

the Irish manhood in the old country—will be found at your back with money and with sympathy to carry on that struggle to a glorious termination, which we are fully convinced is not far distant (cheers). I will say farewell, and I will only say in conclusion—the faith which I have always had in the ennobling influence of liberty has been strengthened and confirmed by residence in the country where liberty is the life-blood of the people. Men say that democracy and liberty lead to abuses—and so they do, for human nature is not perfect, and even you, my friends, and I, here to-night, are not all saints; but believe this—it is the lesson of history—that the abuses of democracy are as nothing compared with the abuses of a rotten tyranny. For my part, it always reminds me of a comparison between the wild and stormy tossing of a tempestuous sea, which, by the very agitation of its waters, keeps itself pure and fresh—so does democracy, even by the agitation and storm of the passions of the people, keep public life in the end pure and fresh; while in the rank and stagnant pool the hideous corruptions of such a despotism as reigns over this city fester, unseen and unnoticed, until they spread desolation and havoc amongst the citizens (cheers).

### WHAT CHARITY CAN ACCOMPLISH.

(San Francisco Monitor.)

If Catholics desire to ascertain what can be accomplished by unity of action on the part of a few Catholic men, they need only read the reports of the St. Vincent de Paul Society. We are in receipt of the report of the Superior Council of New York, made to the Council General in Paris, for the year 1884. Two hundred and sixty (260) Conferences of this most admirable charitable association are named in this Report. During the year 1884, five Conferences were aggregated; and nine Conferences make their first reports. Here is the excellent showing of the Society for the year 1884: Number of poor families visited and relieved, 12,771; number of visits paid to poor families, 122,667; families on the relief roll, December 31, 3,007; situations procured, 750; members assisting in teaching Sunday school, 434; average number of boys attending Sunday school, 40,396. The total receipts for the year amounted to \$30,882; expenditures for the relief of all kinds to the poor, 123,559; balance at the end of the year, 37,958.

It must be borne in mind that this vast result of Catholic benevolence has been accomplished by laymen who have to pursue their daily avocation, yet who can find sufficient time to help God's poor out of their temporary difficulties. How true it is that time we give to God is never lost, and great will be the reward of those who earnestly and prudently share in the good work inaugurated by St. Vincent de Paul.

### FRENCH OPINION ON IRELAND.

(Correspondence of the Nation.)

THE patriotic Bishop of Meath, in his eloquent speech at Mullinger, makes a great mistake when he says: "Anyone who reads those foreign journals will see that they take all the knowledge and information on Irish affairs directly and immediately from the prejudiced and slanderous columns of the London newspapers." As far as France is concerned, I am happy to inform his lordship that such is no longer the case, as the following facts will prove.

Not only important volumes, such as "La Crise Irlandaise," by M. Herve, but daily articles in nearly all the leading Paris papers, are showing the Irish question in its true light. In my last letter I gave an extract from an article in *La Liberte* that no English paper could have inspired or would approve of. To-day I give another from the *Gil Blas* of 4th June. The writer says:—

"The entire world is now observing England. It would seem that for that country the era of responsibility is soon to begin. It is interesting, therefore, to examine her position relative to her old enemy—Ireland. Great concessions were spoken of, allusion was made to the probability of a settlement, and they went so far as to say that it should not be impossible for England to give Home Rule to Ireland, which she been claiming so long. This seems to us a little too sanguine. However, it is certain that under the influence of events an evolution may take place in the home policy of Great Britain. It would only be a prudent measure, as will be seen. 'The laws of coercion will soon expire,' said to me a person whose position enables him to be well informed. 'All will depend on what England will do, then. It is certain that if they are renewed troubles are sure to be the result. The British Government to-day must consent to come to terms with the Irish. Parnell's action in Parliament is an important one, and the number of votes that he commands in the House of Commons will be nearly always sufficient to give the majority to the Cabinet or to the Opposition. It must not be forgotten, that it was the Parnellite vote that caused the fall of Gladstone, in voting against him on a question that scarcely interested them at all—the spirits question. Now the number of Irish in the House of Commons is 103, but they are not all Nationalists; of the latter there are about 60; but the number may increase, for most of the members who, like O'Connor Power, failed in keeping their promises, are obliged to ask the British Government to give them another town to represent. Parnell's policy may be justly called *une politique à bascule*. He only aims at the interest of Ireland, and he is ready to bring to the Ministry—Whig, Tory, or Radical—which ever will be in favour of Ireland, the votes he disposes of, and will endanger whatever Cabinet is contrary to his policy.' It seemed to me useful to give this conversation, which, I repeat, I had with a person in a position to be well informed.

"The conflict between the two enemies is not near coming to an end unless England makes the necessary concessions, for it is positive that Ireland was never better armed against her rival."

I give the article in full to show the eminent prelate that, as far as Paris is concerned, the Irish question is no longer judged from the articles in the British Press; and I could fill the columns of the *Nation* with original articles in the same style as the one I give to-day.

J. P. L.

### INSTALLATION OF THE SISTER OF MERCY AT BLENHEIM.

(Marlborough Times, September 1st.)

