

SO

A Federal... States, has... discussion in... followed the... much as it a... people in the... and the Irish... this Dominio... sanguine as i... movement; b... in it did not... causes assig... such federat... personally, of... I believe in... strength," an... the absolute... and more las... ing establish... associations a... religious org... in the ha... actly what I... the public wo... think, I purp... use, a couple... do not see th... in the fairest

In the first... understood a... Catholics and... ties. There ar... associations, n... terested in th... tion; but these... theme at this... great people... organize const... ourselves into... otic, religious... ary and benev... know not how... societies. If th... in a district w... ty, or possibly... vidualy none... to do very muc... to lead upon... sociated form... certainly adm... goes.

But, does it... are apt to hav... tions, and th... ever likely to... gress by estab... terests? Do we... to be initiate... countless soci... take the first s... awaiting a sign... which signal is... when one soci... others are mor... or, at least... upon it, than... ate. There are... ests, inter-prov... parochial inter... to keep our so... other and to pe... rivary, that in... styled emulation... tion of all the... is proposed, wo... blessing; but, h... nal question of... such a union ev...

Let us suppos... that the preside... ties interested h... upon a plan of... the other offic... agree thereto? ... were of accord... be unanimous? ... in perfect harm... that happy cond... say that I am v... am not. But I... squarely in the... in relation to... is exactly as a... composing each... tion—that is to... leaders, and non... the ranks. Every... eral; yet when it... ment for action... his neighbor, exp... make the initial...

One of those... like poems sig...

The consecratio... Dr. Marfariane... Dunkeld took pl... last Wednesday... Pro-Cathedral Du... Bishop of Edinbu... crating prelate... ary were Bishops... Smith, (Argyle a... holm, (Aberdeen)... loway). The serm... by Bishop Magui... text, "And the n... ers had but one... soul." Having... newly consecrated... ship pointed out... members of the... minations of wh... head they might... Tennyson, find... one throne; but n... St. Paul, one bo... one Lord, one f... To-day they woul... came from the un... want of it. What... of Christianity... make men better... was not eas... weakness and the

THE NEWS FROM IRELAND.

About Religious Orders—The Feois Ceoil—County Councils—A Sacrilege—Cork's Exhibition—Dr. Tanner's Successor—The See of Dromore.

In the Chancery Division before the Master of the Rolls, an important Limerick will case was heard, in which the main question argued was an objection by the next-of-kin to bequests to the Augustinian Order and to the Jesuits on the ground that, under the provisions of the Catholic Emancipation Act, which decreed members of religious orders bound by monastic vows to "banishment," the gifts were void. The amount involved in the first case was £2,000 of the residue of the estate of the late Catherine Roche, and in the second £500 of a specific legacy. A bequest of £500 to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul was contested because there was a condition attached which, it was alleged, involved the creation of a perpetuity. Counsel for the Augustinians said that the gift to them could not be maintained; the parties had come to an arrangement whereby £250 would be given for the repair of the church of the Order. The Master of the Rolls declared the bequest to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul to be valid. In dealing with the bequest to the Jesuits, which he also declared valid, he severely condemned the laws against the Orders, which had been a dead letter for eighty-two years. It was said that the institutions of Jesuits were illegal, and that every Jesuit was liable to an indictment for a misdemeanor for existence, though nobody was a statesman, no party, or no public person of any kind dreamt of putting the law into force—they dared not do it—it was left to the unfortunate judges of the Chancery Division to discuss this on question of property and to enforce the law indirectly. He held that the bequest was not tainted with illegality in any such way as would render it possible for him to decide against its validity.

The Feis Ceoil, or Irish Musical Festival, was brought to a close in Dublin last week, having attracted large audiences to the Rotunda during the whole of last week. The programme of the last day, which included the competitions for Irish pipes, wind instruments, and brass bands, and the rendering of unpublished Irish airs, was perhaps the most interesting of the whole series. The pipers, who came from all parts of the country, were engaged in spirited competition for many hours. The first prize was awarded to Martin Reilly, of Galway, and the second to Denis Delany, of Ballinasloe, whose skill effected a wonderful triumph over the combined disadvantages of total blindness and a disabled finger-joint. Of the unpublished Irish airs, of which there was a considerable number, some were played by pipers and others by fiddlers, while several were submitted in manuscript. Those which were played were recorded on the phonograph. The financial results of this year's festival have not yet been published, but it is understood that they have been satisfactory beyond anticipation.

