

Boscrea; Louis Maher, Coulerea, and J. Corcoran, Honeymount. A better selection could not be made, either as representatives of popular and Catholic feeling or as persons generally qualified for their new positions.

**Roscommon.**—While Lady Aberdeen was driving to the Convent of the Sisters of Charity, Castleroa, last week, one of the horses took fright, and, dashing towards a small gate, bringing its companion with it, the wheels caught in the posts of the gate, the shafts were broken off, and the animals pursued their course until one of them fell. The occupants of the carriage fortunately escaped uninjured.

**Tipperary.**—Mr Disney of Clonmel has opened a new white limestone quarry at Coleman.

John Kent and his family consisting of eleven persons, were recently evicted from their holding on the Twiss property at Ballymahone.

Power & Company, Dublin, have opened a new creamery in Mohober. It is a splendid structure, supplied with all the latest and most approved machinery, and is situated in the heart of a famous butter-making district.

**Waterford.**—At recent Assizes Judge O'Brien, in his address to the Grand Jury of Waterford, said there were but four cases reported in the County since last assizes—a very extraordinary thing to be able to say of a county of such great extent—and exhibiting a state of absolute freedom from crime, of which it was impossible to find a parallel in any part of the United Kingdom.

Claude De Lacy of the Island created a sensation in the City of Waterford recently by horsewhipping Rev H. G. Bonnerwell, Protestant minister, son-in-law of John Snow, Blenheim. The scene of the castigation was in Broad street, near Peter street. The cocklewomen, eggwomen, and apple vendors never had such a good time. Rev Bonnerwell had said something derogatory of Mr De Lacy and his apology was not ample enough.

**Wexford.**—Eviction notices were served by Walter M. Kavanagh, Borris, on the New Ross Guardians, that evictions were to be carried out against William Ryan, Terra, Glynne; Garrett, Byrne, Gowlin, Ballymurry; Michael Burgess, Coolnamarra, Tinnabinch.

The most severe thunder and lightning storms experienced in Wexford for a long time broke to the southwest of the town on day last week. There was a heavy fall of rain with hail at intervals. No damage was done in the neighbourhood of the town. In one house at Rathaspeck two men were knocked down and a field on the Johnston demense was literally ploughed up by the lightning. At Kilmore two sheep were killed, and some hay was set on fire at Carracloe.

## CATARRH, HAY FEVER, CATARRHAL DEAFNESS.

### A NEW HOME TREATMENT.

Sufferers are not generally aware that these diseases are contagious, or that they are due to the presence of living parasites in the lining membrane of the nose and eustachian tubes. Microscopic research, however, has proved this to be a fact, and the result is that a simple remedy has been formulated whereby these distressing diseases are rapidly and permanently cured by a few simple applications made at home by the patient once in two weeks. A pamphlet, explaining this new treatment, is sent on receipt of a 2½ stamp by A. HUTTON DIXON, 43 and 45 East Bloor street, TORONTO Canada.—*Scientific American.*

Book-keeping by double entry. Condensed and simplified. Only a journal and ledger required. His Honour Judge Kettle writes—"It is just what is wanted, and every trader should have a copy." The *Otago Witness* says:—"The instructions given are so simple and yet so ample, that the veriest tyro could have no difficulty in following them."—May be obtained of all booksellers (Price 1s 6d), or direct from the author—T. G. De Renzy, P.O. Box 444, Auckland for a postal note of the same value.—Advt.

The Orkney Mermaid has caused a further sensation by appearing in her old haunts at Deerness accompanied by a young one. During the past fortnight, says the *Newsman*, both the old and the young one have been seen frequently in the vicinity by different persons. The young one is of a white colour and swims in the same fashion as the old one, by throwing its arms out in front of the head and bringing them in towards the side. Last summer an attempt was made to shoot the strange visitant, when it disappeared; but this summer no one has tried to molest it.

The air is full of Mr Lockwood's witticisms. Here is yet another. The other day, while leading against a counsel of a rather notoriously hasty temperament, Mr Lockwood had occasion to cross-examine a witness from the Meteorological Office. The sole and only question put to him by the learned counsel was this: "You say you are employed in the storm-warning department." "I am." "Will you tell me whether my learned friend and myself will have a breeze before 4 o'clock this afternoon?" The witness's answer is not recorded.—*Sun*

## ST BENEDICT JOSEPH LABRE.

(From the *Ave Maria*.)

