

No Improvement.

The new International Encyclopedia, the latest venture in this line by Dodd Mead and Co., New York, is hardly more acceptable to Catholics than its predecessor, the discredited Appleton Encyclopedia. According to the San Francisco Leader most of the objections to the latter work are reproduced in the former. There are the usual "learned editors" like President Gilman of John Hopkins, Harry Thurston Peck of Columbia University the senior editor of the Bookman. Evidently these "accurate scholars" had not perused "Catholic Belief", "Butler's Catechism" or Addis and Arnold's "Catholic Standard Dictionary", for some of the surprising things about matters Catholic can only be ascribed to ignorance and an inventive imagination. The agents of Dodd Mead and Co., represent that Dr. Shahan of the Catholic University has had charge of all the articles that concern the Catholic Church. It is well for prospective purchasers, whether Catholic or Protestant, to know that Dr. Shahan has contributed but two articles, that the Catholic Church is called by objectionable names, that there are too many omissions and that several points of Catholic doctrine are falsely represented. Here is another proof that "modern scientific scholars" have again failed to produce a work that may really be a reliable source of information for the public.

Various.

Premier Laurier and President Roosevelt have each been recipient of a box of Shamrocks on St. Patrick's day from Mr. John Redmond, chairman of the Irish Parliamentary Party.

The second paper on "The English Education Bill" is, for lack of space, deferred to our next issue.

The Hon. J. Israel Tarte's speech on "Ireland and the Empire" was one of the most notable features of the entertainment given by the Irish Catholic Benevolent Union at Toronto. "Never, for many years, he said, has the celebration of St. Patrick's Day been passed with more happy circumstances than at present". Mr. Goldwin Smith was one of the guests.