The annual report of the Local Government Board for Ireland is an unconscious but convincing proof of the capacity of Irishmen for self-government, says the "Irish Weekly" of Belfast. The success of Local Government in Ireland is not a matter of surprise to any Nationalist, but it is novel to have such eloquent testimony on the point from a Government department. The report, which forms a bulky volume of over eight hundred pages, has just been issued as a Blue Book, and it contains the following amongst other similar paragraphs—"The predictions of those who affirmed that the new local bodies entrusted with the administration of a complex system of country government would inevitably break down have certainly not been verified. On the contrary, the county and district councils have, with few exceptions, properly discharged the statutory duties devolving upon them. Instances have no doubt occurred in which these bodies have, owing to inexperience and to an inadequate staff, found themselves in difficulties, and have had to receive some special assistance from us in regulating their affairs, but this has been of rare occurrence, and we are confident that before the term of office of the first councils elected under the Act expires the new machinery will be working very smoothly throughout Ireland."

On a recent Sunday morning when the new Church of St. Mary of the Rosary, Nenagh, was opened it was discovered that a most disgraceful outrage had been committed, and some miscreant or miscreants had broken the stained-glass windows of the sacristy, and by the aid of a spade and other instruments succeeded in forcing a way into the sacred edifice. The private drawers of the sacristy were broken open, and the key of the safe abstracted, but fortunately there was nothing of

18, after the lamented death of the Most Rev. Dr. McGivern, Father O'Neill received the highest number of votes, being nominated dignissimus. The nomination, now solemnly made by His Holiness, has occasioned deep satisfaction throughout the diocese, where there was no more popular priest than the venerable pastor of Warrenpoint, and on receipt of the news in the town of Newry the bells of the Cathedral rang forth a joyous peal. The Right Rev. Henry O'Neill, bishop designate of the old and historic diocese of Dromore, was born in Dromore early in the year 1843, of an old family revered and esteemed by all. He was the third son of John O'Neill, a nephew to the Rev. James O'Neill, who died in Dromore early in 1841.

NOTES FROM ROME.

A FIRST CENTENARY. — Two weeks ago to-day, the first centenary of the Noble Pontifical Guards, organized by Pius VII., was celebrated at the Vatican. Leo XIII. blessed the banner that had received its first blessing from Pius VII. In the morning at 8.30 the Noble Guards assembled in the Sistine Chapel to assist at Mass celebrated by Mgr. Constantine, Emissary of His Holiness. After the Mass the corps were received by the Holy Father, who blessed the banner and conferred on each guard a commemorative silver medal, on which was engraved the name of His Holiness with an appropriate description. At 11 o'clock a grand "Academia" took place in the Sala Regia, in the presence of the Holy Father. Surrounding the Throne were Their Eminences Cardinals Rampolla, Mocenni, Satolli, Casali, del Fraga, Della Volpe, Aloisi, and other distinguished prelates. Several addresses were delivered by eloquent orators, and a selection of beautiful music was executed under the direction of the eminent composer, Don Lorenzo Perosi. The families of the Noble Guards, the "Camorieri di Spada e Cappa," and the Swiss and Palatine Guards were invited to the entertainment. In the afternoon a tablet recording this event was placed on the walls of one of the apartments of the Vatican. Their Eminences Cardinals Mocenni and Macchi, with the Noble Guards, assisted at this ceremony.

CARDINAL LEDOCHOWSKI. — The Pope was greatly distressed when he heard that Cardinal Ledochowski, the Prefect of the Propaganda Fide, had become completely blind. The Pope at first refused to believe the diagnosis made by the physicians and sent his own oculist, Prof. Martini, to see the Cardinal. After a prolonged examination Dr. Martini declared that the operation which had been suggested for the removal of a cataract would be useless as the Cardinal's optic nerves were permanently paralyzed.

THE BISHOP OF PORTLAND. — Mgr. O'Connell, formerly rector of the American College in Rome, and recently appointed Bishop of Portland, Me., was solemnly consecrated on 19th May, in the Church of St. John Lateran, by Cardinal Satolli, Prefect of the Propaganda, and formerly Apostolic Delegate to the United States. The ceremony was performed in the presence of a few invited guests.