BORN in 1748, in the village of Amettes in France, Benedict Joseph Labre came of parents who were in respectable though moderate circumstances. Up to his sixteenth year he followed the studies usual to his age, and then he conceived the idea of abandoning everything for God. He took the ways generally adopted by souls of similar temperament, but, owing to apparently fortuitous circumstances, he found those ordinary paths to perfection closed to him; thus, twice he vainly sought admission among the Trappists; and when at length he had been received by the Cistercians, he was soon obliged to leave them. Then he forsook his native land, and begged his way to Rome.

When in the Eternal City, his voluntary destitution was well-nigh incredible. His days were spent in prayer in the least frequented churches, and the little sleep he allowed himself was usually taken under a bench in a church-porch. He was always bareheaded and barefooted, and seemed to know nothing about the little attentions to personal neatness often visible even in extreme poverty; his rags were unworthy even of that name, and they were infested with vermin. His food was that rejected by every other mendicant, and was usually procured in the places devoted to the dumping of garbage. He continued this manner of life during fifteen years, interrupting it only each Lent by a pilgrimage to Loretto. Finally, on the Wednesday of Holy Week, 1883, he was found dying on the steps of the Church of S. Maria dei Monti, and was taken into the house of a poor acquaintance, where he yielded his soul to God. And this miserable beggar, because of his heroic sanctity—well proved in his "process"—the Catholic Church has raised to her altars, asking for him the veneration of all her children, from his brother-beggar to the crowned king.

After fifty years of examination and discussion, the Catholic Church has beatified one whom modern philanthropists and the average police justice would have sent to gaol or the mad-house. What an example to set the world! What would become of civilization if imitation of Labre were undertaken by even a small minority of those who are now asked to venerate him? Well, St Benedict Labre remains alone in his peculiar sphere of sanctity, and it is very probable that he will so remain for a long time. Far from the mind of the Church is the idea that this saint should be indiscriminately imitated. He deemed himself called to that special way of life, and his confessors agreed with him; he carried out the will of God—his sanctification.

But it seems to have been the design of Providence, in the canonisation of Benedict Labre, to furnish the world with a standing rebuke of that spirit of Utilitarianism so rampant in our day, and with which so many even among Catholics are more or less infected. Our age tends to the development of a *civil Christianity*, by the elimination of every element of the supernatural. Unable to deprive the Church of the credit of having founded modern civilization, and only too willing to enjoy the benefits of that culture, it so dwells upon and magnifies the civil effects of the Gospel, that it presents the Christian Dispensation as principally, if not solely, an instrument of earthly progress. It is to counteract this tendency that God manifests as meritorious of eternal glory a kind of holiness which, far from being productive of any merely civil benefit, would threaten, if universally imitated, even the very existence of civilization.

The canonisation of Benedict Labre is a lesson for the rich and a comfort for the poor, at a time when, on one side, a raging fever for wealth and power, and on the other, an ebullition of socialistic sentiment, tend to a development of furious anarchy in society.

Do you want a better appetite? Do you want to eat well, sleep well, and be well? Then take No. 2 R. T. Booth's Golden Remedy. This great tonic is for the brain, nerves, and blood. It cures dyspepsia, neuralgia, and weakened energy. It gives tone to the whole system, and is the best tonic on this earth. At all chemists (Advt.)

The Mayor of Montreal has been deservedly criticised for his action in refusing to return the salute of an Italian war-vessel visiting that port. His explanation was that, as a Catholic, he could not pay respect to the power which had despoiled the Church of its patrimony. However sincere Mayor Desjardins is in his views, he transgressed his duty as a British official in letting them govern his attitude on this occasion. We cannot imagine the Catholic mayor of an American city adopting such a course. The distinction between his spiritual loyalty to the head of the Church and duty to his political superiors, is here, at least, well defined. In Canada it is so curiously blended with race and religious feelings that, as we learn from the despatches, when the Mayor refused to treat the visiting Italians with proper courtesy, the acting Mayor, I. H. Stearns, sent a despatch to acting Premier Bowell and Hon Mr Patterson, Minister of Militia, "who were attending a meeting of the Grand Lodge of Canadian Orangemen in Ontario!" A favourable reply being received from those functionaries, the salute was fired, and so the matter ended.—*Pilot.*

**H. J. SMITH**

The People's Bootmaker, 127 Manchester St. (opposite Burke's Hotel), Christchurch.—Men's Shooters from 9s 6d, Shoes from 8s 6d, Bluchers from 5s 6d, Canvas Shoes from 2s 6d, Ladies' Boots and Shoes from 6s, Children's from 2s. Remember H. J. SMITH'S, 127 Manchester street.