

SCOTLAND.—Glasgow Cathedral

A scheme has just been entered into for the suitable embellishment of St. Andrew's Cathedral, Great Clyde street, Glasgow, at the cost of about £1800. At a meeting called for the purpose, Canon McCarthy alluded to St. Andrew's Cathedral as the mother Church of Glasgow, and, dwelling on its early history, mentioned the fact that for over a quarter of a century it was the only Catholic church in Glasgow, while, with the exception of Paisley, it was for some years the only Catholic church in the whole archdiocese. Amidst the greatest difficulties the foundation stone of the present cathedral was laid by Bishop Scott—then Father Scott—eighty-nine years ago.

Sisters of Nazareth

One of the last official wishes of the late Archbishop Eyre's life was that a branch of the community of the Sisters of Nazareth from Hammersmith should be established in the western archdiocese. A little more than a year ago practical realisation of that wish was brought about by the arrival of a contingent of the Sisters, who quietly took up their residence at Halfway House, Govan, and unobtrusively but effectively began this great work of Christian charity—that of yielding shelter to the homeless and the friendless.

Musselburgh New Church

The foundation stone of the new Catholic church, which is cruciform in design, and to be built of white stone at a cost of over £5000 was formally laid a few weeks ago by Archbishop Smith, at Newbigging, Musselburgh, in the presence of a large attendance of clergy and the Catholic laity of the East of Scotland. The Very Rev. Canon McGinnis, of Innerleithen, delivered a brief address. Musselburgh, he said, was small, but from a Catholic point of view it was large. History told them that three hundred years ago the old shrine of our Lady of Loreto was burned in Musselburgh, but he was pleased to say that the spirit of those left fought the way, and now the Protestants and Catholics, although they had their differences, lived in peace and harmony.

Catholic Progress

The Catholic Church is making rapid strides in Scotland. Scarce a week passes that the erection of a church, school, or presbytery cannot be chronicled. Catholics are truly fulfilling their mission—that of spreading the light—in the 'Land of mountain and brown heather.' Within the few past weeks in St. Patrick's parish, Glasgow, £550 was subscribed by five persons towards the erection of a high altar; while another who has withheld his name, has given £500 to the Seminary, Bearsden. Another fact worthy of record (says the correspondent of the Dublin 'Freeman') is, that bigotry is largely on the wane in Scotland. Whether this is due to the largely increasing Irish population and the prominent position as citizens in which they have placed themselves, or to the broadmindedness of Scotchmen in this twentieth century, I cannot tell, but the fact remains that Catholic Irishmen are daily being more respected and considered and placed on equal footing with their Scotch fellow-countrymen.

SPAIN.—A Cardinal Passes

The death of Cardinal Herrero, Archbishop of Valencia, is announced. Our readers will remember that the Cardinal was seriously ill during the recent conclave. He was born on the 20th January, 1823, and was raised to the Sacred College at the last Consistory held by Leo XIII. He was a man of great learning and piety and an ornament to the Church in Spain.

The Young King

The visit of the King of Spain to Portugal has been marked by brilliant ceremonies. At the City Hall, Lisbon, a reception was held and speeches were delivered. The royal visitors, who included King Alfonso, King Carlos, Queen Amelia, Queen Pia, and the Prince Royal, entered their names in the Golden Book, and then visited the municipal building. The Municipal Guards formed a guard of honor. As the Royal party entered, and left the building the bells of the churches played the Spanish Royal March. On December 12 King Alfonso and King Carlos, after having heard Mass in the Belem Monastery, accompanied by the Portuguese Ministers and Senor Rodriguez San Pedro, Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, proceeded to Cintra, where they took luncheon with Queen Pia, Queen Amelia, and the Prince Royal.

UNITED STATES.—A Heroic Priest

Seven deaths from typhoid and fifty new cases of the plague were reported early in December in the stricken city of Butler, Pennsylvania. Among the dead was Father Daniel S. Walsh, of St. Paul's church, who contracted the disease while working among the employees of a factory. He had worked day and night to alleviate the sufferings of members of his church. Just before his death he gave all his property for the relief work.

Mr. Chamberlain on Ireland

Mr. O'Regan in Reply

In the 'N.Z. Times' of January 26, Mr. P. J. O'Regan gets in some sounding left-handers on the proposals of Mr. Chamberlain in connection with the latter's recent attack on the Irish people in the United States.

A prominent feature of Mr. Chamberlain's dear food campaign (says Mr. O'Regan) is the studied efforts he is making to court the votaries of the music halls and the pantomimes by insulting other nations. Of course, Ireland could not expect to escape what M. Yves Guyot, in the 'Monthly Review,' calls 'the policy of the pavement.' Answering the objection that protection is largely accountable for the corruption of American politics, Mr. Chamberlain some time back informed one of his correspondents that the corruption which is so prevalent in the States was due to the Irish element. I have carefully gone through the leading American papers, and am glad to say that Mr. Chamberlain's slander is universally denounced. As there is on foot a deep-laid plot to get the Birmingham showman to visit these colonies, I hope that the men and women of Irish stock will 'retaliate' by taking no part in welcoming the man who betrayed Gladstone and Home Rule, and who loses no chance of insulting the race whence they have sprung. In so doing they would be applying Mr. Chamberlain's principles to himself. Speaking at Glasgow, for example, he said: 'I like to hit back when attacked; I dislike being trampled on.' Let us who are proud of our fathers and mothers show the slanderer that we can 'hit back.' As showing how Mr. Chamberlain's libel on Ireland has been received in America, I append an editorial from the 'Springfield Republican' of November 20:—

'Joseph Chamberlain has unhappily given the entire Irish race another reason for hating him. In answer to the point made by a correspondent that the system of protection, because of its peculiar relation to government, fosters political corruption, Mr. Chamberlain's answer in part: "Germany is free from corruption, and, while in the United States there is a good deal of corruption, it is caused by the influence of Irish political organisations." Whether this slur on the Irish is due to Mr. Chamberlain's inveterate prejudice against them or to sheer ignorance of the political conditions of America must be left undecided. The gross untruthfulness of his assertion is, however, perfectly obvious. While Irish politicians in many of our cities, notably in New York, have gained deserved opprobrium, the Irish are no more the cause of corruption in the United States than of the increase of insanity, or of the annual floods of the Mississippi river. There was more or less corruption here before the great Irish immigration began, and it would still be with us if the Irish should suddenly vanish. Republican Philadelphia, which is essentially a city inhabited and ruled by Americans of the English or German stock, is well known to be as corrupt as New York, although it never gets the same advertisement in the newspapers. The recent corruption in St. Louis and Missouri, exposed by Mr. Folk, cannot be charged on men of Irish blood. "Doc" Ames, ex-Mayor of Minneapolis, had nothing Irish in his make-up. Outside of municipal politics we have the corrupt rural voters of many States who are notoriously American; and certainly the Platts Quays, Braytons, Adickses, Clarks, and Coxes, with the vast congeries of clever lobby corruptionists that surround the various American Legislatures, are not chargeable upon the Irish race. Corruption in American politics follows no race line, and every Irishman, while acknowledging that his people have their share of moral responsibility to bear in this respect, is justified in resenting Mr. Chamberlain's statement.'

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