CONGREGATION OF RITES. — On the 7th May the ordinary meeting of the Congregation of Sacred Rites was held in the Vatican Palace, when the following subjects were decided:— (1) The cause of the canonization of the Blessed Maria Maddalena Marinengo of Barco, professed nun of the Capuchin Order, was resumed; (2) the confirmation of the devotion long paid to the servant of God, Antonio Bonifazi, professed priest of the Minors; (3) introduction of the cause of the beatification and canonization of the servant of God, Joseph Armand Passorot, professed priest of the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer; (4) concerning the authenticity of the relics of the Blessed Taurino Dufresse, of the Society of Foreign Missions, titular Bishop of Tabraca; (5) approval and concession of the Office, and Mass in honor of St. Willebraud, Bishop Confessor for the dioceses of Munster, Hildesheim, and Osnabruck; (6) approval and concession of the Office and Mass in honor of the holy crucifix venerated in the city of Chiavari; (7) confirmation of the election of St. Leo IX., Pope Confessor, and Patron of the city of Dagsburg, in the diocese of Metz; (8) concession and approval of St. Corbiniano, Confessor, first Bishop of Frisinga, titular with Saints Maurice and companions, martyrs, of the parish of Kuen, and particular patron of that town, in the diocese of Trent; also approval and concession of the Mass in honor of this saint.

VATICAN DIPLOMACY. — A well-informed correspondent sends the following summary to one of our English exchanges:—

"Mgr. Lorenzelli's return to his post in Paris, after a short visit to Rome, in the course of which he had several long interviews with the Pope and with Cardinal Rampolla, has definitely silenced the imaginative pressmen who had already announced the impending declaration

of open hostilities between the Holy See and the "Fille since de l'Eglise," and the consequent rupture of diplomatic relations. These relations are very strained cannot be denied, but I am informed that Mgr. Lorenzelli's report on the situation was by no means so pessimistic as some alarmists would have had us believe. Some time ago it was stated that Mgr. Tarnassi, Father Intermucio at the Hague, who has not returned to his post, since the inexplicable exclusion of the Holy See from the Peace Conference, would in the near future be sent to Peru as Papal Delegate. I am now in a position to contradict this statement, as Mgr. Tarnassi will shortly be made Canon of St. Peter's, remaining at the disposition of the Secretaryship of State. In the Vatican circles it is affirmed that the negotiations for the establishment of a Papal Nunciature in St. Petersburg are progressing satisfactorily. Mgr. Tarnassi will be the first to occupy that important post, the foundation of which has been rendered necessary by the rapidly-increasing development of the Church in Russia. The Czar has already given his cordial assent in an eloquent letter to the Pope, but the Holy Synod still persists in placing obstacles in the way. It is indeed strange that while Russia is represented in Rome by a Minister to the Holy See there should be no diplomatic representative of the Pope in St. Petersburg. Should Mgr. Tarnassi be appointed Nuncio in the latter capital, Mgr. Celli would succeed him at the Hague. Another prominent member of the Vatican diplomatic service, Mgr. Averardi, is expected to arrive shortly in Rome from Mexico, where he was sent last year on a special mission. On his return Mgr. Averardi will probably be promoted to the post of Auditor to the Apostolic Camera."

THE POOR SERVANTS. — His Eminence the Cardinal Vicar on the 2nd inst. honored the community by presiding at the annual recitations and distribution of prizes in the convent school. His Eminence was received with an address and song of welcome, after which the pupils gave some musical drill songs, the little boys receiving much applause for a flag drill, with popular national songs. Prose recitations in English, French, and Italian were also given. An extract on the English Martyrs from the Sacred Heart, a well-known work of the late Rev. Mother General (Mother Magdalen Taylor), was particularly well recited, as also "The Building of St. Sophia," by Barling Gould. At the conclusion "A Song for the Pope" was sung with great spirit, and His Eminence addressed the choir, expressing his entire satisfaction with their recitations. His Eminence presented the crowns, medals, books, and prizes awarded to those who had gained the necessary marks.

MISSIONS TO NON-CATHOLICS

Father Martin Callahan's Share in the Noble Work

The following letter has just come to hand. It was not written for publication, so the name is withheld. "I write this letter prompted by a motive which I believe to be to the honor and glory of God. "In the month of January, 1901, a friend of mine, who is a promoter in the League of the Sacred Heart, gave me a ticket inviting me to attend a reunion of the members of the Eucharistic League on January 25th in the Cathedral, 5th Ave., N. Y. I heard a sermon there which I wanted to hear for about two years. The subject was the 'Eucharist.' "For 23 years I had been a strict Baptist and prejudiced against the Catholic Church, yet this sermon made a deep and lasting impression upon me. It set me a thinking, and I determined to study Catholicity. I read this book and that book, and arguments upon arguments, both pro and con, and at last could come to but one conclusion, that is that the Church of Rome is the only true Church of Christ, the Church of the Apostles. "Then came a day when I realized that I was converted. Just think, from being a Baptist to become a Catholic. I can hardly believe myself. "In accordance with my conversion and remembering what Christ said to Nicodemus 'Except a man be born again of water and the Holy Ghost he cannot enter the Kingdom of Heaven.' I received the sacrament of Holy Baptism on a beautiful Sunday afternoon in May, and the joy, happiness and abundance of grace which came on me during Baptism has come to stay. I am filled with gratitude for the blessings that have come to me."

