

## Familiar Misquotations

It seems quite impossible to eradicate some of the most familiar misquotations, which have got so firm a hold on the popular mind that neither dictionaries of quotations nor lectures in the press suffice to set them to rights. The London 'Morning Post' says:—

It is curious to observe how many lines and phrases there are which have been habitually misquoted for so long a time that the inaccuracy has become crystallized and the new form has taken the place of the old, even with people who profess some love for literature. The young person of average education will glibly quote, 'A man convinced against his will is of the same opinion still,' regardless of the fact that conviction is the assent of the will to a particular proposition, and that what Butler wrote was 'He that complies against his will is of his own opinion still,' which is not, like the stock version, rank nonsense. Portia does not plead, in the words usually ascribed to her, that mercy 'falleth like the gentle dew from heaven,' but that it 'droppeth as the gentle rain from heaven'; and Lorenzo, in the same play, distrusts 'the man who hath no music in himself'—not 'in his soul,' which is the common version. Coleridge did not write 'and not a drop to drink,' but 'not any drop to drink.' Prior's line was not 'small,' but 'fine by degrees and beautifully less.' Gray did not describe the 'even tenor,' but 'the noiseless tenor of their way.' Even our pastors now and then violate the rubric by putting 'just' before 'cause,' instead of before 'impediment,' in publishing banns of marriage, and more than one biblical passage might be mentioned as being frequently misquoted. Yet time was when a slip of this kind was held to be almost as discreditable as a false quantity. The familiar misquotations of Milton's 'Fresh woods and pastures new,' and Pope's 'A little learning is a dangerous thing,' have been deplored times without number, and can never be got rid of.

The Rev. Father Laide has been recalled to the diocese of Goulburn, and the Rev. Father Maguinness goes from Broken Hill to take his place at Cobar.

In the 'Daily News' its Irish correspondent states:—In the history of Parliamentary elections in Ireland nothing to compare with the present situation can be cited. The number of unopposed returns that are now certain is without a parallel. It shows a truly unanimous spectacle in Nationalist Ireland never witnessed before. The selections of the Conventions in practically all cases are to be the members.

By the R.M.S. 'Ortona,' which left Port Melbourne on February 13 (says the 'Advocate'), there was a large passenger list, including the following members of the Australian hierarchy and clergy:—The Bishop of Armidale, N.S.W. (Right Rev. Dr. O'Connor); the Bishop of Bathurst, N.S.W. (Right Rev. Dr. Dunne); Very Rev. M. J. Shanahan (Hamilton); Very Rev. J. F. Marshall (Maryborough); Rev. T. O'Reilly, P.P. (Parramatta); Rev. J. Dunne, P.P. (Campbelltown); Rev. S. H. M'Gee (Bathurst), who intends becoming a member of the Society of Jesus; Very Rev. J. O'Donohue, Adm., and Rev. J. Sheridan (Hamilton, N.S.W.). Many of the friends of the departing dignitaries boarded the mail steamer to wish them God speed.

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A beautiful Calvary has lately been erected at the Passionist Retreat, 'Glen Osmond,' near Adelaide. The expression of deep suffering and superhuman kindness in the face of Our Lord crucified, and, at the foot of the cross, the anguish of his afflicted Mother, the sorrow of the beloved Disciple, are all so artistically depicted that the statues seem almost living beings. The admiration of both clerical visitors and laymen has, we hear, been spontaneously expressed to Messrs. Louis Gille and Co. for this splendid specimen of the sculptural abilities of their head studio in France....



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