

July 11 the police took very effective steps to this end. They drove the whole of the pigs off the streets to the fair green, where the market had perforce to be held. Much annoyance was manifested by the townspeople at this high-handed proceeding, and in the evening a public meeting was held at which resolutions were adopted strongly condemning the action of the police, which was said to be due to the influence of Mr. Smith-Barry's agent and the local magistrates.

TYRONE.—A retreat which was commenced at St. Eugene's, Omagh, on June 26, closed on July 3. It was conducted by Father O'Connell, of the Carmelites. During the week it lasted no fewer than 6,000 persons received Communion many of them coming distances of 8 and 10 miles.

WATERFORD.—The want of rain is very much felt by agriculturists in this County. The ground is so parched and dried up from the recent drought that it would require a heavy rainfall to produce anything like vegetation. Very little turnips are sown and those which have been put down have suffered very much from want of rain. The potato, which has always been the staple food of the district, is very inferior except where planted in marshy soil. With the exception of a few instances the hay crop is light and devoid of sap, but where the least Italian rye grass has been set early in the season the crop is fair. The quantity of mangolds is limited and the quality inferior. The same applies generally to the potato crop. Cattle are in a very bad state for want of rain and in a few instances cattle have died from red murrain. The country people have to bring water from long distances to the cattle, which is in itself a work of great labour. There is very little barley set owing to the want of a local market. On the whole the prospect for the coming year is not cheering.

WESTMEATH.—The Chapter of St. John of Jerusalem in England has awarded its medal for gallantry in saving life on land to Acting-Sergt. Patrick Ryan, Royal Irish Constabulary, for rescuing a woman and child at Mullingar from a runaway horse.

At the Assizes on July 12 the jury convicted five soldiers charged with participation in the Athlone riots as having taken part in an assault on a man named Coffey. The Chief Baron in passing sentence expressed his entire disapproval of the verdict, which necessarily implied that the large number of witnesses examined for the defence had been guilty of perjury. No one who heard his charge could doubt what was his view of the case. He was, however, bound by the verdict of the jury on the facts in a criminal case, but he would give his view very distinctly on any memorial that might be sent in to the Lord Lieutenant to revise the verdict. He then sentenced the prisoners to six months' imprisonment with hard labour, but on the application of counsel he made a special order that they should be treated as untried prisoners for the first fortnight, pending the application to the Lord Lieutenant.

WEXFORD.—Not for a long time were the prospects of the County Wexford farmers so disheartening as at the present moment. Not alone has the long drought completely retarded vegetation, but in the scorching days just past, what appeared to be fairly prosperous crops three weeks previously have been shrivelled and burnt up. Barley on rich land is holding its own, though the straw is short, but on arid soil the crop is entirely a failure both as regards grain and straw. The same remarks apply to oats. Beans are long ago "given over." Potatoes are expected to be dry, but in the absence of immediate rain it is feared that the greater portion of this crop, which has been stunted early in its growth, will prove a loss, the tuber being too small, and unmaturing. Such of the green crops as have been sown early have appeared above the ground, but there is great difficulty and risk in weeding and thinning them. In the case of the poorer soils and late sowing the crop in many places did not appear over ground. Hay is light everywhere, both early and late meadows. Grave fears are entertained of inadequate "keep" for cattle next winter, should the root crops be unfavourable. Farmers of poor land are, indeed, in sad plight regarding their prospects in the coming winter and following spring.

WICKLOW.—Harvest prospects are very unfavourable. The weather of the latter part of June and the first fortnight of July has been unprecedented for its extreme heat and drought. The pasture land has been thoroughly dried, and it is difficult to realise how the farmers will be able to tide over the present depression, for as a general rule, outdoor work, owing to the excessive heat, was a thing impossible. Under the circumstances the prospect of an abundant harvest are anything but bright. The hopes entertained as to the hay supply have been entirely blighted, and a similar remark applies to almost every other branch of farming.

REV. FATHER ADRIEN ROUQUETTE.

(From the New Orleans *Picayune*.)

FATHER Ryan was called the poet priest. Father Rouquette was a poet priest. Not alone because he also wrote sweet poetry. His whole life was a poem, his thoughts were ever of the beauties of nature or the glory of God; his heart was constantly overflowing with human kindness and human sympathy; his happiest days were in spiritual self-communion in the wilderness, and his favourite mission was seeking out the Choctaws still living in the St. Tammany forests, and sharing with them the great faith in which he found the mainspring of his life purpose and the promise of eternal happiness.

His death was a fit ending to the poem, breathing prayer, and love, and divine trust, a gentle sinking to rest, with a smile the farewell to earth and the greeting to the grander sphere.

The Abbe Adrien Rouquette was one of the best known and most widely beloved of the priests of Louisiana. He was born seventy-four years ago in this city. His education was begun here, continued in the college of Nantes, France, and completed at a college in Philadelphia.