This letter is significant for many reasons. Besides telling of one more soul brought to the truth, it furnishes abundant evidence of the power of Catholic doctrine to convince a candid mind, who will sift the argument to the bottom. Here is one in spite of prejudices of education, influences of environment and authority of organization working himself free and going back to the old Mother Church, and his heart is filled with gratitude that he has done so. There are thousands like him, who are restless in the trammels of an organization that does not feed the soul with satisfying food, and who would thank God day and night if they could be led away from the broken cisterns that held no water to the fountain of living water. "We have the truth and we can prove it, what is wanted is a bit of the missionary spirit that will bring the truth to others, or what is more

practical, earnest missionaries who will bring others who wander in darkness and the shadow of death under the influence of correct and authoritative explanations of Catholic doctrine.

At a Confirmation service in the Academy of the Sacred Heart, Manhattanville, a number of converts, who had been received there during the past year, were confirmed by Bishop Farley. Among them were some ladies, who were quite well known in social life. Father Martin Callaghan, of St. Patrick's Church, Montreal, personally instructed and received into the Church during the past year 89 converts. Father Martin had been devoted to this branch of work during most of his ministry, but this past year his work had been helped along by missions given in the Church by Father Younan. Last Lent, Father Younan preached to the non-Catholics and awakened great deal of interest and discussion. Our friend, "the enemy," fearing an extraordinary defection from the ranks of Protestantism invited to Montreal the apostate priest O'Connor, to repeat his diatribes against the Church that reared him. His mission, however, was a flat failure. On the first night he had a crowd drawn largely by the natural love for a discussion, but three days exhausted the interest in O'Connor. He finally declared that he had not come to talk to bare walls and empty benches, and was making an exhibition of himself publicly, he retired from the city. The Catholic Church went on its way quietly and unconcernedly, reaping a harvest of converts and within the last month, Father Younan repeated his mission of last year with an equal success. All efforts that were made to draw him into controversy failed. He quietly ignored them all, and went on his way smoothly and calmly doing the work that he came to do, explaining Catholic doctrine and answering the questions that were put to him. The immediate result of this mission is another score of converts. A. P. DOYLE, Secretary of the Catholic Missionary Union.

PERSECUTION IN CHINA.

The following extracts are from the letters of Father Gaudissard, S. J., one of the missionaries to China who were driven from the city of Tai-ming-fou and obliged to flee in disguise. They concealed themselves so well during four weeks that every one believed them dead, and news of the massacre was sent to the Society of the Propagation of the Faith. Father Gaudissard's story, therefore, is like a voice from the dead: "After my departure from Koang-fou, June 26, in the evening, several men presented themselves at our dwelling and addressing my catechist ordered him to take down the cross from the door of entrance. "Upon the refusal of the catechist, they declared that it was the formal order of the mandarin, 'for,' added they, 'the sight of the cross exasperates the people and it is the cause of the drought.' "Two men went on top of the roof and tore down the august sign of the Redemption. "The mandarin followed in person, commanded all the doors to be opened and made an inventory of what he found in the room and in the chapel. "Three days afterwards, the prefect and the sub-prefect came to our house and, followed by their satellites, laid hands on everything within their reach: clothing, furniture, ornaments, etc. What they did not want the mob seized; even the doors and the windows were taken; a bonfire was made of our books and the pictures that ornamented the chapel. "The catechist, the porter, the cook, a poor lame orphan found in school and another pupil of the city were led before the tribunal of the sub-prefect. He commenced by questioning the catechist: "'Where is the money?' "There is none. The 'great man' looked for it himself a few minutes ago; and he declared that there was nothing in the closets or in the money chest." "'But there is some money deposited in a bank in the city.' "No more." "'You are Christian?' "Yes, there is no wrong in that." "'It is no longer permitted; you must change your religion; blaspheme God and the Blessed Virgin.' "That is impossible." "'Ta! (Strike him.)" "Then the catechist was thrown to the ground and covered with blows. Half dead, he was carried into the neighboring prison where a chain was put about his neck; the mandarin sent him back. In consequence of his wounds, the heroic confessor hung between life and death for a month, and he is not yet altogether out of danger."

