

A Distinction with a Difference.—In Dublin Castle there are documents which throw fresh light upon the Irish insurrection of 1798. Mr. James Anthony Froude, Mr. Lecky, and other students of history were permitted to read them, but the Government refused the same privilege to Mr. Swift McNeill, M.P. Upon this refusal an interesting and animated debate arose, in the course of which some of the most prominent members of the House of Commons took part, including Mr. Asquith, Sir Walter Foster, Mr. Lecky, and others. The Chief Secretary's defence was that the papers would be shown to men who would use them in writing impartial history, and were not for the eyes of people who would exploit them in exciting the political passions and controversies of the present time. It was for the latter purpose (he said) Mr. McNeill required them. Finally, he laid it down that the inspection of the secret papers depends upon the purpose of the inspector, and the spirit in which he intends to use them. On all sides Mr. Gerald Balfour's explanation met with severe condemnation. The defence was as weak as it was rash, every member who spoke having exposed the prejudice and partiality of Mr. Froude's writings, and yet he could have access to Irish State documents, which were withheld from Mr. McNeill. To the astonishment and disgust of the House, Mr. Lecky approved of the denial of the papers to Mr. McNeill. In taking this course Mr. Lecky dealt himself a blow from which he will not soon recover. He stigmatised himself as narrow-minded, bigoted, and ungenerous.

The Twelfth of July.—Very little interest was attracted this year (says a Dublin correspondent) by the Orange 12th of July demonstrations. In Belfast they were disgusting, and in Dublin only offensive and absurd. The enthusiasm of the Orange Brethren in the northern capital displayed itself mainly in unprovoked assaults on inoffensive Catholics, and on the police. But the streets were crowded with the military, and the recurrence of those widespread and blood-stained Orange riots, with which Belfast has been so often disgraced, was thereby happily prevented. In Dublin the Orange fervour evaporated harmlessly in foolish speeches. It is interesting, however, to note in the speech of the Chairman, Mr. Robert F. Ledwell, Orange Grand Master, that the old spirit of Orange intolerance is still violent as ever. The name of Mr. Arthur Balfour was violently hissed, and cries of 'down with him' fully indulged in at the meeting in the Rotunda. The Chairman declared that he did not think the leader of the House of Commons was as great a favourite as when he was Chief Secretary for Ireland. 'The Conservatives were losing ground,' continued the Orange Grand Master, 'because of the position they had taken up on the Church question in England and on the question of a Roman Catholic University for Ireland. Mr. Balfour had sent Mr. T. W. Russell, M.P., across to Ireland,' he continued, 'to make a certain speech. Mr. Russell was just the man for a dirty job; but South Tyrone, that had put up with him so long, would put up with him no longer. If Mr. Balfour did not turn from the put of his ways he hoped he would be expelled from East Manchester.' Mr. William Touchstone, Grand Secretary for England, proposed a resolution violently denouncing Mr. Balfour's suggestion of a provision for Catholic University education for Ireland as 'retrograde in principle and opposed to modern thought.' The resolution was seconded by Mr. M. E. Manns, Grand Secretary for Scotland, supported by the Rev. Canon T. C. O'Connor, and carried unanimously. In proposing a resolution of devotion to 'Our Gracious Sovereign, Queen and Empress,' the Rev. W. J. Clarke, D.D., declared if the Roman Catholics of Ireland got a Roman Catholic University they would then agitate for a Catholic Lord Lieutenant, and then for Maes to be celebrated in the Chapel Royal, and then the sooner Orangemen fought or fled the better.

LONDON DENTAL INSTITUTE.—£1000 has been deposited by the principal with the Bank of Australasia at Dunedin as a guarantee of our worth. See advertisements. Complete sets from £3 8s; gas, 2s 6d; extractions, 2s 6d and 1s. Absolutely painless. All work guaranteed 10 years. Money refunded if not found satisfactory.—*.*

By cablegram the Dunlop Co. learn that the long looked-for Dunlop pacing motors are on board the R. M. S. "Rome," which will arrive in Melbourne about the middle of this month. One of the tandems sent is the identical machine which has been pacing Platt-Betts fast enough to establish fresh British records up to ten miles, so that the Australian cracks will have every opportunity of getting near world's records this season.—*.*

Lyttelton Times says:—"Gawne and Co., the manufacturers, of George street, Dunedin, send us a sample of their Worcestershire Sauce, made like Lea and Perrin's 'from the receipt of a country nobleman,' who must have been a fastidious feeder, and Gawne and Co. must have got the same receipt, as their sauce is indistinguishable from the famous Lea and Perrin's. People who like a relish with their meats—and what man does not—should be grateful to that anonymous country nobleman for spending his time in experimenting to such good purpose.—*.*"

MYERS AND CO., Dentists, Octagon, corner of George street. They guarantee highest class work at moderate fees. Their artificial teeth give general satisfaction, and the fact of them supplying a temporary denture while the gums are healing does away with the inconvenience of being months without teeth. They manufacture a single artificial tooth for Ten Shillings, and sets equally moderate. The administration of nitrous-oxide gas is also a great boon to those needing the extraction of a tooth. Read advertisement.—*.*

THE NEW BISHOP OF PUERTO RICO.

