

\$900 worth of clothing for the Wawanosh Home, and a few things sent to Quebec for the Social Fair.

B. M. DEBBAGE, Sec.

M. S. MACPHERSON, Recording Secretary, Diocesan Branch, Woman's Auxiliary, Quebec.

Books and Periodicals Dept.

THE *Missionary Review of the World* for February is promptly issued and is tully up to the high mark which this monthly has reached. *The Review* grows in interest and power from month to month. The first volume now bound—a sumptuous volume of nearly 1,000 pages—is a magnificent contribution to the literature of missions.

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The Nun of Kenmare. An autobiography: Boston, Ticknor & Co., 211 Tremont st., 1889.

Kenmare is a lovely village in Ireland, about three hours' drive from Killarney. Here in a Roman Catholic convent lived Mary Frances Cusack, well known as "The Nun of Kenmare." This lady, brought up and baptized in the Anglican Church, was attracted to the Church of Rome at the time when many others, including Dr. Newman, made their entrance into the same communion. Full of a yearning desire to do work for God and His poor, she fancied the Romish Church an Eldorado full of opportunities for carrying out the work that she loved. It was not long, however, before she began to realize that humanity is the same in a religious house and in convents and in the Roman Communion generally as in the great world which lies outside. Her book, which is clearly written and beautifully printed, is a painful recital of petty jealousies and relentless persecutions on the part of sisters, priests, bishops and archbishops, which is surprising indeed to read. In the "foundation" at Kenmare and at Knock, and in her endeavor to establish industrial schools in the United States she seems to have been involved in an amount of opposition and complexities bordering upon the incredible. Her experience in the Church of Rome certainly has not been a happy one, and she has now renounced it and returned to the happier home of the Church of her baptism. In the days of famine and distress in Ireland in 1880 and '81, this sister, known as Sister Mary Frances Clare, wrote with such plaintive eloquence to all parts of the world that contributions by the thousands of dollars were sent to her for the relief of the poor of Ireland and parish priests and English rectors alike were profuse in their gratitude for her timely and vigorous aid. In November, 1881, she received a threatening and insulting letter for the aid she was giving to the poor, it being regarded as an interference with the "rights" of landlords. An indignation meeting was held in Kenmare which showed un-

mistakably the high opinion that the people of the neighborhood had of their great benefactress. "Large crowds came in from the different parishes surrounding Kenmare, headed by the priests. The Killarney Brass Band brought from Kilgarvan direction the largest contingent. They were met outside of the town by a splendid body of Kenmaremen, marshalled by stewards wearing green rosetts. They carried a splendid banner with the device, "Kenmare resents the Insult offered to Sister Mary Frances. Behold her body-guard." One of the gentlemen at this meeting spoke as follows:—

"Fellow countrymen you all heard of the spectral-ghost which invaded the land in 1846-'48, and many among you remember it. Yes, my friends, you remember your fellow creatures being taken in boxes to the grave by the dozen and a cat would not call it a grave. It was a huge yawning sepulchre which swallowed up the manhood of this valley. It was an unlettered cairn where the bones of the poor lie mixed and mouldering to the present day. Now we had last winter a visit from the very same spectre which like a winged fairy from the infernal regions, spread a terror and a gloom over this land. Thank God, he was scared away from this valley, but by whom? Was it by the government that sent us buckshot? Was it by the guardians that intimated emigration and transportation? No, my friends, he was scared away by the charity of foreign nations accumulated in Kenmare by Sister Clare. From her lonely cell by the banks of the purling little Finnehe her voice rang over the Rocky Mountains of America. It was heard by the waters of the Pacific, and along the shores of San Francisco, and many the generous purse flew open at that call, and many, many the exiled Irish heart blessed that angelic voice, which they ever heard raised in behalf of the poor and holy Ireland."

This lady, once so good to others, is now in Utica, N. Y., dependent for her support only upon what may accrue to her from the sale of her book, her own money, according to her statements, having been lost by many an unjust transaction on the part of persons in authority in the Church of Rome. The Nun of Kenmare is known in the world of literature as a writer of grace and power and it is to be hoped that this, her last venture, showing as it does the unjust dealings of Romish priests and sisters, will receive the cordial support of the members of the Church to which she has returned, that it may be the Church of her burial as it was that of her baptism.

The Churchman: New York, M. H. Mallory & Co., 47 Lafayette Place, New York. A weekly Church paper, now in its 45th year of publication, and well known as one of the best Church periodicals in existence. Subscription, \$3.50 a year; for clergymen, \$3 00.

Literature, An Illustrated Monthly Magazine: John B. Alden, Publisher, 393 Pearl St., New York.