

this point of view, may be regarded as pioneers of civilization. The well-known Protestant pulpit orator, Rev. Dr. Costa, of New York, says: 'In Manila the very insurgent soldier bows humbly in adoration before the cross, and is quite as good a Christian as hundreds of thousands of more pretentious and privileged people in this country. Zealous propagandists (he adds) may well confine themselves to their present half-tilled, sunburnt fields, wherein they wrangle with one another about modest forms, and debate their pitiable creed to the confusion of honest inquirers, instead of seeking to disintegrate existing Christianity in Manila. As for our own (Episcopal) Church, a careful study of its present conditions would suggest better attention to itself before attempting to send more missionaries into the East. It had better find out what it believes, re-establish its faith, stop the blatant denial of God's Word now echoed in pulpit and print, invigorate discipline, and catch more of the spirit of the Catholic Church and the Apostolic age, before making any demonstration either in Manila or the West Indies.'

THE German Kaiser is a man of many parts: ALL TO ALL. now spouting theatrically of divine right, anon clapping his 'mailed fist' to his sword hilt, again a pilgrim, and through all and in all an enigma to the world, and probably to himself as well. In his recent pilgrim-tour through Palestine he delighted fervent German Evangelicals by the aggressive Protestantism of the sermon delivered by him at the opening of the new church of the Redeemer in the Holy City. He contrived to annoy the Russians by cutting off a goodly slice of their long-established supremacy in Jerusalem. He patted his 'brother,' the unspeakable Turk, on the back by acting as the apologist of the massacre of the Armenian Christians. He followed up these successes by placing the Catholics of the East generally under the protection of 'the mailed power of the imperial navy,' and bestowing upon the ancient Church the site in Jerusalem where, according to old tradition, the Blessed Virgin lived with the Apostle St. John from the day when, at the foot of the cross, he 'took her to his own.' He has contrived to please Protestants and Catholics. He has also tickled the Mahomedans under the chin and emptied their beggared exchequer into the bargain. And, last of all, he has returned home laden with magnificent and costly presents. But, says the *Spectator*, 'the presents were really made to him by the unfortunate Government officials and other public servants in Turkey, whose pay was stopped in order to provide the imperial presents.' That is how they do things in Turkey. The process reminds one forcibly of many a 'voluntary' testimonial that is given in more favoured countries. However, we can forgive the stagy, posing, prosing Kaiser many a thing—even the presents—when we recollect that, in a nation which, outside the Catholic body, preserves so little of Christian faith or practice, he is seized with some knowledge of the place which religion should fill in public, social, and domestic life.

### ITALIAN TYRANNY.

#### INFAMOUS SUPPRESSION OF AN ENCYCLICAL.

A VERY important question for Catholics in all parts of the world, says the Roman correspondent of the New York *Freeman's Journal*, and of very special importance for the Roman correspondents of Catholic newspapers, is that of the freedom of communication that should exist between the head and centre of the Catholic Church and the rest of the Catholic universe. When Rome fell before the forces of Victor Emanuel in 1870 the new National (let us call it so) Government passed a law of guarantees, which provided, among other things, that the person of his Holiness would be protected against disrespect, and that his communications with the rest of the world would be absolutely free.

A recent fact will illustrate the degree of reliance that is to be placed in this or any other 'guarantee' given by the masters of modern Italy. On the 5th of August of this year, Pope Leo XIII. gave to the world one of the most important documents issued during his long reign of more than twenty years. It was addressed primarily to the clergy and people of Italy, but his Holiness expressly declared in it that it was also designed to call the attention of Christendom to the tyranny under which the Church in Italy groans, to the unjustifiable suppression of hundreds of Catholic societies for promoting the religious, moral, and economic well-being of the people, to the wanton outrages committed on the liberty of the Catholic press, and finally to the intolerable position created for the Papacy in Rome. For weeks after the publication of this Encyclical, the press of Italy rang with it, in terms of abuse or in terms of praise according to the complexion of the different organs.

The London *Times* began to talk about it—actually a leader on it, which was not half bad for the *Times*. Then a curious fact came to light—the extracts of the Encyclical quoted in the *Times* were inaccurate, and its Roman correspondent telegraphed at once to that effect. The summary supplied by the telegraphic agency to the *Times* had been cabled to the Paris *Journal des Debats*, but the *Journal* prudently preferred to wait until it received the official text of the important document from the columns of the *Osservatore Romano*.

Then another strange fact became evident—the *Journal des Debats* never received that particular issue of the *Osservatore Romano*. This was peculiar. But the plot began to thicken when it was found that the London *Times*, too, failed to receive the *Osservatore* on the same day. The same fate befel other foreign papers.

