



ESTABLISHED, 1852.

The Casket

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Shall we sharpen and refine the youthful intellect, and then leave it to exercise its new powers upon the most sacred of subjects, as it will, and with the chance of exercising them wrongly, or shall we proceed to feed it with divine truth, as it gains an appetite for knowledge? - CARDINAL NEWMAN.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 14.

Just what the extent of the revolutionary movement in Mexico headed by Garza may be, it is yet impossible to say; but his statement that there is widespread dissatisfaction with the present Government cannot but be true.

A provincial exchange says of the New York Herald—or, which is more probable, the Herald says of itself in the editorial column of this exchange—that "its news is world wide and reliable."

Sympathy for the starving peasantry of Russia has taken practical form in the United States. An appeal has been made to the millers throughout the nation to contribute flour, and is meeting with a generous response.

The changing of an old cemetery, in a New Mexican village—about twenty miles west of Santa Fe—has brought to light a number of perished corpses.

We can fancy we hear the choice epithets that would be bestowed upon those poor New Mexicans by the "enterprising" shrewmen, to whom reverence for anything but the almighty dollar must have been the most intolerable "superstition."

Many dignitaries of the Church, Cardinals, Prelates, and Priests, have passed away during the year that is just closed. A few days before the end of the year the name of the venerable Bishop Loughlin, of Brooklyn, was added to the list of departed prelates.

Brooklyn he used the horse cars or elevated trains. He attended many imposing Catholic ceremonies in this city. On those occasions he left his house in Brooklyn, unaccompanied, carrying a big carpet bag in which were his Episcopal robes.

The last Toronto Truth contains some editorial comments on the "Pantheon incident." It is seldom that Truth refers editorially to the events transpiring in the Catholic world.

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LEARNED IGNORANCE.

In a story we read lately one of the characters is referred to in these words: "He was illiterate—he didn't know a letter in the book—and yet he was not ignorant."

This is a correct distinction to make in the use of words. A man may be perfectly illiterate and yet be far from being ignorant. The necessity of making this distinction is all the more evident when the subject of discourse is a whole population.

The illiteracy of a population, or their inability to read and write, may be learned from statistics. Their ignorance, if they are ignorant, can only be ascertained by extensive personal observation or from the record of such observation.

FRANCE.

The political events of France as reported by cable often indicate that the old anti-religious spirit of revolutionary fame is far from dead; but we must not forget that the politics of a country is only one phase of that country's public life, and not unfrequently a superficial phase.

The priest is growing more and more a familiar figure on the French stage. Audiences were rather painfully moved lately by the acting of a confession scene, realistically rendered, and now a piece has appeared, "L'Abbe des Marais," in which the leading incident is the preaching of a sermon on forgiveness, a real sermon of considerable length.

MIXED MARRIAGES.

If he [Philip Thornton, a Catholic] married this woman [Constance Irving, a Protestant], she could only touch the surface of his life: for what deep feeling or deep thought had he which was not influenced by the religion that she had been taught to reject?

The above reflections are from the admirable story, "Philip's Restitution," by that strikingly profound novelist, Christian Reid. The author, looking at the subject, as she does here, from the standpoint of mere human happiness, enforces a consideration which she well says one wonders to see have so little weight with those who contract mixed marriages.

Catholic News.

A well-known Jesuit, the Rev. Patrick Dealy, formerly President of St. John's College, Fordham, died in New York on the 23rd of December, aged sixty-four.

On New Year's Day His Lordship Bishop O'Connor, of London, Ont., laid the corner-stone of a magnificent new Catholic hospital in that city. A synopsis of His Lordship's most appropriate discourse on the occasion is published in the current number of the Catholic Record.

The Rev. Dr. Messmer, of the Washington Catholic University, recently appointed to the bishopric of Green Bay, Ill., has, it is said, asked to be allowed to decline the proffered dignity, as he is devoted to his work in the University.

At a great meeting held recently in Vienna for that purpose, an address of thanks to the Holy Father for his Encyclical on labor was adopted and signed by 15,000 persons. No distinction was made among the speakers at the meeting.

At the Secret Consistory held on Dec. 5th, the Pope created two new Cardinals, Mgr. Ruffo-Scilla, Archbishop of Petra, Magliorino of His Holiness, and Mgr. Sepiaci, Secretary of the Cong. of Bishops and Regulars.

The distinguished French prelate, Mgr. Freppel, Bishop of Angers, died on the 22nd of December. He was a native of Alsace, and was born in 1827. After entering the priesthood he became Professor of Sacred Eloquence in the Theological Faculty at Paris.

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Isle Madame News.

There is no news in the statement that Isle Madame is an island and contains the town of Arichat. The statement is introductory—introducing Isle Madame by its better known town. Other places of note on the island are Descausse, Petite Grat, West Arichat, Port Royal and the Gully.

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Table with columns: NAME OF VESSEL, TONS, OWNER, CAPTAIN, QTR. TAKEN. Lists various fishing vessels and their details.

Totals, 776

In addition there were two trading vessels which brought home over 700 quintals, making in all over ten thousand quintals, mipped from Descausse last season. Besides the men employed, from seventy-five to eighty women and girls are engaged in the process of curing the fish.

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McCURDY & CO.

Here we have a Dominion by-election next week. I was going to say that (Continued on third page.)



