

## A MODERN IRISH APOSTLE.

NEARLY 40 years ago there went to his reward a man of apostolic will and work whose memory will long be revered throughout the Catholic world. In his short life of 38 years, he did a century's work, by founding on a sure basis the Missionary College of All Hallows, Dublin,—the largest foreign missionary college in the world. Through the spirit with which he inspired his associates, and which he left as an inexhaustible heritage to his successors, he still lives and works, and reaps splendid harvests of souls in every part of the globe.

John Hand was born near Oldcastle, County Meath, in August, 1807. From early childhood he felt drawn to serve God and his countrymen in the priestly state. Through much labour and privation he accomplished his desire. The son of a peasant farmer, of the class which, since the beginning of the century, has been crowding the emigrant ships, he realized the needs and the risks of his countrymen, scattered in America, Australia, India;—and lost in tens of thousands to the Faith for want of priests.

His life work, therefore, he resolved should be the establishment of a missionary centre whence priests should be supplied to accompany or follow Irish emigrants in their journeyings from Ireland.

He aimed not at adding to an already long list another religious Order. A mission like his must be carried on by a body of secular priests, free of monastic vows, but devoted to the spreading of Christ's kingdom with a disinterestedness not to be exceeded by the members of any Order. In the college he projected, president and professors should serve without salary; be lodged, clothed, fed and recreated like their students; all being provided for, simply but decently, by the free-will offerings of their countrymen.

Father Hand believed that the spiritual wants of a people are, as a rule, best cared for by priests of their own nationality. The priests trained within his college, must be prepared at shortest notice to be the answer to the demand of any bishop in any part of the world, for assistants on the Irish Mission.

At the outset, Father Hand found but one friend and ally among the Irish episcopate—the Most Rev. Dr. Murray, of Dublin. Strong in his approbation, however, he went to France and Italy to study the methods of the most celebrated ecclesiastical training schools. He adopted the Sulpician system, modified to suit his own nationality; and then brought the plan of his work to Rome for the approval of the Father of the Faithful. Pope Gregory XVI. heartily commended the young missionary's magnificent project, but enquired whether he looked for the temporal resources indispensable to the work. "Holy Father," answered Father Hand, "I have these resources in the traditional charity of my country towards the propagation of the Faith."

On his return from Rome, through the influence of his devoted friend, Daniel O'Connell, then (1842) Lord Mayor of Dublin, he procured the Drumcondra House and lands; and there, on All Saints' Day, the same year, opened his college. The Rev. Fr. Clarke and the Rev. Dr. Woodlock, now Bishop of Ardagh, County Longford, were his associate professors.

Scarcely was the opening of All Hallows announced than Father Hand was assailed with letters from bishops in Scotland, North Wales, the United States, India and Australia, setting forth the spiritual destitution of their respective missions and imploring him for priests. In answer to these appeals, he apportioned the disciples of his first year's presidency as follows:—Six to Scotland; five to the United States; three to British Guiana; three to Trinidad; two to Calcutta; one to Agra, India; one to the Cape of Good Hope, and two to New South Wales.

Father Hand presided not quite four years over All Hallows' College. He died May 20, 1846, in the 39th year of his age and the 11th of his priesthood. The secret of his success—it is the secret of all success—was his devotion to his vocation and his well-exercised capacity for hard work.

Since the foundation of All Hallows, 43 years ago, it has swelled the missionary force of the Church with 1,200 thoroughly trained priests.—*Pilot*.

Referring to the unveiling, at Rome, on June, 20, of the monument to Cardinal Mezzofanti in the Church of St. Onofrio, Rome, the *Moniteur de Rome* says: "It is now known that Cardinal Mezzofanti spoke one hundred and thirty-five languages, and fifty-four dialects."

On the last day of June, says the *St. James Gazette*, Lord Carnarvon took the oath of office as her Majesty's "Lieutenant-General and General Governor of the Kingdom of Ireland," being the twenty-fourth viceroy appointed since the Act of Union. Six of his predecessors, however, have filled the post a second time; so that the average duration of a Lord-Lieutenant's term of office has been something less than three years. Amongst the men of European reputation who have resigned at the Castle during the present century one may mention Lord Whitworth (1813-17), sometime Ambassador at the Court of Napoleon, in whose hearing he made the memorable remark that "it was a pity so great a man should be so ill-bred." Lord Wellesley (1821-28 and 1833-34) was, perhaps, as good a ruler as the country ever had, and naturally incurred the bitterest hostility of the disaffected. Nor can it be denied that the malcontents adopted an ingenious method of giving expression to their sentiments. His Excellency chancing to be at the play, somebody called out, "Three cheers for the Duke of Wellington!" which were heartily given. "And now silence for the rest of the family!" cried the same person. It is not generally known that in December, 1851, Lord John Russell tendered the viceroyalty to Lord Palmerston, "with or without a peerage," by way of compensation for the loss of the Foreign Office. Under the circumstances the proposal could hardly be entertained; but one is tempted to regret that Lord Palmerston was not offered the place at an earlier period of his career.

