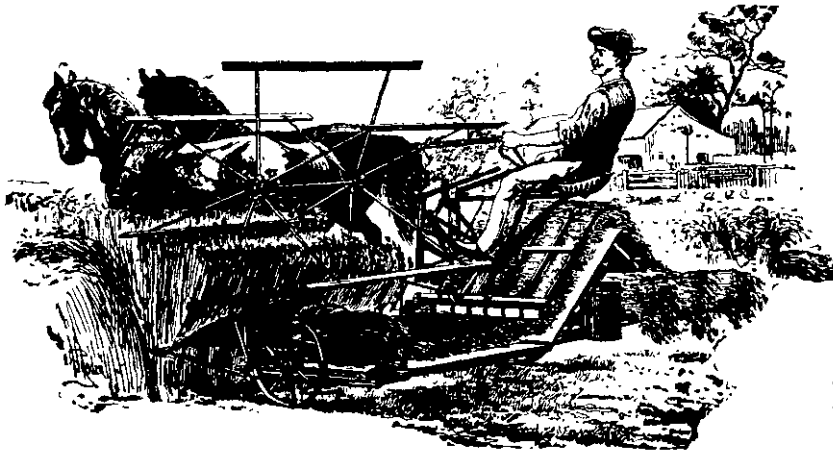


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of attracting and retaining the interest and affection of her pupils. Her death has been a merciful release from protracted suffering. It occurred, we may add, on the Feast of a great Saint of the Dominican Order—that is St. Thomas of Aquin—May her soul, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

General News.

England is an asylum for 195,938 aliens. Of these 53,626 are Russians, 21,448 are Poles, 20,797 are French, 9,900 are Italians and 50,599 are Germans.

A powerful new explosive named schnebelite was tested a few days ago at Argenteuil, near Paris. Every test gave the most satisfactory results. The inventors are Abbe Schnebeline and his brother, a lieutenant of artillery in the French Army.

The Scotch crofter settlements at Kharney and Saltcoats, in Manitoba, which were promoted by the English Colonisation Board, have, it is reported, proved a failure, owing to the inclemency of the climate and to the crofters being unfamiliar with the methods of farming in that region. The crofters, it is said, are being starved and frozen to death.

From the *Missions Catholiques* we learn that in 1893 three Archbishops, four Bishops, and 142 missionary priests passed to their reward. Of these 68 were French, 24 Italian, 11 Irish, three Spanish, three Dutch, three Bavarians, and the rest of different contingents from various nationalities.

The census report shows that during the period from 1881 to 1891 the number of Catholic priests in England has increased more than 20 per cent. Clergymen of the Established Church have only just kept pace with the increase of the population, while the ministers of other sects have fallen off in relation to the general growth.

Old St. Pancras is a church that has a special interest for Catholics. It is the oldest of the pre-Reformation churches in London. It is said to have been the last of them in which the Holy Sacrifice was offered, and in its churchyard many Catholics are buried, including some of the exiled French Bishops, of the period of the Revolution. St. Pancras' Church is now likely to become the centre of a hot controversy on account of the action that is being taken by its present Protestant Vicar, the Rev. R. A. Eden. It is stated that Mr. Eden "being desirous of bringing before his parishioners the duty of commemorating the faithful dead, has, with the permission of the Bishop of London, arranged for a celebration of the Holy Eucharist, to be offered annually, on behalf of the departed." We are further informed that it will be "offered for all the faithful departed buried within old St. Pancras' Church and churchyard, and in all the other St. Pancras' cemeteries." Mass for the dead under the authorisation of a Bishop of the Established Church is certainly a novelty.

While the anti-clericals are still musing over what seems, so far, the impracticable scheme of having an Exposition at Rome in '95 to commemorate "the silver wedding of Rome to United Italy," the Catholics, upon their side, it is reported are busy in making plans for the celebration, during the same year of a holier feast. The 26th of May, 1895, will be the tercentenary of St. Philip Neri, and the day is to be celebrated with a holier pomp than will ever grace the exhibition in the villa Borghese.

The Congregation of Indulgences has issued, according to the Rome correspondent of the *Catholic Times* an important declaration concerning the recitation of the Rosary in groups. When several persons recite the Rosary together it will suffice for one of them to hold a blessed Rosary in the hand for all present to gain the indulgences attached thereto. As to exterior occupations, forbidden during the recitation it should be understood that this clause refers in a special manner to such occupation as would prevent the concentrated attention of the mind being given to the prayers.

According to Dr. Bowles Daly, Sir Arthur Gordon's (Lord Stanmore's) "Buddhist Temporalities Ordinance," issued some four years since, does not appear to have worked any great improvement in the morals, habits, or manners of the Buddhist monks of Ceylon. Dr. Bowles Daly, who has been appointed by the Government to inquire into the subject, has visited no fewer than thirteen hundred Buddhist monasteries in the island, about which he has prepared a very remarkable report. He declares the great proportion of the monks to be foul in body as well as mind, utterly neglectful of their duties, and ignorant of them. "The monks, who are gradually giving up their 'pansala' schools, are idle and thoroughly depraved. Brutal stagnation of mind prevails, and as for education, they know (he says) no more the philosophy of Buddhism than they do the poetry of Tennyson." Writing of his visit to the Pope Temple, Dr. Daly describes the incumbent as a gaunt withered man of fifty-three, whose cheek-bones stood out like rocks at low water and whose deep-set eyes gleamed spitefully on him with the disconcerting fixity of a policeman's lantern. His body, he adds, was a stranger to soap and water, and his mind was equally foul."

The *Daily Graphic* contains a sympathetic reference to the death of Dr. Adolph Jellinek, giving also a short sketch of his life: "In beauty of style and elevation of thought his sermons," says our contemporary, "may challenge comparison with the best homiletic efforts of the Christian Churches. Like all modern Hebrew thinkers, he held fast to the doctrine of the historical development of Judaism, teaching the harmony of Faith and Science, and the adaptability of the ancient religious system of his people to the conditions of modern life. In his early years Jellinek, in company with his distinguished brother Hermann, took an active interest in politics, and was among the gifted circle of turbulent Jewish spirits who did so much to promote the revolutionary movement in 1848. His brother was editor of the Vienna *Radikal*, and one of the martyrs of the struggle for freedom. On the 22nd of November, 1848, he was arrested on a charge of inflaming the populace, and, after a brief trial at the drum-head, was shot, together with Dr. Becher, on the following morning."