

## CATHOLIC NEWS.

## ST. MARY'S ORPHANAGE, NELSON.

The Catholics of Berlin are sadly in want of more churches, and of larger ones where churches already exist, on account of the enormous and rapid increase of the population of the capital. The congregation of St. Sebastian, finding their present accommodation utterly inadequate, are collecting money for a new church, and they made a direct appeal to the emperor for the fund. On Christmas Day, the good pastor of the church was enabled after the sermon to inform his people that he had received an answer to that appeal (dated the previous day), in which the Emperor granted a contribution of 60,000 marks (£3,000) to the petitioner, and he asked for the special prayers of the congregation for the noble donor and his family. The Emperor is winning more and more the golden opinions of his Catholic subjects.

Professor Janssen, who died at Frankfort-on-Main two days before Christmas, was one of the most eminent of the modern school of scientific historians. During the Kulturkampf he was elected a member of the Reichstag, where he took part in the long fight carried on by the Centre against Bismarck. In 1880 the Pope made him a domestic prelate, and on the death of Hergenrother, his Holiness offered him the post of librarian to the Vatican. The great work of Janssen's life was his "History of the German People." It begins with the Reformation period, and it has had the effect of changing completely the view accepted by competent critics of many of the men and events of that time. Of course it takes some years for the general public to feel the influence of such a change, and old prejudices die hard. It says little for the enterprise of our Catholic publishers that this truly "epoch-making" book has not yet appeared in an English version.

Several correspondents write to ask us why the Jesuits and other religious orders meet with such inveterate hostility in France and other countries which are Catholic or nominally so. There are three main reasons as clear as the noonday sun. First, the members of the religious orders are often the protagonists in the Church's warfare against the world; and being in "the gap of danger" they are the first to be assailed. Secondly, religious communities are admirable agencies for the distribution of charity, and funds are from time to time placed at their disposal for this purpose by pious and humane persons. Hence arises the cupidity of the modern infidel, whose disposition was pretty much the same as that of the lion in the fable, or Henry VIII. and his courtiers. Thirdly, the religious orders profess poverty, chastity, and obedience, and your hater of religion can tolerate anything but these virtues.

In a letter to the Abbé Pinier, the late Mgr. Freppel's private secretary, the Comte de Mun says:—"It is not now that the void he, Mgr. Freppel leaves among us can be estimated at its full extent. We shall feel his loss more and more as those topics of discussion arise concerning which it was our habit to rely on him, knowing that he was always prepared, always armed, always ready, body and soul." Farther on, alluding to the late painful scenes in the Chamber, M. de Mun says: "Seeing him exhausted, bent double with pain, and almost death depicted on his face, I begged him not to ascend the Tribune to speak. I shall never forget the expression of his face or the tone of his voice as he answered me: "I must speak. I owe it to the Church and to the clergy." And to another friend who entreated him as I had done, he replied, with one foot already on the step of the Tribune: "I know that it will fatigue me, but I must speak, even should I die in a week from now." This was on the 12th, and he died on the 22nd. "In this, his last lesson to us," continues the faithful friend who had laboured by his side for ten years, "he remains more truly great than by his eloquence, his knowledge, or by all the qualities of the mind put together. He was truly a priest and a Bishop: *Eccle sacerdos magnus.*"

The Satanic hatred of the Christian religion which seems to possess continental unbelievers has just manifested itself in Spain and Italy in a manner more than usually revolting. During the celebration of midnight Mass on Christmas Eve in Valencia four bombs were simultaneously exploded in different parts of the city, causing injuries in several cases as well as great consternation and alarm. One of the bombs was exploded in a chapel beside the Cathedral, and an altar dedicated to the Blessed Virgin under the Spanish invocation of Nuestra Señora de los Desamparados, patron of Valencia, was destroyed. Señor Paredes, a provincial deputy, and his wife and children were seriously wounded. A similar outrage was perpetrated in the Church of St. Andrew. At Rimini, in Italy, a sacrilegious play was performed on Christmas night in the Victor Emmanuel Theatre, purporting to represent the principle incidents in the life of Christ. It was called "Nazareno"; and while the actor who sustained the title role was hissed by the audience, the scene in which the kiss of peace is given by Judas was sympathetically and significantly applauded. *Suadente diavolo* is a phrase which used to be frequently employed in former days to account for the inspiration of wicked deeds; in these instances there can scarcely be a doubt that it is entirely applicable.

On February 11 the Mayor of Nelson, accompanied by Mrs Traak, paid a visit to the St. Mary's Boys' Orphanage at Stoke, where the visitors were received by the Brother Superior and the Very Rev Father Mahoney, S.M. The following address, enclosed in a handsome frame, was presented to his Worship on behalf of the boys, by one of their number named O'Brien.

