

Mr. Anderson by the Rev. Father Hyland, who referred to the recipient's many estimable qualities as a parishioner and friend, and expressed the sincere and general regret felt at the necessity which had arisen for the severance of himself and family from the congregation.

DIocese OF AUCKLAND.

(From our own correspondent.)

May 8.

From a private letter received here I gather that on Sunday March 23, two students at Thurles College, County Tipperary intended for the Wellington archdiocese, were ordained deacons.

His Lordship Dr. Lenihan rode over the whole of the Takapuna Orphanage estate last week, and expressed his pleasure at the general advancement and good care shown all around, a state of affairs which reflected much credit on the steward, Mr Colgan.

One of the Government Inspectors recently expressed himself in very flattering terms regarding one of our schools, averring that he had rarely inspected one its superior. This is good and encouraging news.

A correspondent, 'K,' in last Monday's *Herald*, took its London correspondent to task for his repeatedly bitter attacks upon Ireland and the Irish people generally. The letter was ably written and cut deeply. But, when the Irish Parliamentary Party is assailed so venomously and continuously their fellow-countrymen know the reason, and rest assured the Party is doing its duty.

The four Vincentian Fathers left Auckland for the Thames by steamer last Monday morning, thence they proceed to the Thermal Springs at Rotorua, where they will seek a much-needed rest, which they have earned after giving missions which have extended from last May, commencing in Australia and terminating in this Colony last month. They purpose resting at Rotorua for a month, after which they will leave for Sydney.

At St. Benedict's Church on last Sunday night there was a procession of the Blessed Sacrament after Vespers, in which the Confraternity of the Children of Mary mustered largely. In the front of the procession was borne a beautiful statue of Our Blessed Lady. Rev. Father McEnroe, O.M. preached a very fine sermon. The congregation was very large. A word of praise is due to the Sisters of St. Joseph for the great taste displayed in decorating the altars, and also in arranging the details of the procession.

The Very Rev. Father Boyle and the Rev. Fathers McEnroe, McCarthy, and Henry, who, for the last five months, have been giving missions in the Dunedin diocese, arrived here by the Waikare last Sunday morning. The two first-named celebrated Mass at St. Patrick's Convent, and Fathers McCarthy and Henry at the Cathedral. At the 11 o'clock Mass Father Henry preached on 'Prayer,' and showed its absolute necessity for all Christians. It was a most instructive discourse. At Vespers Rev. Father McCarthy preached an eloquent sermon on the power and efficacy of Prayer. After the sermon there was a procession of the Blessed Sacrament. His Lordship the Bishop was present. The congregation was very large, the cathedral being taxed to its utmost capacity. The choir, under Mr. P. F. Hiscocks, rendered the music in a finished manner.

THE BELGIAN CRISIS.

THE other day the *Adelaide Register* published an article on the troubles in Belgium and blaming the Government for expelling some Spanish revolutionists who were actively engaged in the propagation of their doctrines. The Rev. Father Louwyck, of Georgetown, replied to these criticisms in a letter, a portion of which we reproduce. He wrote:—

'A few months ago Demblon, Fournemont, Smeets, and Vandervelde openly declared in Parliament that they were going to bring the people to a revolution in order to overthrow the throne, banish the King, and proclaim a republic, based on the principles of the French Commune of 1871. They said that if necessary they would cause bloodshed. To help them in that revolt they called in some Spanish agitators. This is an old game of the Socialists; one time they called the French petroleuse, Louise Michel, who was cleared out in the same way. Four months ago a Dutch pro-Boer went to Ghent to excite the people against England on account of the Boer war. Again the man was cleared out. The Government of Belgium is a Government of order and peace. They defend freedom, but that does not mean that they have to tolerate revolution, which is an attack on freedom. Would the Government of England tolerate a Belgian preaching open revolution in the streets of London, insulting the peaceful people, attacking in the most vulgar language the King and the Royal Family? Would you blame the Government for expelling such a criminal? Would you say then that the Government was ill-advised? You say that the poorer residents of the Belgian towns have certainly a grievance. What grievance? Being a Belgian I have some knowledge of what is going on in the country. As a priest, I was among all classes of people, rich and poor, Catholics, Liberals, and Socialists. I left Brussels only two years ago. I receive still the Belgian papers; and since 1884, when the present Government came into office, I never heard a complaint against the Government, except from the Socialists, who want a republic. No Government in the world has done more, or even as much, as the Belgian Government, for the working man. The prosperity of that small country is an ample proof of the wise Government of the Catholic majority.

