

The Catholic World

AUSTRIA.—A Religious Ceremony

The Emperor Francis Joseph, with the Austrian Archdukes and Archduchesses, was present on a recent Sunday afternoon at a religious ceremony in front of the statue of the Blessed Virgin in the large square of the Hof, in celebration of the jubilee of the dogma of the Immaculate Conception. Processions went to the statue from all parts of the city, with bands, banners, and religious emblems. King Christian of Denmark watched the spectacle from the balcony of the Papal Nunciature, which faces the statue.

ENGLAND.—Charitable Bequests

By the will of Mrs. Mary Gillow, Holbrooke House, Hampton Park, Hereford, a sum of £3000 is bequeathed for the support of the Catholic clergy at Hereford, Mountain Ash, and Glamorgan; £2000 to the Passionists at Broadway, Worcester; £2000 to the Convent of the Good Shepherd, Bristol; £1000 for the mission at Stratford-on-Avon; £1000 to the Sisters of Charity at Hereford; £1000 to the Sisters of Mercy at Chiden, Connemara; £200 each to the Convent of Mercy, Wolverhampton; to the Convent of Charity, Barnstree, and the Little Sisters of the Poor, Cheltenham, £100 each to the Hospital at Hereford and the Sisters of Charity at Lower Bullingham.

The Auxiliary-Bishop of Westminster

In addition to the pontificalia presented to him by the clergy, regular and secular, of the three dioceses of Westminster, Southwark, and Portsmouth, Bishop Fenton is to receive a carriage and pair, the gift of the Sisters of the various religious houses at Westminster.

A New Church

The Bishop of Shrewsbury performed recently the ceremony of blessing and laying the first stone of a new Catholic church at Altrincham. The new building will accommodate about 500 worshippers, and the cost is estimated at about £6000. The ceremony was proceeded by a procession to the site of the new church. Among those present were the Rector (Father Ryder), Canon Crawley, and other members of the Cheshire clergy.

An Educational Grievance

In the House of Commons recently Mr. Boland moved an amendment to the Education Divisional Orders (Cardiff and Newport Bill) on the ground that in Newport, where there were 3000 Catholic children out of a total of 25,000 in voluntary schools, not even one person of experience and education, and acquainted with the needs of the Catholic schools, had been placed on the Education Committee. Dr. Magnanara quoted Canon Richardson's dictum that he had found the Education Act to be a rotten Act. Sir William Anson, replying for the Government, said that in Bradford, where there were 3000 Catholic scholars, in Newcastle, where there were over 4000, in St. Helens, where there were over 5000; and in West Ham, where there were over 3000, representation had not been given to denominational schools, and yet there had been no complaint of injustice to Catholics. Eventually Mr. Boland withdrew his amendment.

Hard to Convince

A vexed question has arisen in connection with the will of the late Marquis of Bute, not only in regard to his large bequests for the proposed Catholic Cathedrals at Oban and Whithorn, but also in reference to an equally munificent legacy bequeathed by him to the Seamen's Hospital at Cardiff. The Marquis, in his will, directed his trustees to apply the sum of £20,000 in erecting or completing a hospital to take the place of the hospital ship 'Itamatryad' at present in use, but on condition that the hospital should, if possible, be served by Sisters of some Catholic religious Order. The general committee of the hospital now profess to find insuperable obstacles in the way of this condition being fulfilled, and a deputation of their body went to London recently to interview on the subject the trustees of Lord Bute's will. It is understood that the trustees pointed out that there was no difficulty in the way of carrying out the condition laid down by the testator, and they instanced as an illustration the Italian Hospital in London, which, while served by Catholic Sisters, is open to patients irrespective of creed, and has on its Board of Management Protestants and Jews as well as Catholics. The deputation from Cardiff were taken by the trustees to the Italian Hospital in order to see the working of it, but in spite of this the members of the deputation are still unwilling

to allow Sisters into their hospital; and if they persist in this attitude, Cardiff may be deprived of the benefit of Lord Bute's generous bequest. The trustees of the Marquis's will are Lord Herries, Lord Edmund Talbot, M.P., and Mr. Frederick Pitman, W.S., of Edinburgh.

