

ago. In a very brief space of time the sum of £100 was subscribed as a testimonial, and at a meeting in the new and handsome school built by the rev. gentleman, it was presented on behalf of the citizens by Mrs. Burke, together with an address which was read by Mr. Bamford. The Mayor delivered a very warm-hearted speech, and Father McCarten, in returning thanks, said he would use the handsome cheque in paying off the debt on his school building.

**FRANCE.—The Situation**

Cardinal Perraud, Bishop of Autun, and member of the Academy, on his return recently after a long visit to Rome, addressed a pastoral to his clergy. He wrote in sadness of heart and patriotic gloom:—'Frenchmen and Frenchwomen whose only crime is to have devoted themselves exclusively to the service of God and their fellow-creatures are disturbed in the enjoyment of their most inoffensive rights, of rights guaranteed by the fundamental principles of a Constitution which promises to all citizens, without exception, liberty, equality, fraternity.' The Cardinal enjoined his flock to pray constantly for the evil days that had come upon the faithful to be shortened, and they were to contribute more actively and generously than ever to the charitable undertakings of the Church. The wreck of so many religious establishments, said the Cardinal Bishop, must further be attended with a notable diminution of the Pope's income. France, up to a recent date, had the place of honor in contributing most largely to the needs of the Holy Father and the Pontifical Government. Cardinal Perraud beseeched his diocese to remember its long and glorious connection with the head of the Catholic Church, and to be worthy of the nation that won for herself the title of eldest daughter of the Church. Cardinal Perraud as a scholar stands at the head of the French Episcopacy.

**GERMANY.—A Protest.**

The famous astronomical instruments made by the Jesuits several centuries ago for the Pekin Observatory, have been brought by the German army from China and are to be set up in Berlin, in a suitable building which is to be specially erected for them. Dr. Bachem, in a speech at the recent Catholic Congress in Osnabruck, uttered an energetic protest against the act as unworthy of a civilised nation. 'The German,' he said sarcastically, 'hates the Jesuit, but loves his instruments. Let the Government restore to us the Jesuits and their instruments to China.'

**ITALY.—A Jubilee.**

Cardinal Parocchi, one of the four survivors of the Conclave which followed Pius IX.'s death, has just celebrated the silver jubilee of his Cardinalate.

**Nothing new.**

There is hardly an order issued today by the Government of Italy relative to the plague that has just broken out in Naples that was not contained in the edicts of Pope

Alexander VII. in 1656, when Rome was last visited by the pest. Reading the precautions then taken is like picking up a modern newspaper. Lazarettes strictly guarded, isolation and disinfection, navigation of the Tiber forbidden, and the churches closed, but all to no apparent purpose. At one time during that terrible year there was not one house in Trastevere (a thickly populated district of Rome) in which the plague did not enter, so that it was cut off from the rest of the city by a high thick wall. After twelve months the tide turned and the Eternal City was free, after losing 14,500 of her inhabitants, while at Naples the deaths were 400,000 and at Genoa 60,000.

**ROME.—Pontifical Jubilee.**

It is expected that pilgrimages will be organised from all parts of the world on the occasion of the festivities in connection with the silver jubilee of the Holy Father's elevation to the pontificate in March, April, and May next.

**The Pope's Health.**

It was my good fortune (writes a Rome correspondent, under date October 27) to meet Professor Laponi, the Holy Father's physician, the other day, and I naturally availed myself of the opportunity to obtain some authentic information about the Holy Father's health. 'You can say,' remarked the eminent physician, 'that the venerable Pontiff is at present as well as a man of his age can possibly be, and in fact I have even noticed a decided improvement in his condition since the debilitating heat of the summer has given way to the bracing autumn weather which we are now enjoying. His Holiness partakes of food with much better appetite, and the slight stomach trouble from which he was suffering during the hot summer months has now completely disappeared. As to the fainting fits and all the other alarmist rumors, they are mere inventions. I am convinced,' added Prof. Laponi, 'that Leo XIII. will not only be spared to celebrate his Pontifical Jubilee, but that he will survive many of those imaginative gentlemen of the press who are now so freely and indecately discussing the probability of his speedy demise.' If Professor Laponi's words needed confirmation, a glance at the list of eminent persons received in private audience by the Holy Father during the week would suffice to convince the most sceptical reader that a man who gives proofs of such extraordinary activity cannot be so very ill after all.

