

that no fewer than seven of the Goolds held commissions in Sarafield's army, it will not seem wonderful that this lady should be an ardent Nationalist, and should inherit the generous characteristics of the race to which she belongs. The last act of kindness which she has done (I am omitting many others) shows her sympathy with her people, and proves her to be a worthy descendant of her ancestors. On the property of the late lamented archdeacon (which is now managed by trustees) there was a tenant who fell into arrears, owing to a fatal distemper amongst his cattle. He owing a considerable sum to the trustees, and was to be evicted unless he paid the larger part of this debt, which he was unable to be. He consequently prepared to give possession of his farm to the agents, and to leave his holding for whatever sheltered he could find, when this noble lady intervened, as her tender nature could not bear to see an old man and his wife cast on the world. Being unable herself to pay the large sum due to the trustees, as the continual payment of rent and casts (in order to save the numerous poor tenants who were possessed) had reduced her finances, she bethought of a plan to keep the people in their homes, by offering herself to take the farm from the trustees, and to keep the tenant as caretaker. The agents, Mr. T. Trench, and Captain Veaschoyle, considered this proposition to be so kind that they readily agreed to accept it, remitting themselves all the arrears, except one year's rent, with consent of the trustees. Whenever Miss Goold takes possession of the farm there will be a demonstration of joy—the late tenant having declared that he will have an enormous bonfire to signalise an event of such good omen to himself—and all the Nationalists of the district will collect in large numbers to witness the rejoicings, and to join in the tribute of respect to the noble lady, who deserves our warmest gratitude.—Hoping you will excuse me for trespassing so much on your valuable space, I remain, dear sir, yours truly.

PATRICK R. WOULFE.

### CATHOLIC LIBERALITY.

(From the *N. Y. Sun*, December 10.)

In the last hours of the recent session of the Plenary Council in Baltimore a formal offer of a gift of 300,000dols. for the founding of a national university was made by Miss Mary G. Caldwell, of New York city. Miss Caldwell and her only sister live in the apartment house on the north-east corner of the Thirtieth street and Madison avenue. It is called by some of the tenants "The Corporation," from the fact that an association of wealthy men built it; and by others "The Duplex," because of the arrangement of the rooms. Each family has the use of a part of two floors. The Misses Caldwell are orphans. The estate they are possessed of, it was said yesterday by a dignitary of the Roman Catholic Church, is valued at about 5,000,000dols.

Miss Caldwell's father, William Shakspeare Caldwell, was of an English family in Fredericksburg, Va., and Mrs. Caldwell, her mother, was a Miss Breckinridge, a sister of John C. Breckinridge of Kentucky. Mr. Caldwell's fortune was amassed by his father, who introduced gas into the cities of Louisville, Cincinnati, and New Orleans. Both Mr. and Mrs. Caldwell were converts to the Catholic faith.

Mr. Caldwell bought a handsome villa in Newport, where the family lived in summer. They went south in Winter. The Sts. Mary and Elizabeth Unsectarian Hospital in Louisville was built and equipped twelve years ago by Mr. Caldwell, so secretly that even the members of his family did not know of it. He gave it to the Sisters of Charity. Afterwards he built in the same manner and presented to the Little Sisters of the Poor the St. Sophia's Home for the Aged and Infirm in Richmond.

Mrs. Caldwell died eleven years ago, and Mr. Caldwell died in the New York Hotel three years afterwards. The will of Mr. Caldwell gave the property to the daughters equally, the half of the estate to be turned over to each as she came of age. Miss Mary G. Caldwell was twenty-one years old last October, and she then came into possession of her property.

"I know of no young lady," said Mr. Eugene Kelly last evening, "who can better manage so large a fortune than can Miss Caldwell. She is what is nowadays called smart. She knows where every cent is invested and what it is doing for her."

Miss Caldwell was in Baltimore while the Plenary Council was in session. Yesterday she was at home. Her school life was spent in the Convent and Academy of the Sacred Heart, in Manhattanville. After her graduation she travelled and studied in Europe. Her apartments are crowded with choice works of art. The walls can scarcely be seen, the clusters of paintings and vases and bric-a-brac so nearly fill every available space. A slender young woman, with dark brown hair and bright brown eyes, stepped into the doorway of the parlour to greet the reporter. Energy and decision were in every word and gesture as she replied.

"Why, I did not dream of this matter being talked of in the newspapers. This is the first time I was ever questioned about it. On, yes," she continued, "it is true that I have offered 300,000dols. to found a Catholic university. It will be only a nucleus, of course, and around it will in time grow a great institution. It is my own notion, I had been thinking of it for two or three years. The object is to provide for the higher education of the priesthood. In the beginning it will be a kind of high school of philosophy and theology, and departments will be added as endowments come in, as they undoubtedly will. It is not determined where the university will be founded, but it will be near a large Northern city. Personally I should have preferred to see it in a Southern State, but, on the whole, it is best to establish it in the North."