MANY priests were invited by the Rev. Father Lewis for the above occasion, but of the many invited the only one who came was the much esteemed and beloved Very Rev. Father Sauzeau, S.M. His arrival with the nuns in Blenheim was looked upon as an event of great moment, and augured well for the solemn and imposing ceremonies of Sunday. Father Sauzeau is thoroughly well liked and appreciated by all classes and creeds. He spent many years among the Blenheimites, and was truly the founder of the Catholic station in days gone by. By his Christian acts he was a kind friend and benefactor to all denominations. He visited all, he benefited all, he assisted all. He comforted all by his wise counsels, and by his medical skill when necessity required. He was welcomed by poor as well as by rich, and found a home at every hearth. It may be truly said that he won the affections of his people. No wonder, therefore, that his presence in Blenheim was looked upon as a favourable omen of success. Always energetic and brave, undeterred by wind and weather, he instantly obeyed a call where his priestly functions demanded his administration. He crossed and swam rivers on his old horse, Barney, at the peril of his life. He was also a lover of the beautiful and displayed a great taste and knowledge in the field of botany, as many testify to the prizes borne away by him: so that with his faithful old gardener (W. Skellon), he has contributed largely towards making the Catholic station what it now is. The Very Rev. Father Sauzeau had the great pleasure, on Sunday, of seeing many of his old friends flock around him, Catholic as well as non-Catholic. Rich and gorgeous golden vestments having been procured by the Rev. F. Lewis, P.P. of the station, the solemn and imposing ceremonies of the day were proceeded with. High Mass was celebrated at 11 a.m., by the Very Rev. Father Sauzeau, Deacon Rev. J. Lane, Sub-deacon Rev. Father F. Lewis, P.P. The choir, with the assistance of several friends, under the direction of Mr. J. B. Gudgeon, rendered the music more elaborately and with better effect than has ever been given at the church before. The Kyrie, Credo, Benedictus, and Agnus Dei were taken from Weber in G.; the Gloria from Mozart's 12th; and the Sanctus from Haydn's Imperial. The solos were taken as follows:—Soprano, Misses Augustus and Walthe; contralto, Misses Redwood and Ryan and Mrs. Joseph Ward, junior; tenor, Messrs. Vavasour and J. P. Lucas; bass, Mr. Gudgeon. Mrs. Canning was the organist. The Offertoire was the Adagio movement from Beethoven's Sonata, finely played on the violin by Mr. Trevithick, with organ accompaniment. Immediately after the Gospel of the day a very beautiful and eloquent sermon was preached by the Very Rev. Father Sauzeau. He dwelt especially on the importance of a Christian education, and showed very clearly and ably from master minds of antiquity that the so-called secular and godless system of education now a days is not properly education at all; that you may educate in all the sciences and languages of the age if you will, but that this is not education—only instruction—that education embraced and meant the cultivation of the heart and head; the development of the nobler faculties of the soul with the proper government and discipline of the passions and affections of the heart; that reason, enlivened by knowledge and religion, should be our guide, and that Plato, Aristotle, Napoleon I., Lord John Russell, Gladstone, Disraeli asserted that knowledge must be grafted in religion. He said the Sisters of Mercy have high reputation as a teaching body. They were ladies of culture and refinement, versed in all the accomplishments of the day, with a knowledge of music, painting, and modern languages. They had given complete satisfaction in Wellington even to non-Catholics, and did not tamper with their religious creeds. They would visit the sick of all who wish to see them, and no doubt be a great blessing to the district. That parents can bequeath a rich legacy to their children in giving them a sound Christian education. He exhorted one and all to be generous in their subscriptions. A collection was made and realised over £100. After Mass a procession was formed and marched to the new Convent singing hymns until they arrived in the new grounds. The nuns and priests having occupied the verandah two addresses were read to them, one from the girls and the other from the congregation by Mr. Ward, senr. Father Sauzeau replied on behalf of the nuns and spoke at some length, conveying to the people the great pleasure and satisfaction it gave the Sisters in coming to a locality in which they were received with such warm expressions of welcome. The Rev. Father then proceeded to bless the Convent, and this ceremony brought the morning services to a close.

The following is the address from the congregation:—  
"Dear Rev. Mother and Sisters,—We, the Catholics of Marlborough, have come to wish you a most hearty welcome. Several years have elapsed since we tried to secure your services for the instruction of our children, but the number of calls made upon your Order necessitated a few years delay; these calls have been responded to, these years have rolled away and our turn has come. The privilege of having a branch of your Order established in Blenheim is one of the greatest value. We are well aware that your residence amongst us will be the means of conferring benefits of the highest kind not only on the young persons committed to your care but also upon the entire community. Notwithstanding our having looked forward for years with hope of your arrival, our last steps have been made hastily, and we have not been able to provide to the extent we wish for your reception. But please God, before many years—having secured such valuable and extensive property for the parish and raised our beautiful church to the worship of God—we shall be able to erect a suitable convent capable of affording accommodation for boarders and a large community of Sisters.

"It is needless to say that we shall indeed be glad to confide our children to your care. The number of your beautiful convents that