Freemasonry In France.

It has long been thought by those who judge of foreign Free by what they know of the Brotherhood in England that it has been eedless nightmare to the Holy See. Yet Pope after Pope has conde none more vigorously than Leo XIII. Not content with nouncing "its destructive tendencies, its erroneous doctrines, its wicked works," in his Encyclical Aumanum Genus in 1884, the Holy Father has felt himself constrained, in his recent letter on the evils of the time, which he asks us to receive as the solemn testament of one who stands very close to the gates of eternity reiterate his warnings. In that last letter, the Holy Father, looking out from his watch-tower upon a sea of troubles, does not hesitate to describe Freemasonry as "a germ of mortal disease," which for many years society has carried in its loins, which "saps its health, its fruitfulness, its very life. An enduring personification of revolutionary principles, it constitutes a kind of inverted society, whose object it is to exercise a hidden suzerainty over recognized society, and the very reason of whose being is nothing else than to urge war against God and gainst his Church. Embracing as it does in its vast net almost all the nations, and allying itself with other sects which it sets in motion by means of the advantages which it secures to them, bending governments to its purposes, now by promises, now by threats, this sect has succeeded in permeating all classes of society. It forms a kind of invisible and irresponsible state within the legitimate state." There is no gainsaying the seriousness of such an indictment as that, and whatever may be thought of Freemasonry as It exists in England, we believe that it voices no more than the literal truth concerning Freemasonry abroad and especially in France. It will be remembered that in the debates on the Associations Law in the Senate, a veteran Liberal like M. de Marcere roundly told the House that the with its savage men and women, had had its origin in Freema-

A similar statement was made in the Chamber of Deputies, where no Clerical but a Liberal leader like M. 'Aynard, a vice-president of the Chamber, declared from the tribune that the hidden power exercised by the Lodges upon the Government was "a demonstrated fact." It may be objected that these statements were merely the angry rhetoric of oppo nents anxious to discredit the Government and its policy. But neither M. de Marcere nor M. Aynard was likely to say the thing that was not. As a matter of fact, a committee of the Chamber had already been engaged for some time in considering this very question of Freemasonry in its bearing on society in general and the Government in particular. This action of the Chamber had been forced on it. Shortly after the League trials a monster petition denouncing Freemasonry as a secret society and an illegal association enjoying exceptional immunity, promoted by M. Jules Lemaitre and signed by eighty thousand citizens had been presented to the Chamber. The standing of the Deputies by whom it was backed, the number of the signitories and the gravity of the charges made name compelled the attention of Parliament.

The charge of clericalism was retorted on the Lodges, and the Chame under the circumstances to examine if the charge were true. Accordingly the petition handed over to the Eleventh Commissioner of Petitions for amination. M. Prache, one of the Deputies for Paris, was appointed Reporter, and he drew up a preliminary statement in which he exone by one the various counts of the charge in the light of the evidence of Masonic documents the production of which he was empowered to enforce. M. Prache, having concluded his investigation, has recently presented an exhaustive report which furnishes a reasoned justification in detail of the conclusions by the Commission. Into the minutiae of that report we cannot here go, but we can at least give the verdict of the Commission the motives upon which it was bas

Like the Pope, the petitioners had alleged that Freemasonry in France is a society the secret character of unlawful in itself, derives pecial seriousness from the fact that it gives its orders to the Government, compels the nation's law-makers to vote for Bills elaborated in the secret conclaves of the Lodges, that it gives its orders to the Gov-

absorption of the public authorities. Its relations with foreign Masonry are secret, and for that reason su Though all ought to be equally under the law, complaint is made that this secret political society enjoys a regime of tolerance which is not allowed to other associations working openly in the light of day. The petitioners accordinly concluded by calling on the Chamber to that the principle of equality should no longer be violated in favor Freemasonry by requiring the Minister of Justice to enforce Article 18 of the Law of July, 1848.