Successful Catholic Students

The examiners for the Hereford Scholarship at Oxford (the highest classical prize open to junior members of the University) announced recently that the winner was Mr. Wilfrid Greene, a Catholic scholar of Christ Church, who has already gained a Craven Scholarship, and was placed in the first class of the Classical Moderators. The daily press has commented with some surprise on the fact that this is the second year in succession that the 'blue ribbon' of Oxford classical scholarship has been won by one of the small number of Catholic students in residence at the University. The Hereford scholar last year was Mr. Cyril Martindale, a young Jesuit undergraduate, who is also the Chancellor's prizeman for Latin verse, and holder of the Gaisford Greek prize. It will fall to Mr. Martindale's lot, a week or two hence (says the 'Catholic Herald'), to recite his prize Greek and Latin verses, on Commemoration Day, from the rostrum of the Sheldonian Theatre, in presence of the Chancellor, Doctors, and distinguished guests of the University. A Jesuit declaiming in presence of what has been for three centuries the most exclusively Protestant University in the world will assuredly be a notable spectacle in the history of Oxford.

FRANCE.—The Sisters and the Veterans

There is sorrow among the veterans who are pensioners of the Hotel des Invalides. Since the foundation of the Invalides by Louis XIV. nuns had acted as nurses to the veterans, but the other day the nuns had to depart to be replaced by lay nurses. Some of the nuns of the Invalides had been in the place for a great number of years, and were well known figures, especially Sister St. Angélique, who had nursed the Invalides for 65 years. Another nun had been there 45 years, and seven or eight others between 20 and 30 years. When the nuns departed they filed past the old veterans, who shook hands with them, and many of whom were crying. When it became known that the nuns would have to go, an officer who had been a pensioner of the Hotel for over 40 years, and who had made over his pension rights to the Institution, withdrew and went to live with his relations.

ROME.—Scots College

At present in Scots College there are studying for the priesthood three former ministers of the Presbyterian Church of Scotland, viz., the Rev. Mr. Charleston, the Rev. Mr. Fraser, and the Rev. Mr. Graham. It is expected that the Rev. Mr. Charleston, late of Thornliebank parish church, will be ordained next year.

Distinguished Converts

The Rev. Mr. Evans and the Rev. Mr. Benson (writes a Rome correspondent) received the priesthood on Sunday, June 12, in the Chapel of St. John the Baptist, where the relic of the Precursor's head is preserved, at San Silvestro in Capite. Father Benson, who was tonsured a month ago, has left Rome for England, Father Evans will leave very shortly. Both, however, were presented to his Holiness by Padre Genocchi, Procurator-General of the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart, on June 12. Their audience was most delightful. The Pontiff showed himself fully informed about their two careers; congratulated them; granted every request (Father Benson thus obtained permission to say Mass in a Protestant house where he will stay in England during the summer); entertained them for a considerable time, and blessed their future work. This in each case will be a resumption of study after the holidays, but in neither is it now clear whether the Archbishop of Westminster will send them back to Rome or retain them in England.

The Encyclical on Labor

The fiftieth anniversary of the great encyclical *Rerum Novarum*, which has been well styled the 'Magna Charta of Labor,' was celebrated all over Italy by Catholic societies. Large crowds visited the new monument in St. John Lateran, on the sides of which the great document is reproduced in immortal bronze. Other years the commemoration has been marked here and there by extravagances on the part of some so-called Christian Democrats who endeavored to twist the late Pope's words to their own private interpretation, but this year nothing of the kind has occurred. Pius X. has succeeded in creating a wonderful harmony in the ranks of Italian Catholics, and has promptly silenced the ring-leader of those who sought to promote disunion.