

chaplain (Very Rev. Father Van de Velde), Lord Archibald Canon Douglas, etc. The good Father Bourke studied in his lordship's diocese four years under Louvain professors. He is a ripe scholar, linguist, and eloquent preacher. In public life he has been member of School Boards, local Boards, and Boards of Guardians. He is still Poor Law Guardian for Wigton.

FRANCE.—The Holy Father's Love.

In a letter to Cardinal Lecot, Archbishop of Bordeaux, the Holy Father gives expression to his sincere love for France and says the glories of the country are bound up with the history of the Church.

Grave Charges.

M. Guyot de Villeneuve, in the French Chamber the other day, produced documents showing that the closest relations exist between Freemasonry and the War Office, and that the Grand Orient keeps up a system of espionage to discover whether officers are Catholics and practise their religion. M. Mollin, an official of the Ministry of War, has resigned in consequence of the revelations, and M. Bourgeuil, juge d'instruction in Paris, who is accused of having given information about a general officer to the Secretary of the Grand Orient, has, it is stated, been asked to resign.

Educational Establishments in the East.

Brother Evagre, Provincial of the Christian Brothers in Palestine, has sent to the editor of the 'Figaro' a letter which speaks for itself, and which shows the effect which M. Combes' policy is already having upon French educational establishments in the East. The letter is as follows:—Kindly allow me to place before you the following statement, which I am compelled to make, both by a sense of patriotism and by a sense of urgent need. You know the laws which have recently been applied to the Congregation of which, for fifty-four years I have been a member. Our Brothers in France have had to choose between secularisation and exile. Some of them have come over here, more are coming, and in order to find work for them we are thinking of opening new schools in Syria. But where could we find in Syria, in this Liban which has remained so French, the money necessary for the opening of these schools. I want from 15 to 20 thousand francs, and those who know me know the work which I have been doing here for the last forty years. I now ask for the means of continuing and increasing our work. Our establishments have been opened on the demand of French Consuls. With the subventions which were granted to us by the French Government we have founded schools which are now prosperous. If these subventions are to be withdrawn, as seems likely, our schools will suffer to the great detriment of French influence and to the advantage of foreign establishments, which are generously supported. There are three of our most important houses which we shall have to close down soon unless help is forthcoming, viz., those of Jerusalem, Bethlehem, and Nazareth. The closing of these schools, so well known and so frequently visited, is all the more to be dreaded, as the English and the Germans have in these towns a large number of educational establishments, which, if we were not there, would soon sweep away every vestige of French education from the population.'

ITALY.—A Convert's Gift.

The jubilee of the definition of the dogma of the Immaculate Conception was to have been signalled by the erection of a church at Salerno, thanks to the munificence of an English lady convert.

ROME.—Beatification.

The Beatification of the Cure of Ars is fixed for the 8th of next month.

The Church in the Far East.

The Vatican Circular states that on 'October 28 his Holiness received in private audience his Excellency the Prince Jong-Tchane-Min, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the Empire of Corea at Paris, who had come on a special mission to Rome, in order to present to his Holiness an autograph letter of the Emperor, his sovereign.' This is the first public mention of Corea at the Vatican since the last Jubilee of Leo XIII., and it may be the prelude to developments.

SCOTLAND.—Catholic Truth Society.

The Catholic Truth Society of Scotland (writes a correspondent) may with good reason congratulate itself on the Conference held recently in Edinburgh, when able and interesting papers were read. The number of delegates attending, as well as the earnestness displayed gave most gratifying evidence of the progress the Society is making; it forms one of the most interesting of Catholic agencies in Scotland, and although it has not accomplished great things so far perhaps because it does not make much noise in this noisy hurry-scurry world, yet the members are laying the foundation on

which will be raised a structure that will command attention. The Society have at present their literature at the porches of all the city churches, some of it in specially made boxes, after the penny-in-the-slot style. There is no doubt that the Society is accomplishing much good in a quiet way. Comparing this country with what it was twenty years ago, one is struck at the progress of tolerance. The Jacob Primmers with their insulting sermons on the 'Popish Mass' are not to be heard, and little, if any, attention is paid to the bogus priest with his tales of nunneries, etc. Truth is prevailing, and towards that end the Society is working ably and successfully. At the recent Conference the Bishop of Dunkeld, Dr. Macfarlane, presided; he was supported by the Right Rev. Louis Casartelli, Bishop of Salford; Bishop Gaughren, Kimberley; Major-General Lord Ralph Kerr, etc. A message was sent from the Conference to our Holy Father the Pope, and the following reply received:—'The Holy Father cheerfully receives the homage of the members of the Catholic Truth Society of Scotland assembled in Conference, and imparts to them his loving Benediction.'

UNITED STATES.—Death of a Venerable Prelate.

The death is reported of Archbishop Elder, of Cincinnati, who passed away on October 31, in his 86th year. The deceased prelate was the descendant of an old English Catholic family that settled in the United States in 1720. He was born in Baltimore in 1819, and was educated for the priesthood partly at Mount St. Mary's College, Emmittsburg, Maryland, and partly at Rome, where he was ordained a priest in 1846. Immediately after his ordination he was appointed president and professor of theology at St. Mary's College, and after several years' faithful service was made Bishop of Natchez in 1857. When the Civil War broke out he was assiduous in his care of the sick and wounded, in fact directing all his energies to it. In 1878 he labored unremittingly and fearlessly during the epidemic of yellow fever, and was himself taken with the disease. At one time his death was announced. In 1880 he was appointed coadjutor to Archbishop Purcell of Cincinnati with the right of succession, and three years later on the death of that prelate became archbishop of the see. He was invested with the pallium on December 13, 1883.

GENERAL

The Congo.

Monsignor Roehens, Bishop of Djerba, in Upper Congo, indignantly denies the existence of the alleged atrocities reported taking place in his district by the press of London.

Trappists in Argentina.

A body of French Trappists is arranging to secure a considerable section of land in Argentina and found a model school of agriculture, in which the orphans and the Indians of that country shall be trained.

Catholics in Morocco.

According to recently published statistics, there are 6600 Catholics in Morocco. For these there are seven churches and fifteen chapels, and for the children twenty-one elementary schools. In Tangier there is a higher school for boys and a college for girls taught by nuns of the Third Order of St. Francis.

Missionaries for New Guinea.

On November 12 (says the 'Ceylon Catholic Messenger') there arrived by the German steamer the 'Grosser Kurfurst' two Rev. Fathers of the Society of the Sacred Heart, four Brothers, and three Sisters, who were en route to Pomerania in New Guinea, to replace the Rev. Fathers, Brothers, and Sisters who were murdered there a couple of months ago. It is a striking coincidence that the two Rev. Fathers were ordained on the very day upon which the massacre took place. We wish the devoted little band a fruitful result of their missionary labors in the wild and isolated region to which they are going.

The Archbishop of Adelaide was the recipient of a large number of congratulations on the occasion of his fifty-eighth birthday on Saturday, November 19.

Messrs. A. Thomson and Co., aerated water manufacturers, of Dunedin, received the following telegram from Sir J. G. Ward relative to their exhibit at the St. Louis Exposition:—'I have much pleasure in informing you that I am advised from St. Louis that the jurors in connection with the exhibits from New Zealand at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition have awarded your company gold medal for carbonated waters and gold medal for cordials and liquors.' It may be stated that the water used in all the exhibits was from the new bore...