

he has simply brushed aside the practice of coming to a previous understanding with the Vatican as to the candidate to be selected for a see before announcing the appointment, and has taken upon himself to 'appoint' bishops to the above Sees without reference to Rome. He holds that the Pope's only function under the Concordat is to grant the usual Bulls to his nominees, who, by the way, have been placed in a very awkward position, and do not at all feel inclined to thank him. The Pope has refused to ratify M. Combes' nominations, and M. Combes has informed the Pope that no other nominations will be made.

A Characteristic Act

There is now little doubt that, with a characteristic refinement of impiety, the Government of M. Combes did intend to choose Good Friday for the removal of the crucifix from the law courts. A Paris firm was asked at midday on Maundy Thursday to send some workmen next day to the Palais de Justice, but the manager, suspecting the purpose for which the men were required, refused to allow any of his employees to take part in the impious proceeding. The firm, that of Belloir et Vazelle, deserves to have its name recorded. And what mere laymen think of the infidel Government's act is but a faint specimen of the thoughts of lawyers. Already some magistrates have thrown up their commissions, and report says that many barristers will appear at their pleadings armed with crucifixes as a protest against the Government's attack on a time-honored and venerable decoration of the courts. The barristers of Paris have always been known for their respect for religion, and a solemn and unanimous protest of this kind by them may teach M. Combes a little wisdom.

GERMANY.—A Very Good Reason

In the German Reichstag Count von Bulow, replying to Dr. Sattler, the National Liberal leader, vindicated the action of the Government with regard to the repeal of Clause 2 of the Jesuit Law. He asked Dr. Sattler how he would propose to conduct the business of the Empire on constitutional lines—he emphasised the word constitutional—without taking account of the strongest political party in the Reichstag. If Dr. Sattler knew of any means of doing so would he kindly produce his prescription.

ROME. Scots College

At the general ordination on Holy Saturday, Cardinal Respighi, Vicar-General of the Pope, ordained Rev. Alexander Mackintosh, of the archdiocese of Glasgow, and the Rev. Alexander Walton, of the archdiocese of Westminster, to the priesthood. At the same time Rev. John Charleson, sometime minister of Thornliebank, was ordained sub-deacon.

Codification of Canon Law

The Pope has appointed the following Cardinals members of the Commission for the codification of Canon Law: Cardinals Serafino Vannutelli, Satolli, Rampolla, Gotti, Ferrata, Cassella, Mathieu, Gemiani, Cavicchioni, Merry del Val, Steinhuber, Segna, Vives y Tuto, and Cavagnis. Archbishop Gasparri has been appointed secretary.

The Gregorian Centenary

Rome (says the 'Catholic Times') is a city which is continually the scene of religious festivities, and there is no other part of the world where such functions are carried out with equal grandeur. Perhaps it would be too much to say that in honoring the memory of St. Gregory the Great on the occasion of his thirteenth centenary Rome has eclipsed itself, but it may be said without the least exaggeration that rarely has it shown such deep interest in any affair as it has done in the Gregorian commemoration. A congress of learned men has revealed glimpses of the glories which St. Gregory procured for Christianity. Eminent amongst them was our own Abbot Gasquet, who told in words that called forth enthusiastic congratulations how the great Pontiff had contributed to the building up of England. Another Englishman who has played a conspicuous part in connection with the celebration is an Anglican minister, the Rev. Mr. Bannister, president of the section devoted to Liturgy. The exhibition of precious manuscripts is a feature of the commemoration which has attracted the special attention of scholars. But, of course, the most notable event of all was the service at St. Peter's, the Pope and over seventy thousand people being present, and a choir of one thousand five hundred voices rendering the sacred music. Never will those who had the good fortune to be in the Basilica—they included a good many British pilgrims—forget what they saw and heard.

A French Protest

The French Cabinet has caused M. Delcasse to enter a protest, through the French Ambassador at the Vatican, against the words uttered by Pope Pius X. at his reception of the College of Cardinals on the occasion

of the Feast of St. Joseph, when his Holiness animadverted upon the conduct of the French Government in religious matters. As the tenor of the protest was communicated to the Press in Paris before it could have reached the Pope through the usual diplomatic channels, the 'Osservatore Romano' published an official denial of the news when it was first mentioned, but this only arose from the calculated breach of diplomatic courtesy committed by the French Foreign Office in communicating the protest to the press before it reached Rome.

SCOTLAND.—St. Andrew's Cathedral

After extensive alterations and complete renovation at a cost of about £2000, the Metropolitan Church of the West, St. Andrew's Cathedral, Glasgow, was formally re-opened for public worship on Sunday, April 10.

A Presentation

The Catholics of Mossend and Bellshill have made a presentation to their recent pastor, Rev. Father Hughes, lately transferred to the charge of the Sacred Heart parish, Glasgow.

A Tribute to the Christian Brothers

At the meeting of the Protestant Synod in Dublin on April 14, the Right Rev. Dr. Archdale, Protestant Bishop of Killaloe, moved a report by the committee for secondary education, which stated that it was desirable that there should be a central Board for the promotion of secondary and technical education. Dr. Archdale, referring to Mr. Dale's report, said the whole question of the buildings of schools simply came to this, that the Government and their Department, the Board of Works, were responsible for the want of proper structures in these schools. In the same report Mr. Dale said the Irish schools were superior to the English, that they had a larger proportion of trained teachers, which surprised him (Dr. Archdale). He spoke of the model schools certainly not as model schools, but the model schools had been by the Government reduced to the condition of ordinary schools as regarded the payment of their teachers. He believed it was true that there was not a single secondary school in Belfast directly in connection with the Church of Ireland. He was convinced that the monastic Orders of the Roman Catholic Church of Ireland were establishing such schools everywhere. The Intermediate Board would not give Christian Brothers' Schools fees for children taught in the primary schools. They required that they should have a department for secondary education in their schools. There was one of the Christian Brothers' Schools in Cork that earned last year over £1000 in result fees, and they were earning them very largely—and he would tell them why—because they had teachers thoroughly trained to deal with the minds of these young people and impart to them in the most efficient way the knowledge that was required for earning, and the result was that a large number of Protestant children went to the Christian Brothers' schools. In these schools there was no conscience clause, and religious worship was constantly going on, and the same was the case with regard to monastic schools. If that thing proceeded the Church of Ireland would gradually be extinguished.

Mr. Moffat, referring to the Catholic teaching Orders, said he did not see how anyone who understood the meaning of self-sacrifice in human life could not but admire the action of those who devoted the whole of their lives to the good of their fellow creatures. Even though, in his opinion, they might be wrong in some things—and personally he had no feeling but the most profound respect for all these Orders—but no matter how they might respect those teachers they would greatly prefer to have their own children taught under their own influences and not under the influence of those people. They found their children going to Roman Catholic schools. Some people viewed that with perfect horror, and others with indifference. He could not regard it in either of the extremes. He thought it was a most sad state of things, and a rather dangerous thing. But how was that to be remedied? Their children went to school to those Roman Catholic Orders, and got an excellent education. Who paid for that education? The fact was that those Orders were maintained by aims of Roman Catholics.

Rev. Dr. Tristram said what they wanted was something like teaching Orders in the Protestant Church. Let them look at the Christian Brothers, who were the most faithful, devoted men perhaps the world had ever seen. He knew some of them, and he had the greatest respect for them. Let them compare the Protestant teachers to the Christian Brothers. The Protestant teachers gave a couple of years to teaching while they were going on for some other profession. They did not devote their whole time to the work, because they had something else in view.