**SCOTLAND.—Blairs College.**

The opening of the new church on the Blairs estate, in connection with the Episcopal College there, took place on Wednesday morning, October 23, in the presence of a large and distinguished congregation, most of the dignitaries and clergy who attended the Catholic Truth Society demonstration on the previous evening being present. The church, which is the gift of the Right Rev. Mgr. Lennon, Protonotary Apostolic, has taken two years to erect, and is now

almost completed, the principal work yet undone consisting in the addition of the spire, which will be undertaken as soon as the season permits. The opening Mass was celebrated by the donor, and the opening sermon preached by his Lordship the Bishop of Aberdeen, the Right Rev. Dr. Chisholm, for so long connected with the fortunes of the College. The preacher traced the various stages of the seminary's existence—its vicissitudes, its successes, its discomfitures its ups and downs through well nigh a century—and said: I wish to take this first public opportunity of saying in this spot, with which the warmest and most loving feelings of my heart are most irrevocably bound up, that I have not words and my heart is too full, to express as I would wish to express my gratitude to those benefactors, and to all benefactors, who have enabled the bishops and myself to accomplish the work of erecting New Blairs, and this beautiful church in connection with it, the opening of which we have met to celebrate this day.

**The Church in the North.**

Broughty Ferry is away up in the North of Scotland, and on Sunday, October 6, the seeds of her rehabilitation were sown, she had the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass celebrated there for the first time since the so-called Reformation.

**SPAIN.—Work of Anarchists.**

A message received from Palma (Majorca) states that a large dynamite cartridge, with a lighted fuse attached, was found in the Bishop's palace. This is the second time that an attempt has been made upon the life of the Bishop, who only arrived in the diocese a short time ago.

**UNITED STATES.—A Brave Act**

That New York's fire chaplain does not confine his services to the purely spiritual duties of his office is evident from the following item from the New York 'Sun' of recent date:—Father William St. Elmo Smith, chaplain in the Fire Department, did more than a chaplain's duty last night. In rubber coat and helmet Father Smith dashed down into a Park place sub-cellar, where firemen were falling fast, knocked out by smoke and gas, and rescued Battalion Chief Kenny. The chief had dropped among his men unconscious. The priest carried him up the ladder to the street and helped restore him to consciousness. . . . Smoke came from the sub-cellar in such dense clouds that it was impossible for the firemen to go in there, and they were forced to cut holes in the cellar flooring. Even up above several firemen were overcome. Their comrades carried them out. Then the helpers began to fall almost immediately, too, and it was at this time that Father Smith made his plucky dash into the building.

**An Honor.**

His Holiness the Pope has shown his deep interest in the Catholic University of America, and his appreciation of the work of the rector by conferring upon him the honorary ap-

THE RIGHT REV.

MONSIGNOR O'BRIEN'S

OPINION OF

**LOASBY'S WAHOO**

The Right Rev. Monsignor O'Brien, Rector of St. John's College, Sydney, has openly expressed his belief in the extraordinary virtues of LOASBY'S WAHOO, the famous Indigestion Cure.

The action on the part of such a high church dignitary as Dr. O'Brien is naturally a great assurance to sufferers who have been unable to obtain relief.

"St. John's College, Sydney.

"Dear Sirs,—A trial of Loasby's Wahoo has fully convinced me of its exceptional merit as a remedy for Indigestion.

"Yours truly,

JAMES O'BRIEN."

OBTAINABLE FROM ALL CHEMISTS AND STOREKEEPERS.

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IT FOR HEADACHES, SPRAINS BRUISES.