

would strongly urge our devoted Priests to announce a week's retreat or Novena in each parish, by way of preparation for the fulfilling of the exercises of the Jubilee. Their own piety will prompt them to celebrate the Feast of the Immaculate Conception this year with more than usual solemnity. Permission is hereby granted for Benediction every evening of the Novena preceding the Feast, with Solemn Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament during one whole day of the Novena or week chosen for the exercises of the retreat.

4.—This circular is to be read, and afterwards left in a conspicuous place in all the Churches, Chapels, and Convents of the Diocese.

✠ JOHN JOSEPH GRIMES, S.M.,
Bishop of Christchurch.

The Pro-Cathedral, Christchurch.
Feast of St. Bartholomew, 1904.

'SPOILS TO THE VICTORS'

HOW CATHOLICS ARE BOYCOTTED IN IRELAND

Owing to the pressure on our space in our issues of August 18 and 25, consequent on the publication of lengthy descriptive letters from his Grace the Archbishop of Wellington, and other interesting matter, we were unable to publish the highly instructive paper, read at the meeting of the Maynooth Union by the Very Rev. Dr. Hogan, under the title of 'The attitude of Irish Protestants towards their Catholic countrymen.' The revelations made by Dr. Hogan regarding the complete and systematic manner in which our co-religionists are excluded from the Government service came as a surprise even to those who thought they were fully conversant with the extent to which the boycott was carried. After quoting from the letters of Edmund Burke on the rights of all classes of citizens, without distinction of creed, to a share in the public offices of the State, Dr. Hogan goes on to say: 'Whilst the King must be a Protestant what need is there that his representative in this Catholic country should be a Protestant? Not only, however, must

The King's Deputy be a Protestant,

but when he goes to England for a holiday or for business the Lords Justices who replace him must be Protestants. Catholic judges, no matter how loyal and how distinguished, are disqualified on account of their faith. Then the Lord Lieutenant is assisted in the government of the country by a Privy Council which consists of 60 members. Of these over 50 are Protestants and only 7 Catholics. Besides the £20,000 a year which the Lord Lieutenant receives from Parliament, his household is maintained at the public expense, and he thus gets an opportunity of surrounding himself by thirty or forty gentlemen who draw salaries according to their rank and labors. From this charmed circle

Catholics, as a Rule, are Excluded.

Now and again a few are to be found, but there are not more than three or four out of thirty or forty. Nearly the same proportion is observed in the Chief Secretary's office. The Chief Secretary, of course, himself is invariably a Protestant, and of the officials who work directly under him the proportion would probably be about five or six Protestants to one Catholic. If you take the trouble to look into the Record Office, the State Paper Department, the office of the Treasury Remembrancer, or Deputy Paymaster, you find everything worth having in the hands of the dominant party. In the Local Government Board, of the three principal officials, secretary, and law adviser, only one is a Catholic; and in the long roll of its inspectors, medical officers, engineers, auditors, and even clerks, the principle of ascendancy in its most drastic form is maintained. Some years ago two of the heads of this Board and the law advisers were Catholics. All these except one have now been replaced by Protestants. In the Board of Works the three heads are Protestants. The solitary Catholic, Mr. Richard O'Shaughnessy, who recently retired, has been replaced by a Protestant; and in the list of surveyors, land inspectors, draughtsmen, accountants, and so forth, the number of Catholics can be very easily counted. In a return made to Parliament on the 4th of February last, at the request of the late Mr. M'Govern, the list of the officials connected with the Department of Agriculture is given, with the salaries which they receive. Some slight changes may have taken place since then; but they cannot be of much importance. Now, looking over this interesting return, I find that at the head of the department there are five officials with salaries ranging from £850 a year

to £1350, together with other allowances which considerably enhance the value of the position. Out of these five officials

There is Only One Catholic,

and the appointment of that single Catholic has provoked a storm of bigotry and intolerance, the like of which we have not witnessed in this country for many a day. Just think for a moment of what has happened. The majority of the Irish people send 70 or 80 members of Parliament to represent them in the British House of Commons. Governments come and go, British parties change sides, and enjoy in their turn the power, the patronage, and the emoluments of office. The Irish representatives alone remain always in opposition. For them there is no personal prize to be won in the political battlefield, no reward except the welfare and liberty of their country. In pursuit of this they have adopted the line of action they believe to be most effective, the policy from which no bribe can draw them away, no offer of personal advantage can seduce them. Well, one of these men, after years of faithful service and for reasons perfectly honorable to himself, retires from Parliamentary life and devotes himself to his private business, as he was perfectly entitled to do. He has gained an expert knowledge of the machinery by which agriculture is promoted in several of the most progressive countries in Europe. He has every qualification necessary to fit him for the direction of an institution established for a similar purpose in Ireland. But because he shares the political views of four-fifths of his countrymen—still more, because he is a Catholic—the atmosphere has been made to ring with denunciations of all concerned in his appointment; and the man directly responsible for it has been hounded out of political life by the party to which he himself belongs.

Nothing Could be More Disgraceful,

nothing more mean than this whole affair; and nothing, I believe, shows more plainly to Catholics the measure of what they may expect in the future from the hand of conspirators who have captured the government of their country. Passing on, however, from the general staff to the various branches of the Department, I find at the head of the Agricultural Branch three Protestant gentlemen, with salaries of £954 7s 6d, £620, and £365 respectively, all provided with first-class railway and other expenses. At the head of the Technical Instruction Branch, I find six gentlemen having salaries from £315 to £700 a year, with the usual railway and hotel allowances. They are, I understand, all Protestants. At the head of the Fisheries Branch I find a Protestant clergyman, with a salary of £900 a year, with railway fare and other expenses. This whole branch, with eight or nine officials, all well paid, seems to be an almost exclusive Protestant monopoly. In the Veterinary Branch the chief inspector, with £700 a year, and the two travelling inspectors at the head of the list, with £440 and £260 a year, wear the favorite colors, I am told, whilst a few clerks and messengers are Catholics. At the head of the Science and Art Museum, with a salary of £742 10s, is Lieutenant-Colonel Plunkett, whose sympathies are well known. In the National Library of Ireland the librarian, with £550 a year, and the three assistant librarians, with £237, £220, and £200 a year,

All Belong to the Dominant Creed.

Among the attendants, paid at the rate of 7½d an hour, there are, I believe, some Catholics; but three and a half millions of Irish Catholics could not furnish even as assistant librarian to the National Library of Ireland. The keeper of the Royal Botanic Gardens, with £400 a year and other allowances, is a Protestant; and nearly all the officials of the Metropolitan School of Art, with salaries from £500 a year to £145, are of the same denomination. Another institution that is now under the Department of Agriculture is the College of Science. In this institution there are eleven professors, three of whom are in the enjoyment of £750 a year each, with railway and other allowances; four have £600 a year each, two have £400 a year each, and two have £350. Out of the whole eleven there is not, I believe, a single Catholic. Amongst three-fourths of the Irish people you cannot get as much as a Professor of Chemistry or a Professor of Mathematics. Turning away now from these Government Boards and Departments, which are far from being exhausted, let us direct our attention for a moment to the

Great Professions of Law and Medicine.

In the legal profession you had not long ago an Irish Catholic Judge in the Court of Appeal of the House of Lords. He has now been replaced by an Englishman and a Protestant. In 1880 the Lord Chancellor, the Lord Chief Justice, the Lord Chief Baron, and about half the judges in the Higher Courts were Catholics. Now, out of sixteen only three remain Catholics. Out