

appearance of peace and concord, who does not see that instructions such as is now given, can result only in promoting a spirit of contention and strife? If we accustom our pupils to consider instruction as an enchanted weapon only, whose possession will ensure to them the certainty of victory, let us not be surprised that according as the part of instruction increases that of education diminishes. In conclusion, M. Brunetière quotes a sentence from Lamennais:—"Human society is founded on the mutual gift, on the sacrifice, of man to man, or of each man to all men, and sacrifice is the essence of all society." Without that, says the writer, there is no society—no education, if education should form man for society. His contention throughout his article has been that the instruction, of which the existing systems of education consist, results in forming the individualism which is the enemy of education, as it is that also of social order.

#### ODDS AND ENDS.

PARTICULARS of the death of Dr Maunsell, formerly of Dunedin, who died in London on March 21st have been received. We learn from the correspondent of the *Star*, that the deceased had found a lucrative practice in which he bade fair to rise to eminence. His death is the more to be regretted since it has prematurely ended a career that promised to renew in London the fame of the Dublin school of medicine of which the doctor was a graduate. The cause of death was broncho-pneumonia following on influenza.

Verily that traditional hundred pounds in the Bank for the man who minds his own business seems destined still to lie there. Here is now a correspondent who tells us, in the *Daily Times*, that there are many who "regard with objection the undoubtedly solemn services at St Joseph's at Easter." There are folk that will never get a penny of the money in question. Their objection, too, cannot be of much value or they would not thus throw it away.

Somebody has sent our "Civis" a paragraph from the *New York Sun*, on which our festive friend discourses in a somewhat contradictory fashion. The paragraph touches jubilantly on a plan for the partition of the British Empire between America, Russia, Germany, and France. First our logical friend declares, *à propos* of the American disposition towards England, that thickness of blood never yet prevented a family quarrel or a civil war. Then he virtually takes his oath that nobody but a "rabid Irish Yank" could be guilty of such an utterance as that quoted by him. The fact is, nevertheless, that such utterances are quite common among Americans who have not a drop of Irish blood in their veins. Anyone who reads the American papers must be familiar with them. But our "Civis" goes on to answer for Irish Australasians. "As for Irishmen on this side of the world," he says, "they would give the reptile writer their *oead mille faithe* with the thick end of a shtick." And 'ow 'appy our "Civis" would be to see 'em 'it 'im in the eye! Meantime, we should perhaps return thanks for the good opinion expressed of Irish colonists. Let us hope it is not in keeping with the contradiction to which we have alluded.

When it was reported here some little time ago that President Kruger of the Transvaal had sent the Pope the biggest diamond that ever was found, we saw some reason to doubt the report. From what we had read of "Oom Paul" and his people, we hardly thought he would so dispose of even the least of his jewels. This report is now contradicted. The *Unita Cattolica* says there is no truth whatever in it.

Theologians are making a new beginning in the United States. The Rev J. F. Reid, an Evangelical minister of Portland, Oregon, has shown his rev brethren a bright example. He bailed up a cashier in a bank there the other day, and was making away with a very fair swag, when the police appeared on the scene. The rev gentleman now awaits his trial.

Peace seems now to be virtually concluded between China and Japan. The principal terms are the payment of a large indemnity in money and the cession of territory, Formosa especially—by the Chinese. Five Chinese ports besides are to be opened to trade and the Japanese are to have the right of running cotton factories in China. Here, however, England is affected, as a rivalry with Manchester must ensue. Possibly also these colonies may feel something of this, as an increase to the proper population at home cannot but add, in some way or another, to our undesirable immigrants. Japan too, emerges from the struggle a naval power of some strength—able, we are told, if it suit her to exercise a considerable influence in the matter of Chinese immigration—and, in any case, capable of being a useful ally in war to any European Government. The developments now to appear are, therefore, of no light interest.

Some sensation has been caused in France by the refusal of the Cardinal Archbishop of Paris to permit of the religious burial of a man who had been killed in a duel. The victim was a journalist named Percher, but writing under the *nom de plume* of Harry Alis. The Cardinal, however, as has been shown, was simply obeying the law the Church, Pope Benedict XIV. having decreed that, even when a man mortally wounded in a duel had survived to receive the last

sacraments, his remains must not have a religious burial. The intention was palpably that of checking—if it were impossible altogether to prevent, an un-Christian custom. There seems little room for hostile criticism on the part of any one who abhors bloodshed and violence. Many people in France, however, as elsewhere are nowadays anxious to avail themselves of any pretext to cavil at religion or its ministers.