The Plenary Council accepted the offer, and the following committee was appointed to take steps immediately toward selecting a site for the university buildings, and in defining the scope of the institution: Archbishops Gibbons of Baltimore, Corrigan of New York, Ryan of Philadelphia, Heiss of Milwaukee, Williams of

Boston; Bishops Spalding of Peoria and Ireland of St. Paul, Monsignor Farley of St. Gabriel's Church of this city, and Laymen Eugene Kelly of this city, and F. A. Drexel of Philadelphia.

The gift was offered and accepted with the understanding that the Plenary Council is to lay the foundations of the university, to see that it is completed, and to control the course of education to be pursued.

### POPULAR NATIONAL EDUCATION.

THE Education Committee of the Young Ireland Society has issued a circular appealing to the leaders of local public opinion to do all in their power to promote the study of national literature. From this circular we (*Nation*) take the following passages:—

The committee have instructed me to direct your attention to the necessity that exists of making provision for the instruction in Irish history and literature of Irish youth of both sexes, and to point out some of the means that might be employed for the purpose.

It is absolutely essential that the youth of Ireland should be thoroughly educated in this respect. Upon the extent of their national education will depend the measure of their capability for service to the interests of the country in future years. Slavery can exist only with national ignorance—an educated people never can be slaves. That our rulers realised this is manifest; until a few years since education was banned; and the few fortunate enough to secure the rudiments of instruction received them under the hedge or in the ditch. In subsequent years, appearing to yield to the exigencies of the time, a system called national (which even as a means of ordinary primary education is worthless) was introduced, ostensibly for the purpose of educating the masses, in reality possessing no really educational power, and principally formed to crush from the people every sentiment of nationality; administered by men opposed to the people in sympathy, and so scrupulously carried out that each of the innumerable editions of their school books is carefully pruned of anything that the most bigotted prejudice could construe to be national. No Irish history finds a place in their programme; no work on the subject is included in the list of their books—in vain would you search for a single national ballad. The committee applied to the commissioners for this system, requesting them to place Irish history upon their programme for instruction in National schools, and to provide for payment of result fees to the teachers therefore, to which a reply was received declining to accede to their request. A question was subsequently put by Mr. Sexton in the English House of Commons to the Chief Secretary with respect to this refusal of the commissioners, to which a reply was received stating the commissioners would not introduce these subjects for instruction to the pupils in their schools. The committee were not disappointed in this; but while it is not their intention to let the matter rest here, they believe no Irish history of any real value will be taught under the National School system. It is against the interests of England and of English rule that this education should be given. Education of this kind must be carried out by the people themselves.

M. R. P. J. SMYTH.

(Dublin *Freeman*, Dec. 20.)

MR. P. J. SMYTH, M.P., has accepted the office of Secretary to the Loan Fund (Ireland) Board. The value of the post is £300 a year. An instructive moral may be drawn from this simple announcement. A bare recital of the incidents of Mr. Smyth's chequered political career would suffice. Mr. Smyth in the many controversies in which he has been engaged has not spared either with pen or tongue those to whom he has found himself from time to time opposed. We are not now, however, inclined to recall these memories or press with undue severity the comparison which necessarily forced itself upon the public attention between Mr. P. J. Smyth the hunted rebel, Mr. P. J. Smyth the rescuer of John Mitchel, Mr. P. J. Smyth the owner and conductor of the *Irishman*, and denunciator of Butt for his half-hearted Nationality, and Parnell, and "the League of Hell," and the Mr. P. J. Smyth who ends his days as a pensioner of Dublin Castle. We are disposed to take a more charitable view of the matter, and to believe that if Mr. Smyth has become a Government placeman, he can plead the excuse of Shakespeare's apothecary. The Irish people will not care to be hard upon Mr. Smyth, both for this reason and for another, all sufficient in itself, that his actions have long ceased to be of any concern to them. If anything, the country will rather view with satisfaction and relief an ending of a political career which deprives Mr. Smyth of the power of longer asserting that he is a representative of Tipperary. Tipperary is at last free from the incubus, and will quickly show, by electing a pledged follower of Mr. Parnell, how widely the opinion of the Premier County differs from that of its late representative. Notwithstanding the political shortcomings of his later life, the Irish people have never forgotten in Mr. Smyth's regard the sacrifices which he made and the risks which he ran for them in the generous days of his youth. Mr. Smyth was the last of the orators of the Grattan school, and though his manner may in these days have appeared somewhat artificial, there is no doubt that many of his speeches were not unworthy models of a noble and exalted style. That Mr. Smyth's patriotism was originally of a true and unselfish character we at least are not inclined to doubt. We believe that at the last it was sheer necessity which drove him to accept place. But surely, once Mr. Smyth had determined upon seeking office, he might have endeavoured to earn it without savage attacks upon those who were still labouring for their country to the best of their ability, and without any such object as his in view. As a politician, Mr. Smyth was from the beginning utterly impracticable. He could never work with any person else. With him it was *aut Caesar aut nullus*, and being as incapable of leading as he was of following, he naturally ended by being *nullus*. But despite the