

connection with the Aged Poor Society and as to one-third in or towards founding in London a Home similar to the said Providence-row Night Refuge and Home established by the late Monsignor Provost Gilbert, and the testator authorised the executors to pay or transfer the same trust fund to any responsible persons as trustees of such Home provided that the trustees thereof shall always be of the Catholic religion.

FRANCE.—Reform, not Revolt.

Addressing the director of a Protestant paper, Mgr. Mignot, Archbishop of Albi says: 'If among us, as at every historical epoch, there are reforms to make and progress to accomplish, it would be both chimerical and culpable to identify these with revolt and schism. On the contrary, the authority, direction, and encouragements of the Vicar of Christ are our point of support and our safeguard.' His Lordship concludes by hoping that the Protestants will no longer entertain any erroneous notions about himself and his attitude as regards the questions of the day.

GERMANY.—Death of Lieber.

Referring to the death of Dr. Lieber, the leader of the Catholic party in Germany, and which was announced in our columns a few weeks ago, the 'Catholic Times' gives the following particulars of the deceased Catholic statesman. For a couple of years Dr. Lieber had been struggling against ill-health, but with patience and courage he continued to serve his country to the last. The loss occasioned by his death is a serious one for the Catholic cause. He had not the forceful and magnetic personality of Windthorst, yet he was perhaps not less fit to conduct the work on hand. Windthorst built up a political organisation with incomparable skill, Lieber had in the fullest measure the common-sense and tact necessary to its preservation. When in 1873 there was some danger of the Centre becoming too Conservative and too pliant to the Government, Dr. Lieber insisted on the necessity of satiating the democratic tendencies of the age, and his supremacy as a political guide was at once recognised. But whilst his views were broad and liberal, he was no extremist, and every section of the party found him ready to do justice to its interests. An eloquent speaker, he averted differences by telling appeals to reason. Amongst the spiritual subjects of Leo XIII there was no one more faithful or more docile than Dr. Lieber, and after his recovery from the first attacks of the illness which has proved fatal he publicly expressed in touching language, the joy he felt amidst suffering on receiving the blessing of the Holy Father.

ROME.—A New Poem.

The Catholic papers in Rome publish a new poem by the Pope. It was written for last Christmas Day and has been printed now in honor of the Pontifical Jubilee.

SPAIN.—Reasonable Proposals.

It is understood that the Holy Father is willing to agree to any reasonable proposals of the Spanish Government as to the registration of the religious Orders and reductions in the Budget of Public Worship.

UNITED STATES.

Special effort is being made this year all over the world to establish a record in the amount of Peter's Pence offerings. Although the regular annual Peter's Pence collections have not been taken up yet in the Archdiocese of New York, the sum of £10,000 has already been forwarded to Rome.

A Church Destroyed.

St Boniface's church, in Evansville, Ind. was struck by lightning on a Sunday morning recently and set on fire. The entire interior was

a mass of flames before an alarm was given. When the fire department arrived it was too late to do any good. The building is an entire loss. Rev. Father Burkhardt, when he heard of the loss, fainted, and for several hours he was unconscious. His residence to the left of the church was burned and his library, worth many thousands of dollars, was destroyed. St Boniface's was one of the largest and finest Catholic churches in the State. It was finished in 1881. The dedication ceremony brought nearly 50,000 persons to the city. The church cost about £40,000 and there was only £2000 insurance on it.

The School Problem.

The Right Rev. Bishop Montgomery, of Los Angeles, Cal., recently addressed by invitation the Los Angeles Ministerial Union on 'What the Catholic Church is doing for the World to-day.' He spoke of the Church as the sole champion of the Christian Scriptures, the consistent defender of the indissolubility of marriage, and the courageous exponent of what some other religious bodies equally believe, the necessity of religion in the training of youth. Bishop Montgomery said that the solution of the school problem was in the denominational system which works so successfully in England, Germany, and Canada. He said in conclusion 'Members of the Ministerial Union, if the great non-Catholic bodies of this country which have pronounced their dissatisfaction at a purely secular system of instruction would unite with Catholics and German Lutherans in asking this modification, the sense of fairness that there is in the American people, when appealed to, would grant it. This, then, is another thing the Catholic Church is doing for the world—upholding a true principle and offering a plan to harmonise on lines of honor and justice, differences that are working harm. Finally, you believe with me in the divinely inspired word of God. Do not, then, advocate the placing of that sacred book in the hands of teachers, many of whom honestly disbelieve its divine character and consent to its being made a text book on a level with a book of mathematics, geography or profane history. It is a degradation of the sacred page, and the surest means of making your children regard it as of no more authority than a book of geography or a profane history.' Bishop Montgomery is a son of the late Hon. Zachariah Montgomery, U.S. Senator from California, who was in his day a famous advocate of Christian education.

GENERAL.

Catholic Privy Councillors.

The elevation of Sir John Day to the membership of the English Privy Council on his retirement from the Bench raises the number of Catholics on that body to ten, the other nine consisting of the Duke of Norfolk, Lords Ripon, Kenmare, Llandaf, and Brampton, Lord Chief Baron Pilles, Lord Justice Mathew, Sir Nicholas O'Connor, and Sir Wilfrid Laurier. The Irish Privy Council contains only five Catholics, these being the Lord Chief Baron (who has the distinction of being the only Catholic member of both bodies), Lord Fingall, the O'Connor Don, Lord O'Brien and The MacDermot.

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A WORD OF WARNING.—There cannot, unfortunately, be the slightest doubt that that dreadful scourge, Consumption, has obtained a strong hold in New Zealand, and anything which will tend to counteract its terrible ravages should be welcomed as a boon and a blessing to mankind. A slight cold, neglected in its earlier stages, is frequently the precursor of phthisis, and many a valuable life could have been saved had an effectual remedy been applied before the disease had established itself in the system. Such a remedy is to be found in TUSSI-CURA, and the innumerable testimonials received by the inventor of this preparation, which has earned a world-wide reputation, prove conclusively that it is a certain cure for all pulmonary complaints.***

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