

The Catholic World

ENGLAND—The Church and the Poor

His Grace Archbishop Bourne, speaking at the celebration of the golden jubilee of Poplar Catholic church, said the Catholic Church had always protested against the action of those who oppressed Labor and used it unjustly. He advised his hearers not to be led away by those who maintained that if their theories were adopted there would be no more suffering, and said he was glad to observe the great stand made by Catholics in the North of England against the attempt of some trade organisations to introduce purely secular education.

FRANCE—Messages of Sympathy

The very day that Archbishop Bourne's Brighton speech and the message of sympathy to the Catholics of France were published in the French papers a similar expression of sympathy from the Swiss Bishops, clergy, and laity assembled in congress at Fribourg, to the number of sixteen thousand, was reported by the telegraphic agencies.

ROME—The Holy Father and Peace

A group of distinguished Catholics, belonging to various nationalities, who joined in the Peace Congress at Milan, having addressed a respectful message to his Holiness, the Pontiff replied through the medium of the Secretary of State to Cardinal Ferrari, the local Archbishop, thanking the signatories of the telegram, and saying that he well knew 'that the efforts to avoid the horrors of war were conformed to the spirit and to the precepts of the Gospel.' The action of these members of the Peace Congress may be singled out for imitation. Catholics, finding themselves a minority at meetings of the sort, or realising that the Holy See will not be addressed by the Congress as a whole, may well act on their own initiative in behalf of the cause they have at heart. It is said that the efforts to obtain a standing for the Holy See at the Hague Conference are much more likely to have a successful issue. In this case, Monsignor Giovanni, the Charge d'Affaires in Holland, would be named Internuncio. There has been no Internuncio since the last Conference.

The Peace Congress

A Rome telegram to the 'Temps' (Paris) states that the Holy See, desirous of avoiding any incident with the Italian Government, will not insist on having a representative at the next Hague Conference. The 'Temps' adds that the French Government took no action to prevent the despatch of a delegate from the Vatican to The Hague.

The Oblates of Mary Immaculate

The Young Order of the Oblates of Mary Immaculate, of which Pere Lavillardiere has been elected Superior-General, was founded by that great Bishop, Monsignor de Mazenod, who died in 1861. It has already large and prosperous missions in all parts of the world, especially in Canada, South Africa, and Ceylon. To say nothing of their home missions, we may mention that the Oblates of Mary Immaculate have been entrusted with the charge of the National Basilica that the Belgian King and nation are building at Brussels in honor of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Up to the last expulsions they had charge in France of the churches of the Sacred Heart at Montmartre (Paris), Our Lady of Pontmain, Notre Dame de la Garde (Marseilles), and other sacred edifices.

SCOTLAND—Bishop Elphinstone's Memory

The celebrations at Aberdeen in connection with the University there recall (says the 'Catholic Herald') the fact that that great institution was originally created by the Pope. It is to the credit of the students of the University that the other day, in honor of the occasion, they placed a wreath of lilies and chrysanthemums on the tomb of Bishop Elphinstone, who obtained from Pope Alexander VI. a Bull for the establishment of a college in the city. Bishop Elphinstone, like many men of his time, was not only a Bishop, he was also a scholar and a politician. He reached high office in the State, but before he did so he was employed on many embassies, and worked hard for an alliance with France—a leaning, it is pointed out, which drew the Franco-Scottish delegates to his tomb the other day. Bishop Elphinstone's greatest service to Scotland, however, was his establishment of the first Scottish printing press, in the year 1609. There are very few Scotchmen, by the way, who know

that they owe everything in the way of the early education of their country to what they call the Church of Rome.

Death of a Monsignor

Throughout the community generally and in the Catholic portion of it particularly (writes a Glasgow correspondent), there will be sincere regret at the death of the Very Rev. Monsignor Clapperton, who for the long period of forty-five years had been prominently connected with the Church in Dundee. The Monsignor had not been in good health for a considerable time, and died on September 26 at the Home of the Little Sisters of the Poor, Wellburn, in which institution he had acted as chaplain since he retired a few years ago from the charge of the Pro-Cathedral, Nethergate. Born at Fochabers about seventy-five years ago, he belonged to an old and much-respected Catholic family. He was the youngest of three brothers who entered the priesthood, and received almost the whole of his education in France. After a distinguished course at St. Sulpice, he was ordained on May 17, 1856, and after his return to Scotland he was stationed in Edinburgh, Dumfries, and Falkirk. In 1861 he began a connection with Dundee which subsequent events proved was greatly for the benefit of the Catholic community.

A Venerable Priest

By the death of Father David M'Cartney, which took place at Dalbeattie recently, a venerable and picturesque figure disappeared from the ranks of the Scottish priesthood. Father M'Cartney was born in Ireland, but went early in life with his people to Scotland. Born over 81 years ago, the venerable priest has had a long and creditable career. He was educated for the priesthood at Blairs College, Aberdeen, and the Scots College, Valladolid, Spain, and was ordained in 1851. Two other brothers were also ordained later—one who died while still a young priest, and the other the Very Rev. Canon James M'Cartney, at present stationed at Pecbles. Father David M'Cartney was stationed over 40 years ago at Kirkeudbright, afterwards successfully working in the missions at St. Andrew's Pro-Cathedral, Dundee; Inilithgow, the English mission, and then succeeded the Rev. Father James Guthrie in the charge of Castle Douglas. Later he was appointed to Annan, and 25 years ago he was transferred to St. Peter's, Dalbeattie, resigning in 1898, after 13 years' hard and zealous labors in that mission.

SOUTH AFRICA—Summoned to Rome

The 'Catholic Herald' states that the Bishops of the Transvaal and Natal (Bis. Miller and Delalle) have been summoned to Rome on important business connected with South Africa.

SPAIN—Unity of Social Action

The Catholics in Spain are considering the question of federating their societies, and an important letter on the subject has been addressed to the Bishop of Madrid-Alcala by the Cardinal-Archbishop of Toledo, Honorary President of the Central Junta for Catholic action. With the Junta, his Eminence thinks that the time has come for the foundation in Spain of a solid and large social organisation of Catholics, which will form a permanent and well-disciplined force that will assist the Bishops in defending the Catholic religion against its enemies, and help to prevent the appearance of discord. The steps which Spanish Catholic Congresses have recommended for the setting on foot of Catholic societies in the different dioceses are strongly recommended by his Eminence, who remarks that it is a pity Spanish Catholics have to regret the dispersion of their forces and the loss of united energy caused by the absence of a central directing agency, such as the Catholics possess in Germany, Italy, and some other countries. Now that the matter has been taken in hand by the Hierarchy and the Junta action will speedily follow, and in the course of some little time Spain will probably reap good fruit from federation.

SWITZERLAND—Catholic Organisation

The success with which the Catholics of Switzerland have overcome the difficulties that were placed in the way when they attempted to organise their forces should encourage Catholics of other nationalities. The story is told in the interesting account of the Swiss Catholic Congress given by a special correspondent of the 'Catholic Times.' After the revolution of 1830 a Catholic Association was formed in Switzerland, but the promoters found it necessary to dissolve it. Another attempt to establish a Catholic society was made in 1846, when the Academy of St. Charles Borromeo was founded. The most active members of the Catholic body were drawn together in membership, but