Since the presentation of the petition, however, the situation been somewhat modified by the passing of the Law of Association, without affording Masonry any way of escape from the charges preferred against it. The findings of the Parliamentary Commission are simply justification in detail of the severe words uttered against the work the lodges by Leo XIII. For, after a careful review and weighing of the evidence before them, the Commissioners assert that the facts have been clearly made out: Freemasonry, with its federal associations, constitutes a secret society pursuing secret aims. Its real object is to capture the reins of power, and in this way to be in a position to impose upon its fellow-citizens its own philosophical and political doctrines, so that, as one of its orators declared in 1890, outside those doctrines no one in France shall move. In defiance of all law and by all sorts of illegal ways, Masonry exerts an incontestable influence over the State, an influence which shows itself in assaults upon the liberties and rights of citizens, in encroachments upon constituted authority, and in an increasing interference in the public services

Freemasons are compelled on their honor and conscience, to enter into engagements which fetter forever their liberty of conscience and their personal political freedom. Similar ly, by means which no right of canvass or political action can justify, pressure is put upon the Government to extend the favor and complaisance likely to secure predominance to Masonry. Deputies who are Masons are placed under obligations and or ders which are veritable attacks on the sovereignty of the nation and their own independence as the depositaries of the mandates of the people. Furthermore, in contravention of the equality of all citizens where candidature for the public service is concerned, Freemasonry seeks to secure for its own alone the positions at the disposal of the State; large numbers of the functionaries of all grades are gained over to and brigaded by the Lodges by whose influence they are supported against their superiors, carried over the heads of their colleagues by an advancement at once rapid and scandalous, and assured of favors and assistance of all sorts, especially in elections.

In like manner Freemasonry has insinuated itself into the ranks of the national teachers and by means of the masters, who either owe allegiance to it or are its willing seeks to spread its philosophical doctrines. Nor is its influence confined to France. Through its relations with Freemasonry abroad and in the colonies, it exerts from outide a power over the foreign policy of France which is altogether inad-At home its members are importuned to benefactions which really constitute properties in mortmain under the cloak of civil societies, which quite unfairly manage to escape the payment of the five per cent. tax of abonnement, while defiance of the formal provisions of the press laws it omits with impunity to deposit its publications in the national departmental collections. That is a studied indictment made upon the first-hand evidence supplied by Masonry itself by a body of men little likely to entertain any bias

against the Brotherhood It is therefore one which should surely strike English readers, though they might have been in some measure prepared for it by the made by Mr. Bodley that "the zealots of anti-clericalism in the ma sonic lodges, which in France are not mere convival or charitable sodalities, and in their local committees are effectively organized, and are thus a potent influence in the government of the country.'

By these proved facts the Commission is of opinion that Freemasonry is brought within the grip of the law.-London Tablet.

A good deed is never lost; he who sows courtesy reaps friendship, and he who plants kindness gathers love.

Wisdom consisteth not in knowing many things, nor even in knowing

NOTES FROM ENGLAND

A QUEER DISPLAY .- Mr. Arthu Chilton Thomas, the hon. manager of Father Berry's Home for Boys, Shaw street, Liverpool, in comm with the Catholic community in Liv erpool, has just cause for feeling aggrieved at the display of anti-Catho lic bigotry on the occasion of the coronation procession in Liverpool The gentleman mentionlast week. ed has written a strong protest a gainst the insult, and every right thinking person will endorse it. the course of his protest, which was published in the Liverpool press

few days ago, Mr. Thomas says: The Lord Mayor very thoughtfully invited the children of the institutions of all denominations to take part in a procession from the Town Hall to St. George's Hall. There they were to view a trades proces sion, which was splendid, and a volunteer march-past. The volunteer narch-past was cancelled owing to our King's sad illness. Not a word was said of any other procession and judge, then, our surprise whe an Orange procession began to march past the Lord Mayor with emblems and mottoes--some of them offensive to the Lord Mayor's Catholic child guests. I complained to the stewwho were most sympathetic ards. and I thought it necessary as soon as possible to withdraw dren. I wish to protest against this addition to the proceedings, which, I am sure, had not our Lord Mayor's

In publishing the above the London "Universe" make the following comment:-

How an Orange demonstration could be included in a trades' demon-stration it is difficult to understand. Perhaps it is that Orangeism is trade.

