

Glensharrold estate, county Meath, none on the Shirley estate, county Monaghan? It is not always desirable to see things in a rosy light. The absence of crime is one thing—the absence of illegal combination quite another. Till boycotting takes itself away and men recover their civil rights no one can boast that the reign of law has been really restored. As to the condition of Ireland, there has been, in our opinion, a good deal too much concealment. It has been for some time past the cue of Government speakers to point out the widespread peace and security resulting from Mr. Balfour's administration of the law. We have no desire to minimise his work and its happy results, but when we know as a fact that even in peaceful Meath and in other counties there are farms lying derelict which no one will dare to occupy, which are we to think? What are you to think, Dr. Patton? Why, that the tenants' crimeless organisation still holds the field in spite of the most savage Coercion; that eviction is not a profitable occupation; and that the land-grabbers' lot is not a happy one despite all the protestations of the brave Mr. Balfour to the contrary? It is plain that the Clarricarde Coercion Extension Act is badly needed in Ulster.

ST. MARY'S, MANCHESTER STREET,
CHRISTCHURCH.

FEAST OF THE HOLY NAME OF MARY,
SEPTEMBER 14, 1890.

THE Church of St. Mary's was tastefully decorated by the ladies of the Altar Society and gentlemen of the congregation for the celebration of the patronal feast of this new sanctuary raised in Christchurch North in honour of the Mother of God. At eleven o'clock a Solemn High Mass was sung, after which the Blessed Sacrament was exposed. The altar, with its varied flowers and artistically-arranged lights, presented a most beautiful aspect. During the whole of the day the Children of Mary, members of the Altar Society, Apostleship of Prayer, and many of the faithful remained in adoration in presence of our loving Saviour. At 3 o'clock the school-children made their adoration, and the Rev. Father Marnane read an Act of Reparation for the injuries offered to our Blessed Lord in the sacrament of His love. Vespers were sung at 6.30 p.m., and a most impressive, interesting, and devotional sermon was preached by the Very Rev. Father Cummings, Adm. of the diocese. The preacher commenced his discourse by relating the origin of the Festival of the Holy Name of Mary. In the year 1683 the Mussulmans were besieging the city of Vienna; they had completely surrounded the town with an army of 200,000 men. On the eve of the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin, the Turks made a desperate attack on the city. What is still more dreadful, a conflagration took place, which threatened the arsenal and the destruction of the whole city by the explosion of the powder and war materials gathered into it. The shells of the besieging army destroyed many of the public buildings and a considerable number of the private houses. Vienna was at that time the bulwark of Christendom. Had the Turks succeeded in taking it they would have pushed their invasion throughout Europe, massacred the inhabitants, and Christianity would have been a thing of the past, recorded only in history. In the midst of the roaring of the cannons, of the crash of the public buildings falling to pieces, of the lurid glare of the devastating fire, sweeping everything before it, the heroic Christians of Vienna had recourse to the Mother of God; their prayers were heard, the wind suddenly changed and the citadel was out of danger. On the day following, the second day of the octave of the Nativity of Our Lady, a band of soldiers was seen on the slopes of the Kalemberg, moving towards the city. It was the brave Sobieski, King of Poland, who came to assist the Christians of Vienna. On that very day he had assisted at Holy Mass, and asked as a special privilege to be permitted to serve it as an altar boy. He received Holy Communion and with his arms stretched out as a cross implored the assistance of the God of armies, and the protection of the mother of God. "Let us march to battle," cried he; "we are protected by Mary? we shall conquer." He did conquer indeed. The Turks fled away in disorder when he rushed upon them. They were cut in pieces? their slain, by thousands, lay weltering in their blood. The rest in their flight left all their artillery and baggages and war materials behind them, and the very standard of Mahomed, John Sobieski entered in triumph the city of Vienna and sang the Te Deum. The standard emblazoned with the image of Mary, which he carried at the head of the army, was sent by him to the Pope, who, to commemorate this signal victory, established this festival, to be celebrated throughout the Christian Empire. The preacher next explained how the veneration of the name of Mary was in harmony with reason and Christian tradition. A name, he said, is a memorial of the thing represented. When we hear the name of great men e.g., of Napoleon, Nelson, Daniel O'Connell, etc., it brings before our minds all the heroic things they have done. When a child reads in a book the name of a beloved parent, it brings before it the very picture of that parent and draws tears from its eyes at the recollection of the many favours received from the same. It is for this reason that names of poets, orators, great captains, etc., are chiseled out on the rock, engraven on bronze statues, and carved in wood. The name of Mary is the greatest and most venerable next to the holy name of Jesus. Is it not reasonable that we should venerate it? This name is a divine one; it was revealed by God to St. Joachim and St. Anne. In the creed it is mentioned: "I believe . . . in Jesus Christ our Lord, who was born of the Virgin Mary." The greatest saints and doctors ever cherished and venerated it. Witness St. Francis of Assisium, the seraphic St. Bonaventure, the mellifluous St. Bernard and St. Anthony of Padua, who had it always on their lips and wished to die in uttering it, after the sacred name of Jesus, and with that the name of the great patriarch, St. Joseph. Having shown the reasonableness, antiquity, and efficacy of the name of Mary, the preacher aptly remarked that that holy name was also that of the society to which he was proud to belong. This society was established towards the middle of the present century by