"To His Worship, Francis Traak, Mayor of Nelson.

"May it please your Worship, we, the children of St. Mary's Orphanage, rejoice to see you and your honourable friends in our midst to-day, the close of the Jubilee festivities, and the beginning of a new era in the history of Nelson. We have long been wishing for an opportunity of expressing the sentiments of esteem, love and gratitude which we entertain for you. For, identified as you are with all works of charity in Nelson, you have generously encouraged the foundation and the development of this Institution. We have often and amply experienced the effects of your liberal compassion for the homeless and neglected children whose happy lot it is to be placed in this charitable home. Your name is a household word enshrined in the affections of the people. Your benefactions cheer up many a sad home and raise up many a dejected heart. No works can adequately express their feelings of sincere, grateful admiration for the self-sacrificing devotedness, untiring energy and anxious care with which you and your noble consort spend yourselves, and are being spent, for the welfare of all classes of your Municipality; but your predictions are for the forlorn, the orphaned and the poor. If the advance of the capital of our Province during the first half century of its existence has been great, if the waste places have bloomed, if the industries have flourished, if the educational and charitable institutions have prospered, if all now rejoice in progress and stability, it is greatly owing to your beneficial influence over the people, who, in appreciation of your noble unremitting efforts for their comfort and prosperity, have unanimously elected and re-elected you Mayor of Nelson. We are happy to be allowed to tender you our hearty congratulations. The dignity which has been so deservedly conferred upon you is, we trust, but the prelude to still greater honours that will enhance the destiny of Nelson, which 'will defy the storm of centuries,' as New Zealand takes her place among the nations of the earth. We remain your Worship's grateful and affectionate orphans.

Stoke, February 11th, 1892.

His Worship made an appreciative reply. The visitors were afterwards entertained at tea. They expressed themselves highly pleased with what they had seen of the institution.

Ask yourself these questions: In what condition am I to-day? Am I perfectly sound in body and in mind? Am I strong and vigorous, and is life a constant pleasure to me? If you can answer these questions affirmatively you are indeed lucky. If you cannot, you need assistance. If you are tired, weak, weary, or despondent, you need assistance. The trying time of the year is approaching with its dangers to physical health. Do not neglect a headache; it is a sign that your liver is deranged, and may lead to permanent disease if not attended to. If you are troubled with restless nights, neuralgia, indigestion, nervousness, or constipation, don't treat such positive symptoms of approaching physical decline with contempt, or bitterly will you rue your carelessness. Such invidious foes are more dangerous and fatal than all the wars and famines that ever eventuated. Mr Charles Schott, of 94 King-street, Newtown, N. S. W., writes as under, date July 23rd:—"I have much pleasure in testifying to the efficiency of CLEMENT'S TONIC in curing me of congestion of the liver. For seven years I have suffered from constant enlargement of the liver, which caused me severe pain, and was due to a sedentary life and want of exercise, my life being almost insupportable. I was listless and irritable, and at times had to consult doctors, and was at one time laid on a sick bed; but all to no purpose. Suffering in this way for many years, I resorted to the use of CLEMENT'S TONIC, and after the use of three bottles the swelling of the liver was reduced, and with its use pain disappeared. After taking five bottles I can now eat and drink anything, and smoke my pipe without that continual irritable and sleepy feeling resulting. I trust this letter will lead similar sufferers to the use of CLEMENT'S TONIC, giving it a fair trial, not merely using one bottle, and then discarding it, and I am satisfied they will derive the same benefit. Mr James Prentice, proprietor of the *Newtown (N.S.W.) Chronicle*, has for some time been a most acute sufferer from liver complaint, lassitude, indigestion, &c., due to business care and close application to work. He took CLEMENT'S TONIC.—For some time I have suffered considerably from lassitude and indigestion, resulting from close attention to work. To obtain relief I tried all sorts of so-called "cures" but found none that gave me any ease. I was at last induced to use CLEMENT'S TONIC, and having done so, regret not having taken it sooner. After taking only two bottles my lassitude vanished. I was able to attend to my duties with my usual energy, and also to relish my food and enjoy my rest, in a way that had been unknown for some time. I shall always recommend CLEMENT'S TONIC, believing that it only requires to be tried to be appreciated.

Sixty thousand devout Mexican Indians assembled around the shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe on December 12, and as a memento of the annual pilgrimage each carried home a bottle of blessed water from Chapel Spring. The spirit of devotion is very strong among these native Mexicans and the years increase it.