But it would appear that the Italian Government officials did not expend all their solicitude on the *Osservatore Romano*. On the evening of the publication of the Encyclical your correspondent sat down to translate it, worked over it nearly all night and a part of the next day, and lost no time in mailing it to the *Freeman*. He might have saved himself the trouble. The Encyclical never reached its destination. A friend of his who translated the document for an English paper has had the same experience.

And now the question begins to arise: What is going to be done about it? If the Pope's most solemn communications to the children of the Catholic Church are to be at the mercy of the Italian Government, it is as well that they should know it. It is your correspondent's humble opinion that if influential Catholics in the different countries of Europe and America realised the true condition of the Papacy in Rome to-day, there would be an outburst of international indignation which would speedily end the political career of the parties that have made war on the Catholic Church in Italy during the last thirty years.

## Diocesan News.

### ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON.

(From our own correspondent.)

It has been decided to adopt the basilica style of architecture for the new church, which is to be erected on the site of St. Mary's Cathedral. It is very probable that Mr. F. Petre of Dunedin will be entrusted with the work of supplying plans and specifications. The statement that was circulated here that he had been definitely selected, is premature.

Of the priests I reported last week as having been ordained at St. Joseph's Church, Buckle street, Fathers Kimbell and Maloney join the College staff for the present, whilst Father Mahoney goes to Nelson to replace Father Broussard, who goes to New Caledonia for mission work.

The pupils of St. Mary's convent gave two concerts during the week on behalf of the building fund of St. Mary's Cathedral. They were assisted on both occasions by leading musicians of this city. The Theatre Royal, in which the concerts were given, had been transformed from its generally cold appearance into quite an attractive concert room, through the kindness of the D.I.C. The outside assistance was given by Messrs. Parker, pianoforte (accompanist), and Hill and Stebbing (vocalists), and Herr Hoppe (violinist). The pupils and ex-pupils who contributed to the programme were Misses White, Brady, Shapter, Sullivan, I. Maginnity, Putnam, Pender, Quin, K. Connell, Maginnity, and Kearsley. As my budget of news this week is already somewhat lengthly I must refrain from going into particulars, suffice it to say that the whole performance was a musical treat which was duly appreciated by the discriminating audience which was present on the first night. On the second occasion the audience was much larger, the weather being finer and the programme of a more popular character.

A representative meeting of the parishioners of Te Aro and Thorndon was held in St. Patrick's Hall on Sunday afternoon for the purpose of making arrangements for the holding of the annual school picnic on Boxing Day. The Very Rev. Father Devoy, V.G., and the Very Rev. Father Lewis, Administrator of the Cathedral parish, were present. It was decided to hold the outing at Father Lane's ground at the Lower Hut, and that another meeting should be held next Sunday afternoon to arrange details.

The members of the Hibernian Society entertained Mr. Haydon, chief President of the Society in Australia, when that gentleman was passing through Wellington recently on his way to Sydney. Bro. Lissington presided at the luncheon which was given in honour of the visitor, after which Mr. Haydon visited St. Patrick's College and other places of interest.

St. Mary's Convent has again come to the fore in the musical examinations, for out of the 29 passes secured by Wellington candidates at the examination held a few days ago under the auspices of the Associated Boards of the Royal Academy of Music and the Royal College, in practical work, the Convent was credited with 17. Of the nine candidates sent up for singing all passed, three with honours; in fact, these were the only candidates who obtained honours in this centre. The following is the result:—Local Centre Examinations: Senior Grade Honours—Daisy Marshall and May Sullivan, singing. Local Centre Pass: Pinnoforte—Rose Falconer; Singing—Lily White, Mary Putnam, and Theodore Shapter. Local School Examination: Honours.—Singing—Kate Connell. Higher Division.—Singing—Christine Smith, Effie Stafford, and May McLeod. Pianoforte—Winifred Richardson, Jessamine Evatt, Alice McDonald, and Clare Campton. Lower Division.—Pianoforte—Maribel Waldegrave and Irene Nathan.

(The above reached us too late for insertion in our last week's issue.)

December 17.

FOLLOWING the example set by the former students of St. Patrick's College and pupils of the Marist Brothers' schools, the ex-pupils of the Convent have formed an 'Old Girls' Association.' A meeting for this object was held in the Convent a few days ago, the Rev. Mother Superior presiding. The officers elected were: President, the Rev. Mother Superior; vice-president, Miss O'Connor; secretary, Miss Kate Williams; committee, Mrs. T. G. Macarthy, Mrs. Gamble, and Miss McDonald.

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