

The Catholic World

ENGLAND—An old Catholic Landmark

Threatened with demolition for over five years, by the London County Council, the old Sardinian chapel in Kingsway, close to Lincoln's Inn, is at last to disappear. The Catholic authorities have been definitely notified that the chapel must be vacated by the end of next April, as the site is required for the completion of the Kingsway Improvement Scheme. The Archbishop of Westminster is to receive £12,500 as compensation for the destruction of the interesting old building. It was formerly the chapel of the Sardinian Embassy, and the late Pope Leo XIII. said Mass in it when as Nuncio at Brussels he paid a visit to London.

An Historical Spot

The recent parliamentary contest in Jarrow reminds an English contemporary that black and uninviting as the town is it contains, hidden in a wilderness of colliers' houses, one of the most sacred historical spots in the country. This is the little hill on which stand a few scraps of ancient wall surrounding the church—the remnants of Jarrow monastery, founded in the seventh century. Here lived and worked, as student, monk, scholar, and historian, the Venerable Bede, 'candle of the English Church.' He died here, just as he finished the last words of his translation of the Gospels, and was buried in the porch of the church, where, almost until Norman times, crowds of pilgrims came to visit his tomb.

Catholics Honored

Two well-known Catholics (says the 'Catholic Weekly') were amongst those whom the King honored in the distribution of titles in connection with his birthday. Colonel Ivor J. C. Herbert, C.B., C.M.G., M.P., who has been created a baronet, is head of one of the oldest families in Wales. He had a distinguished military career, and has been Military Attache at St. Petersburg, and commanded the Canadian Militia, and was Assistant Adjutant-General of the South African Field Force, 1899-1901. He is a staunch Liberal in politics, and was born in 1851. The other recipient was Sir William Dunn, at present High Sheriff for the City of London, who was knighted. Sir William is a well-known figure in Catholic London, more particularly in the Regent's Park district, where he resides.

Priest and Peer

When the last mail left Home Lord Arundell of Wardour, who is a priest, and for many years has been in charge of the Catholic church at Westbourne, Bournemouth, was lying dangerously ill. His lordship, who is in his seventy-third year, only succeeded to the title in October of last year, on the death of his brother, the twelfth baron, without issue. The late Lord Arundell of Wardour was a Count of the Holy Roman Empire. Lord Arundell is the head of one of the oldest and most distinguished Catholic families in Europe. Wardour, which has been the seat of this ancient family since the reign of Henry VIII., is about fifteen miles west of Salisbury. The old castle was destroyed by the Parliamentary troops in the Civil War. One of Lord Arundell's half-sisters is a nun, and a sister, now dead, married the late Sir Alfred Doughty Tichborne, brother and heir of the Roger Tichborne whose impersonation by Arthur Orton led to the Tichborne trial.

Death of a Monsignor

Our Home exchanges report the death of the Very Rev. Mgr. Gadd, of Manchester, who passed away on July 1. Monsignor Gadd, who was in his seventieth year (says the 'Manchester Guardian'), had been failing in health for some time, so that his death was not unexpected. Charles Joseph Gadd was the son of Mr. Thomas Gadd, of the Regent Road Ironworks, Salford. Being set apart for the priesthood, he went to the English College at Lisbon, and afterwards to St. Cuthbert's College, Ushaw, and on completing his education, in 1861, he was ordained priest at St. John's Cathedral, Salford, by Dr. Turner, the first Bishop of the Salford diocese. It was a gratification to him to be appointed curate at the cathedral of the town wherein his family had been known for many generations. Part of his duties was to visit the Catholic prisoners in the county prison

in New Bailey street, where the goods yards of the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway now stands. In the autumn of 1867 he had to perform the duty of ministering to the spiritual wants of the three men—Allen, Larkin, and O'Brien—who had been condemned to die for the part they took in effecting the rescue of two Fenians from the prison van as it was passing along Hyde Road to the city gaol at Belle Vue. Father Gadd, with Canon Cantwell and Father Quick, was with the condemned men when they died. He gave to the youngest of the men, Allen, his silver cross to wear at the last moment, and he kept it ever afterwards as a memorial of the episode.

The Catholic Hierarchy and the Peerage

The 'Times,' which perceives that the reform of the House of Lords in some sort is inevitable, says many would rejoice to see it brought into closer union with the great religious bodies outside the Church of England by the admission of the Archbishop of Westminster and the chief leaders of other communions to life peerages. If the Archbishop of Westminster were to be created a life-peer (remarks the 'Catholic Times') the same dignity would have to be conferred on the Cardinal-Archbishop in Ireland. But it is doubtful if one or the other would accept it. History, of course, has many a page full of the doings of Catholic ecclesiastics in positions where they were called upon to deal with State affairs. The positions were, however, for the most part such as left them in close contact with the people and therefore extended their power of doing good. The question which would have to be considered before the suggestion made by the 'Times' could be accepted is whether under present conditions membership of the House of Lords would not lessen their influence among the working classes and therefore prove detrimental to their religious labors. They would scarcely be ready to strengthen the Lords at the expense of the hold they have upon the good-will of the toiling masses.

FRANCE—The Country Suffers

The following is an extract from an article by M. Arthur Loth in 'L'Univers':—'While the country is involved in all this trouble and disarray; while the State is shaken to its foundations by the disintegration of all its elements, the Church tranquilly pursues her work of reorganisation. Her Bishops meet in Council and take measures for providing for the necessities of the hour; the great and little seminaries destroyed by the Government are reconstructed, the presbyteries and residences of the Bishops are re-established, the budget of worship is provided for on fresh bases, parochial councils replace the former conseils de fabriques, suppressed; new schools have been opened to succeed the old; ecclesiastical and religious instruction is established, the functions of the Church are carried out everywhere, and on all sides the Catholic life continues. The Church in France has never shown herself stronger and more virile than under the blows of persecution. Her marvellous restoration contrasts visibly with the disastrous state of public affairs. Her vigor and her activity have enabled her to re-take the place of pre-eminence from which her enemies desired to thrust her. She maintains her influence in social life, and in the family from which they had pretended to exclude her; she regains all she had before plus autonomy and minus dependence.'

ROME—An Interesting Gift

An interesting gift is about to be made by the Holy Father to the parish church of Riese, his birth-place in the Venetian Province. It was in this church that his Holiness used to say Mass and perform his sacerdotal functions before he was called to the purple. This gift consists of twenty-eight bronze candlesticks, the elegant work of a well-known founder, the Cavaliere Emmanuele Munaretti.

RUSSIA—Peter's Pence

It is one of the signs of the new things in Russia (says 'Rome') that the Catholics of the Muscovite Empire are to be allowed at last to contribute their share towards Peter's Pence. Contrary to what has been said on the subject in some of the European papers, the request for this permission was not made from Rome, but came from the Russian Bishops, and was readily granted by the Government. Even yet it is very difficult to gauge the results to Catholicism of the new era of religious liberty inaugurated.

SCOTLAND—A Memorial

A memorial stained-glass window has been erected in the Chapel of the Holy Souls, in St. David's Church,