a humble priest known almost exclusively by his spiritual children Very Rev. Father Colin, who was inspired by God to found it. In 1836 Pope Gregory XVI. approved of it, and entrusted to it the islands of Central Oceania, including New Zealand. Monsignor Pompallier with Father Servant, came here. The bishops gloried in being the first to celebrate Mass in the "forest-clad regions of New Zealand." On one occasion 5000 Maoris were converted to the Faith. These pioneers of the Faith (Marist Fathers) were the first to flash the sweet light of gospel peace from point to point. The chief object of the society was to procure the glory of God through Mary. In a society where the soul of Mary animated its members was the Lord of Mary. When they breathed and lived the life of Mary, this glory of God and the extension of His kingdom must necessarily promote God's glory. Mary is the echo of God. After nineteen centuries Christianity came to these shores. Here, therefore, in New Zealand was the prediction of Mary fulfilled across the centuries, "All generations shall call me blessed." Better and wiser men might be called to do this work, but Almighty God chose the Society for this great work. Thanks, therefore, to Mary Immaculate should be given by all, that now we enjoy at the world's extremities all the consolations and blessings of our holy religion.—Let us not forget the names of those pioneers of the faith who sowed in tears what we now reap in joy. After a stirring oration, in which the preacher urged his hearers to labour strenuously for the one thing necessary to earn for themselves in Heaven names which would be impensable in the glorious temple of the Church triumphant; and to true Catholic devotion to Mary the Mother of God, he concluded by wishing that this devotion, being transmitted by parents to children in the last moments of life, His glorious name would be for them a real passport from earth to eternal bliss.

After the sermon a procession of the Blessed Sacrament took place. The banners of our Blessed Lady, Sacred Heart, St. Joseph, and Blessed Peter Chanel were carried by representatives of their different confraternities. The Children of Mary with their blue cloaks and veils, the little girls with their snowy white dresses and angelic looks, the gentlemen of the church committee carrying lighted torches, followed the canopy, under which was the Blessed Sacrament, held by the Very Rev. Father Cummings, assisted by the missionary rector and Rev. Father Marnane, formed an imposing spectacle not soon to be forgotten. The choir by their devotional music enhanced the pomp of this solemn ceremony. The Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament crowned this memorable festival, and all left the church greatly pleased and edified. The Very Rev. Father Leterrier, Provincial of the Society of Mary, and Father John Goutenoire whose kindness and popularity are proverbial, honoured by their presence the clergy and parishioners of St. Mary's.

Commercial.

MESSES. DONALD STRONACH AND SON report for the week ending September 10, as follows:—

Fat Cattle.—A large entry comprising some 232 head came to hand for to-day's sale at Burnside, of which number a small proportion only were good beef, the remainder comprising inferior and medium sorts, the former of which predominated. Although the sale finished much better than it commenced, prices throughout were more in favour of buyers than last week, the top rate for the day being £10 7s 6d, for a pen of very prime heavy bullocks. Medium weights towards the close of the day brought about last week's prices but inferior sorts, owing to the large number offering met with an unsatisfactory sale throughout. Prime heavy weight bullocks brought £8 to £9 10s; medium, £7 to £7 15s; light, £5 to £5 10s; anything below this quotation coming under the definition of stores. Best cows and heifers sold at £6 10s to £8 12s 6d; light to medium, £3 10s to £5 5s.

We sold on account of Messrs. Ross Bros. (Bushy Park) three pens bullocks up to £7.

Fat Sheep.—3022 yarded, of which 500 were merinos, the balance being about evenly divided between crossbred wethers and ewes. Although there were various lines of good crossbred wethers in the market, the quality was scarcely as good on the whole as last week, as last week, the entry comprising a considerable number of light and medium weight sheep. A pen extra heavy prime crossbreds sold up to 18s 6d to 19s per head, but the ruling rates for good crossbred wethers were from 16s to 17s; average weights, 15s to 16s; light to medium, 13s to 14s; best ewes, 14s to 15s; (a few picked sheep to 19s); medium to good, 11s to 12s 6d. The merino wethers offered were on the whole of a good class, prices ranging from 10s up to 14s and 14s 9d.

We sold on account of Messrs. Ross Bros. (Bushy Park), crossbred wethers at 14s 6d to 15s; Mr. Walter Blackie, crossbred wethers at 16s 9d.

Figs.—119 yarded, bacon pigs, 32s to 38s; porkers, 32s to 27s; stores, 17s to 20s; weaners, 7s 6d to 10s 6d.

Store Sheep.—First-class hoggets are worth 13s to 14s; medium, 11s to 12s; inferior, 9s to 10s. Sound mouthed crossbred ewes, close to lambing, 14s to 15s; inferior to medium, 11s to 12s 6d; merino ewes 6s to 7s.

Store Cattle.—A few buyers only are in the market, whose inquiries tend in the direction of forward conditioned cattle to hold over for a short time on turnips, and to be then again brought into the market before the advent of spring fed cattle. Yearlings and two-year olds are not easy to place.

Sheepskins.—An average supply came to hand for last Tuesday's sales, including butchers' green skins and dry country lots. Buyers were well represented, and catalogues were cleared under fair competition, prices ruling proportionately about the same as last week. The best lines of green crossbreds brought 5s 9d to 6s; picked lots, for special purposes, 6s 6d; medium to good, 5s to 5s 6d; light, 4s