The support reported here, as given in the House of Commons by the Ulster Members to the Land Bill is easily explained by the action of the farmers. Even in districts noted for their Orange associations meetings were held to insist on the necessity for the proposed Act. We must not, however, become too sanguine as to the conversion of this population to Home Rule. It might, no doubt, seem that they would be more favourably disposed towards an end agitation to procure which had so far resulted to their interests. This we might expect from their own common sense, and no doubt it would be the case if religious bigotry, the most hardening and blinding of all motives, did not enter into the question. As things are, the passing of the Bill will, in all probability, strengthen these farmers in their opposition by removing the grievances that press upon them personally, and satisfying the want of which they themselves are conscious. We need hardly look to them for much sympathy for the grievances remaining throughout the other parts of the country.

United Italy still sends out her emigrants in increasing numbers. The severity of the past winter was cruelly felt in the unfortunate country—where even death from starvation was, if not the rule, hardly the rare exception.

Madame Modjeska, the Polish actress, has been forbidden by the Russian authorities to fulfil an engagement made by her to play at a theatre in Warsaw. The cause is certain lectures on Russian methods lately delivered by her in Chicago. The lady, however, may possibly regard the simple prohibition as an act of clemency. It would appear more *en regle* to let her visit the city as arranged, and then send her off to Siberia. The improvement is, perhaps, due to the milder frame of the young Czar.

If the report be true that Count Caprivi has given a hint as to a desirability of making Egypt neutral territory the situation may be regarded as serious. Great Britain, says the Count, should withdraw from there and not wound the dignity of Germany. Count Caprivi's opinion, it is true, is not now of quite so much weight as it was while he was still Chancellor. It may, nevertheless, disclose a tendency to encourage in France a more friendly disposition. Nothing however, seems plainer than that the interests of the British empire will permit of no measure of the kind. The dignity of Germany, no doubt, is an important matter, but it might be possible for people outside Germany to pay too much for its maintenance. How, moreover, in the present instance, it is affected, it is not very easy to see.

STRAWS show how the wind blows. That is traditional. Here is the fag end of one from a leader in the *Dunedin Star*. The forbearance of Captain Russell has recalled to the writer quite another sort of thing in connection with O'Connell. "When Dan O'Connell," he says, "told Sir Robert Peel that the smile which occasionally, but rarely, found its way to his extremely grave face was 'like the silver plate on a coffin' the violence of the language did not rest upon a moral basis. It was a mere offensive personality by no means redeemed by its wit." The moral ground, meantime, on which our writer bases his own mild words is the chagrin caused by his perception of the complete fitness with which Captain Russell's speech has fallen in Dunedin. This has tuned up all of his kind to swearing pitch, and they must out with it. They are mad enough to strike out at random. The unreasoning fury of the delirious Anglo-Saxon naturally seeks an Irish mark.

#### G A E L I C N O T E S.

BIDHEAN cuid d' ar g-cairdibh Sacsanacha ag dhéanamh grunn agus ag gáiridhe ar ár n-bair chum na Gaedhilde a chongbháil beo agus a theagag. Acht atá siad gan íolas ar bith ar an g-cúis so. Is truaigh linn iad. Atá an fonn ceudna orra do bhi ar an m-bairrioghan Eiliseib nuair rinne sí dlíge chum na teagan agus na creidim a sgríos ann son-fheacht.

Some survival, we find, of the good Queen Bess obtains in these more enlightened times of ours. Queen Bess, it will be remembered, made a law by which Latin might be used in the Church of England services in Ireland. So great was her Grace's detestation of the Irish language that anything seemed to her preferable to it. She would not even have the faith of the Irish people perverted by its means. Their faith and their language, she was determined, should perish together. The meaning of our Gaelic paragraph, therefore, will be apparent to those who take the trouble of translating it.

The golden jubilee of a venerable Christian Brother—the Rev Brother Flynn—was lately celebrated with great rejoicing at Mount

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