'You say, "the Clericals owed their majority to the system under which certain classes of electors cast three votes against one given by the working man." As a matter of fact, the Catholics have the majority in Parliament since June 10, 1884, and never lost it since that day. Now, the system of election of that time was the

one established by the constitution of 1830; and there was no question of plural votes till 1894. How, then, can you say that the Clerical Party owed their majority to the system of plural votes? Then, most of the working men have two votes; some have three. You say that the existing system is said to disfranchise 100,000 men, who, though having families, do not pay the statutory amount of taxes; while undue influence is given to the clerical orders by the supplementary votes. That again, is wrong. The existing system disfranchises only a certain class of criminals. Those who have families have all the right to vote. What you say about undue influence given to clerical orders proves misapprehension of the whole system. All those who passed a successful examination of the highest standard of education, such as a final examination at any of the approved universities or such-like institutions, have a supplementary vote. Doctors, lawyers, engineers, and a great number of priests are among that class. I admit that nearly the whole class belongs to what you call the Clerical Party.

You complain, and with right, of the continuous tirade of abuse and slander which some of the Belgian newspapers and a large body of the people have directed against England on account of the South African war; but those that are guilty of that charge are just the very same revolutionists you are defending in your article, and you are attacking the Clericals who defended the English Government against those attacks. Was it not Citizen Vandervelde, the leader of the Socialists, who in the most violent language attacked the Government of Belgium for refusing to blame the actions of the English in South Africa? And was it not Mr Charles Woeste, the leader of the Clericals, who in a splendid speech defended the conduct of the English? Do you know it was at the *Maison du Peuple*, the headquarters of the Socialists, that the first voice was raised against England? Do you know that it was there also that the plot was framed to kill the Prince of Wales? Belgium is a small country, but is ruled by a good Government, who seek nothing but the welfare of the people, and who are bound to defend the national institutions. The Government have the support of the great majority of the Belgians.

American Catholic Statistics.

THE Official Directory for 1902 of the Catholic Church in the United States gives the total Catholic population as 10,976,753. Of course this is but an approximation. Most dioceses qualify their totals with 'about' or 'estimated,' and a few reckon by families. The reckoning is cautious, always rather under than over the probabilities.

The distribution of the Catholic population is an interesting study, at which we can but glance. The great Archdiocese of New York has about 1,200,000; Brooklyn returns 500,000; and Newark, N.J., 290,000. Here, in a comparatively small space, is massed nearly one-fifth of the total estimated Catholic population of the country.

The next greatest Catholic centre is the Archdiocese of Chicago, with 800,000, and a total of 245,000 in its three suffragan Sees of Alton, Bellville, and Peoria, making over a million of Catholics in the single State of Illinois.

The Archdiocese of Boston comes next, with an estimated 650,000; and the aggregate population of its six suffragan Sees 952,000, gives New England a total Catholic population of 1,602,000.

The Archdiocese of Philadelphia has about 160,000; but the great Diocese of Pittsburg in the same State has a quarter of a million, even with the new See of Altoona, with its 440,000 cut off.

The old and long-settled archdioceses of Baltimore, St. Louis, and New Orleans, show slighter change in their figures, as they no longer attract much immigration and grow from natural increase.

The figures of Catholic school attendance in comparison to the total population, of which we take some specimens, are significant. Baltimore's are 28,349 to 245,000; Boston's, 44,700 to 650,000; Chicago's, 80,000 to 800,000; Cincinnati's, 29,277 to 200,000; Dubuque's, 19,655 to 150,000; Milwaukee's, 31,957 to 245,000; New Orleans', 22,463 to 350,000; New York's, 71,620 to 1,200,000; Oregon's, nearly 1000 to 40,000; Philadelphia's, about 50,500 to 160,000; St. Louis', 28,069 to 220,000; St. Paul's, 24,000 to 220,000; San Francisco's, about 20,000 to 225,000; Santa Fe's, 2660 to 133,000. But the conditions in New Mexico are different from those in other parts of the country. In most of the country missions the population is entirely Catholic, and so are the teachers of the district schools.

The diocese of Brooklyn has over 40,000 young people under Catholic care. Buffalo, 27,115, to a total Catholic population of 171,000; Cleveland, about 25,000 to 275,000; Hartford, 25,522 to 270,000; Newark, 47,150 to 290,000; Rochester, 16,833 to 105,000; Machester, 12,630 to 100,000.

Of 261 Catholic journals and magazines, 85 are in foreign languages, German, French, Polish, Italian, Spanish, Slavonic, Bohemian, Dutch, India; New York has one and Chicago two Catholic dailies in the Polish languages; Fall River, New Bedford, Worcester, and Woonsocket, French Catholic dailies; New York, Pittsburg, and St. Louis, German Catholic dailies, and Toledo a Bohemian Catholic daily.

The acquisition of the Philippines adds 6,505,998 to the Catholic population of the United States. The Sandwich Islands give 33,000 more.

At first signs of the approach of consumption, ward off all danger by taking TUSSICURA.—* *