LATE LORD ACTON.-The congregation at the Requiem Mass for the late Lord Acton, at Cambridge, included the Vice-Chancellor of the University, the Master of Trinity, Professor Sir G. G. Stokes, Sir Michael Foster, M.P., Professor A. R. Forsyth, Professor F. W. Maitland, Professor W. E. Barnes, Baron A von Hugel, Dr. Waraker, Dr. Court ney Kenny, Dr. Lawrence Humphrey, Dr. J. R. Green, and other members of the University. Dr. Jackson, o Trinity, wrote to express regret at nis inability to attend. The clergy taking part in the service were Mgr Scott, Dom. Cuthbert Butler, O. S B., the Rev. Edmond Nolan (chaplain of Catholic students in the University), the Rev. T. L. Williams (St. Edmund's House, Cambridge), the Rev. H. Head, the Rev. John Freeland, the Rev. Patrick J. Grogan, and the Rev. John McMullan.

PERSONAL NOTE. -Sir Rowland Blennerhasset, Bart., President of the Queen's College, Cork, is mentioned in some quarters in connec tion with the position at Cambridge University, vacant through the death of Lord Acton. Lord Acton and Sir Rowland were intimately acquainted and had much in common as students of history, especially in continental aspects.

GENEROUS OFFER. - Mr. Charles Weld Blundell, Lord of the Manor of Birkdale, Lancashire, and of Lulworth Castle, Dorset, has promised \$5,000 and the site for a new free library for Birkdale as a coron ation gift to the township. Mr. Weld Blundell is a cousin of Cardinal Vaughan, and one of the founders o new Westminster Cathedral. will be remembered that the visited him at Lulworth Castle during his recent yachting cruise.

Father Vaughan, pastor of St. An- Rev. Mgr. Croskell, D.D., drew's, Newcastle, in conjunction with the members of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, has started in the St. Andrew's mission a new so termed St. Andrew's Boys Association of the Sacred Heart. The meetings are held in the mission schools, and are largely attended by the youths of the parish

TTALIAN CATHOLICS .- The charitable work of assisting Italian work ing men in England recently started by Father Clemente in London onnected with the central one of the same kind in Turin, which is placed under the patronage of Italian Bishops and other distinguished persons including some members of the Royal Family of Italy. The good work has for its objects (1) to assist parish priests in getting Italian-speaking confessors and missionaries, pecially at Easter, should they be in need of them for their Italian par shioners; (2) to protect expatriated Italian children and Italian young women; (3) to give legal advice and protection, with the assistance of Consuls, to oppressed, defrauded, or

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them in travelling; (5) to establish day or evening classes of Italian and English for children and adults, wherever this could be done; (6) to write letters in different languages for any of them; (7) to procure ecclesiastical and civil documents for marriages, etc., from their native places, and to translate them; (8) to make inquiries in this land and abroad for work for unemployed Ita lian working men; (9) to recommend them when bearing a good charac ter; (10) to supply them with good Italian literature and newspapers.

A UNIQUE CEREMONY .- An oak tree was recently planted in presbytery grounds of St. Mary's, Levenshulme, to commemorate the sixty-fifth anniversary of the ordin-A NEW SODALITY. - The Rev. ation to the priesthood of the Right who still hale and hearty, in his 95th In the morning the children attending the day schools onor of receiving presents from the hands of the venerable priest, which will, doubtless, cherish. For they the afternoon ceremony Father Mo ran, who practically manages the affairs of the mission, invited a com pany to witness the interesting event. Mgr. Croskell, D.D., (who is affectionately called the "old Provost") is the oldest living Catholic ecclesiastic in the United Kingdom

INDIAN SOLDIERS.-The Liverof the Indian troops now quartered at Hampton Court found their to the Catholic Church of St. Raphael at Kingston-on-Thames, and begged in broken English to be allowed to enter. The visitors, whose Christianity traces itself back to the mmunities founded by St. Francis Xavier, were admitted by the care taker. They had brought votive candles with them, which were light ed and set up before an altar, and, led by one of their number, the Inpersecuted working people of Italian dians prayed for the King in their nationality; (4) to get passports for own language.

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Lot No. 1. Regular value 25c to 35c. July Sale Price 15c. Lot No. 2. Regular value 40e to 50c. July Sale Price 19c yd.

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40c BLACK GRENADINE FOR 28c.