## News of the Week.

FRIDAY.

In the House of Representatives yesterday, the debate on Captain Russell's motion was continued.

Despite the alleged dull times, many expensive business premises are in course of erection at Auckland.

Some disclosures respecting the annexation of New Britain by Germany will shortly be made (says a correspondent of the *Melbourne Argus*). There are many wrong statements in the German White Book, which will be contradicted by old residents. The German firms continue purchasing land where other nationalities are prevented. One of the trading stations belonging to an American firm was lately burnt down by natives. This act has been traced to a German trader, who was paying the natives to do it.

Reports to hand announce that the cholera epidemic is spreading on the Continent. Latest advices state that the disease has made its appearance at Palermo, in Sicily; also at Mans, a city in Belgium, a short distance from the French frontier.

SATURDAY.

In the House of Representatives yesterday during the debate on Captain Russell's motion, Mr. Macandrew said he had always held that the East and West Coast railway should have been made by the Colony. It was he who had first put the railway on the schedule, and if the Government of which he was a member had remained in office, there was no doubt that the railway would have been nearly constructed by this time. He was surprised at the action of the Otago members over this railway, and he considered they were acting very unneighbourly in opposing it. Mr. Pyke combated the statement of the member for Port Chalmers that all the Otago members were opposed to the East and West Coast railway. He had more than once stated that the railway should be constructed, but he was opposed to the way in which it was proposed to be constructed. The motion was carried on a division by 44 to 29.

Word has been received from Kihikihiki that Mr. Wilkinson, Native agent, stopped the Wanganui prospectors from going to Tuhara, and persuaded the Natives to go with the Thames men. Mr. Wilkinson says that the Wanganui party had no practical men among them. The Miners' Association at Wanganui have communicated with the Government, complaining of Mr. Wilkinson's interference, and stating that both the men are well known to be practical and long-experienced miners.

Mr. Parkinson, a competent authority, gives the following to the *Southland News*:—About 12 months ago he left New Zealand and went to the Day Dream silver mines in New South Wales. In hopes that the Criffel was going to turn out a good thing he determined to return here and try his luck again. He accordingly took passage across in one of the Union boats, and made his way to the Criffel, where he arrived about a fortnight ago. He found the weather bad there, but favourable enough to admit of working, the snow at that time not being very deep. This is, however, more the exception than the rule at this time of the year, the 'diggings' being situated on a high flat spur of a mountain, the spur itself being said to be 3000ft. above the level of the sea. The first thing Mr. Parkinson noticed on getting on the Criffel was that 'the ground had been worked for years, and that it was no new rush at all.' What digging had been going on was alluvial, and he saw no signs of quartz whatever. By way of commencement he tested the present workings, and found payable gold in all of them, but they are only three in number, their owners monopolising the whole of the spur under leases of two, five, and six acres respectively. As for the adjoining spurs, they, Mr. Parkinson states, 'are riddled with holes where people have been testing the ground.' To these Mr. Parkinson and his mate added three more shafts, with no better results than had attended the efforts of the others who had been before them. These were put down to the depths of two, seven, and eight feet respectively, but in none of them could they 'raise the colour.' So intense had been the cold that at a depth of two feet the frost was hard and sparkling. Ultimately satisfied that the Criffel is a 'duffer,' except as regards the claims already held, Mr. Parkinson determined to return to Invercargill. By this time the snow had got so deep that it was necessary to leave tools and everything else behind. And even then it was only with the greatest difficulty, and no little danger, owing to a dense fog, that he got down to lower land. Mr. Parkinson states that, even if he could have got on to payable dirt, it would have either to be washed with melted snow or packed or carried to a creek three miles away."

MONDAY.

In the House of Representatives on Saturday, Mr. Rees moved the reduction by £50,000 of the East and West Coast Railway estimate. Captain Sutter moved that the reduction be 149,000. The amendment was carried by 70 to 12.—Grey-mouth-Hokitika, £15,100.—Mr. M'Arthur moved to reduce the item by £10,000; lost by 41 to 32. Mr. J. B. Whyte moved to reduce it by £8000. The reduction was carried on the casting vote of the chairman. Ayes, 35; noes, 35.—Hurunui southwards, £25,500. Captain Sutter moved that the item be reduced by £8000. The reduction was carried.—Livingstone Branch, £17,400.—Captain Sutter moved a reduction of £8000. Carried by 49 to 21.—Otago Central, £151,500. Captain Sutter moved a reduction of £25,000. The reduction was carried by 32 to 20.—Additions to open lines, £172,100. The Minister for Works suggested that the item be reduced by £15,000. Agreed to.

It is reported (says the *Dunstan Times*) that Mr. W. Green, of Ophir, has made a discovery of a quartz reef on the range side at the back of the town of Ophir. From what we can learn the indications are such as to lead to the belief that the reef is a true lode, the vein of the quartz being well defined, solid, and showing gold freely. Everything is in favour of the assumption of a permanent reef in the locality, the country being solid, and moreover some remarkably