THE RIGHT REV. DR. BLENK, S.M.

A NEW period in the annals of the Catholic Church, a new era in the tide of human events, and a new epoch in the history of the nations were marked yesterday at the St. Louis Cathedral, New Orleans, in the solemn elevation to the episcopal sees of Cuba and Puerto Rico respectively of Archbishop Barnada of Santiago de Cuba, and the Right Rev. James Blenk, S.M., of New Orleans (writes the *Daily Picayune*, July 3.)

The ceremony of consecration was a very impressive one, and was carried out with all the pomp and splendour appropriate to such an event. The ancient Cathedral was magnificently decorated. From the entrance hung the flags of the United States and Cuba entwined. The exterior was hung with the flags of the nations and the archiepiscopal shields of Louisiana and Cuba, and the episcopal shield of Puerto Rico. The high altar was a brilliant picture of light and colour, and from the arched marble columns above draped the United States and Papal colours. The scene was the most magnificent and imposing ever witnessed in the ancient cathedral. It was full of significance of the marked change in the tide of national history. Many minds reverted almost unconsciously to the early history of the Catholic Church in Louisiana, when the bright and beautiful land was a Spanish Colony, and from the then flourishing see of Havana, nearly 200 years ago, there came a Spanish bishop to preside over the recently erected see of New Orleans as its first bishop. The see of Cuba was then a part of the see of Puerto Rico, the oldest of all the North American sees; and now, after the lapse of ages, the Archbishop of Cuba comes to New Orleans to be consecrated and invested with the plenitude of power, and a New Orleans boy goes to the ancient see of Puerto Rico as its first American bishop in the wonderful change that a year's events in the world's history has wrought. The cathedral was thronged to its utmost capacity with a distinguished and interested attendance. The seats just in front of the grand altar were reserved for the judiciary, the foreign consuls, and city officials. There were senators of the United States, judges of the supreme court, distinguished members of the Bar, and learned men of every profession in that vast gathering. There were also the humble and simple ones of earth gathered to offer their prayers for the happiness and success of the newly consecrated bishops.

From the hour when Bishop Blenk was first named for the episcopal see of Puerto Rico legions of friends have been rallying to him, endeavouring to show by every means in their power the high esteem and love in which they have ever held him and their desire to have an abiding place in his heart. The grand demonstrations of the past four days in honour of Bishop Blenk reached a beautiful climax yesterday morning. At an early hour the presbytery grounds of the church of the Holy Name of Mary, in Algiers, where Bishop Blenk has been stationed for the past two years, was besieged by the congregation and members of every Catholic church organisation in Algiers. The people were led by Judge P. F. Hennessey, a faithful friend of Bishop Blenk's. A handsome carriage, drawn by two beautiful white horses, drew up to the presbytery door, and Bishop Blenk, robed in his royal garb of purple silk, was escorted to the carriage by Judge Hennessey, grand marshal of the demonstration.

The ceremony of consecration was performed by his Grace the Most Rev. Dr. Chapelle, and there were present a large number of prelates and clergy. After the ceremony a banquet was held, when Archbishop Chapelle paid a high tribute to the work of Archbishop Barnada in Cuba, who, he said, was the fifty-fifth Bishop of Cuba, and the first native Cuban Archbishop. Turning to Bishop Blenk, Archbishop Chapelle said that he was called to fill the most ancient See in North America. His Grace continuing, said that the mission of both prelates would, of course, be difficult, for radical changes must be made, growing out of the new order of things; but he had no fear. They were called to the episcopal chair at a wonderful period in the world's history.

Bishop Blenk replied in the most felicitous manner, thanking the Archbishop for his kindness and love. He had been a true father, both to him and Archbishop Barnada, and in the name of the latter and himself he would lay at his feet the hearts of the Cubans and the Puerto Ricans. Bishop Blenk said that these people already hailed the Archbishop as their saviour, their friend, and concluded by pledging fidelity and love from the bishops and people to the delegate whom the Holy Father had appointed.

During the day Bishop Blenk received many telegrams of congratulation, among others one from his Grace the Archbishop of Wellington, New Zealand. The newly-appointed Bishop of Puerto Rico had been closely connected with St. Mary's College, Dundalk, for many years, and was ordained priest by his Grace Archbishop Redwood.

PITHY PROVERBS.

Opportunity does a great deal that ability gets the credit for.
It is no use clutching at the bald spot on Opportunity's head.
To borrow is human; to forget all about it is still more so in a vast number of cases.

Trust not to appearances; the drum which makes much noise is filled with wind.

It is a good thing always to cultivate good temper—the art of looking on the brighter side of life.

'Of thy unspoken word,' said a wise man, 'thou art master—thy spoken word is master of thee.'

We can finish nothing in this life; but we may make a beginning, and bequeath a noble example.