Mgr Paul D'Astros, Archbishop of Toulouse and Narbonne.

The episcopal church of Placentia for the Rev. D. Antonio Raoza, Priest of that city, Doctor in Sacred Theology, and Theological Canon of that cathedral.

The episcopal church of Meude for M. Jean-Antoine Foulquier, Priest of the Diocese of Rodez, and Vicar General of that Bishopric.

The episcopal church of Amiens for M. Louis-Antoine de Salmis, Priest of the Diocese of Bayonne, and Vicar-General of Bordeaux.

The episcopal church of Nantes for M. Antoine-Mathias Alexandre Jacquesmet, Priest

of Grenoble, one of the Vicars General of Paris.

The episcopal church of Cuenca for the Rev. Father Brother Firmin Sanchez Arrieseo, Priest of the Diocese of Toledo, Professor of the Seraphic Order of Friars Minors, Commissary-General of that order for the provinces of Spain.

The episcopal church of Calnice, in *partibus infidelium*, for the Rev. D. Godard Braun, Priest of the Diocese of Treves, Doctor in Sacred Theology, Canon-Dean of that cathedral, Suffragan of that Bishopric.

Lastly, the instance of the Sacred Pallium was made to his Holiness for the church of Quiso, in South America, recently elevated to the rank of a metropolitan See.

FATHER DE SMET AND OREGON TERRITORY.

At the meeting of the National Institute, held at Washington on Monday evening, March 10th, Mr Wilkes, in the course of some very interesting remarks on Upper California and Oregon, took occasion to express his indebtedness to the "Jesuit Father de Smet," for much valuable information obtained from him in relation to the course of the rivers in Oregon, and other matters, which he had incorporated in his map of that Territory, recently published in his narrative, and which was exhibited for the inspection of the members of the Institute.

This acknowledgement for scientific information from so high a source does not derive its value from its personal connection with Father de Smet, but from the circumstance that it furnishes another example of the devotion to the cause of humanity, which has always characterized the disciples of Ignatius of Loyola. At a moment when Europe is attempting to eject from its bosom these ardent cultivators of science, to whom it is indebted for so much of what is valuable in civilization, we find its members unostentatiously engaged, very far beyond the confines of civilization, in treasuring up those valuable observations which are to become the landmarks of the unlettered pioneers in the wilderness beyond the Rocky Mountains. It must be gratifying to Father De Smet, to know that when that country shall have been peopled by an industrious population, his explorations will be spoken of as those of his predecessors now are in the valley watered by the father of rivers, and upon the brothers of Lake Superior.—U. S. Cath. Mag.

Obit.

- May 21—Hannah, daughter of Patrick and Catherine Hunt, aged 4 years.
- 22—John Murphy, native of the County Cork, Ireland, aged 69 years.
- 22—Edward Patrick, son of Wm and Mary Jane Murphy, aged 6 yrs. and 10 mths.
- 22—Thomas, son of William and Margaret Fitzgerald, aged 3 years and 7 months.
- 25—Margaret, daughter of Augustine and Bridget Halleran, aged 5 years and 6 months.
- 26—Johanna, daughter of John Margaret McGrath, aged 2 years and 3 months.
- 26—Martin Ryan, native of Killaloe, Co. Kilkenny, Ireland, aged 63 years.

Academy for Young Ladies, AT BROOKSIDE,

Under the Direction of the Ladies of the SACRE CŒUR.

The Public are respectfully informed that the above Institution will be opened on MONDAY next.

Particulars may be known on application at Brookside House, Spring Gardens. Applications, by letter, to be addressed to MAMAM PRYOR, Superior, as above. Halifax, May 24th, 1849 Chron and Rec.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS!

On and after the First Day of June next, the connection of the Subscriber with the "Cross" Newspaper, as Printer and Publisher, will cease, he not finding it convenient longer to continue the same. This, therefore, is to notify all present and late Subscribers, (many of whom have not paid one penny since January, 1845) that the amount of their respective Subscriptions, due to the period aforesaid, must be paid forthwith—otherwise they will be indiscriminately sued for. All who may have paid their Subscription in advance for the present year, will have the balance, 2s 11d, for the remaining seven months, returned to them, on application to the Subscriber, after the period above named, at the Office of the "Sun" and "IRISH VOLUNTEER."

RICHARD NUGENT.

DIRECTORY FOR 1849.

The Directory for 1849—just Published,—Price 7d—can be obtained at this Office.