Young Rouquette was handsome and gifted, and entered with zest into the gay life which was the mode in that New Orleans of old. The superior mind he possessed had enabled him to acquire a great

deal of knowledge with ease. He graduated in law and in medicine and was skilled in arts and sciences. A graceful bearing, a fine command of language, a flexible and pleasing voice, a poetic temperament, a natural eloquence, made him an ideal orator. His friends looked upon him as a man who would be remembered among the first when the history of Louisiana should be written.

His early manhood strengthened the promise. Suddenly, although perhaps the resolve may have been the blessed decision of months of thought, he announced that he would enter the priesthood. It was to Mgr. Blanc, then Archbishop of New Orleans, that he confided his desire, and it was the good Archbishop who welcomed him as a co-worker. The ordination took place some forty years ago, and since then he has ministered faithfully with never a thought of self. His quarters were the poorest furnished, his clothing of the plainest fabric, his fare of the simplest kind, and his rare character shone all the brighter for his humble setting. Father Rouquette was alike to rich and poor, working for their welfare with equal zeal, and anxious for divine grace for all.

In boyhood days he was wont to watch the Choctaws, who then lived in New Orleans in large numbers. He visited their camps on the French market and in the rear of the city and became acquainted with their manners, acquired some knowledge of their language, and looked on with fearful interest when they went rioting through the streets.

When the city grew the Choctaw was gradually forced to retire into the forest strongholds, and when Father Rouquette took up the cross he bethought himself of his early friends, forsook by the land that bore them, and determined upon teaching them the comfort and consolation of Christ. He visited them, studied their language thoroughly, and won them by the sanctity of his example and the spirit of kindness which permeated the gospel as he taught it.

The Indians retained their tribal government, but in all else yielded to the priest, who came often among them and taught them the ennobling and civilising influence of faith.

During his early missions among them he built a little chapel among the pines at the head of Bayou Lacombe, where, at regular intervals, they would gather round him. The chapel had already done its work when it was destroyed by fire. It was never rebuilt.

The Indians made the whole woods their sanctuary and worshipped where Chatah-Ima stood, for so they called him. Chatah-Ima means like a Choctaw, and Father Rouquette was proud of the name. As he made them more like himself they thought him more like themselves. He was true to them, regardless of personal comfort, coming among them in wet seasons and in dry, in health and in sickness, finally sacrificing his strength to his fidelity to the cause to which he devoted his life.

When he would bide awhile in his cell at the archiepiscopal residence at the Ursuline Convent, it would only be to live a few happy days with his books and pen. He read fluently the modern and ancient languages and was a great lover of reading.

Pere Rouquette was not only a wonderful student but a writer of rare excellence. Some of his poems, reflecting his love of God and nature, were gathered into a book, which he appropriately titled "Wild Flowers." "Les Savanes," another collection of poems; "La Thebaide en Amerique," in verse; "Attala," a prose romance which acquired considerable reputation, and legends of "Indian Princes" were among his other works. He wrote frequently for the secular press, and was at work on a Choctaw grammar when his intellect became clouded. One of his last prose articles was a fine tribute to Archbishop Perche, who was a life-long friend of the distinguished priest. He signed all his writings with his favourite name of "Chatah-Ima."

It was about a year ago that the exposure to which he subjected himself left him wasted in body and mind. He was taken to the Hotel Dieu, where the Sisters of Charity ministered to his every want and made his last days pleasant. Father Rouquette was a combination of child and saint in the year he lingered between life temporal and life eternal.

He imagined himself in his old home at the convent, was unconscious of any change, and at the same time recognised those who came to see him; would talk enthusiastically of his books and his missions, and grew eloquent when his thoughts were turned to poetry or religion.

The love in which he was held was apparent during this period, for every day people whom he had guided and befriended came to be near him and return the sympathy with which he had ever been ready. His adopted children of the wilderness were frequent visitors and brought gifts of herbs and dainties. Yesterday some came again to find the soul departed, and they sat around the coffin in tearful grief.

Father Rouquette was in appearance such a man as a painter would have imagined him to be. His features were finely moulded, every line was softened by benevolence, and large, bright eyes illumined his countenance with the sacred light of genius and holiness. His long locks, tinged with gray, fell about his shoulders. During his active life his face was smooth shaven, but at the Hotel Dieu a long white beard grew and added to his venerable appearance.

Three days ago his mind became clear again. The old intelligence lit up his face. His eyes beamed kindness. His step grew steady. The Sisters and his friends were overjoyed with the newborn hope of his recovery. But when he betook himself to bed and was too feeble to arise, they knew that God had blessed him with undimmed sight again so that he could respond to the call of his Master as his life deserved. His end was peace, and when the watchers thought he slept the spirit had departed.

"ROUGH ON ITCH."—"Rough on Itch" cures skin humors, rruptions, ringworm, tetter, salt rheum, frosted feet, chilblains, itch, ivy poison, barber's itch.

The Central News is informed upon good authority that great pressure is being brought to bear by Government officials upon Sir John Pope Hennessy to induce him to abandon his libel action against the *Times*.