

deal of attention in Italy. The General is not in harmony with his brother Menotti on the subject, and General Canzio, his brother-in-law, also dissents from his action. But there can be no doubt that his policy is carefully calculated. He knows that there is deep discontent in Italy, and he is anxious to see a republic established. He recognises, however, that any attempt to bring about a drastic change without the aid of the Catholics would be fruitless. He has accordingly proclaimed that whilst overthrowing the monarchy he would safeguard the rights of the Pope. This is an astute way of tempting the Catholics, and no doubt in the present condition of affairs there are some who will be inclined to lend a favourable ear to his proposals. But the Catholic authorities from the Holy Father downwards will not, of course, countenance any such scheme.

SCOTLAND.—The Rectorship of St. Mary's College, Blairs.—The Right Rev. Dr. Chisholm, Bishop of Aberdeen, has resigned the rectorship of St. Mary's College, Blairs, on account of pressure of episcopal duties. He is succeeded by the Rev. James McGregor, Administrator, St. Mary's Cathedral, Aberdeen. The new rector is a native of Keith, Banffshire, and received his elementary education at the parish school (the present flourishing Catholic school did not then exist) under Dr. Joseph Ogilvie, now of the Aberdeen Church of Scotland Training College. He afterwards studied at St. Mary's, Blairs, and subsequently at the Scots College, Rome, where he completed his theological course. On his ordination in 1883, he returned to his native diocese, and his first appointment was as a curate at St. Mary's Cathedral, Aberdeen, under the late Dean Stopani. On Monsignor Stopani's death in December, 1894, Father McGregor was appointed his successor as Administrator at St. Mary's Cathedral, and entered on the duties early in the following year.

Catholic Chaplain to the Forces.—The Rev. Thomas MacDonald has been appointed successor to the Rev. Donald Chisholm, M.R., as Catholic chaplain to the forces in Aberdeen.

The Passionists in Glasgow.—The Very Rev. Anthony Carron, C.P., from Belfast, has entered on his duties at St. Mungo's, in succession to the Very Rev. Wilfrid O'Hagan, now of Mount Argus, Dublin. Father Wilfrid was exceedingly popular, not only with his own congregation, but throughout the Glasgow archdiocese.

Death of a Well-known Catholic.—The death is reported, in his eightieth year, of Mr. Colin McDonald, a well-known sheep farmer on the braes of Lochaber, where he was also a much-respected

Catholic. He was one of the chief supporters of the games at Fort William, which were promoted by the late Chief of Glengarry and Mr. Dudley Ward. The funeral took place at Bunroy.

SOUTH AFRICA.—The Silver Jubilee of Bishop Jolivet.—Referring to the Silver Jubilee of the Episcopate of Mgr. Jolivet, Bishop of Natal, and the Golden Jubilee of his priesthood, the *Zambesi Mission Record* says: 'Bishop Jolivet has done a magnificent work in South Africa, and his Vicariate at one time seems to have extended from the Colony (even taking in a portion of that) to the Equator. His noblest monument will be in the evidences of his zeal which exist in many places in the shape of convents, schools, churches, etc., and in the great impetus that he has given to religion and education in South Africa.'

UNITED STATES.—Dr. Zahm Withdraws His Work on Evolution from Sale.—The Very Rev. Dr. Zahm, C.S.C., of the Catholic University, has written as follows to Mr. Alfonso Golea, the translator of his work on *Evolution and Dogma*: 'I have learned from unquestionable authority that the Holy See is adverse to the further distribution of *Evolution and Dogma*, and I therefore beg of you to use all your influence to have the book withdrawn from sale. You have probably foreseen this result, and it will therefore cause you no surprise. . . . However, we can both thank God that we laboured only for His honour and glory in giving the work to the public. As for myself, it will cause me no pain to see the fruit of so much toil consigned to oblivion. God rewards the intention, and our intentions were good.'

WEDDING CAKES.

WEDDING cake was an institution among the ancients as with us but the cake was a plain one and was broken above the head of the bride as she went into her new home. This was a special feature of Roman marriages 2000 years ago. The breaking of the cake was part of a solemn ceremony, and was said to be very impressive.

A similar custom prevails in some portions of Scotland, where a bannock is broken above the head of the young wife as she for the first time enters her new home. In Queen Elizabeth's time spice cakes and buns were eaten at weddings. From these the fashion and fancy grew for all sorts of elaborate and deliciously unwholesome combinations, as in the cake of to-day.

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