"The porter, an honest man, who has never wronged any one in his life, was treated in the same way and manifested the same courage. "The cook and the pupil of our city school, both catechumens, found relations or friends who went security for them. They were released. "When it came to the orphan's turn, the poor child could answer in no way but by crying. Persuaded by the mandarin to apostatize, he said: 'I cannot; since my infancy I have been cared for by the Fathers.' "Speak no more of them," answered the mandarin; 'there are none left; they have been driven away.' "As the child continued 'to cry without replying, the mandarin

commanded that he should be led to the same prison as the catechist. The next day, he was set free. "One of my Christians died a glorious death confessing the faith. The acts of this martyr have an official character, and are a beautiful page in the history of this persecution. "The facts are these: "Ou Wenn Yinn was t'fang (mayor) of the Christian part of his village, and when the pagans came to demolish the church, he opposed them. Denounced before the mandarin, he was brought to judgment. Knowing that he would not escape with his life, he threw himself on his knees before his aged mother to bid her farewell. This heroic woman said to him: "If you die for the faith, God will take care of us; do not be concerned about me or your children. If you apostatize, I shall disown you as my son." "Mother," he replied, 'be assured. With the grace of God, I shall not apostatize.' "You are Christian?" the sub-prefect asked him. "That is no longer permitted; you must change your religion." "I can not." "Ta! (Strike.)" "The executioners inflicted the punishment of bastinado on the confessor until he lost consciousness. When he recovered his senses, the mandarin again proposed that he should apostatize; upon his refusing, he was beaten a second time with no different result. Then he was suspended in the cage of wood. The martyr said to him: "When on account of my suffering I shall no longer be able to speak and you see me move my lips, I shall not be uttering words of apostasy but of prayer." "At the end of a few moments of the torture of the cage, the executioners hastened to take him down, judging by the change of his features that he was going to die. They were too late; Ou Wenn Yinn had gathered the palm of the eternal victors. "The following is another sublime instance which occurred at Tsing-ho. A Christian of Si-Kao-Chang, who had made a brave defense against the Large Knives when they attempted to burn the church of his village, was taken by them. "You are Christian?" they asked him. "Beyond doubt." "If you apostatize, we will have compassion on you." "I will not apostatize; you can not only cut off my head, but you can cut my body into two or three pieces and each piece, if you question it, will reply that it is Christian." "After this proud profession of faith, he was put to death. "It is sometimes said that the time for martyrs is over. This account proves the contrary, and we ourselves may still cherish the hope of gathering the blessed palm." — Catholic Universe.

A PRIEST'S HOUSE ROBBED.

Erie, May 22.—On Monday morning at about 2 o'clock, burglars gained an entrance into St. Joseph's parish house. The burglars proceeded to the room of the housekeeper, and under threat of murder, frightened her into silence, and bound and gagged her and her assistant. They then proceeded to the room of Rev. Joseph Kuntz, the assistant parish priest, treating him in a similar manner, after which they proceeded upstairs to the room occupied by the Rev. M. J. Decker, the rector of the parish, whom they bound and gagged and then turned to his office upon the floor below, and there demanded that he open the safe, under pain of death, keeping the priest constantly covered by their revolvers. After the safe had been opened, the men proceeded to rifle it of its valuable contents. They secured about \$150 in cash and about \$5,000 worth of negotiable papers. This being done, they escorted Father Decker back to his room on the upper floor, bound and gagged him and left him lying upon his bed. Father Decker is a large and powerful man, but there were five burglars, and he realized that resistance was absolutely useless. He employed the time, however, in giving them a severe and scathing arraignment, warning them that the wrath of God would, sooner or later, fall upon their heads. From the intimate knowledge of the house and its appointments, it is surmised that the burglars were men of local habitation. The alarm was not given until nearly 7 o'clock the following morning, when the bound and gagged inmates of the house were discovered and released by an early caller. The marauders took the precaution to destroy the telephone connections. The chief of police and several of the local detective force responded with alacrity and made a thorough investigation of the premises and its surroundings in the hope of gaining a clue to the identity of the burglars. Nothing was found, however, excepting a chisel used in prying open a window and a large sledge hammer. Rev. Joseph Kuntz was ordained to the priesthood only a month ago, and among the articles carried away by the burglars was a handsome gold watch presented to the young priest by his family. A general alarm has been sent out to all the surrounding towns in the hope of apprehending the burglars. The shock has been a severe one to Father Decker, who is well advanced in years, and he is suffering from nervous prostration. No satisfactory description can be given of the burglars, since they were securely masked and succeeded in carefully covering their tracks. When you have anything which you think would be of interest to our readers, send it in. The "True Witness" is always open to items of real interest.