57 Pieces Black Grenadine Dress Material in a variety of new, plain and fancy stripes, bright finish. Regular 40c. 280

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Household Linens Hand Loom Table Linens, very best make 2 in, wide Werth 65c. 52C per Monday 52c yard

BLEACHED TABLE LINEN, double damask pure linen, 70 in. wide, new battern. Worth 81c. Monday, 60c yard

DAMASK TABLE NAPKINS, 81c per CRASH DISH TOWELLING, 2 11c per sard yds. wide. Worth 15c. Monday, 11c per yard

Roller Towelling. HUCKABACK ROLLER TOWELLIN, red border, 16 inches. Worth 27c 12c per yard

CRASH ROLLER TOWELLING. 16 inches, red border. Worth 13 cents. 92C pard GLASS TOWELLING, in blue and white, and and red and white, 17 in. Worth 62C per se. Monday...

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170 Heavy pure linen HUOK TOWELS, with red borders, size 20 by 40 inches, fringed, Regular 17 cents. 12 CTS.

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Ladies' Fine White Grenadine Waists, trimmed with a row of embroidery on the front, new collar aud cuffs, buttoned front July Regular \$1.25

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AT IMMENSE REDUCTIONS. July Wash Fabric Sale.

LOT No. 1—Seventy-five pieces of Gingham in floral designs and fancy checks, also figured sateens; original value was 15c, 28c, 35c. While they last at sale price, 7c.

LOT No. 2—One hundred pieces of various kinds of Washing Fabrics, comprising Fancy Dress Lawn, Dress Plaids and Mousseline de Liege. Original value 160, 210, 28c; out down to July Sale Price, 9c yard.

LOT No. 3—One Hundred and Fifty pieces of Fancy Dress Ginghams, Knotted Chambray and Fancy Gingham Plaids; original value 15c to 32c. They are cut down for July Sale Price at 11c yard.

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The Week

SATURDAY, JULY

United Irish Dublin, Ju

LAND POLICY VINI The Congested Districts just completed negotiati Earl of Lucan for the his property in the bare len, Murrisk, and Burris County Mayo, which con three hundred tenancies ten large grazing tracts Mr. Conor O'Kelly, I man, presided at to-day the Mayo County Counc The following resolution ed, Messrs. Garvey, Tig. onel Blake dissenting, ing Mr. O'Brien on the s United Irish League i the Congested Districts

the Lucan estate:—
"Resolved—That we ten William O'Brien, M.P., congratulations on the l of the magnificent strug been making for the pas in favor of the poor pe congested districts of th Mayo for the purchase o estate, and we are thoro vinced that were it not forts a perch of that pro never be in the possession

The Chairman said he pleasure in supporting th No doubt, only for the tions of Mr. William O'I resolution stated, one poland would not be divide these poor people. M threatened that any plac Irish League existed he v low the Congested Distr to purchase the land; bu now of his predecessors, man was brought to his people of Ireland. So l people had a leader like and the courage to follo victions, they would be

ARREST MEMBERS -Mr. David Sheehy, ex was sentenced to five w sonment by a Cóercion C risoleigh on the 9th Apr rested on Monday morni men of the G. Division o politan Police when he his residence in Belvedere to the United Irish Leag O'Connell street. He wa Mountjoy Prison, where, stood, he will complete t his sentence. Mr. Sheeh tried by Messrs. Bourke R.M.'s, at Borrisoleigh, April, on a charge of he part in an unlawful a Borrisoleigh on the 16t From this decision Mr. pealed; but Judge Moore Thurles Quarter Sessions inst. upheld the decision movables. He decided th ment did not involve ha THE LAW IN FORCE.

perhaps, generally known owe the notorious statute III., under which the claim the right to com son persons who decline to recognisances to be havior, to our old friend Poynings, which subordi Irish to the English Par a series of provisions w nius of Grattan succeede ing away on the establ the independence of the ment in 1782. Poyning not altogether repealed i a provision in that Act not touched all the laws antecedent to the date Act, which was passed i deemed good and effectua The Act of Edward III. 1361, one hundred an years afterwards, becam to Ireland by the pass omnibus clause" in Pos so named from the Lord hose administration was enacted. It would to adduce a more glaring the application of a state ries of circumstances ne contemplated at the tim actment In order to fully apprec

neficent Act, the follow tion has just been publis "A Statute passed at a held at Westminster on next before the Feast

version of St. Paul, A "34 Edward III.—Tha county of England there signed for keeping of th lord, and with him three most worthy of the gether with some learner and they shall have pustrain offenders, rioter other disturbers, and to rest, take, and chastise ing to their disturbers. ing to their trespass